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Staff Box

Summer 2007  Vol. 2, Issue 1

The GONZAGA QUARTERLY staff welcomes you.
Dale Goodwin, Editor
Manny Lombard, Associate Editor
Gerald Almanza, Graphics Editor
Amy Sinisterra, Photographer

Regular Contributors
Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Sabrina Jones, Peter
Tormey, Shelly Humbert, Kelly Birch, Sheila
Evans, Oliver Pierce, Bob Tim, Kara Harte,
Sister Phyllis Taufen, SNJM.

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Michael Schmitz,
left, and roommate
Alex Friedman
greet the world
from their room
in DeSmet Hall.
Dozens of bigger-
than-life photos
bloomed last
spring in the
windows of
DeSmet’s fourth
floor, identifying
residents of
Gonzaga’s oldest
residence hall.
Celebrate our College of Arts and Sciences

By Father Robert Spitzer, S.J.
President

The upcoming academic year marks the 120th anniversary of both the University and the College of Arts and Sciences. Since we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the University in grand style in five years, we thought we would take this year (2007-08) to celebrate the anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences, which stands at the center of our education through both the core curriculum and its 39 majors devoted to the core methodologies of scientific and humanitarian pursuits.

The official start of our College celebration will take place on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007. During the day, we will have presentations on the four major areas of the College: (1) the humanities, (2) the natural sciences, (3) the social sciences, and (4) the performing and fine arts. This will be followed by a formal rededication of the Administration Building as “College Hall.” Throughout the year we will host events for students and friends to celebrate the four major areas of the College (e.g., a day of celebration for the humanities, the natural sciences, etc.). Also, we will celebrate the accomplishments of many graduates of the College who have made major contributions to academic research, to teaching and health care, to ministry and social welfare, and to the professions. The public will be welcome and a complete list of these events will be published on our Web site and in subsequent issues of Gonzaga Quarterly.

Throughout the last five years we have been steadily improving the facilities and technology for the College, including the construction of a new science building adjacent to Hughes Hall, a complete renovation of Hughes Hall (it really doesn’t smell like an organic lab anymore), as well as the third and fourth floors of the Administration Building (it really doesn’t look like rabbit warrens anymore!). We have built separate facilities for broadcast media and the choral program, and we have renovated some of our small residence halls into office buildings for three of our departments (religious studies, English, and most recently philosophy). We also have built 22 multi-media classrooms complete with projected Internet access, and we have wireless access across the campus.

We also are investing in our programs and faculty. Throughout our years of growth, we have maintained an average class size of 24 and a student-teacher ratio of 12:1. We will continue to maintain these ratios into the future. Our retention statistics rival the very best universities in the United States (93 percent from freshman to sophomore year), indicating that our students are quite satisfied. We have invested in a teaching and advising center for junior and senior faculty and we have begun investing in undergraduate research fellowships (in which undergraduates can work with faculty on research which will allow them to obtain invaluable experience, an “edge” for graduate school entrance, and sometimes their names on professional publications).

We also have developed a College Advisory Committee and have hired a College development officer. They will have the responsibility of keeping our College alumni apprised of developments in the College including faculty publications, grants and notoriety; undergraduate research and graduate school prospects; improvements to facilities and equipment; new programs, etc. They also will organize the College alumni from various regions (along with our alumni chapters) to host and participate in lectures given by faculty from the College, and social sessions to reconnect College alums in various classes.

They also will cultivate interest and raise funds for new projects in the College. These include: (1) moving the student administrative offices (such as Student Life, Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Registrar, etc.), into the new student center being planned, which will allow 12 new large classrooms and many new conference rooms and faculty offices to be constructed in “College Hall”; (2) developing seven new medium-sized classrooms and 51 new faculty offices in the recently purchased Fuller Paint Building (which will receive a new name); (3) making a major investment in faculty enrichment (supporting faculty research and teaching, and traveling to conferences, etc.); (4) tripling the size of the undergraduate research fellowship program; and (5) investing in faculty and staff support for existing and new programs.

In the next two issues of Gonzaga Quarterly we will share the many projects listed in this column, present achievements of our College faculty and students, highlight the history of the College, and describe our hopes for the future. As the College goes, so goes the University. We are filled with hope and expectation.
There’s little that is more quintessentially Gonzaga than Philosophy.

…. but the teaching of it — how that has changed!
Tom Rukavina is both a ground-breaker and a legend at Gonzaga. The first lay professor hired to teach philosophy at the University, Rukavina arrived in 1958. Enrollment totaled 1,800 students, and many aspects of Gonzaga were different from the way they are today. Rukavina remembers that a shortage of classrooms necessitated him teaching existentialism in a former military barracks located where Hughes Hall now sits.

Teaching, too, was a different business in that era. Rukavina believed then – and does now – that a well thought-out lecture followed by students’ questions made a laudable pedagogical style. The Socratic method became popular in the 1970s. Rukavina tried. “But I fell on my face,” he said, with a smile and rueful shake of his head. “I had the late mayor of Spokane in one class, and he wrote in his evaluation that I was the worst professor he’d ever had. I think he must have been right.”

Old world. Stately. Real philosopher. These are terms that Rukavina’s friends use to describe him. As a genuine pedagogue, Rukavina always tried to have students experience the same delight that he enjoyed from philosophic study. One of his traits was feigned sarcasm. As Adriane Leithauser, a former philosophy major, describes it, “Dr. Rukavina might initially respond to a question or comment with a slightly challenging and sarcastic tone. But if you looked in his eyes you would see that twinkle that let you know he was pleased with your insight and gave you the confidence to go forward with your own thoughts on the matter.” Also, as one student pointed out, he could lecture the whole semester on a glacier isn’t fundamentally different from teaching students how to engage their contemporaries a raft of ways to adapt in class the next day. In the first week of his ethics class, Schmidt often shows the opening scene of the 1990 gangster movie “Miller’s Crossing” and asks his students if mob ethics count as an example of ethics.

A lifelong pursuit

“I attempt to remove myself from the discussion by presenting alternative views through other people,” Schmidt said. “For example, I might present the class with a position my wife, Laura, has taken on an issue or I might bring up a former student. I want my students to see themselves as engaged in a broader discussion, one that includes other students as well as people from various occupations or political persuasions.”

I had a student in my happiness class who explored the implications of Gonzaga working in human resources,” he said. In Schmidt’s mind, when students understand the material and apply it to their major, that’s a mark of success. “I think students enjoy my class because I help them see that philosophy is not divorced from the rest of their lives. Thinking critically and learning about the history of ideas enables us to engage in the activities we love more fully and experience them more directly.”

It is tempting to see history as a series of changes, distancing generations from their predecessors. A closer look, however, often reveals connections and commonalities. Though Rukavina’s teaching career at Gonzaga began before Schmidt was born and despite the fact that teaching in the Philosophy Department has changed in many ways, the two share in a tradition of scholarship and teaching of which Socrates would have been proud. Both professors believe that their task is to not only instruct students in the content and methods of philosophy, but also to give them access to what it means to be a philosopher and convey to them the confidence that they too carry within them the spark of the philosophical life.

(Steverson is chair and associate professor of philosophy, and Jeannot is professor of philosophy)
For net-savvy teens, Luke Barats ('06) and Joe Bereta ('04) are that hilarious duo whose “Mother’s Day” video hit YouTube’s home page and made them famous overnight.

At NBC, Barats and Bereta are two young talents worth betting on. The network signed them to a one-year, six-figure contract in September 2006, with a possible second-year extension.

But to Frank Swoboda ('94), owner of Spokane-based Corner Booth Productions, a commercial and video production firm, Barats and Bereta are employees, partners and protégées.

Swoboda knows what comes easy for them and what doesn’t.

“When they first started working for us they asked me to look at their stuff,” Swoboda said. “I remember saying, ‘This is really funny but I don’t go to Gonzaga anymore, so it’s not funny for me. Go make something that will make my mom laugh, make my daughter laugh.’

A couple weeks later they came back with Mother’s Day. Amazing.”

Swoboda is talking by phone after being in Phoenix on a four-day shoot. In the background, I hear the sound of children playing. It’s a late Friday afternoon and I worry that I’m cutting into family time, but Swoboda’s on a roll, talking about two people whom he clearly admires.

