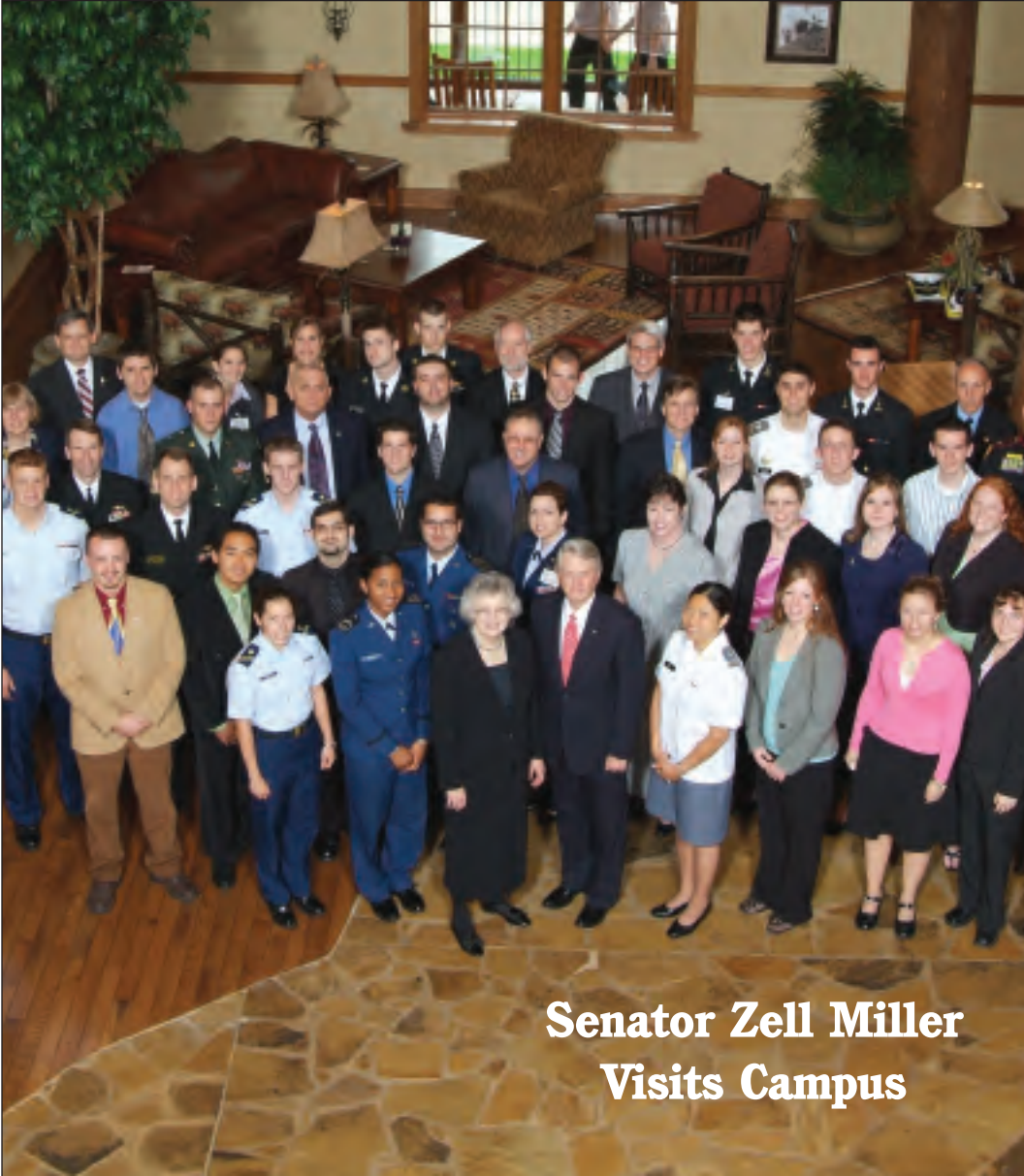


COLLEGE OF THE OZARKS<sup>®</sup>

# *The Keeter Report*



**Senator Zell Miller  
Visits Campus**

# Senator Zell Miller Speaks at Work Ethic Forum

“I grew up knowing the importance of a good work ethic.” Senator Zell Miller remarked during the College of the Ozarks O. Wayne Rollins Work Ethic Forum.

