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Adventures in their blood

Gonzaga-in-Florence students take advantage of a variety of travel opportunities. These photos were shot during the GIF Christmas Tour to China and other recent student travels.
Philosophy, theology remain central to learning

By Father Robert Spitzer, S.J.
President

As I noted in my previous column, the Jesuits made the humanities and other liberal and fine arts courses the center of their curriculum not only because they were interested in teaching clarity of thought, accuracy of expression and oral eloquence, but because they wanted their students to be exposed to the great ideas and categories of discourse. This exposure would enable them to probe the meaning of life and the common good and ultimately to be contributors to culture, society, Church and even the Kingdom of God. That rationale holds true today.

The Society of Jesus throughout the world places also philosophy and theology at the center of its core curriculum. Philosophy is viewed as a preparation for learning, life and theology. It is a preparation for learning because it is concerned with logic, critical thinking and method; it is a preparation for life and theology because it probes the essence of the human person, causation, time, truth, goodness, beauty, being, immanence and God.

Theology stands at the center of the core curriculum because it investigates not only ultimate grounds, conditions and causes, but also God’s revelation of himself to humankind. This divine self-revelation points to God’s nature as unconditional love—a love which desires to communicate and even enter into the human condition to redeem each and every one of us. The Christian tradition believes that this loving desire of God became real when Jesus Christ came into our midst to reveal God’s heart and to give Himself completely to us (which He interpreted to be an act of unconditional love). This unconditional love outshines every aspect of evil and darkness and is our assurance of salvation.

The implications of this central truth about God are astounding. God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son into the world not to condemn us but to grant eternal life (see John 3:16). This one truth means that human beings need not and should not live for merely material, transitory or egocentric ends. We were created for a transcendent end—to be bathed in God’s unconditional truth, love, goodness and majesty, and to give ourselves to one another through this liberation and fulfillment. This one truth means not only that individuals will be saved, but that every human striving toward love will be transformed by God into an eternally efficacious act. This one truth transforms the way we live our lives, replacing skepticism with hope, naturalism with transcendence, and cynicism with love and joy.

The Jesuits realized from their beginning that intelligent students within an environment of critical reflection would have the best opportunity to appropriate this central truth profoundly and to use this appropriation to transform themselves and the world around them. They also knew that critical reflection could produce questions and even challenges to this central truth, and so they tried to show by every means possible how every discipline in the liberal and fine arts reflected the grandeur, goodness and love of God in the world and the human soul.

They tried to show this truth even in the midst of suffering, injustice and war by revealing how adversity brings out the noble, faith-filled, humble-yet-heroic human spirit. They tried to show how the collective human spirit (through the Holy Spirit) could bring advancements in justice, rights, the common good, education, distribution of wealth, engineering, technology and every other dimension of human endeavor out of what seemed to be the greatest human failures such as world war.

This central truth is present in many of the classics of literature and drama, in historical biography and the chronicles of war, in the probing of the human psyche and human culture, and in the essence of art and music. Wherever there is striving to make the world a better place, striving to bring good out of evil, striving for compassion and forgiveness amid hurt and indignity, striving to overcome deficiency and deprecation, the Jesuits believed there was at once a manifestation of the noblest dimension of the human spirit and a revelation of the Spirit of the Creator and Redeemer. In so doing, the Jesuits believed that they would give substance to the central truth of their faith, and by this, help their students to do what St. Ignatius asked—namely, “to see God in all things.” This grounded the Jesuits’ belief in the liberal and fine arts as the core preparation for learning life’s faith and leadership. It remains so today.

Details on mammoth move, please

One of the photographs on the cover of the winter 2008 issue of Gonzaga Quarterly has raised my interest. Unfortunately there was no caption, nor was there an explanation of what this photo apparently shows: the original Gonzaga building being moved.

The caption with a similar photo in the 1962 Spires says in part “…the original College building (which today serves as our Chemistry building) was moved in 1900 to its present location...it was to be moved only 175 feet and turned at a 45 degree angle...no building of such size (2,500,000 pounds) has ever been moved before in this part of the country…” The Spires photo and that caption were apparently from a 1900 issue of the Spokane Chronicle.

As a retired engineer, my interest lies with the techniques used to move a building of that size at that time, and the reason Gonzaga chose to undertake such an effort. I, and I would expect many other alumni who remember that building, would appreciate a brief summary of this project in a future issue of Gonzaga Quarterly.

As a freshman engineering student in 1959-1960, I had my chemistry lab sessions in that building. I saw it demolished in what I think was the summer of 1963—my uncredited photo of its demise appeared in the 1964 Spires.

Dick Waitt ('64)
Spokane

Editor’s Note: The actual moving began in May 1900 by the Spokane firm Hatch & Daugan with the original plan of pushing it to its new location. After raising the 1,200-ton building with 100 jack screws, creating a timber framework and placing it on rollers, the contractors were only able to push the building a fraction of what they had hoped. They changed their stratégy to pulling the building with a windlass and cable and, by mid-August, it was ready for its new occupants in its new location. All for a mere cost of $10,000.

Issue restored memories

Just finished reading your latest edition from cover to cover. What fun! It brought back many, many fond memories. Doesn’t seem possible, but it was 45 years ago that wife Diane, our two oldest kids, and I arrived in front of “College Hall” for the first time.

Chuck Steilen (’77 M.B.A.)
Spokane
Connecting baseball and economics

A love of baseball has propelled senior Ryan Langrill from fan to analyst in a research project with one of his professors. Langrill of Baker City, Ore., is an economics major and Chicago Cubs fan. He and Assistant Professor Kevin Henrickson of economics collaborated on two studies last fall, one to learn if Major League Baseball players require more or less money to sign with their hometown team, and the other to learn if they require more or less to stay with their current teams. Their findings were surprising. While players will accept less pay to stay with their current teams, they want more to play with their hometown teams. The study is under review at the Journal of Human Capital.

The project grew out of Henrickson’s sports economics class where Langrill’s work impressed the professor.

“I presented Ryan with several ideas and let him pick which one was most appealing to him,” said Henrickson, who earned his doctorate from the University of Oregon. “The process would have been a lot more difficult and far less rewarding if it wasn’t a project he felt connected to.”

Langrill agreed: “Combining baseball and economics was just natural.”

Undergraduate involvement in economics research is relatively uncommon at Gonzaga. “Ryan is doing something truly unique and outstanding,” said Henrickson.

Langrill has applied to several graduate programs including the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Texas at Austin. The project offered him an opportunity to put into practice the theory he’d learned in his economics classes and bolsters his chances of admission to graduate school. “It gave me an insight into the type of work that is being done in academic circles,” he said.

Langrill’s childhood baseball cards may be gathering dust today, but the information he gleaned from them fused the ball field with the classroom, and his passion for both has helped him score an academic home run.

Dedication of St. Ignatius

The unveiling of the St. Ignatius statue will take place April 17 at 4 p.m. A dedication ceremony will be held on the College Hall lawn with a reception and light refreshments to follow.

The bronze statue will be mounted in a black granite reflecting pool, where it will become the signature element of the new entrance to College Hall. The statue and reflecting pool also will anchor the new extension of the Johnston Family Mall, which leads west to Kennedy Apartments, connecting the western-most facets of campus with the center of the University.

The Administration Building was renamed College Hall last fall in honor of the College of Arts and Sciences during the University’s 120th anniversary.

Treasures from the Vault

A 1484 Roman missal and first editions of 20th century Catholic novelist Evelyn Waugh, some illustrated by Waugh, are among the highlights being displayed in Gonzaga University’s “Treasures from the Vault: Rare Books from the Jesuit Heritage.”

This debut exhibition will run through June 6 in the Rare Books Room of Foley Center. The collection includes more than 3,000 volumes of rare books and manuscripts in philosophy, theology, literature and art, including the original edition of the Douai-Rheims Bible (New Testament in 1582, Old Testament in 1609). The exhibition showcases what had been known as “The Mount St. Michael’s Collection,” the rare books from the Jesuit seminary at Mount Saint Michael’s, just north of Spokane, and other scholasticates in the Pacific Northwest. The books were transferred to Gonzaga when those institutions closed in the 1960s and in 1970 and were purchased by Gonzaga from the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus. The collection has been renamed “The Gonzaga Collection: Rare Books from the Jesuit Oregon Province.”