Duo for next generation

“They’ve worked very hard in the editing room, not letting something go out until it’s really impeccable. We’ve really preached that a lot. It shows, too. Their stuff really pops,” Swoboda said. “The other thing I’m really proud of is that they’ve maintained who they are. They’re humble and aware that this is a long game. Fame can come and go in a flash. I tell them to enjoy it, but I try to plant other seeds, too. “Anybody over 30, for the most part, thinks there isn’t anyone under that age of importance or impact yet. But these guys are it. You would be hard pressed to go to any high school or college in America where they aren’t known. Anybody under 25 absolutely knows them. They are the Hope and Crosby of the next generation… the next Belushi and Aykroyd. We’re shooting somewhere, and we’re walking down the street, and pretty soon there are four or five teenagers coming up to them. ‘Are you Barats and Bereta? Are you the Mother’s Day Card guys?’ Then, Luke and Joe turn red and I make them go sign autographs.”

Smart spots

I ask Swoboda about his ties to the University:

“It’s important to me to hire Gonzaga and they’re the best. It was about eight or nine years ago when Dale Goodwin called and said, ‘I know you’re an alum, and we’re looking for a TV spot.’ I had done a lot of work with basketball, and I said, ‘We can make a really cool spot.’

“The first commercial was really well received, and the next year, we got a little more serious about it, and we won a national Addy award,” Swoboda said. “It was very cutting edge, created purposely for a target audience of high school kids. It was funny, yet it was smart. It had some family in it. It captured Gonzaga the way I’ve always felt it was – it’s the people who matter most.

“Joe and Luke saw me speak (about those ads), and they told me that was one of the reasons they wanted to work with us.”

By now, the background noise is gone. Either the children are napping, or Swoboda moved somewhere quieter. He shifts to Barats and Bereta’s choice to stay in Spokane after they signed with NBC:

“I would maintain there are a lot of reasons it’s better to do this work in Spokane. I talk with (friend, neighbor and novelist) Jess Walter a lot. We talk about why it is that our sensibility about America, living here, is dead-on. And now these guys have it, too. We’re not New York, we’re not L.A. What we have here in Spokane is a more authentic environment to tell the story of America. And that’s what Joe and Luke have, they know what America likes. I’m very proud of them.”

Swoboda finishes our conversation by pulling one last card out of his vest pocket:

“Have you ever heard of Ben Mahallan? Watch out. He’s the next one who’s going to go big. He’s another Northwest kid (Blaine, Wash.), a Gonzaga alum who graduated last year, and he works for us, too. He has a project with us called ‘Gamers.’ You’ll be hearing about it…and Ben.”
Gonzaga's 120th commencement exercises, held May 12-13, were Gonzaga's largest ever with 1,813 students graduating — approximately 150 more graduates than in 2006. Graduates included 957 seniors, 660 master’s students, 15 doctoral students and 181 Law School students.

Harry H. Sladich, Gonzaga vice president and secretary to the Board, received the DeSmet Medal, the University’s highest honor. Receiving honorary Doctor of Laws degrees were Sister Phyllis Marie Taufen, S.N.J.M., ’67 M.A.), a Holy Names sister and Gonzaga professor of English emeritus; Major General Jason Kamiya (’76) of the Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.; Alan Mullaly, president and CEO of Ford Motor Co., father of graduating senior Molly Mullaly and Undergraduate speaker; William Neukom, president-elect of the American Bar Association and Law ceremony speaker; and Martin Favero (’59), director of scientific and clinical affairs in the advanced sterilization products area of Johnson and Johnson, and graduate ceremony speaker. Norman L. Roberts (’59 J.D.), a University Regent and benefactor, received the Law Medal.

Photos by Amy Sinisterra and Dale Goodwin
President Bush commissions ROTC students

The graduation spotlight shone on the Gonzaga University ROTC program this spring.

Two Gonzaga ROTC senior cadets, Sarah Starr and Peter Gilroy, were commissioned at the White House by President Bush on May 17, along with 20 other ROTC cadets from around the country. Gonzaga Professor of Military Science Lt. Col. Allen Patty called the occasion “an enormous honor to be two of 22 selected from approximately 5,000 Army ROTC cadets from around the nation.”

Meanwhile, Maj. Gen. Jason K. Kamiya, a 1976 Gonzaga alumnus and commander of Combined Joint Task Force 76 in Afghanistan in 2005 and 2006, gave the GU ROTC commissioning speech back on campus. Kamiya, a distinguished military graduate, also received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Gonzaga. Kamiya, now stationed at Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va., was honored for more than three decades of service.

The 23 Bulldog Battalion cadets commissioned this year include 20 GU graduates and three from Whitworth College; two of the GU graduates attended the Intercollegiate College of Nursing.

Alumni Association awards $150,000 in scholarships

The Gonzaga University Alumni Association recently awarded $150,000 in scholarships for the 2007-2008 school year to children, grandchildren and siblings of GU alumni. Students received scholarships ranging from $2,500 to $15,000.

The Harry and Harriet Leppek Scholarship, worth $15,000, was awarded to Dana Mannino, Spokane. The Schafer Family Scholarship, worth $10,000, went to Kathryn Zielony, Medford, Ore.

Other scholarships will aid students from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Colorado and California.

President makes good on 50-year-old debt

On May 18 Gonzaga President Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., paid off a long overdue debt of the University.

Robert Probach (’49) returned to Gonzaga in 1948 after a tour of duty in Europe during World War II. He entered a contest sponsored by The Gonzaga Bulletin, asking students to write about their most memorable Christmas. Probach wrote of spending Christmas in his life” in prison camp as a POW. His faith was the best present he had that year, he wrote. The top prize went to him. The award was $20, but he was never paid.

Considering the value of money today, Probach thought $512 would be fair compensation for his award. Father Spitzer paid Probach what he was owed, and Probach donated it back to the University as his two sons and daughter looked on. Probach is a retired math teacher who resides in the Seattle area.

Ground broken for PACCAR Center, GU’s first ‘green’ building

Gonzaga broke ground on its new PACCAR Center for Applied Science on April 26, at the site of the 25,000-square-foot high-tech building, immediately south of the Herak Center for Engineering.

The design for the south-facing building has been extensively modeled, using resources from the WSU Light Laboratory to confirm strategies for moving and managing daylight throughout the building. “Daylighting” is an integral part of the project’s strategy for realizing a LEED Silver rating.

The PACCAR Center, made possible by a lead gift of $2 million from PACCAR Inc., is expected to open in time for fall 2008 classes. The PACCAR Center will house sophisticated technological laboratories dedicated to robotics, artificial vision, and transmission and distribution engineering, as well as classrooms and offices.

Patterson Baseball Complex dedicated

Gonzaga University dedicated its new Patterson Baseball Complex and Washington Trust Field on April 20.

The complex is named for the family of Michael Patterson, a 1969 Gonzaga alumnus, chair of Gonzaga’s Board of Trustees and the lead contributor to the project. The field is named for Washington Trust Bank, a major supporter of the project. The complex is located on the south side of campus, just south of the McCarthey Athletic Center parking lot.

ALSC Architects designed the complex, and Garco Construction was the project contractor.

“This stadium will give our program a huge boost,” baseball Coach Mark Machtolf said. “This piece, coupled with Gonzaga’s outstanding academic reputation, will allow us to compete with schools on the West Coast for the region’s top players.”

Unity House reaches 10-year anniversary

Gonzaga University’s Unity House Multicultural Education Center marked its 10th anniversary in April with its AHANA alumni reunion. Between 15 and 20 alumni responded for the occasion. Bob Bartlett, the director and guiding light of Unity House for 18 years, recently accepted a teaching position at Eastern Washington University.

Bartlett completed a doctorate in leadership studies this year.

“Being at Gonzaga allowed me to grow as a person in so many grace-filled ways – ways that I could never have imagined prior to coming here,” Bartlett said.

Unity House was established in 1997 because of hate and bias incidents on campus. It is literally a home away from home for many at Gonzaga and serves as a regular meeting place for numerous student clubs, support groups and community organizations.
Juniors Nick Bormann, Grace Saez named debate all-Americans
Gonzaga University juniors Nick Bormann, Spokane, and Grace Saez, Las Vegas, were named Cross Examination Debate Association All-Americans. Saez is majoring in applied communications; Bormann is a philosophy major.

“Grace and Nick have been our top team all season and they both deserve the honor,” said GU debate Coach Glen Frappier. “Twenty debaters (out of hundreds nationwide) are chosen to each of these teams. We’re extremely proud of both these students. The best news is they’re only juniors.”

Campus candlelight vigil for Va. Tech casualties
Gonzaga University hosted a candlelight vigil to express solidarity with the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University community in the wake of the April 16 shooting tragedy. The Gonzaga Student Body Association sponsored the event. Students, faculty and staff wore maroon and burnt orange, Virginia Tech’s school colors.

Business School launches MBA for healthcare
The Graduate School of Business Administration is launching a new MBA program with a specialized curriculum in health care. The MBA in Healthcare Management, a 33-credit part-time program, will begin in fall 2007.

