

College of The the Ozarks KEETER REPORT

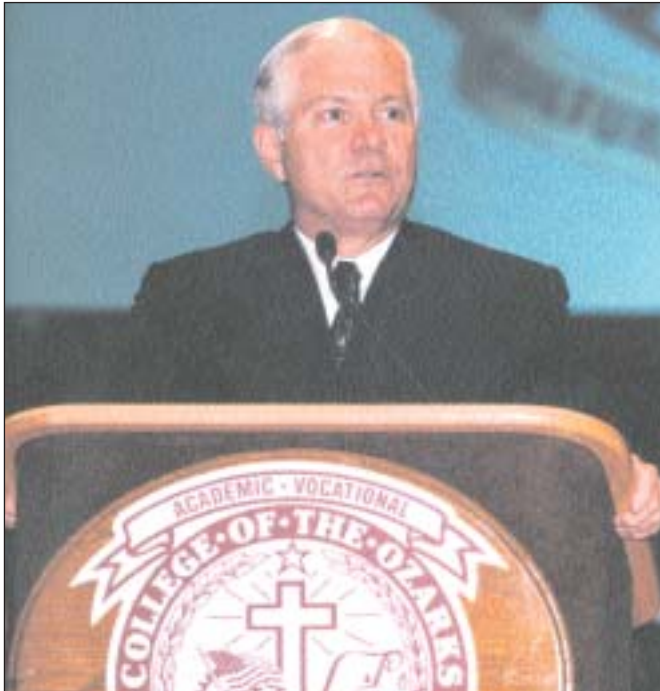
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Former CIA Director Robert Gates: “We Will Prevail.”

*Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger
Leadership Community Convocation*



Robert M. Gates

On October 7, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and current President of Texas A & M University, Dr. Robert M. Gates, provided the keynote address for the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Leadership Community Convocation.

Dr. Gates served as Director of Central Intelligence from November 6, 1991, until January 20, 1993. He is the only career officer in the CIA's history to rise from entry-level employee to Director and the only intelligence analyst to become Director. Dr. Gates joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1966 and spent nearly 27 years as an intelligence professional. During his career he has been awarded the National Security Medal, the Presidential Citizens Medal, has twice received the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, and has three times received the CIA's highest award, the Distinguished Intelligence Medal. Dr. Gates is the

author of an acclaimed memoir, *From the Shadows: The Ultimate Insider's Story of Five Presidents and How They Won the Cold War*.

From his credentials we see why Gates was described by College President, Jerry C. Davis, as “uniquely qualified to discuss the clear and present danger that threatens the American way of life.”

During the Leadership Convocation, Dr. Gates' address, “Terrorism: New Dangers in a New World,” gave him the opportunity to examine the “world in the midst of revolutionary change and the ability of our intelligence services to deal with that change.”

Since the attacks on September 11, 2001, and the economic changes they brought, the pursuit of the war on terrorism has dominated our daily lives. We have won the war in Iraq, but as Gates explained, the United States is like, “the dog that caught the car—now that we have it what do we do?” However, Gates alluded that the post-war challenges could prove to be more difficult than the war itself. The foremost challenge is holding Iraq together, while rebuilding it politically and economically.

“Amid so much uncertainty, two things are certain: one, as a people we will not be found wanting, and two, we will prevail.”

“We must be proactive,” Gates proclaimed. “The U.S. should internationalize its efforts as soon as possible. Other threats are on the horizon, and it is time we enlist others to assist in the battle.” From his perspective, “looming threats include North Korea's determination to build a nuclear arsenal, and Iran. Iran, on the other hand, is not a military threat, rather an overwhelming domestic power.”

The war against terrorism is a continuing battle. To prove this, Gates explained how terrorism did not start on September 11, 2001, but the attack that day was successful. He shared several examples of failed terrorist attempts during the 1990s. “Today we are more aware, and the CIA has new



Christian Woelk addressed the audience during the Leadership Banquet.

approaches and techniques to prepare for future terrorist attempts." Though the role of the CIA has changed, Dr. Gates views terrorism as, "an on-going fight with the CIA on the frontline." He said, "The President is determined to preempt the terror attacks.

"Exactly what the future holds no one can know," said Dr. Gates. He referred to the warning given over a century ago by Theodore Roosevelt, "The American people are slow to wrath, but when their wrath has kindled, it burns with a consuming flame."

Dr. Gates concluded, "Amid so much uncertainty, two things are certain: one, as a people we will not be found wanting, and two, we will prevail."



Casey Guernsey accepted the Public Service Leadership Award, pictured with Dr. Robert M. Gates.



Members of the C of O Chapel Choir performed "America...The Dream Goes On" during the Convocation.

Just prior to Dr. Gates' speaking at the convocation, the College honored two young alumni for their aspiring leadership in public service. The recipients currently serve in positions at The White House. Mr. Casey L. Guernsey is a 2003 College of the Ozarks graduate working as Staff Assistant to Congressman Sam Graves. The other young alumna is Ms. Christian Woelk. Ms. Woelk is a 2002 graduate, and her current position is Regional Finance Coordinator with the Bush-Cheney '04 campaign. Both honorees served in leadership positions at the College prior to graduation. At the banquet, each spoke briefly about how their roles have changed since leaving the College. Guernsey shared how thankful he was for his education at College of the Ozarks and how it helped prepare him for the pressures he now faces. Woelk also thanked the College for its impact on her life. She further described the environment of apathy she has seen arise in young, idealistic professionals as their dreams and aspirations have been squelched because of their positions in Washington. With that said, she challenged the audience to be involved in politics, to make their voices known, and to stand up for what they believe in.



