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111

HIGHLANDER

Volume 100, Issue 3

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PREPARING A MINDSET OF DEFENSE

How Campus Safety is preparing students for on-campus attacks. / Pages 2-3

EVENING WITH THE STARS

The Physics & Astronomy Department celebrate Regis' first Astronomy Night. / Page 5

SCARY SCHOOL

Are these Regis legends just stories...or could they be true? / Page 8

The Latest American Trend

Campus Shootings Across America

Kerry Mullin
STUDENT JOURNALIST

In light of five recent tragedies that have struck college campuses just in the past few months, it's time to talk about the developing trend in America regarding school shootings. America has witnessed five campus shootings since the start of the fall semester. This equates to 154 acts of gun violence since the year 2013, about one school shooting every week.

What are the odds that we could experience a school shooting here

at Regis? It's difficult to predict.

While the majority of school shootings take place at large public universities and community colleges, the state of Colorado is not immune to the tragedy of gun-related homicides. One of the most infamous school shootings, the Columbine High School massacre, took place just 35 minutes away from the West Denver campus.

Since Columbine, there have been four separate cases of homicidal shootings in the state of Colorado, including the 2012 Aurora Theater shooting, totaling 21 fatalities. 21

people have died in Colorado because of the trend of gun violence that is ever-present in today's society.

School shootings are arguably correlated with the lack of gun control laws currently in place on both the federal and state levels of government. While a majority of states prohibit guns on a college campus, or let the college decide its own gun regulations, Colorado is one of only two states that forces colleges to allow any concealed weapon permit holder to carry guns everywhere on campus.

Gun control initiative could start

with an increased seriousness regarding background checks, including checking mental illness history, prior to purchasing a life-threatening weapon. However, the National Rifle Association recently backed Senate Bill 2002, a proposal in which purchasing a gun would be an easier process even for someone with a severe mental illness.

As students who are taught to question everything, we should find, feel, and bring into discussion the discomfort brought about by the lack of gun control laws and safety regulations in our country.

Don't Wait for the Cavalry to Show Up

Being Prepared for an Active Campus Shooting

Brayden Weninger
STUDENT JOURNALIST

On Oct. 1, 2015, a 26-year-old gunman opened fire at Umpqua Community College in Oregon, killing nine individuals and injuring yet another nine students. This was the 40th school shooting to occur in the United States this year, and the 141st since the Sandy Hook Massacre of 2012.

One week later, the Director of Campus Safety at Regis University, Manny Amado, addressed a classroom full of students enrolled in Professor Ian Dawe's COM315 course. Amado, who recently retired from his position as Chief of Police at Pima College in Arizona, stood in front of these 22 students and openly fielded their questions about his personal credentials, Regis' Campus Safety Department, officer backgrounds, and university lock-down protocol.

Among the questions and concerns expressed were those involving the safety of Regis' own students, faculty and staff. Amado was quick to reassure students that Regis is a safe campus.



Photo : Google

"We are a gun-free campus. Period," Amado said. Amado also explained that officers are "more alert" in the wake of this recent shooting.

However, Amado warned against having a "false sense of security" in any location simply because the statistical likelihood of experiencing an active shooter situation is less

than that of being struck by lightning. Amado wisely pointed out that even at Jesuit institutions like Regis University, people could be at risk.

"We don't screen people who come here," Amado said.

Anyone who comes onto Regis' campus, as a student, faculty, staff or visitor has a right to refrain from

self-disclosure of any mental health issue that might lead them to act out violently against their community.

Many faculty, students and staff believe the community is at less of a risk of facing an active shooter situation because this respected Jesuit institution attracts mostly ethical, socially-minded individuals.

However, as was made evident in the Umpqua Shooting and Sandy Hook Massacre, safety is not always guaranteed for the young, the educated, the faithful or even the ethically-minded. Violence can happen anywhere and any time.

This is why Amado encourages all of Regis "not to wait for the cavalry to show up." Instead, Amado urges us to always ask ourselves, "What are you going to do when something happens?"

For more information on how to prepare yourself for any potentially dangerous situation, consider reviewing Regis' Emergency Operations Plan, contact the Office of Campus Safety at (303) 458-4122, and watch the University-recommended educational video, Shots Fired, available on InSite.

Shots Fired: A Must View

Natalia Zreliak
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

If an active shooter was on campus would you know what to do? Shots Fired on Campus is a short video with the purpose of informing students and faculty on college campuses how to handle an active shooter.

The video was released by The Center for Personal Protection and Safety as a training program. According to their website, the video is designed to "empower students with knowledge and strategies for preventing and surviving an active shooter situation."

Shots Fired on Campus is used by several college campuses across the United States and is a great resource for informing not only students but faculty as well.

While the odds of shots being fired on campus are similar to the odds of being struck by lightning, this does not mean that you shouldn't be prepared. It is important to keep in mind that if an active shooter were to come on campus you must take responsibility for your own personal safety and take on a survival mindset in order to quickly evaluate your surrounding and choose the best response for your situation.

"In light of recent events I'm glad that I watched this," freshman Becca Smith said. "It not only taught me about what to do in the case of an active shooter but it also made me feel a lot safer; it was definitely twenty minutes well spent."

