The Mystery of the Peacock Mantis Shrimp and Other Tales of Research
The Regulars:

4 On Campus
17 Bulldog Bites
18 Alumni News
23 To be continued . . .

Outside

6 Sister Christine and “her boys”
8 The value of research
12 Jesuit spirit
14 Modern storytellers
16 Time is on his side

About 75 students start fall semester each year with Gonzaga Out-of-Bounds, a five-day excursion in Montana that includes whitewater rafting on the Clark Fork River. The theme of water will extend through the 2008-09 academic year, with reading, events and discussions directed toward all aspects of water: water and spirituality, Western water rights and the global water crisis, as well as Lug-a-Jug, a student campaign against the environmental wastefulness of purchasing bottled water.

“If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.”
Loren Eiseley, anthropologist
 Everywhere we look, the news is good

By Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J.

President

I thought I would interrupt my reflection on spiritual life at Gonzaga for an update on new developments at the University. These areas are particularly exciting: (1) enrollment and retention, (2) new facilities and campus improvements, and (3) the endowment campaign.

Our undergraduate and graduate enrollments are at an all-time high. Approximately 1,100 freshmen are joining us this year from 47 states with very high GPAs and SAT scores. We also expect 150 transfer students. Graduate enrollments have also increased, particularly online distance education (Gonzaga has students online from every state and 13 countries). Our undergraduate enrollment is approximately 4,500 students and our total enrollment (including law and graduate) is approximately 7,250 students.

Along with this growth, we have maintained outstanding academic standards over the last five years with SATs hovering around 1,200 and entering GPAs at around 3.7. The students’ leadership experience and activities are astonishingly positive. Perhaps the best indications of student satisfaction are the freshman retention rate, which has hovered around 91 percent, and our graduation rate, which for the most recent class is 80 percent (excellent by any standard). Informal student satisfaction evaluations show that the vast majority of students are most satisfied with their whole experience at Gonzaga.

I have an opportunity each Commencement weekend to speak with about 400 parents on the Johnston Mall. I have only heard three critical remarks in the last nine years. Parents and students say that the students not only enjoyed their experience and made lifetime friends, but also benefited from learning in the humanities, the professions, faith and service. Thus it seems that our growth has not undermined our academic or educational mission, but rather has enhanced it.

Gonzaga has done exceedingly well in its rankings. The 2009 U.S. News & World Report ranks Gonzaga No. 3 in the West—behind No. 1 Trinity College in Texas and Santa Clara University. The Jepson School of Business Administration (particularly our accountancy program) and our School of Engineering and Applied Science received national accolades. Once again, Gonzaga ranked extremely well in the 2009 Princeton Review’s Top 388 universities in America for undergraduate education. On the most recent Washington State bar examination, our School of Law graduates who took the exam for the first time achieved a 92-percent pass rate. In total, 81 percent of our graduates taking the exam passed, which exceeded the overall statewide pass rate of 74.3 percent (placing us second in the state behind the University of Washington). Once again, our debate and mock trial teams ranked among the highest in the nation.

As many of you know, Gonzaga has built 17 new facilities during the last 10 years. Four of those facilities are just complete or about to be completed: (1) the PACCAR Center for Applied Science, (2) the new Kennedy Apartments (phase II), (3) a new classroom and faculty-office building on the site of the Fuller Paint Building on Desmet near Ruby, and (4) the new soccer stadium (phase I). The PACCAR Center will help expand our engineering and applied science offerings—particularly power, transmission and distribution engineering and information science. The new phase of the Kennedy Apartments will allow additional junior and senior students the valuable opportunity to live on campus. The newly renamed Harry and Colleen Magnuson Theatre (formerly the Russell Theatre) is being completely renovated with new seating, HVAC, stage area, box office and lobby, etc. We also completed a new entryway to College Hall (formerly the Administration Building) with a reflecting pool and a 14-foot high statue of St. Ignatius Loyola. We closed Boone Avenue from St. Aloysius Church to Ruby Street and turned it into a beautiful mall now named the West Mall (donated by the Johnston-Hanson Foundation).

We are preparing to build four additional facilities in the next two years: (1) a new freshman residence hall (south of Catherine Monica), (2) a four-level parking structure north of Madonna Hall (with retail stores on Hamilton), (3) a new student center in place of the COG which will be 160,000 square feet (four times bigger than the current COG and 25 percent bigger than College Hall), and (4) a 700-seat auditorium and concert hall next to the new student center. I will keep you posted on the progress of these new facilities.

Gonzaga will initiate an endowment campaign next year. In addition to some capital projects, the campaign will be concerned principally with increasing endowments for student scholarships which will become increasingly important as collegiate demographics shift toward fewer college-age students in the U.S. population and less affluence among those students. Our friends and benefactors have been very generous in the past with help for needy students. We know that our students’ needs will continue to move the hearts of those who have participated in the Gonzaga experience.

The campaign also will be concerned with endowments to enhance academic resources. We will seek endowments for faculty development and enrichment; student life and activities; student leadership; and endowments for academic programs (such as the Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, Honors Program, etc.); endowments for our student life and athletic teams. These endowments are linked to the operationalizing of our Strategic Plan. In my next column, I will address this operational plan and link it to the goals of our endowment campaign and Strategic Plan.

**Letters to the Editor**

**Germanic wisdom**

There were not many German majors in the class of ’66 but I was one of them, and Mike Herzog was another. I eventually became a German teacher and ran my own German language school for adults.

I remember so fondly three faculty members who welcomed me into the German “welt” (or world) at Gonzaga: Valentin Herzog, Trudi Hutterbach and Franz Schneider.

It was wonderful to read the article “A Watcher at the Gate” (Spring 2008). Those who knew Valentin will remember that he always greeted us full of enthusiasm, encouragement and Germanic wisdom.

I have always been very happy that I traveled from the Midwest out to the West to attend Gonzaga.

Virginia Rees Low (’66)

Shoreline, Wash.

**The “sixth pillar”**

I enjoyed Peter Tormey’s candid look at GU tuition costs and expenses (Summer 2008). Obviously we need to boost our endowment to remain the bargain that we are. Tormey astutely observed what I would call (with apologies to Fr. Spitzer) the “sixth pillar” of Gonzaga University: “Gonzaga developed its singular culture and personality and earned the gratitude of so many alumni by making finances work for students, their families and the University.” Having served previously on the Board of Regents, I know first hand that the leadership of Gonzaga takes this very seriously.

Michael J. Killeen, ’71 (B.A.), ’77 (J.D.)

Seattle
No. 3 best in West, U.S. News rankings

Gonzaga University remained the No. 3 best university in the West in U.S. News & World Report’s 2009 annual college rankings for “Universities–Master’s” and is No. 3 for best value, and its engineering program rose four spots to No. 21. Gonzaga also ranked No. 3 among the top 53 schools for alumni giving, with 25 percent of alumni giving to their alma mater in 2005-06 and 2006-07. Gonzaga’s School of Engineering and Applied Science tied with five other schools as the No. 21 best undergraduate engineering program in the nation among engineering schools without a doctoral program; it was ranked No. 25 last year.

The rankings mark the 14th consecutive year that Gonzaga has ranked among the West’s best universities.

Fulbright awards two graduates

Two recent Gonzaga graduates have received Fulbright Awards for 2008-2009. Christi Anne Hofland (‘06) of Shoreline, Wash., daughter of theatre Associate Professor John Hofland, received a grant for a year in the Ukraine, and Kathleen Wood (‘05) will spend her year in Honduras. This means that Gonzaga has had five Fulbrights in four years.

“I have no doubt that both these young women will represent us very well as they pursue their projects,” said Associate Professor Patsy Fowler of the English department and chair of Gonzaga’s Fulbright Committee. “Christi Anne will be working at a rehabilitation center for disabled and ill children using art as a means of healing, and Kathleen’s project focuses on farming strategies and food security in poor communities.”

Luvera Lecture by Stephen Lewis

Canadian Stephen Lewis, one of the world’s most influential speakers on human rights, social justice and international development, will deliver the 2008 Luvera Lecture on Oct. 27 at noon in Seattle and 5 p.m. in Spokane.

Time magazine named Lewis one of its “100 Most Influential People In The World” in 2005. Lewis is the co-director of AIDS-Free World, an international advocacy organization working to promote more urgent and effective global responses to HIV/AIDS, and a former United Nations special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa and remains active internationally in efforts against AIDS. Lewis also is a professor of global health at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

Global crises, local answers

Five Gonzaga students attended a national conference in New York this summer on responding to humanitarian crises. They came home with a plan to “think globally and act locally.”

