Two Holy Cross juniors named Truman scholar finalists

BY MICHAEL McMHAON
CRUSADER NEWS STAFF

Last week, the Harry S. Truman Foundation announced the 196 finalists for their annual scholarship competition. Holy Cross has the distinguished honor of having two juniors, Andrew DesRault and Jonathan Favreau, named as finalists. Colleges and universities across the United States nominate up to four students for the opportunity to apply for the award. This year, 196 finalists were named, on behalf of 127 colleges and universities. Holy Cross was one of only two undergraduate liberal arts colleges had more than one finalist.

Jonathan Favreau is a political science major from North Haven, Connecticut. For the honor of having two juniors, this competition, a twenty-minute interview. Favreau’s interview will be held in Boston and DesRault’s will take place in New York City.

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The list of candidates is compiled and narrowed down to a group of people that “best reflect the values the College has,” and will be finally approved by the Board of Trustees.

Collins named commencement speaker

BY KARA JACKMAN
CRUSADER NEWS STAFF

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McNamara says, “The process will be open up even further this spring allowing students to nominate people,” for commencement 2003. Validating one’s “meaningful connection” to the person they are looking ahead to 2003. Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., President of the College, put together a group of faculty and administrators this fall to begin the process of choosing the speaker and honorary degree candidates for the commencement ceremony. This year marks a change in practice, since in previous years the Board of Trustees handled these decisions. Fr. McFarland’s committee has been working with the commencement committee in shaping the events that will take place on May 23 and 24, 2002. With McFarland’s new commencement speaker and honorary degree committee at the helm, members of the faculty and administration have been invited to nominate people for consideration.

Hehir speaks on U.S. responses to recent terrorism

BY MARK MCDougALL
CRUSADER NEWS STAFF

Amid the aftermath of Sept. 11, nearly all political criticism of the Bush Administration’s war on terrorism has been blunted or simply suspended. A recent Washington Post-ABC News poll gave the president an 83 percent approval rating. In the face of this inflated war-time support of the Bush administration, most political commentators have stilled public discourse to impend tax cuts and the ensuing Enron scandal. Effectively, the war on terrorism has been shoved to the margins of critical discussion.

One man not yet ready to resign critical examination of America’s continuing war across the globe is the Rev. Bryan Hehir, who for the past 30 years has been one of the most influential voices in debates of war and peace. Three weeks after presenting Holy Cross’ annual Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan Lecture on religion and public affairs, Hehir returned to campus this past Monday to deliver his lecture titled, “The Ethics of War and Terrorism” to approximately 150 students packed into the Rehm library. Probably the foremost living authority on the Just-War Theory, Hehir has amassed more than 25 honorary degrees from American colleges and universities. From 1972 to 1992, he worked at the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops as director of the Office of International Affairs, secretary of the Department to Social Development and World Peace, and as counselor for social policy, successively. He has served as the head of the Harvard Divinity School and as faculty at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and the Kennedy School of Government. Currently Hehir is the president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA—the nation’s largest private sector deliverer of social services. He remains a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and serves on the board of the Arms Control Association and the Council for a Livable World.

On Monday, Hehir explained that the Just-War Theory attempts to answer the question: “Can you fit the conceived, purposeful, large-scale concept of human life into the moral universe?” Among other things, the theory assumes a great presumption against use of force which can be overridden only as a necessary last resort and stipulates that a state wishing to engage in the use of arms must make its purposes known and open to public debate. Once a state is at war, the theory demands a “proportional” use of force and prohibits the purposeful killing of civilians.

Since the United States began to mobilize for the Gulf War, the Just-War Theory has become a prominent part of debates over American military action. However, putting the theory into practice raises several difficulties. Proper use of the theory demands a full public knowledge of the motives and intentions of a government wishing to use military force. Hehir framed the problem in the context of the Gulf War. He asked if the true motive behind the Gulf War was concern for the people of Kuwait. Playing devil’s advocate, Hehir answered his own question: “Or was it the...