

Fisher banquet features Brzezinski

Former national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski will speak at the inauguration of an expanded and renamed Polish studies program at St. John Fisher College on Monday, Sept. 9.

Brzezinski, a member of former President Jimmy Carter's administration from 1977-81, is a professor of government at Columbia University and a counselor at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The occasion for his visit is a banquet on the Fisher campus at which the college's Polish studies program will be officially renamed the Institute for Polish Studies. Reflected in its new title are broader goals, including the development of the college as a center of Polish-related research. The Louis Skalny Foundation Trust has awarded the college a renewal grant to assure funding of the program through 1990. The banquet also marks the beginning of an endowment fund drive for the Institute.

Dr. M.B. Biskupski, director of the Fisher program, has heard Brzezinski speak at Yale University and recalled that he received a rare standing ovation. "Among scholars, he's the best speaker I've ever heard," Biskupski said.

Although Brzezinski generally speaks extemporaneously and does not restrict himself

to a specific topic, a spokesman in his Georgetown office said he would probably touch on the division of Europe after World War II and the effect of that division on relations between the superpowers.

Biskupski added that he would expect Brzezinski to also deal with some aspect of human rights in Poland since the situation in that country reflects what's happening in the Soviet Union.

Biskupski said the academic steering committee and community advisory committee for Polish studies wanted to plan a major event to inaugurate the program's new identity. Brzezinski was first on their list of possible speakers because he is known as an extremely good speaker, has considerable public repute and has something important to say. But Biskupski added that he is most delighted because Brzezinski is a nationally recognized scholar. "We are an academic program and want that to be underscored by everything we do," he said.

A grant from the Louis Skalny Foundation Trust in 1981 established Polish studies at St. John Fisher to promote and increase the knowledge of Polish history and culture in America. Since then, the program has offered courses in the language, literature and history of Poles in Europe and America as well as the Skalny Artist and Lecture

series. The series has featured former Polish Ambassador John Gronouski, Jerzy Milewski of Solidarity and Stanislaw Baranczak, chair of Polish literature at Harvard University.

Born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1928, Brzezinski traveled to North America in 1938 and became a U.S. citizen. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree from McGill University and a doctorate from Harvard University in 1953. Alliance College, College of the Holy Cross and Fordham University have awarded him honorary degrees.

Brzezinski has written numerous books and articles on international relations and American foreign policy. He taught and carried on research at Harvard from 1953-60 and at Columbia University since 1960.

In 1981, Brzezinski was honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role in normalizing relations between the U.S. and China and for his contribution to human rights and national security policies.

Last spring Biskupski wrote Brzezinski, asking him to come to Fisher. Although it required minor schedule changes, he said the whole process far simpler than anticipated. "He (Brzezinski) proved remarkably willing to accept our request," the professor said.

Reservations for the banquet are available



Zbigniew Brzezinski

by writing the director of the Institute of Polish Studies at St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Avenue, Rochester, 14618, or by calling (716)385-8104. Tickets are \$25.

Pro-lifers link mercy killing with abortion mentality

By Julie Asher

(NC) — Some pro-lifers feel that efforts to free a Fort Lauderdale, Fla., man convicted of killing his terminally ill wife flow from the same mentality that condones abortion.

"It's the same ethic," said Carol Tague, executive director of Florida Right to Life. "Those who support mercy killing of those who are no longer independent or who are said to be leading 'meaningless' lives lead right back to Roe vs. Wade (the 1973 abortion decision), which says it's OK to kill those who do not yet have a meaningful life."

Florida Gov. Bob Graham in late August lost a bid to see Gilbert freed when Graham's Cabinet voted 4-2 against the proposed commutation. Gilbert, who is serving a life sentence, would have been freed only until the state Supreme Court heard his appeal, which could take as long as two years.

Graham may still decide to grant Gilbert a 60-day reprieve, the only remaining option for his release.

Gilbert was convicted in May of first-

degree murder. He twice shot his wife, Emily, after giving her a sedative. Mrs. Gilbert, 73, who had publicly begged for death, suffered from Alzheimer's disease, a progressive deterioration of the brain, and osteoporosis, a painful ailment that causes deterioration of bones.

Gilbert has said that "morally I had to do what I did."