This forum was held on Thursday, April 6, in the Keeter Gymnasium. Senator Zell Miller spoke on *The American Work Ethic: The Gates of Opportunity*. Miller served two terms as Georgia’s governor and one term as Georgia’s senator. A conservative Democrat, Miller has been the keynote speaker at both the Republican and Democratic National



Former U.S. Senator Zell Miller

Conventions. He is the author of seven books, including a *New York Times* best seller, *A National Party No More: The Conscience of a Conservative Democrat*. He has been married to his wife, Shirley, for 50 years and enjoys spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Miller began his speech not by talking of his accomplishments, but rather where he came from. He told his story of struggle and triumph over hardship. His father died two days after he was born, leaving his mother to raise their family alone. Miller said it was his mother who taught him the value of working hard.

He shared a poignant story about his mother building their rock home by hand. Every day she would go to a nearby creek and drag rocks to their small land plot to build a place that they would call home.

“I grew up watching my mother build that house,” Miller said with pride. He and his wife still live in that house.

Miller followed in his mother’s footsteps and proved that working hard can have powerful results. His first jobs included wearing a Mr. Peanut costume and handing out samples of peanuts, washing pots and pans at a restaurant, and tutoring Georgia football players. He later joined the U.S. Marine Corps to “make a man of himself.” It was during

these times in his life that he says he learned many valuable lessons about life, such as hard work and discipline. He also developed his life-long appreciation for the U.S. armed forces.

“It is our soldiers, not politicians, that give us freedom,” he said. Miller supports the war on terrorism and considers the war in Iraq to be a “preemptive strike” to help protect America’s freedom. Throughout his speech, Miller shared his formula for success which he said is achievable through strong leadership and hard work.

“You beat 50 percent of people at any level just by working hard. Most people don’t want it bad enough.” Miller said. He went on to say that one can beat another 40 percent by being a person of honesty and integrity. The last ten percent is beat out by simply trying and realizing failure is not defeat.

“You will sometimes feel like you have failed, but you can only fail at something if you try. Each of us chooses the level of our failure. The only way you ever learned to walk was by failing. Failure is a great teacher. Failure is not defeat.”

Character is developed through hard work, and Miller acknowledged that College of the Ozarks builds character in students through the work experience they receive.

“Character is higher than intellect,” Miller remarked. “Character provides the essential framework in which intelligence functions.”

Miller also emphasized the importance of God by providing a good example of how people often misuse God. “Too many use God as a spare tire. We use Him when we need Him. But God is not a spare tire; God is the steering wheel.”

He concluded his speech by saying “God bless our soldiers of freedom who have opened the gates of opportunity.”

Students were then given the chance to ask Senator Miller questions at the conclusion of his speech. These students were members of the Character Forum, including not only College of the Ozarks students, but also participants from Marine Military Academy, Southwest Baptist



*Senator Miller receives the traditional Hard Work U sweatshirt.*

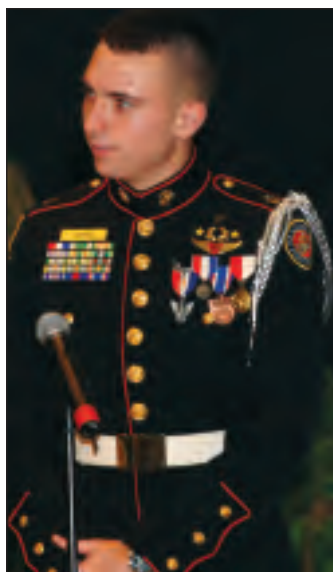


*Senator Miller greets longtime benefactor and friend of the college, Dr. Leonard Gittinger and his wife, Jane.*

University, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, U.S. Military Academy, and U.S. Naval Academy. These cadets and students participated in small group discussions with C of O students. Groups were led by C of O faculty and staff who facilitated the discussion of the following topics: *Work as Vocation*, *The American Perspective on Work*, and *Balancing of Work and Leisure*.

One question, asked by a Marine Military Academy student, was “What is the most important thing you learned in the Marine Corps?” Senator Miller replied, “Character, discipline, and perseverance.”

He answered questions that ranged from his success in life to his definition of the American dream. He closed the convocation by emphasizing the importance of a strong work ethic and character and how those two attributes are essential to a fulfilling life.



*Cadet from  
Marine Military Academy*

# Students and Supervisors Honored

At a V.I.P. dinner prior to the Work Ethic Forum, four individuals were honored who consistently demonstrate an outstanding work ethic. They were selected by students, faculty, and staff.

