Engineering angel came out of nowhere, bought into Gonzaga, thanks to the kind-heartedness of Dacquisto, Martz

When engineering Instructor John Dacquisto ran into a new face in the halls at Herak Center earlier this year, he was polite and asked how he might help. She began to riddle him with questions about engineering and the program here. She asked about lab needs, and how much it would cost to upgrade equipment. She was not an alumna and had no specific connection to Gonzaga’s School of Engineering, but she had an affinity for engineering education. She knew the lingo. Her father never had formal engineering training, but throughout his career he was always building something, or fixing something when it malfunctioned. She told Dacquisto she’d get back to him.

Then she ran into engineering machinist Ed Martz, who told her about additional equipment the department sorely needed.

This fall the woman, who asked to remain anonymous, made an inaugural $6,000 cash gift for a precision and mill sharpener, and an expandable tool sharpener, which will be housed in the machine shop in Herak, accessible for lab and project work. In her will, she has declared that $500,000 will be given to Gonzaga to establish an endowment for the future purchase of equipment. “It’s amazing to think that kindness resulted in a $500,000 endowment and a $6,000 cash gift,” said Assistant Director of Planned Giving Annette Davis.

“John recognized you never know what’s going on in their life, but it is the right thing to give respect to anyone who shows care and concern for Gonzaga University,” Davis said. “We never know who these people are who come in unannounced, and the way they are treated means a lot to them. That’s Gonzaga. We’re all part of the same team here.”

UPDATE: Enrollment exceeds 6,100

Gonzaga’s fall enrollment will settle in around 6,128 when all the heads are finally counted, said Associate Academic Vice President Jolanta Kozyra. Of those, 4,115 are undergraduate students, 1,230 are master’s graduate students, 123 are doctoral students, 622 are law students and 38 are enrolled in non-credit programs.

The incoming freshman class of 972 students boasts an average high school grade point average of 3.63, and an average SAT score of 1,175. Women in the new class outnumber men 523 to 449. This class has 14.6 percent self-identified ethnic minority students, compared to 14.66 in the 2003 freshman class, 12.88 in the 2002 freshman class and 13.39 in the 2001 freshman class. Almost 46 percent of the new freshmen are from Washington, 12.45 percent from California and 11.32 percent from Oregon. The next most frequent states freshmen hail from are Montana (5.45), Idaho (4.22), Colorado (3.40), Arizona (2.78), Nevada (2.47), Hawaii (2.37) and Minnesota (1.65).
Fall Family Weekend 

busting at the seams in attendance, activities

Fall Family Weekend is expected to bring nearly 800 families to campus Oct. 22-24 for this eighth annual event. Parents and family members may visit classes on Friday, attend the Autumn Gala on Friday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Foley Center (all faculty and staff are invited to this festive social which includes music, hors d’oeuvres and beverages), and partake of “Dead Man Walking” in Russell Theatre, a volleyball match in the Martin Centre, or a choral concert in St. Al’s that evening.

Faculty will teach demonstration classes Saturday from 9 a.m.-noon. Visitors, faculty and staff are invited to the McCarthey Athletic Center dedication Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Advance free-ticket pickup is required (more information coming later). The Jesuit Community will hold an open house from 2:30-4:30 p.m. A complete list of activities is available at www.gonzaga.edu/ffw. For more information, contact Susie Prusch, coordinator of special university events, at ext. 5571.

In search of Java

Sodexho offers five campus sites to get your coffee fix.

- Law School Café Latte
- Espresso Station at Jazzman’s in Foley Library (no lines)
- Crosby Café (features Starbucks’ Coffee)
- Admin Buzz (Ad 137), fair-trade (Seattle’s Best) coffee, drip and espresso (fair trade coffee means that the coffee company deals directly with the farmer rather than a middle person to give the best deal to the farmer).
- Jazzman’s in Cataldo Hall

Building Community

Gonzaga pitching in to build Habitat housing, volunteers sought

Have you ever driven by a new house going up and think what fun it would be to build something like that? Gonzaga faculty, staff, students, parents and alumni are committed to helping Habitat For Humanity build a series of five duplexes in the neighborhood, at Boone and Medelia just south of Stevens School, Oct. 11-16. These duplexes will serve low-income but self-reliant Spokane families who will be sharing their own “sweat equity” in the project.

Project organizer Marcia Bertholf, Gonzaga’s assistant to the chief information officer, has established a series of 3.5-hour shifts that people may work, from 8:30 a.m.-noon, or 12:30-4 p.m. Site supervisors will hold 10-minute introductory meetings before each shift, then put you to work.

