



# The KEETER REPORT

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## General Colin L. Powell Visits College of the Ozarks



*General Colin L. Powell (Ret.)*

General Colin L. Powell (Ret.), twelfth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, addressed a capacity crowd at College of the Ozarks on Monday, October 2. His message, "Management in Crisis and Change" was the second program of the Community Convocation series endowed by Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger. The Community Convocation Series is an integral part of The Keeter Center for Character Education.

Patriotism was the theme for the events. General Powell, recipient of numerous awards, shared some experiences from his 35 years as a soldier. One historically significant event was a meeting when Mikhail Gorbachev ended the Cold War. Powell stressed the importance of keeping our nation's armed forces strong and intact; he referred to them as our country's insurance policy. He spoke of the criticism he'd received during Desert Storm for sending seven aircraft carriers to the gulf; how-

ever, because of the quick and decisive action he took he was now able to share the successes of the maneuvers during the first night of Desert Storm.

Though he has retired from the military, General Powell's mission and management now is not unlike training soldiers. Currently, he is the Chairman of America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth. His newest battle cry is, "Take care our children." His message at College of the Ozarks was no different.

General Powell's prescription for managing crisis and change is to look to our younger generation: Those described as "Generation X." After all, they will be our nation's next generation of leaders. For this reason General Powell is dedicated and works daily to promote America's Promise.

"To you young people, I have just one bit of advice for you," he said. "As you go through your education here and start thinking about the future, do what you're going to love doing. I loved being a soldier and never wanted to be anything else," stated Powell.

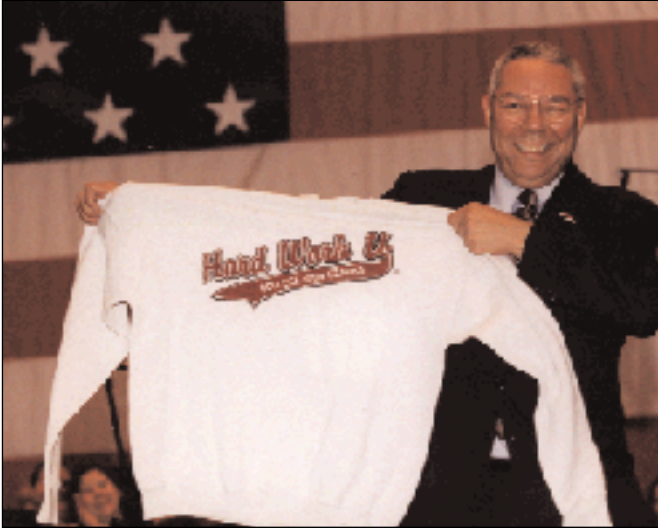
*"As you go through your education here and start thinking about the future, do what you're going to love doing."*

General Powell retired from the military in 1993 and explained how his training started just as a youngster. "I had a school that gave me an education, a church with an after school program, after-school jobs when I was old enough, and a network of aunts in every window in the whole neighborhood watching out to see if I did anything wrong."

Powell has a sincere desire to place young people on the right track. "The enemy is drugs, crime and despair," he said of the many troubled youths in the nation. "Let them know that the nation needs them, depends on them and that we WILL back them."

Evidence of the Patriotism theme started at a banquet prior to the convocation. There General

Colin Powell honored Tony Orlando, Dan Lennon and Jerry Luedtke for being instrumental in the development of the Branson Veterans' Celebration.



*General Powell proudly displays his Hard Work U. sweatshirt, presented to him by President Davis.*

During the convocation, General Powell received an Honorary Degree from College of the Ozarks and assisted in conferring of Honorary Degrees upon three other men for their work in their individual branches of military service. Those honored were: General Terrence R. Dake, U.S. Marine Corps; Lieutenant General Tad J. Oelstrom, U.S. Air Force; and Major General Stewart W. Wallace, U.S. Army.

This convocation will be remembered in the



*Pictured left to right: Major General Stewart Wallace, Lt. General Tad Oelstrom, General Colin Powell, General Terrence Dake*



*Generals Colin Powell and Terrence R. Dake congratulate PFC Roy Hopper (center) in the most emotional moment of the evening as Hopper receives his 1944 diploma from The School of the Ozarks.*

hearts of many not only for the challenge posed by General Powell but also for the final, very special and long overdue presentation. Special recognition was paid to private first-class Hopper, an alumnus of The School of the Ozarks (now College of the Ozarks), Class of 1944. Mr. Hopper, a native of Harrison, Arkansas, was drafted for service in World War II after his junior year of high school. Just a young man of 18 years, Mr. Hopper arrived in Normandy, France on June 13, 1944, just seven days after D-Day. After less than a month of service as a front-line infantryman, Mr. Hopper was taken captive by enemy forces and sent to a German Nazi labor camp with other captured soldiers. For over nine months Mr. Hopper was faced with starvation, intensive labor and gruesome wartime circumstances. During the winter months following his capture, Mr. Hopper and two other prisoners escaped from the labor camp to a Red Cross shelter. After his recuperation, Mr. Hopper was able to return home to America.

President Davis stated, "While his classmates were preparing for the graduation line, he was heading for the front line. This generation made the sacrifice."

General Powell and General Dake assisted Mr. Hopper to the podium where he was presented with his 1944 high school diploma from The School of the Ozarks. General Powell also presented Mr. Hopper with the Alumni Patriotism Award.

