There’s no debate here: Frappier loves it

Many of his friends must wonder why Glen Frappier chose the profession he did, and why he works the schedule he does. Surely, there’s an easier way to make a living.

But his 40,000 miles of travel this year and his long weekends (er, what weekends?) are no match for Frappier’s love for competitive debate. “Unfortunately, I’ve had a love for debate since I was 13 and it still has a grip on me,” said Gonzaga’s sixth-year debate coach. “My girlfriend would certainly like to see me in a more traditional teaching role.”

Frappier’s not about to abandon his perch atop one of the elite college teams in the nation. Gonzaga consistently has been ranked among the top 20 teams in the country during Frappier’s tenure.

The collegiate debate season officially begins in September and runs through April … those basketball coaches have it easy! The Gonzaga debate team travels to 12-to-15 tournaments a year, criss-crossing the country from Wake Forest to Pepperdine, Kentucky to Southern California, Catholic University of America to Northwestern to Oregon (not necessarily in that order). They just returned last week from a 17-hour bus ride to University of California, Berkeley. He also serves on the governing committee of the National Debate Tournament which requires travel.

Air Frappier. Well, at least he gets his summers off, right? Naught.

The Gonzaga Debate Institute has grown into one of the top three summer institutes on the West Coast. It lasts four weeks. Over Christmas break, Frappier and the debate team stage the annual Conway Classic High School Forensics Tournament. He also oversees the work of his scholarshipped debaters, who each are required to serve as volunteer assistants at area high school programs.

That’s on top of the extensive research the debaters are constantly conducting to keep current on their debate topics. “Studies have shown that the average national level college debater completes the equivalent of a master’s thesis worth of original research … each semester,” Frappier said.

And if the team ever needs a sponsor, No Doz would be a good prospect.

Clearing up a media mess: GU pro-life proponent

The furor over a national story that “Gonzaga University” had denied recognition to a group of law school students requesting funding for a pro-life club seems to have subsided. But not before it created more than 100 angry responses to the University and a lot of bad press.

Last fall the law school pro-life group sought funding from the Student Bar Association to promote its activities. After much consideration, the SBA denied funding because of a clause in its handbook that states that all activities funded by SBA must be open to participation by all law school students. In its bylaws, the pro-life group mandated that leadership in their group be confined to Christians only. Because the participation by non-Christian students was then limited, SBA could not fund the group based upon its own policy.

Readers across the country read that as “Gonzaga not supporting the pro-life movement,” and became enraged.

The Gonzaga Student Body Association funds the GU Right to Life Club, and President Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., is an avid spokesman for the movement.
Heads Up Gonzaga focuses on workload overload and motivation

Heads Up Gonzaga, an annual half-day staff professional development workshop, will focus on workload overload and how we can empower ourselves to overcome related stresses, and keys to motivating ourselves in our often-hectic work lives for the good of ourselves and our institution.

The event is scheduled Feb. 19, beginning at 8 a.m. in the new Globe Room at Cataldo Hall. This event is sponsored by the Staff Assembly. Faculty are welcome to attend. The day’s itinerary follows:

8 a.m. – Coffee, juice, donuts and muffins
8:30 – Welcome, invocation, ice breaker
8:45 – Introductory comments by Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J.

Architects on Zag band wagon

ALSC Architects will use food items to construct a model of Gonzaga’s new arena in the lobby of Riverpark Square as part of a Spokane business competition called SpoKanstruction 2004. Food used to build models will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

ALSC, architects on Gonzaga’s arena project, picked “Go Zags” as the theme for their model. They plan to show the interior design of the new arena, complete with cutouts of great Zags in action.

Construction will take place Feb. 20-21, and the exhibits will remain on display until March 10.

Rice Gonzaga’s newest Fulbright Scholar

Thomas ‘Speedy’ Rice is completing a term as Fulbright Scholar at University of Montenegro. The former director of the Gonzaga Law School’s Externship Program, is one of about 800 U.S. faculty members and professionals who have traveled to some 140 countries as Fulbright Scholars this academic year to teach overseas. His topic of concentration is international human rights.
New Hires:
Susan Handwerk, secretary, Student Life; Colleen Robinson, administrative secretary I, School of Education.