“Engaging Students in Humanitarian Action” was held at Fordham University by the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network. The organization is designed to exchange ideas and resources to improve the effectiveness of Jesuit universities’ response to global humanitarian crises. The conference included several eye-opening sessions on the logistics of crisis work.

“I had no idea so much planning goes into the construction of refugee camps,” said junior Angi Ramos. “It’s hard to imagine that the average time span to be a refugee is 17 years.”

Now far-flung, Micronesia to New Jersey

While Gonzaga is proud of the number of students who do a year or more service work after graduation, it’s not often that an entire houseful of seniors – six roommates in all – make individual and far-flung commitments to service. Each found a program that fits his personal interests and gifts. Dan Talevich and Wes Norstadt are volunteering for Teach for America, in Hawaii and southern Texas, respectively. Matt Miller is working in a school in Micronesia through Jesuit Volunteers International. Conor Senecal is at a junior high school in Camden, N.J., through Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Matt Pollard is a Vista volunteer for Gonzaga’s CCASL, or Center for Community Action and Service Learning. John Thompson is working in a Philadelphia non-profit law office through JVC.

“The close relationships in our house cannot be denied,” Thompson said. “We shared similar views on many different issues, and we all thought that we could make an impact through service, even though we are all doing such diverse work.”

Father Gary Uhlenkott, S.J., met the six young men during the Florence Christmas Tour to Tunisia, and got to know them better back in Spokane. “Most of them ended up taking my night section of ‘Music in Film and Television,’” said Uhlenkott, associate professor of music. Many conversations later, he learned that all were committed to some sort of service.

“This would have been remarkable if they were all going together as friends to the same place, but it was surprising to hear that they were all going to different places. It just goes to show that students are formed as much by each other as they are by the formal structures of the University,” he said.

Correction: Assistant Professor William Hayes, sociology and criminology, was among the non-tenured faculty honored last spring. Editors mangled his name in the most recent issue.
No, we’re not re-enacting “The Birds”
Jonathan Isacoff, associate professor of political science and director of Gonzaga’s environmental studies concentration, has another area of expertise—birding—and a spectacular location for it on Gonzaga’s campus and the adjoining Spokane River.

This summer Isacoff’s confirmed list of species cited on campus stood at 62. His favorite sighting on campus? “I’ll go with a merlin, a deep-forest falcon that comes to Spokane County in small numbers in the winter,” Isacoff said. “One flew over my head as I came out of Jepson in February. And for an honorary mention, bald eagles occasionally can be seen over the river across from the new baseball complex, especially in late fall, winter or early spring.”

In May, Isacoff sent an inaugural Gonzaga report to the Inland Northwest Birders Web site including this gem: “Last week, I observed a bald eagle, osprey, northern harrier and one red-tailed hawk apiece on each of the St. Aloysius Church spires!”

Isacoff became hooked on birding at a tender age. “When I was 10, I moved from New York City to the outer suburbs. I had no friends and nothing to do after school so my stepfather bought a birdfeeder and gave me his binoculars and ‘Peterson’s Field Guide.’ After tramping in the local woods for six months, I was hooked.”

New engineering program launched this fall
The School of Engineering and Applied Science is launching an engineering management program which will replace its general engineering program. The new program is among 10 undergraduate programs nationwide with “engineering management” in their title. Gonzaga’s goal is to seek accreditation for the degree as soon as possible. Its curriculum will lead to a bachelor of science in engineering management, plus a general business minor and a focus in an engineering concentration track. A total of five tracks will be provided.

“With the prospects for accreditation of this new degree and the changes we have made, I hope to eventually have 50 to 75 students going for the new degree,” said Dean Dennis Horn. The program will produce professional engineers who can both manage resources and communicate effectively with technical staff.

Last fall, just 20 students were enrolled in the old program, which will be phased out.

A mighty example of inflation: 1900 to 2008
The three-story, brick Huetter Mansion, which formerly housed the Bishop White Seminary on the northwest corner of Sharp and Addison, was moved about 120 feet to the east this summer to the northeast corner the same intersection. The Catholic Diocese of Spokane donated the 109-year-old, 900,000-pound building to Gonzaga. The historic mansion will likely be used for University Relations activities. The cost of the move and realignment is estimated to be around a half-million dollars.

Gonzaga undertook a similar move of major proportions in 1900 when the original Gonzaga building, all 2.5 million pounds of it, was moved from 300 E. Boone Ave., near the current site of Knights of Columbus, to a site where the Jesuit House sits south of St. Aloysius Church, a distance of 500 feet. That move cost about $6,000, plus another $2,500 for a new foundation. The move took two months to complete with eight horses and a winch.

Grad school or Peace Corps: Why not both?
Gonzaga’s Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (MA/TESL) program is one of eight nationwide chosen as new partners in the Master’s International program of the Peace Corps. Participating students will study on campus, usually for one year, spend the next two years earning academic credit while working overseas in a related Peace Corps project before returning to GU.

“Affiliating with the Peace Corps program enables us to provide a high quality program for our TESOL students while also enabling them to make a global impact,” said Mary Jeannot, associate professor and program director of the MA/TESL program.

Since the Peace Corps’ inception 46 years ago, 254 Gonzaga alumni have joined its ranks. Gonzaga is second nationwide among peer institutions for producing Peace Corps volunteers with 32 alumni now serving.

An exhibition of lithographs by Fritz Scholder will be displayed in the Arcade Gallery of the Jundt Art Museum through Nov. 15. Scholder, who was one-quarter Indian by birth, rose to fame in the 1960s. Disillusioned by the way Indians were portrayed in art, he felt that “the American Indian artist must step out of the arena of curios into the world of fine objects and expressive painting.” The exhibit is sponsored by the Kalispel Tribe of Indians.
Two years ago, Sister Christine Samoei came to Gonzaga from the Rift Valley province of Kenya. She traveled on a one-way ticket and her trust in God. Her field is special education, and with her gift for spotting strength and goodness in every child, she is a natural.

“I feel so much compassion for special children. It was neither their choice to be born this way, nor the choice of the parents,” Sister Christine said. “So neglecting such a human being is not acceptable in God’s eyes.”

Professor Randy Williams, who has taught in Gonzaga’s School of Education since 1979, admires her faith, talent and hard work.

“Sister Christine brings a unique dimension to our classes: being an older student, a minority, a non-U.S. citizen and a nun. It only takes a few minutes of being in her presence to realize what a caring person she is and how much she trusts in God to guide her,” he said. To overcome her initially limited English and computer skills she worked many extra hours to master critical information and skills so that she would be more competent at serving children with serious disabilities,” said Williams, who helped to found Gonzaga’s widely recognized special education program.

When Sister Christine talks about the children she encounters in her practicum work, she speaks of “my children” or “my boy.” Her face glows each time, and her affection could not be more obvious.

One of her favorites is a Spokane middle school student with autism. Whether the task at hand is clearing a table or walking to the neighborhood store, Sister Christine gives him time to process what she is asking and patiently encourages the behavior she wants.

“I always see something good in the person and I call for that. My call is to serve others regardless of where they are. I always encourage somebody to grow, to be a better person.”

After two years at Gonzaga, her English still carries a whisper of Nandi, her tribal tongue, and Swahili, the dominant language of Kenya. English is her third language and adults sometimes ask her to repeat her soft-spoken words.

“But the children? They understand me just fine.”

In many ways, Sister Christine straddles two worlds. As a non-traditional student, she studies alongside Gonzaga classmates who are half her age. Her work with American children of all ages has given her insight into the culture, including youngsters who watch too much TV and don’t know how to prepare their own lunches. She grew up in the Nandi district of Kenya in a way of life that couldn’t be more different.

“A 10-year-old child at home can take care of a younger child or a baby. They can feed the baby, carry the baby on their back. The mother can leave, and the 10- or 11-year-old child takes full responsibility of that baby.”

After two years of academic work at Gonzaga and in American culture, Sister Christine finds much to praise and appreciate. “I like Jesuit spirituality, in that everything we do is for the greater glory of God. Also, I like the way people interact here. One thing I’ve learned is that my teachers want me to succeed and that is really something wonderful. Learning here is overflowing.” Her hand sketches the flow of a rollicking stream.