"We have become a very selfish society in America," said Mrs. Tague. "We have the attitude that everything has to be perfect in our lives, and if it's not perfect we blame someone."

She added, "Mr. Gilbert has received so much sympathy. He had a wife who was no longer leading a useful life. He has said he felt desperate. It's clear he was burdened. In our society we don't want to be burdened."

"Ever since the abortion battle in the '60s started, we've always said that if you could kill a child in the womb, it's just the beginning of killing people after birth," said Thomas A. Horkan Jr., executive director of the Florida Catholic Conference.

Father Edward Bryce, director of the Office for Pro-Life Activities of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he feels that tolerance of abortion has lowered society's sensitivity to suffering.

"When you have a whole generation that has grown up with legalized abortion, they

see it as being as available as anything else," he said. "When society tolerates in principle and practice the destruction of human life for the sake of convenience, people become less sensitive, more callous to the demands of dependent human life, and the elderly who can't take care of themselves are certainly that."

Father Bryce added that he would never deny that there is pain in watching a loved

one suffer, but he said that such a situation requires "the sort of maturity that can look on the pain of someone and know that in time the pain will pass."

"In spite of the fact the person is calling out wanting relief and that in our love we say we'll do anything to take the pain away," there is no justification for Gilbert's action, Father Bryce added.

Northeast area residents

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message because organizers believed they could reach everyone that way. "We want to send a message to the community at large," Daichuk said.

To the neighbors not involved in drug trafficking, the message is "there is hope." On Kohlman Street, where the first march was held, five out of 20 houses were known as "heavy-duty dealing houses." Many of the others belong to families who keep their children inside out of fear. "We're providing support for those people so they don't have to hide in their houses," Daichuk said.

"If something like this is souring your neighborhood, you don't have to sit back and take it or move away. You plant your feet firmly on the ground and stand up to it."

To the dealers and those buying drugs in neighborhoods they visit, marchers want to say "this must stop."

"We know we're not going to eradicate drugs. It's big business. But we can put it back in the gutters where it belongs. We can prevent drive-up service and keep them from

being so brazen," Daichuk said. "The more uncomfortable we can make them, the better."

She added that many buyers are suburbanites who come into the city to buy drugs. "We're taking down license numbers ... and if this continues at some point we're going to use them," she said.

Bill Maune, a deacon at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, added that marchers have a message for addicts as well — that there are people and organizations that want to help them.

The dates and locations of the marches are not publicized until shortly beforehand to take the neighborhood by surprise and be more visible. Also people who live in the area of the march are not involved. "We don't want them to put themselves in any kind of jeopardy," Daichuk explained.

The coalition plans to continue the marches at the rate of several per month. They also plan to start a poster campaign. "I am extremely pleased at the dedication of these groups," Daichuk said. "They have a lot of courage to come out and march."

Mooney vice principal

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where he asked one boy to get out of the car. The boy said he refused to leave his friend and told the man to take them home. They eventually returned to the city, where they were released near the Village Gate Square on North Goodman Street. One of the boys ran to a nearby Burger King where he called his mother. She in turn called the police.

Brother Walsh was scheduled to undergo a mental examination this week and to appear in court again on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

The Brothers of the Holy Cross are an active-teaching order with approximately 19 members in Rochester. In conjunction with the Sisters of Mercy, the brothers run Cardinal Mooney High School at 800 Maid-

en Lane in Greece.

The local congregation belongs to the order's Eastern Province headquartered in New Rochelle. Overall, the province includes 177 professed brothers and runs seven high schools in the archdioceses of New York, Hartford and Washington, and the dioceses of Albany, Brooklyn, Fall River and Wilmington.

The congregation of the Holy Cross also includes orders of sisters and priests. A brother may make perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience at age 25 or older, after completing two or more years of community service.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



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St. Thomas Picnic Mass

A hayride, pony rides, food and fun of all kinds are planned at St. Thomas the Apostle Community Picnic Mass on Sunday, Sept. 8. All past and present parishioners are invited to come and help celebrate and give thanks for the new church roof.

The day's events will begin with Mass at 12:15 p.m., followed by the picnic at St. Paul Exempt, 690 Thomas Avenue, from 1-5 p.m. For more information, call (716)342-2323.

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