

# MONARCH notes

NEWS FOR THE KING'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY  
A Catholic College Sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross

The week of May 9, 2005

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## James Nicholson to deliver Commencement address



Former Ambassador to the Holy See and Secretary for Veterans Affairs R. James Nicholson will deliver the commencement address to the graduating class of King's College on May 22.

He was U.S. diplomatic representative at the Vatican from 2001- 2004. A strong advocate of human rights and dignity, Amb. Nicholson was knighted in October 2003 by Pope John Paul II.

He left his diplomatic post at the Vatican in December 2004 when President George W. Bush nominated him to serve as Secretary for Veterans Affairs. He was unanimously confirmed and was sworn in as Secretary on Feb. 1, 2005. Veterans Affairs is the U.S. government's second largest Cabinet department with 230,000 employees and a current budget of \$69 billion to serve America's veterans. Secretary Nicholson's department oversees a nationwide system of health care services, benefits programs, and national cemeteries for veterans and their dependents.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and a Vietnam veteran for which he earned a number of decorations, Secretary Nicholson retired after 22 years in the Army Reserve with the rank of colonel. He holds degrees from Columbia University and the University of Denver Law School.

At the Commencement ceremony, King's College will confer honorary degrees on Secretary Nicholson, Sister Linda-Susan Beard, Ph.D., and Virginia Welles. Sr. Linda-Susan is a highly regarded scholar and educator. She is associate professor of English at Bryn Mawr College.

Virginia Welles, a long-time resident of the Wyoming Valley is a supporter of the fine and performing arts. She is a King's Presidential Scholarship honoree, a member of the President's Society, and member emeritus of the President's Council.

## Commencement Weekend

### Saturday, May 21

**ROTC Commissioning Ceremony**, Burke Auditorium, The William G. McGowan School of Business, 2 p.m.

**Baccalaureate Mass**, Scandlon Gymnasium, 4 p.m.

**Senior/Alumni Party**, Regina Court and Connerton's Café, 9 p.m. to midnight.

### Sunday, May 22

**Commencement**, Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza, Wilkes-Barre, 2 p.m.

## Trace your roots at King's

Courses on the ethnic history and cultural heritage of Northeastern Pennsylvania continue with classes in:

**Perserving and Sharing Our Slovak Heritage:** May 18 and 25, 7 p.m. (Rm 207, William G. McGowan School of Business) May 18: Screening of the film *Sokoliar Thomas-Thomas the Falconer*, May 25: "Preserving and Sharing Our Slovak Heritage."

**Polish-American History and Culture:** May 10, 17, and 24, 7 p.m. (Rm 106, McGowan School of Business) May 10: "Polish Art, Architecture and Music"; May 17: "Polish Literature, Theatre and Cinema"; May 24: "Famous Men and Women in Polish Culture."

**Byzantine History and Culture:** May 12, 7 p.m. (Rm 106, McGowan School of Business) "The History and Mystery of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America"

**German History and Culture:** May 18, 7 p.m. (Burke Auditorium) "German: A Cultural and Historical Development"

**Lebanese History and Culture:** May 19, 7 p.m. (Rm 106, McGowan School of Business) "The Life of Lebanese in Lebanon and America"

The courses are free and open to the public. For information, contact Rev. Patrick Sullivan, C.S.C., coordinator of the Ethnic Communities and Associations Initiative, at 5816.

## People at King's

**Dr. Brian P. Mangan**, director, Environmental Program and The Susquehanna River Institute, was a panelist in a recent broadcast of "Call the Doctor" on WVIA-TV. The show's topics included discussion of the Susquehanna River as America's most endangered river, and drinking water quality of groundwater wells.

**Suzanne McCabe**, director of the Educational Conference Center, participated in the Community Reading Day sponsored by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber on Wednesday, April 27. She read to a second grade class at Heights Murray Elementary School.

Recently, Big Band Ambassador **John McKeown**, administrator of Allied Health Programs and director of the Irish Teachers Program, presented "The Life of Russ Morgan" and "Music In the Morgan Manner" to the Covenant Presbyterian Women of Scranton. He also is the featured speaker at the June meeting of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. McKeown's presentation is entitled "Irish Contribution in the Revolutionary War."

**Dr. Terrence Mech**, director, Leonard D. Corgan Library, presented "Information Literacy and Assessment: Middle States New Characteristics of Excellence" at the annual spring meeting of the Congress of Academic Library Directors of Maryland at the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery, University of Maryland.

## Out and About

The American Institute of Architects, Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter, will host a screening of the film *Rural Studio* as part of the Fine Arts Fiesta on Sunday, May 22 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts at 2 p.m. The film is a documentary about the late architect Samuel Mockbee, who is best known for his Auburn University architectural design studio called the Rural Studio.

Mockbee's Rural Studio designed and constructed unique, environmentally sensitive buildings—not for the large corporations and institutions of the world, but for common people in economically depressed Alabama.

The screening of the documentary features an introduction and question and answer session with the film's director Chuck Schultz. General Admission: \$8; students and senior citizens, \$5.

For more information, visit the Web site: [www.ruralstudio.com](http://www.ruralstudio.com) or call Theresa Ward Thomas at 825-8758, ext. 135.

## Do You Have News to Share with the King's Community?

Please e-mail your information to Public Relations Assistant Joseph Giomboni at: [jrgiombo@kings.edu](mailto:jrgiombo@kings.edu) or call ext. 5957.

## Experiencing the Arts

**DANGEROUS? V.S**  
Through June 5  
Widmann Gallery  
Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center



*The original works of James Graham and Patrick Graham are on display in the Widmann Gallery through June 5 as part of the DANGEROUS? V.S. exhibition. James Graham incorporates "Electronic Voice Phenomenon" into his artwork by using video, music, and the people in the gallery during the exhibition. The painting at left, "Decent," is by Patrick Graham. For more information, contact Widmann Gallery Coordinator Michelle Leonard at 5328.*

## Cheer on Challenger League

On May 10, the King's baseball team's "Extra Innings" Community Service Club hosts a game for the Challenger Baseball League at 6 p.m. at Betzler Fields. On that evening special needs children will play baseball. The Monarch baseball team and coaching staff will assist the children in an evening of fun and food. Coach Jerry Greeley and the team invite members of the King's community to cheer on these special athletes.

## Calendar of Events

**Daily Mass**  
**Chapel of Christ the King**  
Monday through Friday: Noon  
Sunday: 11 a.m., 7 and 9 p.m.

### Thursday 5/12

Softball, Mac Freedom Conference Playoffs at Wilkes University

### Friday 5/13

Softball, Mac Freedom Conference Playoffs at Wilkes University

### Saturday 5/14

Softball, NCAA Division III Championships, TBA, TBA