“In my country, learning is a hard walk, climbing the hill. Most of the children drop out of school. You are all alone, not encouraged. But here, you are being pulled along, you are being encouraged. I hope that spirit is coming to my country.”

Sister Christine also appreciates the partnership in the United States among schools, parents and communities. “Whatever the teacher teaches, it can be followed up at home. The parents play a bigger role.”

She and others in her order, the Sisters of Assumption, traveled to the villages near their convent. Polio is not completely vanquished in Kenya, and Sister Christine tells of seeing men or women who could only crawl in the village streets, profoundly disabled because no one provided them with or taught them how to use crutches. The sisters would search out children with disabilities. Sometimes it truly took a search, for some families believed that a special-needs child was a curse or bad omen.

“Did I tell you about my boy Edwin? We found this child in a village. We took him to a home we set up and started him in preschool. We took care of that child, and he grew. We were able to buy him a wheelchair, and get him through elementary school and high school!”

Edwin Mitei is now a rare success story, a college graduate. He keeps the accounts for the Assumption Sisters of Eldoret in Kenya. And he is still one of Sister Christine’s boys.

Sister Christine Samoei will graduate in December and will start work on a master’s in counseling.

Sister Christine holds a very young Edwin Mitei. This photo was taken soon after he came into her life.

Edwin Mitei is now a college graduate.

► Sister Christine and one of ‘her boys’ shoot hoops. Photo by Jennifer Raudebaugh
Research. The word itself may bring to mind excitement (who knows what you might discover!), drudgery (analyze the results...again?) or nervousness (what if your hypothesis is completely off base?). Regardless of how you may feel about research, the fact remains that it is a bona fide aspect of a Gonzaga undergraduate education.

From our own investigation into this story, we learned that research doesn’t just happen in the science labs within Hughes Hall. Oh no. We found students concocting sports drinks for the sake of athletes’ well-being; creating windmills as sources of cheap, renewable energy for third-world countries; even devising the most efficient combination of antennas to minimize interference for wireless users.

So here is our own hypothesis: We believe that after reading this article, you will possess at least a 30 percent greater awareness of the level of commitment demonstrated by our faculty and students in their quest for research within their own professions. Give or take one standard deviation, of course.
**Fishing for clues**

Jacob Andrew ('09), right, and John Dorsey ('09), above, have been close friends ever since they took many of the same biology classes their sophomore year. This past summer, the two shared yet one more endeavor: aquatic-based research.

While most people were out on the lake, Andrew and Dorsey spent their days in the biology lab, studying kick-boxing shrimp and paranoid pumpkinseed sunfish. Assistant Professor Brook Swanson of biology serves as their faculty adviser.

"Thanks to funding from the Gonzaga Student Research Program, I was able to hire both," said Swanson.

Andrew delved into three-inch thick books to learn what he needed about the shrimp he would study 40 hours a week: the peacock mantis shrimp. "It has that name because its coloring is similar to a peacock, its front legs and eyes are like a praying mantis and its tail looks like a shrimp but it is none of these," said Andrew. "What makes it so intriguing are its front legs, which aren’t actually legs at all. The technical term for them is ‘dactyls,’ and they can strike objects at an equivalent of 50 miles per hour. Or 300 pounds of force, whichever astonishes you more. The dactyl is strong enough to bust open snail shells. The four feeding appendages behind it hold the prey while the dactyl hits and smashes the prey. It’s quite impressive."

Andrew readied two 10-gallon tanks in preparation for the arrival of the two shrimp. (One tank for each since they've been known to fight and break aquarium glass.)

"The focus of my research is to determine the maximum amount of stress and strain a dactyl can withstand before breaking," said Andrew. "In the human world, we’re not very good at making materials that can do both; we can usually do one or the other, but not both. The goal is to be able to transfer the data I glean into creating man-made materials that embody similar characteristics. This is intriguing to many different types of industries, including the military."

Meanwhile, a video camera runs incessantly just down the lab counter. Behind it sits Dorsey, carefully recording the eating habits of his two research subjects: pumpkinseed sunfish. "You can find these fish in just about any lake around here," said Dorsey. "I’m studying whether heavy-metal pollution has an effect on their eating habits or their ability to escape from predators."

By feeding half the fish clean snails and the other half polluted snails, Dorsey hopes to compare the impact of pollution. "Our guess is that heavy metals significantly affect their nervous system, but we have yet to find out for sure," said Dorsey.

"We expect fish living in polluted water aren’t able to eat as efficiently or escape from predators near as quickly. Both have profound ecological implications for the fish and their environment."

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**Pain with a purpose**

Ask Dione Fernandez ('08) if she knows the pain associated with research. Not just typical brain pain, but true, physical pain.

"I volunteered to be the first research subject for our team project, which was determining how and if muscle pain affects an athlete’s performance, particularly with running," Fernandez said. "I ran a total of five tests on the treadmill: a 10-minute run the first day, followed by a 28-minute run the following day, one day off, a 20-minute downhill run at 7 mph the next day, and then I repeated the first two runs within 48 hours. My muscles were definitely sore."

Fernandez, who graduated last May with a double major in exercise science and chemistry, began a new position in Gonzaga’s exercise science department as a student adviser this fall.

"Research projects are a hallmark of our program," said exercise science Professor Dan McCann. "It allows our students to see the connection between the classroom and the real world."
Fernandez’s team based its research on two sets of data: one is called VO2max, which is how much oxygen an athlete breathes per minute based on how hard he or she is working. The other is running economy, which focuses on the maximum amount of oxygen an athlete needs to do regular exercise.

“The problem with relying solely on VO2max was discovered in studies on Kenyan runners, who had very low levels of VO2max, yet were still able to maintain high levels of performance,” said Fernandez. “That led us to ask ourselves, ‘Are Kenyans simply more economical with how they run and breathe compared to other populations? Which would be the best performance indicator: VO2max or running economy?’ We decided to try to link the two by purposely creating muscle pain on our research subjects to determine if it had an effect on both running economy and VO2max.”

Analyzing the data came from the gas flow mask the athletes wore as they feverishly ran on the treadmill. “The mask, which covered their mouth, was plugged into a computer with gas analyzing software,” said Fernandez. “From that we calculated the liters of oxygen per minute they consumed as well as how much carbon dioxide they exhaled. This data enabled us to assess each subject’s running economy and VO2max.”

Unfortunately, her team’s hypothesis that muscle pain would change both VO2max and running economy was never proven to be statistically significant since they didn’t have enough test subjects. “We did find that both VO2max and running economy changed with the onset of muscle pain; it just wasn’t statistically significant.”

Hernandez is quick to identify her favorite part of the project. “I got to be the expert,” said Hernandez. “I feel as if I could tell stories for hours on running economy and VO2max.”

Over a barrel

Senior Isaac Stickney (’09), above left, is a numbers guy. He loves math, science and cars. Last year Phil Appel, associate professor of mechanical engineering, above right, challenged Stickney and other interested students to build a ‘junkyard windmill.’ “He wanted to show the GU community that we can make energy very cheaply and environmentally,” Isaac explained. “I wanted to prove that I could do it, too.”

Behind Appel’s challenge was this idea: If his students could build a simple windmill out of inexpensive, readily available parts, the design plans could be sent to Kenya, where villagers could create and maintain their own small power plants. Reliable power would be a godsend to individuals with a variety of skills.

“It’s the old teach-a-man to fish idea,” Appel said.

Isaac and his fellow researchers hit upon a little known design, the Savonius wind turbine. For a junkyard windmill, it was perfect. Barrels, split in half vertically, acted as the sails. Best of all, the turbine can function at just about any wind speed.

Isaac’s role was to determine precisely how to place the barrel halves in relation to each other, to maximize efficiency. He’ll further that research this year in his senior design project. Numbers guy or not, he waxes poetic about one moment last spring. “We decided we’d been in the lab with the windmill for too long. We used a fan in the lab to approximate wind, but it just wasn’t the same. As soon as we took it outside, it started rotating on its own with just a 2-3 mph wind. That amazed me. It was a beautiful sight to see.”

Appel landed a $10,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant to finalize the junkyard windmill plans and take them to Kenya.

Sending all the right signals

One year ago Tom Stokes (’08), far left, was in downtown San Jose with a 30-foot telescoping mast jetting directly out of the side of his truck. Legally, even.