Goodbyes:
Joan Hatfield, director, Fitness Center; Glenda Reimer, associate professor, Nursing; Mark Santow, assistant professor, History; Kelley Spink, program coordinator, Organizational Leadership; Alina Selzer, counselor, Career Center; Chris Sheehan, assistant baseball coach, Athletics; Alexander Zhelez, custodian, Plant Services.

NOTE: Linda Pierce is on sabbatical. The January issue of Spirit listed her as ending employment at Gonzaga.

Promotions/New Assignments:
Senad Avdic, from custodian in training to custodian I, Plant Services; Darryl McLeod, from custodian lead in training to custodial lead I, Plant Services; David Myers, from custodial specialist in training to custodial specialist III, Plant Services; Bryan Putnam, from plumber in training to plumber I, Plant Services; Nihad Suljic, from custodian I to custodian II, Plant Services.

Anniversaries:
35 Joan Allbery, director, Central Computing Network Support Services
25 Lynn Wells, administrative secretary II, Alumni

Cradle Call:
Elvedin "Dino" Alimanovic, custodian, Plant Services, and wife Jasmina are the parents of Elma. Born Jan. 1, she was 6 lbs 8 oz and 19 inches long; David Calhoun, associate professor, Philosophy, and wife Sharon are the parents of Heather. Born Dec. 19, she was 9 lbs 1 oz and 19 inches long; Ron Stephenson, custodian, Plant Services, and wife Jennifer are the parents of Jenna Ruby. Born Dec. 1, she was 7 lbs. 8 oz and 20 inches long; Shannon Stiles, women’s soccer head coach, Athletics, and husband Chris are the parents of Kylie Abigail. Born Jan. 8, she was 7 lbs 15 oz and 21 inches long; Sergey Tsyukalo, painter, Plant Services, and wife Anna are the parents of Nellie Sergeyna. Born Dec. 30 she was 9 lbs and 20 inches long.

This slipper fits
Gonzaga Trustee Mike Patterson called last month to report that Gonzaga “has arrived”. He was at Nordstroms in Seattle and they were selling men’s slippers with the Gonzaga Bulldog on them right next to the University of Washington slippers. “And they weren’t glass either,” he reports.

FOCUS on… School of Professional Studies
The School of Professional Studies was added in 1975, the last school to be added at Gonzaga. Its programs focus on health, leadership and service to the University through the department of Continuing Education, Summer Session and Distance Learning.

Mary McFarland, registered nurse, nurse educator and professor, is dean of the school. She came in 1998, and the School has expanded tremendously under her leadership. Her doctoral dissertation in Gonzaga’s leadership studies program was visionary leadership. Here’s a brief look at the School of Professional Studies:

612 students enrolled this spring
28 faculty
13 staff

Majors include:
• Bachelor’s in General Studies/30 concentrations; Leadership/Accelerated Bachelor’s of General Studies;
• Comprehensive Leadership program (undergraduate); Master’s in Organizational Leadership; Master’s in Communication & Leadership; Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership Studies; Pre-nursing: Bachelor’s in Nursing; R.N.-to-Master of Science in Nursing; Post Master’s Certification for Family Nurse Practitioner; Bachelor’s of Science in Exercise Science.
• Associate Professor Sandi Wilson and Program Coordinator Virginia Killingbeck, both in the Doctor of Leadership Studies Program, have served Gonzaga for 21 years.
• Doctoral dissertations by Gonzaga students have received national honors/awards.
• Nursing graduate students provide health care to underserved communities in the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

The School caters to adult students who return to finish the bachelor’s degree, providing a welcoming environment and excellent academic offering to this group of non-traditional age students.
Through distance learning, the School has developed a new online program for the Master’s in Organizational Leadership program. In nursing, distance education delivery is migrating from VHS to online and DVD.
Active participation in JesuitNet.
JesuitNet is a partnership among 25 Jesuit universities to provide a national presence for online and distance education.
Initiated Early Innovators—an interdisciplinary group of faculty and staff who learn together strategies for teaching excellence using technology.
Offering online certificate in Servant Leadership in alignment with the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership.
The new Master’s in Communication and Leadership will begin in fall 2004.
Has established community network with numerous businesses and organizations, especially related to leadership development.
Renaissance Center for Leadership—CEO Institute provides learning and networking opportunities for CEOs.
Gonzaga alumni love their alma mater, but are generally not engaged and do not rank GU as a top giving priority.