Bud Barnes, dean of the Gonzaga School of Business, said he believes the program will benefit the Inland Northwest in multiple ways.

“The Inland Northwest has a tradition of excellent health care services. The graduate programs we offer complement very well this high quality industry we serve,” Barnes said.

“There have been other health care management programs in the past, but they either were more theoretical or targeted hospital administration. The new program at Gonzaga will address the more practical business aspects of running a medium-to-large medical practice in 2007 and beyond. I look forward to hiring graduates of this program in the future,” said Steven Duvoisin, MBA in Healthcare Advisory Board member.

Gonzaga offers St. Ignatius maquettes
The University is offering for sale a limited edition of 16-inch versions of the statue of St. Ignatius which will adorn the new main entrance to the University. These versions, called maquettes, are cast in bronze and are available through University Relations at a price of $5,000 each. The sale of these works will help fund the monument and landscaping. Sculptor George Carlson is creating the nine-foot statue, which is to be completed next winter and ready for installation in front of the Administration Building. A reflecting pool will complement the statue.

Air Force funding spider silk research
Assistant Professor Brook Swanson, a first-year biology professor, has landed a $148,000 equipment grant from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research for equipment to make possible undergraduate research on spider silk.

A nano-scale material testing machine measures “how strong and stretchy tiny materials are. My undergraduate research students and I are going to be using it to measure material properties of spider silk and insect exoskeleton. We are interested in this for a couple of reasons: First, as biologists we are interested in the evolution of these high-performance materials that are extremely strong and tough; second, if we understand how these animals construct these materials we should be able to use this ‘animal technology’ to make man-made materials that mimic their impressive performance. This is especially interesting to the military, because if we could build armor (both body armor and vehicle armor) out of materials like these, the armor could be lighter, more flexible and safer for the troops,” Swanson said.

Only a handful of the nano-testing machines are in existence, the professor said, and just a few labs in the country work in this field. Swanson did post-doctoral work on spiders at the University of California, Riverside, before coming to Gonzaga.
On the Gonzaga campus, caffeine consumption has plummeted and the availability of parking spots has soared. It must be summer. And, with apologies to Alice Cooper, Sheryl Crow and Sly and the Family Stone, that means “School’s Out,” it’s time to “Soak up the Sun” and have some “Hot Fun in the Summertime.”

Just a few short months ago, our campus was teeming with students – learning in the classrooms, laughing on the lawn and forever talking on their cell phones. But just where do they go and what do they do once the last final has been taken? One person who knows is Gonzaga’s Career Center Director Mary Ritter Heitkemper. “Our most recent comprehensive formal results are from our spring, summer and fall 2006 graduates who took an exit survey upon graduation,” she said. “Even though they were just walking down the commencement aisle, more than two-thirds of them had already gained employment, secured a long-term service opportunity or were enrolled in graduate school.”

The remaining one-third were either continuing to look for just the right employment or had chosen to take a “gap” year, an increasingly popular option among today’s college graduates, where they often work, volunteer or travel internationally. “What’s really interesting is that when asked again about their employment or graduate school status within a year of graduation, the number of them who had secured employment or received full acceptance to graduate school had increased dramatically,” said Heitkemper.

Whether they go by plane, train or automobile, Gonzaga graduates land somewhere in this nation – or beyond. We caught up with a few of them to learn more about their lives’ itineraries – with a few detours along the way.
The Teaching Trio
Meet Jake, Angela and Tony. (They’re the ones having fun in the convertible) Jake graduated last spring with a double major in marketing and economics, while Angela earned her degree in sociology, and Tony closed the book with a bachelor’s in English literature. What could this trio possibly have in common? Each begins a two-year commitment as a public school teacher for Teach for America this fall.

Name: Tony Emerson, ’07, English literature
Destination: New York City Public Schools, high school English teacher
Distance from Gonzaga: 2,611 miles
Itinerary: This river-raft guide who has never traveled east of Colorado will be navigating uncharted waters in the Big Apple. Tony, who is among 1,000 Teach for America educators in New York City alone, will teach high school English in one of the city’s public schools.
Parting Words: “Gonzaga students have a positive impact on each other and that gives everyone better ambition all around. There are so many people doing good things, it’s hard not to catch (the spirit of service).”

Name: Jake Firman, ’07, marketing and economics
Destination: Denver Public Schools, high school math teacher
Distance from Gonzaga: 1,092 miles
Favorite Pastime: Ultimate Frisbee

Name: Angela Wier, ’07, sociology
Destination: Charlotte Public Schools, N.C., elementary teacher
Distance from Gonzaga: 2,595 miles
Itinerary: Jake and Angela drove from Arizona to North Carolina in early June. Highlights included camping at Carlsbad Caverns, tasting their first-ever brisket in Fort Worth, Texas, and getting completely lost in Memphis, Tenn. “We busted out our ‘old school’ CDs along the way – some Backstreet Boys and other bands from our middle school days,” said Angela. “You can imagine the zillion new inside jokes between us after spending that much time together.” After taking Jake to the airport for his flight back West, Angela realized she “didn’t know a soul in Charlotte…unless I counted Adam Morrison.”

What is Teach for America?
This nonprofit national organization places college graduates of any academic major in high-need urban and rural public schools for two years. During this time, students are trained at summer institutes, receive full salary and health benefits, and participate in professional development opportunities. Depending on where they work, some will finish with a master’s degree in education.

Interest in the program at Gonzaga has skyrocketed 300 percent the past three years, and Teach for America took notice by creating two campus campaign manager positions last year that Jake and Angela filled. “We spent the bulk of our time finding seniors who would be great prospects,” said Angela. “By the end of the year we accepted 12 seniors, which were four more than our goal. We were thrilled to see our recruitment efforts pay off.” www.teachforamerica.org

Road Trip
Explorers: Jenny Huston ’07, political science; & Amanda Turpen, ’07, psychology
Destination: Who knows? After all, it’s the journey...
Mode of Transportation: Jam-packed Toyota Highlander
Duration: 18 days
Itinerary: “We left Seattle June 18 and made it to Boise by the end of the day,” said Jenny. “It was definitely warmer there. The next day we arrived in Salt Lake City, took in some of the sights and headed to eastern Colorado. Luckily we found some little hotels that fit our slim budget. We aimed our SUV for Texas and found a quaint little town that took us in for the night – stars and silence everywhere. What an interesting culture! Made it to our GU friend’s house the next day in Dallas, where we crashed for three days, watched some baseball games and took in the metropolitan...
nightlife. Headed back north, with camping stops in Albuquerque and the Grand Canyon.” Despite losing a toenail and earning an infected foot blister, Jenny and Amanda look back and laugh at their Grand Canyon hiking experience. In less than two days, the duo hiked 24 miles in temperatures exceeding 120 degrees and through knee-high swamp waters. “The funniest part was when we were informed we only had a half mile to go. We looked up and saw two more switchbacks and a straight away. We threw our backpacks to the ground and collapsed, claiming there was no way we could bring ourselves to finish.

“Ventured west until we were facing the Pacific Ocean in Big Sur, Calif. A few hundred miles north on Highway 1 took us to the Napa Valley vineyards, where we not only did some wine tasting, but truly drank in the atmosphere of it all. Continuing northward, we visited some of our Zag friends in the Portland area. By the Fourth of July we were home in Seattle, feeling like we already had our own Independence Day.”

Name: Beth Conner, ‘07, religious studies Destination: Chicago, for graduate school at the University of Loyola-Chicago; Hartford, Conn., for Jesuit Volunteer Corps year-long service commitment

Distance from Gonzaga: 1,821 miles

Why Gonzaga? “I wasn’t sure where I wanted to go to college, so I took a quiz on collegeboard.com and it matched my interests with specific colleges,” said Beth. “Gonzaga came up Number One, but I had never heard of it before. One of my friends asked if it was in Africa. I said, ‘No, just in Spokane.’”

Name: Louis Chen, ‘07, philosophy and journalism, Comprehensive Leadership Program certificate Destination: Portland, Ore., JVC recreation services coordinator

Distance from Gonzaga: 355 miles

Why JVC? “I felt the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, with its Roman Catholic tradition, Jesuit connection, and dedication to bringing peace and justice through service, was a wonderful opportunity to live in service to others while simultaneously sorting out my future plans,” said Louis.

Detour Explorer: Melissa Hoffman, GU junior Excursion: Yellowstone National Park, Zion National Park and Santiago, Chile

Mode of Transportation: Cramped family car and one large airplane

Duration: Pretty much all summer

Itinerary: “My parents drove to Gonzaga from Arizona to get me and we took a ‘family bonding trip’ to Yellowstone and Zion national parks,” said Melissa. “I flew to Santiago, Chile, with my best friend and her mom on July 1. We spent the next month learning the city’s subway system, speaking Spanish, discovering local cafes, skiing the Andes and exploring Easter Island. It was awesome.”

