



The Fifty-ninth Annual

Conference on World Affairs

“MINDS AT PLAY”

HEADLINERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ramsay Thurber

Tel 303.492.2515

Fax 303.492.3934

E cwapress@colorado.edu

<http://www.colorado.edu/cwa>

***FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON WORLD AFFAIRS
ANNOUNCES HEADLINERS HARRY BELAFONTE, SENATOR JOE BIDEN,
PAUL KRUGMAN, AMBASSADOR JOE WILSON AND MORE***

BOULDER – The Fifty-ninth Annual Conference on World Affairs will be held **April 9-13, 2007** on the University of Colorado’s Boulder campus. The week’s broad array of panels, plenaries and performances are all free and open to the public. The full schedule of 220 events and biographies of over 100 prolific participants may be viewed online at www.colorado.edu/cwa

Middle-east expert **Judith Kipper** will kick off the week with a keynote address on “The Middle East in an Era of Transnational Threats” **Monday, April 9, 11:30 a.m.** in Macky Auditorium. Kipper is adviser for Middle East Programs and director of the Energy Security Group at the Council on Foreign Relations and a longtime consultant on international affairs for ABC News. She has testified before U.S. Senate and House committees on Middle East issues and is often quoted in major news outlets, including *BBC World Service* and *BBC World*.

Susan Love is featured on the plenary address “Breast Cancer” on **Tuesday, April 10, at 1 p.m.** in the UMC Center Ballroom. As president and medical director of the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation, she oversees an active research program centered on breast cancer prevention. She is a clinical professor of surgery at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine, founder and director of Windy Hill Medical, a breast cancer drug device company, and senior partner in LLuminari, a multimedia women’s health company. The fourth edition of *Dr. Susan Love’s Breast Book*, termed “the bible for women with breast cancer” by *The New York Times*, was released October 2005.

Rachel Maddow, popular host of Air America’s *The Rachel Maddow Show*, will deliver

the plenary address “Can America Take a Punch: Reactions and Overreactions to Terrorism” at **9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 11** in Macky Auditorium. Maddow’s background is in commercial radio and political activism. She has a doctorate in politics from Oxford University and a degree in public policy from Stanford.

Ambassador Joe Wilson will deliver a speech entitled “The Politics of Truth” at **9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 12** in Macky Auditorium. Wilson’s career in the U.S. Diplomatic Service (1976-1998) has been distinguished by numerous senior government appointments, including ambassador to Gabon and acting U.S. ambassador in Iraq throughout Operation Desert Storm. In a 2003 *New York Times*’ article, Wilson suggested that the Bush administration had exaggerated the threat of the Iraqi nuclear program. Soon after, the employment of his wife, CIA Operative Valerie Plame-Wilson, was revealed, leading Wilson to charge that White House officials leaked his wife’s covert identity as retaliation for his *New York Times* article. This allegation has led to an investigation into possible violations of the Intelligence Identities Protection Act, in addition to sparking a running debate regarding journalism ethics. His best-selling book *The Politics of Truth* chronicles this chain of events.

Later that day, celebrated actor, composer, producer, singer, and author **Harry Belafonte** will share memories and observations about his “Life in the Arts” on **Thursday at 1 p.m.** in Macky Auditorium. Highlights of his career include becoming the first artist in industry history to sell over one million LP’s with the album *Calypso*; winning the coveted Tony with his first Broadway appearance in *John Murray Anderson’s Almanac*; and as the first black producer in television, winning his first Emmy for the CBS production of *An Evening With Belafonte*. A close friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Belafonte’s career has been marked by his commitment to the global struggle for freedom and civil and human rights. He worked to end the oppressive apartheid government of South Africa and obtain the release of his friend, Nelson Mandela. Disturbed by the war, famine, and drought in Africa, Belafonte set in motion the wheels that led to *We Are the World*. He also helped guide and direct the project known as USA for Africa. In 1987, Belafonte was appointed UNICEF goodwill ambassador.

Senator Tim Wirth returns to Boulder to deliver the Walter Orr Roberts Distinguished Lecture “Global Climate Change: From Challenge to Opportunity” on **Friday, April 13 at Noon** in Macky Auditorium. This lecture is in partnership between University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR). Wirth, after representing Colorado for two decades in both the U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate, is now president of the United Nations Foundation and Better World Fund in Washington, D.C.

Directly following in Macky Auditorium at **1 p.m. on Friday** will be chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee **Senator Joe Biden** delivering the plenary address “America’s Interests, Iraq’s Future.” Biden was first elected to the United States Senate in 1972 at the age of 29. He is recognized as one of the nation’s most powerful and influential voices on foreign relations, terrorism, drug policy, and crime prevention.

The New York Times op-ed columnist and best-selling author **Paul Krugman** will deliver the CWA's closing session, The Molly Ivins Freedom Fightin' Memorial Plenary, entitled "In Front of Your Nose" on Friday at 2:30 p.m. in Macky Auditorium. Krugman is the author or editor of 20 books and more than 200 professional journal articles and is professor of economics and international affairs at Princeton University. He is also the Centenary Professor at the London School of Economics.

Immediately following the Krugman speech will be a "Moment NOT of Silence" in honor of the late journalist Molly Ivins, who was a frequent participant in the CWA over the last 25 years. Audience members are encouraged to bring pots and pans to bang, as suggested by Ivins in her final column (January 2007).

The University of Colorado's Conference on World Affairs was founded in 1948, originally as a forum on international affairs. CWA expanded rapidly to encompass music, literature, environment, science, journalism, visual arts, diplomacy, technology, spirituality, film, politics, business, medicine, human rights and so on.

Every year in April approximately 100 participants representing a wide range of expertise gather in Boulder for what *The New York Times* calls "a week-long extravaganza of discussion and debate" on over 200 non-academic, cross-disciplinary panels, plenary sessions and performances.

The Conference challenges its participants to discuss a wide-range of issues on an impromptu basis—offering a refreshing alternative to the specialized gatherings of academia and the business world. According to columnist Molly Ivins, CWA panels offer "astonishing, cross-disciplinary insights, whole new ways of looking at old questions and information that can transform the way you look at things." Ebert, who has made the annual trek to Boulder in April as a participant for 37 years, dubbed the CWA the "Conference on Everything Conceivable."

Past participants include Studs Terkel, Simon Hoggart, Andrei Codrescu, R. E. "Ted" Turner, Steve Allen, Paolo Soleri, Yitzhak Rabin, Ralph Nader, Norman Cousins, Henry Kissinger, Arthur Miller, Howard Nemerov, R. Buckminster Fuller, George McGovern and Eleanor Roosevelt.

For further information, contact Ramsay Thurber at 303.635.0482, or email the Conference on World Affairs at cwapress@colorado.edu . The full CWA schedule is available online at www.colorado.edu/cwa

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