Features

**BEARING WITNESS**
The Veterans Homecoming Project, developed by Gonzaga faculty, gives veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan the chance to tell their homecoming stories. Laced with pain and pride, each veteran's story and each experience is different. The only constant -- a life changed forever.

**MISSION-POSSIBLE**
The director of Gonzaga's popular alternative spring break program says that participating in Mission:Possible is like putting on an invisibility cloak for a week to try out a life of service.

**TALES OF DESMET**
Growing up in Gonzaga's legendary DeSmet Hall offers an education rich in life's lessons.
During this first year, as I have traveled around the nation visiting with alumni and friends, I have been asked many questions about the present and future of Gonzaga: How are enrollments faring? How has the recession affected fundraising? Where do I see future opportunities for growth in programs?

There is, however, another question I am asked as often as any other: "What is it like being the first lay president?" Not infrequently, this question is accompanied by an expression of desire, or sometimes concern: "I hope you can continue to maintain and strengthen the Catholic and Jesuit character of Gonzaga." The issue of affirming and continuing our identity as a Catholic and Jesuit university is so central to the work that I thought I would take this opportunity to offer some reflections about it as my first year draws to a close.

Gonzaga today finds itself – in the words of Pope Benedict XVI to the Jesuit General Congregation 35 – engaging in the work of educating women and men “...in a period of great social, economic, and political change, sharp ethical, cultural, and environmental problems, conflicts of all kinds, but also of a more intense communication among peoples, of new possibilities of acquaintance and dialogue, of a deep longing for peace.” The world of our students is filled with confusing messages and a great deal of noise, yet I am constantly amazed at the thoughtfulness with which our students and faculty successfully engage difficult issues. Gonzaga University celebrates its Catholic and Jesuit identity at a time when the Church and society needs and counts upon us to do this work well, and I daily see evidence of the fruits of our labors.

On a deeply personal level, I joyously and with deep gratitude embrace the daily opportunity of serving as a Lay Companion of the Society of Jesus. From the earliest days, our founder Saint Ignatius of Loyola sent forth his companions to bring the good news of Jesus to cultures around the world; critical to their way of proceeding then (as it is today) was an authentic communion with lay people whom they could entrust to carry out their works long after they, as individual Jesuits, had moved on to other works.

Many of us, myself included, have been blessed throughout our lives by Jesuits and the opportunity to work and live in communion with the Jesuits. On countless occasions I have seen the impact that Jesuits have had on our students, faculty, and staff – as teachers, scholars, priests, chaplains, administrators, traveling companions, presiding at weddings, baptisms and funerals. I count among the greatest gifts of my presidency the unwavering support of our Provincial, our Jesuit community, and the welcome
embrace I feel as a true companion in the Society’s higher education apostolate.

Second: on a daily basis, I am grateful to do my work at a Catholic university where, together with many lay and religious colleagues, we daily have the opportunity to serve the Church at its very heart. This past year has allowed us to serve our local Church in a very significant way: we were blessed to host the installation of the new bishop of the diocese, the Most Reverend Blase Cupich, at an event deeply meaningful to the entire university and diocesan educational community. Bishop Cupich has made it a point to attend every significant university event this year, culminating in the celebration of our Baccalaureate Mass on Graduation Weekend. As a lay president, I find our Bishop’s willingness to provide guidance and perspective invaluable and the prospect of building on our already strong relationship a source of great comfort.

The purpose we serve – our fundamental mission – is the noble pursuit of truth through teaching, scholarship and service; through these we bear witness to our faith. I see Gonzaga as an essential part of the Church in service to faith: a mission of bringing the hope that is the Good News to a world in desperate need of it; by educating capable women and men and engaging them to go forth and inspire the world. Gonzaga’s Jesuit heritage and mission calls us to prepare and inspire the world.

To do this work effectively in the context of a Catholic university requires helping each student to construct their own path to the truth. This, to me, are characteristics of a vibrant Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic university.

Finally: as we begin our planning for the upcoming academic year, we are filled with hope. As this issue reaches you, we will be welcoming our new Vice President for Mission, Fr. Frank Case, S.J. Much of his efforts will involve engaging the community in dialogue regarding the affirmation of our mission and the ways in which our mission identity manifests itself in the daily work. I look forward to welcoming him to the administrative leadership team.

I want to thank you for the ongoing support of this important work. Many of you have been warmly generous in your response to our call for additional scholarship support; you make Gonzaga possible for our remarkable students. I am constantly humbled by your faith in this University and thank you for it. During these busy summer months, may the peace of Christ be with you and yours, always.

Yours, always.

[Signature]
GONZAGA GRADUATES THE CLASS OF 2011:

• 1,128 UNDERGRADUATES • 996 GRADUATE STUDENTS • 162 LAW STUDENTS

President Thayne McCulloh addressed both the undergraduate and graduate commencement ceremonies on May 7 and 8. At the undergraduate ceremony, the University bestowed an honorary degree on acclaimed northwest artist Harold Balazs.

Judge Steven González of Seattle gave the School of Law commencement address on May 14 and was awarded an honorary degree. J. Richard Manning (’60 J.D.) was honored with the Law Medal.
“When I was a child in Africa, my parents valued and nurtured a life of service. What they taught me is that being of service is a noble calling or profession.”

“If you ask an illiterate person of a village in Afghanistan or Pakistan ‘what does education mean?’ they say, ‘when we have an education we can go out and make decisions. we can go and do something in the world.’ ”

“Tattoos on the Heart” said, “When we have an education we can go out and make decisions. we can go and do something in the world.”

A classroom of the future. The Rosauer family’s generous support of Gonzaga University has built 178 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

“Tattoos on the Heart” is meant to be a ‘big tent’ with a place for everyone who can help build understanding of hatred and effective responses to it. This of course includes those kids who they’re not going to make it to graduation. That says something positive right there about Spokane Public Schools.”

Today, the dropout early-warning system is a major step closer to operating. A second study, being done this spring and summer, is tracking dropouts from 2008 and 2010 to identify factors that led to their leaving school. This will create the initial data bank for the early-warning system. Educators will keep adding to the data bank, giving them a powerful tool to discern which interventions keep Spokane students on track for graduation. Traynor says it’s deeply encouraging to him that community partners Empiris Health, United Way and the Inland Northwest Community Foundation gave an additional $45,000 for that phase of the work.

Traynor’s work leads directly to Gonzaga’s mentoring programs, particularly at the middle school level. If the school district shares data from the early-warning system, then those who lead after-school mentoring and enrichment programs will benefit. They can learn from the data whether their efforts are paying off and get a clear sense of how to improve their programming.

“It’s exciting to have the school district agree that of school-time matters,” Traynor said. “What I hope we can do is to create a method by which other agencies can evaluate themselves. We want to build a system of conversation, tracking from the schoolshouse to teachers, to other agencies. I think we can use this information to build a template so that we can evaluate success for Gonzaga’s mentoring programs and other after-school and summer programs.”

The University honored Mert and Jessie Rosauer at Gonzaga’s Fourth Annual Ignatian Gala held in April. The Rosauers have been major benefactors of Gonzaga since 1968. The J.M. and Jessie Rosauer Center for Education was dedicated in 1994.

Mission Possible, GU’s alternative spring break program, was cited as a best practice on Jesuitresource.org.

If you send us a photograph from a favorite time at Gonzaga, we’ll see if we can use it on a Zigzag page for an upcoming issue of Gonzaga Magazine. Send your photos to editor@gonzaga.edu.
IN 1974, GONZAGA’S SCHOOL OF LAW made the then-unusual decision to launch its Law Clinic. This new concept was modeled after the practice of building medical clinics adjacent to medical schools, allowing students to put into practice what they had learned in principle. The Law Clinic’s early years were modest. It found a home in the basement of what is now Gonzaga’s Health Center, with just a dozen students involved. Today, the University Legal Assistance, as the clinic is formally known, operates from offices in the Law School building. Seven divisions exist: business law, consumer law, elder law, environmental law, federal tax law, general practice law and Indian law.

