

Havel's 'sainthood'



The outpouring of emotion surrounding the death of Václav Havel has several origins, the biggest of which is the simple fact that he was widely loved and admired. It's also partly a reaction to the times we live in, when there are so few people we can hold up as heroes. Politically, there's a discernible effort on the part of the "Havel camp" - this term will likely be in use for years to come - to build up the posthumous image of Havel as a defense against the enemy, often categorized as the "Klaus camp." The name of a saint can easily be invoked to condemn anything a sinner on earth might embark upon. This new situation puts the Klaus camp in a difficult position. Jiří Pehe, who worked for Havel, stated on [Czech Radio](#) yesterday that Havel's harsh Rudolfinum speech in 1997 was a mistake, because Klaus was able to take advantage of it. The tables are now turned. Whatever political advantage the Klaus camp might gain from Havel's death is burdened by the possibility that its statements or actions will be seen to dishonor the Havel "sainthood."



AUGUSTINE HOTEL
PRAGUE

'Tis the season to
celebrate

The Augustine Hotel is celebrating the holiday season unlike any other! Hold your Christmas party, dinner or reception in the Augustine's Christmas oasis, or come by to see Bořek Šípek's one-of-a-kind Bohemian crystal Christmas Tree. You can be sure it is worth a visit over the holiday season.

Have a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year

TEL: +420 266 112 233
EMAIL info.augustine@roccofortehotels.com