Name: Sarah Shean, ‘07, accounting Destination: Seattle

Distance from Gonzaga: 282 miles

Itinerary: This Colorado native may climb mountains in excess of 10,000 feet whenever she gets the chance, but it was her jam-packed car that most recently carried her over the Cascade Mountain range. After securing an accounting position with Washington Mutual through
Gonzaga’s Career Center, Sarah began working in the commercial accounting division at the company’s headquarters in downtown Seattle. A passionate believer in social justice, Sarah is thrilled to work for a corporation that recognizes the impact it has on the communities it serves.

**Parting Words:** “I feel like I got everything out of college that I was meant to and now I’m saying, ‘OK, what’s next?’” said Sarah.

**Name:** Dan Robledo, ’06, civil engineering  
**Destination:** Baghdad, Iraq  
**Distance from Gonzaga:** 6,743 miles  
**Itinerary:** Living in different parts of the world is second nature to Dan. Growing up as the son of a noncommissioned officer, Dan lived in Korea, Germany, Colorado and Washington. Since graduating from Gonzaga with his civil engineering degree and having finished the ROTC program, he has completed military training at forts in Missouri, Georgia and Texas. He was deployed to Iraq in May to begin his 15-month tour of duty as a platoon leader.

**Parting Words:** “I’m a little nervous, but a little excited at the same time.”

**Road Trip Explorer:** Taylor Black, ’07, philosophy and classics  
**Mode of Transportation:** 1991 Toyota Corolla  
**Trip #1 Duration:** 20 days  
**Trip #1 Itinerary:** “My wife Anne and I left Spokane July 1 and drove our trusty Corolla to Humboldt National Forest in Nevada,” Taylor said. “The next day we arrived at Anne’s parents’ house and stayed with them for two weeks. We participated in one of her family’s long-held family traditions: driving to the lowest (Badwater in Death Valley National Park) and highest (Mount Whitney) places in the lower 48 states in the span of one day. Our trip home to Spokane included some camping at Yosemite National Park, visiting the ghost town of Bodie, Calif., and touring part of Hell’s Canyon.”

**Trip #2 Duration:** 13 days  
**Trip #2 Itinerary:** “Time for graduate school at Boston College. Anne and I took advantage of our cross-country road trip and stopped by Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone, Wind Caves and Badlands national parks, reconnected with long-lost family members and went to an extended family reunion;” Taylor said. “Indiana took us to Notre Dame where we visited more family and friends, continued northeastward to Ann Arbor and Detroit, Mich., and Toronto. (I hope to earn my Ph.D. at the University of Toronto once I’m done at Boston College.) Seeing the impressive Niagara Falls capped off our journey and we recently arrived in Boston.”

**Name:** Thanh-Phuong Chu, ’06, chemistry  
**Destination:** Wickatunk, N.J.  
**Distance from Gonzaga:** 2,625 miles  
**Proverbial Fork in the Road:** Medical school or religious vocation? To help find the right direction, Phuong spent the past year volunteering for the Good Shepherds Volunteers Program in Wickatunk, N.J., where she worked with youth and continued her discernment. By remaining open and centered on God, Phuong’s plans are now clear: she feels called to become a religious sister first, using that perspective to shape her future training and ministry as a physician.

**Parting Words:** “I believe it is truly God who accomplishes the work and I am merely His instrument.”
When Harry H. Sladich arrived on campus in 1955 as a freshman from Anaconda, Mont., Dwight D. Eisenhower was president of the United States, and Father Francis Corkery, S.J., was Gonzaga University’s president. Sladich has been through seven University presidents and the construction of perhaps three dozen new buildings.

No one knows Gonzaga better than Sladich, a man who after graduating in 1959, has served 45 years as director of numerous departments, and for the past 24 years as vice president – including two stints as acting president. On May 13, he was given the University’s highest honor, the DeSmet Medal.

From the national notice brought by basketball’s Frank Burgess (1961), John Stockton (1984) and the recent run of nine straight trips to the NCAA tournament, to the tremendous expansion of the physical plant, the growth in enrollment and the hiring, through time, of a stellar faculty, Sladich has seen Gonzaga mature. But it hasn’t come without growing pains and some financial strife.

After a period of growth in the 1960s, Gonzaga found itself mired in a financial mess in the early 1970s. Fortunately, Gonzaga administrators saw the wisdom in calling upon the expertise of business people, and moved from an all-Jesuit Board of Trustees to a lay-Jesuit mix in 1969. According to Sladich, “Gonzaga wouldn’t have survived this turmoil had it not been for the participation, guidance and generosity of the lay Trustees. They continue to provide us with much-needed expertise.”

A major shift occurred when President Bernard J. Coughlin, S.J., arrived in 1974. Sladich said. “When Father Coughlin came, we began to look outside the University for help. He was able to create a great deal of good will for the University. That was a big turning point.”

“The physical transformation of our campus has been mind-boggling,” Sladich said. “When I came here the lumber mill still was operating on our south border. After it disappeared in the early 1960s and Kennedy Pavilion (now Martin Centre) was built, we began to realize that the south side of campus was no longer our back door. Now looking at our campus from across the river to the south, it is beautiful. This transformation really took root in the 1980s and has been a work in motion ever since.”

**Celebrating a Century**

One of Sladich’s fondest memories is the celebration of Gonzaga’s Centennial in 1986. Sladich spearheaded the effort. “The Centennial celebration caused us to look back at all that this University had endured, including some very tough years, and we survived, “Sladich said. “What it really did was celebrate the people who had helped us stay the course, and become the institution that we have. People like Jim McGivern, Fathers Tony Lehmann and Art Dussault, Bud Barnes and Ken Sammons. But I don’t want to mention names. I’d leave too many people out.”

Gonzaga thrived through the 1980s and early 90s with the addition of many outstanding professors and expansion of academic offerings. But budget woes and flat enrollment in the mid-1990s required a creative thinker. Enter Gonzaga’s 25th president, Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., whose background in finance and metaphysics was confounding to some, but whose vision for Gonzaga put the University back on a firm foundation.

“He proceeded to build a university on strong financial footings and to vastly expand academic offerings, thanks in large part to the tremendous team effort of deans, faculty and staff members,” Sladich said.

“Certainly our recent national recognition has provided the catalyst for many positive things on campus,” Sladich said. “You have to give men’s basketball the initial credit for that. But in sustaining that national reputation, the key has been the faculty and staff who have engaged with our students and made them feel a part of the Gonzaga family. Our retention rates (93 percent this past year) bear that out. They are coming and staying.

“Enrollment growth and the quality of students coming in have been remarkable,” Sladich said. “When I was a student here we might have had 1,000 students. Now we have over 6,700. We’ve done a remarkable job of keeping up with the growth.”

Sladich has been the one constant in the last 50 years.

“I was walking along with a group of prospective students touring campus, and the student leader addressed the origin of The Wall (just west of DeSmet Hall),” Sladich said. “The tour guide talked about it being constructed by students in protest of the government’s stand on the Vietnam War, but it was really put there by Frank Conklin, who then oversaw the grounds, as a way to keep students from walking through the rose bushes;” he said with a chuckle.

Those rose bushes are long gone, but the students – and Harry Sladich – are still here.
So where does Gonzaga go from here?

By Thayne McCulloh
Interim Academic Vice President

Every day, we are confronted with events and possibilities which impact and affect us. Some are beyond our ability to foresee, much less control. Others become difficult decisions, joyful opportunities or intentional paths of exploration. Colleges may operate on a different scale, but in many respects are no different than individual people in this regard. “By failing to prepare,” said Benjamin Franklin, “you are preparing to fail.”

In 2002, in preparation for its 2004 decennial accreditation visit, the University engaged in a “self study” — literally, an exhaustive internal review of all programs, departments and operations. One thing became quite clear: Although Gonzaga exists to educate students, it does so in the context of a small, but very complex, city. Organized to educate students, it does so in the context of hundreds of personnel, now functions around the clock, every day of the year. (Gonzaga has its own health center, its own security staff, collects its own trash, and you still get connected to a switchboard operator when you press “0”!) The collective effort involved with keeping a small, but complex, higher education institution moving forward in the proper direction is a very challenging proposition.