Volunteers are asked to dress appropriately, and to bring gloves, a hammer, safety glasses and a tape measure, if you have them. No open-toed shoes. At least 20 volunteers are needed each shift, Bertholf said. For staff members, the University’s community service half-day benefit many be used, allowing you a half-day paid for performing a service. Sodexho is springing for a barbecue back on campus on Oct. 16, and everyone who participated is welcome.

To register for a shift, contact Bertholf at ext. 3836, or by e-mail at bertholf@its.gonzaga.edu.

Here’s how Habitat For Humanity works. HFH identifies low-income but self-reliant families in need of adequate housing. They organize volunteer work crews to complete the houses. HFH retains ownership of the house, then sells the completed home to the families, and the new homeowners repay Habitat for the cost of the home, without interest, over a 20-year term. HFH has built 136 homes in Spokane since its inception in 1986.

Here’s just a glimpse at one of the families Gonzaga volunteers will be helping. “Neclerc and Sonia Chery moved to Spokane from Haiti,” said Michone Preston (Gonzaga ’92), executive director of HFH. “Neclerc moved nearly 10 years ago, and then in early 2003 sent for his wife and their three children (Michelet, 16; Joshua, 3; and Melvyn, 4 months). A fourth child, Nayika, will be joining the family soon. “They all live in a studio apartment. The floors are worn and covered with mildew,” Preston said. “Lack of insulation and poor construction results in cold rooms and high utility bills. The kitchen’s electrical systems are poorly wired and dangerous. Everyone sleeps on the floor in the open room with no privacy. Neclerc and Sonia are working very hard to bring their family together in a simple, decent and affordable home.”

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR MIKE RENES, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CIO MARCIA BERTHOLF, AND ASSISTANT ALUMNI DIRECTOR TREVOR WERTTEMBERGER READY TO CHIP IN ON GONZAGA-HABITAT PROJECT.
New Hires:
Leslie Aldrich, assistant director, Fitness Center; Melanie Aquino, counselor, Counseling Center; Molly Ayers, service learning coordinator, CCASL; Nita Brockie, legal receptionist, Law School Clinical Law; Paul Brown, director of annual giving, Athletics; Sally Deager, RN, Health Center; Dan Evans, assistant baseball coach, Athletics; Elizabeth Cole, coordinator spirit programs, University Ministry; Leif Forrest, multimedia and distance education specialist, ITSS; David James (DJ) Gurule, head women's tennis coach, Athletics; Jim Jones, IT asset manager, CCNSS; Kassia Kain, leadership program coordinator Organizational Leadership; Alison Keck, assistant ticket manager, Athletics; Rodger Lake, assistant director of field experience, School of Education; Joel Morgan, assistant athletic director for facilities; Fr. George Morris, S.J., spiritual director, University Ministry; Sarah Sharp, student faith activities coordinator, University Ministry; Jenna Wysong, program assistant II, Admission.

Goodbyes:
John Leveile, assistant professor, Sociology; Patricia Longie, legal receptionist, Law School Clinical Law; Patricia Moss, assistant director, ISP; Yolanda Nelson, housekeeper, Jesuit House; Berlinda Nortcraft, custodian lead III, Plant Services; Ty Shields, custodian in training, Plant Services; Keith Smeltzer, mail service clerk, Plant Services; Mark Watry, assistant professor, Chemistry.

Promotions/New Assignments:
Jeff Amann, from working maintenance supervisor II to working maintenance supervisor III, Plant Services; Patti Buller, from program coordinator to program specialist, Sports and Physical Education; Brian Dunlap, from assistant director of field experience to community liaison, School of Education; Mary Faridnia, from assessment coordinator to director of assessment & data, School of Education; Morgen Flowers, from residential judicial officer to resident hall specialist, Housing; Matt Gerdes, from officer to lead officer, Security; Timothy Hatcher, from groundskeeper lead to working groundskeeper supervisor, Plant Services; Garrin Hertel, from custodian II, Plant Services, to client services assistant, Registrar’s Office; Jeanette Higginbotham, from temporary custodian to custodian I, Plant Services; Anjela Mertens, from weekend assistant to library tech III, Foley; Jackie Perron, from custodian III to custodian IV, Plant Services; Jinny Piskel, from grad programs specialist to grad programs specialist for Marketing, School of Business; Kelli Piper, from program assistant III, Organizational Leadership to academic records evaluator, Admissions; Forrest Robinson, from temporary custodian to custodian in training, Plant Services; Sharon Sewell, from client service assistant to academic credential evaluator, Registrar’s Office; John Tlibbett, from custodian in training to custodian I, Plant Services.