Students were selected from a pool of nominees for their demonstration of consistent, superior work traits and their ability to balance academics and extra-curricular activities. The work traits included reliability, teamwork and collaboration, initiative and motivation, responsibility, quality of work, and communication skills.

The female student work award went to Halley Fischbeck from Waynesville, Missouri. She is a junior at College of the Ozarks. The male student work award recipient was Justin Sharp. Sharp (from Midland, Texas) graduated in May 2006.

Two work supervisors were chosen based on demonstration of superior supervisor performance in terms of their mentoring, training, leadership, and communication with student workers.

Mrs. Marty Waller received an award as an outstanding work supervisor. She serves as director of the campus Child Development Center. The recipient of the male work supervisor award was David Ray, the supervisor in the Landscaping Department. For the past 18 years, he has served as a leader and mentor for 70 students that maintain the beauty of the campus.

College of the Ozarks is unique among American colleges and universities, because students work, rather than pay, to help defray their educational expenses. The work/study program has been an integral part of the College since its beginning as a grade school in the early 1900s and is based on a belief in the dignity and worth of work.



*Halley Fischbeck*



*Justin Sharp*



*Marty Waller*



*David Ray*

## Dean of Work Retires

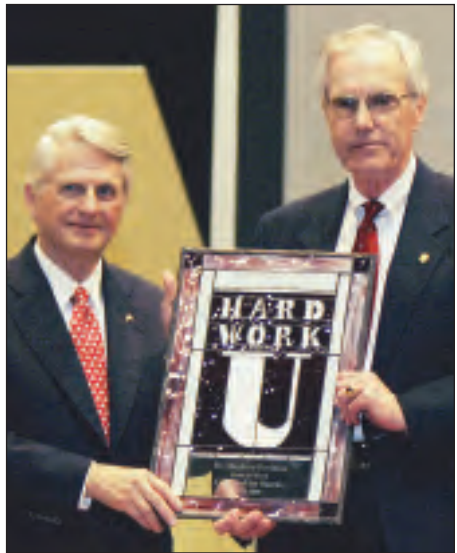
The Spring Work Ethic Forum was an appropriate occasion to honor retiring Dean of Work Mayburn Davidson after 33 years of service as one of the College's key administrators. Dr. Davidson was responsible for scheduling the assignments of nearly 1,500 students each year. In introducing Dr. Davidson, Jerry C. Davis, president of College of the Ozarks, referred to him as "A true class act." President Davis and visiting Senator Zell Miller presented him with a student-made stained-glass plaque to commemorate his years of service and dedication to the College.

Dr. Davis shared many humorous stories about Dr. Davidson, emphasizing the excellent job Davidson had done throughout the years. President Davis commented that Dr. Davidson had led by example and cultivated a relationship with each student at the College.

Dr. Davidson and his wife, Cora, moved to then School of the Ozarks in August of 1973. Davidson began in the position of Work Program Coordinator. This position evolved into the Dean of Work. During Dr. Davidson's tenure, some of the work stations

changed. The work stations no longer include Beacon Hill Theatre, Candy Kitchen, Furniture Factory, Clothing Room, and Organ Maintenance. New stations were created like the stained glass studio, radio station, The Keeter Center, and Child Development Center.

Reflecting over the past 33 years, Davidson said, "We still try to develop the same values in our students; we still try to teach them good work habits; and, we still attempt to show them the benefits of being a good and faithful worker."



*Senator Miller presents retiring Dean of Work Mayburn Davidson a student-made stained glass memento.*

## Hard Work U. Named “All-American College”

Recently, College of the Ozarks has been recognized for excellence in education by *U.S. News & World Report*, the Templeton Foundation, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Young America’s Foundation, among other organizations. In August, C of O reached new heights when a prestigious new guide to higher education, *All American Colleges: Top Schools for Conservatives, Old-Fashioned Liberals, and People of Faith*, honored the College for its commitment to hard work and academics. The guide, published by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, notes that “[h]and in hand with an excellent liberal arts education, students learn lessons about the worth and dignity of work, personal responsibility, and free enterprise at this impressive, blue collar academy.” The guide goes on to praise the General Education program, including the Character Curriculum, and several academic departments: English, philosophy and religion, education, business, military science, and agriculture. Concerning the faculty, one student was quoted as saying, “I believe that the accessibility and the willingness to help of C of O professors is probably one of the institution’s strongest traits. Every professor I had at C of O took a vested interest in me; each wanted me to succeed.”