**Strength, vulnerability**

Another reality also emerged from our accreditation review: Our robust complexity is both a tremendous strength, and our greatest vulnerability. In many ways, Gonzaga today stands as a wonderful example of what a community of dedicated people can bring to higher education. At the same time, there are many challenges to be faced. These include the pressures of operating in an enrollment-driven environment; dramatic demographic changes in prospective and enrolled students; a time of increased public scrutiny regarding costs and accountability; harder choices about expensive, but essential, educational technologies. Out of both strength and vulnerability emerged a challenge to Gonzaga: “We need a new, long-term plan.”

All across America — particularly in the summer months — college campuses are engaged in operational planning. This ensures that students are registered for the proper classes, desktop computers are ordered for faculty, the correct housing has been prepared, and the right number of sweatshirts are in the bookstore for opening weekend. It assures that — for the most part — an institution is ready to support its primary mission when the semester begins. Where many higher education institutions struggle, however, is in the development of strategic plans. Plans that are truly strategic simultaneously articulate both an aspiration and a direction, and allow everyone to more clearly understand the values and priorities that an institution is setting for itself. Strategic plans offer a peek into the future of an institution while realistically identifying the potential hazards that exist for it along the way. Gonzaga’s future, like those of its students, is full of challenge and potential.

A strategic plan should help the University understand how it best should proceed in the face of challenge — anticipated or unexpected.

**Overarching goals**

The committee that steered development of Gonzaga’s Strategic Plan consistently kept a set of values at the forefront of its 18-month endeavor: to listen carefully and to engage with the community in a transparent manner. Beyond the development of the Plan’s Vision Statement, our most important work involved the collection and distillation of hundreds of observations from the Jesuit community, our faculty, students, staff and alumni; Trustees and Regents, and parents. The steering committee did an excellent job, and from these reflections eventually emerged the seven overarching goals that constitute the framework within which divisional and operational plans will operate.

**Strategic Planning is challenging work** — but nothing when compared to plan implementation. The benefits of effective strategic planning are realized only when the overarching goals inform the everyday decision-making of a university, and the difficult decisions regarding priorities and resources are debated and made. This strategic plan — Vision 2012 — presents for Gonzaga both wonderful opportunities and daunting challenges. We look forward to keeping it before us as we set our course for the next year and beyond.

**Strategic Plan Goals**

1. To commit every area of the University to the reflective engagement of her Jesuit, Catholic, and humanistic Mission ideals.
2. To educate and transform quality students in an enriched academic environment.
3. To deepen the engagement of the entire university in the development of the whole person.
4. To increase diversity and affirm the value of human difference.
5. To develop men and women for a more just and humane global community.
6. To secure the financial future of the University.
7. To foster the tradition of lifelong relationships with alumni, our friends, and the broader community.
Sister Laura Michels, S.N.J.M., offered a changeup pitch to open one of her prayer sessions with the Gonzaga baseball team:

“Does God care if the Bulldogs beat the Toreros or the Toreros beat the Bulldogs?” The Zags, preparing for a three-game series at San Diego, were a captive audience in the locker room of Gonzaga’s new Patterson Baseball Complex. Their eyes darted back and forth, furtively searching for clues, until Sister Laura spoke:

“God doesn’t really care. God wants each person to use his skills, not get hurt and, if we happen to win, it’s just gravy.”

Since February, Sister Laura has prayed regularly with the team before each series, home or away. Each time she reads a Bible passage, shares a story and recites a poem she wrote for the occasion. A shirttail relative of baseball Coach Mark Machtolf, she coordinates liturgy for University Ministry and clearly enjoys this outreach work.

In the Crosby Student Center, she studies a binder with each player’s picture, number and stats. This is her “playbook,” where she also saves her prayers and poems.

“I am putting the faces with the names,” she said, turning its pages.

“I know from when I was a principal, if you want students’ attention, you’d better know their names.”

Sister Laura often greets players studying between classes.

“I see Jeremy Stumetz here studying a lot,” she said. “I go out and say ‘hello’ to him. I didn’t find out from him but he is a pre-med student.”

Last year, she invited Coach Machtolf to visit “to pick his mind about baseball.” He accepted, and posed a question to her: “When are you going to come down and pray with the team?”

“It has been really fun,” she said. “I have to hand it to Mark. He recognizes the importance of a spiritual aspect in their lives. They eat and sleep baseball and their academics are important, too. He (Machtolf) has a very strong spiritual side and knows that it’s a great thing for them.”

She asked Machtolf if the players would accept a female chaplain.

“I said, ‘Do you think the guys would be more comfortable if I brought one of the guys, a male chaplain, with me?’ He said, ‘They are around guys all the time.’ Having a woman chaplain was just fine with him.”

Sister Laura also serves as assistant chaplain for the women’s basketball team, helping Fr. George Morris, S.J. In her locker room prayer before a game on graduation weekend, she called the seniors to the center of the room and asked the other players to put a hand on the seniors’ shoulders. Then she read “The Prayer for the Graduates,” the same prayer that was read at the Baccalaureate Mass which the players had to miss.

Her offerings to the team have varied in content but are always positive, and often humorous. One time she spoke about patience and how Major League Hall of Fame manager Connie Mack waited years for a pitcher to get through college and a war before he could play for him. Laura compared Mack’s patience to that of Jesus.

“Jesus was the leader of this rag-tag group because some of them, the apostles, were kind of dingy,” she said. “Over time, He made them into an All-Star team as well.”

In one of her poems, titled “Recapping the Sweep and Anticipating the Pepperdine Series,” she demonstrates a knack for rhyme schemes:

How sweet to sweep on Senior Day
Those pesky Lions kept us at bay.
The home plate ump at times seemed gracious.
But the strike zone was not spacious.

Three reached first by being hit
All well and good, but it felt like . . . pain

And Spike had fun just shaking hands
Running up and down the stands.
Children chased him and then hugged him.
You could tell it never bugged him.

Good-by, my friends, and the best of luck
Into your bags my prayers I’ll tuck.

While she won’t pray for victory, per se, Sister Laura let the Zags know she hoped to watch them compete for the WCC Championship May 25-27 in San Diego. First, the Zags had to win the Pepperdine series; before leaving for Pepperdine, second-baseman Evan Wells told her, “We’re going to get you your vacation to San Diego.”

“And by Jiminy, they did,” she said.

Before the Zags (32-23, 15-6) left campus for the WCC championship series against No. 5-ranked San Diego, Sister Laura gave the team her usual prayerful send-off. Also, she stayed at her good-luck hotel in San Diego, the Padre Trail Inn; this, she told the players, was the No. 2 reason why they would win the series.

Sister Laura would never claim any credit for the team’s success. Still, this was the first year since 2001 the Zags have played for the WCC’s automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Case made.

By Peter Tormey

Holy home runs!

By Peter Tormey

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Case made.
Senior right-handed pitcher Clayton Mortensen was named the West Coast Conference Pitcher of the Year, one of eight Bulldogs honored on the 2007 All-WCC baseball team. He also became the sixth player in Zag baseball history to be honored as an all-American, earning a third team spot. He became the fourth highest GU player drafted by Major League Baseball, being selected 36th by St. Louis in the 2007 First-Year Player Draft. Mortensen posted a 9-2 overall record with 122 strikeouts. Junior third baseman Darin Holcomb (.365), junior outfielder Shawn Wayt (.333) and sophomore first baseman Ryan Wiegand (.333) joined Mortensen on the first All-WCC team. Right-handed pitcher Jeremy Stumetz (3 saves, 4-2 record) was named to the All-Freshman team, and junior right-hander Brandon Harmon (6-7), senior shortstop Aaron McGuinness (.287, .935 fielding percentage) and sophomore designated hitter Mike Terry (.314 in conference games) were honorable mention honorees. Gonzaga placed second in WCC regular-season standings, and played season champion San Diego for the right to go to the NCAA tournament, losing 2 games to 1, May 25-27. The Zags were 33-25 overall.

Senior basketball players Derek Raivio and Stephanie Hawk were named 2007 Bulldog Club Male and Female Senior Athletes of the Year out of 48 senior student-athletes. Also honored were cross country's Kara Rasmussen as the Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year, soccer's Mike Babenko and cross country's Gabe Hayden sharing the Male honor, and sophomore Matt Boudin, a 6'5 guard from Highlands Ranch, Colo., played this summer for the USA in the FIBA U19 World Championships in Novi Sad, Serbia, a tournament win by the Americans. He was the sixth Bulldog to represent the USA in international basketball competition.

The Zags Golf Classic, formerly Bulldog Club Golf Tournament, is scheduled Sept. 10 at Manito Golf and Country Club. The new-look tournament will feature a two-person best-ball competition in the morning, and the traditional five-person scramble in the afternoon, with dinner to follow. The two-tournament approach will allow for more participants and speed up play. For information, contact Jackie Fulton at 509.323.3530.

