When Kelly Graves took over as women’s basketball coach in 2000, the Bulldogs had not had a winning season in seven years. His first team went 0-14 in league, “but don’t let the record fool you. We weren’t that good,” he deadpanned to the audience at the Dean’s Business Forum June 16. “We only traveled six players on one trip.”

He had a vision for his new program, and he knew it would take time to build it the way he envisioned it – a winning program with great young women. “We had won 26 games at Saint Mary’s the year I left there to come here, and we won five games (overall) my first year here. I didn’t become 21 games dumber in the process. We needed better players.”

The next year he recruited his first GU class, which included Shannon Mathews, Ashley Burke, Triana Allen, Raeanna Jewell and Juliann Laney. They won two league games the next year, then nine, then 10, and captured their first of seven straight West Coast Conference championships their senior year.

Graves displays a picture in his office, of him in the huddle with his first Gonzaga team and a sea of empty seats visible in the background. My, how things have changed.

The Zags have averaged 26 wins a season over the past seven years. They have won more games than any other program on the West Coast except Stanford. They averaged 4,060 fans a game last season, second only to Stanford in the West, and 25th-best in the nation. And that average is higher than any of the current WCC men’s basketball teams except GU.

“That kind of support starts with putting a good team on the court,” Graves told Spokane’s business leaders. Gonzaga led the nation in scoring and assists last season. But he alluded to other factors that have made a difference. The players are actively involved in community service. Last year they won the WCC Sportsmanship Award for their sport. “We knock ‘em down, then we help ‘em up,” Graves said. “We weren’t the eighth-best team in the country last year talent-wise (GU advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA tourney). But we had great chemistry. Our players have just one job, to love each other. If they do that, the other parts come together.

“And ‘team’ is our essence. Not once did we ever talk about individual awards with our team. The focus was always on what we could accomplish together,” Graves said.

Graves was asked to expound upon his visit to the University of Washington this spring in the Huskies’ pursuit of a new coach. “I knew by noon that day that I didn’t want to leave Gonzaga. There is a feeling here you just can’t duplicate. Women’s basketball is big here. And Spokane is a great community,” Graves said. The 48-year-old coach came back to campus and signed a new 10-year contract with Gonzaga.

“I am excited about what we have accomplished, but I am even more excited about the future,” said Graves.
Students put punch on white-collar crime, earn national honors

Sara Melendy and Gary Weber, professors in the School of Business, developed a forensic accounting program called the Justice for Fraud Victims Project that has earned two national awards in its first year of operation. The Best Teaching Innovation Award was announced in May by the Forensic and Investigative Accounting Section of the American Accounting Association, and the Markchain Innovation Award for teaching innovation was announced in October.

Spirit asked Melendy to describe the project.

Q. What is the essence of your project?
A. We are providing free forensic accounting services to victims unable to afford it. Gonzaga students are providing services to local non-profits and businesses who have been victims unable to afford the normal cost of forensic accounting.

Q. What does forensic accounting cover?
A. Any kind of white-collar crime, theft of property or cash through deception. We examine books and records to determine the amount of the theft. It might involve bank statements, credit card records, payroll records, tax forms, canceled checks.

Q. What is the most compelling part of your work?
A. We enjoy being able to give our students a real-world experience, share their accounting knowledge with the community to do good service and bring benefit to the community.

Q. What has been the result of your work?
A. We have substantiated hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses for victims. Students’ work has led to investigation and prosecution of suspects who might otherwise have gone unpunished because of lack of forensic accounting resources in the community. This is what’s most exciting about this project.

Q. How many students are involved in the project?
A. Twelve every semester, in teams of three. The program is ongoing.

New process considered for women’s hoop seats

With increased demand for women’s basketball tickets, changes are in motion to accommodate faculty and staff ticket needs for next year, said Chris Johnson, director of athletic ticket operations. The McCarthey Athletic Center will now be entirely reserved seating and there are no longer general admission sections. A plan has been proposed to allow staff and faculty to pick up tickets for themselves and immediate family members during regular operation hours at the athletic ticket office the week prior to each home game, assuming ticket availability. Their GU ID cards will be scanned and they will receive ticket stubs for specific seats. Those who come on the day of the game can receive tickets at the Box Office by showing their GU ID card.