“The Bay area has many city-wide wireless networks that are free for everyone to use,” said Stokes, who graduated last May with an electrical engineering degree. “It was the perfect place for us to test interference in a densely urban area. We took measurements for hours, but once we finished we had a much better idea of how to build an antenna that would ignore interference yet improve the quality of the signal.”

The interference Stokes refers to is wireless noise. Stokes, and three other Gonzaga engineering students – Russ Whiton, AHN Truong and Ben Brownlee – worked with Bob Conley, their senior design liaison. Bob’s company, LHC2, based in Liberty Lake, Wash., researches wireless networks and constructs antenna systems that promise to
minimize interference and maximize signal quality in the presence of other wireless devices, including cordless phones, Bluetooth headsets and laptops. Their GU faculty adviser was electrical engineering Professor Steven Schennum.

“There are so many devices in the wireless spectrum that are competing for the same limited bandwidth,” said Stokes. “We wanted to develop a system that would recognize its environment and logically choose the right type of antenna for peak performance.”

Stokes and his team worked on the project throughout their senior year, yet realize they take with them something that will benefit them for years to come.

“This project has given me skills far beyond the technical aspect of engineering,” said Stokes. “I’ve learned how to integrate engineering with business decisions and how to present those results to executives. That’s not something I could have ever learned in a classroom.”

An exercise in image

Molly Wendt (‘08) points to an often overlooked benefit of undergraduate research. “Conducting your own research actually teaches you how to do research.”

Wendt, a sociology major, researched how female athletes at Gonzaga perceive their own body images. She conducted 15 formal interviews and as many as 20 informal interviews. Her findings? Contradictory pressures besiege the female athletes, she said.

“They are under so many pressures. Pressure from their trainers and coaches, pressure from their mothers, from the media, even from their fans,” Wendt said. Trainers and coaches want their athletes to do more conditioning and add muscle. While some athletes say they get only support from their moms and friends, others hear a refrain urging them to lose 10 pounds, to look cute and be more feminine.

Last April, with motivation and mentorship from assistant professors of sociology Vik Gumbhir and Bill Hayes, Wendt and several other sociology majors took their research papers to a regional conference in Portland. While they weren’t the only undergraduates at the Pacific Sociological Association event, they heard repeatedly that their in-depth, individual research projects far outstripped students representing other undergraduate programs.

All shook up ▲

A picture may be worth a thousand words. But what happens when photographs are selected by someone with an agenda?

Anna-Sophia Zingarelli (‘08) chose this topic – photography as propaganda – to research for her history thesis. Her childhood spent in San Francisco, Zingarelli was familiar with photographs of the 1906 earthquake and fire.

When she discovered in Gonzaga’s archives a booklet titled Past, Present and Future, she knew she had found her research topic. The City Beautiful photographs and text were calculated to minimize the damage and to urge a triumphal rebuilding.

But Zingarelli recalled a more powerful collection of quake photos – one that showed the depths of human dislocation and loss. The photographer was a young Edith Irvine, whose family lost its wealth in the catastrophe. Fascinated that two sets of photos could support such different stories about one event, Zingarelli set out to research the varying biases that can be unveiled through an examination of which photographs have been used by the media and historians who have since treated the subject, and which photographs remain obscure, their stories more or less ignored.

Her research and writing point to compelling questions about attitudes, conditions and earthquake preparedness in San Francisco today.

“I compared the composition of the photos, the difficulty endured by the people in the photographs and the kinds of damage shown. It was a lot of fun,” Zingarelli said. ▲

Drink to your health

Even Gatorade had humble beginnings. Upon guzzling his first attempt at the drink, J. Robert Cade, the inventor of Gatorade, promptly vomited. Those were comforting words to Mallory Novack (‘08), whose first test subject experienced the same fate after drinking her concoction.

“I had to find the cause of his GI distress: Was it the drink’s concentration or the volume he consumed?” said Novack, who earned her chemistry degree from Gonzaga last May. “After much trial and error, I found the right formula and started testing my subjects, and collecting and analyzing the data.”

Novack’s adviser, chemistry Professor Stephen Warren, started the study when he targeted a molecule that neurons use for energy. “I found it intriguing because of the potential neurological effects,” said Warren. “I wondered if there was a point at which athletes depleted so much energy from their bodies that the brain itself began running out of energy. We discovered normal carbohydrates aren’t the preferred energy source for neurons, so we created a different type of carbohydrate that we hoped would be.”

“My hypothesis was that once my test subjects consumed the sports drink it would reach their bloodstream and increase their blood lactate levels,” said Novack. “It was rewarding to prove my hypothesis and see the increase in the subjects’ blood lactate levels. However, my statistical analysis and small subject pool didn’t allow me to verify if the increase was significant based on a one standard deviation.”

Despite the statistical insignificance, Novack recognized the project’s long-term value. “I was able to apply what I learned in chemistry in a hands-on way,” said Novack, who started medical school at Touro University in Nevada this fall.

Do you believe that the information is complete? No. Is it accurate? Yes. Is it relevant? Yes. Is it clear? Yes.
Surrounded by wisdom ... with humility and space to think

Story by Dale Goodwin
Photos by Brad Reynolds, S.J.

It is almost a mind-boggling contrast, the University's bustling campus versus the serenity found at the Jesuit cemetery six miles to the north.

Up here at Mount St. Michael's, you can hear the wind whistle through oak, blue spruce and ponderosa pines. You can talk to Gonzaga founder Father Joseph Cataldo, S.J., and former alumni chaplain Father Tony Lehmann, S.J., as if they had walked our campus at the same time. Oregon Province Jesuits have been buried here for more than a century. There is nothing pretentious, but everything spiritual, about this place.

Surrounded by the wisdom that is represented here, you find humility and space to think. The rolling terrain seems to represent an Order in constant motion, the way St. Ignatius imagined it 465 years ago.

The passage of each Jesuit is clearly identified, as older, upright grave markers of white stone give way to more recent ground-level, marble headstones. Each Jesuit is buried in order of his death.

“When we walk around the cemetery it is seldom for nostalgic reasons, but to sense the spirit that these men embody, and it is the same spirit that we carry with us today,” said Father Pat Lee, S.J., provincial, or religious leader, of the Oregon Province.

Father Joe Conwell, S.J., perhaps the oldest Jesuit in the Oregon Province, who entered the Order in 1937, finds that spirit is not lost on today's Jesuit youth.

“When we were scholastics up at Mount St. Michael’s we would walk down to the cemetery on lunch and dinner breaks and say a prayer. Just the other day I saw some of today's novices go up there to leave the ashes of Father E.B. Painter, S.J., who died recently,” Fr. Conwell said. “I think this place – and the Jesuit spirit – means as much to them as did to the men buried up there.

As in any community, the Jesuits represent a blend of different perspectives and personalities. The clowns and the intellectuals, the socialites and the sophisticates.

But here, everyone is equal. “The saints are buried next to the sons-of-guns,” one Jesuit remarked.

Father Bob Lyons, S.J., rector of the Oregon Province retirement community at Gonzaga, points out the grave sites of two quite different Jesuits. Fr. Cataldo was a missionary who came west from St. Louis and founded the school that would become Gonzaga University. He was a visionary and well-known throughout the territory. Father Walter Leedale, S.J., also played a major role in Jesuit work at Gonzaga, but in less publicized roles — music teacher, counselor, academic adviser, library associate.

“Both men found meaning in their jobs as it pertained to the Jesuit mission far greater than their job descriptions would depict,” Fr. Lyons said.

“We Jesuits pass on a spirit, a mission, just as a traditional family passes on genes,” said Fr. Lee.

Up here, the wind blows a lot. Perhaps it is that Jesuit spirit, swirling and finding God in all things and in all people.
When John Caputo came to Gonzaga University as a visiting professor 19 years ago, he anticipated a communication revolution. Caputo might have had second thoughts, however, when he entered a small, fourth-floor Administration Building office. There, he was told by a staff member, “Faculty don’t have computers at Gonzaga.”
In the nearly two decades since, Caputo has seen some of his career dreams come true. He started a master’s program in communication and leadership studies that began in 2004. As the world grows increasingly connected, the program has never been more relevant. Offered online and “on-the-ground,” interest is reflected by an enrollment of 273 students: 49 in the classroom, 223 online.

Caputo says the online curriculum allows professionals to experience Jesuit education, gain the skills needed to remain competitive in the market place. “Our online education only works to the extent that there is a first-rate, high-quality master’s program on campus,” Caputo said. “Peter Drucker wrote that universities as we know them will not exist in 30 years. I still think what we do on the ground and in the classroom makes everything else possible.”