That’s a generalization, but seems to be the bottom line according to research conducted by Kane Parsons and Associates for the University last summer.

Of the 813 undergraduate alumni surveyed, nearly half said they were extremely loyal to the University, and another third said they were fairly loyal. More than 80 percent said they would choose Gonzaga for their children. But only 6 percent described themselves as very active, and 55 percent characterized themselves as inactive with their alma mater.

“Perhaps most surprising is that only 10 percent ranked Gonzaga as a top giving priority,” said Tom Sternal, president of Generation/Jan Krukowski and Company, a marketing firm from New York that has helped Gonzaga develop a marketing vision. “This figure is low compared to other like universities, and especially considering the high level of loyalty.”

Sternal said Gonzaga’s alumni loyalty is the best he has seen, having worked with a number of universities across the country. Sternal met with the staff of University Relations in mid-January to help determine next steps in development of an alumni marketing strategy.

Two main areas were identified. First, Gonzaga must begin to instill in its students the idea that giving back to the University is a way to keep their alma mater progressing. It’s important for all alumni to know that the cost of educating students continues to rise. Second, the University needs to find more ways to engage its alumni. Studies have shown that alumni who are more involved in their alma maters have a greater tendency to give back.

Survey results show that alumni could see themselves getting involved in an network of other alumni in their professional fields (26 percent), in attending professional development sessions staged by Gonzaga faculty (23 percent), and participating in local alumni chapter events (22 percent). Fourteen percent said they are already involved in the Gonzaga Alumni Mentor Program.

Sternal recommended four initiatives: 1. create an outcomes publications that chronicles alumni achievement for use by alumni relations, development and admissions; 2. create a case for financial support of Gonzaga, highlighting the economic realities confronting a major national university; 3. develop new networking and professional development opportunities for alumni; and 4. profile the accomplishments of alumni, students and faculty which reinforce the excellence that is Gonzaga.

The University Relations staff has begun developing their own set of initiatives to better engage Gonzaga alumni, and convince them that the University needs their financial support to help its students help others in need.

Engagement may be key to alumni giving; loyalty high

It’s not too late to get ZAGFit

It’s not too late, reports Julie Borup, chair of the Wellness Committee. Gonzaga faculty and staff can still get ZAGFit, and qualify for prizes in so doing.

There are four components that must be met by May 31 to qualify:
1. take the YouFirst Health Risk Assessment online at www.gonzaga.edu/wellness
2. meet with a trainer in the Rudolf Fitness Center for individual counseling and goal setting
3. be smoke-free, or make a commitment to become smoke-free
4. attend three Wellness Committee-sponsored sessions before May 31. Upcoming one-hour sessions include presentations on diabetes, heart disease and stress.

The HRA assessment can be done anytime before May 31. The fitness counseling requires an initial visit before May 31, and a three-month followup visit. Those individuals who are not smoke-free must be smoke free for a minimum of three months before the end of the program, and must have attended the tobacco cessation class.

Stay tuned for more information on Walking Works, a program that will tip off Feb. 18 and offers $20 pedometers for just $3 for all participants. It replaces Walkablockalot. Check the Wellness Committee Web site for information on fitness class schedules and brown bag lunch presentations.

“The ZAGFit program for this year has concentrated on making our community aware of the resources we have available,” said Debbie Cerenzia, associate Human Resources director for safety and benefits. “Next year we’ll introduce a new focus. If we can keep our people healthy, we’ll keep medical insurance premium costs at bay, and everyone wins.”

Big event planned for last night in the Kennel

Every men’s basketball player who has played in the Kennel over the past 39 years has been invited back to the Kennel for the final home game there, Feb. 28 vs. Santa Clara. Aaron Hill, director of marketing and promotions for the Athletic Department, reports that more than 70 RSVPs have come back positive. A halftime ceremony will honor the 39 years of “Glory Days” in the Kennel, and serve as a launching pad into the new, bigger, louder Kennel, which will come on line next season. The evening will also feature a tribute to “The Greatest Moment in Kennel History,” which will be determined by fan voting on the GoZags Web site.

GU ranks high in Peace Corps volunteers

Gonzaga again ranks among the top 25 small colleges and universities (under 5,000 undergraduate students) for producing Peace Corps volunteers. Gonzaga’s 19 current volunteers rank Gonzaga 18th overall. The Peace Corps serves people in underdeveloped countries worldwide.