Faculty and staff will enter on the north side of McCarthey (same entrance as for men’s games), and seating will be in section 107 in the northeast corner. A decision on this plan is expected by Aug. 1.

Last year Gonzaga sold about 2,800 women’s season tickets and already has sold 700 new season tickets for the 2011-12 season.

Again next season Gonzaga will host the first and second rounds (March 17-20) of the NCAA Women’s Basketball Tournament at McCarthey, and faculty and staff will have the opportunity to buy tickets to that event.

Spirit survey gives insights on new feature ideas

Spirit originated 11 years ago to provide Gonzaga faculty and staff with communications important to their work world – to keep employees in the loop. Last month Spirit asked for your input. How are we doing? We received 140 responses, and this is what you told us:

- 91 percent of you read every issue, at least in part
- 77 percent read Spirit in print form, 34 percent read it in electronic form. Obviously 11 percent are reading it in both forms. One suggestion was to send an e-mail reminder each month when the e-version is posted online (www.gonzaga.edu/spirit).
- By far the most popular read in Spirit is Noteworthy (91 percent). News briefs, news from the president and faculty/staff profiles are close behind (82 percent).
- There is less interest in reading about the Logan Neighborhood (19 percent) in this publication, but greater interest in University issues (69 percent), campus construction (66 percent), academic initiatives and accomplishments, and budget (both 62 percent).

While we can only publish a few of your comments, we have read them all and will consider your thoughts as we prepare for Spirit 2011-12. Here are a few comments from readers:

- Allow individuals to submit story ideas. We do that now; send them to Spirit@gonzaga.edu.
- Include stories or notes about:
  - national rankings of schools and departments.
  - student initiatives and faculty/staff participation.
  - Gonzaga history.
  - upcoming events.
  - “Day in the Life” of Zag staff and faculty.
  - faculty promotions.
  - public lectures and lecture series.

As promised, Spirit has randomly drawn two returned survey forms, and Wayne Pommerleau, Philosophy, and Connie Hickman, Communication Arts, will each receive a $50 gift card to the Zag Shop.

AROUND CAMPUS

- Matthew Rindge, assistant professor of religious studies, won the 2011 Paul J. Achtemeier Award for New Testament Scholarship by the Society of Biblical Literature.
- Rindge’s paper, “Reconfiguring the Akedah and Lamenting God: Mark’s Theological Narrative of Divine Abandonment,” earned the prestigious international award, one of the top honors in biblical studies. The award is designed to stimulate the finest and most penetrating work in New Testament studies. A scholar is allowed to receive this award only once during his career.
- Gonzaga was one of 10 Washington Campus Compact member campuses named to the Presidential Honor Roll, recognizing colleges for their commitment to, and achievement of outstanding community service.
- Gonzaga earned the 2011 West Coast Conference Sportsmanship Award, given to one conference institution annually. GU’s men’s and women’s basketball, men’s soccer and women’s golf teams received the WCC Sportsmanship Award for their respective sports.
- Father Kevin Waters, S.J., will celebrate 60 years as a Jesuit with a Mass, Aug. 14, 1 p.m. in The Chapel of St. Ignatius on the campus of Seattle University. A reception will follow. Fr. Waters is professor of music at Gonzaga.
- Father Gary Uhlenkott, S.J., passes along thanks to the individuals who cleaned his residence in Corkery this month. “Returning home last night after a 12-hour drive from a wedding in Cody, Wyoming, it was wonderful to enter a place that had been deep cleaned,” Fr. Uhlenkott said.

