



THE COUNCIL TIMES

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In Memory of Cynthia Gayles Beloved Colleague and Friend

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The Colorado Council lost a dear friend and colleague last month. Cynthia Gayles will be remembered as a bright, beautiful soul with a sweet spirit, always eager to learn and help out.

She graduated from Machebeuf High School. Continuing her education at Colorado State University, she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies in 1987. Cynthia was attending the University of Denver in pursuit of her Masters Degree at the time of her death.

Cynthia started her professional career at the Aurora YMCA, as a Community Program Director from 1987-1990. She began her career in higher education at the Community College of Aurora in the Office of Student Support Services as an Academic Advisor from

1991 to 1996.

From 1996 to 2005, Cynthia worked as an Assistant Director and Senior Assistant Director of Admissions in the Office of Admissions at the University of Colorado at Boulder. In early 2005, Cynthia accepted the position of Associate Director of Admissions at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center.



Cynthia's dedication, diligence, and high energy made her well respected in her field. She traveled extensively, visiting many high schools and attending college fairs both locally and nationally. Cynthia will be re-

membered as exceptionally gifted in her ability to work with students from diverse backgrounds. As a skilled manager she planned, developed, and implemented programs, managed budgets and staff as well as counseled students.

For the past 16 years, her dedication to students motivating them to pursue higher education helped many realize their dreams of a better life.

Some of Cynthia's professional affiliations included: Colorado Council on High School/College Relations, Daniels and Boettcher Scholarships, Colorado Education Services and Development Association, and the National and Rocky Mountain Association of College Admission Counseling. We loved her and will miss her enthusiasm, dedication, and smile.

The CCHS/CR

- The Colorado Council on High School Relations (CCHS/CR) is a volunteer member organization comprised of colleges and high schools in Colorado that work together to coordinate college counseling activities. Learn more about us at coloradocouncil.org

This newsletter was created in October 2007 by the Colorado Council Public Relations Committee: Sandy Swaim, Colorado State University; Terry Ruch, Northeastern Community College, Mark Thompson, Pagosa Springs High School; David Dollins, Colorado State University.



Just Thinking Out Loud

By Mark Thompson, Counselor, Pagosa Springs High School & Colorado Council Secretary

In counseling school, our instructors told us that a good counselor took time to be reflective and self-aware, so instead of writing about the day-to-day workings, to which most of you reading this are privy, I will share some of my recent internal dialogue (although I must admit I read a cynic lately who asked, "What if the examined life is not worth living?"). As an observer of youth culture, my latest reflections and musings—certainly not while I am at school as there is no time; perhaps on the road to a CCHS/CR board meeting—concern a roadblock to self actualization our students come up against.

We have reared a society of self-referential artistes. Much like the circus tamer who realizes in his last few moments the cute cub is no tame lion (how dramatic!), we are realizing the youth culture we are mandated to oversee is headed for trouble. The students I encounter increasingly exhibit seven ideologies they live by: look good, feel good, be right, stay in control, have a

hidden agenda, take personal advantage, and remain undisturbed. Any student, or person of any age for that matter, who espouses these virtues as their guiding principles seems ordained to live a short, unhappy life (my apologies to Ernest Hemingway).

My challenge is to rout out the seven principles and endeavor to erect in my life a system of accountability, so that indeed I am part of the solution rather than the problem.

As a man of influence in the school community, what is my response? Primarily, I need to make sure my own house is in order. As one orator said, "Always preach, and if necessary, use words". Am I committed to community service? Do I have any place in my life where I give of my time, talent, and fi-

nances to those less fortunate? Are my beliefs and my lifestyle coherent and congruent? I have a wife and children. If I am bold enough, I am certain they can answer those three questions for me with certitude and conviction. My challenge is to rout out the seven principles and endeavor to erect in my life a system of accountability, so that indeed I am part of the solution rather than the problem.

"Always preach, and if necessary, use words."



Does this look like fun or what?



A council member enjoys the keynote speaker at last year's conference.

**You're invited to this year's
conference on
December 6 & 7
at the
Cheyenne Mountain Resort
in Colorado Springs!**

The Colorado Council on High School/College Relations will be having its annual two-day conference on December 6-7, 2007, at a new location at the elegant Cheyenne Mountain Resort.

Thirty sessions covering topics such as:

Pre-Conference Sessions for first and second year High School and College Representatives

How to Make the Most Out of Very Involved Parents

Roundtable with Governor Ritter's P-20 Council

Borderline Applications

The Art of Public Speaking

The Paradox of American Immigration Policy: Having your cake and eating it, too.

Keynote Speakers

Thursday: Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien

Friday: Mark McIntosh

Entertainment:

Casino Night

Hotel Rooms (Price good through Nov. 15):

Single Room: \$109 per night

Double Room: \$129 per night

Registration Fees (Early Bird rate Good through Nov. 15):

Thursday and Friday: \$100

Thursday or Friday Only: \$55

Additional Dinner Guest for Thursday evening: \$30

Special Conference Rate - Counseling Graduate Students:

Thursday and Friday: \$80

Thursday or Friday Only: \$45

