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2008 Highlander Vol 91 No 5 October 6, 2008

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Recommended Citation

"2008 Highlander Vol 91 No 5 October 6, 2008" (2008). *Highlander - Regis University's Student-Written Newspaper*. 274.

<https://epublications.regis.edu/highlander/274>

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PALIN-BIDEN DEBATE

How did she do? Highlander staff writer Jimmy Sengenberger gives his analysis.

See page 4



JOSH BLUE AT REGIS

Breaking stereotypes, Josh Blue packed a full house of students, bringing in a ton of laughs, and a new appreciation of those suffering from cerebral palsy, or any other physical disability.

See page 11

REGIS UNIVERSITY

Highlander a weekly publication



Serving the Regis community since 1877

Volume 91, Issue 5

www.regishighlander.com

Monday, October 6, 2008

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP SUCCESSFUL



Seniors Christie Costello, Kathryn Redmond, and junior Mary Anna Henggeler stock up on trash bags for the clean-up. See page 10 for more on the Sat. Community Clean Up Day.

PHOTO BY Dr. Mary Beth Callie

Faculty address "Critical Reading in Crisis?"

Maricor Coquia
Editor-in-Chief

While most students were sound asleep last Friday morning, Oct. 2, many Regis faculty were up and about in the Science Amphitheatre, enjoying a hearty Continental breakfast of fresh fruit, coffee, and biscuits.

Every year in the fall, faculty convene to address important issues about the curriculum, the university's mission, and student learning. Last year, the Fall Faculty Conference focused on Regis' core curriculum. This year's conference, titled "Critical Reading in Crisis?" centered on the impact of the "digital age" on the reading brain, and students' abilities to read and think deeply.

"Computers and the internet have really changed the way in which we read and how we relate to words," said Dr. Paul Ewald, dean of Regis College. "It has changed the way we think and write. We've gained a great deal from

it, but we've also lost some things."

The day's keynote speaker, Maryanne Wolf, author of *Proust and the Squid: The Story of the Reading Brain*, focused on those things we've gained and lost from technology, and the ethical shortcomings that may come with a lessening of critical reading.

"Reading involves going inside," she said. "Deep reading is synonymous with deep thinking," Wolf added later.

A professor of child development at Tufts University, where she holds the John DiBiaggio Chair of Citizenship and Public Service, Wolf also informed the Regis faculty of the neurological processes that form "the reading brain."

"The brain was never meant to read," she says. This line is also the opening line of her book. For Wolf, the evolution of the reading brain is "somewhat of a miracle."

After breakfast, the conference began with brief introductions by Dr.

Ewald and Dr. Mark Bruhn, associate professor of English.

Bruhn, in particular, expressed his discouragement when he realized many of his students were not doing the reading, or were instead, "reading to the finger."

"This was all alarming to me," he said. "They were doing the reading, clearly. It was what they were doing when they are reading that was the issue."

"Reading to the finger," according to Bruhn, meant his students were "scanning the lines," but "not comprehending what their eyes were scanning."

The thread of thoughtful "comprehension" especially resonated with faculty, who later discussed in break-out sessions the depth to which students were grasping the reading at a deeper level--in terms of analogy, metaphor, and inference--instead of the text's surface.

Bruhn also cited two 2004-005 reports from the National Education

Association (NEA), "To Read or Not To Read" and "Reading at Risk," emphasizing his concern with the decline of "deep reading."

The data from the studies, according to Bruhn, is worrisome because critical reading and thinking is "correlated with things like civic engagement, community involvement, volunteerism." He added, "Those who will serve the best in our communities are apparently those who read the best."

In line with Regis' mission for students to be more globally aware and willing to serve others, "reading can't fall by the wayside if we are to achieve our mission," Bruhn emphasized.

The rise of technology, in particular, especially text messaging, email, and Google, have cultured the youth of today, "digital natives" as Wolf described, to be demanding of immediate information.

See Critical Reading on page 3

“Seduction of the Sacred” lecture insightful, powerful

Brandon L. Blessing
Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel, Father Leo O'Donovan, S.J., shared with the Regis community his thoughts of sacred art and the power it holds to awaken us to our faith. Around 150 people attended the presentation, including teachers, students, Jesuits, artists, and community members.

Pete Rogers, director of University Ministry, expressed how excited he was to attend his first lecture of this kind on the Regis campus. “I think it's an amazing thing that some of the best and brightest of the Catholic intellectual tradition speak here at our school,” Rogers said. “That's something all of Regis can get behind.”

The lecture was the first installment of the 2008 *Catholicism in the Modern World* Speaker Series, a sequence of guest speakers from across the country who are invited to Regis to share their unique message with the community. According to Sr. Peg Maloney, although each speaker, and their topic, is unique, they share a common focus on “continuing faith formation in light of the critical issues that affect both our Catholic community and the wider world.”

The series is sponsored by University Ministry, the Department of Catholic Studies, the Office for Mission, Peace and Justice Studies, the Institute on the Common Good, and the Religious Studies Department.

Father O'Donovan was introduced by Hildegard Letbetter, founder of *Creator Mundi*, a religious art company based in Littleton, Colorado with a gallery in Cherry Creek. *Creator Mundi*, Latin for *Creator of the World*, along with the *Foundation for Sacred Heart*, helped to sponsor the lecture as part of their twentieth anniversary celebration. She invited the audience to join her, and the rest of *Creator Mundi*, in celebrating “all who share their talents to make known the sacred.” As part of this effort, she welcomed Fr. O'Donovan to the stage.

O'Donovan, the President Emeritus of Georgetown University and Professor of Theology, is a renowned priest, theologian, and art critic who has published numerous articles in theology and art criticism. He has taught at Loyola College in Maryland,

Woodstock College, and the Union Theological Seminary in his home city of New York. He has been awarded multiple honorary degrees and awards, and serves as a member of the board for various organizations and colleges, including the Walt Disney Corporation.

O'Donovan opened by describing the power of art throughout history. “Since early history,” O'Donovan said, “human beings have been led by beauty towards truth and the presence of God.”

“In more recent centuries,” he continued, “an art of protest has used distortion and intentional ugliness to awaken viewers to the suffering and injustice around them.” He uses Picasso's *Guernica*, a painting which depicts the Nazi German bombing of

According to O'Donovan, “Some images draw us in through their graced beauty. Others draw us to grace by initially distancing us.”

Guernica, Spain, during the Spanish Civil War, as an example of this type of art.

In an exploration of the power art has to awaken us to worldly injustice and to bring us closer to our faith, O'Donovan prepared a presentation of various religious images, ranging from the modern to the classical, the most beautiful to the most gruesome. He separated the images into three categories: Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter.

The categories contained art that depicted Christ's crucifixion, death, and resurrection. According to O'Donovan, “Some images draw us in through their graced beauty. Others draw us to grace by initially distancing us.”

“Together they constitute a lure of the sacred,” explained O'Donovan, “that remains our transcendent hope even in a painfully fragmented, unequal, and increasingly dangerous world.”

The images included paintings, sculptures, and various mixed media pieces. O'Donovan displayed his talent as an art critic by concisely and accurately identifying each piece's artist, conventions, and ‘moment’ (the circumstances of its creation). He also described and analyzed various details and intricacies of each piece and the

response they instill in their observers.

His lecture was met with intense interest from the crowd. Sister Carol Gilbert, a Dominican nun visiting Regis to speak about her experience with non-violent war protests and her resulting, blatantly illegal, felony conviction, was especially interested in a piece by El Greco titled *Resurrection*. The piece depicts Christ rising from his tomb and multiple armed soldiers surrounding the tomb shielding themselves or being knocked to the ground. “I love the image of the soldiers being helpless against the risen Christ,” she shared. “Their swords are made useless by His love.” For Sister Gilbert, this image represented the very heart of the plowshares anti-war movement of which she is a part.

O'Donovan's presentation, while

intelligent and of a serious nature, was also marked with well delivered humor. When describing a piece as being one of the “best paintings in the world,” O'Donovan quickly corrected himself. “Regis is the best college in Colorado, we all know it's true,” O'Donovan quipped, “but you don't say it.” Moments of humor like this punctuated the intense mood, created by the powerful imagery on the screen and O'Donovan's presentation.

Following the presentation, O'Donovan answered various questions related to specific pieces and thanked Regis for welcoming him, once again, to speak on campus. Many members of the audience, such as Senior Josh Meier, left with a newfound appreciation of religious art. “The night was powerful and moving,” explained Meier, who found the opportunity to view “so many sacred pieces of artwork” extremely stirring and inspiring.

The *Catholicism in the Modern World* Speaker Series will continue Thursday, October 23, with a presentation entitled “Dark Nights in Our Faith: Meaning and Invitation,” by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, president of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

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Our Mission:

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

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“Conscience at the Ballot Box” forums open to Regis community

Jimmy Sengenberger
Staff Reporter

With election season in full swing, many students are often overwhelmed with an inundation of ads, attacks and issues permeating public dialogue.

How do I vote? For whom do I vote? What issues do I care about? And, perhaps most importantly, am I letting my conscience be my guide? Do I hold my values and positions out of concern for the common good?

In an effort to put help students make sense of the issues and come to their own conclusions for whom to vote, Regis will be holding several “Conscience and the Ballot Box” forums this week, part of its effort to bring students, faculty and staff together to talk about important issues on campus.

On Tuesday, Oct. 7, the first forum will be held in Main Hall, Rm. 333. The second, primarily for faculty and staff but also open to students, will take place at noon on Wednesday, Oct.

8, in the Mountain View Room, ALC 112. Finally, the third forum will take place in the Townhouse Commons at 8 p.m. Wednesday night.

A fourth forum will be held the following week at the Broadway Center off campus for faculty and staff.

“We were hoping to bring up important issues that are conscience-related that you don't typically hear about in the ads and in the debates,” said Dr. Tom Reynolds, vice-president for Mission, who is organizing the forum. “I let the faculty make up their own mind on what they wanted to talk about, but then the students who come can ask about other things. Whatever anybody wants to bring up is welcome.”