One testament to the Law Clinic’s lasting influence is that several of its earliest enrollees – professors George Critchlow, Alan McNeil and Larry Weiser to name a few – have returned to work at the clinic in supervisory roles. If the ongoing mission of the clinic was distilled into a single word, it would be access. The clinic puts the legal system within reach of the financially disadvantaged. By doing so, it puts the egalitarian, public-minded principles of both Gonzaga University and the American justice system into practice.

“Gonzaga’s emphasis in the classroom on service, and its commitment to service through the legal clinic, left a deep imprint on my legal philosophy,” said Barbara Madsen (’77 J.D.), chief justice of the Washington Supreme Court.

“Every year the clinic helps hundreds of clients who might otherwise get lost in the cracks or not pursue whatever legal options they have because of the daunting aspect of proceeding without counsel,” offered Jim Merson (’05 J.D.), who is a Colorado public defender. “The clinic gives Gonzaga Law and its students a chance to practice what they preach: public interest law.”

I believe in always getting up off the ground. I must admit that over the years I have become acquainted with concrete, gravel, asphalt and cobblestones more often than I would have preferred; however, the momentary face-to-face meetings have had with the paths upon which I have tried have taught me some great lessons.

I have concluded that whoever invented rubber crutch tips must have not tested them before placing them on the market. I acknowledge that these innovative pieces of equipment are intended to aid my walking but they are often the culprit, which causes me to find myself yet again on the ground. The traction on crutch tips is relatively nonexistent which is beneficial. I encounter the natural elements of water, ice or snow, I am definitely at the mercy of whether these crutches want to keep me upright. Before long, with my crutches outstretched, I resemble Bambi attempting to walk for the first time and find myself sprawled out flat on the ground. Once again, we meet.

I have found the ground is quite dependable. I know what to expect from it. Each time we have an encounter I know that it is the result of me being too daring; attempting to walk with one crutch or thinking that I can overcome those stairs instead of utilizing the ramp. It is like a game we play that I can never win. The ground: 1, Casey: 0. While I have not won as many games, we have gladly shed more laughs than tears on the playing field, and for this, I am eternally grateful.

I must thank the ground for the many friendships I have made. Falling down and finding myself on the ground has taught me about the goodness of humanity. I have been offered a helping hand and asked if I was OK more times than I can recall, both from those I know well and complete strangers. I have seen the Good Samaritan.

The ground has been very forgiving to me. Having never broken a bone, I am confident that I have bones of steel. Sure, it has offered the occasional scar or bruise as a reminder that I need to be careful, but it never discourages me from navigating the world in my own way. Each mark I receive from the ground is a gift bestowed upon me and an indication of a relentless refusal to be defined by the limits of my disability.

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Gonzaga’s first cadre of Act Six scholars will be juniors this fall. They choose these words to describe what Act Six means to them: A blessing. Perseverance. Change. Life. Leadership. Direction.

“Act Six is always in the back of my mind,” said Anna Hester of Tacoma. Without it, she wouldn’t be at Gonzaga, where she loves the fact that God is discussed in classes. Take away Act Six, and Spokane’s Edwin Torres might still be weighing his options: auto mechanic, police officer or technical school. Instead, he’s an international studies major who enjoys supporting La Raza Latina. Torres is soft spoken and thoughtful. “Act Six really opened doors for me. College is expensive,” he says.

Mercedes Hayes, Kent, Wash., would not have co-founded Gonzaga’s gospel choir. “Act Six is like a framework for life. It has provided me with purpose and reason,” says Hayes, a communications major.

Tracy Ellis-Ward, director of Unity Multicultural Education Center, does much of the Act Six support work. “Working with the Act Six scholars has been one of the best representations of our faith-inspired commitment to diversity in action since my arrival at Gonzaga three years ago,” she said. “Members of the first cadre are learning to find their voice, and I have no doubt they will make a lasting impact on campus and beyond.”

Act Six founder Tim Herron, a former Tacoma math teacher, wants the students to practice leadership skills while earning their degrees, then to bring their expertise and commitment back into their communities. Ethnically diverse students make up a majority of Act Six scholars, but the program is open to all candidates. A collaborative approach creates Act Six scholarships. Scholars often qualify for government and private scholarships; Act Six networks with local funding resources; and Gonzaga makes up the difference.

Once high school seniors are admitted to Act Six, they are grouped into cadres. Training starts immediately on money management, time management and other topics. On campus, cadre members form their own safety net. They receive leadership training and academic support. Something’s working right: Act Six’s overall graduation rate surpasses 90 percent. “In an environment of unlimited resources, many more students could thrive holistically under such a model,” Ellis-Ward said.

Act Six scholar Oscar Marmolejo is an engineering student, who plays club hockey. He’s careful not to judge others, but to get to know them before forming an opinion. Last summer he ran a crew for Student Painters and grossed $40,000.

What makes him proud? “That’s hard to answer,” he says. “Knowing that people trust me to be responsible, that makes me proud. Being able to say that I am an engineer, it makes me proud. Being able to have fun and to succeed at the same time – that makes me proud.”
Entrepreneurship – and particularly a growing subset of the field, social entrepreneurship – is an emerging academic discipline nationally and at Gonzaga. Gonzaga’s entrepreneurship program recently was ranked in the top 25 of all schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report. There is a strong correlation between entrepreneurship and GU’s Jesuit mission of educating people to better the world. “Entrepreneurship is the process of seeking and finding new opportunities, taking calculated risks, using limited resources, and ultimately creating value – economic, social, environmental, artistic and/or cultural. Entrepreneurial leaders use their unique talents, gifts and resources to create value and contribute to the common good,” said Professor Paul Buller of the School of Business Administration. “People think that entrepreneurs are in it for greed, but they’re not. Most of them are simply trying to make a difference.”

Buller has long-term involvement with entrepreneurship at Gonzaga, first as the original director of the Hogan Program for Entrepreneurial Leadership, and more recently through other initiatives. Successive grants from the Kern Family Foundation in Wisconsin have helped Gonzaga establish entrepreneurial thinking and skills among faculty and students in the School of Engineering and Applied Science. The professorship endowed by Mark Pigott and his family, and held by Finkle, includes responsibility for creating courses for a new concentration in entrepreneurship. Finkle also is helping to educate and spark research on entrepreneurship among faculty both inside and outside the business school.

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Finkle arrived on campus in fall 2010. His entrepreneurial background includes creating an entertainment company (one of three businesses he has founded) while earning an M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Even though there was not a doctoral program in entrepreneurship, he created his own while earning a Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Finkle has taught in the field for 18 years. He is gregarious, passionate, a productive scholar, and loves to teach and help students. Case studies written by Finkle have examined the icons of entrepreneurship – Warren Buffet and Berkshire Hathaway, Steve Jobs and Apple, Inc., Richard Branson and Virgin, Inc., Wayne Huizenga (Waste Management, Inc.; Blockbuster, and Republic Industries), and others. He uses these in his teaching and sends his students “not to the library, but out on the street” for research. As his students discovered in the January chill, experiential learning is the backbone of Finkle’s teaching.

Todd Finkle, Pigott Professor of Entrepreneurship, gave his students a taste of an entrepreneur’s life with this assignment: Find a need, create a product, sell it for a profit, and donate a portion to the community. He gave them just five days.

One team of students took advantage of the GU-St. Mary’s basketball game. The need? Something warm and tasty for students to nosh on while standing in the January cold before the game. The products? Hot dogs and sodas. The price? Less than the concession stand inside McCarthy Athletic Center. But there was a glitch. Out of nowhere came competition from the Kennel Club, handing out free pizza. The experience taught Finkle’s students, as no textbook could, about the hard work and perseverance that are basic to entrepreneurship.