To view Shots Fired on Campus visit <https://in2.regis.edu/sites/rmi/default.aspx> and use your Regis log-in.



Photo: Google

Students Trained to Attack Active Shooter

Lauren Kovanda
STUDENT JOURNALIST

Lock-down drills are a thing of the past compared to the new drills many schools are putting in place. With the help of police officers, training videos, a set of courses and ALICE, a developing program, is teaching students how to react and even attack the shooter if necessary.

Although many agree it is good that the schools are being realistic by implementing drills for an active shooter, should children or even college students be attacking the shooter? Is it their job to decide—before they've hit adulthood—who attacks and risks their life? Is this what our world has come to?

Schools across the country, including Regis University, are using the ALICE program which stands for Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate. This program teaches the survival for the individual while leading others to safety in the case that there

is an active shooter in the building.

ALICE was put in place after the tragic events of Columbine and has been developing ever since. There have been 20 school shootings so far in 2015. ALICE's goal, according to alicetraining.com, is to "have all citizens have the skills and knowledge of their options and to be able to respond when shots are fired because of what they have learned in the K-12 setting, just like they do now when they hear a fire alarm."

In recent months, more and more schools are turning to ALICE training. However, the problem many people are having with this program is the 'Counter' part of ALICE. According to alicetraining.com Counter "should be used as a last resort, to distract and interrupt intruder making it hard or impossible to aim."

According to Edward Perez, the assistant director of the Department of Campus Safety at Regis University, ALICE is not only taught for a classroom

setting but also taught to be "practical anywhere." He explained that ALICE teaches people to play the "what if"

what you would do if a situation arose."

"Mindset is security," Perez said. He further explained that ALICE is new to Regis this year, and it is not yet advertised but any student or faculty member wanting to take the course is more than welcome.

With the new programs being put into place many parents and faculty argue that students should have no part in confronting the shooter themselves. One parent from Oak Hills high school in Ohio said "I am personally OK with our teachers and faculty being armed and trained for an active shooter. Times are changing and I understand that. But I do not agree that my child should be taught to confront the shooter. It is too dangerous and too great of a responsibility."

Despite the controversies many schools will be practicing ALICE as an effort to keep students safe.

"Take the time to be aware of your settings, and to think where you would go and what you would do if a situation arose... mindset is security."

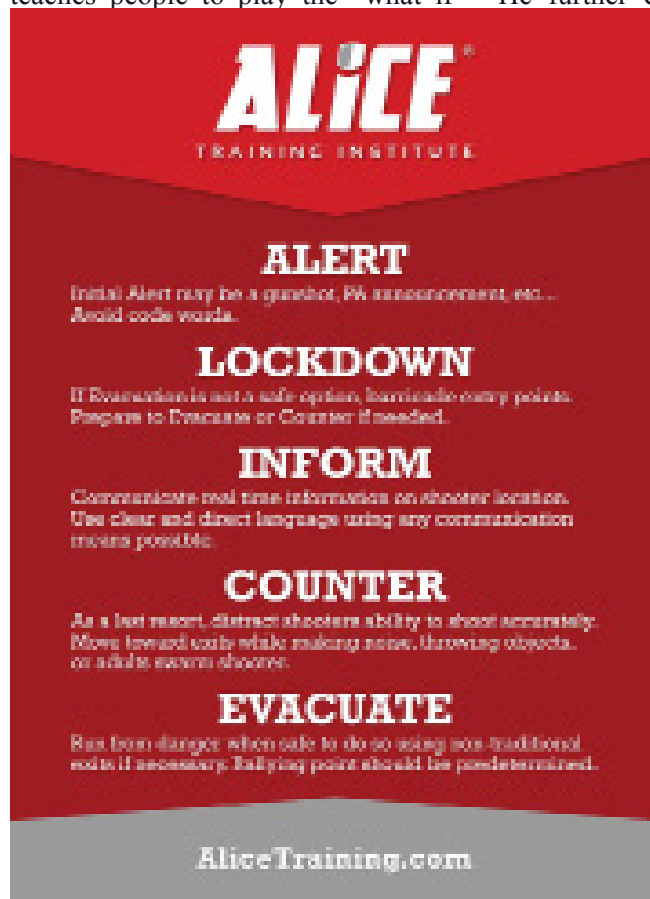


Photo: Google

game. With the help of ALICE, Perez instructs students and faculty to "take the time to be aware of your settings, and to think where you would go and

In Profile: Joe Mansfield, Men's Soccer

Jac Williamson STUDENT JOURNALIST

A new country, a new school, and new friends are all what 20-year-old freshman, Joe Mansfield from Derbyshire, England, is experiencing.

After visiting America growing



Photo: Regis Athletics

up as a child, Mansfield decided he wanted to come back for an education and to play soccer at the collegiate level. Now he is pursuing his dream of studying business and also plays as a center midfielder for the Regis University Men's Soccer team.

As one can imagine, Mansfield was

both excited and intimidated at the thought of leaving home.

"Coming to a new county to live, study and play was a scary concept," Mansfield said.