An expanded version of the exhibition is posted on the Rare Book Room’s Web page. The collection is being cataloged into WorldCat to make it available to scholars everywhere. Docent tours are available. For more information, contact Catherine Tkacz, independent scholar and curator of the exhibition.

Arabic 101

Gonzaga is presenting its first Arabic language courses this year through the Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant program. Egyptian Haidy Ismail Mohammed is teaching two sections of beginning Arabic this spring, while also studying education classes and ESL. Arabic language classes are expected to continue next year through another Fulbright teaching assistant.

Pigott Professor in Entrepreneurship

The Mark Pigott family recently announced a $1.5 million contribution to Gonzaga to establish the Pigott Professor in Entrepreneurship. This is the initial gift in a new initiative to raise $20 million for endowed professorships.

Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., said, “Gonzaga is completing an ambitious facility development program that
has resulted in $133 million of new classrooms, laboratories and research centers being constructed on the campus. This new professorship initiative is the next step in our vision to transform the University into the premier private liberal arts college for the region. We are very pleased that the Pigott family has generously made the first donation to the program by endowing a professorship in entrepreneurship.” This is Gonzaga's first new endowed professorship in 10 years.

The Pigott family and PACCAR have supported Gonzaga since 1960, through gifts that have modernized and expanded the university’s library, engineering, arts and sciences facilities. The PACCAR Center for Applied Science will be completed for classes next fall. The 29,000 square-foot facility will be the center of the University’s research and development in applied engineering.

**Promotions**

Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., has approved the following faculty promotions effective Sept. 1: assistant to associate professor: Jonathan Isacoff, College of Arts and Sciences; Vickie Williams, School of Law; and Steven Zemke, School of Engineering and Applied Science. Associate to full professor: Mia Bertagnolli, College of Arts and Sciences; Beth Cooley, College of Arts and Sciences; Ron Large, College of Arts and Sciences; Joy Milos, C.S.J., College of Arts and Sciences; Mark Shrader, School of Business Administration; and Kimberly Weber, School of Education.

**The Big Read**

Gonzaga students this February performed Dashiel Hammett’s “The Maltese Falcon” in conjunction with Spokane’s celebration of The Big Read, sponsored in part by The National Endowment of the Arts.

Hammett’s story of detective Sam Spade and the jewel-encrusted statue has become a classic, inspiring three film adaptations and heavily influencing the genre of detective fiction. The GU production, directed by Associate Professor Brian Russo, played on campus and in three locations in Spokane including in the downtown Spokane Transit Authority bus plaza.

**Peace Corps ranking**

Gonzaga has moved up two spots into second place nationwide among peer institutions for producing Peace Corps volunteers as 32 Gonzaga alumni now serve the worldwide relief agency. Since the Peace Corps' inception 46 years ago, 254 Gonzaga alumni have joined its ranks, making Gonzaga the 169th all-time producer of Peace Corps’ volunteers. Schools are ranked according to their number of students. Gonzaga’s rank compares to small undergraduate schools category includes those with less than 5,000 undergraduates. Peace Corps volunteers currently represent 1,192 colleges and universities in 74 countries.

**Brain food aplenty**

Guest speakers on campus this semester ranged over a vast territory in their talks, including former U.S. poet laureate Robert Hass who read from his work as part of the Visiting Writers Series; Sister Katherine Hanley, C.S.J., who led a workshop on discernment; and internationally-known diversity trainer Jane Elliot, who devised the classic “Blue-eyes/Brown-eyes” exercise in the wake of Martin Luther King Jr’s assassination. George Freeman, assistant general counsel of The NewYork Times Co., discussed First Amendment rights.

Later this spring, Boston College theology Professor Michael Himes will give the 32nd Annual Flannery Lecture on “Catholicism and Culture: The Necessary Conversation.” On April 14, Professor Harry Noller, the Robert L. Sinsheimer Professor of Molecular Biology and director of the Center for Molecular Biology of RNA at the University of California Santa Cruz, will give the 22nd Annual O’Leary Lecture on “Ribosomes: Ancient Molecular Machines that Translate the Genetic Code.”

**Amid world leaders in Dubai**

How do two Gonzaga students find themselves rubbing elbows with world leaders Kofi Annan, Steve Forbes, and Sir Richard Branson of Virgin Music and Virgin Airlines fame – and in the city of Dubai, no less?

International relations major Kaitlin Vadla and political science major Virginia Moore accomplished this in November. Both are in Gonzaga’s Comprehensive Leadership Program and, as seniors, both needed to create a legacy project, something that other students could re-create. Attending the Leaders in Dubai Business Forum held last November in the United Arab Emirates left both students exhilarated and inspired.

It wasn’t uncommon to hear five, six or seven different languages being spoken around them. The conference immersed the duo in a “sea of dignitaries, CEOs and princes,” Vadla said. She and Moore had expected to be ignored due to their lack of experience, but the people around them were “so kind and generous. The contacts we made are absolutely incredible,” she said. “We never could have anticipated the experience.”

Added Moore, “When Mr. Annan spoke about the art of diplomacy, I was incredibly impressed with how open he was about his personal struggles during his time at the United Nations. “One can tell he’s an individual who longs for great change but has developed a sense of which aspirations can be accomplished and which need more time to develop. Perhaps the greatest point I learned during his talk is to always have high expectations for the world you live in and the community you belong to, but understand these entities cannot, and in most cases will not, change overnight.”

The duo’s follow-up work – determining how to ensure that other students in CLP and the Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program can retrace their path to Dubai or similar conferences – is ongoing.

Kaitlin Vadla, left, and Virginia Moore with Professor Muhammad Yunus, who won the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize for his work with the Grameen Bank and establishing micro-credit programs in India. Yunus was one of Vadla and Moore’s favorite speakers.
Marc Manganaro
Dean, College of Arts and Science

Every student shall benefit from research and learning beyond the bounds of the classroom

I am greatly pleased and honored to be the new dean in this 120th anniversary year of the College of Arts and Sciences, and I’m so very grateful for the great Gonzaga welcome I’ve been given by the entire GU community.

I’ve completed my first six months at GU, and a busy but good time it has been. What has surprised and impressed me the most are the commitment of our Arts and Sciences faculty to educate and the eagerness of our students to learn. I’ve particularly been struck by the ingenuity and energy of our faculty in bringing their expertise to students in ways that go beyond the bounds of the classroom: a junior faculty member who has spent summer months teaching students hands-on archaeology by excavating the ruins of a Roman fortress in Turkey; a psychology professor who has organized summer study-abroad experiences at a chimpanzee study center in Zambia, where students both engage in groundbreaking chimp research and have helped to build and teach in a local school; and a biology professor who, in cooperation with a colleague in the School of Education, is not only helping student teachers improve their effectiveness in teaching science, but giving them first-hand experience in a Spokane elementary classroom.

These examples encapsulate my vision of liberal arts education of the 21st century here at Gonzaga, wherein students are educated in cutting-edge research through hands-on experience, which translates into the betterment of our fellow humans, both locally and globally. This fusion of expertise, rigor, lived experience and compassion for humanity amounts to nothing less than the embodiment of our Jesuit mission. It is one of my goals as dean to see these best practices of our faculty delivered not only to a fortunate minority of our students, but to every single student.

Such a goal is not easy to deliver. It requires
Tod Marshall’s vision: Crowds for writers

Tod Marshall, associate professor of English, is the skilled hand behind Gonzaga’s Visiting Writers Series, which has drawn standing-room-only crowds—up to 500 people—to hear authors read and discuss their work.

“Several of our readings dating back to poet Jane Hirshfield and author Sherman Alexie last year have been so crowded that the atmosphere has been nothing short of electric. Seeing that level of interest, that level of campus engagement, is astonishing. It revitalizes my faith that literature is part of our engagement with what it is to be human,” Marshall said.

National Book Award winner and former U.S. poet laureate Robert Hass read in February, as did India-born poet Bharati Mukherjee.

“The feedback we’ve received from students has been exciting; students candidly describe their exhilaration at meeting a Hirshfield or a Joy Harjo,” Marshall said. “Students studying literature gain the insight that it is a living part of our culture. Students who may not be as attracted to literature are culturally challenged by diverse perspectives. The list of rewards goes on and on.”