“I ask students why they are in my class, and you know what almost all of them say? They do not want to work for anyone else,” Finkle says. “People tend to associate entrepreneurship with merely starting a new business. And it’s not just that. It’s more of an attitude and a set of skills that center around seeking opportunities and taking advantage of them. These entrepreneurial skills can be used in any organization whether it’s for profit or non-profit, big or small business, and government.”
Anna Marie Medina, assistant professor of psychology, came of age in the late ’70s and early ’80s. “Vietnam veterans were having trouble, and people started making movies about it, but there was really no recognition of the people who had returned, good or bad. I remember being a senior in high school and angrily asking my parents, ‘So all this was going on and you didn’t protest, you didn’t volunteer, you didn’t do anything?’ But they were busy raising five small children. So even then, it bothered me that these people could go through these God-awful and life-changing experiences, and the people for whom theoretically they have done this can remain blissfully unaware.”

That sense of wrong never left Medina. As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan developed and continued, her desire grew to recognize veterans’ experiences. In December 2009 she began talking with colleagues at Gonzaga. Last fall the group launched the Veterans Homecoming Project. They interview veterans on campus and in the community. The interviews will be archived at the Foley Center Library, available to faculty, students and the public. Faculty and staff from history, English, social sciences, professional studies and military science are involved in the project. Their hope is to continue interviewing homecoming veterans for at least 10 years.

With few exceptions, interviews in the project will remain anonymous. Following are excerpts from Medina’s interviews with two undergraduates.

AT LEAST 181 VETERANS WERE ENROLLED AT GONZAGA THIS SPRING, INCLUDING 61 UNDERGRADUATES. AT RIGHT, DAN AUSTIN; FAR RIGHT, NICHOLAS JEFFRIES.
Could you tell me about a time when you were deployed which you really missed home? There was a lot of that. I said I missed home the most during my first deployment. Marine Corps deployment is so intense that you don’t have a lot of time to sit and think. There are times, though, when you’re sitting on a post and watching for security reasons, watching for hours on end. That’s when you’re missing home. You’re thinking of what you want to do and what you want to buy when you get home.

Did you struggle to stay in touch with home while you were deployed? I kept in communication through letters during my first deployment mostly, and my second by phone. You take your care of commitment to all others. You publish everybody off because you have a mission to do. And they’re not there, and you can’t be thinking about them. You really lose the connection emotionally. I would say that to this day I have problems with connections, because of stuff that I pushed myself to do in the Marine Corps.

Do you find that true for the people closest to you? It’s true for everybody except for my daughter. For whatever reason, me and my daughter have a very good connection. My wife and I make efforts to connect with her. I have to do that. My relationship with my parents never was deep. Now we try to stay connected. But it’s tough. It’s like there’s an emotional wall between us. I call them by their first names. I have a hard time keeping friends. You know, my wife is my friend. I do something, I hang out with my wife. I’ve got people I do stuff with once in a blue moon, but for the most part, I’m on my own. And going to college was a good experience, because I got to know a lot of people.

What was the first thing you did when you came home? My wife was six and a half months pregnant and the Marine Corps dropped her from all medical coverage, because spouses are dropped as soon as you get out. Eventually we got insurance for her. We moved in with her family. I had a hard time keeping friends. You know, my wife is my friend. I do something, I hang out with my wife. I’ve got people I do stuff with once in a blue moon, but for the most part, I’m on my own. And going to college was a good experience, because I got to know a lot of people.

In what ways are your home life and family different now? I’m on a whole different set of priorities. I know that’s quite a trade-off.

Are there times when you feel close, and times when you feel distant? I can’t really say that there are times when I feel close, and times when I feel distant.

Do you feel even-keel emotionally, or do you have ups and downs? I was diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder with post-traumatic stress disorder. There’s been lots of ups and downs with that. There’s been days when I just sat there and didn’t want to live. I’ve been on medications for two and a half years. For the most part I can deal with the anxiety. It doesn’t control my life like it did when I first got out. I would just sit there. It’s a lot better. I got anxiety I was doing for the day. And it didn’t necessarily go away when I want to sleep. Some days I would wake up with it again. They prescribed meds for that, but all that did was put me to sleep. Life just doesn’t stop if you stop. My wife understood that, she helped me deal with things.

Have you been to the VA? I’ve been there probably a month after I got out. And the funny thing is – I’d been stateside for over a year after I was done with my first deployment. I didn’t have any issues because I was so busy. But as soon as life slows down – boom, it started. I got started with the Veterans Outreach Center in the Spokane Valley, but they don’t prescribe any drugs, and I needed something new! They referred me to the VA hospital.

Do you go for counseling? I did get into medication, because I was so stressed out. I’ve heard of it! Overall, I think I turned out better. I don’t think it hurt anything. It was, like, the only thing I could think of. We’ll talk about getting you off some of these drugs. I don’t want to be on these drugs for the rest of my life. But my counselor is retired, and I’m still on these drugs. If anything since I started, they’ve added stuff.

What was it like when you first got out? Very rough. I mean, I don’t know that there would be an end to this. I never really thought about past the military. It’s always here. It’s always there. And you can never understand what feelings are coming at you. As much as my wife, they don’t have a grasp. She understands that I’ve seen people get blown up, that I’ve seen things you’re never supposed to see. But by you knowing that, it doesn’t mean you’re done.

Other things, like getting in gun fights and putting bullets in people, you can talk about it as a story that happened. But you can never know what that person feels like. I don’t know that I feel bad. I don’t know that I feel good. I don’t know if I did it. I don’t know if I’m going to hell – I don’t know where I’m going.

Can you tell me about the homecoming you had after your last deployment? It was a very different homecoming. I’d been loaned out as an embedded journalist for the rest of my life. But I wanted to go into the Marine Corps and I wanted to be in the infantry and so I’m good with my decisions. Now I have to live with the consequences. The school benefit is something I could have never imagined. And the PTSD is something I didn’t even know existed.

What is the future? I want to go into the construction business. There’s a construction company here, and I want to work in construction. I’ve been stateside for over a year after I was done with my last deployment. I didn’t have any issues because I was so busy. But as soon as life slows down – boom, it started.

What would you tell people who are thinking about going into the military? I’d tell people who are thinking about going into the military that you have a mission to do. And they’re not there, and you can’t be thinking about them. You really lose the connection emotionally. I would say that to this day I have problems with connections, because of stuff that I pushed myself to do in the Marine Corps.

Can you talk me about the homecoming you get from your family? I have an older brother and a younger sister. We all live five years apart, so we’re not super close. My homecoming? Well, for my 30-days leave, it would be a lot of drinking. Every opportunity I could, I would come home. It’s usually a big blue.

Now that you’re not drinking, do you find you have disturbing thoughts? Over time they’ve gotten better. We talk about them in counseling as intrusive thoughts. People’s heads get blown off, people die. Everything and anything that a normal person wouldn’t think of – those thoughts are going through your head, whether you’re sitting in a classroom or walking through the grocery store. You just keep them to yourself. They’re still there and they’re not right.

In what ways are your home life and family different now? I’m on a whole different set of priorities. I have a lot of things going for me now. And I understand that responsibility is the only way this stuff is going to get done. I know that I’m never going to be normal, where I don’t have intrusive thoughts, or I don’t have anxiety. Who knows, I could be on medication for the rest of my life. But I wanted to go into the Marine Corps and I wanted to be in the infantry and so I’m good with my decisions. Now I have to live with the consequences. The school benefit is something I could have never imagined. And the PTSD is something I didn’t even know existed.

That’s quite a trade-off. Yeah, I’d say.

What sort of things do you value differently? Education for one. Definitely a strong tie to education. My parents never pushed college. I never really thought about past the military. I didn’t really know that there would be an end after the military.

Beyond the GI Bill, are there other resources that you’ve been able to access? The other one would be the disability benefit, which I did not ask for. I’m 88 percent disabled, 70 percent for PTSD and 10 percent for tinnitus. So, that disability check pays my mortgage. That’s the only reason I bought a house, because I have that permanent income. Otherwise I would still be renting. But because you know that, you took advantage of it.

