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### 2005 Highlander Vol 88 First Day Special Edition August 29, 2005

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Regis University

# Highlander

a weekly publication



The Jesuit University of the Rockies

www.RegisHighlander.com

Denver, Colorado

## Quad bustles as 2005-06 kicks off

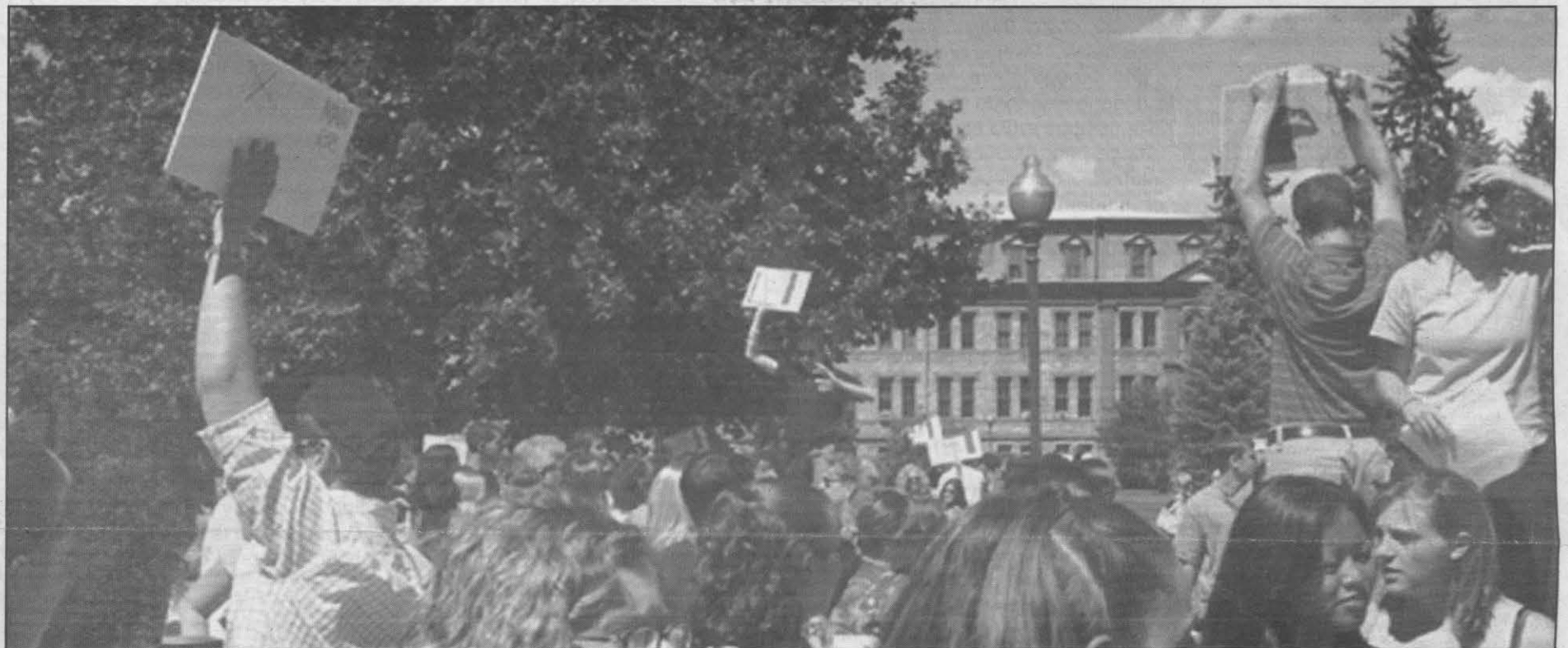


Photo by Chris Dieterich

Incoming freshmen, orientation packets in hand, flood out of the Student Center and file into their Freshman Seminar groups. Students had time to move in and get acquainted with their new surroundings the weekend before classes begin.