Senior Emma Mincks was thrilled to hear Harjo, a renowned Native American poet, and to talk with her. Mincks is considering the University of New Mexico for graduate school, where Harjo teaches. “Spending time with her was really one of the greatest experiences I have had in my four years at Gonzaga.”

The series grew out of Marshall’s own experience as a student.

“This year, the Visiting Writers Series has had strong support from a variety of campus offices and from our Humanities Washington grant,” Tod Marshall said. “Nothing is certain for next year, though, and so funding is always a stressor. We continually hope that someone will step up and fund the series permanently through an honorary gift.”

The series grew out of Marshall’s own experience as a student.

“I found it exhilarating to attend readings by the writers whose work I admired; I still remember hearing Robert Creeley, Gwendolyn Brooks, Allen Ginsberg and others read their works. Such encounters inspired me and introduced me to cultural perspectives that were sometimes quite distant from my own.”

Continued on page 9
Ardyth Bass’ vision: Women in Antiquity

Adjunct religious studies instructor Ardyth Bass, collaborating with Andrew Goldman, assistant professor of history and chair of classical civilizations, has created a course titled “Women in Antiquity.”

“This course represents the convergence of my research in archaeology, history, religion and women’s studies. It is a perfect fit for me,” Bass said.

Introduced this spring, Bass’ new class examines women’s strengths and limitations in the patriarchal societies of ancient Mesopotamia, Palestine, Egypt, Greece and Rome. Using literary, art, historical and archaeological sources, students explore women’s social and legal status as well as their dignity, intellect and wisdom. “As students meet gods and goddesses, whores and wives, slaves and poets, mourners and bone gatherers,” the course description reads, “they will learn about what ancient men have to say about women and what ancient women have to say about themselves, as well as reflect upon what both have to say to the women and men of today.”

Bass grew up in the 1950s and ’60s, riding the wave of the feminist movement. As a graduate student in religious studies at Gonzaga, she studied feminist theology, spirituality and history. While earning her doctorate at Marquette University, she immersed herself in researching women who devoted their lives to the rights of women through the suffrage movement. Her work in Biblical studies and early Christianity has also focused on women. Finally, two seasons at an archaeological dig sponsored by Harvard University at Ashkelon, Israel, sparked her passion for archaeology.

Mike Hazel’s vision: Quelling speakers’ anxiety

Drop a penny in a jar and it lands clangety-clang, breaking Assistant Professor Mike Hazel’s concentration and causing him to flinch. This technique has helped communications researcher Hazel transform hesitant students into polished public speakers.

Use of the “penny jar” started two years ago after a student suggested the idea. “I was hearing speeches that were just peppered with ‘um’ and ‘uh’ and ‘like.’ As a Jesuit university, we should be pursuing students’ eloquence,” Hazel said. So whenever students faltered mid-speech, Hazel dropped a penny in the jar. By semester’s end, the penny jar was rarely heard, and feedback from students was clear. “Keep it,” they said. “Not only does it work for us, but we’ve become more aware of when other people use ums,” Hazel said. “It’s a great application of classical and operant conditioning.”

Public relations major Brittany Small is a fan of the penny jar. “When you step up to the podium, the last thing you want to hear is the clang of a penny dropping into a jar. “When I enrolled in this class, I was comfortable with public speaking, but I was by no means a polished public speaker. Dr. Hazel’s class forces students to improve, and I was no exception,” said Small, a senior. Last fall, she won the John Quincy Adams, S.J., public speaking contest.

Hazel enlisted colleagues Nancy Schmidt, Colleen McMahon and Susan English in a formal study of the penny jar’s effectiveness. Hazel expects to complete analysis of the data this spring.

Next, he’s on to a larger research project, using identical and fraternal twins to determine if speech anxiety can be moderated by conditioning.
Manganaro continued from page 7

commitment to an ever-vibrant Core curriculum; as well, it is manifested in a commitment to a humanistic education today. For me, the effort to realize that mission is manifested in the dedication to educating the whole student, and as part of that, the attainment of knowledge to be used in the service of others, especially the less fortunate. All of these aims are intertwined, are one really, and to me this dedication to humanistic values, to the whole student, and to serving others with the knowledge we are given is the core of the Core experience – it is our very purpose.

In September, a few months after our arrival in Spokane, my wife Nicole gave birth to our twins, John and Michael. Though they were born prematurely and spent some weeks in the neo-natal intensive care unit at Sacred Heart Medical Center, they are thriving (as I hope you can see from the cover photo!), and I do want to thank the Gonzaga community for its generosity and good graces in that trying but ultimately very rewarding time. According to my reckoning, John and Michael would be Gonzaga Class of 2029. I myself might not be dean then, but I pledge to do my part as dean in 2008 to build a future for Gonzaga that will serve it well in 2029.

Nancy Staub’s vision: hands-on science teachers

Science in Action is the brainchild of biology Professor Nancy Staub, a method to help education students become better science teachers. She creates a series of hands-on experiments and teaches education students the science behind each one.

“Gonzaga students become familiar with a tool kit of science experiments that complements the Washington state science standards, so they can use all these experiments when they start teaching in their own classroom. And the elementary school students and their teachers get a lot out of the program, too. It’s a win-win situation,” said Staub, who also is developing fifth- to 12th-grade science lessons for the ambitious online project, Encyclopedia of Life, which will contain information on all 1.8 million described species of life.

“The United States is rather ‘science illiterate’ and the only way to change that is to help teachers become more confident teaching science,” Staub says. “This program is one way we’re addressing that. The elementary kids love it and the GU students do, too.”

The program originated with the help of a faculty development grant from Gonzaga. Last fall, Science in Action attracted seven students, most of whom were preparing to become elementary school teachers. Only one of the original seven was a biology major. Staub expected up to 50 Gonzaga students to be involved in Science in Action this spring, including aspiring middle-school and high-school teachers.

Staub, whose major research interest is in salamanders, started Science in Action after volunteering in her daughter’s class for several years. “Once you have the experience of having kids run up to you and say, ‘Oh goodie, you’re here; do we get to do science today?’ – there’s no turning back.”
The Ranger Challenge is called the varsity sport of ROTC and for the Bulldog Battalion, it is that and more. The annual event is a 24-hour hot forge of competition that tests and stretches young cadets mentally, physically and emotionally. With 14 wins in the last 15 years, Gonzaga's Ranger Challenge teams have acquired both prowess and their own mystique.

"The most important thing about the Ranger Challenge is the opportunity for teamwork and leadership, the chance to make friendships and for freshmen and sophomores to get to know the upperclassmen," said senior John Moffatt, executive officer of last fall's Black Team.

"No, it's not," countered Black Team member and junior Forrest Hogue. "The most important thing about the Ranger Challenge is winning."

Winning and friendships aside, Gonzaga has created another dimension to the Ranger Challenge. Last September, Lt. Col. Alan Westfield, assistant professor of military science, contacted alumni and friends of the Bulldog Battalion. He asked them to send in patches from their units for the cadets to wear in the annual competition. Approximately 30 e-mails and letters rolled in with patches in most cases. They came from overseas, particularly Afghanistan and Iraq, and from all over the United States. Many of those who sent patches recalled their own Ranger Challenge. Some relayed stories of combat. Each sent his or her own message of motivation.

Robledo's story

The following letter came from 2nd Lt. Dan Robledo ('06) of the 36th Engineering Brigade, who was stationed in Iraq:

I had been in the country for less than three weeks and I was on my third mission. A 1st Infantry Division unit was in a hot area and they needed some defenses built. After 48 hours to gather the material and men needed, I had the usual four-vehicle convoy, two light-medium tactical vehicles and two up- armored Humvees. I had never been given any sort of convoy training, although I had asked my 1st squad leader for some sort of rehearsal before going out. He said the only thing I had to know was to tow the disabled vehicle after it has been hit. I asked “What if it's hit so bad you can't tow it?” His reply was to never leave our vehicle behind. Other than that, he said to remember to never un-ass my vehicle in the kill zone and I'd be fine.

About three miles out, I heard a blast behind us. We got hit. I couldn't get anyone on the radio and when I looked in my rearview mirror there was nothing but smoke. I started feeling sick, thinking we should have pushed through by now and since we hadn't, something was definitely going wrong.