St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, would approve, he said. “His (Ignatius) people have technology to promote the same mission of faith and justice and my sense is, yes, Ignatian pedagogy translates into a multimedia world,” he said.

The incessant advance of technology has made global markets instantly accessible and has connected people and cultures like never before. As organizations and industry have asked for more and better ways to conduct business, entrepreneurs and technology have met the challenge. What remains are communications challenges for organizations trying to bridge modern divides of culture and language. This is the landscape that has given growth to the International Media Certificate program, a four-week international summer immersion experience. It offers media training for GU undergraduate and graduate students.

**Language and society**

Teams of four students, based in the ancient towns of Cagli, Italy, and Armagh, Ireland, dip their toes into the modern practice of multimedia journalism. Each student gains experience writing for the Web, creating Web pages, interviewing, taking photos, shooting video and editing. Faculty are assigned to each group. The approach has captivated U.S. educators, students and journalists. Most agree this modern method of storytelling across multiple media platforms is the wave of the future.

The summer media course is set in small, rural towns so students can know foreigners and recognize similarities and differences between cultures and people, instead of a traditional focus on differences, he said.

“Young people begin to think that everyone is the same throughout the world because their perceptions don’t ever change,” Caputo said. “Our media convergence program immerses them in another culture. The students become backpack journalists and start to understand and appreciate how important language is in the fabric of society.”

Putting it all together

Christine Slomski, who earned a bachelor’s degree in public relations in May, said she was overjoyed with her experience in Armagh last summer. “This was really an enriching academic experience. It was jam-packed with so much, just an amazing curriculum. And it was self-empowering for us to be journalists, to find a story, research it and do the photography and videography,” she said. “It requires a lot of you, but if you are willing to put yourself into it, what you will get out of it is so rewarding.”

Slomski happened upon an event of historic significance when a conference in Armagh included representatives of both sides of the longstanding “troubles.” The big news was that nothing happened. “Can you believe this? I never thought I’d live to see this,” Slomski recalled.

Caputo says technology and communication have made the world a place where endlessly fascinating stories await modern storytellers. Ironically, computers – the now ubiquitous tools Caputo thought I’d live to see this, ‘m” Slomski recalled.

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A few economic realities seem to indicate multimedia journalism will be here to stay: a near universal decline in newspaper subscriptions nationwide and declining market shares for many traditional broadcast media entities as more people, especially the young, turn to the Internet for news. Print and broadcast news media owners wishing to remain relevant realize they must invest more in their online reports as they try to retain subscribers and adapt to a major realignment of markets.

Earlier this year, the American Journalism Review wrote about the widespread interest in multimedia journalism among U.S. journalists, media companies and college journalism programs. Gonzaga’s summer program was discussed regularly last year at TVSpy.com’s “ShopTalk” [www.tvspy.com/shoptalk.cfm], a daily Web-based newsletter sent to 30,000 mostly broadcast media. Classes at Columbia University, Syracuse University and others required “ShopTalk” as daily reading.

“There is a lot of rich learning going on here,” Caputo said. The Overseas Press Club grants membership to all students in the summer program.

Alexandra Lanouette, an alumna from the master’s program, attended the Italy summer media program when it was in Camerino in 2006. She is finishing a master’s degree in international policy studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. “It benefited me academically in terms of all my cross-cultural communication theory background,” she said. “The International Media program allowed me to further experience living and studying abroad and gave me an amazing foundation for my current studies.” She is completing a six-month internship with the U.S. Department of State.

“Many people I work with and many of my schoolmates and professors are impressed with my organizational communication and leadership background,” she said.

Some have parlayed the course into faculty positions. Dan Garrity uses skills he learned in the summer program as an assistant professor at Gonzaga and as director of broadcast studies. Others have taken faculty and staff positions at other schools, including Debbie Scholluck, director of marketing at University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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Staying power

By John Blanchette

 Gonzaga basketball is, among more visceral pleasures, a feast of numbers. Ten straight NCAA Tournament appearances. Twelve of the last 15 West Coast Conference regular season championships. A hundred weeks in the Top 25 this decade. The last eight WCC Players of the Year.

Here’s an underrated statistic, but maybe the most important of them all: Time served.

In his upstairs office at McCarthey Athletic Center, Leon Rice turns a visitor’s attention to a print tacked to the wall. It is a photograph that appeared in Sports Illustrated back in 2000, four women hoisting up babies dressed to spell out “ZAGS,” in support of Gonzaga at the NCAA Tournament in Tucson. One of the boys is Rice’s son, Max. Another is head coach Mark Few’s oldest, A.J. All four of those pictured babies will turn 9 this year.

“I don’t think their mothers could hold them up like that now,” Rice laughed. “If they could, I’d be impressed.”

This also means that Leon Rice celebrates a milestone of his own this season – his 10th at Gonzaga as a member of Few’s staff.

Dues now paid in full.

OK, that’s a joke. Now Few’s associate head coach, Rice’s contributions to the program were obvious long before now. But there is something in double-digit longevity that illustrates a core reason for Gonzaga’s basketball success.

It starts, certainly, with Few – he begins his 10th year as head coach this fall – but it is rooted in the loyalty and service of the program’s assistants. Bill Grier put in 16 years as an assistant before his agonizing departure to San Diego. Dan Monson served nine years as an assistant before succeeding Dan Fitzgerald as head coach.

There are universities in all parts of the United States that have witnessed Gonzaga’s presumed out-of-thin-air rise of the last decade and concluded they could – and should – have it, too. Yet more often than not, their first step is to start over.

“The most important thing Gonzaga has done is being smart enough to value continuity,” said Barry Hinson, the former head coach at Missouri State which has been among the more impatient wannabes. “They just continue to do what they’ve been doing, building on it, investing in it. They found the right people and stayed within that.”

Of course, that means people staying, too.

Because of Gonzaga’s success Rice, like Grier, has had opportunities to become a head coach elsewhere, and insists that, “I’ll be excited to do that when the time and the opportunity are right.” But the time and opportunity at Gonzaga are right to trump on multiple fronts – and not simply because of the school’s commitment, which has been considerable.

There is the personal side. Because of their long association and the hothouse nature of college coaching, GU families become extremely linked.

“If I ever left,” Rice joked, “it would be more like a divorce.”

There is the notion of unfinished business – “because we feel we can win a national championship here,” he said.

And then there is fulfillment.

“Because of how Mark operates, you feel so much ownership in this program,” Rice said. “You have great freedom, you have input, you have a stake. It’s not just, ‘Oh, we’re Mark’s assistants.’

We’re building the program. I think that’s because we’re expected to be coaches first. A lot of guys on benches today are simply recruiters.”

Still, one of Rice’s greatest pleasures is “finding the kids who really fit here.”

The most notable of his discoveries is Brazilian center J.P. Batista, sleuthed out of a Kansas junior college and coaxed away from Kansas University itself. It wasn’t just that Batista blossomed into GU’s best low-post player in history, but that he was “everything you want in a Zag on every level,” said Rice.

Unlike Few, Grier and current GU assistant Tommy Lloyd, Rice’s college coaching resume includes stops beyond Gonzaga – an assistant coach at Yakima Valley before GU and as an assistant at Northern Colorado and Oregon before that. And because of Gonzaga’s success Rice, like Grier, has had opportunities to become a head coach elsewhere, and insists that, “I’ll be excited to do that when the time and the opportunity are right.” But the time and opportunity at Gonzaga are right to trump on multiple fronts – and not simply because of the school’s commitment, which has been considerable.

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Leon Rice, associate head coach, is starting his 10th season at Gonzaga.

Rice does his part to keep communication smooth on the sidelines.

before that?

“Good story,” he said. “I was back (in the Tri-Cities) after college – teaching during the day, teaching migrant high school from about 4 to 8:30 in the evening and then tending bar at the Gaslight Tavern until 2,” recalled Rice. “Mike Guajardo, the coach at Pasco High School, comes in one night and we’re talking hoops and asks if I’d like to coach. So I got the job coaching ninth-grade B squad.

“They told me, ‘Do your best, but don’t expect much.’ But they were great kids and did a super job and we never lost a game. I was hooked.”