But Mansfield has transitioned smoothly into U.S. culture and explained how welcoming and friendly American people have been to him thus far.

"The students, staff, and my teammates made it very easy to settle in, so any worries I may have had, soon disappeared."

Mansfield's discovery of Regis came from his high school coach in England who spoke highly of the soccer and academics.

Mansfield made the final decision to come to the U.S. because "it gives me an opportunity that British universities cannot offer: to play soccer at a high level as well as gaining an excellent education. The quality of athletics as well as the facilities American universities provide greatly exceed that of home."

Keep an eye out for Mansfield on the field or in the classroom. Welcome to Regis, Joe!

Campus Through a New Lens How Virtual Reality Could Change the Way Future Students See Regis

Ethan Beaudoin STUDENT JOURNALIST

If you know someone who is a junior or senior in high school and is starting to look at colleges and universities, but is unable to visit all the campuses that they are interested in, that person should look no further. The rising technology of virtual reality could be the solution.

Many universities already have the technology to allow students to view their campuses with this technique. Regis University has also invested in this technology and joins the many colleges and universities that are using virtual reality to provide future college students with the opportunity to look at a campus from their home.

Regis is using 3D-printed camera rigs that hold six or ten GoPro Hero4 cameras in a spherical shapes, along

with tripods, monopods and even drones to help capture the school's beautiful 100-acre campus. This technology was created by Primacy, which is an independent agency that is working with the University's Regis Rising strategic plan to help provide 360 degree videos that capture the different aspects of life at Regis.

After the images and videos are taken, the digital experts at the agency then download, put together and process the footage before inserting it into a VR headset to provide an incredible life-like tour.

The goal of this technology is to leave lasting impressions on future students that will encourage them to make informed decisions about attending a university of their choice, such as Regis University.

Evening with the Stars

Dr. Hart's Astronomy Class Hosts a Night to Remember

Courtney Moynihan & Steven Lorenzen
STAFF WRITERS

On the evening of Monday, Oct. 19 Regis shifted its focus towards the sky as Dr. Quyen Hart, Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy, hosted our first annual Astronomy Night. On the first floor of the Pomponio Science building, Hart's Astronomy class transformed the hallway into a showcase, which featured astronomical wonders and scientific interactions. Later, viewers were directed toward the quad where the stargazing event was held.

Exhibits included an angular momentum station in which sophomores Andrew Kelher and Jonathan Shinault spun students on an invention they concocted by combining the base of a swivel chair with a four-legged stool, a solar system craft station headed by sophomores Gracie Cummings and Zach Huff (bracelets included) and a table filled with planet-scaled food presented by J.D. Arendt and Connor Hickey.

While certain areas of the hallway catered to a

younger audience, there were also demonstrations of more critical learning at work. Sophomores Nick Fiorella demonstrated the complicated process of ionization by way of role-playing atoms. A complimentary exhibit was set up alongside Fiorella which was lead by sophomores John Flint and Connor Rochon and junior Juan Melgar. This presentation shed new light on colors as viewers were provided with diffraction glasses that allowed them to study and evaluate different spectrums created by various elements.