Accounting professors Sara Melendy and Gary Weber will accept two national awards in August for their innovative Justice for Fraud Victims Project.
NOTEWORTHY

New Hires
Makayla Pedey, program assistant II, Financial Aid

Goodbyes
Jillian Cadwell, assistant professor, Engineering; Alexa Dare, assistant professor, Communications & Leadership; Josh Kanassatega, assistant professor/director, Indian Law Program; Jim McCurdy, professor, Law; W.C. Sterling, assistant professor/senior reference librarian, Law Library; Janet Brougher, assistant professor, Education; Dustin DuVanicich, director, Annual Campaign; Susan Fischer, lecturer-IR, Education; Melissa Flint, women’s crew coach, Athletics; Dan Hughes, associate professor, Computer Science; Tim Humphrey, assistant professor, Chemistry; Marilnika Kimbro, assistant professor, Accounting; Birgitt Krause, assistant professor, Modern Languages; Craig Mason, lecturer-IR, Sociology; Dennis McMin, professor, Chemistry; Guy Meier, lecturer-AT, Chemistry; Fr. Al Morisette, S.J., associate dean, Arts & Sciences; Linda Olson, office coordinator, ISP/ESL; Joseph Orlando, campus minister, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Robert Packer, lecturer-AT, Psychology; Fr. Bill Ryan, S.J., associate professor, Philosophy; John Shea, assistant professor, Biology; Konny Sinton, assistant professor, Foley Center; Laura Smith, marketing and special projects coordinator, Business; Fr. Quan Tran, S.J., coordinator. University Ministry; Jim Vache, lecturer-AT, Political Science; Sharon Wade, accounts payable manager, Controller’s Office; Alisha West, academic records evaluator/computer operator technician, Admission

Anniversaries
35 Linda Grigsby, director, Payroll;
30 Eileen Bell-Garrison, dean, Foley Center Library
25 Sary Uhlenkott, associate professor, Music
20 Annette Davis, assistant director; Planned Giving; Mark Few, men’s basketball coach, Athletics
15 Marilyn Runyan, assistant professor, ESL/ISP; Al Tesdal, shipping clerk, Law Library; Richard Van Hook, warehouse supervisor, Plant
10 Kathlene Basler, library tech III, Law Library; Lisa Brown, associate professor, Organizational Leadership; Rob Kavon, director of athletic facilities, Athletics; Maciej Kosinski, assistant director, Campus Services
5 Jennifer Akins, lecturer-AT, ESL; Melissa Heid, program coordinator, ESL/ISP; Terry Mitchell, plumber, Plant; Jennifer Sevedge, lecturer-AT; Marilyn Runyan, shipping clerk, Plant

Crable Call
Molly Ayers, assistant director of CCASL, and husband Daniel had a baby boy. Eamon Ayers was born April 22. DJ Gurule, women’s tennis coach, and wife Kathryn had a daughter. Calliope was born April 28. Marzena Kosiński, assistant to the dean of Professional Studies and husband Maciej, assistant director of Campus Services, had a baby boy. Maximilian was born April 17. Joel Morgan, assistant athletic director of facilities, and his wife Jessica had a baby boy. Dominicus was born May 13. Amber McKenzie-O’Neill, assistant director in ISP, and husband Nathan had a baby girl. Zeni was born May 19. Whitney Franklin, events and stewardship specialist in University Relations and her husband Travis recently had a baby girl. Kennedie was born on June 2.

Focus On … Allbery loyal servant leader

Harry H. Sladich Loyalty and Service Award winner Joan Allbery possesses many of the characteristics of the award’s namesake – she is a longtime GU employee, compare to Sladich’s 47; willing to do whatever is needed, as was Sladich; and self-effacing, never wanting to shine light on herself, but always taking care of things in the shadows of others, much like Harry. Allbery will receive her award at the Board of Trustees meeting in July.

“Joe has given Gonzaga over 42 years of loyal and effective service in many different positions across the institution,” said her boss, Executive Vice President Marty Martin. “In all of that time she has gone about her work devoid of ego, her only interest being to help Gonzaga achieve greatness.”

Allbery joined Gonzaga in 1968. Over the years she served as operations supervisor and assistant director in the Computer Center as associate director of Computer Information Services, director of Central Computing and Network Support, interim director of Information Technology Services, director of administrative operations in Administration and Planning, interim vice president of Administration and Planning, and currently as associate vice president in the Executive Vice President division.