I had the driver pull me closer to the vehicle behind us and my gunner starts screaming, “That dude's on fire, man!” I was already sending a message that we'd been hit and might have casualties. It was a complete wake-up call that I was not prepared for. My commanding officer asked me for a SALUTE report (SALUTE stands for size, activity, location, unit, time, equipment) and although I had memorized all throughout ROTC and Ranger School my mind kept telling me that S stood for situation and that the situation is “we just got hit by a ****ing IED.”

My driver tells me he's going to get out of the vehicle to help and I said, “No one is getting out.” I try again to get someone on the radio and can't. Then my platoon sergeant's gunner comes to get the combat life-saver bag. At that point I have nothing but questions spinning in my mind:

Why is one of my guys out of his vehicle in the kill zone? Why is my PSG’s gunner, the last vehicle in the convoy, all the way up here? Why does he need a combat life saver bag? What happened to his?
Where is the medic? Are those pops from small arms? Who was on fire? Is the rest of the vehicle OK? Is someone going to die?

To the medics

I had no idea what was going on and I sure as hell wasn’t going to find out sitting in the Humvee. I opened my door, took off my headset and took two steps outside. I looked up to see my soldier running to me, still on fire, being held up by two guys, with his body armor off and holes throughout his clothing from where the flames had nipped his clothes away. His face was just melted. Only one word came out of my mouth and it’s probably not appropriate for this letter. I got back into my Humvee and told my driver as soon as my guy got in the vehicle we were driving him to the medics. My platoon sergeant told me the vehicle hit by the IED is destroyed and that the other two are in flames.

Medics at the outpost got Martin on a body board and loaded him in the vehicle. They also have another one of my soldiers whose hands were badly burned putting out the flames on Martin. We put him in the tank commander position and lay Martin in the back with a medic. My gunner held himself up in the turret with his arms the entire way to the medical station at the International Zone, too scared to put his feet down on Martin. There was no room for me except for the driver’s seat and my platoon sergeant said, “The lieutenant has to go with him.” So, never having driven a Humvee for more than a mile, I opened the door to the driver’s seat and told him to get out. With a Bradley in front and behind us, I drove to the medical station trying to think of something to say to this kid I barely knew, that he was going to be OK, and not knowing for sure if he was.

We made it back to my forward operating base later that night. Martin ended up in Fort Hood, Texas, in the next 48 hours and is recovering in the San Antonio Burn Center.

There are two reasons I tell you this story and both have to do with the Ranger Challenge:

The Army moves fast, so enjoy the time you have. The Ranger Challenge is meant to be fun. What you rehearse is what you’ll fall back on when things go wrong. Practice what’s supposed to happen but keep in mind what’s capable of going wrong and think through what you’d do if that happened.

Later, Robledo downplayed his role in the incident:

“In my mind, I failed that day. I did nothing to lead my platoon. My goal was to stay out of the way of my platoon sergeant so that he was able to do what was necessary to get everyone back alive. He led, I followed. There are units out here making much greater sacrifices and facing greater hardships than I have this deployment.”

He concluded his message to cadets:

The Ranger Challenge was always a big deal to me and the hardest year was when I was a junior. I was averaging three hours of sleep a night trying to do all my homework and make it to all the practices. But that bus ride home when I fell asleep clutching that trophy was the most satisfying feeling I’ve ever had. I’m willing to bet that I’m not the only one who feels that way.

When I was out on a mission in support of a Parachute Infantry regiment, I ran into my old teammate Tyler Marsh. One of the first questions he asked me wasn’t “How’s the tour going?” or “How’s life treating you?” It was “What happened at the Ranger Challenge?” (a friendly dig at Robledo who captained the Black Team in 2005, the year the Bulldog Battalion failed to win.) So, study your asses off, train hard and have fun. You’re a part of something that people will remember for a lifetime. ¥
Consider the soprano voice, unequaled in delivering the haunting notes of the flute, capturing and emotions. The storytelling virtuosity of a guitar power of the drum.

There is a place at Gonzaga where these sounds come weaving praise and worship into a tapestry of prayer. Every Wednesday, at 9 p.m., about 150 students gather in the Globe Room at Cataldo Hall to sing and pray together. A denominational crowd, drawn together in their desire for praise. The talented group of student musicians and singers, they are called Thirst.

Come thirsty. Leave quenched.
appetite for prayer

Brad Reynolds, S.J.

...indelibly sealed in delivering praise. Or capturing and embracing human diversity of a guitar, the faith-creating sounds come together, an appetite for prayer. Students gather in the way together. It is a non-denominational affair. Their desire for prayer and musicians and singers who lead
he ideal of the self-made man says we determine our own destiny. It may be pretty to think so, but Gonzaga English Professor Mike Herzog knows better. Events and decisions made by Herzog’s ancestors halfway around the world and nearly a century ago set the course of his life. It was in Russia, after the October Revolution of 1917 when the Bolsheviks began the spread of communism, that Herzog’s father Valentin, then 14, made a decision that irrevocably shaped the Herzog clan’s future. Valentin and his family lived in Krasna, a German village on the Black Sea populated entirely by German-Catholic families. He was the sixth child of Michael and Ursula Herzog, whose ancestors had emigrated there from Germany in 1804 at the behest of Alexander I, who envisioned golden fields of wheat swaying in the fertile black dirt of the Ukraine. The Herzogs worked hard, using many strong horses, the lifeblood of an unmechanized farm. Valentin’s father rose at midnight each night to feed those horses and fed them again at dawn’s first light. The children ran alongside the plow, pulling weeds from the plow’s teeth. The girls could not hide centimeters of mud caked on the hems of their school skirts. But for all the hard work, the Herzogs’ cares were few and simple — until the Revolution. “The Bolsheviks simply took our horses away from us, one by one, and forced us — that is, everyone in the village — to deliver all of what we harvested to the commune,” Valentin wrote in his memoir, “A Watcher at the Gate.” His father fell into depression. For an estimated million German colonists in the Ukraine, the aftermath of the revolution was death through starvation, murder or exile to Siberia.

A new life

The events sparked in young Valentin a yearning for a better life. Realizing education might be his ticket out, he began reading everything he could find, attended night school, and was tutored by a friend — all in hopes of being educated beyond the fourth-grade level of education that was typical of that time. Through faith, prayer and extra drinks for a communist official, Valentin was admitted to higher education and completed three years of the four-year curriculum before it was discovered he was not the waif he had represented himself to be. In 1929, he abandoned all possessions and fled the school in the dead of night, fearing capture by the communists.

Many hardships later, Valentin landed a teaching job in a small Russian town. Life was not easy. He refused to join the Communist Party and often was moved to new teaching assignments. During that time he also met and married Elisabeth. They began a family while he completed his studies by correspondence. When war broke out between Russia and Germany in spring 1941, the men of the villages were ordered to march toward Odessa. Fearing exile if identified as the “poverty-stricken
Valentin Herzog, he fled the forced march and returned to his wife and children. Along with other German families, they gathered their most important belongings and began the long exit from Russia, the line of horse-drawn wagons moving through Romania, where Mike was born, on to Hungary and by cargo train via Czechoslovakia to Poland.

“The wagon train of which we were a part stretched out 35 kilometers, wagon after wagon filled with families trying to survive the journey, which eventually lasted nine full weeks,” Valentin noted.

The day for boarding a train to Poland came in 1944 – only after all were “deloused.” In Poland, Valentin became principal of a German school, but two weeks later was ordered to report to the German Army.

On her own with their five children, wife Elisabeth commandeered a horse to pull a wagon carrying herself and the children from Poland to Berlin. It was six days into their journey in January 1945, before the children could put any real food into their thin cold bodies and tiny Mike had his diapers changed for the first time since the journey began. The Herzog family, minus Valentin, arrived in Berlin, only to endure nightly Allied bombings.

“It’s a miracle that we survived,” Mike said.

East or west?

Valentin was among troops moved to Budapest to stop Russian troops from moving west. Then came April 1945. A German officer told the soldiers: “Gentlemen, the war is over. It has been our misfortune to have lost the greater part of our men, that is, our division, in the last few days.” He told his soldiers to take a vehicle and gas and go west if they wanted to be captured by the Americans, or east if they wanted to be captured by Russians.