## Heft urges breadth, depth and courage

By Rev. James L. Heft, S.M.  
Chancellor and University  
Professor of Faith and Culture  
University of Dayton

Transcript of speech given at Spring  
Commencement, May 8, 2005

Today, I want to say three things only, three things. I want to say something about breadth, I want to say something about depth, and I want to say something about courage. First, breadth. You graduates, you alone have the responsibility to make up your minds. But you should never make them up alone. What I mean is this: while you alone have the responsibility to make your own decisions about your lives, you would be less than wise if, in making those decisions, you did not consult widely. I was happy to read, in what was perhaps the last issue of the year of your student newspaper, the Highlander, an opinion piece by Andrew Cole. In it he recommended the practice of skepticism. Now last evening, the University was kind enough to put me up in a hotel in Downtown Denver. When I checked in at the desk, I noticed when I pulled up, that the hotel offered valet parking. So I went inside, got registered, and I asked the young man at the desk, "What's more expensive, the valet parking or the private parking, which I know is also available?" He assured



photo by Joshua Hardin

Rev. James L. Heft, S.M. (left) accepts his honorary degree from Regis University President Fr. Michael Sheeran, S.J. (right) on May 8, 2005

me, "Oh they really sock you at this private parking thing, this garage. The valet parking is much cheaper." Now even though your great University was picking up the tab, I was inclined to seek the bargain. Upon hearing the

response of the young man at the desk, I remained skeptical. So I decided not to use the valet parking, (I'm not used to valet parking anyway), but went instead to the private lot and I parked there. (Continued on pg. 4)

## Words of wisdom inspire new semester

Reflecting on the wisdom passed on through 2005 Spring Commencement speeches is valuable as we set out on the new school year. These speeches are given to impart lasting advice to a group of graduates moving on to new pursuits, beginning the next stage in life. Such words, however, are equally applicable to us as students beginning the next stage of our lives. For incoming freshman, thoughts of graduation no doubt are, as they should be, remote pressing joys and fears that come with finding a niche in a new and different place. For seniors, the realization that our time at Regis is nearing a close is almost upon us, however hard this is to believe. As all of us start our fall 2005 semester, graduation rests differently on our minds, but the act of beginning is shared among us. Read the words spoken to those now finished at Regis and be inspired to begin this school year anew with courage.

Chris Dieterich, Editor-in-Chief

### Inside...

Commencement speeches by:  
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By Andy Cole  
2004-2005 Student Government  
President

Transcript of speech given at Spring  
Commencement, May 8, 2005

... Harry Truman, the show-me-state president who guided the country through the end of World War II once said, "Men make history, and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

It's a great statement because it deals with all the cliché things that a graduation speech should: leadership, progress, seizing opportunity. The problem is that it was said by an old white guy that was president in the forties and is dead now. The thing is that it's dead white presidents that we continue to turn to for guidance on leadership. True, they were great men that lead us through difficult times, but we need leaders now that are willing to guide us through our own difficult times and they need not just be old white guys in Washington DC.

We [citizens of the United States] find ourselves in a crisis of leadership because we have become a society of indifference, content to allow ghosts of the past to speak for us. I find this disturbing.

Let me give you an example of the indifference I am speaking about. Before I opened my eyes and ran for president near the end of my junior year I spent three years at Regis bitching about things I didn't like. "Why don't we have better representation with the administration?" I would ask at some party on a Friday night. "Why don't we know what our student government does? Why do we have such a parking problem?" Although I think it will take an act of God to help us out with the last one.

The point is that I didn't do anything about it for a long time.

It would take too much effort. It would be too much work. And worst of all, I could fail if I tried. I could lose the election; I could be the worst president in the history of student government. No, it was easier to just stand around with a Keystone in my hand and complain. It seems like there is a lot of that in our society right now.

Indifference is a disease that eats at a society. The indifference that eats at our society comes from individuals who just wait for someone else to take care of it, people like me standing at that party.

I am offering as a remedy to this indifference the idea of leadership. Of course talking about leadership to a group of graduating Jesuit college students really seems a bit monotonous. After all, we are learners becoming leaders aren't we? What could I say that hasn't been said after four years of Rangerland education?

Maybe, the problem is our definition of leadership. It seems like we think we need a title to lead, as if we need responsibility before we can act. But, you don't need to be president of the United States to be the kind of leader I am talking about. You don't have to be the president of your school or in charge of any club or organization. You don't have to be some old white guy either, although they are encouraged to participate just the same. And I'll have to admit, someday I will be one of those old white guys. If we all took an opportunity to improve something around us, no matter what

that was, it would save us from indifference. Not all leaders change the course of history as Truman described, but everyone who tries to make things better is a leader in his or her own right.