The College of the Ozarks/Tri-Lakes Community Band under the direction of Dr. Garry "Joe" Hardin provided the prelude to the Convocation.

C of O Lends a Hand to Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is an exciting project of Samaritan's Purse where Christmas joy and the love of God are shared with needy children. Millions of gift-filled shoe boxes are delivered around the world to boys and girls who are suffering because of war, natural disaster, poverty, illness, or neglect.

This marks the eighth year that College of the Ozarks has been designated as a Relay Station for



Community volunteers assisted at the Relay Station packing the Samaritan's Purse tractor trailer.



C of O students Brian Copeland, Stephanie Vance, and Hannah Sparks volunteered to help receive shoe boxes.

the area for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. The College, along with local churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals participated in this project. In 2003, the College again collected over 4,000 shoe boxes. We are honored to continue a leadership role in our community by extending hands that will reach around the world at Christmastime.

Former Oklahoma Congressman to Speak at Citizenship Forum



J.C. Watts

In 1994, J.C. Watts was elected to the House of Representatives from his native Oklahoma. Fellow congressmen quickly recognized his leadership qualities and elected him in 1998 to serve as Chairman of the House Republican Conference, the fourth-highest position in the House where he served for four years. He was honorary co-chairman of the 2000 Republican National Convention and remains a passionate voice on issues he championed in Congress: fiscal discipline, bolstering national defense, redeveloping communities, strengthening education and restoring values. Today, Watts is a member of several corporate boards and is co-chair of the Coalition for AIDS relief in Africa.

The College is fortunate to have the Honorable J.C. Watts as keynote speaker for the John N. and Ella C. Marsh Citizenship Forum on April 8, 2004. A group of 35 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 prepare by attending meetings prior to the event. In addition, a limited number of students from visiting colleges will participate. All participants will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Watts at a private meeting.

Upcoming Events

Character Camp	January 5 - 11
J.C. Watts.....	April 8
<i>John N. and Ella C. Marsh Citizenship Academy (Citizenship Forum)</i>	
Camp Lookout	May 31-August 13
Frances C. Berger Citizens Abroad Program	
The Netherlands	January
Germany, United Kingdom, Finland	March
England	May
Honor America	June 27

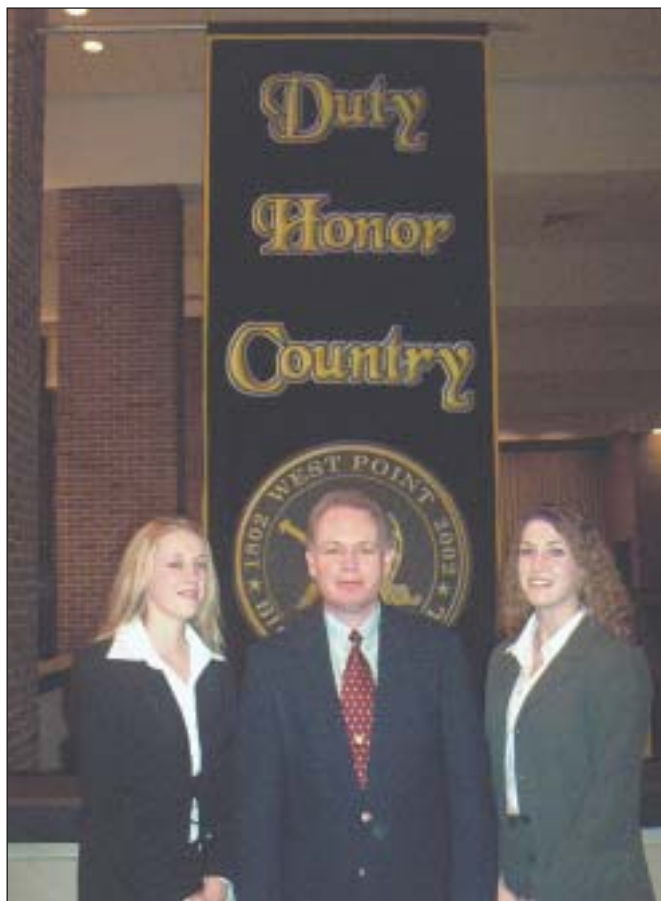
A Memorable Experience at West Point, New York

By Dr. C. David Dalton

Professor of History, College of the Ozarks

I grew up with the words, "Duty, Honor, Country," but until last weekend, I never fully appreciated them. You see, one of my favorites books is "To Kill A Mockingbird," and I love the scene where Atticus Finch pleads with the racist jury to "do your duty," and set Tom Robinson free. I grew up believing, and still believe, that one should honor thy father and mother. And as an American historian, I have an innate love for my country.

I, along with seniors Hillary Bargman and Rhoda Barner, traveled to the United States Military Academy to attend its annual "Conference on Ethics in America." Inspiring doesn't begin to describe the experience. It was interesting for a Civil War historian to walk the same grounds as Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. But the revelation came when I had time to think and reflect on the topics being explored by nearly 150 students from across the country: Ethics. Character. Values. I then understood how fortunate I was to be at West Point attending the conference. I saw firsthand the cadets living their creed every minute of every day—"Duty. Honor. Country." I was proud that College of the Ozarks has taken such a strong stance on these timeless issues—and sad that so many institutions make no provision for or have any interest in doing so. Perhaps General Douglas MacArthur put it best: "Duty, Honor, Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be."



Senior Hillary Bargman, Professor David Dalton, and Senior Rhoda Barner attended the USMA's annual ethics conference in November.

College of **The** the Ozarks KEETER CENTER FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION



James P. Keeter (second from left) and family

We extend a **special thanks** to James P. Keeter, a member 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.



www.keetercenter.edu

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