This project is about giving a voice to veteran’s homecoming experiences. What do you want people to know about coming home from combat? There’s not going to be normal. I don’t care if you’re a spouse and you hear the stories, you’re never going to understand what feelings are coming at you. It’s always as much as your wife, you don’t have a grasp. She understands that I’ve seen people get blown up, that I’ve seen things you’re never supposed to see. But by you knowing that, it doesn’t mean you’re done.

Other things, like getting in gun fights and putting bullets in people, you can talk about it as a story that happened. But you can never know what that person feels like. I don’t know that I feel bad. I don’t know that I feel good. I don’t know that I did it. I don’t know if I’m going to hell – I don’t know where I’m going.

Can you tell me about the homecoming you had after your last deployment? It was a very different homecoming. I’d been loaned out as an embedded journalist for the rest of my life. But I wanted to go into the Marine Corps and I wanted to be in the infantry and so I’m good with my decisions. Now I have to live with the consequences. The school benefit is something I could have never imagined. And the PTSD is something I didn’t even know existed.

That’s quite a trade-off. Yeah, I’d say.

What sort of things do you value differently? Education for one. Definitely a strong tie to education. My parents never pushed college. I never really thought about past the military. I didn’t really know that there would be an end after the military.

Beyond the GI Bill, are there other resources that you’ve been able to access? The other one would be the disability benefit, which I did not ask for. I’m 88 percent disabled, 70 percent for PTSD and 10 percent for tinnitus. So, that disability check pays my mortgage. That’s the only reason I bought a house, because I have that permanent income. Otherwise I would still be renting. But because you know that, you took advantage of it.

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Every Soldier's Experience Is Different

Dan Austin's Interview

Did you struggle to stay in touch with home or maintain a sense of home? They offered us ways to communicate with home. It’s not as good and as often as you would like. But as time goes on, you don’t want to be too in touch at home, or I didn’t at least. The first month I did not call home or talk to anybody just so I could settle in and get my mind set. Just to talk to someone you know really well, your mom or your girlfriend - it can take you out of that reality for a little while, but you know you’re going to get right back into the war reality. It’s almost not even worth it.

Was it weird to come back between deployments? It’s absolutely weird. I noticed the intensity of it the first time, coming back and trying to fit back in. I was so isolated over there, especially with the unit I was with. We were isolated even from the rest of the U.S. forces in our own compound. We would only associate with 30 to 40 guys that I knew very well. Coming back, I was living in Tacoma, and one Saturday I went to the Tacoma Mall. Walking in, seeing and smelling everything all at once, walking past someone and smelling their cologne - it was sensory overload. Another example was driving. While you’re in Iraq even if you’re not a driver, you’re used to not following the law. You’re in a giant armored vehicle. There are no stoplights, no stop signs. You don’t worry about other traffic, really. When I was over there - and a car came too close to you, if you hit the car it’s not a bad thing. So, when you’re trying to drive your vehicle when you get home - there’s stop lights and stop signs, other traffic, white lines, yellow lines. It’s overwhelming at first.

Did you ever find yourself getting ready to drive into oncoming traffic, to ‘avoid garbage’ on the road? I was blessed in my first deployment not to be ravaged by IEDs and ambushes. Toward my fifth and sixth deployment was when it really was bad and we got hit a lot. by that time, I was leading people in combat, that you’ve seen a hard statue. Not just for yourself but for your family to see inside you. My dad was in the military. But not in any war. We talk a little more. He knows he’s not going to ask me certain questions. The question “Did you kill anybody?” There’s a lot of disrespect in that question. My little brother, he asked me “Did you kill anyone?” and I said, “I don’t want to answer that question. If I have, that’s going to change your outlook of me and if I haven’t, that’s going to change your outlook of me.”

Ideally, this project is about giving veterans a voice. What do you want people to know? From my personal experience, the Army gives a lot of opportunities for transitioning out. They do a lot of classes on things like how to treat your wife. Regardless, every soldier has a different experience when coming home. For me I was lucky to have a steady family. It helped, but there’s still always that feeling, especially being in combat, that you’ve seen a lot of things that you didn’t really want to.

What does home mean to you now? It’s a lot more important. That’s why I moved back to Spokane, back to family.

Are your home and family life different from before you deployed? I got to see my girlfriend and family a lot. But there’s definitely an invisible wall between what they think they can talk to me about, and what I really went through. You’ve got to be the tough guy. You make fun of things that normally you never would. And, especially if you’re in a leadership role, if you’re scared, you can’t show that to your soldiers. I think you bring that with you. You keep that steady, hard status. Not just for yourself but for your family to see inside you. My dad was in the military. But not in any war. We talk a little more. He knows he’s not going to ask me certain questions. The question “Did you kill anybody?” There’s a lot of disrespect in that question. My little brother, he asked me “Did you kill anyone?” and I said, “I don’t want to answer that question. If I have, that’s going to change your outlook of me and if I haven’t, that’s going to change your outlook of me.”

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I have never felt the presence of God as deeply as I did during my week on Mission:Possible. It would have been easy to look at the destitution this community faces and ask, “Where is God?” It was an incredibly humbling experience to feel the exact opposite. I understood for the first time God’s assertion that he is found in the least of our brothers. God was sitting at the table eating eggs with George every morning. He was waiting in line to get clothes, he was sitting next to Peter at Mass. For the first time in my life, I got to meet God where he truly dwells.”

– Katherine DeGreg, sophomore, electrical engineering major
DESMET HALL OF BROTHERHOOD
LIFE LESSONS FROM THEIR DESMET YEARS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY TOM QUINN [’82]

Fr. Waters was especially kind to me when the first week of my time to work with quality people, especially Father Kevin Waters, S.J. I regret the choice at all. Living at DeSmet gave me the opportunity on campus all four years, but looking back over two decades, I don’t I’m sure I missed a few nuances of the “Gonzaga experience” by living in DeSmet can point to any of the pictures and say, “This is my family” or “I am part of this very large family.” My only wish is that they will, because of what DeSmet means to all who live here.

To me, DeSmet is all about family. Father Kevin Waters and I, as resident director of DeSmet in 1984-85, started the tradition of the annual “DeSmet Family Picture.” To this day, the DeSmet family is immortalized each year by a picture in the hall entry. Anyone who has lived in DeSmet will recognize this tradition as a symbol of the family and the values emphasized by a Gonzaga education. I learned about among the many events that tie those of us from DeSmet together, there is one that sums up a great coming-of-age experience. It was spring 2000 and my freshman year. The Gonzaga men’s basketball team was playing against Purdue in the Sweet Sixteen. I crammed into the room of my good friends Sam Reed and Sam Shaw, then both sophomores. The atmosphere was electric. Already our team was known beyond the “one-year wonder.” The Zags fought hard and we yelled and screamed just as hard. Those of us at DeSmet were and always will be family. Socially, there were no boundaries there. Brand new freshmen were instantly accepted as brothers by the sophomores. It has been nearly 11 years since that March day and I am proud to say I have kept in touch with just about every guy in that room.

It was not worth an early morning conversation. She was not fazed, confident who was on the other end, though. I picked up the phone. “Ben, turn on your TV now. Someone just flew two planes into the World Trade Center.” I love you but I have to go. I need to call your sister.” I turned on the TV, watched the scenes unfold and felt an overwhelming desire to be with others. Up to that point in my existence every significant event in my life had been shared with my family. Yet I was 800 miles from my home in Colorado. I went next door and knocked on Skip Chambers’ door. I apparently was not the only one who had received an early morning phone call. He was sitting on the edge of his bed, without saying a word I joined him. Slowly others from our hallway in DeSmet began to filter in. We all realized we were watching something that would change the world, but none of us were sure what it meant. Classes were cancelled, and conversation filled the remainder of the morning. That day, by helping to fill a void in each other, we began to transition into a family. The lesson that I took from DeSmet was the power of fellowship when engaging the experiences of a lifetime. To this day when I reach a point in my life that needs to be celebrated or mourned I pick up the phone to share my thoughts with some of the men of DeSmet.

