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Fred Francis, NBC News correspondent and embedded reporter, will open Convocations Series

Summary:

(August 25, 2003)-"NBC News" correspondent and embedded reporter, Fred Francis, will open the annual Convocations Series September 29 at the University of Minnesota, Morris.

Three months before the war with Iraq, the CIA and U.S. Special Forces began secretly moving its agents into that country. So did "NBC News." Francis, senior correspondent for "NBC News," in January 2003 slipped into Northern Iraq with a five-person crew. By the time the war began, Francis had assembled a news team of 15 journalists and technicians, backed up by 20 others, including armed guards, drivers and translators.

For most of his 28 years with "NBC News," Francis has focused on national security, military and diplomatic issues, primarily for the "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw." He was NBC's principal reporter during the 1991 Gulf War, often breaking developments on an exclusive basis from his post at the Pentagon, where he served the network for eight years. Earlier in his NBC career, he served as correspondent in Latin America, Central Europe and the U.S. State Department.

Francis has twice won a national news Emmy Award for his reporting and he has also received the coveted Columbia-Dupont award.

Unless otherwise noted, all convocations, free and open to the public, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium of the UMM Student Center.

Mark your calendars for the remainder of this year's CAC Convocations offerings.:

Monday, September 29 - Fred Francis - embedded reporter
"Did we win the war in Iraq and are we winning peace in the Middle East?"

Monday, October 27 - Coleen Rowley - FBI whistle-blower
"Doing the Right Thing at all Cost...Ethical Decision Making"

Tuesday, January 20, 04 - Randall Kennedy - Black History Month
Speaker...author of "Nigger"

Tuesday, Feb 24 - Jean Kilbourne - Women's Week speaker
"Deadly Persuasion: Advertising & Addiction"

Monday, March 22 - Chris Eyre - Keynote for the annual World Touch Cultural Heritage Week
"From Smoke Signals to Skins"

The Convocations Series is sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Convocations Committee at UMM. The views expressed by the visiting speakers of the series do not necessarily reflect the views of the regents of the University of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, Morris students, staff or faculty, or the UMM Convocations Committee.

For further information, contact CAC Convocations, Office of Student Activities, (320) 589-6080.

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