The guide also noted C of O’s unabashed commitment to character and high moral standards, emphasizing the College’s single-sex residence halls and “zero-tolerance policy” with regard to alcohol and drugs. High expectations in and out of the classroom create an extraordinary environment for learning. As one student who has worked in Washington, D.C., and is now running for the Missouri House of Representatives observed, “The work program weeds out the less than serious students.” The student added that “the educational experience at C of O is ‘broad and deep,’ and that understanding the reasons and purpose of work gave him an edge when working on Capitol Hill.”

It has been said that while other colleges talk about the American dream, College of the Ozarks is the American dream. Inclusion in *All American Colleges* confirms that claim, and College of the Ozarks is understandably proud of its national reputation for academic excellence, a strong work ethic, and commitment to character.

# The Centennial Year

This fall the College will kick-off the Centennial year with a Founder's Day picnic on September 12, 2006. In honor of the College's 100 years of rich history, there will be exciting events and special exhibits throughout the 2006-2007 school years.

The official Centennial spans November 2006 to November 2007, with November 3, 2007, marking the College's final celebration.

From November 2-5, the 2006 Homecoming, themed as "A Tradition that Works," there will be a variety of events that focus on the celebration of the College's Centennial year. On November 14, a Centennial Painting Celebration will open at Ralph Foster Museum, located on College of the Ozarks campus. The President's Centennial Ball is scheduled for November 17.

The Heritage Ball will be held on February 24, 2007. A Centennial Legacy Dinner will be on March 27. This dinner is hosted by Campus Ministries and will be a "pass it on" event, where guests will be given the opportunity to inspire others through shared stories. Homecoming of 2007, "Celebration 101", will be a record-breaking event, for fruitcake that is. As the grand finale, College of the Ozarks famous Fruitcake and Jelly Kitchen will bake a 101 lb. fruitcake that will be eaten by guests at the historic celebration. Also that day, the College will bury a time capsule on campus full of Centennial memorabilia.



College of the Ozarks®

# Centennial Calendar

## 2006

September 1	The Legacy Endures—100 Years exhibit opens, The Keeter Center
September 12	Founder's Day Picnic
November 2-5	"A Tradition that Works" Homecoming/Centennial Kickoff
November 14	Centennial Painting Celebration opens, Ralph Foster Museum
November 17	President's Centennial Ball
December 1-4	Tribute to Beacon Hill Theater "Dirty Work at the Crossroads"
December 10	Christmas Card to the Community
December 21	Centennial Painting Celebration closes

## 2007

February 24	Heritage Ball
March 27	Centennial Legacy Dinner
TBA	Spring Forum
April 23	McDonald Hospital Dedication
May 5	Doc Good Day
May 13	Centennial Commencement
June 24	Honor America
October 12-15	"Centenary Theatre Production"
TBA	Major Convocation
November 1-4	"Celebration 101" Homecoming/Centennial Finale
November 30	The Legacy Endures—100 years exhibit closes, The Keeter Center

# Christ-like Character in the Classroom at College of the Ozarks

*By Eric Bolger, Associate Professor of Philosophy-Religion, Chairman of Humanities Division*

The phrase “Christ-like character” is central to the College of the Ozarks vision statement: Our vision is to develop citizens of Christ-like character who are well educated, hard working, and patriotic. In order to achieve this vision, the College has identified five fundamental areas of campus life in which it seeks to develop Christ-like character. These areas are academic, vocational, spiritual, patriotic and cultural. This article focuses on the development of Christ-like character in the academic program.

How can the College help students to develop Christ-like character through the academic program? For some, even to ask this question is misguided: talk of Jesus and religion belongs in the campus ministries department since it deals with “faith.” The academic program, on the other hand, deals with “facts,” and faith has no part in this.

Such a division of “faith” and “fact” is actually itself an unfortunate and relatively recent concept. Historically, Christianity has placed a high value on the intellect as one of a variety of means by which one may know truth. At the same time, Christians have held that the intellect and its primary tool, reason, are not autonomous, or “a law unto themselves.” Instead, properly understood, intellect and reason are God-given gifts to accomplish God’s own purposes. These gifts have their greatest benefit when used in proper reference to their source, the God of the universe. Thus, faith and fact cannot be so easily untangled; true knowledge depends on the willful submission of the reason to a greater reality that one apprehends by faith.

