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**EDUCATION**

# Cheney says he'll speak at graduation

Choice irks CC anti-war protesters

By Joel Millman  
Gazette Telegraph

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney has accepted an invitation to speak at Colorado College's commencement May 13.

Whether the defense secretary attends, though, depends on the progress of the Persian Gulf war.

"Dick Cheney has been invited and has accepted," Colorado College spokesman Joe Barber said Friday. "There is, of course, the possibility that if the Middle East crisis isn't resolved by then, his plans could change."

Cheney was the senior class's first choice as keynote speaker at graduation ceremonies. The second choice was environmentalist and renowned chimpanzee researcher Jane Goodall, who will be the baccalaureate speaker.

Cheney's daughter is a member of the graduating class. His wife, Lynne, graduated from the liberal arts school in 1963 and was commencement speaker in 1987.

His selection as commencement speaker angered students protesting the war



Cheney has daughter in senior class.

against Iraq, but it was hailed by a longtime faculty member as a coup for the school.

"I'm disappointed," said Diane Horowitz, a CC student and a member of College Citizens Active for Peace. "I feel there are more worthwhile people who I would have been proud to

have as a speaker at graduation. If he comes here, he's going to hear from me and others."

But William Hochman, history professor and dean of summer session, said Cheney shouldn't be rejected or prevented from speaking just because some students disagree with his views.

"Having someone intimately involved in contemporary affairs is very desirable for the college," Hochman said. "This college is committed to freedom of expression of all different points of view, and it is incumbent on the college to maintain an open forum.

"It could result in protests, but as long as the protests are peaceful and don't disrupt the ceremony, that's perfectly appropriate also."