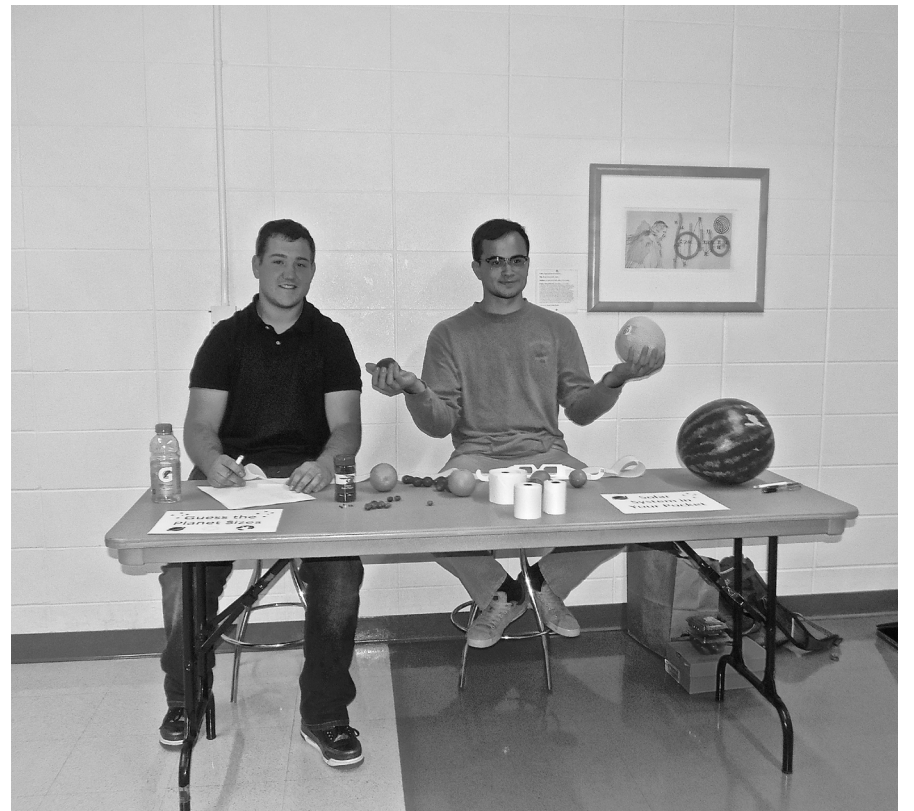
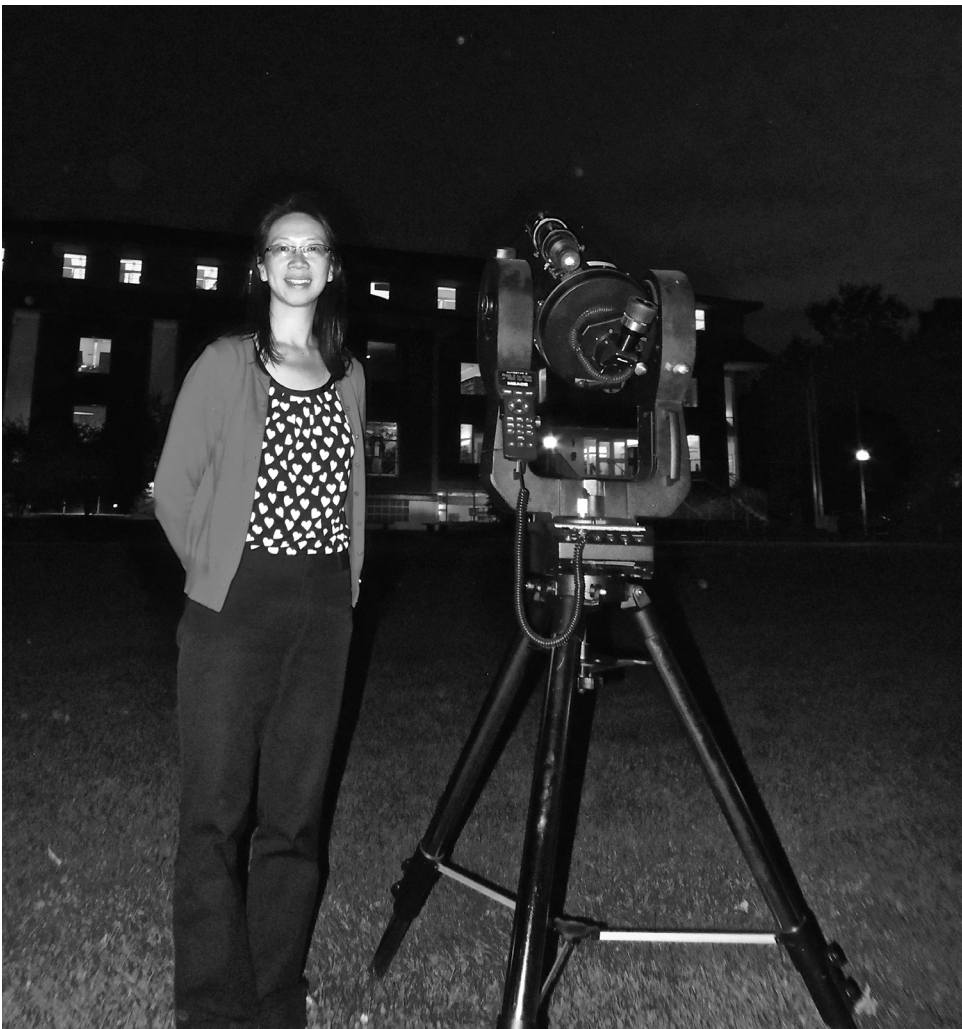
While families and students alike circulated through the tables a soft compilation of Coldplay and Train's "Drops of Jupiter" filled the air as projectors covered the walls with live coverage from the White House. Regis' scientific jubilation was not an isolated event. More than 80 other national parks, observatories, schools, museums and astronomy clubs nationwide hosted similar events in conjunction with the White House's Astronomy night.

"Tonight is a celebration of science, technology and engineering," Hart said. The event was "aimed

at inspiring youth to dream about that which is yet to be discovered."

All the while grade-schoolers and upper classmen indulged in their curiosity. It became clear that her intention was met with enthusiasm. Senior Brianna Randal mentioned that each of the projects were the result of featured students' own original ideas. Flint answered questions relating to red and blue shifts with encyclopedic execution going beyond the initial scope of his presentation on wavelength analysis.

The evening was an incredible showcase of this semester's astronomy students' creative ability, which was easily seen through their articulate and captivating presentations. Hart's drive and passion for astronomy provided our Regis student body with a one-of-a-kind experience that was limited to a select group of venues nationwide. This interactive platform allowed those who participated to learn more about the universe and the complex processes that so often go unnoticed, but are so essential to our very existence as human beings.