Lest all this sound too lofty, it is helpful to return to our starting point, that is, the development of Christ-like character in the academic area. College of Ozarks embraces the concept that faith and facts belong together. This so-called “integration of faith and learning” should permeate the academic program at the College. What does it look like in practice?

The foundation of the integration of faith and learning is the prem-

ise that “all truth is God’s truth.” Put another way, God is relevant to all areas of life. As the creator and sustainer of all things, God is ultimately responsible for the subject matter of chemistry, biology, sociology, archaeology, and every other field of study. Properly understood, these diverse areas of study fit with one another because they all have the same source, namely, the God who created and sustains all things. By implication, students can actually learn something of God as they study these areas, since each area bears God’s “fingerprints.”

In the classroom, this means that one can just as appropriately pursue and honor God through the study of natural science and mathematics as through philosophy and religion. If all truth is God’s truth, then every classroom is, at least potentially, a sanctuary where students can meet God through the study of some aspect of God’s creation. One of the roles of faculty members at institutions like College of the Ozarks is constantly to remind students of this wonderful dynamic. Ironically, when teachers and students wrongly separate faith and fact and pit them against one another, they ignore this dynamic and unwittingly limit the pursuit of knowledge and truth.

College of the Ozarks seeks to provide an environment for study that integrates faith and learning. One way this is accomplished is through the training of the College’s faculty members. The College continues to increase the number and types of formal and informal opportunities through which faculty members can reflect on faith and learning, and develop strategies for helping students to do the same. Another way the



*Dr. James Bell teaches in the English Department at College of the Ozarks.*

College seeks to integrate faith and learning is through the general education curriculum. All students are required to take two courses in the area of religion. The first course, Biblical Survey, students typically take as freshmen. This course exposes them to the entire biblical story from Genesis to Revelation,

the story that forms the backbone of the Christian “worldview,” that is, the specifically Christian understanding of reality, knowledge, and truth. As juniors or seniors, all students then take a course called Biblical Theology and Ethics. The goal of this course is to help students, who are now at the end of their college career, to deepen their understanding of the Christian worldview. These courses then form bookends between which the College encourages students to reflect on their other courses in light of this worldview.

This article began by referring to College of the Ozarks vision statement to develop citizens of Christ-like character. It is appropriate now to make a few observations of what Christ-like character is.

- A citizen of Christ-like character is not afraid of learning. In fact, the citizen of Christ-like character places a high value on learning, just as Jesus himself did, since learning is a primary means both to know and to honor God.
- A citizen of Christ-like character studies with a humble recognition that one cannot separate knowledge of the world from knowledge of its creator. When one seeks knowledge of something apart from recognition of its source, all one can expect to find are half-truths.
- A citizen of Christ-like character realizes that just as all truth is God’s truth, so one should not confine to one’s church life the expectation of moral and ethical behavior. Instead, whatever one is doing, whatever one is studying, whether business, or music, or agriculture, or history, he or she must be morally above reproach. Cheating and plagiarizing are wrong in any classroom, and the citizen of Christ-like character seeks honesty and responsibility in all areas of life.



*Dr. Stacy McNeill, Communications professor, lectures to a group of students.*

# The Coast Guard Academy

*Laurie Pinkley, Student, College of the Ozarks*

College of the Ozarks provides an opportunity for students without financial means to earn a college education by working hard. The students work on campus during the school year for their tuition. Each student may choose to work on campus over the summer to pay for room and board in the upcoming year. There are also multiple scholarships available through the school. In addition to a great education, many students are given opportunities to participate in events on our campus and around the world. One of the opportunities is our annual Character Forum. College of the Ozarks welcomes students from military academies and colleges to come to our forums and share in the delights of Branson and the College.

Each year, the College is invited to send C of O students and sponsors to conferences at each of the U.S. Military Academies. I was chosen to go to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Forum because of my interest in possibly joining the Coast Guard upon graduation from C of O. In my research I found I was very interested in what it stands for and the work done such as rescuing ships in distress, cleaning up oil spills, stopping drug traffickers, and turning back illegal immigrants. Because of its high entrance requirements, both physical and academic, it is one of the more difficult military branches to obtain entrance. Therefore, I was honored to participate in the Forum.