“My father wasn’t about to go east,” Mike said. “He knew the Russians were taking anyone like him and sending them to Siberia. He made a very definite decision to be an American POW. Valentin became a prisoner of war in May 1945. He was freed in Vienna a year later and it was another year before the family reunited. On the morning of May 7, 1947, Herzog awoke to a friend shouting: “Herzog, your family is here!”

“In a moment the room was filled with my wife and children – our first meeting after nearly three years,” Valentin wrote. “The embraces and kisses were long and emotional.” Maria was 16, Willi 14, Hans 12, Alex 9, and Michael, who was but a few months old when Valentin had seen him last, was 3.

Valentin began teaching again in 1948 and improved his fourth-graders’ exam pass-rate from 20 to 80 percent. Still, the Herzogs worried about being deported as Russians combed Germany looking for escaped “citizens.” Valentin and Elisabeth talked of going to America for “reasons all having to do with the current and future welfare of our family,” he wrote. Five years later, their documents were finally ready for the boat trip to New York.

“When we finally did step on American soil we did so with a total debt of $1,400,” Valentin noted, adding that he never regretted the decision.

A janitor who could teach

They took a train to Joplin, Mo., where a cousin lived. In 1953, Valentin took a good-paying job as organist at a Catholic parish in Hays, Kan.

Mike Herzog holds a photo of his father Valentin who taught at Gonzaga in the '60s and '70s.
Another five years, and the family moved to Spokane, joining other relatives. They bought a home and paid it off in 10 years, with each family member contributing. Valentin lacked documentation of his education and teaching experience. So, he was pleased to find work as a janitor at Gonzaga University. That part of his career was happily cut short by Father Jack Leary, S.J., then Gonzaga’s president.

“One day (Father) Jack Leary starts chatting with this guy and discovers he’s got a janitor who is a teacher. It was post-Sputnik time and (Father) Jack Taylor, the academic vice president or dean, hired him to teach German and Russian,” said Mike, who, himself, graduated from GU in 1966 and earned a doctorate from the University of Washington in 1970. Despite a job offer from Stanford University, Mike returned to Gonzaga.

“Stanford is the kind of place where you turn out a book a year and I wanted to teach. That was a no-brainer,” said Mike. “I had a great undergraduate experience here at Gonzaga and I wanted to replicate that for others.”

Another draw for Mike was family and the idea of teaching with his father. “When I first came here, I taught German and English. That is when I worked in the same department (modern languages) as my dad,” Mike said. “Dad would have been in his mid-50s by the time he started working here. And he retired around the late 1970s,” Mike said. “I think he was probably around 70 at that time.”

The Young Turks

Mike recalls the year he returned to GU to teach, 1970, when Gonzaga welcomed an astonishing 17 new tenure-track faculty to the College of Arts and Sciences. “We new faculty members came from a different era than a lot of the faculty at Gonzaga and were perceived as being very radical,” Mike said. They became known on campus as the Young Turks – or sometimes even the Young Turkeys.

Mike sees great irony in his current role as English professor and senior faculty adviser after gaining the reputation of an outstanding teacher who was not afraid of engaging the administration to improve conditions for faculty.

“...You can imagine how surprising it is for me that I am working with the academic vice president these days,” he said. “I was the jackass playing in the outer office and all of a sudden I am invited in by an academic vice president.”

Mike has served many roles at GU, including soccer coach, director of the Honors Program and president of the Faculty Assembly in his third year. In that post, Mike, along with English Professor Tony Wadden, spoke his mind.

“Our theory was, if this is the kind of place where we can’t be who we are then we don’t want to be here,” said Mike, who remembers being so careful as a boy in Germany not to say the wrong things. A similar feeling came over him not long ago.

“When the (Iraq) war first started, there was that kind of climate in the United States. It felt a lot like what we tried to get away from,” he said. “I am a believer in free speech. Free speech is not relevant unless you are saying something unpopular. That was an attack on free speech.”

Eleven Herzogs are listed in Gonzaga’s Alumni Directory, and the family name is well-known throughout Spokane in leadership and educational circles. Mia (Herzog, ’88) Bertagnoli, Mike’s niece, recently rose in rank to professor of biology at Gonzaga.

This first-generation American family that escaped communism still sticks together as though their lives depend on it. The clan started out with seven people and has burgeoned to 67. Mike gathered with about 50 Herzogs for Christmas last year. Mike and all the Herzogs cling to the twin virtues of freedom and family, imprinted indelibly in their collective psyche by struggles against fascism and for democratic freedom.

The Herzogs gather each summer at Spirit Lake for a family get-together and fun run. Recently, they pooled their resources to name a refurbished classroom at Gonzaga Prep for Valentin and Elisabeth. Mike is delighted that the younger generation of the family organized the event, indicating the legacy of love and concern for the common good that resonates throughout the family.

Mike continues to make his annual family calendar, taking pains to make sure each family member is pictured at least once. After all, the family counts on it. Ⓥ
National media often have more fun painting pictures of academic and social hijinks on college campuses than they do telling the stories of great accomplishments by today's student-athletes. But how can you pass on Gonzaga senior forward George Josten, Gonzaga's most decorated soccer player ever? Not only did he lead the West Coast Conference in goals scored and points, but he was named the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Men's Soccer Scholar Athlete of the Year. This individual exemplifies NCAA student-athletes, putting together a 3.83 grade point average in mechanical engineering. He also twice earned ESPN The Magazine first team Academic All-America honors and was one of 29 players in the nation selected for the Hermann Trophy Watch List as the best college soccer player in the United States.

He became the second Gonzaga player ever drafted by Major League Soccer as he was selected 20th overall by the Columbus Crew. Teammate Austin Washington became the third Zag drafted, being picked 54th by the Chicago Fire in the Jan. 20 draft.

"George would be the first one to tell you these are team honors, not individual honors, but he has worked hard to get where he is today," said Gonzaga soccer Coach Einar Thorarinsson. "I think this speaks highly for the type of individual George is and shows we are recruiting quality student-athletes."

Josten doesn't remember when he played his first youth soccer game in Idaho Falls, Idaho. "I was probably six, seven or eight," he recalled, his family making the move from Anaheim, Calif., to Idaho Falls when he was 4. But he certainly won't forget his Gonzaga soccer career, which ended in November following a trip to the College Cup and a 1-0 loss to Southern Methodist.

Josten thinks his vision is his strong suit on the field. "I think my success has come from my vision of the game. I can see where the game is going. That makes it easier to do things you need to do. I'm not fast or strong, but it's probably the mind games I call on as the key for me," he said.

Surprisingly, Josten didn't come to Gonzaga as a forward, the position he played here for four years.

"My entire career had pretty much been at center mid-field," recalled Josten. "When I came to Gonzaga that position was pretty much locked down by guys like John Palladino and Josh Westermann. Coach wanted to use me, so I started playing forward, scored a few goals (five as a freshman) and things transpired from there."

So, why Gonzaga?

"It was already a school I was thinking of attending, and once they [Gonzaga coaches Thorarinsson and assistant Mike Thompson] saw me play they were the only Division I school that wanted me. I wanted to play at the highest level. Idaho is a small state and Idaho Falls is tucked away in the southeastern corner, so a lot of coaches don't waste their time recruiting there. I was in the Spokane area visiting other schools my senior year and stopped at Gonzaga real quick. We visited the campus for an afternoon," he said. He was sold.

Josten appreciates the honors he's received, exemplifying the true definition of student-athlete.

Now he's ready to engineer whatever adventures unfold.
Who’s the angel in this scenario?

K

Kristen Klaasen ('89) has never had a friend or relative with AIDS. But as a leader of Angels Unaware, she’s been an advocate for AIDS patients in Denver for 13 years – on top of her day job and family.

Fundraising, organizing volunteers and hosting events, including Camp Ray-Ray for HIV-AIDS children only – all are funneled into Kristen’s evenings and weekends.

She became involved with Angels Unaware through a friend in graduate school who was foster mother to a remarkable little boy with AIDS. Kristen helped her friend care for the boy, Raymond, whose favorite place was Estes Park. After Raymond’s death at age 4, his foster mother said, “We have to find a way to bring other families up here and start a camp for Raymond.”