Clockwise from Top Left: Dr. Quyen Hart led the first annual Astronomy Night at Regis University on the night of Oct. 19. Sophomores from her class led activities to entertain students and families alike. Later in the evening, attendees were given the opportunity to stargaze on the quad. // Photos by Hayley Lokken & Natalie Scott

Save the Daylight

Kelli Catlin STUDENT JOURNALIST

Autumn rituals are here. There's Halloween, Election Day, and falling back into Standard Daylight Time. While Americans try to keep up with these rituals and changes of season, a Lakewood, Colo. couple wants to make a change to the change. They are proposing a ballot initiative which would end the twice a year time change.

This bill would require Colo. to stay on Daylight Savings Time all year round and would eliminate the Mountain Standard Time. For the proposed bill to be added to the November 2016 ballot, 87,000 signatures must be collected first before individuals can vote on it. Individuals can volunteer their time by collecting signatures or find a location to participate in the petition.

Official legislation was released earlier this month.

It states, "businesses will benefit from increased consumer traffic with longer daylight hours in fall and winter by elim-

inating the time changes and remaining on U.S. Mountain daylight time."

According to sleepbetter.org the switching of the clocks costs Den-

ver & Aurora \$3,395,406 each year. By simply staying on the same time year round the economy will ben-

efit from the extra hour of sunlight as well as other factors. These include "fewer pedestrian fatalities including school age children, fewer vehicle

crashes and decreased energy usage." By passing this bill, many benefits are possible for the citizens of Colo-

rado and the environment. The elimination of the time change may even result in a reduction of pollution. According to environmental studies it

was found that "Dark commutes trap more greenhouse gases," meaning that nighttime driving harms the Earth and could contribute to climate change.

In the U.S., Daylight Saving Time was first introduced in 1918 when President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law to support the war effort during World War I. The idea of Daylight Saving Time was to set the clocks forward one hour to conserve daylight and energy for a set number of months. The proposal was repealed a few months later until President Franklin D. Roosevelt instituted year-round DST in the United States in 1942. The idea has been revised several times and now starts the second Sunday in March and continues until the first Sunday in Nov.

More information can be found at <https://www.savethedaylight.co>.



Photo: Kaitlyn Strutt

Discovery of Anomaly Shows

Possibility of Extraterrestrial Life

James Samaras STUDENT JOURNALIST

Recent observations of a distant star about 1500 light years away show strange, unexplainable flickering habits as objects passed by causing dips in the light between the Kepler telescope and the KIC 8462852.

Over the past week, science and tech reporting sites, as well as social media, buzzed about this phenomenon that could be the first solid evidence we have that we are not alone in the universe.

There is no confirmation yet that this truly is the case and astronomers are calling this "barely evidence," but as astrophysicist at Pennsylvania State University Jason Wright stated, "Aliens should always be the very last hypothesis you consider, but this looked like something you would expect an alien civilization to build."

NASA's Kepler telescope was launched in 2009 with the task of discovering Earthlike planets orbiting distant stars. The telescope does this with its sole instrument, a photometer. This tool is used to measure the light intensity of more than 145,000 stars in the Milky Way, with a fixed field of view.

Once the recorded data is returned back to Earth, the numbers are then analyzed and drops in light as the brightness dimmed from the star is used to detect exoplanets that have crossed in front of their star in orbit. Through this method they can determine properties of the star and if they may have a planetary system, how many planets orbit it, the orbital path as well as the size and shape of the planets orbiting it and if the planet fits within the habitable zone.

Planets in this zone are known as "Goldilocks Planets" because they are not too close to their sun to have extremely high temperatures and strong lev-

els of solar radiation, but they are not so far from it that it would be incredibly cold. In other words, these are planets that could potentially support life.

When a planet passes in front of the star (also known as "transit"), Kepler creates a graph of the dimming starlight known as a "lightcurve." These graphs are what tell astronomers about the planet's size and



An artist's rendition of the Kepler Telescope // NASA

shape. That is where this anomaly became apparent.

According to the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, "Over the duration of the Kepler mission, KIC 8462852 was observed to undergo irregularly shaped, aperiodic dips in flux down to below the 20 percent level."

Tabetha Boyajian, a researcher at Yale and lead author of the paper submitted to the MNRAS Journal named, commented on the event. "It was really weird.

We thought it might be bad data or movement on the spacecraft but everything checked out," Bayanjiansaid.

The strange data is shown within four years of signal that Kepler has been reporting on the star, proving the anomaly not to be an error. This still does not mean that this is any confirmation of extraterrestrial activity.

Other likely explanations exist that could prove to be far more likely than presence of alien structures. One of these is that the dip in starlight is due to a barrage of comets that have crossed between the telescope and the sun multiple times with large dust tails blocking light. Another is that a planetary collision could have thrown massive clouds of dust and debris in front of KIC 8462852.

Whatever it may be, it is extremely far from small if it was able to cause a brightness dip of 22 percent from a star 1.5 times the size of our Sun.

Many have been discussing the implications should this anomaly prove to be caused by sentient life. These dips in starlight have been called "alien megastructures," which could possibly be building technology capable of harnessing the sun's energy.

The term "Dyson Sphere" has been thrown around as a possibility to what could explain the findings. A Dyson Sphere is a hypothetical megastructure that would surround a star and absorb all of its energy. If this was so, these extraterrestrials would be classified as a Type II on the Kardashev scale, which was created to classify a civilization's advancement by the amount of energy they can make use of.