Let me give you an example of someone who fights indifference on a rather grand scale. The most powerful speaker I have seen at Regis visited us just over a month ago. Sister Helen Prejean came and spoke about her experiences in her quest to abolish the death penalty. She is a nun who has devoted her life to serving others. She began her crusade because she sees an injustice in capital punishment, an injustice that tears at the very dignity of human life. She has attempted to cut into the vast indifference of American's on the subject. She did not merely write to her senator and wait for a reply. She has made her voice known.

However, not all leadership must be so ideological or on such a grand scale. Right here at Regis people are doing things that make our lives better. People are improving the world around them, not waiting for someone else to do so.

The campus radio station, KRCX, can now be heard around the world on the internet. A small but dedicated group of students, have transformed the radio station to make it a true voice for the students.

You see, just as indifference is a disease that spreads, dedication can also be infectious. Being a successful leader, at whatever it is you choose to

**"Only determined motivation will end the indifference that plagues our society"**

do, gives those around you motivation and energy to succeed as well.

Another example of leadership through initiative is Meg Hosty. Meg is here graduating with us today. Over the last year she took on a program that pairs students with custodial staff members looking to improve their English language skills. She took over the program because there was no one else to do so, but she didn't just keep it going, she made it better. She found a more dedicated group of student tutors. She wrote lesson plans tailored to each staff member's language needs. She added a day on the weekends when the staff could bring in their family members to get help as well. Meg didn't have to do this. It was not part of any job title or service learning. She did it because it made some people's lives better and she had the opportunity to do so.

There are other stories like this out there, but there are not enough. Only determined motivation will end the indifference that plagues our society. Fortunately each one of us sitting here today has the potential to do so. We are all learners, that is without question. We would not be here today if we had not learned at least something over the last four years. Whether or not we are leaders is up to us. It is the difference between waiting for someone else to make a change and deciding to do so yourself. It is indifference and submission to whatever may come your way or independence and self-determination. I'll choose the second. I hope you'll join me. Congratulations, on this day we celebrate the end of careers as learners, let's all commence our careers as leaders.



Dr. John Muth  
Teacher, Friend, Colleague  
1948-2005

John Muth made everyone smile. The beloved College economics professor and MBA affiliate faculty member died May 11 following open-heart surgery. He was 56 years old.

Muth had been an integral and influential part of the Regis University community for nearly 25 years and was the chief negotiator for the Regis Chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

Muth arrived at Regis University in 1983. He taught a variety of subjects, including economics, finance, banking and freshman and sophomore seminars. His favorite seminar was Native Americans of the Southwest.

To honor and celebrate the life of Dr. John Muth, please consider sharing your memories with the Regis community. Submit your writing (approximately 200-500 words) and any photos to the Highlander at [highlander@regis.edu](mailto:highlander@regis.edu) by September 6th.

### Our Mission Statement

As the staff of the Regis University weekly publication, the Highlander, we intend to serve the campus and the neighborhood by providing an outlet for the transmission of news and ideas. Our publication is designed to cultivate awareness, understanding and dialogue about matters of community importance.

### Calling Regis!

The Highlander is looking for reporters, columnists, photographers, web page and layout designers, artists, advertising specialists and anyone else interested joining our staff. Openings available in various beats including sports, health, arts, culture & entertainment.

Join last year's Social and Special Interest Organization of the Year!

## Career Services

Regis University is here to serve YOU! We can help you gain the skills you need to determine your major, identify career options, and be competitive in your job search. Please stop in to visit us or call to make an appointment. Whether you are looking for help with your resume, cover letter, interviewing skills or general job search strategies such as networking, we are here to help!

Are you registered on CareerLink? CareerLink is Regis University's online job search site. Go to [www.regis.edu/careerservices](http://www.regis.edu/careerservices) and click on "Regis CareerLink" to get registered.

### REGIS COLLEGE WORKSHOPS

#### Coors Life Directions Center

#### • Resumes That Get Results-

Wed., Sept. 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

#### SPS & ALUMNI WORKSHOPS

#### Coors Life Directions Center

#### • Resumes Writing Workshop-

Thursday, Sept. 15, 6:00-

7:30pm

Tel: 303-458-3508

[www.regis.edu/careerservices](http://www.regis.edu/careerservices)

Email: [jobs@regis.edu](mailto:jobs@regis.edu)

- \* Link to an extensive list of Internet sites for careers, job search & salary information.
- \* Post your resume.
- \* Get connected with employers
- \* Apply for on-campus interviews





By Heather Abetz '05  
B.S. in Nursing

Transcript of speech given at Spring Commencement, May 8, 2005

Many of you may be familiar with the intrepid explorer, Ernest Shackleton. He and his crew of 28 men set out to cross Antarctica on December 5, 1914 aboard his appropriately named ship, the Endurance. Unfortunately, Shackleton and his men never made it to Antarctica. Instead, the sea froze around their ship and stranded them on the ice.