That’s how in 1995 Camp Ray-Ray started. It’s a place where for one weekend a year, young AIDS patients and their loved ones are like every other family. Thirteen years later, the camp has benefited more than 1,000 people nationwide.

Fundraising is a challenge, but “the camp is supported completely by donations and volunteers who show so much kindness and love. Now that my kids are older, they want to be involved with the organization and, of course, my husband is onboard. It is a family affair,” she said.

Kristen has met many remarkable families and learned a lot about the human spirit. “There is one family where the mother has AIDS and the young daughter has a chronic pain disease. They have no money and are under extreme financial and medical pressure, yet still find a way to experience happiness,” she said.

At Gonzaga, Kristen was involved with the University Ministry retreats, where she found a community that supported her ideals of service to others. “There are so many big problems in the world, but by taking a little step you can improve the lives and spirits of others.”

Angels Unaware (www.angelsunaware.net) got its name from the families it serves. “Many of the affected families are unaware of the impact and the power they have on others. People facing life-threatening illnesses have a unique outlook on life and this outlook gives us hope. I learned that if you follow your heart you can make a difference,” she said. “This was not a journey I expected to take in my life, but it has become very empowering to me.”

Kristen lives in Denver with her husband, John, and their three children.
Alumni Update

Give us your ALUMNEWS

Have you changed jobs, married, had a baby or participated in an interesting activity or service you’d like your Gonzaga classmates to know about? Send information to: Editor, GONZAGA QUARTERLY, Gonzaga University Marketing and Communications, 502 E. Boone Avenue, Spokane, WA 99258-0070. Or send us a note via e-mail to: gonzaga@gonzaga.edu. Quality photos are appreciated, will be used if space permits and returned to you upon request.

Donald K. Sharpes, Scottsdale, Ariz., has been awarded a Senior Fulbright award to complete a study of Danish teacher attitudes towards Muslim integration into Danish society.

James J. McCarthy, Cambridge, Mass., is president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, master of Harvard’s Pforzheimer House and a foreign member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Christopher Dietzen (’73 J.D.), Bloomington, Minn., has been appointed to the Minnesota Supreme Court. He was a partner in the law firm of Larkin, Hoffman, Daly and Lindgren, where he specialized in real estate, environmental law, land use and zoning, and government agencies and programs.

Richard Kayne (J.D.), Spokane, received the Judge Bob Jones Memorial Award for significant contributions for judicial education at the 2007 American Judges Association’s annual conference. He was dean of the 2007 Washington State Judicial College and is on the faculty of the State and National Judicial Colleges. Michael J. Quinn, Corvallis, Ore., is dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Seattle University.

James J. Daly, Charlotte, N.C., is divisional vice president of IT solutions delivery for Family Dollar Stores.

Bruce Edward Blackmer (M.B.A.), Spokane, received the American Institute of Architects Northwest and Pacific Region 2007 Medal of Honor. He has been AIA Spokane president, AIA Washington director, AIA NW&P regional director, AIA national vice president, AIA College of Fellows regional representative, American Architectural Foundation regent, National Architectural Accrediting Board director and NAAB 2007-08 president.

Gino Gerviali wed Shawn Brennan on May 6. They live in Mill Valley, Calif.

Jeoff Jarosz, Vista, Calif., was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps. John Grubich (M.B.A., ’92 J.D.) was named Okanogan County PUD general manager. He previously lived and worked in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Mike Eggert, Novato, Calif., received his master’s of arts in humanities, art history emphasis from Dominican University, San Rafael, Calif. Though Eggert began his education in 1976, his degree was not completed until 1989. He encourages students to complete their degrees with their original class.

Mark Briggs, Tacoma, is assistant managing editor for interactive news at the News Tribune in Tacoma. He has written the book “Journalism 2.0: A Guide for Journalists to Survive and Thrive in the Digital Age,” Jennifer (Jordan) Childress and husband Mike welcomed daughter Maura Anne on Aug. 21. They live in Mead, Wash. Mark McMichael, Spokane, has been promoted to principal of NAC/Architecture. He is an electrical engineer in the firm.

J. David Herman wed Karin Thorgerson on June 2. They live in Spokane where Dave is the daily editor for the MSN.com page home and Karin is an intake specialist for ElderHealth Northwest. Earl Thompson (M.B.A.), Copalis Beach, Wash., has been appointed vice president and general manager of printing and media at Intermecc. He was vice president and general manager at Agilent Technologies. He has 24 years of domestic and international business experience.

Michael J. Wilson, Vallejo, Calif., was elected to the Vallejo City Council.

 Jacob A. Gatschet (M.A.), Green Bay, Wis., is an associate in the litigation group at the law firm Fish & Richardson, Tysa (Troy) Penna, Spokane, is a sales professional at Century 21 Beutler & Associates. She previously had been the development director for the Spokane Guild School & Neuromuscular Center and the assistant alumni director for Gonzaga University. Shelene Waters and husband David are the parents of Sophia Brace, born June 19. Dave is an officer in the Army and an associate professor at West Point Military Academy. Shelene is a senior curriculum manager for Kaplan K12 Learning Services in Manhattan.


Kim Brockbank wed Dan Cronen June 9. They live in Spokane where Kim is a certified financial planner for UBS Financial Services and Dan is a chartered financial analyst and principal partner of Signia Capital Management. Molly Garvey and husband J.T. Garvey (’98) are the parents of Connor Tobin, born Aug. 31. The family lives in Portland, Ore. Ross Villegas (’04 M.A.) wed Annemarie Watson (’01, ’04 M.A.) on Sept. 22. They live in Sacramento, Calif., where Ross is a program manager with Baur Industries and Annemarie is a government affairs associate with the California Business Roundtable.

Lara Jeanne Whitman (Herrington) (M.A.) and husband Brian are the parents of Blake Benjamin Paul, born June 12. They live in Spokane. Katy Jacobson Bruya (M.B.A.) and husband Edward (’02 J.D., ’06 MBA) are the parents of Matthew Joseph, born June 9. They live in Spokane where Katy is the senior vice president of human resources at Washington Trust Bank and Edward is an attorney at Keefe, Bowman and Bruya.

Peter Tuenge and wife Erika are the parents of Jack Peter, born Oct. 29. They live in Portland, Ore., where Peter is an associate attorney for Sussman Shank, LLP.

Joshua Comfort wed Amber Giordano on Nov. 3. They live in Spokane where Amber is a commercial lines account manager at Moloney and O’Neill and Joshua is a structural engineer at Golden, Graper and Burton. David Kwon, Fullerton, Calif., climbed the highest peak in Africa, Mt. Kilimanjaro, on Aug. 6. The climb was made via the Machame route, which totaled approximately 40 miles over six days. David currently teaches high school choir.

Jared Hertz (’02 M.B.A.) and wife Kara (Svennungsen) are the parents of Kyrie Elisabeth, born Oct. 12. They live...
in Spokane, where both work at Gonzaga University. Sasha Richards (Holzman) wed Bryan Richards on March 24. They reside in Brier, Wash. Sasha is an underwriter at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, and Bryan is a mechanic engineer at Northwest Aerospace Technologies.

Casey McNellis (M.A.c.c) and wife Sara (Larson '03) are the parents of Abigail Marie, who was born May 9. They live in Pullman, Wash., where Sara is a licensed Realtor and homemaker, and Casey is enrolled at Washington State University in the doctoral accounting program.

Isabell Ballou wed Mark Stoltz Sept. 15. The couple resides in Seattle.

Alex Scott Heizne (M.O.L.L), Tacoma, Wash., was named the executive policy adviser to Gov. Christine Gregoire ('77 J.D.) on homeland security. He previously was the homeland security strategic planning manager for the state of Washington, and is working on his doctorate at Gonzaga. Christine Raugust, Spangle, Wash., was appointed general manager of WeDriveU for Greater Seattle. She will focus on operations, client and business development across the Greater Puget Sound Region. Peter Hogan wed Amy Rosenberger July 27. They reside in Portland, Ore., where Peter is a power systems engineer for Eaton Electrical and Amy is a Spanish teacher at Westview High School.