Faculty members leading the Conscience and the Ballot Box forums include Dr. Tom Leininger, associate professor of Religious Studies, who will address the immigration issue; Dr. Mary Beth Callie, assistant professor of Communication, who will discuss the role of government in the economy;

Dr. Byron Plumley, coordinator for Justice Education, who will speak about the consistent ethic of life, and Diversity Coordinator Saj Kabadri, who will focus on dialogue versus attack ads.

Further, Dr. Tom Hooyman, who specializes in healthcare ethics, will discuss the issue of healthcare, with a focus on the Colorado Personhood Amendment (Amendment 48). This would define the terms “person” and “persons,” as used in the Colorado Constitution, as any human being beginning at the moment of fertilization. It is one of 18 initiatives on the Colorado ballot this November, 14 of which are constitutional amendments. Under the Colorado Constitution, voter approval is required to amend the document.

The goal of the forum is to get students to think, reflect and discuss the important issues that delve into “more depth on topics that politicians don't want to talk about,” Reynolds said.

“If you watched any of the ads, do

you get anything useful out of them?” he asked. “I think it tells you what they believe about our ability to concentrate and reflect intelligently. They [politicians] have a low opinion of us, whereas we have a higher opinion of our students. We're hoping students will get a little food for the mind rather than just 30-second attack ads.”

While Dr. Reynolds' primary role at the forum is to moderate the dialogue, he will point students and faculty to the Colorado Blue Book, a booklet provided by the Colorado General Assembly with information on the 18 statewide ballot measures and judges who are up for retention.

The Blue Book includes an analysis of arguments in favor of and opposed to each measure, the actual text of the initiatives, and recommendations on judge retention. Reynolds intends to focus on two or three measures students likely have not heard much about.

See *Conscience, Ballot Box* on page 6

SOA delegation continues planning for Nov. protest

Angela Shugarts
Staff Reporter

The SOA delegation meetings are underway. On Wednesday Sept. 30 at 9 p.m., students, faculty, and others gathered in Main Hall for the second of eight meetings in preparation for the trip to Fort Benning, Georgia to protest at the School of the Americas military base (SOA). In commemoration of the killings of six Jesuit priests in 1989 at the hands of SOA trained soldiers, students spiritually prepare and unite as a nonviolent community for the protest.

The first meeting helped students and faculty get to know one another through dialogue and prayer. Participants gathered in a circle each answering the question "Why am I here?" Responses varied from "I am here to learn more about the SOA," to "I am a Jesuit priest from Guatemala and have seen first-hand the effects of the SOA on my country." In addition, the community engaged in "spiritual activism" through prayer led by student leaders Eric Goshorn and Colleen McGoff. Towards the end of the meeting, students and faculty watched the film "On the Line," a documentary about the SOA, U.S. foreign policy, and the poor.

"Going into the meeting, I didn't really know what to expect but I did know that I wanted to learn more about the SOA and to get a sense of why I should go," said sophomore Becca Corona, who, "really enjoyed the video and would recommend it to anyone who wants to learn more about the SOA."

The second meeting agenda included prayer, community building activities, a trivia game, and ended with personal testimonies.

"Our main goal was to provide a larger context for the SOA and teaching that it is not just an isolated school its part of a larger complex of US training schools and part of our countries military policies and economic policies in Latin American in particular," explained Katie Maslanka, coordinator of the Romero House.

The meeting began in prayer. Students were asked to reflect and offer up their prayers for those families who lost their lives at the hands of the SOA. On the walls around the room hung printed paper flags representing various Latin American countries like Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Colombia among others. Randomly, students rose after a few moments in silence, walked around the room, stopping at each flag praying for the people in that country. Students and faculty participated in this activity for about 15 minutes, leaving some feeling awakened with insight.

"I have never really prayed that way before," said sophomore Corona. At the end of the spiritual session students voluntarily wrote their intentions on strips of white paper and placed them in a basket as a way of offering their prayers.

Dialogues about the idea and experiences of nonviolence allowed for students and faculty to share their experiences of nonviolence and violence.

"I remember a later time I was in Spain and I was pick-pocketed by some gypsies. I remember beating them up for our passports and afterwards I felt terrible," recalled Jerry Stookey, a Dominican priest and director of program services at Denver Justice and Peace Committee. "I remember being so angry, I viscerally reacted in a violent way. I mean, where does this need for control come from? What is that?"

"We are challenged to keep thinking about the power and importance of nonviolent action to stop militarism and violence in our country and the world. This commitment to nonviolence is foundational to explain why we even go to the SOA," added Byron Plumley, Justice Education Coordinator.

"It's a reminder that the violence that we are a part of is real," said Stookey.

If people are wondering why students and faculty go to the SOA, its because they believe in being active and promoting peace and justice through peaceful and just acts.

Stookey distinguishes between those who do not protest and those who do.

"Passive is not active. Nonviolence is active. Passive people do nothing. They don't speak up. For me, nonviolence should be an active participation. It's a moral conviction incorporated with nonviolent tactics. It's saying 'not in my name will you go and torture these people,'" said Stookey.

In addition, community building exercises actively engaged students and faculty to get to know each other and confide in one another.

A "New York Subway" activity had students briskly walk around the room pretending they were on the bustling streets of New York City during rush hour. They stopped and found a partner next to them.

"She will be my primary support person for these next weeks as we prepare for this pilgrimage to the gate of violence at Ft. Benning. There is 40 years between us. I expect to learn a lot," added Plumley.

And many have already learned a lot. The "Know your SOA: Do you know your stuff" trivia quiz asked questions pertaining to the SOA, its history, foreign affairs, and U.S. policy issues. Students and faculty were surprised to read and hear about some of the harsh realities.

"The information is important if we are to understand why the SOA should be closed. There are still 'facts' for me to learn. I am grateful for the countries who are refusing to send troops to be trained at the SOA," explained Plumley.

Winding down, the participants sat and listened to a personal testimony from Fr. Marco Gomez, director of admission at Arrupe Jesuit High School. He spoke about his experiences in Guatemala during the rise of the "culture of violence."

He recalled seeing his first dead body, naked and tied up, lying in the streets while he and his father were searching for his uncle who was captured and tortured by the paramilitary groups and guerillas trained by the SOA. He never recalls seeing his father

so saddened and angry before that time.

His family's frustration grew after Gomez's grandfather was captured and tortured shortly after his uncle's disappearance. He spoke of the history of Guatemala's war and how violence intensified from the 1960's up to the 1990's. His younger sister became a victim and disappeared as well.

"It's difficult," he says, "You don't know what to do. We wondered where they took her, what they are doing to her. Are they going to rape her, torture her? You don't know."

"Fr. Marco's story put a human face on the tragedy that has been Guatemala. His testimony allowed us to hear a first-hand account of disappearance, torture, and injustice. His experience and that of his family is a primary reason for doing to the demonstration at Ft. Benning...to stand in solidarity with the victims of violence...My heart ached," said Plumley.

Maslanka also noticed the effectiveness and emotional testimony of Fr. Marco's speech. "You can hear in the abstract what it means for the SOA to train soldiers and then terrorize their people but to hear personally from someone who has experienced violence in his own family, has made it through, and still chose a lifestyle that is peaceful while responding with faith. You could see the emotion in his testimony," Maslanka said.

The meeting ended at 11:00 p.m. at which time students and faculty left with a new sense of what the SOA was about and an in-depth look of themselves and the nonviolent community they built that evening.

"I felt a strong sense of community and support," said Corona.

"I left with new energy, and a gratitude for being part of this 2008 Regis delegation. We are a powerful gang of nonviolent witnesses...[together we will form] an affinity group and build community," affirmed Plumley.

See SOA on page 7

Critical Reading from front page

With Google, Wolf expressed, students are able to scan over a lot of things, but don't take the time to really dig deep into the text, and reflect on it.

An animated speaker, Wolf added a bit of humor with the seriousness of her lecture. "I am not a good rhetorical speaker," she laughed. "I often fall, trip. You're teachers. You know what I mean."

Yet, Wolf exuded a calm confidence of her expertise on the development of "the reading brain."

She quoted author Marcel Proust, after whom the heart of her book is based. "We feel quite truly that our wisdom begins with that of the author. By law which perhaps signifies that we can receive the truth from nobody, that which is the end of their wisdom appears to us but the beginning of ours."

For Wolf, Proust described the generative quality of critical reading. When students read deeply, she explained, students not only gain the knowledge of the author, but are able to generate wisdom from one's own thoughts and insights. Students receive an "epiphany, if you will," she

said.

Also a neuroscientist, Wolf explained that the brain is forever different once a person learns to read.

"Reading changes us. We have to create a literal circuit of neuronal pathways to connect all these parts, just like a bus route that goes around the brain," she explained.

For Wolf, who has studied the evolution of the reading brain, revealed that there is no specific gene that encodes for reading. Instead, the brain has to adapt by building a system of circuits that enable an individual to recognize and develop the many layers of reading comprehension, beginning with letters, words, and finally, meaning and insight.

"Unlike language, unlike vision, reading has not a specific gene for 'it,'" Wolf said. "There are genes for language, how you recognize objects, but there's no genes to help a child or an adult set up a circuit. That's really an important thing to grasp, because what it means is that there is no one ideal circuit."

Thus, for Wolf, each person develops his or her unique neurological pathway for reading. "What goes into that is more than anybody ever realizes," Wolf emphasized.

Wolf then reminded faculty that the

fact each person's brain develops differently means, depending on the circumstances, some children may not develop as many "circuits" as others. Wolf stressed the importance of hearing words early in life, and the effects of "word poverty."

"Wealthier families, by and large, are hearing about 45 millions words between 4 and 5 years of age. A child of a more working class family hears about 26 million words, and on average, the children of welfare families hear about 13 millions words by that point," she said. "In other words, that's 32 million words fewer, meaning, less assemblages are being made," said Wolf.

Wolf, who specializes in children's development, uses the concept of "word poverty" as a catalyst for education reform. For her, children need the opportunity to develop their reading brains, so that they too, can gain the deeper insights of critical reading later in life.

Another area of Wolf's expertise is children and adults with dyslexia. Often considered a reading and learning disability, Wolf sees the condition as a different way evolutionary pathway of the brain's "circuitry." Instead of processing information like individuals who are "left brained," dyslexic

individuals are "right brained," meaning, their right hemisphere tries to compensate for the left, more "logical" side of the thinking process.