Stolz lived in Nashville where he is a second-year oral and maxillofacial surgery resident at Vanderbilt University. He loves all outdoors activities and mourns the fact that he’s found little chance to ski or fish/fly in Tennessee.

For the most part DeSmet is a play-hard, work-hard community at the center of it all, it was a spiritual one. The longest residing resident of DeSmet, Fr. Kevin Waters, held Mass every Sunday evening in the basement. With the gorgeous St. Ali on the other side of the Admin Building and the energized youth of the Student Chapel, one would wonder why a bunch of guys would prefer to go to Mass in a concrete-walled basement, sitting on stained couches and hearing the tinkle and hum of the washers and dryers from the next room. But the question became why not? Father did not have to prepare a sermon to the masses, but a personalized message to a group of young men sharing in the same core beliefs. Those Sunday evenings are some of my fondest memories of DeSmet and Gonzaga. One of my most important decisions ever took place during my sophomore year. Each of the four floors hosted a social gathering every year. I asked Janelle Watts if she would be my date. Seven years later, I asked her to be my wife and, almost to the day 14 years after asking her to be my date, we had a little girl, Isa Pearl Hizzey. Hizzey works for Expeditors International of Washington in Spokane.

I heard a firm knock on the door of my dorm, “Gonzaga Hall!” I responded, as I glanced out the window surveying campus. Two unfamiliar guys sauntered in, introduced themselves and explained that they had lived in that dorm room a decade ago. They talked, and listened. The two exploited every nook and cranny of the double room while reminiscing about the power of DeSmet and the stories of yesteryear.

The left, and I shrugged my shoulders and rolled my eyes. I asked myself, “Why did those guys want to check out their old dorms? What is there to see aside from two desks, a set of bunk beds, an air-conditioned sink and a radiator?” I didn’t understand it then. But I do now. It might be an understatement to say that two years in DeSmet changed my life. DeSmet is a place where maturation occurs, where students challenge themselves daily; where boys become men, and where men become lifelong friends. It would be fair to say that the DeSmet family has its share of other reputations, but I challenge you to rethink those reputations. DeSmet is a brotherhood, rooted in all the values emphasized by a Gonzaga education. I learned about loyalty, community and faith in that four-floor structure, and I developed amazing friendships.

The last time I was in Spokane, I felt compelled to visit campus. I, too, wanted to check out my old DeSmet room. I’m sure the student who opened the door to show an old Zag his former stomping grounds shrugged his shoulders and rolled his eyes after I left. He didn’t understand it then. But he will one day.

Baumgartner lives near Seattle and works for Molina Healthcare in Washington as a training specialist, and keeps in touch with more than a dozen close DeSmet friends.
Hagelin will be ordained into the priesthood this June in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Ben Folger ('07)
I slid my key into my door on Day One with no idea what transformation I would unlock over the next two years. The first transformation: nervousness into laughter. My roommate Scott and I would share Room 209, a single room the size of many people's walk-in closet. It didn't take long to bust out the power drills, attempt to throw up lofts that were shaky at best (literally) and begin to piece together our new home.

Brad Hagelin ('03)
My freshman-year roommate, Bob Duane, and I were assigned to the third floor, on the east side of DeSmet facing Welch Hall. We found conditions even more primitive than I had imagined: tiny room, shabby carpet, old desks, thin mattresses – and, oh, how the radiators clanged if you turned them on. It was a great group of guys, though. Fr. Kevin Waters also lived on the third floor and made us aware that he celebrated Mass Sunday nights in the basement. At Gonzaga, my college rebellion had consisted of not attending Mass the first few weeks. After that, I found a balance missing in my life. One Sunday night, I made my way down to the basement.

Participating in that Mass with about eight other men confirmed what was missing in my life. I began to go every week. This nourished and anticipated a movement in my life that crystallized at Christmas with a very concrete religious awakening. I began to take my faith seriously. The following summer, before returning to DeSmet for my sophomore year, I heard my calling to the priesthood. That year I became active in University Ministry and worked on retreats. I also joined the rugby team because many freshmen on DeSmet third floor had joined. After practice we would sit around in an overcrowded room, exhausted, grass-stained and dirty and play “Halo.” In all of this, DeSmet was a great place for me to be with good companions for that significant part of my life journey.

Eric Mendoza ('06)
One of the best features of DeSmet is the community that is built through the second-year students. Many sophomores find it their unofficial duty to take the freshmen under their wings and help acclimate them to everything Gonzaga. While I didn’t intentionally seek the role my second year, it was this aspect of the DeSmet brotherhood that left one of my most lasting memories. In fall 2004, while many sophomores returned to the third floor, we had a good crop of freshmen that joined our ranks. As always, the freshmen were brimming with questions. I did my best to help answer any inquiry, but did not believe that I was having any profound effect. A few on the floor thought otherwise. One day in March, I was studying in the basement when three of the freshmen came down clad in shirts and ties and asked me to accompany them back up to the third floor. Slightly confused, I nonetheless followed them. As I got closer to the floor, I heard patriotic music blasting. When I turned onto the hallway, almost the entire floor was lined along the walls with “swords” composed of hockey sticks, baseball bats, and guitars that they raised as I walked down the middle. At the end of the hall, one freshman in ceremonial garb asked me to kneel and then “knighted” me “Sir Mendoza the Wise.” I was placed on the shoulders of Calum MacLeod, the third floor’s resident basketball player, while the news was proclaimed to the rest of the floors. While to some outside observers this might just be dismissed as typical DeSmet tomfoolery, it had greater implications. My sophomore year was filled with uncertainty, about my role at Gonzaga and my future. This event convinced me to take a more active leadership role within the school. In its own unique way, the knighting ceremony also helped me decide on a major and my future as a teacher and mentor. I unknowingly helped freshmen in their transition into college life. They, in turn, unknowingly set into motion my future at Gonzaga and into the real world. In the end, this shows the true nature of DeSmet: We enter the hall unsure of our role and leave it as men for others.

(Volker is entering his fifth year in teaching. He teaches middle school in Boston and heads up the Boston Alumni Chapter of the Gonzaga Alumni Association.)

Celebrating Fr. Waters
On Aug. 14, Father Kevin Waters, S.J., will celebrate 40 years as a Jesuit on campus at Seattle University with a Mass at 1 p.m. in St. Ignatius Chapel, followed by a reception.

Gonzaga Magazine | Summer 2011
McBride, 44, who joined the Poynter faculty in 2002 and is now recognized as one of the nation's leading voices on media ethics. “The world is moving forward, and we need to be thinking about the future. And you guys are that future.”

The October seminar was part of Poynter's Sense-Making Project, which McBride conceived with the support of the Ford Foundation to explore the rapid rise in what she calls the Fifth Estate – the digital platforms outside the mainstream media that deliver opinion, news and links to the ever-increasing amount of information available with the click of a mouse.

The project grew out of her role as leader of Poynter's Ethics Group, where McBride is known as both a practical scholar and a reflective practitioner. She fields calls every day from journalists concerned about what they are doing, or what they have been asked to do. When Clark Hoyt was public editor of The New York Times from 2008 to 2010, he was often on the phone with McBride as they discussed issues, such as whether it was appropriate for journalists to contact underage sources through the social-media site, Facebook.

“I was hearing from reporters and photographers being asked to do things for which they weren't qualified, or doing things on the cheap, and they were worried about quality,” says McBride. “There were questions about business pressures, new ways to make money, and niche products sold to a certain audience, and then there were the technological changes affecting journalism.”

Hoyt, now editor-at-large for Bloomberg News, says his discussions with McBride were often lengthy conversations that touched on many corners of a sticky ethical issue. “When I’d toss out an ethical issue to Kelly, it became an extended conversation across many surprising venues,” he says. “Sometimes we didn’t agree. But she was always challenging, thoughtful, able to see complicated subjects from many different points of view, and sometimes surprising in her conclusions. The process was clearly important to her, and she was always more than willing to work it all out with me.”

Last February, McBride took on a new role, as one of three Poynter faculty to offer public commentary on ESPN's content across its various platforms. The 18-month ESPN-Poynter project, which brings the role of a traditional newspaper ombudsman into the 21st century, also addresses fan concerns.