On Earth, we have not even reached type I on this scale yet, but are expected to within the next 200 years.

The possibility of extraterrestrial presence could be looked into more closely soon, as astronomers are now making efforts to get a radio telescope to point towards the star in hopes of coming across an artificial signal.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Named

Ellen Major STUDENT JOURNALIST

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded Oct. 9 to the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet for its tremendous contributions to the establishment of a stable democracy in Tunisia. After the Jasmine Revolution in Tunisia and the subsequent assassinations of political leaders, the Quartet was formed from four Tunisian civil organizations: the Tunisian General Labor Union, the Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts, the Tunisian Human Rights League and the Tunisian Order of Lawyers. During a time of great political turmoil, the

Quartet sought to bring together leaders of opposing political parties and to create a democracy and constitution with a strong focus on protecting the citizens' basic human rights.

Since the Jasmine Revolution of 2010, Tunisia has faced many obstacles on the road to peace. The violent protests of 2010 were caused by high unemployment rates, inflation of food prices, corruption in government, lack of basic freedoms and poor living conditions. The violent demonstrations lasted almost a month and culminated in deposition of the president Ben Ali.

Following Ben Ali's removal from office, the resulting power vacuum

presented several challenges in creating a stable and fair government in Tunisia. The temporary Constituent Assembly was set up to draft a constitution for the country, but several deadlines passed with minimal progress being made. Two political leaders were assassinated and several attacks were made on military groups. Fearful that Tunisia would fall into the same kind of military dictatorship as Egypt, the four civil organizations came together to facilitate conversation between the two opposing fronts in the nation's politics. The National Dialogue Quartet acted as a middleman, helping to find peaceful solutions to

conflicts while keeping the interests of citizens prominent in the conversation.

The Quartet was able to diffuse the rising tensions in Tunisia, successfully ratify a constitution and set up a fair voting system for elections. All of this was made possible through dialogue between the two opposing political parties, the Islamist Ennahda Party and the civil opposition, as well as the normal citizens of the nation. The prize awarded to the Quartet will be used to help protect the newfound democratic system of Tunisia. The accomplishments of the Quartet serve as inspiration to all nations struggling to set up a similar system of fair government peacefully.

GOP Goes to University

Jonathan Smith
STUDENT JOURNALIST

Coming to our community soon is a great opportunity to get a better grip on the presidential race. On Oct. 28th, the Republican Party will visit the University of Colorado Boulder to offer up their ideas and debate in front of a live crowd at the Coors Event Center.

The event will offer time for the 15 possible candidates to answer questions, and it will also include an opening ceremony and a closing ceremony.

In recent weeks, the biggest news involving the Republican Party is that Donald Trump and Ben Carson are considering if they will skip the Boulder debate in protest to show that the debates are too long. In addition, they believe the broadcast should only last two hours including commercials.

This news surfaced after the past debate lasted over three hours, causing

for the event because the school has been trying to bring together a full cir-

a safe spot for anyone to attend the debate. In a recent school study only 6 percent of faculty and 16 percent of students identified as republicans.

The University of Colorado Boulder believes the debate will challenge the students and faculty to apply their political ideas to the ones that come out of the mouths of our future leaders. The debate will also be broadcasted on CNBC.



Photo: University of Colorado Boulder

the candidates to look both frustrated and tired.

The Boulder campus was chosen

cle approach to surround their students with a well-rounded education. The campus was viewed as a neutral place,

Who Should Decide the Winner of the Democratic Debate: Media or People?

Natalia Zreliak
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

This is a question that I've been asking myself since the debate occurred on Oct. 13. According to most of the headlines I've seen online, it's Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton who took the debate. But when I go to look at the polls the readers say it was Sen. Bernie Sanders. I decided that the only way I would be able to come up with a concise answer would be to read as much as I could about the debates.

According to Adam Johnson, a writer at AlterNet, "Sanders won the CNN focus group, the Fusion focus group, and the Fox News focus group; in the latter, he even converted several Hillary supporters. He won the Slate online poll, CNN/Time online poll, 9News

Colorado, The Street online poll, Fox5 poll, the conservative Drudge online poll and the liberal Daily Kos online poll. There wasn't,

to this writer's knowledge, a poll he didn't win by at least an 18-point margin." So why have media outlets been announcing Clinton as the debate winner?

In a country by the people and for the people the ultimate decider of who won the election will be the people. However until more scientifically conducted surveys are conducted we won't be able to

come to a concise public opinion.

The polls that Sanders excelled in were self-selected, meaning that those who participated weren't random democratic voters, which can skew the votes based on which candidate has the most dedicated supporters, which with the amount of millennials that follow him would be, in fact, Sanders.

While I'm certain that Clinton really felt the "bern" when Sanders informed her that "The American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn

emails," Clinton did a good job of boosting her campaign and reassuring her followers and donors that she's still got it after the email scandal that has hung over her for the past few months.

In an article addressing if the media got the democratic debate wrong John Cassidy, a writer for the New Yorker, said it's best to consider the following three questions. "Who did the best onstage? Who came out on top in the polls? Who gave his or her campaign the biggest boost?"