"Five to ten percent of every classroom has children that are organized differently in their brains," explained Wolf. "Their brains...were organized to be artists, architects, builders, pattern seers, entrepreneurs. 35 percent of entrepreneurs have dyslexia!" she added.

For Wolf, students with dyslexia have a "superior intellectual capacity" to "think outside the box." She also believes that the very existence of dyslexia is "proof that the brain was never meant to read."

In the end, Wolf's main challenge to the faculty was to consider technology's effects on "the reading brain." For her, it's important to focus on deep reading and thinking, and to adapt technology as a supplement to the time necessary for critical reading.

"Changes are necessary for the world we live in," she said. "But we must ask questions about whether [technology is] going to short circuit the other half of comprehension," which takes time.

"We need time as the basis for art, for invention, for insight, for going beyond the text, for going beyond the surface of information."

Palin passes with flying colors, but not substance

Jimmy Sengenberger
Staff Writer

The ratings were higher than ever before for a vice-presidential debate Thursday night, as Sen. Joe Biden and Gov. Sarah Palin went head-to-head in the most-watched VP debate in history. 70 million viewers, to be exact.

That's 42% more viewership than the presidential debate the previous week, on Friday, Sept. 26. Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barack Obama met in Mississippi for the first of three debates, and both candidates essentially reached a draw. I believe McCain won on substance and slightly on skill but Obama, too, held his own and appeared adept in speaking about the foreign policy.

But what about the more-watched Palin-Biden debate?

All about Palin

Just as the presidential debate was about the little-known, inexperienced and young Obama and whether or not he could hold his own, the veepstakes debate centered around Sarah Palin.

Since she burst onto the scene with lipstick flare in her speech at the Republican National Convention, questions abounded about her experience and readiness to be vice-president ("a heartbeat away from the presidency").

Because of how few television interviews she did prior to the debate (three total) and her substandard performances in those exchanges, expectations for Palin were low. Conventional wisdom was that she would make a fool out of herself and the experienced

Biden would tear her to shreds. As with her bid for governor, they underestimated Palin.

Her detractors clearly had not seen any of her debates in the primary or general election campaigns in Alaska, fantastic performances which allowed her to go on to win both the primary and the general by substantial margins.

The McCain-Palin campaign did little to combat conventional wisdom by continuing to hide her from the press and controlling her language. She was not allowed to be herself, and even conservatives, at first excited about the governor, were becoming concerned.

Thursday night, however, that changed. Once again Palin was the shining star we saw at the convention. She spoke directly to the American people effectively and connected with the public. She was personable, folksy in her rhetoric ("say it ain't so, Joe," "doggonit") and flowing in charm; even her substantive attacks seeped confidence with her smiles.

Her style was just what was needed to return the appeal that drew so much positive attention to the campaign when she was picked. And she was far more substantive and on the ball when it came to the issues than in her unflattering interviews.

In other words, she came back.

Biden wins on substance

But while Palin's style connected with the public, the quality of her policy arguments were no match for Biden, who has been in the U.S. Senate since Richard Nixon was president. No one, not even her biggest fans, expected her

to beat him out on substance. Right or wrong on the issues, Biden has command of them, and he exemplified that throughout the debate.

Biden has been known for making numerous gaffes on the campaign trail, recently stating that after the stock market crash of 1929, FDR gave a televised address to the American people. In fact, Hoover was president at the time, and TV was hardly around. Though he did make some factual inaccuracies, Biden made no such gaffes; rather, he was disciplined and focused.

He pinned Palin on deregulation, healthcare, and nuclear energy, for which, though she most certainly could have, she did not counter effectively.

While she artfully twisted questions around to suit her own purposes at a few different points, Palin was on message and drove home the key points she had to make, on taxes, on national security and, most importantly, on energy, her big issue. She sidestepped Biden's attacks with folksy charm ("say it ain't so, Joe, there you go again pointing backwards again"). But agree with his positions or not, Biden spoke with forcefulness and with savvy. He won on policy.

Tallying up the score

Despite Biden's substantive win, the debate was about Sarah Palin. 70 million people watched to see if she could hold her own and pass the test: and she did, with flying colors.

In a focus group of undecided voters conducted by political pollster Frank Luntz, who utilizes a system for measuring second-by-second responses of

those who lean Republican and those who lean Democrat, the results were fascinating. Whereas Obama came out on top in the focus group for the first debate, a majority of the undecideds sided with Palin this time around.

According to Luntz, the only negative moment she had, when the dials went down, was in her opening answer. It was hard, he said, in the presidential debate to find clips when both sides were close on their dials, but with Palin that was not the case. She connected.

The Palin-Biden debate is reminiscent of the famous Nixon vs. Kennedy debate of 1960. No one doubted that Nixon's arguments were far stronger and that he had a wealth of knowledge and experience Kennedy lacked, yet those who watched the debate felt that Kennedy won. He exuded confidence and charisma, appeal and connection with the public. And he won the election.

Palin did not achieve a Kennedy win, however. She had dexterity but lacked enough substantive strength to where she balanced, but did not beat, Biden's argumentative skills. In that sense, it was a tie, but because the debate was about Palin, she came out on top, and McCain will benefit.

Palin gave McCain a second chance by adding a burst of much-needed positive energy to his campaign and disqualifying the "unqualified" accusation against Palin. Now the question is, will he expand that in Tuesday's debate, or will Obama strengthen his lead?

Why the 'real world' matters



Emily Sloan
Staff Writer

Sometimes living on campus, actually, just being in college, leaves me feeling very sheltered from the events of the world. Granted I may hear about major events in passing or mentioned in class, but for the most part, I don't know much about events, especially local events in Denver or my hometown Chicago. For instance, I remember reading CNN on a whim and being shocked to learn that there had been major storms in Chicago that had flooded areas of the city. If I had not decided to read a little that day on the CNN website, I wouldn't have found out about the storm's damage and its effect on my family.

What has compelled me to seek out information, though, is something that affects us all: the financial crisis. In case you are unsure about what I am talking about, here's a quick summary.

For multiple years, companies had latched onto this idea that everyone should own a house. Thus, mortgage companies invested in sub-prime mortgages. These gave mortgages to people with bad credit, who in all likelihood, would not be able pay back the loan. As the housing market declined, big companies began to lose money, and companies like Lehman Brothers, started filing for bankruptcy or asking for bailouts, like AIG. As more companies did this, panic began to set in, causing the market to decline, banks to

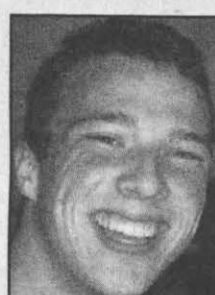
tighten their standards for loans, thus, the emergence of the proposed bailout.

At first I did not pay full attention to the multiple companies filing for bankruptcy because I assumed it was a single, unrelated event. As the days progressed though, and the financial crisis dominated the news, I knew I had to read more. And the more I read, the more worried I became. Right now, it may not matter to some, but as college students, soon to start our "adult" lives, our generation will be left to deal with the effects, especially the \$700 billion bailout plan.

Short-term effects: student loans are going to be harder to secure, which could force some students out of school. Long-term effects: our taxes and our children's taxes are going to be a heavier burden.

Seeing the crisis as an issue that directly affect my future, I've realized that it's important to be educated on these things. I am not a math major or an economics major. In fact, I try to shy away from those subjects. But I feel compelled to understand what's going on, because I am worried and concerned about the effects this will have on me. I don't want to live in a "college bubble," yet, I also understand the fear of realizing the problems of the real world. But, when my years at Regis are over, I'll need to make decisions in the "real world," and so will you. The "bubble" will pop. The only way to be prepared, as I see it, is to be informed.

Think before you speak



Robert House
Contributing
Writer

A little while ago, I went on a wonderful date with a student from DU. We had a delicious meal and then decided to head back to my place for a movie. As we sat on the 31 bus heading back towards Regis, we were very conscious to not be too affectionate. We both understood that not everyone is comfortable seeing two men holding hands. The choice to publicly show our affection was not a battle that we wanted to fight on this particular evening.

As the bus began to empty, Erik and I moved a little bit closer and I put my arm around him. When the bus stopped at Mile High Stadium, I could feel tension in the back of the bus, so I took my arm off my date's shoulder and put it up against the window. A stereotypical punk rocker hopped on the bus. His hair was in an impressively tall mohawk and he wore a black leather vest with studs, ripped camo pants, a Ramones t-shirt, army boots, and a large nose ring. At this point, both Erik and I mentally prepared to defend ourselves not knowing how he would feel about our presence on the bus.

This stranger sat down across from us and introduced himself. He was very kind and told us that he was glad that we felt comfortable being with each other on the bus. He did not care that two guys were being affectionate,

just as he had hoped that people didn't deny him anything because of his appearance.

Thinking back on the interaction, I was reminded of what Buddha said: "The thought manifests itself in the word. The word manifests itself in the deed. The deed develops into habit. The habit hardens into character. So watch the thought and its way with care and let it spring from love born out of concern for all beings."

In other words, when an unjust thought informs our actions, we lose concern for others. But when we thoughtfully respect others, our actions reflect our respect.

And so I remember ten years ago this week that Matthew Shepard was murdered. Matthew Shepard was a 21 year old University of Wyoming student that was lured into a car, driven to the middle of a field, tied to a fence, brutally beaten, and left to die. His murderers thought that he was less human because of his sexual orientation, and their thoughts manifested in their character. This was a blatant act of hate that we can all condemn.

Yes, we still live in a society in which thoughts of prejudice are allowed to develop into acts of hate. Likewise, my own action on the bus was one of prejudice. While mine did not result in a death like Matthew Shepard's, my thoughts manifested into a word or action. Because Erik and I were preparing to defend ourselves, we had made a negative judgment about this man based on his appearance.

Catholics for Obama? WAR AND THE RIGHT TO LIFE

John F. Kane
Professor of Religious Studies

For many voting this year, foreign policy issues will be very important in their decision about how to vote. It was, arguably, his strong and continual opposition to the war in Iraq that was central in Obama's getting the Democratic candidacy. And it was McCain's past as a war prisoner and his strong support for the war in Iraq that has led many to support him.

