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The University of Dayton

News Release

FALL DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES SLATED

DAYTON, Ohio, October 28, 1985 -- The topic "What It Means to Be American" will be addressed through lectures and a panel discussion during the University of Dayton's Distinguished Speakers Series in November. All events are open to the public and are free of charge.

John Nicolopoulos, a Russian history specialist and foreign correspondent for Greek newspapers and magazines, will begin the series on Tuesday, November 5. His lecture on "How Americans are Perceived in Moscow and Athens" will be at 7 p.m. in the Kennedy Union West Ballroom.

On November 13, a keynoter Garry Wills will speak on the theme of the series, "What It Means to Be American" at 8 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom. Wills is the author of 14 books and has lectured at many prestigious institutions including Northwestern University, John Hopkins University and Princeton.

Chaminade High School graduate Edward Mechenbier will lecture on "Americans, War and Nuclear Weapons" at 1 p.m., Wednesday, November 20, in Kennedy Union 222. Mechenbier, currently the Director of Manned Weapons Systems for the Fairchild Republic Company of Farmingdale, New York, was shot down while serving in Vietnam and spent six years as a prisoner of war. He has since been decorated with numerous military honors.

The final event in the series will be a panel discussion moderated by the Honorable Judge George Gournaris at noon, Thursday, November 21 in the Kennedy

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Union Art Gallery. Topic for the discussion will be "American By Choice."

Gournaris, a life-long Dayton-area resident, presides over the probate division of the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court.

For more information about the speakers or the series itself call the University Communications Office or Marcia Baumbarger at 229-4114.

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NOTE: A press announcement was previously released on just the keynote speaker, Wills, on October 11. Additional copies of that release are available at University Communications.