So instead of me answering these questions and forcing my opinion onto you I encourage you to ask them of yourself and then share your opinion on who won the debate on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RUHighlanderNews.

In a country by the people and for the people the ultimate decider of who won the election will be the people.

In Perspective:

Donald Trump is **GOOD** for the American Political Process

Daniel Lund **GUEST WRITER**

Donald Trump is by no means a model statesman, but by no fault of his own he is actually doing a lot of good for America's political process. His surge and steady success in the polls have been astonishing, if not mildly puzzling. Trump elicits a kind of emotional reaction and confusion that can motivate voters and leaders to question the kinds of structural issues of campaigning and problems within the G.O.P. that led us here.

Republican strategies combined with closed primaries have led to G.O.P. presidential nominees who are unappealing to swing voters and not representative of the general population. When primaries are closed to only party members, candidates who can woo the base of their party win. G.O.P. candidates discuss immigrants and women's issues in a way that plays well to a socially conservative base, but alienates independent and swing voters. Similarly, candidates in this small-government party will aim for the furthest edge of anti-government rhetoric in relation to their competitors.

Donald Trump shines a national spotlight on exactly these issues within the primary system because he has outflanked his peers by miles on being a "true" conservative. He is never beyond hyperbole or racism. He is so anti-government that one of his key purported assets is having no political experience whatsoever. Donald Trump reveals that the way the partisan candidates have been playing their base is harmful politics and bad strategy when it comes to seeking the presidency.

Republicans may keep the House and continue dominating state legislatures, but on the biggest stage their party is embarrassed by fear-mongering ignorance. The mere chance that Donald Trump could win the nomination is a disgrace to not only the Republicans but an American political process that privileges parties and not the people.

The Republican Party still wants the crown. Who wouldn't? If you believe in your party's principles or message, you believe those should

be resonant enough to snag the Oval Office. With a nomination process that has already left women and Hispanics out in the cold, they are likely to face their third loss straight. The Republicans will need to find their soul. They will need to avoid language and ideas that hurt people. That is a really good thing. This country needs a coherent Republican party that people across the political spectrum will be willing to engage in dialogue.

For our democracy to function effectively, reasonable core Republican principles like fiscal conservatism, good conditions for entrepreneurship and individual liberty need to be understood and engaged with especially by those who feel differently. Hyper-partisan noise makes this impossible.

When Reince Priebus and other Republican leaders sit in the ashes of another failed presidential campaign cycle and look ahead to four or eight more years of threatened vetoes and unrealized legislative and executive ambitions, they will adjust their direction and reconsider continuing to play an election process that reinforces each parties' worst habits. Trump isn't new; rather he is the jarring symbol of old problems.

Donald Trump is **BAD** for the American Political Process

Taylor Davis **GUEST WRITER**

While I would love to watch "The Secretary Apprentice"



Photo: Google

as much as anyone else, that does not change the fact that Donald Trump is harming the American political system. There is very little question that he would be an atrocious president. Although we are more than a year out from the election, it is clear that a Trump presidency would consist of one part

foreign aggression, one part bigotry, and no experience. The question at hand though—whether or not Donald Trump has been good for the political process—is less evident. Given the political realities of America and the way in which Trump has legitimized intolerance, the debate is clearly tilted in favor of "no."

First, Trump is bad given the state of American politics. Primary season ought to determine which candidate will best represent the voice of party members, and Donald Trump is a distraction from this goal. At a time when the republican presidential pool is oversaturated with candidates, he has drawn inordinate attention away from the selection process. Trump's presence dominated the debates, while his various explosive releases of hot air have captured media attention in the interim. Discussion of issues has been outpaced by the political equivalent of reality television.

Certainly, this has disadvantaged the political process as a whole, but an even greater danger lurks behind the Trump sideshow. At a time when so many Americans feel disenfranchised from the political system, a populist candidate like Donald Trump has the real possibility of winning the Republican nomination, if not the general. Considering that extremist candidates have risen on the tides of unrest in other countries, it is within the realm of possibility. One thing is for sure: if that becomes the case, you will find me in Uruguay by mid-November.

Second, Trump is bad for the American political process because his participation legitimizes racist and sexist sentiments. When individuals join in the primary process and are received by the party, candidates are given a platform for expressing their views. From this platform, an individual has the power to popularize and justify opinions and arguments. The support they garner, along with the media coverage they receive further validates their perspective and earns it status as a legitimate issue. This process of promotion and validation is an immensely powerful force that shapes the way individuals relate to one another and to society.

Principally, I agree with the philosopher Voltaire's belief that "great responsibility follows inseparably from great power," and in this respect Donald Trump has failed the American people. When Trump bloviates, "The Mexican Government is forcing their most unwanted people into the United States," he commits verbal assault on an entire body of humans and validates racist attitudes towards immigrants. When he criticizes Megyn Kelly's qualifications as a debate moderator on account of she had "blood coming out of her wherever," he promotes misogyny and sexism as acceptable, rational behaviors. In effect, Trump contorts the American political process into a propagandist tool of bigotry.