Nearly 2 years later, on August 30, 1916, all 29 of these men returned to land, many strong enough to enlist in WWI.

Whenever I think of this story, I ask myself: how did they survive? Well, Penguin steaks, for one, but also, by optimism, determination, teamwork, and sacrifice. More importantly though, they never gave up hope for return because they found reasons along the way to celebrate.

And this is precisely what has gotten me through Regis. I never gave up hope that I would become a nurse and I consistently celebrated the small victories throughout the semester. Whenever I completed a class, I rewarded myself. I went for a long run or hike, or escaped to the mountains for a day of skiing. My celebrations helped me to endure my difficult course of study.

Many of my classmates did the same. Hariette Bediako, from Ghana, celebrated every week by taking one day to do something special with her three children. They would go snow tubing or bike riding.

Nancy Greene dedicated Sunday mornings to church and swimming at the recreation center. She celebrated her week with a morning of relaxation and reflection.

Another student, Trevor Meeks, cooked a scrumptious curry dinner for fellow classmates at the completion of one of the clinical rotations. It gave them the chance to come together, laugh and reflect at their experiences at Denver Health.

Our teachers celebrated with us, too. Judy Crewell would give us chocolates after struggling through yet another difficult test. And Mary Alice Sawaya made homemade chocolate chip cookies for all 56 of us! They were helping us celebrate another step towards becoming a nurse. (And let's be honest, they were

celebrating themselves too, knowing that they had survived a course with 56 uber-ambitious, accelerated nursing students!)

We have celebrated together, as well. In the spirit of the Jesuit tradition, we served the underserved in several ways, such as hosting a Health Fair at Kepner Middle School. Many of the students there came from low-income families, and had no access to health care. So we found fun ways to teach them about health. We had a puppet show about hand washing. We ate healthy snacks, jumped rope and talked about why exercise is important. We celebrated health and celebrated the kids, and the best part was that the kids loved it!

We all deserve celebration. Starting a career, maybe getting married, graduating...these are some obvious celebrations. But each of us will also find times in life when it is important to celebrate small accomplishments, rejoice in baby steps or simply set aside time to have fun. Sometimes these occasions are evident, but often, we have to invent them.

Shackleton's men certainly did. They undoubtedly fought moments of pessimism and had thoughts of dying on the ice. But they fought their fears by working toward a safe return and by finding reasons to celebrate their days. They had dog races. They played soccer. They celebrated Leap Year by drinking the last of their precious cocoa. In June 1915, they celebrated Midwinter's day and then a few weeks later, celebrated a second Midwinter's day. Why not...I mean, it was still the middle of winter!

What strikes me about this is that they weren't rejoicing over the end or completion of anything...they were celebrating the middle...the process...they were celebrating a day in their life.

Beans, dried milk and Penguin steaks certainly got these men through physically, but it was their ability to celebrate that gave them the endurance to get through emotionally and spiritually.

And so I challenge you all to invent your own celebrations, savor the middle, and rejoice in the days of your life and the lives around you. And I certainly don't need to remind you to celebrate today! Congratulations to us all!

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**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM SCHEDULE**  
FALL SEMESTER 2005

**September 3rd-5th**  
*14er Peak Climb and Backpacking Experience:*  
This 3-day weekend is open to students seeking to get away from the city and climb Mt. Harvard (14,420'), one of Colorado's highest peaks.

**September 10th**  
*Rocky Mountain National Park Day Hike to Chicago Lake:*  
Join us for the day as we explore the Chicago Lake area of Rocky Mountain National Park.