Anniversaries:
25 Dwight Smith, lead officer, Security.
20 Keith Gauthier, maintenance working supervisor, Plant Services.
15 Karin Kobenstein, buyer IV, Plant Services.
5 Jason Kissinger, custodian specialist II, Plant Services.

Cradle Call:
Peggy Sue Loroz, assistant professor, Marketing, and husband Michael are the parents of Marie Alida. Born August 26, she was 6 lbs 15 oz and 18 ½ inches long.

Promotions/New Assignments:

Sister Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man Walking and recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Gonzaga University, has made Gonzaga one of about 14 Jesuit colleges and universities in the country that will produce her story on stage.

Academy-Award winning actor and director Tim Robbins wrote the stage play, which focuses on the issue of capital punishment. The true story is about Sister Prejean and her relationship with death row inmate Matthew Poncelet, and the trials and pain associated with the death penalty.

Due to the high amount of interest in this production and the fact that many GU professors are integrating the production into their courses, two additional performances are scheduled.

“Dead Man Walking” will play Oct. 22, 23, 29, 30, Nov. 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m.; and Oct. 23 and 31 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $8 for faculty/staff, $6 for students, and $10 for the general public.

Berrry said a record number of actors and actresses (89) tried out for 40 roles in this play. Adjunct Instructor Janis Waley is directing the show. Associate Professor John Hofland is designing the set. Adjunct Instructor Summer Berry is designing the costumes. Gonzaga will be among the first few colleges and universities in the country to stage “Dead Man Walking.”

“The Theater Department is planning Talk Back sessions immediately following the presentation of each night and afternoon performance. This will allow the audience to gain greater depth of information and to discuss their reactions to this powerful production,” Berry said.

The theater staff also is very excited about “Zink: the Myth, the Legend, the Zebra” by Cherri Bennett, which will be performed Jan. 28, 29, Feb. 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m.; and Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 at 2 p.m.

Pandini’s stirring the palate, opening Oct. 6

The long-awaited arrival of Gonzaga’s Italian restaurant, Pandini’s, will come to pass on Wednesday, Oct. 6 when the state-of-the-art pizza oven fires up for the first time. Pandini’s, in Cataldo Hall, will be open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and from 4:30-11 p.m. (closed weekends).

Pizzas, calzones, salads, sandwiches, stromboli and pastas will offer diners a breadth of choices in the robust dining room that radiates vibrant colors throughout. Three different television sets will feature programming of the day, from sporting events to soap operas. The fireplace remains a centerpiece of the fancifully decorated room.

The upscale oven can cook up to 300 pizzas per hour, said Sodexo General Manager Gary Coyle. Here’s a look at the fare:

- 10-inch pizzas, ranging from cheese and pepperoni to buffalo chicken, prices range from $4-$6.
- Calzones – ham & cheese or veggie, both under $5.
- Stromboli from $3.89-$4.79.
- Labretti sandwich – 10-inch pizza dough folded in half to make either a grilled chicken caesar or ultimate ranch BLT, $5.29-$6.
- Other sandwiches, either meatball or tuna focaccia, $5.29-$6.
- Pastas – fettuccini Alfredo chicken, baked three-cheese tortellini, or ravioli with tomato sauce, from $5.59-$6.29.
- Salads – fire-roasted chicken caesar or chopped antipasto, mid-$5.

Meals may be purchased with Bulldog Bucks, available in Sodexo’s main office on the third floor of the COG, or with cash.

Focus On... Theatres with serious thump

From ‘Dead Man Walking’ to ‘Zink the Zebra,’ messages are profound

In Zink, 10-year-old Becky Zaslow has leukemia, and everyone has begun treating her differently. She begins to despair, until three zany zebras invite her on a trip to their fantasy jungle home. There she finds Zink, a beautiful zebra who has spots instead of stripes. Through their friendship, Becky learns to live as Zink lived, discovering the power of her uniqueness and the unbeatable spirit of her own heart.

Several outside groups will be partnering with Gonzaga to provide assistance to children with cancer. Berry said. Girls Scouts, Inland Northwest Candlelighters and Up ‘til Dawn at St. Jude’s Children Research Hospital are examples. Ann Wolf, assistant professor of education, and her students are creating an educational packet for distribution to area elementary school students which will include lessons and activities on diversity, cancer, Africa and self-esteem.