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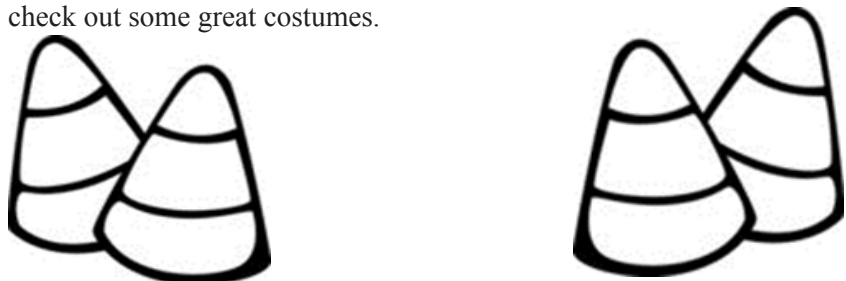
Trick or Treat Street

Karli Denk ASSISTANT PUBLISHER

Every year, Regis University hosts the Safe Trick or Treat Street. This year Regis continues the tradition, and will host the event on Friday, Oct. 30.

Young children from the neighborhood, faculty and their families fill the campus in a bright array of costumes. Everything from gruesome goblins to the most magical fairies parade down the walkways of Regis. This amazing event is set up by the people in event services and is run by varying groups on campus ranging from Regis Athletics to Residence Life.

Come join in the Trick or Treat Street for some free candy and to check out some great costumes.



Spooky Origins

Hayley Lokken STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Halloween wasn't always a day for kids to take over the streets in search of every sugary morsel within walking distance.

Its origins can be traced back to an ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain (pronounced "sah-win"). The festival took place at the end of the harvest in Gaelic culture, and was a preparation for the winter months to come. The Gaels believed that on Oct. 31, the boundaries between the world of the living and the dead were blurred and the deceased would come back to wreak havoc such as causing sickness or damaging crops.

Many of the traditions that we have today started out very differently. Trick-or-treating was known as souling. Beggars would go around and ask for food in return for prayers for the deceased loved ones of the homeowner. They believed that by praying for the souls they would expedite their trip to heaven, and secure a guaranteed spot.

The tradition of wearing masks and costumes comes from the mimicking of the evil spirits in an attempt to scare them off or trick them in to thinking that the person was one of them. They felt that if they were able to trick the spirits they could evade them and save their harvests for the year.

While these traditions have evolved for a much more family friendly experience, we must acknowledge the cultural origin of the holiday.

Halloween Hauntings

Marley Weaver-Gabel STAFF WRITER

Enjoy these short, perhaps true, but definitely spooky stories of Regis' West Denver campus.

In Main Hall on the third floor, there is an office with a crucifix on the back wall. On most nights, the office light is turned off and the door is locked, like all other rooms and offices in Main Hall at night. One night, on his nightly rounds a campus security officer noticed the light was on and the door was open. Casually, he shut off the light and closed the door, expecting to proceed with his round as usual. As he turned around, the door creaked back open as if unlocked from the inside. Somewhat more suspicious this time, he closed the door and double-checked the lock. Again, mysteriously the door swung itself open. This time, more concerned, the security guard forcefully shut the door and as soon as he had locked it, the door cracked straight down the middle and flew wide open. Moments later, the head of the crucifix fell off of the wall and rolled to the guard's feet.

The first floor of Peter Claver Hall houses the cadaver labs used for physical therapy and nursing students. This room is located behind two sets of locked doors and bodies are kept inside human doors in zipped bags. In the hall leading to these doors, the lighting is an ominous yellow and some say that the wind even blows in that part of the building, whistling ever so slightly. During one set of midnight rounds, campus security descended to check the alarms on the doors. The first set of doors did not sound the alarm when unlocked, like it normally did. Through the second set of doors, the guard could see a light on. Expecting to encounter a student working, security entered the room and found it empty. Empty except for the cadavers. The bodies were open and out of their bags, pulled out of the human doors, eerily welcoming the guard into the room.

On the walls in Main Hall, there are several black and white photos from the early years of Regis. All of these pictures can be unnerving when stared at long enough. One in particular on the second floor portrays a group of Jesuits that lived in Main Hall when it still served as the dorms, university and high school. As rumor tells us, one Jesuit hung himself in his room on the fourth floor. And supposedly, if you take a Polaroid photo of the image, the noose appears around his neck in the developed image.

While many stories may be hearsay and exaggerated, there is a scale, according to campus security guard Andrew Gress.

"Every story falls on a scale of being a story, to being something you have actually experienced," Gress said.

Of course, we hear the stories of hauntings, which give us a little rush, and then there are things that are tangible experiences that we actually sense and experience firsthand. We hear of both of these frequently, especially during the Halloween season, but we must decide what is true for ourselves.

Stay for a While...If You Dare



On Oct. 17, the senior program Last Call went to Estes Park to tour the legendary Stanley Hotel. The Stanley Hotel served as the inspiration for Stephen King's novel (later adapted for the movies) *The Shining*, and is ranked among the most haunted locations in America. Ghost tours are held at the mountainside hotel year round.

Photos: Kaitlyn Strutt