McBride runs half-marathons, training up to 25 miles a week. She ran 2:35 in the Halloween half-marathon in Fort DeSoto Park, and at that point, had three more half-marathons on her calendar.

“In Florida you up your distances in the winter when it cools off,” says McBride, who lives in St. Petersburg with her children, Molly, 16; Clarke, 14; and Maggie, 10. “I’ll be doing a series of four half-marathons, six weeks apart, and I’m looking to get faster with each one. At least that’s the theory.”

McBride earned her undergraduate degree in journalism at the University of Missouri and began her writing career in northern Idaho, writing about crime for Spokane's Spokesman-Review. After six years, she became the paper's religion reporter, which opened up a broad range of stories – from gender politics and fertility issues to clergy abuse. Thelma Steele was so impressed by McBride's grasp of cynicism and sarcasm were prized values. “Sometimes we didn't agree. But she was always challenging, thoughtful, able to see complicated subjects from many different points of view, and sometimes surprising in her conclusions. The process was clearly important to her, and she was always more than willing to work it all out with me.”

When he accepted the apology, Spitzer included an apology to Spitzer, a detailed accounting of the error, and Spitzer's announcement that he accepted the apology and wanted to move on. As part of her research, she called Poynter and spoke with Bob Steele, who then headed Poynter's ethics group. They talked about how a workplace culture can contribute to healthy or unhealthy ethical decisions, especially if cynicism and sarcasm were prized values. Steele was so impressed by McBride's grasp of ethics that he invited her to Poynter as one of 16 Ethics Fellows who came to explore issues in journalism. He subsequently asked her back as a guest teacher. And in 2002, Poynter asked her to join the faculty McBride packed up her family and moved to Florida.

“That story was literally the turning point in my career,” says McBride. “You just never know when opportunity is going to open up for you. You have to always be on your toes.”

“Sometimes we didn’t agree. But she was always challenging, thoughtful, able to see complicated subjects from many different points of view, and sometimes surprising in her conclusions. The process was clearly important to her, and she was always more than willing to work it all out with me.”

When she called The New York Times the day after the contentious November 2000 elections, The American public was still wondering whether George Bush or Al Gore would be our next president. But many from the Inland Northwest were voicing their outrage to Spokesman editors about a headline in that day’s paper: “Nazi priest to sign books,” which appeared over a news brief announcing then-Gonzaga president Father Robert Spitzer's upcoming book signing. An intern copy editor, a GU student who'd had disagreements with Spitzer over campus policy, had written it as a joke, and intended to strip it off the page before it was published. In the rush of election night, the fake headline wasn’t replaced. The next day McBride was assigned the task of writing the front-page story, which included an apology to Spitzer, a detailed accounting of the error, and Spitzer’s announcement that he accepted the apology and wanted to move on. As part of her research, she called Poynter and spoke with Bob Steele, who then headed Poynter’s ethics group. They talked about how a workplace culture can contribute to healthy or unhealthy ethical decisions, especially if cynicism and sarcasm were prized values. Steele was so impressed by McBride's grasp of ethics that he invited her to Poynter as one of 16 Ethics Fellows who came to explore issues in journalism. He subsequently asked her back as a guest teacher. And in 2002, Poynter asked her to join the faculty McBride packed up her family and moved to Florida.

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— David McKay Wilson

A NEW YORK-BASED FREELANCE JOURNALIST, DAVID MACKAY WILSON WRITES FOR UNIVERSITY MAGAZINES AROUND THE COUNTRY.
Monty Hoppel’s baseball career is a combination of both scenes. As general manager for 22 years of the Midland RockHounds, a Double-A franchise in the Texas League, Hoppel sees the dustbowl’s from his Citibank Stadium office. Juxtaposed to that is the stream of fans he greets every night as thousands make their way into his stadium for nearly 100 games a year.

Hoppel has built this once-unappreciated franchise into one of extraordinary success. Not that the team has always been great on the field, but Hoppel and his crew have made RockHounds baseball into a family affair, a virtue that resonates with the Zag from Laurel, Mont.

“From the beginning, when I arrived here in 1989, we saw an opportunity to make this into something very special for families here in west Texas, where there aren’t a lot of other things to do,” Hoppel said. “Attendance shot up and we were able to convince the city to partner with us to build a new 9,000-seat baseball stadium in 2002, and a football/soccer stadium next door which seats 15,000 (and was one of the sites for filming the movie ‘Friday Night Lights’). We offer a playground, whiffle ball field and numerous family promotions.

“And they come.”

Attendance leapt by 30,000 his first year on the job and in 1995 exceeded 200,000, a number believed unreachable in such a small market. Between Midland and Odessa, Texas, combined, are about 240,000 people. The RockHounds’ annual attendance now flirts with 300,000.

As Hoppel told a reporter for Baseball America, “A ballpark in a small community is like a town-hall meeting every night.”

“To accomplish what the RockHounds have done, in one of the smallest markets in AA baseball, is nearly miraculous,” said Texas League President Tom Kayser after Hoppel was named 2010 Minor League Baseball Executive of the Year. Four times Hoppel has been honored as Texas League Executive of the Year. The franchise itself has won its share of awards, including the national 2010 Bowie Kuhn Award for its involvement in Baseball Chapel.

“Monty’s tenure has produced one of the model organizations in all Minor League Baseball,” said Bill Beane, vice president and general manager of the parent Oakland A’s.

Hoppel’s, and the club’s success, is rooted in his own family sense. He grew up in tight-knit Laurel, Mont., and played four sports in high school. Sports were a big community builder there. He tried out for baseball at Gonzaga and didn’t make the cut.

But he found his sports-management passion while working in the Sports Information Office at GU, then for the Spokane Indians in the summer.

“We don’t have any control over the players on the field or the weather,” Hoppel explained, with Oakland making all player decisions and weather having a mind of its own. “But everything else we can control. We have made this a family-friendly entertainment venue, with games, promotions, fireworks and guest appearances.”

Hoppel serves as Texas League director of Baseball Chapel, which provides a spiritual outlet for players, most of whom are from outside the area. From providing transportation to local churches, to locker room chat sessions and Bible studies on Sunday mornings, Baseball Chapel looks out for these young men.

Would Hoppel consider moving up to the majors?

“Our owners have tried unsuccessfully to buy a Major League Baseball franchise, and have asked me to be a part of it but I’m not sure I’d want to leave this city. It’s been a great place to raise our kids. The people are so very friendly. We have a good thing going here.”

— Dale Goodwin
Brad Gilbert graduated in 2003. About a year and a half ago, he took a leap into plastics manufacturing. Early this spring, things were going well enough with his enterprise that he wrote himself his first paycheck. Brad gravitated toward mechanical engineering. With encouragement from Fred Brown, the young man turned to Gonzaga. His grades failed to impress, however, so he spent the next year polishing his coursework at Eastern Washington University. “He had to get a letter of recommendation from his high school teacher,” John Gilbert said. “They wanted to know that he was serious.” After a year at Eastern, Brad re-applied and got into Gonzaga.

What impressed John Gilbert most was the connection to Gonzaga. When the Gilberts’ two sons began college, the family pattern repeated itself. Neither was strongly directed in his education. Both became Marines. Four years later, after seeing a great deal of Asia and the Middle East, both came home with oodles of direction.

Brad worked with a woman “whose husband was into roping.” One day, she put a note on the kitchen counter: “Brad, call Fred Brown.” Brad was thrilled to discover that the anonymous ropier he’d heard his mom mention was none other than Fred Brown, champion roper, Gonzaga alumnus and today the founder and CEO of Next It. Brad worked off his roping lessons with Brown, and that was the beginning of the Gilbert family’s connection to Gonzaga.

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THE GILBERT FAMILY has its fair share of veterans. John Gilbert’s father and father-in-law were World War II vets, Navy and Army. During the Vietnam War, John was in college, but lacked direction. Home on Christmas break from Washington State University, he spotted a Marine Corps poster.