The stakes are considerably higher now. To keep feeding the beast of expectations, the Gonzaga staff must win recruiting battles they could only imagine being in 10 years ago – and just as important, must limit its “misses.” As with all Top 25-caliber programs, that means a more comprehensive approach – as with incoming freshman point guard Demetri Goodson.

“I personally watched him play 22 times last July (2007),” Rice said. “Mark and Tommy and Ray (Giacolletti) saw him a number of times, too – we probably had 30 or 40 evaluations of him. You want to see a kid’s best, but you want to see his worst, too. If you just see his best, that’s how a lot of mistakes are made.”

There’s some irony there. Since arriving at Gonzaga after the school’s lightning-bolt trip to the Elite Eight in 1999, Rice has only seen Gonzaga at its best. And the ride has been all-consuming.

“I still haven’t unpacked some of my boxes,” he said.

Then again, it’s not like he’s in any hurry. For a coach at Gonzaga, there always seems to be time.

John Blanchette is a sports columnist for The Spokesman-Review and a longtime follower of the Zags.
Four Zags earned All-West Coast Conference baseball accolades, Drew Heid earning first-team honors, while Matt Fields, Cody Martin and Evan Wells each received honorable mention. Martin was named to the WCC All-Freshman team and National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America (NCBWA) Freshman All-America second team. GU finished the season 30-23 overall, 10-10 in WCC play. It was the first time in 26 years GU had posted back-to-back 30-win seasons. Tyson Van Winkle was selected by the Houston Astros in the 39th round of the 2008 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft. Overall, the native of Vancouver, Wash., is the 51st Zag to be drafted into MLB, the eighth for Coach Mark Machtolf.

The Freshman 8+ crew team finished 13th in the nation, while the Zag Varisty 8+ claimed 21st in the nation in the IRA National Championships. It was the first time in program history the Varisty 8+ earned a bid in the IRA National Championships, and the second time overall the Freshman 8+ claimed a bid. Dan Gehn was named WIRA Coach of the Year. Warren North, Scott McCoy and Joe Dudley were tagged for All-WIRA first-team and Sean Haase earned All-WIRA second team honors.

Women's rowing Hanna McClintock was named to the Collegiate Rowing Association (CRCA) All-America second team, the CRCA All-West Region first team, All-WIRA first team and All-WCC. Freshman Hannah Winters was one of 24 rowers invited to the 2008 Women's National Team Freshman Camp held June 16-21 at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. The Varisty 8+ and Second Varisty 8+ won their respective races at the WIRA Championships for the third time in four years. The Zags continued to dominate the WCC as they won their 11th league championship in 12 years by sweeping all three races.

Men's soccer player George Josten and women's basketball player Michelle Elliott were named the Bulldog Club Male and Female Athletes of the Year at the Senior Athletes Social which honored 80 senior student-athletes. Josten and women's soccer player Lauren Zuckerman were named the Male and Female Scholar Athletes of the Year. Jami Bjorklund was selected to the 2008 Division I-AA Scholar-Athlete Team for women's basketball. Bjorklund holds a 3.94 GPA in business administration.

Fifteen Zag student-athletes were named to the WCC spring all-academic teams announced by Commissioner Jamie Zaninovich. Baseball – Mark Castellitto (3.23, business), Jason Chatwood (3.55, physical education), Grant Kveder (3.34, business), Evan Wells (3.92, journalism); Crew – Whitney Engle (3.53, accounting), Kelsey Koenig (3.28, exercise science), Julie Smetana (3.78, art), Kelly Steinhaus (4.0 in graduate education and leadership); Golf – Derek Cheney (3.35, business), Trevor Loie (3.83 accounting), Lacey Jo Manwaring (3.53, business), Sarah Sheffield (3.79, English); Tennis – Emily Anderson (3.27, business), Aglaya Kokurina (3.55, accounting), Roman Dojcak (3.88, business).

Tennis players Stefan Feddersen and Roman Dojcak, and doubles duo Conor Feeney and Cooper Fratt earned All-WCC honorable mention accolades. Aglaya Kokurina became the first member of the women's tennis team to earn all-conference second-team honors. Emily Anderson was honorable mention.

Trevor Loie tied for 14th to earn honorable mention honors and pace the men's golf team at the WCC Championships. Rachel Sibbitt tied for 11th in the women's championship.

Former Zag basketball player J.P. Batista and former women's basketball player Simone Santos were married in May in Brazil. Women's basketball senior Jami Bjorklund married Drew Schaefer in August.

Gonzaga University-bound Stephanie Corey of Burien shot a final-round 1-under par 72 for a 6-stroke victory in the 15th annual Washington State Golf Association Women's Amateur at Sunland Golf and Country Club in Sequim. The graduate of Rainier Beach High School will ply her trade with the Bulldogs beginning in September. She finished second in the Washington State Class 3A Championship this past spring with a 36-hole total of 151.

Gonzaga men's basketball will meet the Huskies in Seattle – the UConn Huskies, that is – in the Dec. 20 Battle at Key Arena. The Zags will also play in Orlando's Old Spice Classic Nov. 27-30 featuring Michigan State, Georgia, Texas A&M and Tennessee, among others.

New head coach Pat Tyson doesn't think it will be too long before the Gonzaga University cross country and track and field programs will be off and running. Bulldog athletic director Mike Roth announced the hiring of the Spokane coaching legend to become the first fulltime cross country/track and field coach in the history of the program.

Tyson spent this past spring as head track and field coach at South Eugene, Ore., High. Tyson joined the Mead High staff in Spokane in 1986 and by the time he had left the Panthers at the end of the 2003-04 school year he had produced 12 Washington State Cross Country team titles, nine individual cross country champions and 17 individual track and field distance champions (1,600 meters and above). He went to the University of Oregon as a volunteer coach, returning to Mead for the 2005-06 season. Tyson spent the 2006-07 school year at the University of Kentucky before accepting the South Eugene position.

Gonzaga athletics signed a 10-year agreement with IMG College, a large sports and media marketing group, to represent the University through a comprehensive rights package encompassing corporate partnership sales, website management, and the management and expansion of all publishing rights for game programs and other athletic related publications. Additionally, IMG College will manage television and radio broadcast rights and distribution for baseball and men's and women's basketball. IMG will facilitate continuing relationships with existing Gonzaga Athletics broadcast partners Fox Sports Northwest, KHQ-TV and KGA 1510 AM radio. All on-air broadcast talent is expected to remain the same.

IMG's vision is to expand the Zag Athletic Center. Bulldog Men's Basketball fans may listen to the game on KHQ Radio and watch the game on ESPN2 or FSN.

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Brittanie and Michael Paquette with their host family in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Post Card from Bolivia

Working toward a beginning

By Michael (’03) and Brittanie (’04) Paquette

Deciding to join the Peace Corps was a long process. We discussed the pros and cons and what we believed we could gain from living abroad. Also, we talked about what we could offer a foreign, developing community. After living and working for almost a year in Vallegrande, Bolivia, we have learned what is most important is humility.

Michael is consulting in tourism and teaching Web design classes, and Brittanie teaches basic business classes to women in the community. One of our lessons in humility came while starting a project. Brittanie wanted to teach business classes at the girls’ orphanage. Assuming the orphanage would be ecstatic, she approached the director, only to get a look of confusion and a curt refusal.

Disappointed but unwilling to give up, she arranged meeting after meeting with the director and teachers to demonstrate how the lessons would be beneficial. Now, after four months of workshops, Brittanie can’t walk down the street without being greeted by one of the teachers or young girls asking when the next class will be.

Assuming that our community was going to welcome us with open arms and understand our goals and plans was incorrect. It wasn’t until we spent time with individuals in the community that we were able to begin our work. Learning how to best communicate, plan and motivate people in a foreign context took time and wasn’t easy.

“When the heart is touched by direct experience, the mind may be challenged to change,” said former Father General Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J., “Personal involvement with innocent suffering, with the injustice others suffer, is the catalyst for solidarity, which then gives rise to intellectual inquiry and moral reflection.”

His words sum up our feelings about our last 10 months. After two years, our community may not remember our work, but hopefully the people will remember the efforts we made to share in their culture. We, in turn, have been touched by Bolivia and its people and it has opened our eyes to see our world in a new light.
Isabell ('04) and I were engaged in March 2007. I was living in Fort Worth, Texas, working full-time and also working on my M.B.A. from Texas Christian University. Isabell was living in Seattle, working as an intensive-care nurse at the University of Washington Medical Center and also working on her master’s in nursing. My life was flexible enough for me to move to Seattle, but doing so meant that I would have to go on one of TCU’s mini-semester abroad programs over Christmas and New Year’s to finish my degree. Initially, we planned on going to Chile.