**September 16th-17th**  
*COLORADO OUTWARD BOUND RELAY:*  
24-hour, 170 mile Team Relay Race  
<http://www.coloradorelay.com/>

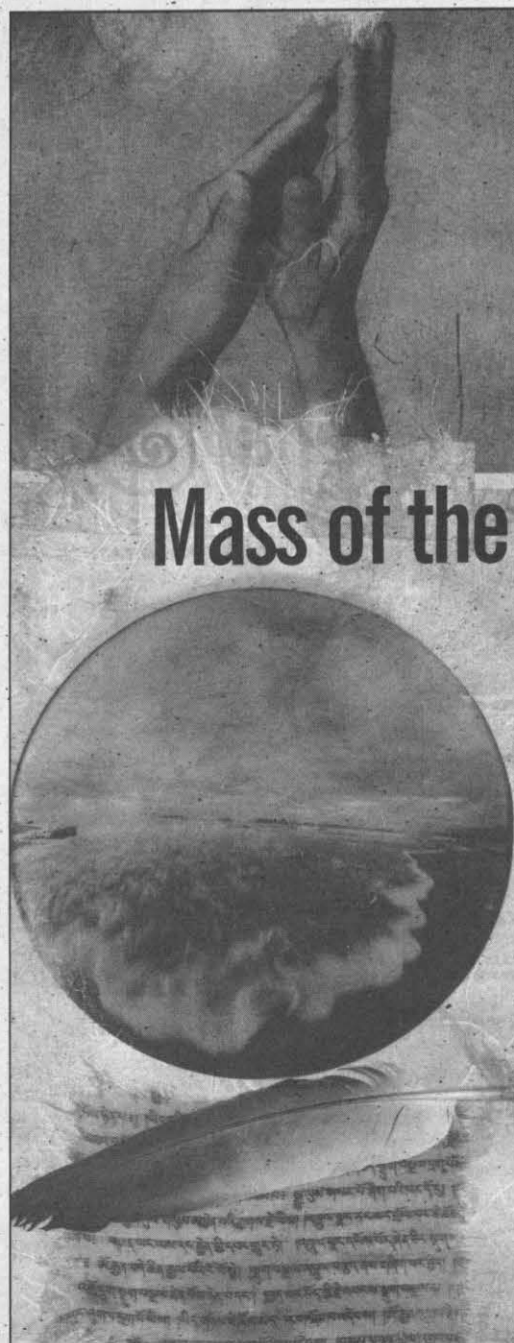
**September 30th**  
*Family Weekend Bike Tour of Denver:*  
Parents, students, faculty, and staff are invited to join the OAP on a guided bike tour of the Denver area.

**October 14-October 18**  
*Everglades Adventure: (may move to Spring Break)*  
Florida Everglades National Park is the setting for this four-day canoeing and kayaking journey.

**October 14th-18th**  
*Moab Fall Break Experience:*  
For 4 days, students will discover the beauty of Moab and Arches National Park by mountain bike, backpacking, and canoeing.

**November 5th**  
*Foothills Mountain Biking Experience:*  
Join OAP for a day of riding single-track and Mt. bike trails along the Colorado Front Range Foothills.

**December 7th**  
*Indoor Climbing Gym Night:*  
Take a break from studying and join the OAP for a night of climbing at Paradise climbing gym.



**Mass of the Holy Spirit**

We are on a journey led by the Spirit to the heart of God. Along the way, we encounter others whose lives and sacred stories, once shared, become part of our own journey.

**September 22**  
**11 a.m.**  
**Boettcher Commons**



(continued from pg. 1)

I said, "How much would it cost for me to be over night here?" They said, "Ten dollars." The man at the desk, not a graduate of Regis of course, had told me the cost if I did valet parking would be twenty dollars, which he assured me would be much cheaper than private parking. The moral of the story: skepticism, about very simple matters, has its place. You always need to think, you need to wrestle, and you need to look at all things carefully. So, one of the obvious points I want to make, and Andrew made this point well in his column, is be skeptical about claims and even question some claims that you, yourself, want to affirm.