The question of this article is whether Catholic teachings about war as an instrument of foreign policy provide guidance for people of faith in deciding between the two candidates? My answer to that question is a very clear YES. Catholic teachings on war and peace as central to the right to life are among the reasons that lead many Catholics to favor Obama.

What are those Catholic teachings? Typically they are not simple and a full telling would demand far more than this short article. So I'll later suggest some readings for those who wish to inform their consciences in the light of such teachings. Here I'll just give my own short summary which I believe is quite accurate.

The Catholic Church has significantly developed and to some extent

changed its moral teachings about war during the last 60 years in light of real-world facts about modern warfare. Such real-world facts would include: 1) the horrific destruction of innocent civilian life during World War II, culminating in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; 2) the terrible costs to innocent life of weapons and tactics used in the Vietnam war; and 3) the Russian-American nuclear arms race in the 1970s and 1980s which proliferated weapons that could never be used morally because of their inevitable and terrible slaughter of innocent life.

Thus the present US-led war in Iraq has been condemned as immoral by the last two Popes, by many Bishops, and by a consensus of theologians and Catholic religious leaders in the US. There are, to be sure, Catholic leaders who have judged the war moral, but they are a small minority. For most Catholic leaders today the only real and difficult moral question about Iraq is how to end an immoral war without doing more damage to innocent life.

Catholic teaching does admit the possibility of a morally justified war (or a just war), but only if such a war really is a last resort and if it is fought in such a way that innocent life is protected. Those conditions have led

many Catholics to become "just war pacifists" since they believe that the conditions (especially the second one) can't be met in any major modern war because of the nature of modern weaponry and tactics.

So what about McCain and Obama? Both have indicated a clear willingness to use US military power to pursue what they regard as morally just foreign policy purposes (such as stopping terrorists or supporting allies who are threatened unjustly). Yet there is in the judgment of many a very clear difference between the two. (Here I would again urge you to read more to decide for yourself.)

As I and many others see it, the difference between the two candidates can be put as follows. Obama would first rely heavily on diplomacy and would (we believe) resort to force only as a last resort. McCain, on the other hand, would follow Bush and Cheney in far too readily resorting to force and relying far less on serious diplomacy. (As one source of good evidence for this judgment about McCain, I'd urge you to read the article, based on extensive interviews with McCain, in the October issue of *The Atlantic*. Its exact title is "The Wars of John McCain," but the title on the cover accompanying McCain's picture is more indicative of

its content: "Why War is His Answer.")

In light of Catholic teaching about the morality of war, many are led to vote for Obama and to fear that the election of McCain would lead our country further down the path of clearly immoral uses of force. I need to add, however, that Catholic teaching should also lead us to pressure any Obama administration on a number of related fronts such as further reducing US nuclear weapons and the militarizing of space, and shifting national budget priorities from the military to matters of social welfare such as health care and education and poverty reduction.

Again, I'd urge the reader to read more about recent Catholic teachings about war and peace. The best single source is the US Catholic Bishops 1983 "pastoral letter" (a short book available online) called *The Challenge of Peace*. Just Google "The Challenge of Peace." Do the same for the popes' and others' judgments about the war in Iraq - Google, for example, "Pope John Paul II and the war in Iraq" or the same for Pope Benedict or for the US Bishops.

Next week: Student Responses to Dr. Kane previous pieces: "Catholics for Obama" and "Faith and Voting: The Economy and the Right to Life."

The Financial Crisis, explained

Dr. Susan Jacobson
Associate professor of Business

Financial markets are in turmoil. People are confused. How did we get to this point? Fundamentally, it's an old problem. People think that when prices have been going up for a long time, they will continue to rise, and they bet on it. Some bet really big. It happened in the 16th century in Holland with tulip bulbs. It happened in the late '90s with internet stocks, and it happened in the early 2000s with houses. Houses are such a good thing, not the intangible nonsense of the internet. But bubbles are bubbles. When markets overreact on the upside there is always pain on the downside. And that pain is usually severe because markets tend to overreact on the downside too.

The recent bets on house prices were easy to make. Capital was plentiful. Loans were easy to get. That's where Fannie and Freddie come in. No one likes Fannie and Freddie anymore, but read their missions:

Fannie - "We exist to expand affordable housing and bring global capital to local communities in order to serve the U.S. housing market."¹

Freddie - "... we reduce the costs of housing finance and expand housing opportunities for all families, including low-income and minority families."² Sounds great. Shouldn't everyone be able to borrow money to buy a home? These two organizations were the link to the easy loans. So what's the problem?

Maybe you know some people to whom you'd be happy to lend money. Maybe you know some you wouldn't. But let's make it easy for you to lend money to everybody. You lend money knowing that you can sell that loan to someone else. When you sell the loan, you get your money back right away, and make some profit from transaction

fees that the borrower paid. Wow - quick money. This is good business. You make more loans. You don't worry about whether or not the person who borrowed your money will pay you back, because you have a ready buyer for the loans. In fact you have at least two buyers, Freddie and Fannie.

But what do Freddie and Fannie do with the loans? They sell them again, but only after they have been packaged up into mortgage-backed securities - bonds that promise to pay investors with the money coming in from the house payments. And as it turned out there were lots of people, banks, corporations, money managers, and even foreign governments who were willing to buy these securities from Freddie and Fannie. It looked as though the cash flows were pretty safe. Why would anyone stop making their mortgage payments?

Well, we know that sometimes people get into financial trouble, but these loans are backed by the houses. If someone couldn't pay her mortgage she would just sell the house, pay off the loan balance, and walk away with a profit. Everyone wins. House prices always go up. In addition, many of the investors who were buying the securities from Fannie and Freddie assumed there was another layer of security. If anything should go wrong, the US government would step in and make the payments. This was an erroneous assumption. Though Fannie and Freddie had government charters, they were shareholder-owned corporations. The government was not obligated to make good on their debt and it said that explicitly on the organizations' web sites. Nevertheless, people believed there were so many layers of protection, they were happy to buy up great quantities of these mortgage-backed securities. This kept the game going, funneling more and more money from global investors into the US housing market.

It doesn't take an economist to predict what happens to prices when demand rises. Prices go up. And so prices did go up. Because there was so much money to lend to buy houses, house prices increased more than 10% over every 12-month period between August 2002 and April 2006. From June 2003 through October 2004, house prices were up 17% over 12-month periods.³

But as with all bubbles, eventually the bubble bursts. At some point there are too many houses and too few buyers, and prices begin to fall. The data are devastating:

The indexes showed home prices in 10 major metropolitan areas fell a record 17.5% in July from a year earlier and 1.1% from June. The decline marks the 10-city index's 10th straight monthly report of a record decline. The index is now 21.1% below its peak two years ago.

In 20 major metropolitan areas, home prices dropped 16.3% from the prior year, also a record, and 0.9% from the prior month. The 20-city index has fallen 19.5% from its June/July 2006 peak.⁴

Percent Change in Home Prices over the Previous 12 Months

Once prices begin to decline, there's big trouble. And in this case it is really BIG trouble because so many investors had bought these securities. The cash flows to the investors slow down. The economy slows down. People lose their jobs. They stop making mortgage payments. It turns out the houses aren't worth more than the loan balances. You can see the downward spiral. People panic. No one wants to buy these securities now. Their prices collapse. Institutions that own these securities see their asset values plummet. They thought they had nice steady cash flows coming in from homeowners, but

they don't. The cash flow they are going to get is much smaller than they thought it would be. They can't borrow money using the securities as collateral because no one wants to end up with the securities. If you're Lehman Brothers it turns out you can't borrow enough to keep going - you have to declare bankruptcy.

Once panic sets in, it's pretty hard to reverse it. It turns out a lot of big, really big, and previously well-respected institutions had bought huge quantities of these now "toxic" securities. People are scared. The credit markets shut down. No one wants to lend money to anyone except the US government. That's safe. Nothing else is. And people start selling stocks - too risky an investment in a time like this! The stock market collapses. The economy's in trouble because no is willing to take any risk.

There are a lot of subtle details in this story. Details about complicated financial structures attached to mortgage-backed securities - who gets which cash flows when. Details about the government's role and what now looks like lax regulation. Details about Fannie and Freddie's structure as GSEs. Details about capital requirements at banks. Details about hubris and perhaps greed that led to smart people, even investment bankers, taking on too much borrowing (leverage). But basically it's an old story about disregarding the risk of a reversal in the price of some asset. This time it's houses. And it's a big deal because so many people made bets on house prices - some directly by buying houses and millions indirectly by buying financial assets, mortgage-backed securities, that entitled them to cash flows from homeowners that are not materializing.

See *Financial Crisis, explained* on page 6

dialogue

elections and the common good

Michael J. Sheeran, S.J.— President, Regis University

October 2008

One topic that we are unlikely to hear discussed during this election season, especially in the debates or media ads, is the concept of the Common Good. That's not only unfortunate — it also reduces the content of our public dialogue to the usual cycle of attack ads, deliberate mis-statements of opposing positions, and "wedge issues," all of which are designed to separate us into our narrow individual and special interests rather than search for the greater public good that will benefit the entire community or nation. This resort to individual self-interest is a particular temptation for Americans, since we are taught to value personal achievement, competition, and independence over inter-dependence and the obligations of community and relationships.

It's worth remembering that such negative campaign strategies are not new, nor even a recent development during our lifetimes. In fact, the very earliest campaigns in the new American republic often reflected behaviors and "dirty tricks" far worse than those we see today. But suggesting it could be worse is not much consolation.

At Regis, we have committed ourselves to the tradition of the Common Good, most notably through the work of the Institute on the Common Good, which has been engaging in and teaching the practice of dialogue on important public issues for many years. Further, we have worked hard to live out this desire for respectful dialogue in our interactions at the University.

But when we encounter the messy challenges of hard-fought election campaigns, how can we make wise judgments about the competing claims for our allegiance — judgments that respect this tradition of searching for the Common Good rather than narrow and often selfish interests?