“In the time that Joan has been a part of Gonzaga, the institution has grown substantially and changed in tremendous ways,” Martin said. “That growth and change would not have been possible without the dedication of hardworking and dedicated employees like Joan. As Gonzaga has evolved Joan has continuously taken on more responsibility and rendered ever greater service. In the process, she has become well known and well loved across the campus. She has become a Zag in every way – just like the man for whom this award is named.”

New Staff Assembly officers and council members have been elected for the 2011-12 academic year:
President – Rodolfo Pagsanjan, Campus Services; Vice President – Dan Bubb, Institutional Research; Secretary – Angela Ruff, University Events; Treasurer – Allison Sather, Education.
Council members – Molly Ayers, CCASL (2011-13); Toni Boggan, Engineering (2011-13); Jeff Geldien, Law (2011-13); Beth Gordon, Campus Services (2011-13); Connie Hickman, Communication Arts (2010-12); Carol Huston, Registrar (2010-12); Norm Leatha, Hogan Program (2010-12); Rudy Mondragon, UMEC (2011-13); Wendy Thompson, Tribal Relations (2010-12).

Perry, Swain honored for Mission devotion

Cindy Perry, University Ministry, and Jason Swain, Human Resources, were named the recipients of the Staff Assembly’s Outstanding Service in Support of Mission awards for spring 2011.

“The office comes alive whenever she arrives,” Father Quan Tran, S.J., said of Perry. Of Swain, business Associate Professor Molly Pepper said, “Jason lives the mission without a great deal of fanfare or recognition, but with a lot of heart.” Clearly, both make helping others a priority, and model Magis in action.
Zag women garner Bloomsday win

Onzaga team Law & Order won the women’s competitive division in the 2011 Bloomsday Corporate Cup challenge. The team consisted of (left to right) Vestal Coufal, Math; Mia Bertagnolli, Biology; Lisa Bradley, Law; Shannon Overbay, Math; and Jackie Van Allen, Controller’s Office. Four of the five ran the 12-kilometer course in under an hour, and the fifth member was 7 seconds shy of an hour. They were one of six GU Corporate Cup teams, which included 30 runners in all. One GU team, the Traipse of Wrath from English, won for best name. GU Corporate Cup is organized by Gail Nord, Math.

New roof, heating and cooling system improve Magnuson; other summer renovation abounds

Have you wondered why the northeast entrance to College Hall has been blocked for a month? Gonzaga is installing a new heating and cooling system for the main performance and dressing room areas of Magnuson Theatre, and a new slate tile roof. Construction is expected to last through summer break.

While no new major construction projects are on tap this summer, Gonzaga is completing a limited remodel of a Biology lab (Hughes 010), an update to College Hall 101, limited work in College Hall 110, an upgrade to an Engineering lab (Herak 208), and multiple re-roofing projects, including the south wing of Hughes Hall.

Other projects include: replacing all of the windows in the students’ rooms at Catherine/Monica, as well as replacing 180 student desk chairs. Dussault Apartments will get new couches and chairs in the living rooms, as well as new (loftable and bunkable) beds. Dussault, Burch and Corkery will receive new vinyl and carpet in many units. Dussault and Burch also will get new bedroom ceiling lights. 301 Boone will get a new roof. DeSmet, Cushing and the Bozarth dorm will get new curtains. Marian will get a wheelchair ramp. Several rental houses will receive new furnaces (most of the houses now have new furnaces). Sharp House will be painted to match the new color scheme Sharp Apartments. The COG will get a new loading dock.

In addition to these larger projects, there will be the usual multiple painting, plumbing, maintenance, carpeting and HVAC projects throughout the residence hall and apartment system,” said Ken Sammons, director of Plant Services.

Gonzaga duo featured in CPR training video

Quick action by Rudolf Fitness Center Assistant Director Kerri Conger is credited with saving the life of student Tori Stevenson. Stevenson collapsed during an intramural basketball game at the center last year. Now, the two are featured in a video by Spokane Fire Fighters introducing new protocols for ‘hands only’ cardio pulmonary resuscitation. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=912px-MMwsI