However, if you're skeptical about everything, you'll end up in a state of paralysis. There are certain basic truths you'll need to affirm, and learn how to affirm them even as you keep a critical outlook. A great living philosopher, Alasdair MacIntyre, made this same observation about the graduates of our Catholic universities, and I think you ought to listen carefully to it: "Do we really want them [graduates of our Catholic Universities] to become what, on the best evidence we have, recent graduates of the best Universities have tended to become? And what is that? Narrowly focused professionals, immensely, even obsessively hard working, disturbingly competitive and intent on success as it is measured within their own specialized professional sphere, often genuinely excellent at what they do; who read little worthwhile that is not relevant to their work; who, as the idiom insightfully puts it, 'make time,' sometimes with difficulty, for their family lives; and whose relaxation tends to consist of short strenuous bouts of

**"But let's not assume that what is real is out there and what is not real is in here. There are very profound realities you have thought about here, and I hope you continue to think about them."**

competitive athletic activity and sometimes of therapeutic indulgence in the kind of religion that is well designed not to disrupt their working lives?"

MacIntyre puts his finger on a real challenge. To meet that challenge, we need to think broadly. We also need-and this is my second point-to think deeply. In that same issue of the Highlander, I noticed what I often see in our own student newspaper at about the time of graduation. Students write about leaving the wonderful environment of the University and going into the real world. My question is whether we ought to say that. Shouldn't we rather describe the university as a place of many challenges to think about many things, and then that other world, not necessarily more real, and certainly one that will not challenge you to think about all the things you are invited to think about in college. As you might notice, I'm not very keen on the distinction being made as that of the University on the one hand, and the real world on the other. That this world is different, that it is a place of continuous reflection and challenging and thinking-to be sure, that's true. But let's not assume that what is real is out there and what is not real is in here. There are very profound realities you have thought about here, and I hope you continue to think about them.

Last night I was with a group of University of Dayton graduates, an alumni gathering here in Denver. We have a lot of alums here. One student who graduated in the sixties said to me, "I don't know what it is but when I was at the University of Dayton I felt that there was a kind of robust and diverse and academically alive vision of the church and I've had trouble finding it since then. Was it just the times, the late sixties, or was it the University?" Well, I thought to myself, it could have been a number of things. One of the great treasures of the Jesuit tradition, and of all Catholic higher education, is the continuing debate about important and deep ideas. My prayer secondly, is that you go deep. And when you sink those roots, sink them in the religious traditions that are a part of this institution. That some of you are not Catholic doesn't matter. The Catholic intellectual tradition reaches back two thousand years-even four thousand years when you include, as you should, the Jewish tradition. It's marvelous, it's deep, and it's rich. Heather encouraged us just now to "Invent your celebrations." Good words, but when you invent your celebrations, don't forget to look at those celebrations that have carried and sustained people for thousands of years. They're rich, they're deep, and we would be really not wise to ignore them.

Breadth, depth, and finally

**"I'm not against pleasure and having fun, but the great satisfactions of life, I believe, come from the times that we face real challenges."**

now, my third point, courage. I think courage is not talked about enough. It's not quite the same thing as guts. But courage has to do with that ability to make a difference. My fear is that many students want to make a difference, but they are afraid to be different. If you're going to make a difference, you're going to have to stand up and be different in a variety of ways. The recently deceased Pope, John Paul II, was fond of repeating, "Do not be afraid." Did he not appear to be an individual that had immense courage? But if you read some of his private journal revealed after his death, you will discover that he struggled and wrestled with whether he should resign in the year 2000. Many of us would never have thought that a man like that, who showed extraordinary determination, would have wavered at all about something so important. But the truth is a lot of people, even those who seem most determined, experience internally lots of questions. I think that the more complicated a person is the more challenging are some of the questions he or she faces. I'm not against pleasure and having fun, but the great satisfactions of life, I believe, come from the times that we face real challenges. In a very deep sense, religion is two things: it's an answer to the ultimate problems of human existence, and it's a challenge to all answers. This is a deep ingredient of existence, big problems, and the tragedy of our education today is that we are offering too many easy solutions. Be complacent, have peace of mind. Are you comfortable? Everything will be just fine. No! Wrestling is the issue. Facing the challenge is the issue. So I repeat with John Paul II, "Be not afraid!" And I encourage you to pursue breadth, sink deep roots, and above all, be courageous.

**Do You Enjoy Toddlers?**

We need someone to come to our home in Arvada 3-4 afternoons per week to play with our two-and-a-half-year-old twins.

Fun-loving kids, good pay, flexible hours. Some light housework. Childcare experience required. Call 303-263-4050 or better yet, e-mail background and references to vogelnet@msn.com.