Then in July, during one of our wedding preparation classes at a couple’s house in Seattle, we saw a picture of our hosts standing in front of Pope John Paul II. They explained that they went to Italy for their honeymoon and that there is a special section at papal audiences for newly married couples. They were fortunate enough to meet the pope. Isabell and I were getting married in September and we learned that we would still qualify as a newly married couple for the Jan. 2 papal audience. At that point, we decided to go to Italy instead of Chile.

Even then we didn’t know how to get to the audience. I reached a friend of mine, fellow alum Joe Prevatali ('04) who was in the seminary and studying at the North American College in Rome. Joe was enormously helpful and got us tickets for the married couples section – the Sposi Novelli for the papal audience on Jan. 2. To attend we needed to show our marriage certificate and actually wear our wedding clothes to the audience. That's right. We hauled Isabell’s wedding dress on the flight to Rome.

In Rome, we picked up our tickets from the North American College on New Year’s Eve, dressed in our wedding attire at 7 a.m. on Jan. 2, stood in line in St. Peter’s Square and were eventually seated in the front row of Pope Paul VI Hall at the Vatican, filled to its capacity of 12,000. After Pope Benedict gave his address he received a group of cardinals, bishops and priests and a group of the disabled. After that he came to our section. We were able to shake hands with the Holy Father and talk with him briefly. It was truly an amazing experience.
Caught in a downpour

By Jason Walsh ('00)

Water exploded from the manholes like a fountain in a town plaza. Palm fronds sprouted from the ground like tropical islands in a sea of concrete. Acacia boughs drifted downcurrent and there I was in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, stuck at the grocery store using my shirt collar to filter the stench of backed-up sewage. Through the May deluge I tried to spot a taxi braving the storm. Sirens rang and alarms howled as the thunder woke cars in the parking lot from their restless slumber.

To my right, a man with a delta of hair shaved from his head was working his shotgun as a divining rod for the path of least of resistance through the downpour.

To my left, a growing throng of dispirited customers leaving the grocery store was stuck behind the lead customer, like lemmings behind a furtive leader having second thoughts.

On my back was the 30-liter pack I'd bought in Spokane before leaving for Niger, West Africa, as a Peace Corps volunteer. Looking at the shoulder straps I could still see patches of vermillion dirt from those two and a half years. I had to smile — even the tempest could not erase that part of my history.

I've gone from being a tutor to a mentor, a tool to a builder, a speaker to a listener, a comedian, half-hearted misanthrope, student and teacher. Wading through that torrent to find a ride was like forging through the commitments I have made to serve.

I teach privileged, upper-class students in Honduras. For two years before this, I taught special education students in inner-city Washington, D.C. Who am I serving and to what purpose? I sometimes chuckle at my ego. I will never leave behind my passion for service and my belief that I can and should serve. Thus, be the students rich or poor, I need to dedicate myself to demonstrating a civic-minded life filled with respect and responsibility. And the world will hear, feel and see the difference as the future, touched by service of the past, steps forward to change the world.
Give us your ALUMNI NEWS
Have you finished your doctorate, sent your youngest child off to college or retired to the coast? Please send word of adventures and accomplishments to gonzaga@gonzaga.edu, or by snail mail to Editor, Gonzaga Quarterly, Gonzaga University Marketing & Communications, 502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99258-0070. Quality photos are appreciated, will be used if space permits and returned to you upon request.

John A. Morford has received the 2007-2008 Archbishop Hunthausen Humanitarian of the Year Award from Catholic Community Services of Western Washington. Morford has spent many years volunteering as a consultant to inner-city Catholic Schools, as manager of a food bank and dinner for the homeless, and as president of his St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference. He resides in Seattle and is dean and professor emeritus at Seattle University.

Michael Mooney was named chief financial officer of Kimberly Gold Mines. Mooney previously served as an adviser for the company. He is the former corporate secretary and treasurer of Sterling Mining Company and spent over 25 years with Hollister-Stier Laboratories LLC. He lives in Seattle.

Dr. John McCarthy (M.A.) is WAMI & Coeur d'Alene, Washington, a position based in Spokane and partnered through the University of Washington’s School of Medicine.

Jim Roletto is office manager of David Evans and Associates’ Spokane and Coeur d’Alene offices. He joined DEA in 2007 after a 20-year career with the Idaho Department of Transportation. He lives in Hayden, Idaho.

Father Paul Grubb, S.J., was ordained a Jesuit priest on July 21 at St. James Cathedral in Seattle. After he finished his degree at Gonzaga, he served as a Jesuit volunteer in Juneau, Alaska, and then spent the next two years traveling and praying at the graves of the Jesuit martyrs. After he entered the Society of Jesus in 1996, he worked with jail inmates in Tijuana, Mexico, served in soup kitchens and hosted a radio program in Alaska. He enjoys kayaking, backpacking, hiking and sewing.

Sylvia Taylor has started Intentional Work, LLC, a coaching and consulting business in Seattle. Her focus is on women, teams and leaders in global transition. She has clients in Italy, Great Britain and Germany, and is looking forward to connecting with other alumni.

Jennifer (Anderson) Wiggins and Paul Wiggins are the parents of Stella Marie. Born Aug. 2, 2007, she joins brothers Henry and Rylan. They live in Tacoma, Wash. Kery Koentopp wed Clyde Darrah Sept. 8, 2007. They live in Spokane where she owns K2 Development LLC and he is a lieutenant commander with the Department of Health and Human Services. Shannon O’Dell, Otis Orchards, Wash., was named account executive of Fidelity Associates Insurance & Financial Services. She will be working with a full range of personal, farm, and business insurance products, and will be responsible for the professional liability insurance for lawyers, doctors and accountants.

Derek Crick (J.D.) wed Paige Davis on Feb. 9. They live in Seattle, where Derek is an attorney at K and J Preston Gates Ellis, and Paige is an attorney at Lane Powell. Heidi (Gerding) Pouley and husband Dylan are the parents of Mary Jane Josephine who was born on March 21. They live in Seattle where Heidi teaches sixth grade and Dylan is a technology instructor.

Dan Cummins is a semi-finalist for the sixth season of “Last Comic Standing” on NBC. He is married to Heather (Bese) Cummins. ’08. Jennifer (Kingsley) Holloway and husband Jason are the parents of Emily Jane who was born on May 17. They live in Portland, Ore., where Jennifer is a psychologist for Beaverton School District.

Wes and Rian Oliver and son Griffin
2. They live in Spokane where Wesley is the assistant director of major gifts for Gonzaga University and Rian is the basketball academic coordinator.

Aaron Hill (’02 M.A.) wed Kari Alldrege on July 27, 2007. They live in Stillwater, Okla., where Aaron is a doctoral student and adjunct professor at Oklahoma State University and Kari is an assistant director of admissions at OSU. Joseph Reynunis (J.D.), Dayton, Nev., is a district deputy attorney for Lyon County. He previously was a deputy attorney general for the Nevada Attorney General’s Office and an attorney for the Nevada Supreme Court. Sarah (Ust) Dix and husband Kevin are the parents of Beau O’Brien who was born on March 19. They live in Spokane, where Sarah is a tennis professional at the Spokane Athletic Club and assistant coach for the women’s tennis team at Gonzaga and Kevin is a project manager at Dix Corporation. Bryan McKeirnan, John Harris (’06), Bill Gadau (’02), Neal Clark (’98) and Mike Decker (’81, ’99) were honored for their professional achievements at the 2008 General Dynamics C4 Systems Technology Awards Banquet in Boston on May 16.

Missy Carstens wed Dan Wessman May 12. Missy wore her great-grandmother’s Italian lace cathedral-length veil and was the 12th bride to wear the 94-year-old family heirloom. In an all-Zags wedding, the maid of honor, a bridesmaid, a groomsman and a number of other wedding party members all graduated from Gonzaga. Brent Oenning (J.D.) wed Cindy Kiser on Jan 5. They live in Scottsdale, Ariz., where Brent is an attorney at Ridenour, Hienton, Kelhoffer and Lewis, PLLC in Phoenix and Cindy is a demand manager for The Dial Corp. in Scottsdale.