“Before I knew it I was enlisted, and I spent two years in the Marines,” Gilbert says. He came home from Vietnam, married his sweetheart, Sherry, finished his education and began a career in finance, soon becoming president of the successful Bank of Latah.

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The Gilberts knew that they wanted to give back to Gonzaga, and it wasn’t hard to figure out how. The family started a small scholarship fund for veterans. The only qualifications? The recipient must have earned a purple heart or have completed at least two years of active duty. If the scholarship helps another young veteran pursue a purposeful education at Gonzaga, it will fulfill John Gilbert’s hope.

Parents John and Sherry Gilbert.

Regional Scholarships:
Portland, Phoenix and Alaska alumni have, as individual regions, banded together to develop regional scholarships— with more planned in the future. For many alumni, a scholarship for local students is a simple way to give back to Gonzaga and their community. And for Greg Bus (’88) of Portland, it’s more than that. This scholarship is about making it personal,” Bus says. “We want potential donors who have a passion for helping others within this area to directly connect their support to local students.

“It’s such a difficult time today for young students to attend the University of their choice. We’ve all seen examples when young adults reach high and achieve great success. If we can help enable that, the communities we live in will be that much better,” Bus says. For more information on regional scholarships contact Shane Hatch at hatchers@gonzaga.edu.
the simple act of listening and becoming that presence of God for the student before me. Fr. Pedro Arrupe’s prayer has come alive in my own conversations with students in the classroom and in the office when asked to pray about what gets them out of bed in the morning, answers run the gamut from “my mom” to “my education.” At Gonzaga University, students are met at the doors and where they are, and through education and love, introduced to concepts and relationships, which make a difference in the world. Like Gonzaga University, Gonzaga Prep serves students from a wide range of socio-economic situations. Listening to high school students who work to pay their own tuition and who will be the first in their families to attend college gets me out of bed in the morning. The reality of what breaks one’s heart is evident when walking with a student to our free lunch cupboard because of their family’s social-economic struggles or sitting with students as they struggle to view the world through different eyes and with newfound vision.

Arriving at Catherine Monica Hall in the fall of 1982 from Walla Walla, the grasp of what it meant to be starting a university education at a Jesuit school was beyond my years. My first paper was martyred as Father Kuder made it bleed red ink. I thought that perhaps my stay would be brief. Sue Weitz took me under her wing and served as a mentor. Her belief in my leadership skills opened up possibilities that these 25 years later still amaze me with joy and gratitude.

Gonzaga University and the relationship forged with God have affected everything in my life. Beyond my career, it is why my two oldest children are studying at Boston College. Our home is five blocks from Gonzaga’s campus but another home was found 2,600 miles further away at another Jesuit institution. My son and daughter blocks from Gonzaga’s campus but another home was found 2,600 miles further away at another Jesuit institution. My son and daughter Gonzaga and the relationship forged with God have opened up possibilities that these 25 years later still amaze me with joy and gratitude.

The conversations I had with mentors like Sue Weitz and Jesuit Fathers Steve Kuder and Len Stier taught me the importance of being present to the person sitting across from me, looking at them, not through them. I truly believe the biggest grace of my work is the simple act of listening and becoming that presence of God for the student before me. Fr. Pedro Arrupe’s prayer has come alive in my own conversations with students in the classroom and in the office when asked to pray about what gets them out of bed in the morning, answers run the gamut from “my mom” to “my education.” At Gonzaga University, students are met at the doors and where they are, and through education and love, introduced to concepts and relationships, which make a difference in the world. Like Gonzaga University, Gonzaga Prep serves students from a wide range of socio-economic situations. Listening to high school students who work to pay their own tuition and who will be the first in their families to attend college gets me out of bed in the morning. The reality of what breaks one’s heart is evident when walking with a student to our free lunch cupboard because of their family’s social-economic struggles or sitting with students as they struggle to view the world through different eyes and with newfound vision.

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**DISCOVERY IN FLORENCE**

**ABSTRACT TOPOPHILIA** – adj. and noun. Definition: The affective bond between person and place. The love of place.

Ben Joyce's interest in pride of place was born during his junior year in Florence.

"Studying the people of Florence, I could feel their sense of place and it dwaned on me that there was a connection there that I had never observed before," Joyce said. "When I returned to the United States, I realized people here have that same connection and pride of place.

And from that, 'abstract topophilia' was born.

"The term translates into 'love of place,' and there is no better way to explain what I'm trying to do here," Joyce said, who earned a fine arts degree at Gonzaga in 2001. "It's my kind of abstract approach, so abstract topophilia seemed like a natural term for what I'm doing."

Joyce's style is bold and recognizable – layers of bright oil and acrylic on强奸 layers of washable Lambda matte collages, watercolors, from Kirkland, Wash. “Marilyn Maguire Stanton and my wife, LaRue, were close friends during their years at Gonzaga. She and her husband, Fred, were members of our wedding party when LaRue and I were married at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral. Marilyn was the organist and Fred sang "O Promise Me," which was required at all weddings in the 1960s. Accomplished pianist that she was, she had a Kemball Square Brand piano in her home. When she replaced it with a grand piano she offered us the Kemball if we would move it. We hesitated as it weighed at least a ton, but finally accepted, and the piano was in our house for our three children to use."

"56 Pamela (Fourier) Small, St. Alloysius Parish, Spokane, writes: "Your picture is of a great lady and a real asset to our community, Marilyn Stanton, pictured in the 1950s with her ever-present smile. I didn't know Marilyn from the 15 years later than Citizens Against Residential Freeways (CARF) (stopping the Freeways) in Hamilton Street town corridor cold. Marilyn with her great organizational skills headed CARF. Forty years later a freeway is slowly being built, but along the Spokane/Marsh Road Corridor which Marilyn and CARF proposed way back then. The GO neighborhood and Mission Park are still intact."

**MEMORIES OF MARILYN STANTON**

Dale Krumm, husband of the late Dr. Marshall Krumm, from Kirkland, Wash. “Marilyn Maguire Stanton and my wife, LaRue, were close friends during their years at Gonzaga. She and her husband, Fred, were members of our wedding party when LaRue and I were married at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral. Marilyn was the organist and Fred sang "O Promise Me," which was required at all weddings in the 1960s. Accomplished pianist that she was, she had a Kemball Square Brand piano in her home. When she replaced it with a grand piano she offered us the Kemball if we would move it. We hesitated as it weighed at least a ton, but finally accepted, and the piano was in our house for our three children to use."

“62 Dr. Anna Ledgerwood of District 5, Cheney, Wash., writes: "Marilyn Stanton taught embryology and comparative anatomy. I was in her class as a pre-med student in 1960-61. She was an outstanding teacher who expected a lot from the students. At the end of each class, she would say take the next 20 pages and there would be a test on these 20 pages at the beginning of the next class. The mid-term and final exams were always open book and you could bring any material you wanted. She also would announce at the beginning of the test that you could take as long as you wanted and she brought her dinner. The test questions really made you think and it did not matter what books you had – you still had to reason out the question. She would ask such questions as: What physiological change had to occur to allow a certain fish that was native to fresh water, to survive in salt water?"

“73 Roger Brandt of Spokane writes: "The mystery Zag is Marilyn Stanton. I was in two semesters of embryology with her in 1965-66. She was quite the teacher. No monkey-business was allowed, and you had to have all of her notes. I was fortunate to get through both classes with Bs. Boy, was I happy. A lot of students didn’t make it. I can still hear her footsteps coming down the fourth floor of the Administration Building headed for the lab. She was an intimidating figure, but also one of the best over-all professors I had at Gonzaga. Not only did I have Marilyn, I also had Fred Stanton for speech on the first floor of the Administration Building. He was a cupcake compared to her."

“69 Joe Busch of Spokane recalls, "I had Marilyn Stanton for comparative embryology in 1966-67. Remember the year-end finals were scheduled to be two hours long. Mrs. Stanton told us that we could use open books. I thought 'this will be easy.' Silly sophomores. It took five hours, and I swear most kids had headaches leaving the classroom. It was the longest and hardest final I had at GOU. She was a tough teacher, but very knowledgeable."