Former Gonzaga All-American Maria Stack was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame April 28. Stack was a 1985 Naismith Award winner following her 1984-85 senior season at Gonzaga. She still holds single-season records for points (707), field goals made (264), free throws (179), assists (203) and steals (96). She was an NAIA All-America selection. The Bulldogs went 28-4 and advanced to the NAIA District playoffs.

For the second straight semester more than 100 Gonzaga student-athletes posted a grade point average of 3.5 or better. Grades for the recently completed spring semester show 55 student-athletes on the first-team honors, while 126 were named to the All-WIRA team: Darin Holcomb and Matt Wernette, Bryan Franceschi and Andre' Gallant. The Second Varsity 8+ was victorious, edging UC-San Diego by one second with Amanda Brown, Greg Malman, Sean Haase, Derek Clemmensen, KC Anderson, Ryan Roller, Alex Moore, Drew Smith and Pat Moran. The Novice 4+ finished second with Sean Finerty, JP Roach, Mike Marsh, Scott Lampe and Kelly Cumiskey on the oars. Four Bulldogs were named to the All-WIRA team: Wernette, Hinshaw and North earning first-team honors, while Clemmensen was named to the All-WIRA second-team.

Women's golf team battled from last place after 36 holes to shoot a final-round 317 and claim third place in the 11th annual WCC Championship at La Purisima Golf Course. Mary Kate Morgan, finished sixth and earned her second straight All-WCC first-team honor. Bulldog men had a pair of WCC honorable mention picks in junior Trevor Lee and freshman Brandon Crick. Crick was also named Freshman of the Year, the first such honor for a Bulldog.

Marco Antonio Pineda and the doubles team of Bryce Cooper and Roman Dojack earned All-WCC men's tennis honorable mention accolades. Pineda posted a 12-6 record at No. 4 singles and a 23-12 overall singles record for the Bulldogs this season. Cooper and Dojacck teamed up to post a 13-7 record in doubles play during the spring, including a 10-4 record when playing at No. 2. Emily Anderson and Aglaya Kokurina earned honorable mention accolades on the women's side. Anderson is the first Gonzaga women's tennis player to earn conference honors twice. She posted a 7-14 record at No. 1 singles and a 13-19 overall singles record. Kokurina posted a 12-9 overall record.
By Bob Finn
Director of Alumni Relations

When I pick a subject for this column, I usually have an idea about which way the interview will go. But while talking recently to Tom Mulcahy ('57, '61 and '63 M.Ed.), I was just along for the ride – with a true Zag.

Tom and I met for lunch at Jack and Dan's, the local Gonzaga hang-out, while he was in Spokane for his 50th reunion. He played baseball and basketball for the Bulldogs and later went on to sign a professional baseball contract. He returned to Gonzaga to complete two more degrees. He also spent 15 years as Father Thomas Mulcahy, S.J, and worked at Gonzaga as a coach and the director of student activities. He left Gonzaga in 1969 to scout talent for the San Diego Padres baseball team and eventually serve a 20-year stint as director of group sales and season tickets.

Tom has a wealth of knowledge about Gonzaga, local sports history and Butte, Mont., where he grew up. He has collections of autographs and baseball jerseys that would be the envy of any fan. He owns every Time Magazine cover portraying a baseball player, and each one is signed, except for Dwight Gooden's. “I just never got around to asking him,” Tom said.

Few people have experienced Gonzaga as Tom has, spending time here as a student, athlete, coach, administrator and as a Jesuit. As a student, he belonged to the illustrious Montana Club, also known as the Butte Rats. Many of the Jesuits on campus and a fair number of students were from Butte.

“I remember one time when the Montana Club had a little gathering off-campus,” says Tom. “We were getting a little rowdy which prompted the owner of the establishment to ask where we were from, and not wanting to get the whole group in trouble, I said we were the Whitworth Spanish Club.” The administration was not happy with the notoriety and decided to disband the club for a few years.

For a time, Tom had a slot machine in his room on the second floor of Jesuit House. “The Jesuits have been around a very long time, but I think I was the only one who ever had a 10-cent slot machine in his room,” he said. Tom's ties to Gonzaga also extended into his baseball career, as he was signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates which was partially owned by Bing Crosby.

I first met Tom in 1988 just before I moved to San Diego for a baseball coaching job. He told me if I ever needed anything to give him a call. Shortly thereafter, I phoned to ask if he had any extra baseballs I could use for my team. Within days I had dozens of baseballs. These were major league pearls – my team never had it so good.

Tom’s charity work did not end in San Diego. “There were many teams in Montana playing baseball with “Padres” written on the equipment,” Tom said. He also had his hand in many community activities and served on numerous charitable committees in San Diego.

With so much of the University’s history at his fingertips, I asked Tom what he most enjoyed about his Gonzaga experience. “I am still living it,” he said. “I met many people during my time at Gonzaga, as a student-athlete, staff and Jesuit. I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”

Tom returned to his roots and now lives in Butte. I look forward to his other 50-year reunions in 2011 and 2013, as I am sure there will be many new stories to tell.
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 & 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.

'42 Clayton Kelly Gross, Vancouver, Wash., after retiring from a 42-year career in dentistry, wrote his first book “LIVE BAIT—Memoirs of an Undefeated Fighter Ace.” It was published in 2006. He has completed his second book.

'57 Chris Blanco and wife Melissa (Mihalasky) ’96 are the parents of Allison Elizabeth, born Jan. 31. They live in Bonney Lake, Wash.

'92 Kristine A.K. Meyer (’99 JD), Spokane, is executive director of Avista Foundation. She has been with Avista since 2000. Deborah Weber wed Robert Strape on May 13, 2006. They currently live in Spokane, where Deborah is a financial analyst at Sterling Savings Bank and Robert is a welder at Titan Truck. Gary E. Hood is an experienced trial attorney. He has successfully litigated cases, in both first and second chair roles, covering a variety of substantive legal areas. Gary currently focuses his practice on litigation involving patents, trade secrets, trademarks, copyrights, unfair competition and related issues. He lives in Beverly Shores, Indiana.

'66 Stephen Privett, S.J. (’66) was president at the University of San Francisco.

'97 Eileen M. Conn is the regional vice president of the Los Angeles office of Charles Dunn Company, a full-service commercial real estate firm. Conn has been with the firm since 1997. She will be responsible for more than 7 million square feet of commercial real estate, overseeing a team of 12 property and portfolio management staff members, coordinating tenant relations, rent collections, forecast budgets, report financials, CAM billings and administration operations. She lives in Pasadena, Calif. Micah Lang and wife Lynee (Hudson) ’97 are the parents of MacGregor, born Aug. 23. They live in Denver where Micah is a certified financial planner at CitiGroup Smith Barney and Lynee is in her final year of neurology residency.

'59 William A. Buckholdt III, has become a partner at Paine, Hamblen, Coffin, Brooke & Miller LLP. He joined Paine Hamblen in 2000 and his practice focuses on the tax implications of business transactions for both for-profit and non-profit entities, as well as estate planning and retirement/deferred compensation. He lives in Spokane. Dave and Jessica (Stephan) Farrell ’99 (Mullen) ’99 are the parents of twins Benjamin David and Adam Dominic, born April 20. They live in Tigard, Ore. Jennifer Larson (J.D.) wed Matt Montag ’01 Feb. 24. They live in Spokane, where Jennifer is an attorney with Johnson Law Group and Matt is a surveyor with RFK Land Surveying. Alyssa Pitstick has released her first book, “Light In Darkness.” She is currently teaching philosophy as an adjunct instructor at Gonzaga and lives in Spokane. Michelle M. Tacke wed Scott Griffith on Aug. 19, 2006. They live in Redmond, Wash., where Scott is the president of BEDIC, a construction consulting firm, and Michelle is the office manager and controller for BEDIC. Dominic DeCaro ’00 and wife Jennifer (Mullen) ’93 are the parents of Sean Michael. Born April 14, he joins sisters Siobhan and Mara and brothers Kevin and Liam. They live in Vancouver, Wash.

'94 Melanie Garing-Rhodes and husband Jim Rhodes ’94 are the parents of Benjamin James, born Nov. 28. They live in Snoqualmie, Wash., where Jim is a civil engineer project manager at HNTB and Melissa is a histocompatibility technologist.