**LAST CALL!!!**

You've finished (most of) your core classes, settled on a major, forged relationships, and have nine months to wrap it all up - it's time for an extended Last Call at Regis. Going into its fifth year, the Office of Student Activities and RUSGA are proud to offer another exciting line-up of events and activities aimed at making your senior year a memorable one. For \$150, get your ticket to join us and your friends at the following events (RSVP card attached):

- September: Green Day in concert at Pepsi Center
- October: Wicked or Phantom of the Opera at the Denver Performing Arts Complex
- November: Evening at Dave and Busters
- January: Mammoth Lacrosse at Pepsi Center
- February: Colorado Avalanche Hockey is back at the Pepsi Center
- March: Lowdos, The Giggling Grizzly, and more
- April: Black Hawk or Central City: it's time to eat great food and lose some quarters.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR SENIORS**

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Wednesday, September 14, 2005	7pm	Senior Inaugural (hors d'oeuvres & cash bar)	Soiled Dove
Wednesday, September 28, 2005	7:30pm to 9pm	Wine Tasting 101 (RSVP to Jina, 303-458-4378)	Main Hall 333
Wednesday, November 2, 2005	7:30pm to 9pm	Wine Tasting 102 (RSVP to Jina, 303-458-4378)	Main Hall 333
February 24/25, 2006		Fr. Sheeran's Discernment Retreat for Seniors	Jesuit Retreat House in Sedalia
Friday, April 28, 2006	5pm to 8pm	Reception with Faculty	University Club
Friday, May 5, 2006	3pm	Honors Ceremony	University Dining Hall

**IMPORTANT GRADUATION INFORMATION**

Students need to apply for graduation by September 15. Graduation applications can be obtained in the Dean's Office.

Caps/gowns will be available in the Mt. View Room on the following dates between 4pm and 6pm:

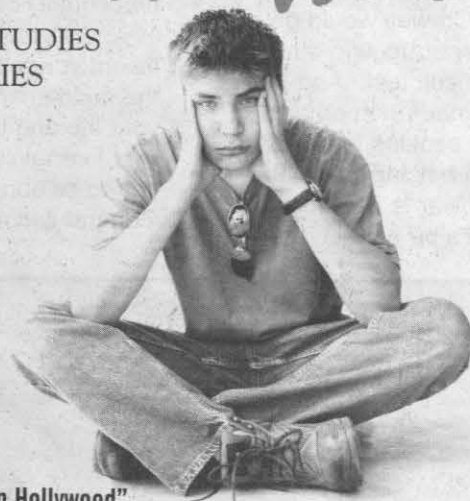
- Tuesday, March 14, 2006
- Wednesday, March 15, 2006
- Thursday, March 16, 2006

Announcements, class rings, and diploma frames will also be available at these events.

**CATHOLICISM** in the *Modern World*

CATHOLIC STUDIES  
SPEAKER SERIES

Fall, 2005



**"Searching for God in Hollywood"**

Richard Blake, S.J., Professor of Fine Arts and Film Studies, Boston College  
Thursday, September 22 | 7:30 p.m. | Science Amphitheater

**"The Unfinished Agenda of Vatican II"**

Thomas P. Rausch, S.J., Professor of Catholic Theology, Loyola Marymount University  
Thursday, October 6 | 7:30 p.m. | Science Amphitheater

**"Cloning and Stem Cells: Confusion, Contention, and Convergence"**

Kevin T. Fitzgerald, S.J., Chair in Catholic Health Care Ethics, Georgetown University Medical Center  
Wednesday, October 12 | 7:30 p.m. | Science Amphitheater

**"Salvation and *The Sopranos*: A Problem for Catholics?"**

M. Cathleen Kaveny, Professor of Law and Theology, University of Notre Dame  
Thursday, October 27 | 7:30 p.m. | Science Amphitheater

**"Called to be Prophets of Peace"**

Rev. John Dear, S.J., Jesuit priest, peace activist, organizer, and author  
Wednesday, November 2 | 7:30 p.m. | Science Amphitheater

All lectures are at Regis University's Lowell campus at Lowell Blvd. and Regis Blvd. (W. 50th Ave.) in Denver. They are free and open to the public. Co-sponsored by Regis University's Catholic Studies Program, Institute on the Common Good, Office of Justice Education, Department of Health Care Ethics, Rueckert-Hartman School for Health Professions, and University Ministry. For additional information, please contact Joan Carnegie 303-458-3504.

**mark your calendar**