Catholic Social Teaching has some useful insights that can guide us in making informed and effective decisions about the Common Good:

- *First, all people have the right to participate in the opportunities that a society makes available to its members, not merely the best, the brightest, or the wealthiest among us. Further, all should have access to an effective education that prepares them for productive work, to basic health care, and to decent housing — whether they can afford it or not. Whenever our public policies or political passions move us away from these essential principles, we are heading in the wrong direction. We were made to live with and for others, not merely for ourselves, and this commitment should apply to both individuals and nations.*
- *Second, when evaluating the possible impact of political proposals, such as tax policies, government programs, or Wall Street bailouts — we can assess how they serve the Common Good by asking how they will likely affect the poorest and most vulnerable persons in our nation and our world. This foundational ethic, known in Catholic circles as the "preferential option for the poor," challenges us to look at programs and policies from the vantage point of these least among us, whether it be unborn children, the homeless, the disabled, the elderly, or others on the margins of our communities and world.*

Respectful dialogue is an important tenet of the Regis University mission. It is my hope that during this election season, we can model our mission as we discuss a wide range of viewpoints on important election issues.

REGIS 
UNIVERSITY

Conscience, Ballot Box from page 2

In his reflection titled "Elections and the Common Good," Fr. Michael Sheeran, S.J. expresses "the importance of looking at these elections not only from our own narrow interests, but for the common good, for the entire community and nation."

"At Regis, we have committed ourselves to the tradition of the Common Good" says Sheeran in the reflection. "...In the best traditions of the principles of the Common Good, we are invited to engage in the political process, to thoughtfully and prayerfully reflect on what is best for our communities, nation and world—especially for the most vulnerable members of

those communities and nations—and to vote our consciences."

The Conscience and the Ballot Box forum will encourage participants to reflect and consider whether or not their positions take into account the Common Good.

"Students should attend in order to be challenged to think about the 'How ought we to live?' aspects of the decisions that our being made in our nation about their future," said Dr. Leininger.

"What kind of society do we want to live in? What privilege and responsibility do we have to participate in that discussion? What do the moral and religious traditions that inspired the founding of Regis...have to say about these questions?"

Think from page 4

It is a tough road to walk, but there is a clear line that we must always use to determine when we are doing an action of prejudice. Is it taking away someone's inherent human dignity?

God created all of us with human dignity. He took time to create each of us as we are. In life, we discover who we are. Faith calls us to live as we are created, as the Jesuits would say, for the greater glory of God. Denying someone who accepts and expresses who they are goes against what God calls us to do. By doing so, we fail to recognize God's creation of that person.

So, watch your thoughts with care because they have the ability to affect

your actions. Be conscious of your thoughts when you see two women holding hands at dinner, the group of Emo teens on the street, or the scruffy looking man on the bus. Are they thoughts of judgment on the validity of their non-heteronormative lifestyle or thoughts of tolerance for their love? Are they thoughts of discomfort with their fashion style or thoughts of acceptance of their creativity? Are they thoughts of his smell because he hasn't showered recently or thoughts of wanting to integrate him into our society? Are they thoughts of denying God's creations or are they thoughts of tolerating, accepting and loving God's creation?

- Third, in our reflection on difficult issues and in our engagement in the political process, we are challenged to respect the human dignity of those with whom we disagree. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, expected his followers to “pre-suppose” that those with views opposing one’s own were motivated by good intentions, and that they too were engaged in a search for God’s will in a complex world. We are called to this same recognition of the innate dignity of our colleagues, friends, family members, and political adversaries — even when we KNOW they are wrong.
- Finally, we should remember that not all social problems are best resolved through legislation or the political process. Not only does over-reliance on government or organizations often result in solutions that would have been worked out more effectively at local and community levels, but we must remember that we are called on by a loving God to make a good world better through our individual efforts and personal care for others, to partner with God, in one sense, in the continuing work of creation.

Unfortunately for all of us, these principles often make our decision-making more difficult rather than easier. Even when the issue of the right to life is involved, voters are called to make careful judgments. In his comments on the 2004 American elections, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) made the following comments:

“A Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in evil, and so unworthy to present himself for holy Communion, if he were to deliberately vote for a candidate precisely because of the candidate’s permissive stand on abortion and/or euthanasia. When a Catholic does not share a candidate’s stand in favor of abortion and/or euthanasia, but votes for that candidate for other reasons, it is considered remote material cooperation, which can be permitted in the presence of proportionate reasons.” (Denver Catholic Register, July 21, 2004, p.13)

In the best traditions of the principles of the Common Good, we are invited to engage in the political process, to thoughtfully and prayerfully reflect on what is best for our communities, nation, and world, — especially for the most vulnerable members of those communities and nations — and to vote our consciences.

(For those wishing more information on the wide range of Catholic perspectives on key electoral and social issues, consult Faithful Citizenship, at the website of the national Catholic coordinating organization, the U.S. Conference of Bishops — www.USCCB.org.)

dialogue

SOA from page 3

All students and faculty are welcome to partake in the Nonviolence training component of SOA preparation. As a part of Race Hate Week at Regis, students learn about different approaches and behaviors to nonviolence and different situations where nonviolence can be exhibited. The nonviolence training is on Oct. 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The location for the training will be announced later in the week.

For more information:

- “On the Line” documentary <http://www.onthelinefilm.com/buy.htm>
- SOA Watch: <http://www.soaw.org/>
- Military training schools: <http://www.amnestyusa.org>

Financial Crisis, explained from page 5

What’s next? Because markets also tend to overreact on the downside, become more pessimistic than is warranted, something has to break the downward spiral. Will the government’s plan to buy up the toxic mortgage-backed securities do it? It seems a little crazy that delegating the government to buy up assets we won’t buy ourselves can solve the problem. And it may not. But it seems doing nothing is a worse option. The devil is always in the details. Who will benefit from the government’s purchases? We don’t want the greedy, imprudent people who got us into this mess to benefit. We don’t want the taxpayers to lose, to

end up essentially owning all the toxic securities. But credit is vital to the workings of a market economy. Without it we all lose. Businesses can’t function. More people will lose their jobs. House prices will fall further. At some point markets do adjust. The question is can we wait for the markets to rebound from the pessimistic overshoot on the downside, or should the government try to shorten the pain?

Dr. Susan Jacobson, associate professor of Business, joined the Regis faculty this year. Before coming to Regis, she was department chair at Skidmore College, in New York; a research analyst with Citicorp Mortgage bank, and editor of an investment newsletter. She teaches

courses in Macroeconomics and Money, Banking and Financial Markets. Dr. Jacobson’s research interests include the politics of monetary policy, pedagogy for business schools in liberal arts environments, and creativity.

¹<http://www.fanniemae.com/aboutfm/index.jhtml>

²http://www.freddiemac.com/corporate/company_profile/

³Data from the S&P Case-Shiller Home price Indices http://www2.standardandpoors.com/portal/site/sp/en/us/page.topic/indices_csmahp/0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,1,0,0,0,0,0.html

⁴<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122277939629590013.html?mod=testMod>

Regis volleyball falls in five games to Fort Lewis

Jeremy Phillips
Sports Information Director

Durango, Colo.: The top team in the RMAC West Division proved to be too much for the Ranger volleyball team. Fort Lewis defeated Regis in five sets by scores of 25-16, 25-18, 20-25, 21-25 and 15-11. Errors again doomed the Rangers as they hit 27 hitting errors and had six service errors.

Sophomore Jessica Howe who started at outside hitter for the second straight match led the Rangers with 13 kills and four blocks. Sophomore Kerry Grady came off the bench to tally 12 kills, while junior Maggie Workman and senior middle hitter Liz Franz each collected six kills for Regis (7-8, 3-4 RMAC). Regis hit .198 for the match compared to .323 for the Skyhawks.

Fort Lewis (11-4, 6-1 RMAC) was led by Chelsea Flaming with a match-high of 15 kills. Sophomore Devin Eckhardt dished out a team-high as well with 40 assists, while senior libero Kristin Thompson had a match-high of 15 digs. Fort Lewis had 11 service aces against the Rangers, but also had 16 service errors.

Rangers fall 3-4 to Fort Lewis in overtime

Jeremy Phillips
Sports Information Director

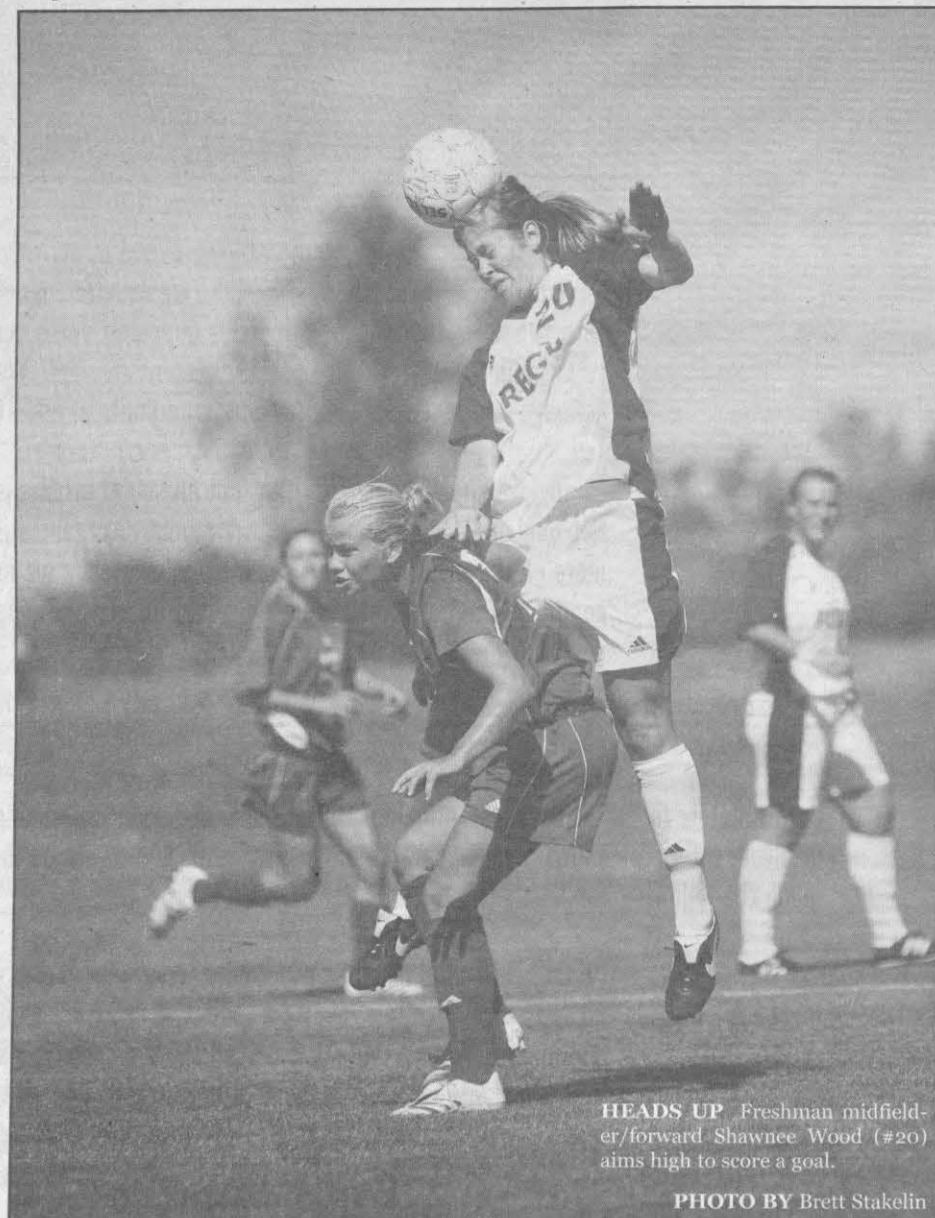
Denver, Colo.: After missing two games due to an injury, senior Carter Cornett made a strong comeback appearance Friday afternoon in Regis' 3-4 loss to Fort Lewis when she scored all three goals for the Rangers.