'95 Joni Knopik ’00 and Kevin Hardy. They wed Aug. 5, 2006. They live in Everett, Wash., where they both work for Boeing. Joni is a cost analyst and Kevin as a contract engineer.
**Alumni Update**

**Memoriam**

**01**

Caryn McLellan (Nadeau) (’01), a business systems analyst for Fluor Hanford, Inc., in Richland, Wash., and her husband Scott are parents of Eryn Dillan, born Aug. 28, 2006. He joins sister Roslyn Haley, 4. Robyn D. Davis and Roddy M. Lockett were married May 5 in Stanley, Idaho, at the base of the Sawtooth Mountains. Robyn works for the Idaho State Legislature and Roddy, a Boise State University graduate, owns a building company, Highmark Construction. They live in Boise.

**02**

Kyle Efleseon wed Shauna Dittmer July 15, 2006. They live in Boise, where Shauna is a pediatric nurse at St. Luke’s Regional Hospital and Kyle is a senior domain provisioner for an internet company and part-time soccer coach.

Jeanette Proctor (M.S.), Spokane, is an advanced registered nurse practitioner at Women’s Health Connection. She has 22 years of medical experience.

Shelly Daugherty (M.B.A.) wed Dave Humbert (attended ’94–’96) May 12. They live in Spokane where Shelly is in Marketing & Communications at Gonzaga University and Dave is assistant manager at CarToys. Brett Davidson, Spokane, is a staff accountant at McDirmid, Mikkelsen & Secret PS.

Steve Keeton wed Deborah Halley July 10, 2006. They live in Hayden, Idaho, where Steve works for Lewis and Clark State College and is a first lieutenant in the Army National Guard. Ryan D. Lee, Spokane, is a staff accountant at McDirmid, Mikkelsen & Secret PS. Ryan J.

**05**

Lawrence C. Angell (’44, JD), Seattle, died Jan. 28 at age 88. He served in the Army during World War II as a marksman and forward observer for his artillery regiment. He later worked in insurance and land development.

Gilbert Baker (friend), Spokane, died Feb. 21 at age 81. He served in the Army during World War II and later was a mathematics instructor at North Central High School.

Jacqueline Rose Flaherty Baker (friend), Hayden Lake, Idaho, died May 10 at age 86. She was a member of Hayden Lake Country Club and Avondale Golf Club.

Natalie Bremanen (’87), Spokane, died March 21 at age 39. She enjoyed travel, the outdoors and working with youth.

Joseph Cavanaugh, Spokane, died June 6. He was 71. He served as a member of the Gonzaga Engineering Advisory Council from 1999-2001. For 37 years he worked as an engineer and manager at Kaiser Aluminum. Two of his children graduated from Gonzaga. He was a huge Zag fan.

Suzanne Charlton (’62), died Feb. 17 at age 67. She headed the Family Life Education Program in Calgary, Alberta, and was a clinical supervisor providing marriage, family and individual counseling.

Peter W. Dufour (’73), Spokane, died April 19 at age 56. He had worked at American College Testing Program, Clausen Miller Gorman Caffrey & Witoua, P.C., Carole Siegel & Associates and most recently as a legal word-processing specialist at Perkins Coie.

Frederick J. Dullanty, Sr. (’38), Kirkland, Wash., died March 30 at age 89. He was a bank executive for his entire career.

Norma Lemieux Foubert (’83), Mead, Wash., died April 4 at age 81. She worked at the Physicians Anesthesia Group and was past president of the Washington Association of Nurse Anesthetists and past chair of the Association of Western Hospital Nurse Anesthetists.

Theodore Fournier, Jr. (’56 J.D.), Spokane, died May 10 at age 81. He was an attorney for 50 years and enjoyed fishing and bird hunting.

Thomas P. Howard (’52 J.D.), Modesto, Calif., died in May. He was 82. A former Turlock, Calif., city councilman after retiring as a Spokane attorney, he enjoyed bicycling, canoeing and walking.

Robert F. Loft (’50), died Feb. 16 at age 79. He served in the Navy during World War II and later was an accountant with Columbia Gypsum, then co-founder of Greenacres Gypsum and Lime Ltd. He enjoyed gardening, traveling, singing, dancing and debating politics.

Brian P. Massey (’92), Kent, Wash., died May 18 at age 27. He died while descending Mt. McKinley in Denali National Park. His climbing partner also died. Brian was a firefighter with the Kent Fire Department.

James E. Morgan (’53 JD), died March 21 at age 77. After serving in the Army, he joined his father in the law firm Morgan and Morgan.

John Nevers, (’48), Spokane, died April 4 at age 84. He retired from the Air Force as a second lieutenant and was an avid golfer.

James A. “Kimo” O’Brien (’59) Haiku, Hawaii, died recently. He was a retired university professor and the author of eight books, mostly textbooks on information systems. He worked for General Electric and IBM before turning to teaching.

Riley Powell (’42), Santa Rosa, Calif., died March 31 at age 86. He was a captain for Pan American, flying a Boeing 747.

Robert John Rich (’67), Spokane, died March 15 at age 61. He served in the Army in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star and rank of captain. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, trains, and playing baseball and hockey.

William P. Roach (’40), Walla Walla, Wash., died May 14 at age 87. He practiced law in Walla Walla for more than 50 years and served as a municipal court judge for 24 years. He enjoyed playing softball, volleyball, handball and pingpong. He volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America, Hospice’s Camp Amanda and Christian Aid Center. He was a founding member of the Walla Walla Catholic Schools Endowment Association and the Walla Walla St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Mario Saccomanno (’51), Spokane, died May 3 at age 82. He served in the Army during World War II and later ran an independent chemistry lab, after which he became an investment advisor.

Lyle Scott (’60), Usk, Wash., died Feb. 3 at age 85. He served in the Army Air Corps and the Washington Air National Guard. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Mary Skok (friend), Chewelah, Wash., died March 14 at age 78. She taught kindergarten at St. Mary’s Catholic School and in the Chewelah School District. She loved bingo and the casino slots.

Dorothy Darby Smith (’66 MAI), Spokane, died March 16 at age 97. She founded Spokane Civic Theatre and was a drama professor at GGU.

John A. Swanson (’77), Kirkland, Wash., died May 3 at age 82. He served as a member of the Gonzaga Theatre and was a drama professor at GU.

Mario Saccomanno (’51), Spokane, died May 3 at age 82. He served in the Army during World War II and later ran an independent chemistry lab, after which he became an investment advisor.

Malcolm J. Thompson (’76), died March 15 at age 71. He served in the Army in Korea and later was a real estate developer.

Mary Skok (friend), Chewelah, Wash., died March 14 at age 78. She taught kindergarten at St. Mary’s Catholic School and in the Chewelah School District. She loved bingo and the casino slots.

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### Alumni Calendar

**AUGUST**  
Aug. 5 – Gonzaga in Montana  
Annual Fun Day at Tim and Mary Barnard’s, noon  
Aug. 11 – Bay Area Chapter Annual Vineyard Picnic/BBQ  
Aug. 16 – Third-Thursday Event, Duke’s Chowder House, Tacoma, 5 p.m.  
Aug. 18 – Moses Lake Golf Tournament, 9 a.m.

**SEPTEMBER**  
Sept. 7 – Final Round Golf, Tacoma  
Sept. 8 – Spokane Chapter Launch, 4 p.m., McCarthey Center  
Sept. 14-16 – V12 Reunion, on campus  
Sept. 20 – Third-Thursday Event, Masa, Tacoma, 5 p.m.  
Sept. 24 – Gonzaga Night with the President, Seattle, 6:30 p.m.  
Sept. 28 – Bay Area Chapter Gala, Italian Athletic Club, San Francisco

**OCTOBER**  
Oct. 5-7 – Reunion Weekend  
Oct. 18 – Third-Thursday Event, Masa, Tacoma, 5 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**  
Nov. 2 – Gonzaga Night with the President, Denver, 6:30 p.m.  
Nov. 9 – Gonzaga Night with the President, San Francisco, 6:30 p.m.  
Nov. 10 – Seattle Chapter Business Forum Vintner’s Dinner  
Nov. 15 – Third-Thursday Event, Doyle’s Irish Pub, Tacoma, 5 p.m.  
Nov. 22-24 – Anchorage Shoot Out

### Around The Horn

**Compiled by Kara Hertz**

**WCC Tournament festivities move to San Diego**

More than 500 GU fans enjoyed the alumni socials prior to the 2007 WCC Tournament games in Portland, where both Zag men and women captured titles. Next year’s festivities will be held at the University of San Diego, hosted by the Alumni Association and the San Diego Chapter.

**Chapters gather from coast to coast**

For the second year in a row, alumni chapter and club members across the country gathered regularly at their designated regional establishments to cheer on the basketball Zags playing on ESPN.