Traci Lien wed Michael McDermott July 14. They live in Denver, where Michael is in his second year at University of Denver Sturm College of Law and Traci is in her second year at University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine.

Anne Baruch (friend), Chicago, died Oct. 28. She was an underground art courier, smuggling art supplies, photographs, tapestries, prints and paintings in and out of Prague in the years before the fall of the Iron Curtain. She ran an art gallery with her husband for many years.

Richard Bishop ('54), Newport, Wash., died Dec. 1 at age 75. He served two years in the Army. He was a charter member of the Spokane Mystic Club. In 1964, he and his wife took over the Roxy Theatre in Newport and ran the business.

Isabelle “Cathy” Coleman ('80), died Oct. 12 at age 70. She worked for United Airlines. She became the head nurse in Labor and Delivery after working at Sacred Heart Medical Center for 21 years. She loved animals, sports, travel, shopping and gardening and was an avid Gonzaga basketball fan.

John P. Connors ('42), Carmichael, Calif., died Oct. at age 86. He graduated from GU in three years and finished his M.D. from St. Louis University Medical School at age 23. He later opened an OB-GYN private practice with a partner.

Stephanie Donich ('73), Seattle, died Sept. 12 at age 56. She loved laughter, reading, spiritual practice, travel, African-inspired dance and learning Italian.

Blair A. Erigero (friend), Stockton, Calif., died Sept. 20 at age 86. He served in the Navy in World War II. He built a successful grain business. He was a charter member of the Whitman County Mental Health Advisory Board and president of the San Francisco Board of Trade.

James J. Flynn ('71 M.A.), died Nov. 27 at age 86. He was an officer in the Navy, serving on a PT boat and a mine sweeper in World War II. He liked to create opportunities for laughter in adverse circumstances.

Antonella M. Fuchs ('48), Tekoa, Wash., died Nov. 6 at age 77. She was one of a small group of women admitted to the then all-male Gonzaga College. She was a volunteer for the Whitman County Mental Health Advisory Board and operated a youth center in Tekoa.

Richard Grebe ('53), Spokane, died Nov. 25 at age 79. He served with the U.S. Air Force in the early 1950s. He retired as a sales manager with John Morrell Meats and was a longtime member of the El Katif Shrine Chanters. He liked fixing things, early morning swims, traveling, ballroom dancing and golfing.

LeRoy “Lo” Isherwood (former faculty) died Oct. 23 at age 79. He was an associate professor in the School of Education and enjoyed fishing, golfing, traveling, sports and excursions on his scooter.

Robert P. Johnston ('48), Coeur d'Alene, died Nov. 21 at age 81. He was a pilot in the Army Air Corps during World War II. After the war, he worked with his brother, Don, leasing and renovating properties for over 50 years. He was on the original board of directors for St. Vincent DePaul and was active in Knights of Columbus.

Father Walter F. Leedale, S.J. ('49), died Feb. 7. He was 84. Ordained in 1956, Fr. Leedale served as a voice teacher and assistant director of Student Academic Services at Gonzaga, and since 1987 was assistant archivist for the Oregon Province.

John E. Long ('52), Livingston, Mont., died Oct. 16 at age 77. He operated a dental lab in Portland, Ore., before moving back to Livingston to ranch. Later, he worked in the family business, Long’s Motor Inn, and for Easton & Hiller Construction.


Donald Brian McBride ('51), Spokane, died Oct. 5 at age 79. He served in the Army and worked for the Washington State Highway Department for 12 years.

Jim McNally ('64 J.D.), Ione, Wash., died Oct. 5 at age 83. He served in the Army with the 82d Airborne, 504 Division, during World War II. He moved to Ione to practice law.

Raymond Eugene Molitor ('36), Ephrata, Wash., died Oct. 22 at age 94. He played football and was a member of the Glee Club while at Gonzaga. He owned Quincy Brick and Mix, later Ephrata’s Empire Concrete, which poured much of the ditch lining for the Columbia Basin Project.

Frances L. Recor ('75), Spokane, died Oct 22 at age 80. She was the president of the Brotherhood of Friends Club for five years. She enjoyed dancing and costume parties.

James Rosamond ('50 J.D.), Veradale, Wash., died Oct. 11 at age 85. He was a first lieutenant in the Air Force in World War II and was a member of the Washington State Bar Association for 50 years. He was the owner and founder of Far West Securities, a mortgage company. He was a long-time member of the Manito Golf and Country Club.

Ray Victor Sullivan ('51 J.D.), Fox Island, Wash., died Sept. 15 at age 85. He served as an Air Force officer during World War II and later as a licensing supervisor for the Washington State Liquor Control Board. He enjoyed traveling and dogs.

Frederick Wilson (friend), Spokane, died Oct. 16 at age 91. He served in the Army during World War II and later founded the Wilson Investment Company. He served on the GU Board of Regents for 12 years and enjoyed swimming, horseracing, skiing, sailing and golf.

Alvin J. Wolff Sr. (friend), Spokane, died Nov. 18 at age 89. He was the founder of the Wolff Company, a prominent real estate investment and development firm. He was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from Gonzaga Law School in 1940. He was elected president of the Spokane Board of Realtors twice and served as president of the International Real Estate Federation and the Washington Association of Realtors. He also was appointed treasurer and first vice president of the National Association of Realtors and served on its executive committee for two decades.

Alvin J. Wolff Sr.
Easter egg hunt
Mark your calendars and bring your basket for the 2nd Annual Alumni Easter Egg Hunt on March 15. The hunt will begin on the Quad (green space behind College Hall, formerly known as the Ad Building) with the hunt starting at 10:30 a.m.

Spring service project challenge
The alumni association has challenged all the chapters to have a service project during National Volunteer Week, April 27-May 3. Check www.gonzaga.edu/alumni to volunteer for a project near you.

Denver alumni, parents and friends Mass
Please join the Denver Chapter for Mass with Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., on April 13. Mass will be at Regis High School at 10 a.m. with a reception immediately following in the cafeteria. Families are welcome.

Vintner’s Dinner Auction a huge success
The 7th Annual Gonzaga University Vintner Dinner & Auction was held at the Rainier Club in Seattle on Nov. 8. One highlight of the evening was a speech by one of the 2007 student scholarship recipients, Michael Ortman. The auction grossed over $148,000 with net proceeds going to the School of Business Administration Scholarship Endowment Fund for juniors and seniors from the Puget Sound region.

Young Alumni Award
Denver Chapter member Justin Horgan (’02) was honored this past October with the Young Alumni Award. To nominate someone for next year’s DAMA, (Distinguished Alumni Merit Awards) please go to www.gonzaga.edu/alumni and click on DAMA for nomination forms.

Business Forum Inaugural
Neil Ashe, chief executive officer of CNET Networks, was the keynote speaker at the inaugural event of the GUBayArea Business Forum Speakers’ Series. Sixty-five members, including Dean Bud Barnes of the School of Business Administration, attended the presentation. Ashe gave an overview of the technology field and its affect on media, and offered observations on the future of both. The event was organized by Simon Manning, chair of the Business Forum, with the assistance of Patrick Tobin, chapter president.

The Business Forum is designed to offer professional development to GUBayArea members. Membership is open to all alumni and supporters of Gonzaga University. For more information contact Simon at simonmanninggu@yahoo.com.

Boston Chapter Launch
The 11th official GU alumni chapter launched on Dec. 1 in Boston. The Boston Chapter, led by President Mike Tilford (’03), welcomed 200-plus alumni, friends and family from all over the country for a weekend of fun, including a tour around historic Boston. With the help of one of his students, Logan Rehberger (’06) and his roommate Eric Mendoza (’07) led a tour. “Regardless of a 10 a.m. start coupled with temperatures below freezing, I was both honored and daunted that so many people came to the event. Despite my nervous start, the tour went off without a hitch. I feel that our ‘tourists’ got a decent and meaningful overview of Boston’s history,” said Reichert.

The pre-game party at The Greatest Bar was overflowing with energized Zag fans eager to be a part of the Bulldogs win over the Connecticut Huskies. “I enjoyed catching up with many friends that I hadn’t seen since graduation in 2006 and meeting many new alumni,” Reichert said.