The first goal of the game was scored by the Fort Lewis Skyhawks at the 27:21 mark when sophomore Erica Shisler was assisted by Nicole Kluk. The Rangers tied the score just over five minutes later on Cornett's first goal of the game. She was assisted by Lexi Tagen on the play.

Neither team scored again until the second half when Skyhawks' Erica Shisler scored again at the 72:30 mark giving Fort Lewis a one goal lead. Jamie MacArthur, a Fort Lewis junior, increased their lead to two when she scored 33 minutes and 17 seconds into the second period. Michelle Felten and Lorin Anderson assisted MacArthur on the goal.

Just over five minutes later Cornett brought the Rangers within one when she scored her second goal for the game. Her third one came under six minutes later and just 41 seconds before the buzzer sounded to signal the end of the game. She was assisted by Heidi Chandler on the play that took the game into overtime.

Four minutes and 59 seconds into overtime Sam Smith, a junior midfielder, scored the winning goal for Fort Lewis, ending the game.



HEADS UP Freshman midfielder/forward Shawnee Wood (#20) aims high to score a goal.

PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

Defending champs, The Guards, defeat The Second Coming

Vince Garzone
Staff Reporter

Only in Regis intramural dodge ball will one witness such ferocity from its players. Last Thursday, Oct. 2, the team "Second Coming" battled it out with defending champions "The Guards" in the Ranger Dome.

The teams gathered on their respective sides and got themselves fired up to do some damage. The Second Coming huddled up, chanting for the win, while The Guards took a cue from the Mighty Ducks, hollering "Quack, Quack, Quack! Go Ducks!"

After the last of the quacking, the teams were ready to dodge some balls.

The faces, and the outfits, told it all. Players were grimacing, ready to attack. And confidence exuded from the players' sports attire. Junior Shawn "Griddles" Edwards of The Guards, for instance, came decked out in full ski attire: goggles, gloves, and a ski mask. Senior Nick Kirrane of the The Guards, on the other hand, opted to expose his best assets. Kirrane strutted his stuff in a speedo.

The Second Coming were another type of force. They each wore a bandana around their heads or covering their faces, and dressed in red—all to intimidate the quacking Guards.

The best was yet to come, though, especially when the referee finally called "Dodge Ball."

The first round seemed to last an eternity, going for a total of 21 minutes. Second Coming managed to whither down The Guards to two players on the court, with the Second Coming keeping eight players on the floor. But The Guards managed to keep on, and regained two players to battle Second Coming's three. With an acrobatic catch from The Guards, the out teammates returned to the court and

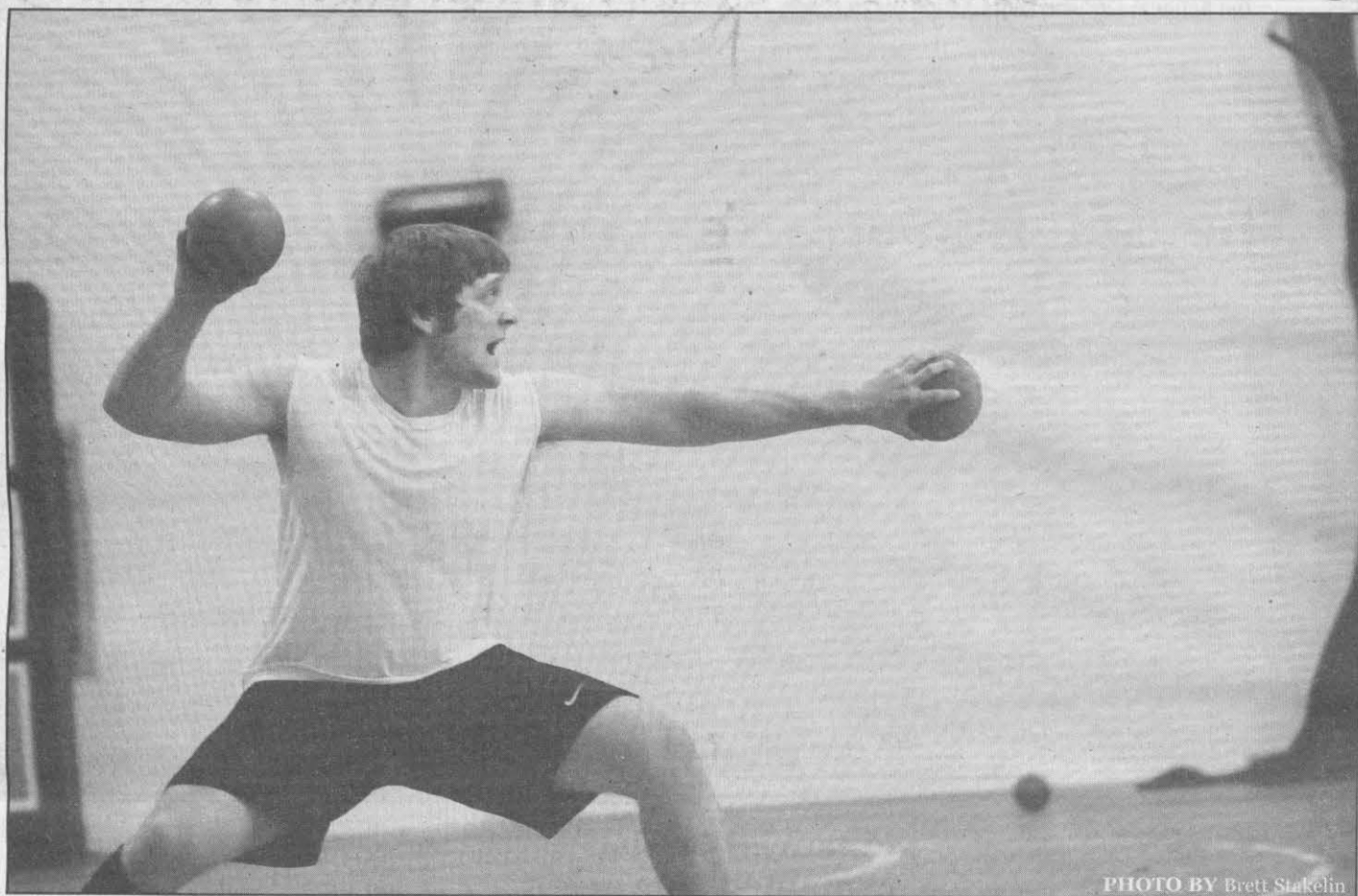


PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

DODGE, DUCK, DIP, DIVE, DODGE! Junior Sean Mulligan of The Guards charges forth with a powerful throw.

the match seemed to be coming to a close. But Second Coming were not about to give up. They responded with a huge diving catch, bringing them back in the game. Nonetheless, The Guards held strong, winning the first game.

The second round inspired The Second Coming to dodge harder. The Guards kept up with seven players aiming to slam a Guard.

Trash talking was imminent in the heated battle, making the environment unsafe for small children. Yet, defending champs The Guards came back, succeeding with consecutive outs for

the other team, as well as making several catches, bringing it to six players for The Guards versus one player for The Second Coming. The Guards, again, won this round.

Both sides sustained cuts and bruises, demanding to be bandaged up and put back into play.

For round three, the heat was still on, and The Second Coming showed no signs of defeat, strategizing with new tactics and intimidation techniques such as lying on the ground or "lurking" behind players to snag the prey. The Guards however adapted, seeing through The Second Coming's

tactics. Again, The Guards won.

By the fourth match, The Second Coming made a go for at least one match-win, but The Guards took that game too. Overall, the hunger for the win was intense on both sides. Almost every player sustained cuts and bruises, yet demanded to go back in after getting bandaged. Talk about dedication. The Guards go on to face Time Bomb, while the Second Coming will face Duck 'N Cover on Oct. 7. Playoffs begin October 14 with the top four teams facing off for the championship on Oct. 16.