**Portland Chapter applauds Dan Dickau**

More than 200 Portland members enjoyed a meet-and-greet with Gonzaga great Dan Dickau (’01) after the Trailblazers crushed the Charlotte Bobcats on March 1 in Portland. Dan spoke about how his time at Gonzaga has shaped who he is today. Dan is a guard for the Portland Trailblazers.

**Seattle Chapter renovates home for woman, disabled son**

A group of 20 Seattle-area members spent April 28 volunteering their time and talents for Rebuilding Together, an organization that helps revitalize houses and communities, assuring that low-income homeowners live in warmth, safety and independence. “The experience was very fulfilling,” reported chapter President Kevin Daniels. “We painted, poured new sidewalks, replastered part of the downstairs, built a new fence, and removed tons of debris and garbage.” The chapter’s assigned family was a 95-year-old woman with a 60-year-old disabled son. She had been unable to do any repairs to the house since her husband died in 1995. “It was like going back in time,” Kevin continued. “She was the nicest and most grateful person on earth, so it was quite a lot of fun working so hard all day.”

**First-ever alumni Easter egg hunt a hopping success**

The Alumni Association hosted its first Easter Egg Hunt on March 31. Close to 200 children enjoyed hunting for candy filled eggs, while more than 300 parents and grandparents chaperoned. The event was held on the grassy quad behind the Administration Building. Alums can look forward to this annual event on the Saturday before Easter weekend.

**Spokane Chapter Launch Sept. 8**

The Spokane Chapter of Gonzaga University Alumni Association is ready for its launch. Join the Alumni Association for a festive celebration on Sept. 8, 4-7 p.m. on the floor of the McCarthey Athletic Center. Father Spitzer will address the crowd, and this is a family-friendly event, so bring the kids. Watch your mail for more information.

**Alumni, Admissions teaming up for summer send-offs**

Regional chapters are teaming up with the Admission Office this summer to host send-off parties for GU’s incoming freshmen. Send-offs are planned in Anchorage, Seattle, Tacoma, Denver, Phoenix, Portland, San Francisco, Bozeman and San Diego. Contact the alumni office for further details.

**Bay Area Chapter Business Forum shaping up**

Chapter members held their first Business Forum on May 16 at the Olympic Club in San Francisco. Nearly 60 alumni and GU supporters gathered to show their enthusiasm for developing a platform and process to promote their professional careers. Initial emphasis will be on...
Kevin McQuilkin (’83) was the keynote speaker at the spring A.S.K. Social on April 18 in Spokane. The semi-annual event provides an opportunity for students to learn career and life lessons from a prominent professional and to practice their networking skills with alumni. Kevin, who serves as managing director of mergers and acquisitions at Deutsche Bank Securities in New York, discussed the challenges and rewards of working in the fast paced world of Wall Street. The students were pleased to learn that the reputation of Gonzaga University extends across the country; several students were motivated to get connected with employers in New York.

The student response to Kevin’s presentation was so positive that GAMP has been working with Kevin and other alumni in the New York area to develop a New York City Trek for students interested in exploring a career in financial services. This Trek is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 20-22. The event will include information sessions with employers, tours of the financial district, and the opportunity to seek advice and career guidance from alumni professionals.

Got plates?
Gonzaga pride hits the road when you buy a Gonzaga license plate from the Washington State Department of Motor Vehicles. Purchase yours today at any DMV in Washington or check it out at www.dol.wa.gov/vehicleregistration/specialdesign.html#college. A portion of every plate sold benefits the Alumni Scholarship fund. Love your new plate? Send a picture of you with your plate to hudak@gonzaga.edu.

Alumni Association Web page gets a facelift
The Alumni Association Web site will undergo many changes this fall. Improvements will include presentation and ease of navigation.

Alumni audit
Do you have a degree from Gonzaga? If so and you are a current Alumni Association member, you are eligible to audit undergraduate lecture courses. Cost is $25 per course. Fall registration through the Alumni Office is Aug. 28-Sept. 5. These classes are for your personal growth, so no credit is earned.

To reach us
To receive information or to update your e-mail address, please contact the Alumni Association at alumni@gonzaga.edu or 509.323.4232. For reunion questions, reach Mike Baisch at baisch@gonzaga.edu or 509.323.4232. For alumni and chapter info, reach Nancy Marcus at marcus@gonzaga.edu or 509.323.5999. And for GAMP, contact Erin Shields, shieldse@gonzaga.edu or 509.323.4048.

Chapter program celebrates two-year anniversary
Thanks to wonderful alumni serving in their areas, Gonzaga chapters are celebrating their two-year anniversaries. The program is expanding across the nation, so if you don’t have a chapter in your backyard, you should soon.
Step off the bullet train and absorb God’s gifts

By Father Michael E. Moynahan, S.J. ('68)
Rector of Gonzaga's Jesuit Community

One of the most distinguishing characteristics of Ignatian spirituality and Jesuit education is “finding God in all things.” Students of both are constantly encouraged to look for and celebrate the presence of God that can be found in all human experience. Over 200 years before St. Ignatius was born, a German Dominican mystic by the name of Meister Eckhart wrote these words:

*Apprehend God in all things,*
*for God is in all things.*
*Every single creature is full of God*
*and is a book about God.*
*If I spent enough time*
*with the tiniest creature—even a caterpillar—*
*I would never have to prepare another sermon,*
*so full of God is every creature.*

St. Ignatius wanted every Jesuit and every student to have their feet planted firmly in two worlds. The first world was contemplation. The second world was action. This Spanish Basque saint envisioned people who were “contemplatives in action.”

While “action” may not be countercultural in our society, “contemplation” certainly is. Contemplation challenges those of us who engage in multi-tasking to be singular in our focus. Contemplation challenges those of us whose pace of life is like a bullet train to slow down and become aware of our lives and our world. Focus and pace, or the lack thereof, will determine whether “contemplation” is attainable for us today.

Awareness nurtured by contemplation helps us to discover the presence of God in all life. Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote in his poem “Hurrahing in Harvest:” “These things, these things were here and but the beholder wanting.” So what we see or fail to see will ultimately determine whether we are grateful human beings. With an “attitude of gratitude” we can view life and all that makes up our existence as “gift upon gift” rather than something we are entitled to.

Jesuit paleontologist Teilhard de Chardin composed this prayer of gratitude:

*I thank you, my God,*
*for having in a thousand*
*different ways led my eyes to discover the immense*
*simplicity of things.*
*Little by little, through the irresistible*
*development of those yearnings you implanted in me*
*as a child, through the influence of gifted friends*
*who entered my life at certain moments to bring light*
*and strength to my mind, and through the awakenings*
of spirit I owe to successive initiations, gentle and terrible,
*which you caused me to undergo, through all these*
*I have been brought to the point where I can no longer see*
*anything, nor any longer breathe, outside the milieu*
in which all is made one.

We recently held the 120th commencement of Gonzaga University. Graduation and reunions often are times of remembering and giving thanks. We remember through the stories that we tell one another: stories of sacrifices made, accomplishments achieved with the love and support of families and classmates, the seeds of compassion planted and grown, the desire to be men and women for others, nurtured through the words and examples of mentors, teachers, families and friends.

As our stories remind us, we are filled with gratitude. This gratitude is expressed in ways that we think, ways that we feel and ways that we act. That ethos of respect, founded on biblical and Ignatian spirituality, shapes our grateful response to the greatest and the humblest around us. It leads us to service of others, especially those without voice or power, those on the margins, those our society ignores.

As American Trappist Thomas Merton wrote in his book “Thoughts in Solitude:”

*Every breath we draw is a gift of God’s love,*
*every moment of existence is a grace,*
*for it brings with it immense graces from God. Gratitude*
*therefore takes nothing for granted,*
*is never unresponsive,*
*is constantly awakening to new wonder*
*and to praise of the goodness of God.*
*The grateful person knows that God is good,*
*not by hearsay but by experience.*
*And that is what makes all the difference.*

Meister Eckhart wrote that “If the only prayer a Christian said was ‘Thank You,’ it would be enough.” May what you read in these columns of “To be continued . . .” plant in you a great desire to remember and give thanks through the witness of your life.
Senior Art Exhibit

Each spring, the Jundt Art Museum displays work by senior art students. “I think it’s the most important show we do each year, because it’s by the students,” said art Professor Robert Gilmore. Each of the three woodcuts, above, by Brendan Beardsley (’07) represents a different relative, Beardsley’s great-grandfather, for instance, who was a coal miner. Beardsley majored in mechanical engineering, with an art minor. He is going to graduate school in industrial design. Chelsea Thoumsin (’07) created the ceramic work titled “Mountainscape I.” Thoumsin graduated with an art major, business and music minors, and a concentration in entrepreneurial leadership.

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