Through all this Mr. Hopper has not lost his sense of humor. Hopper, 75-years-old, chuckled, "I keep seeing Army recruiters on TV saying that if you've got a high school diploma, they've got a whole new avenue for me."

The Keeter Center is providing a way to show true evidences of patriotism, as seen in Mr. Hopper and the others honored.

# Thelma (Marsh) Stanley Endows Citizenship Academy

Mrs. Thelma Stanley is a very gracious lady and has been a generous supporter of College of the Ozarks for several years. Mrs. Stanley taught school for 20 years and has a keen interest in character development and citizenship. We appreciate her generosity in funding the John N. and Ella C. Marsh Endowment Fund (in memory of her parents), the Silas Morton Stanley Endowment Fund, and the John N. and Ella C. Marsh Citizenship Academy.

The Citizenship Academy, part of The Keeter Center for Character Education, strives to provide opportunities for individuals to not only practice good citizenship but also to study it, thereby learning more about what it means to be an American.



*Thelma Stanley*

## John N. and Ella C. Marsh Citizenship Academy Presents...



*Kenneth Starr*

The Citizenship Forum is a part of the recently endowed Citizenship Academy. The Spring Forum, led by Kenneth Starr, is scheduled for Friday, April 6, 2001. Judge Starr is the former independent counsel for the White Water investigation and the Clinton impeachment hearings. He is a Texas native with a bachelor's degree from George Washington University and a law degree from Duke University. Starr served as a law clerk for the late Chief Justice Warren Burger before joining a prominent Washington law firm.

A group of thirty-five College of the Ozarks students will be selected to participate in the Forum via student application, or by nomination from an administrator, faculty or staff employee. Once selected, the students will have required readings and discussions prior to the event. In addition, a limited number of students from visiting colleges will participate. All participants will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with Mr. Starr and ask questions about his experiences in public service.

## Left-Right Debate Scheduled

*On the left...*



*Joseph P. Kennedy II (L), Alan Keyes (R)*

*On the right...*



In January, The Keeter Center for Character Education will host a "left-right" debate. The debate will be between Joseph P. Kennedy and Alan Keyes. Kennedy is a Democrat and former Massachusetts representative in the United States House of Representatives. Keyes was a 2000 Republican presidential nomination. The debate is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2001, in the Jones Auditorium.

## Upcoming Events

Character Camp.....	January 8-14
Left/Right Debate .....	January 22
(Joseph P. Kennedy and Alan Keyes) .....	Jones Auditorium
Kenneth Starr .....	April 6
John N. and Ella C. Marsh Citizenship Academy (Citizenship Forum)	
Camp Lookout .....	June 4-August 10
Citizens Abroad	
Germany/Austria/Switzerland .....	March
England/The Netherlands .....	May
Scotland .....	June
Honor America .....	July 1

## College Earns Distinction as a “College of Promise”

At the banquet prior to the Patriotic Convocation, Colin L. Powell, Chairman of America’s Promise - The Alliance for Youth, officially recognized the College as a “College of Promise.” Powell presented a little red wagon to Jerri Arnold-Cook, Director of Bonner Community Service at the College. The little red wagon is a symbol of America’s Promise, signifying the child in all of us. It further signifies a child’s hopes and dreams or their burdens. “Millions of American children need our help to pull that wagon along; let’s all pull together,” said Powell.

The relationship between the America’s Promise organization and College of the Ozarks is a natural one. In previous years the College’s Bonner Scholars have dedicated over 27,000 hours to community service organizations that fulfill the five sub-promises outlined in the mission of America’s Promise.

*“Children don’t listen to your lectures, they listen to your actions.”*

America’s Promise aims to ensure all children in America have access to the fundamental resources needed to build and strengthen them to become responsible, productive adults. First, no child should be without the presence of caring and responsible adults in their lives. Powell pointed out later at the convocation that “Children don’t listen to your lectures, they listen to your actions.” Second, all children should have a safe place, with structured activities, to go to during after-school hours. Third, all children should have a healthy



*Four Camp Lookout campers proudly presented General Powell with a camp T-shirt during the banquet.*

start in life and a healthy future. Fourth, all children should acquire marketable skills, such as how to use the Internet, that will enable them to compete successfully in their future. The fifth and most vital promise is that children should be provided an opportunity to serve so that they may continue to contribute to society as they grow older.

The College plans to expand its community service by focusing more hours, energy, and effort on providing the five promises to area youth as it strives to succeed as a College of Promise. New initiatives include the creation of a community board of team leaders, committing to seek out projects that focus on youth, and the creation of a directory of youth services.

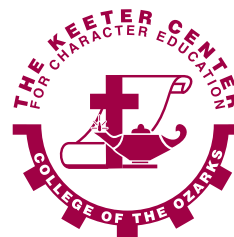
## The KEETER CENTER



*James P. Keeter (second from left) and family*

A special thanks is due James P. Keeter, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, College of the Ozarks. Mr. Keeter is a distinguished business entrepreneur and Chairman of the Board and CEO of Royal Oak Enterprises of Atlanta, Georgia. He and his family have provided an endowment gift to start The Keeter Center for Character Education. The Center is named in honor of Mr. Keeter’s parents, the late Vester and Ruby Keeter of Bradleyville, Missouri. It is the intent of the Keeter family to take a leadership role with College of the Ozarks in promoting character education on a national level.

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