Kim Cosgrove received a master’s degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Montana-Missoula. Her thesis project, a mini documentary which gives a behind-the-scenes look at Grandstreet Theatre School’s Summer Conservatory, will be aired on Montana PBS. Cosgrove and her brother, Benji, own and operate a small business that produces local commercials and video for weddings and other events.

Kim resides in Helena, Mont. Sarah Taylor (’07 M.A.) wed Timothy Schwerin in June 2007. They live in Spokane where Sarah is an account executive with Desautel Hege Communications and Timothy works in litigation support investigations with the Federal Defender’s Office.

Jennifer Hudson (J.D.) was named vice president of PacWest. She is in charge of a variety of client issues and serves as in-house counsel. Jennifer previously worked as a water rights policy analyst for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. She lives in Pendleton, Ore.

Robert Charles Carlson has been named assistant coach for the Wenatchee AppleSox. Carlson was part of a 2003 Edmonds squad that won the championship of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges. He played for Gonzaga and was chosen as an All-West Coast Conference performer three times. After graduating from Gonzaga, he stayed on as an assistant coach, working with hitters and infielders. He lives in Redmond with his wife Jessica.

Rene Woecckener is a program assistant in Gonzaga’s Athletic Department.
Alumni News

In Memoriam

Donald Dehmer ('59), Spokane, died May 24 at age 78.

Joseph Esposito ('63, '69 J.D.), Spokane, died May 30 at age 66.

Conrad “Connie” Gotzian ('50), Hayden Lake, Idaho, died April 9 at age 81.

Cecil Johnson, Dr. ('56, '61 M.A.), Spokane, died April 10 at age 77.

Terrence Kelly, Sr. ('58), Spokane, died April 10 at age 73.

James McCluskey ('78), Spokane, died May 4 at age 85.

Sharon Mary Scott ('87), Spokane, died April 29 at age 81.

Christopher Spoerhase ('82 M.B.A.), Anchorage, died March 21 at age 55.

Francis James Weinand ('45), Quincy, Wash., died May 7 at age 85.

Brooks Fields, a former Trustee and lifelong resident of Minneapolis, died June 23 at age 89. Fields had a long and varied career; he was a prince among men and brought happiness to all who knew him. He served on the Board of Trustees for 22 years.

Daniel Hogan, Jr. ('50), Palm Desert, Calif., died April 9 at age 80. He served on the Board of Trustees for 18 years and then was named Trustee Emeritus.

Andrew Lofgren a Gonzaga freshman, Spokane, died May 21 at age 19. He was a champion racquetball player, played guitar and sang, and enjoyed wakeboarding and snowboarding.

Alaskans fish for fun and fame

Twenty Zags plus friends and families enjoyed the First Annual “No Fishin’ in the Dark” Fishing Derby out of Homer, Alaska, on June 21. Blake Adolfae (’96), was the derby winner, hooking a 46-pound halibut with 15 minutes left to fish. Blake will have his name engraved first on the much-coveted Alaska Gonzaga Alumni Fishing Derby Goldpan. “We didn’t count the smallest fish, but we did make Keith Granberry (’04) take out the barbecue trash as his reward,” wrote Angela Mink Korver (’97). “We hope that this tradition will grow for years to come.” Contact either Korver at korverangela@hotmail.com or Brandon Stanley (’04) at jstanle1@gonzaga.edu for information about next year’s derby.

Hey, what are you up to?

It's time we broadened the scope of our Alumni News. We have two strategies in mind. First, we're seeking volunteers to serve as class secretaries or reporters. If you have a knack for keeping in touch with folks and you handle e-mail with ease, please let us know. We need your help, and this is a rewarding way to give back to the University.

Strategy No. 2: We're loosening our definition of news. After all, there is more to life than wedding bells and job promotions. Have you run into a long-lost classmate? Forsaken city life for country bliss? Are you entering the Peace Corps as a forty-something? Have you taught Sunday school for 10 years? Did you make it to every Zags’ road game last year? Help us create an expanded Alumni News section by sharing the good things in your life today.

Contact us at gonzaga@gonzaga.edu.

Chapter Chatter

Bay Area Chapter presents Wine GALA 2008

This gala features a wine tasting on Sept. 26 at the Italian Athletic Club in San Francisco’s North Beach. Russell Bevan (’88), master wine maker and well-known wine critic, Kurt Beiter (’97 GIFT), owner/wine maker of Boheme Wines, and Justin Wylie (’86), owner of the Va Piano Vineyards, will be among those presenting their wines. Cost is $30 per person by contacting the alumni office, 509-313-5999.

Look who’s coming to dinner in L.A.

The Los Angeles Alumni Chapter will become official Sept. 27 at the San Antonio Winery and Maddalena Restaurant, a cultural landmark in L.A. Founded in 1917, the winery and restaurant are owned and operated by the Riboli family. Steve and Sindie Riboli, co-owners and parents of current student Christopher Riboli (’11) are graciously opening their doors for the 6 p.m. inaugural gathering. Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., will be the guest of honor. All are welcome. Please RSVP to the alumni office.

Minnesota alumni host Mass and luncheon

Father Spitzer and fellow GU alumni and friends launched the Minnesota Alumni Chapter kickoff on Sept. 14 at Nazareth Hall on the campus of Northwestern College, St. Paul. Mass followed by a luncheon reception.

Carla Dempsey (’72), president of the Washington, D.C., Alumni Chapter, gets a hug from Spike during a cruise on the Potomac during the D.C. Chapter Launch, held May 3.

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Changing risky behavior starts on the inside

By Karen Contardo
Manager of Student Wellness Resource Center

Last fall during orientation, I talked with parents about Gonzaga’s efforts to reduce risky drinking behavior among our students. Underage drinking happens on all college campuses and Gonzaga is not an exception. Parents had a high level of interest in this topic and wanted to know what we do about this issue. Further, they wanted to know if we treat the issue seriously, and the answer is, yes, we do.

Gonzaga’s policy is based on Washington state law. Drinking for those under 21 is illegal and has both legal and University consequences.

Gonzaga assessed the landscape in 2003, and we realized that we needed a more comprehensive alcohol strategy. Since then the University has invested $480,000 in a campus-wide approach, reaching freshmen in particular and also those students who have been sanctioned for heavy drinking. The money has come from a variety of grants, including a Model Grant Award that gives federal recognition for Gonzaga’s work in the field.

I gave those parents information about an approach called BASICS, or Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students. We tell students that the best way to avoid negative consequences is to choose not to drink. But many students still believe that drinking is a normal part of college life. And in fact, in American culture, drinking is a normal part of college life. The amount is what students misperceive. They think everyone is drinking all the time, and that it’s a way to fit in. We know this through surveys. Correcting those misperceptions is important.

We also tell students this: “If you are choosing to drink, we want to talk to you about drinking at lower levels and reducing risks.” But here’s the tricky part. Our society keeps thinking that if we give students more information about drinking, that will change their behavior. Instead, we’ve learned that creating opportunities for students to examine their personal experiences can be the best way for them to decide that some changes are in order.

BASICS is built on research that shows people go through different stages in their readiness to change. Part of being willing to change is motivation, and that’s the piece we work on.

Most college students are ambivalent about their own drinking. Yet, most problems they experience in connection to their drinking are not a big deal to them.

We’re not the disciplinarians. That’s handled elsewhere on campus. So we approach conversations with students who have risky drinking behavior with a non judgmental approach. We ask what’s good about drinking, and they tell us: “So I can be with my friends. So I can relax.” Then we ask what’s not fun about drinking. They’ll talk about breaking up with their boyfriend or cleaning up their roommate’s vomit. When students talk about those experiences, that’s when we can create a more productive dialogue. Soon, students will begin to come up with ideas by themselves. They’ll start to figure out that it’s beneficial to drink less.

We don’t talk to college students about liver disease or alcoholism. Those problems are too far off in the future. We talk with them about today’s problems. They know what vomit is, and they know what it’s like to be too wrung out on Sunday to get anything done. What we’re trying to do, bottom line, is to create a reason for them to choose to drink less or not at all.

If our Jesuit mission is communal care for developing men and women, then we care for our students by meeting them where they are and involving them in a reflective process to care for themselves and others.
These lovely lamps, these windows of the soul.

– Guillaume de Salluste Du Bartas

This window is on Gonzaga University’s campus, but where? The answer likely will call for a keen memory and a bit of thought. Turn to Page 4 for the location.