Coach Krause in Tacoma
Coach Jerry Krause spoke to Tacoma Chapter members at the 3rd Annual Evening with Coach Krause at the Tacoma Club on Oct. 25. In addition to getting the “inside scoop” on the upcoming season from Gonzaga’s director of basketball operations, chapter members enjoyed viewing the Zags’ 2006-07 highlight video, a raffle featuring dozens of prizes including game tickets and a basketball autographed by Adam Morrison, and the opportunity to purchase some of the many DVDs and books that Coach Krause has authored over the years. The event was sponsored by RSM McGladrey (Paul Rehberger ’77) and Marine View Beverage (Fred Bevegni ’75).

Chapter President Profile
Name: Matt Santangelo (’00)
Serving: Spokane Alumni Chapter
Degree: M.B.A. – Human Resources Management
Favorite GU memory: I have to name one?
Playing in front of The Kennel crowd.
Occupation: Business Development - Summit Capital
Family: Married to Cathy (’99) with two boys, Calvin, 3, and Luca, 1.

Why did you answer the call to be president of your chapter?
Can you say ‘No’ to Kara Hertz? It is a great opportunity to become involved, and I hope to help the next generation of GU grads.
**Chapter Chatter**

### Upcoming Events

Events March 15 through June 30
Updates and other details on these and other Gonzaga events are in the Web Events Calendar online at www.gonzaga.edu/News+and+Events.

**Academics/Miscellaneous**

- March 28, GU English Associate Professor Dan Butterworth Reads Poetry, 7:30 p.m., Globe Room, Cataldo Hall.
- April 22, Academic Honors Convocation, 3:15 p.m., Globe Room, Cataldo Hall.
- April 25-26, GU Doctoral Program in Leadership Studies to host Student Leadership Conference. Other information TBA.
- May 9, ROCF Commissioning Ceremony, 5 p.m., Globe Room, Cataldo Hall.
- May 10, Law School Commencement, 9:30 a.m., McCarthy Athletic Center. Social for graduates, faculty and families, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Law School lawn.
- May 10, Baccalaureate Mass, 1:30 p.m., McCarthy Athletic Center (tickets not required).
- May 10, Graduate Students Commencement, 5 p.m., McCarthy Athletic Center.
- May 11, Undergraduate Commencement, 10 a.m., Spokane Veterans Arena. Social for graduates, faculty and families, 10:30-2 p.m., Johnston Mall (in front of College Hall).
- Art
  - Jundt Art Center and Museum
    - ARCADE Gallery
      - March 28 through July 31: "Pam Ingalls: Ah Life!"; free public reception 6:15 p.m., March 27.
    - Jundt Galleries
      - Through April 2, "Face to Face" continues.
      - April 18-May 10, "Senior Thesis" Exhibit; April 12, free public preview reception, 7-9 p.m.
- THEATRE
  - (All performances in Russell Theatre, located in College Hall.)
    - April 2-5, "Don Juan" by Molieres, 7:30 p.m., and April 5 & 6 at 2 p.m.
    - April 24-26, "Dance Concert 2008"; 7:30 p.m., and April 26 at 2 p.m.
    - April 30, "One Act Play Festival" produced and directed by students, 7:30 p.m.
    - May 2, "The Veterans Project," 7:30 p.m.
    - May 3, "Film Festival" student films, 7:30 p.m.
- Music
  - March 30, Student Composers Recital, College Hall, Room 101, 7 p.m.
  - April 10, GU Chorale Concert, St. Aloysius Church, 7:30 p.m.
  - April 13, Casey Nagata, Jr. Sax Recital, College Hall, Room 101, 2 p.m.
  - April 18, GU Choir/Schoola Concert, Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral Spokane, 7:30 p.m.
  - April 23, String Chamber Orchestra, College Hall, Room 101, 7:30 p.m.
  - April 23, Wind Symphony Concert, Bing Crosby Theater, downtown Spokane, 7:30 p.m.
  - April 28, GU Symphony Orchestra, Bing Crosby Theater, downtown, 7:30 p.m.
  - April 30, Schola Concert, St. Augustine Church, Spokane, 7:30 p.m.

### License Plate Saga

We got our Gonzaga license plate in the spring of 2006. The back plate is framed with an alumni frame, and there is a Go Zags bumper sticker next to it. Our son calls the van our Zagmobile. Beginning last October, we drove the Zagmobile across the country and back on a six-month sabbatical. We occasionally noticed people studying the plate, but the only conversation it stimulated was with an elderly man in Scottsville, New York, who knew all about the Zags’ basketball successes. He even remembered that Bing Crosby was a Zag.

— Anne (’73) and Dave O’Neil

### New York TREK

No one can resist the Wall Street Bull when visiting the world-famous commerce center in Lower Manhattan, including the six GAMP trekkers (from left) Sean Sosnowicz, Ryan Cooksey, Camille Mertt, Markus Weickenmeier, Garret Swanburg and John Hennessey as they took a short break in their intense New York excursion.

### Chapter President Profile

**Name:** Mike Tiltford (’03)

**Serving:** Boston Alumni Chapter

**Degree:** B.A. in History

**Favorite GU memory:** The Gonzaga-in-Florence Program.

**Occupation:** M.B.A. student at Boston University

**Why did you agree to be president of your chapter?**

I transferred to Gonzaga from Santa Clara in 2001 after completing the year abroad in Florence. Gonzaga had a strong sense of community and amazing people. I wanted to help foster the Gonzaga community spirit in Boston and continue to build our growing alumni network.
Handling what life throws in our path

By Lisa Bennett
Associate professor of counseling education

After 23 years of counseling human beings ranging in age from a toddling 18 months to a withering 98 years, I dare to state there seem to be some factors that lead to a joyous life and others that lead to misery. Learning as one must from relationships with people of diverse heritage/culture and varying symptoms, it has not been difficult to note that it is one’s perspective on life that produces the internal experience of the individual. Indeed, no matter what life throws into one’s path, it is what one does with it that determines joys or sorrows.

Take, for example, these similar scenarios: Two young adult women from middle-class households both experience the loss of their mothers before they marry. The first of these young women feels cheated – slighted that her mother could not be at her wedding “as she should have been.” Indeed, she perceives God as having punished her, and she believes that her wedding now cannot be a truly blessed event – certainly not joyous. Consequently, she resentfully elopes with her fiancé and remains embittered at the loss of the big family wedding she believed her right to have. She curses God for her losses.

Conversely, the second young woman’s perspective is that she was blessed with a mother who raised her well and whom she enjoyed for all of her young life. While she wishes her mother were present for her wedding, she realizes her blessings of having been prepared so well to marry and lead her own life. She fulfills her own wishes for a beautiful family wedding and toasts a tribute to her mother at her wedding. She forever recalls her wedding day as a joyous union and believes her mother’s presence in spirit made it divine. She praises God for such blessings.

There are many examples of disparate stances/actions and resulting pains or pleasures. The elements that seem to lead to joy include ongoing gratitude for what one experiences, perseverance despite difficulties, lack of entitlement, and a “rising to the call” coupled with creating meaning during the most difficult times.

Listening to the aged (both penniless and millionaire) sum up their lives, I have heard collective themes from those who are peaceful and, similarly, common themes from those embittered and without peace. The peaceful and joyous tend to demonstrate their gratitude. They are responsible, active and able to find meaning – even through difficult times. The often lonely and embittered more often demonstrate anger. They are stuck in negative, helpless or aggressive modes, and seem without hope – especially in difficult times.

What might life become for the whole of us if we worked toward the stance of gratitude instead of entitlement? What might life shape up to be in homes, communities and nations where individuals take responsibility for their own joy by appreciating what life brings and making all that they have as good as it can get? For me, I would rather experience the other driver who waves and smiles with relief and gratitude that neither of us is harmed as we miss one another in a traffic mishap, than take the one who offers hostile gestures at the same situation. May we all find ways of feeling and demonstrating gratitude, and may the world be more joyous.
Hot works of art

Senior Keller Baum, here firing a piece of his pottery outside the Jundt Art Center and Museum, joined the ceramics program at the urging of his friends. He is finishing his fifth year at Gonzaga with a degree in business information systems. "I'm from and am likely to return to Portland. This semester I'm in the advanced ceramics course as well as kiln design," Keller said. The pot in this photo became a gift for a friend.

Photo by Jennifer Raudebaugh