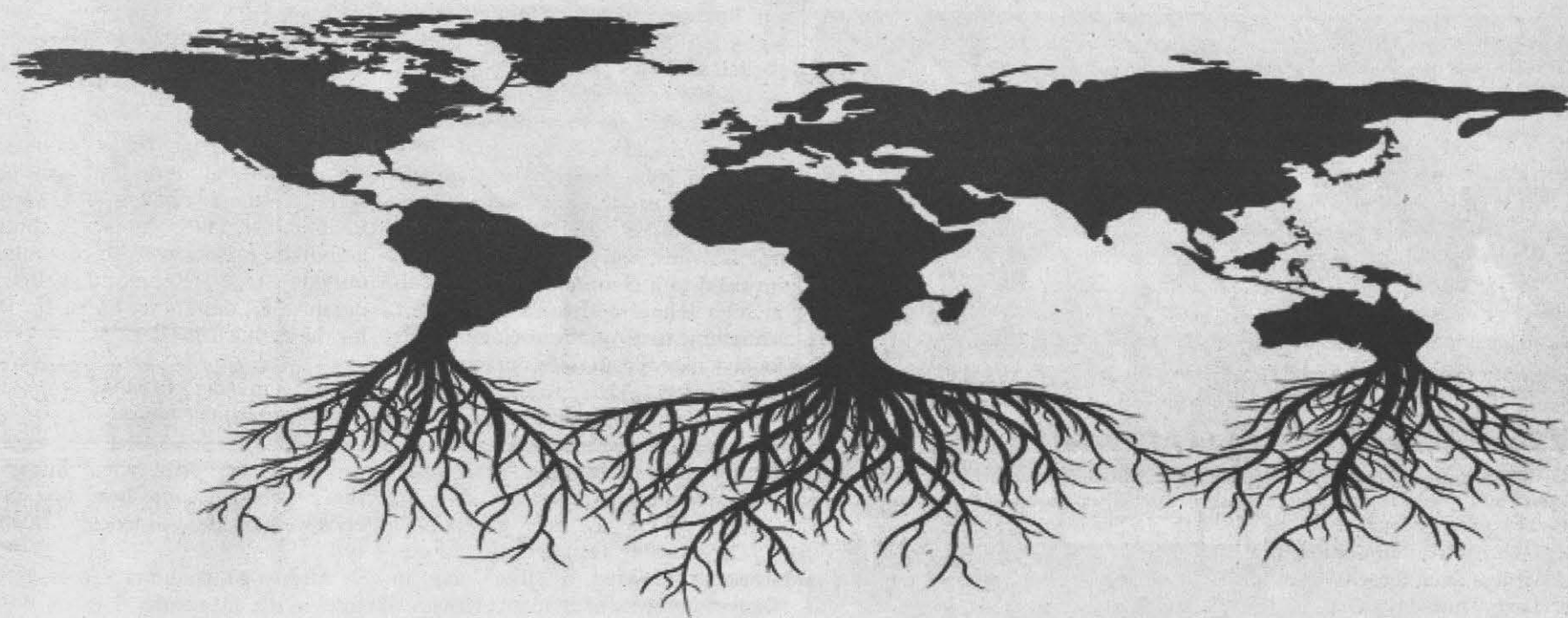
A Special Visit by Dr. James W. Hurrell at The Science and Technology Career Information Fair

Career Services is delighted to announce that Dr. James W. Hurrell, Senior Scientist of the Climate and Global Dynamics Division of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), will be giving a presentation at Regis University on the science of global climate change. Dr. Hurrell is one of the world's most distinguished experts on this subject. Among his many significant accomplishments is his contributing authorship to assessment reports for the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which were key components to the IPCC's success in sharing the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former Vice President Al Gore.

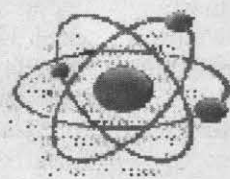
Don't miss this opportunity!

Dr. Hurrell will be speaking on Tuesday, October 7th, 12:15-1:00 p.m., Science Building, Room 313

Faculty, staff and students are all invited to attend this event. There is no charge and seating is on a first come first serve basis. For more information about this event, contact Career Services (303)-458-3508.



The Science and Technology Career Information Fair



**Tuesday, October 7, 2008
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Felix Pomponio Family Science Building

This career fair is a great opportunity for students to meet representatives from the science and technology sector. All junior and senior undergraduate, master's, and certificate level students from Regis University are encouraged to attend the career fair. Students will benefit greatly by gaining valuable insights into the companies and organizations and will learn about the opportunities that might be available to them.

Employers who are attending the 2008 Science & Technology Career Information Fair:

*AltoSource ? DigitalGlobe, Inc. ? Fowler Software Design ? Kelly Scientific Resources ? Medtronic Navigation
National Institute of Standards and Technology ? Raytheon Company ? Sandoz, Inc. ? Tri-State Generation and Transmission Assoc., Inc.
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) ? U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ? U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Vestas Blades America, Inc. ? Wall Street on Demand ? Xcel Energy*



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 303-458-3508

The Science and Technology Career Information Fair is accessible to students with and without disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at Regis University, 303-458-4941. Reasonable notice is suggested for the Office of Disability Services to accommodate your disability.

WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS!

REGIS STUDENTS SWEEP UP NEIGHBORHOOD, HEAD DOWNTOWN FOR FREE

Community Clean Up a success



PHOTO BY Mary Beth Callie

Councilman Rick Garcia shares his thanks to the Regis community for their continued efforts to help the community. (left of Councilman Garcia: Student body president Marcus Trucco and vice-president Will Gohl).

"Denver for free" day

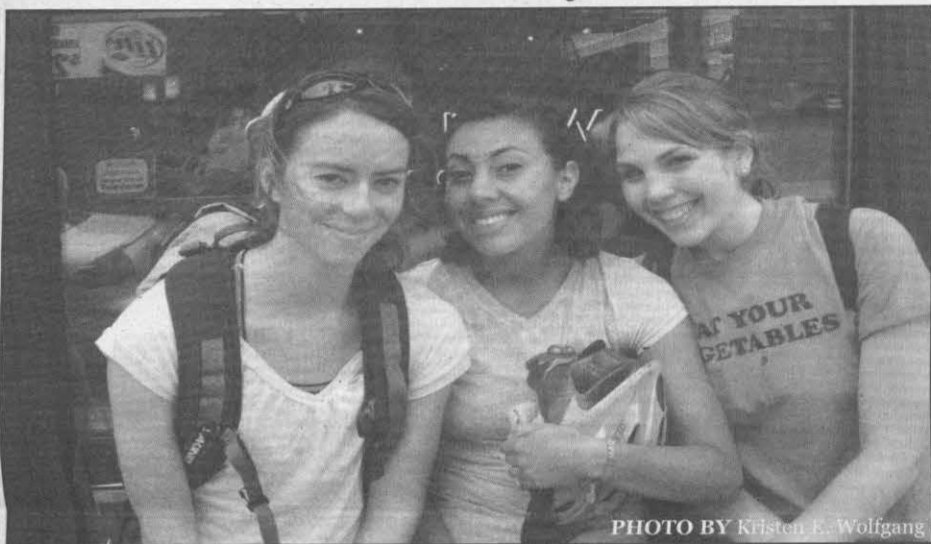


PHOTO BY Kristen E. Wolfgang

Sr. Emma Dufficy and Jrs. Rachel Chavez and Michelle Bryan take a break after their Yoga class at Core Power Yoga.



PHOTO BY Brandon L. Blessing

Students arrive at Confluence Park in Downtown, Denver, as part of "Denver for Free" event put on by

Zach Owens
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Oct. 4, dozens of Regis students and staff ventured outside the gates of Regis to participate in the semi-annual Community Clean Up Day. The event, which promotes community building between the university and the surrounding neighborhood, was organized by seniors Kathryn Redmond and Christie Costello, the RUSGA Directors of Community Involvement and Social Justice, respectively.

A diverse group of students and staff participated, including the RUSGA Executive Cabinet, clubs such as Active Minds; Mike Harris and Rick Turco from Physical Plant; Tom Reynolds, vice president of mission; Dave Law, director of student activities; members of the Hospitality House and Romero House, and sports teams, including Men's Rugby and Men's Basketball.

Other participants, such as first year students Kelly Rawlins, Katherine Hooten, Angela Mercer, and Jess Okamura, who all live in DeSmet, came because they saw the flyers around campus advertising the clean up. Rawlins and Hooten had been involved in a community service club in high school and were looking for something to do on the weekend. "This looked like the perfect opportunity," said Hooten.

Neighbors from the community also

came to help out. Matthew Humenick, who has lived on 49th and Irving since 1990, heard about the clean up through a flyer left at his door. He joined the men's basketball team to help clean up his community.

Once everyone had a sweatshop-free Community Clean Up shirt on and was filled with breakfast burritos made by The Whole Enchilada, Councilman Rick Garcia spoke to the group. He encouraged students to see the vital importance of Regis to the neighborhood and stressed that several years of community clean-ups, along with other initiatives, have helped to provide neighbors with a positive view of Regis students, and Regis in general. He closed by encouraging everyone to get out and vote in the general election on Nov. 4.

The clean up involved various tasks, including raking leaves, picking up trash and recyclables, painting over graffiti, and sweeping sidewalks. There were also projects at various houses for neighbors who requested help.

"The day went really well. The weather was great and so many residents within the community came outside to thank us for our work," Redmond said afterwards. To continue building relations with community outside Regis, Redmond plans to organize a Community Clean Up Day for the spring semester.

See clean up slideshow online, at www.RegisHighlander.com

Brandon L. Blessing
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Oct. 4, about a dozen students enjoyed a "free" day in Denver courtesy of Student Activities' Weekend Programming. The program, open to all students, hosts day trips every Saturday for different events and activities around Colorado.

The students met late in the morning and enjoyed an easy ride downtown, made possible by Regis' free bike rental program, where they experienced some of what Denver has to offer.

The first stop was Core Power Yoga on 13th and Grant, where every Saturday, beginner level yoga classes are free to the public free. Most of the students who participated had little to

no experience with yoga, but even those who had some level of experience were challenged by class' intensity.

After yoga, students also enjoyed a free lunch at nearby Panera Bread, again thanks to Student Activities. (For those on a budget, Panera has reasonable prices.)

While the trip was planned to involve a stop at the Denver Art Museum, which is free for students on the first Saturday of every month, the yoga class and lunch had were satisfying enough. Following a brief stop at Tattered Cover for tea, coffee, and relaxation, the students returned to Regis.

To rent a free bike of your own, head up to the Student Activities office on the second floor of the student center.

love denver?
movies?
music?
dining out?

WRITE FOR THE
HIGHLANDER!