“71 Mary Anne Brown Stuckart of Spokane reminds her classmates that 2011 is their 40th class reunion and recalls, "I was a student in Marilyn Stanton's anatomy and physiology class during the 1968-69 school year. The class was at 8 a.m. Students were on time and never missed the class; she was so entertaining and interesting with her presentations. I have kept the textbook for 42 years and refer to it frequently regarding medical questions. My fondest memory is that when we studied the reproductive and urinary systems she called it the GO system-short for genital/urinary system. Needless to say she had everyone’s attention."
OFF CAMPUS
Alumni News Briefs

4140
Summer 2011

\'64 Gary Steiner (J.D.) retired from the Pierce County Superior Court bench on Feb. 11. One of his most recognized achievements was co-founding Pierce County’s Drug Court in 1994. It was the 23rd drug court in the nation. Approximately 1,400 individuals have graduated from the program.

\'69 George Sherman writes: "Where can being a Gonzaga alumus lead you? How about on a quarter-mile long footbridge 100 feet above the crocodile-infested Zambezi River?" Last summer, George Sherman and his wife, Valerie, travelled to Zambia and teamed up with Earth Charter US and the Workers Education Association of Zambia to provide clean water, sanitation and clean fuel to local Zambezi villages. (Gonzaga travels to Zambia with students each summer.) "This summer we plan to send three waterless toilets, water purification indicators, solar stove materials, and two trainers to meet with the Gonzaga folks," George said. "The Gonzaga students will participate in the training, so they will have the knowledge and skills to train other villagers. As local people master the skills, they can teach others in the village. We are hoping to introduce the waterless toilets into the government school system, which will provide work for the Zambians who make them, and the local people who install them." George makes his home in Clearwater, Fla., and teaches ethics at the local community college.

\'73 Gregg Hersholt has a new job as the afternoon news anchor and managing editor at Portland’s KOI-FM + AM. For 26 years, Hersholt was a broadcaster at Seattle’s KIRO Radio.

\'75 Patricia Gaudreau, (M.Ed.) wrote the life story of her father, Edmund T. Brigham. (2) \'72 J.D.) for Big Smoky Magazine. Brigham taught at Gonzaga’s Law School before and after receiving his degree. Father Arthur Dussault, S.J., was one of his students and they remained good friends until Brigham passed away in 1973. Gaudreau works at the Pend Oreille County Historical Society in Newport, Wash.

\'84 Theresa Pooley has been appointed a member of the federal Indian Law and Order Commission by President Obama. She has served as the president of the Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association since 2005. Terry Kelly (J.D.) has been named partner at Lee and Hayes PLLC. He has more than 25 years experience in practicing corporate and tax law in Spokane.

\'88 Heather Rafferty…(5) and husband David Garret created an unforgettable Christmas card for 2010 – with a photo of themselves with President and First Lady Obama in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House. David has been with the Secret Service for 19 years and Heather is a stay-at-home mother and volunteer in her church, community and daughters’ school. “David’s job has given us many opportunities,” Heather said. “We have met three presidents, two vice presidents and attended numerous historical events.” They live in Gainesville, Va., with daughters Kailey and Sydney.

\'89 Forrest Ehlinger joined Harrison Medical Center in Bremerton, Wash., as vice president and chief financial officer. In his work he finds himself involved in decision-making that affects the care of patients, whether through staffing decisions, equipment purchases or decisions on strategy. “The great thing about being in my position is that it is one of the rare roles where an accountant can feel like they make a difference in people’s lives,” he said. Ehlinger lives in Tacoma, Wash., with his wife Molly and sons Bryce and Zachary. They spend as much time as possible at their cabin in Priest Lake, Idaho.

\'92 Wendy Burbridge has started a blog about a remake of the popular TV show, “Hawaii Five-O,” for The Honolulu Star’s online magazine, The Honolulu Pulse. She also teaches English at Mililani High School in Mililani, Hawaii.

\'79 Rachelle Anderson (J.D.) has been named a court commissioner of the Spokane County Superior Court. She presides over family law motions and juvenile dependency cases. “The most rewarding part of being on this side of the bench is that I have the ability to use my discretion to help shape solutions for these families who are going through such trauma in their lives,” Anderson said. “As an attorney, I gave my all to help them, but couldn’t make any direct changes in their lives.”

\'98 Annie and Shannon Boruff welcomed their third son, Joseph Cannon, into the world on Oct. 11. Shannon has been product manager of industrial tooling at ESCO for 11 years. Annie was a physician assistant for seven years before becoming a stay-at-home mother. They live in Portland, Ore. Jennifer M. Ilenstine (J.D.) has joined the Fulbright & Jaworski law firm in Los Angeles.

\'93 Rob Hartman was named partner at Spokane law firm, Lee and Hayes.

\'05 Liel Alcantara and Daniel Hougiam…(4) (6) were married on New Year’s Eve at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Seattle. Their wedding party included Gabe Alcantara and Dave, Chris and Rosemary Hougiam. Dr. Syry Uhlenkott, S.J., officiated, and..."
Gonzaga theatre arts costumer Summer Berry created Liz's wedding dress. "Summer was my instructor, mentor and also costumer for a number of theatre productions in which I performed," Liz said. "She and a team of helpers, including Gonzaga alumna Katl Olson Schmider, Beth Bland and Jeanine Dellingner, catered the reception." David Fagley, Gonzaga's director of Jazz Studies and pop band, played saxophone for Daniel and his mother's dance at the wedding. Daniel is a doctoral candidate in music composition at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Liz is in the doctoral program for educational psychology at DePaul University in Chicago. After five-plus years of a long-distance relationship, Dan and Liz were looking forward to being together in Chicago starting in May.

"06 Adam Brachci and Alexis Knutson..." [18] were married on Oct. 9 at Canyon River Ranch near Yakima, Wash. The wedding and reception were filled with Gonzaga alumni, making for a great Zags reunion. The couple now lives in Okinawa, Japan, where Adam is a captain in the Marine Corps. Eric Mendoza, Christine Lauren and Megan Williamson [17] completed the Athens Marathon on Oct. 31.

The marathon commemorated the 2,500th anniversary of the Battle of Marathon. Eric finished in 2:45:99, Chris in 2:46:12 and Megan in 2:46:34. Eric said he and Chris are working as a financial analyst at Lockheed Martin, and is in marketing at TriCreek Capital. Chris is a paralegal for his wife's dental practice.

"10 Eric Hafer (M.O.L.) has been promoted to program manager of community-based services at Riverside Rehab in Darden City, Idaho. Outside of work, Hafer, who lives in Boise, is an avid outdoorsman — snowboarding, disc golfing, running, hiking, camping and traveling. Cameron Knauser (M.O.L.) has been appointed president of Crime Survivors Inc., an advocacy group in Orange County, Calif.

Dr. Edwin MacCamy [102], Dec. 4, Seattle. He practiced in obstetrics and gynecology and taught at the University of Washington Medical School. Over his career, he delivered more than 6,000 babies.

Edward Kraft [29], Dec. 29, Spokane.

Dr. Thomas Mering [40], Nov. 21, Wayzata, Minn. He practiced law in Wayzata and became a district judge.

Philip Dotan [41 J.D.], Jan. 11, Coeur d'Alene. As a teenager he worked in the Panhandle Lumber sawmill in Idaho, and later fought the forest fire that gutted the mill. He is remembered by many in Lake Rural, Idaho, for providing free pro bono legal aid.

Robert Adams [43], Dec. 11, Ravenna, Wash. He farmed in Harrold, Wash. Nov. 25, he was a financial analyst at Lockheed Martin, and is in marketing at TriCreek Capital, a small software company.

Robert Breas [50], Nov. 26, Spokane. He worked as a financial analyst at Lockheed Martin, and is in marketing at TriCreek Capital.

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