The lighthouse beacon shone out across New England, welcoming us to the varied city of New London, Connecticut. This was the first glimpse of the Academy I had, and it was a beautiful sight. As we drove closer, the campus appeared and we were ushered inside by the officer at the gatehouse. We were driven to the barracks, where we met several of the Coast Guard cadets. Cadet Chris Bonner escorted us to our rooms in the barracks. We were informed that College of the Ozarks students were the only civilians allowed to stay in the actual cadet barracks, because they trusted us to adhere to the rules.



That was quite an honor. The two cadets I roomed with were both outgoing and friendly.

The next morning at 6:00 a.m. the bugle sounded the wake up call. Throughout the day, we toured the Coast Guard Academy campus, the Nautilus museum and submarine, and the Eagle, one of a few (if not the last) tall ships still in use. The Eagle was a vision, with its tall masts and miles of rope paralleling and twisting in a very organized fashion above its sleek deck. The cadets at the Academy learn how to sail the ship and spend six weeks learning the art of the knotting system. We saw where the crew slept, three bunks to a wall, making it very difficult to turn over. It was tight quarters where crew members and all of their possessions had to fit. The submarine bunks were even tighter, as they had four and five bunks on top of each other. It was an eye-opening experience to actually be in a submarine and on a tall ship.

Along with the exciting tours and seeing the sites of the city, we participated in the Character Forum where distinguished speakers discussed various issues related to ethics. There were many sessions with notable speakers.

This amazing experience has taught me numerous things, not the least of which being the respect I gained for the U.S. Coast Guard and the risks they take every day. Although I am undecided about joining the Coast Guard after graduation, the memories of this trip and the respect that I have for all individuals in the military will stay with me for a lifetime!



# First PLACE! Honored at National Conference

Dr. Jerry C. Davis, president of College of the Ozarks, and Sue Head, executive director of The Keeter Center for Character Education, were honored during the opening ceremonies of the 12th Annual Character Education Conference on July 13, in St. Louis. Former U.S. Senator John C. Danforth was the keynote speaker.

The College and the Center were recognized for their commitment to character education and their leadership role in the Taney County First



*Pictured from left to right: Dr. Jerry C. Davis, Mrs. Sue Head, and former U.S. Senator John Danforth*

PLACE! initiative. The initiative is a partnership (with a commitment to be intentional about teaching and modeling good character) among schools, businesses, churches, organizations and parents.

“We wanted to honor College of the Ozarks and The Keeter Center for Character Education because of their work in developing the first county-wide character education initiative in Missouri,” said Liz Gibbons, CHARACTERplus director. “The fact that seven school districts, 18 schools and 311 First PLACE! Partners are all working toward the same goal could only happen with strong leadership. The College’s commitment of time and resources has made a tremendous difference in Taney County.”

Head spoke at two sessions during the conference and shared the First PLACE! story with conference attendees who came from around the state and from different parts of the country. The remarkable growth and community participation has become a model for other communities that want to launch similar initiatives. Many administrators in Taney County schools report a significant decrease in disciplinary referrals and an increase in attendance.



THE KEETER  
CENTER *for*  
CHARACTER  
EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF THE OZARKS



The Keeter Center for Character Education was established at College of the Ozarks by the generosity of the James P. Keeter family and many friends from across the country. The purpose of the Center is to provide programs and activities which enhance the development of character and good citizenship. In so doing, the Center reflects the principle upon which the College of the Ozarks was established: that character in young people is best developed from an education which includes the head, the heart, and the hands.

Over the past several years, The Keeter Center for Character Education has hosted such noted speakers as General Colin Powell, Former Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu, Mrs. Barbara Bush, President Gerald Ford, General Norman Schwarzkopf, and General Tommy Franks. During our annual forum, cadets from each of the nation's military academies are guests of the College through the Thoresen Cadet Exchange Program.

College of the Ozarks, nicknamed "**Hard Work U**" by *The Wall Street Journal*, is a unique college that provides a tuition-free education to deserving young people who are willing to work. Every student on the 1,000 acre campus in southwest Missouri works 15 hours a week in one of 80+ work stations on campus. The College was recently recognized by the Young America's Foundation as one of the nation's "Top 10 Conservative Colleges." *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked College of the Ozarks among the America's best liberal arts colleges yearly since 1989. College of the Ozarks is a shining example of conservative ideals.



**The Keeter Center for Character Education**

**Sue Head, Executive Director**

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