Assistant Professor Kevin Bradshaw has initiated conversations with Gonzaga’s military science department about the possibility of creating a readers theater show based upon the letters written by Gonzaga alumni serving in Iraq.

This show would tentatively play in fall 2005.

Kevin Bradshaw, Summer Berry and John Hofland
Living the mission, students contributed 100,000 hours of service last year

Community service by students has come a long way since Sima Thorpe came to Gonzaga in August of 1994. Thorpe, the director of the Center for Community Action and Service Learning (CCASL), recalls that when she arrived the University did not keep statistics on students’ hours of service and service programming was somewhat limited.

What a difference Thorpe, her colleagues at CCASL and 10 years of collaboration with Gonzaga faculty, staff and students have made. Each year since Thorpe arrived has gotten better in terms of the number of students involved in service and the total hours of service performed. Last year, Thorpe estimates students contributed at least 100,000 hours of service to the community. If you were to calculate those hours at the minimum wage of $7.16 per hour, the service was worth $716,000 to the community. And Thorpe says the figure is a low-ball estimate of the total actual hours because it does not include service done through the residence halls.

Clearly, Gonzaga students are taking service to the community – one of the University’s key mission areas – very seriously.

“We had our biggest service-learning semester ever last spring,” Thorpe said. “All of our mentoring programs expanded, and our residence halls are really engaged. There are more Gonzaga students doing service work than ever before.”

Some 680 Gonzaga students were involved last spring in service-learning, a term used to describe community service work that is linked to a particular course or that includes an academic component. All told, nearly 1,200 students – approximately one-fifth of Gonzaga’s total enrollment – were involved in service-learning volunteer work during the 2003-04 academic year. Service-learning is but one of many service initiatives at Gonzaga.

Gonzaga’s service to the community and collaboration for the greater good is being noticed. CCASL has attracted many grants and gifts to the University’s endowment to ensure these kinds of programs continue. Last month, Gonzaga announced a $200,000 grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation of Los Angeles to bolster its community service endowment.

Gonzaga has demonstrated its ever-increasing commitment to serving the community. And by helping others, GU students themselves have received tremendous individual benefit in terms of personal growth, said Thorpe.

“I am continually amazed at the level of enthusiasm for service work among GU students and I’m thrilled with the cooperation and collaboration at every level of the university from staff and faculty all the way to the president, Father Robert Spitzer, S.J.,” Thorpe said. “It’s Gonzaga’s culture and ethos that cultivate and promote this enthusiasm.”

Basketball Gala, Golf Classic bring in $405,000

The third annual Coaches vs. Cancer BasketBALL, Auction and Golf Classic raised over $405,000 for the American Cancer Society, reported Jerid Keefer, who organized the events for host Mark and Marcy Few. The Golf Classic has grown from 35 golfers the first year to 120 golfers this year. A total of 111 Camp Goodtimes scholarships were made available from the event proceeds for children with cancer to attend a week at camp with activities and medical assistance geared toward their needs.

The event has grown steadily since its inception in 2002. The first event raised $194,000, the second $260,000, Keefer said. This year joining the Fews were emcee Jay Bilas from ESPN, former Olympic decathlete Dan O’Brien, Utah Coach Ray Giacoletti, Eastern Washington Coach Mike Burns, former Michigan State Coach Jud Heathcoate, Washington State Coach Dick Bennett, former Washington State Coach George Raveling, Fox Sports Net announcer and longtime NBA guard Craig Ehlo, Minnesota Timberwolf Blake Stepp and the Gonzaga men’s basketball team.

The fourth annual event is being planned for Aug. 26-27, 2005.

Weekly GUTV programs aired on Comcast channel 15

Gonzaga University TV, operated as part of the Broadcast Studies Department and produced by Gonzaga students, is generating weekly TV programming, which can be seen on Comcast channel 15 in Spokane. Here’s a schedule of October broadcasts:

- Monday, Oct. 4, 5 p.m. “Gonzaga This Week”
- Wednesday, Oct. 6, 3 p.m. “Taking Sides”
- Monday, Oct. 11, 5 p.m. “The Show the World Needs Most”
- Wednesday, Oct. 13, 3 p.m. “Taking Sides”
- Monday, Oct. 18, 5 p.m. “Gonzaga This Week”
- Wednesday, Oct. 20, 3 p.m. “Taking Sides”

Monday, Oct. 25, 5 p.m. “The Show the World Needs Most”

“Taking Sides” focuses on issues facing first-time voters in a crucial upcoming election. “Gonzaga This Week” features GU student news, produced by students for students. “The Show the World Needs Most” is a student comedy.