QUESTIONS?
regishighlander@gmail.com

NEW ZEALAND

APPLY for this Junior Seminar that studies abroad in New Zealand:
looking at global leadership and social change through mental health advocacy

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: OCTOBER 10TH, 2008
Junior Seminar - Spring 2009 -- Abroad Experience - May 4th-17th, 2009

For an application, visit www.regis.edu/leadership

QUESTIONS? Contact Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas - 303.458.4323 sspencer@regis.edu

JOSH BLUE AT REGIS

LAST COMIC STANDING WINNER PACKS DINING HALL;
BRINGS LAUGHS, BREAKS DOWN STEREOTYPES

Last week's Thursday Thrills entertainer put the "cerebral in cerebral palsy," someone said recently of Blue. Smart, witty, and full of punch, the winner of Season 4's Last Comic Standing entertained a packed Dining Hall, bringing in tons of laughs; while simultaneously debunking preconceived notions and stereotypes of the disabled. He said in an interview with Disaboom.com, an organization whose purpose is to "debunk" disability stereotypes, in collaboration with Denver Comedy Works: "I fully believe whoever put this brain in this body made a perfect match. If there's a cure for cerebral palsy, I wouldn't do it, just because, this is who I am. This is my life."

During the show, Blue, a Denver native, mentioned his recent becoming of a father, his position as a "striker" for the Paralympics soccer team, and conducted a "Q & A," which he started by saying: "You can ask anything...what position I play on the Paralympics to why I look like Screech."

His comedic style is "reverse teasing." Josh Blue believes "if you make fun of yourself first, when others do it, they look really dumb."

The event was sponsored by Active Minds in collaboration with Student Activities.

PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

Things to do on the 52: Elvis Cinemas provides awesome deal for movie-goers

Amber Alarid
Staff Writer

Elvis Cinemas, at 64th and Sheridan, has been in Arvada for as long as I can remember. As a kid growing up in the North Denver area, the cinema always made quite an impact on me, with its quirky-style flashing lights around every corner. Recently, when I revisited the area, I rediscovered those flashy light fixtures still there, reminiscent of the "good ol' days." Indeed, Elvis Cinemas looks something like a disco when you first walk in. There's even a large silver chandelier.

Even now, as a young adult, the cinemas has the same fun allure I remember as a kid. Elvis Cinemas definitely has a lot to offer college students on a budget. Unlike the regular theatres, where a ticket can sink you back nearly \$9, (\$18 if you're paying for your

date), a movie screening before 6 p.m. at Elvis will cost only \$2.50. After 6 p.m., add a dollar for only \$3.50.

And the movies Elvis shows aren't ancient. Most of the movies showing now are end-of-the summer flicks, like "The House Bunny" and "Tropic Thunder."

During my visit to Elvis, I saw "Pineapple Express." Admission for three people, with popcorn came to \$13.50, tax included. Seriously.

There is no catch. It's a clean theater, with speedy service. (I arrived right at the start time for the movie, with two couples in front of me waiting to buy tickets, and still managed to get into the movie only missing a few minutes of the beginning.)

Ever better, Elvis Cinemas is only a few minutes from Regis. It's located off Sheridan at 5157 W. 64th Ave., inside the northeast shopping center.

Now, there is something to do on

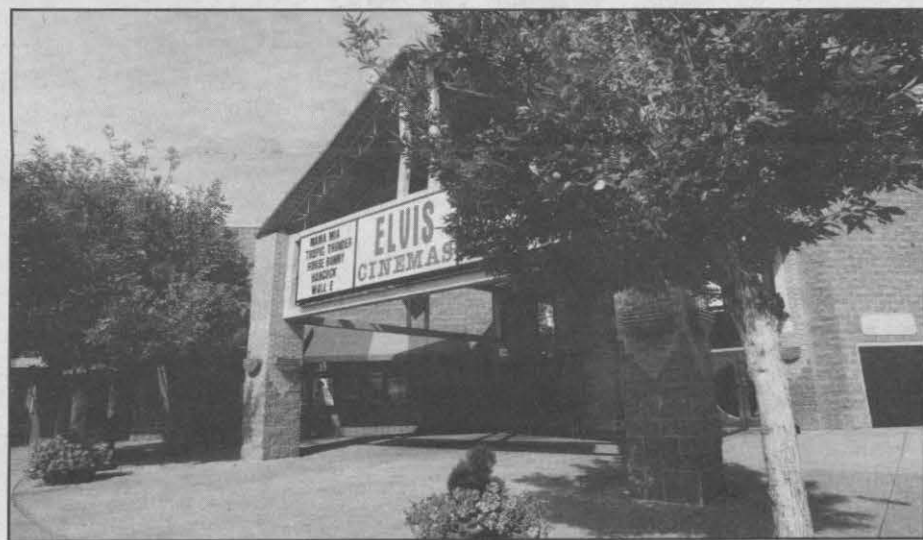


PHOTO BY Brett Stakelin

those boring Saturday nights when money is scarce. And don't fret if you're car-less. Why not use your bus pass? (See travel guide.)

Want more information about all the

movies playing at Elvis Cinemas, including "Step Brothers" and "WALL-E"? Visit elviscinemas.com/ and follow the link for the Arvada location. See you in the movies!

Where would we be today without the leaders of the past?



Where will we be tomorrow without the leader in YOU?

MAKE YOUR MARK ON HISTORY



MINOR IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES

APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 20TH

www.regis.edu/leadership -- Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas - 303.458.4323 or sspencer@regis.edu

USE YOUR BUS
PASS!

ELVIS CINEMAS:

The 52 can be caught from Regis Blvd. (50th Ave.) every half an hour or so. Catch the bus on the north side of 50th Ave., at the stop in front of Loyola, and take the bus westward. Get off the bus at Sheridan, and catch the 51 headed north bound. Your last stop will be at 64th Ave. where you will see a large shopping center. The total trip should take about 20 minutes.

To get the exact times, use the RTD Trip Planner at www.rtd-denver.com. You can also check out the schedule of the #52 westbound or eastbound. Make sure you select the weekday, Saturday, or Sunday schedule. Another option: check out the Google Transit Planner at maps.google.com (select "by public transit" and options to enter time you want to depart or arrive by).

COMMUNITY/CAMPUS EVENTS

Monday, October 6

An Evening of Jazz

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts Music Program will present the Marc Sabatella Trio at 7:30 p.m., featuring original compositions by Sabatella, as well as other jazz legends. Marc Sabatella, a piano professor here at Regis, will be manning the ivories, accompanied by Brian Wilson on bass and Thomas Van Schoick on drums. The concert will take place at Berkeley Community Church, just one block west of campus at 50th and Meade, and is free and open to the public.

Tuesday, October 7

Science & Technology Career Information Fair

Career Services has invited some of the best science and technology companies in Colorado to come talk to Regis students about career opportunities and internships. The fair will be held in the hallways of the Felix Pomponio Family Science Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information please call Career Services at 303-458-3508.

"Laramie Project" Screening

The "Laramie Project" chronicles the stories behind Matthew Shepherd and the brutal hate crime done against him because of his sexual orientation. The viewing will be held in the Science Amp. at 7:00 p.m. Discussion to follow

afterwards.

Second Presidential Debate

Make sure to tune in at 7:00 p.m. to hear Senator McCain debate with Senator Obama.

Wednesday, October 8

"Conscience and the Ballot Box" forum

Panel members will offer perspectives on some aspects of this year's election that have a religious or conscience aspect that has received media attention. Conversation and dialogue will follow. Come to the Townhouse Commons at 8:00 p.m. to learn and participate.

"Coming Out Panel"

As part of Erase Hate Week, this conversation-oriented panel will be moderated by heterosexuals and non-heterosexuals on the process and hardships around "coming out" in today's society. Come and join the conversation at 6:00 p.m. in the Regis Room located in Carroll Hall.

Friday, October 10

Leadership Experiences in New Zealand Application Deadline

This junior seminar will run in the Spring of 2009 and will be followed by a two week abroad experience in New Zealand (May 4-17, 2009). Students will gain a better appreciation of many facets of global leadership by engaging with

the government process, indigenous people, environmental sustainability, initiatives, and more. The course is limited to 8-15 students and all participants must engage in fund-raising during the fall semester. For more information contact Sally Spencer-Thomas at 303-458-4323 or sspencer@regis.edu.

Monday, October 13

"Prozac Nation" Movie Night

In recognition of Depression Awareness and Screening Day, Active Minds at Regis University is sponsoring this viewing and a brief discussion after the film. Come by the Ranger Grille from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Monday, October 27

Information Session about spending a semester in Washington D.C.

The Regis College Semester in Washington D.C. is conducted in partnership with The Washington Center for Internships and Seminars. This opportunity provides students with the opportunity to earn 15 credits during a semester of experiential immersion in our nation's capital. Students earn credits in three ways: the internship, an academic seminar, and an independent study project. An information session will be held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in West Hall Conference Center. If you have questions contact Lynne Montrose at

lmontros@regis.edu.

Month of October Crazed Cornfield Maze

This 14 acre cornfield maze will have you twisting and turning in tall corn! Come and test your directional skills. The maze is open throughout October, Tues.-Sun. from 10:00 a.m.-sundown. The maze is located on the south-east corner of 104th Ave. and Riverdale Road. To get there by bus take the #31 located at Federal and 50th north to 92nd. Transfer to 92nd Crosstown (east) to 104th. (Visit www.rtd-denver.com for a detailed trip-planner). Tickets for admission are \$8.00. For more information visit www.crazed-cornfieldmaze.com.

Denver Botanical Gardens Fall Attractions

The Botanical Gardens at Chatfield features a 10 acre pumpkin patch, 8.5 acre award winning corn maze, and the Butcher Haunted House. This year's maze design highlights an intricate picture of the globe in honor of our sustainability efforts. The maze includes two illuminated observation bridges that provide a bird's eye view to help you navigate. "The Butcher" house is filled with terrifying live actors, amazing special effects, and incredible monsters.

For more information about all these events and ticket prices visit www.botanicgardens.org/content/corn-maze or www.botanicgardens.org/content/haunted-house.

SUDOKU

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				7			

Solution can be found at krazydad.com/sudoku, "Tough," puzzle #2.

Spend a Semester in Washington D.C.

The Regis Semester in Washington D.C. provides students with the opportunity to earn 15 credits during a semester of experiential immersion in our nation's capital.

REGIS COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSION:
 MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
 WEST HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
 4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.



Questions? Contact Lynne Montrose
lmontros@regis.edu