Congratulations Gonzaga Class of 2024

Carrying on tradition

Grads give modern spin on commencement dress with deep roots

COMMENTARY

By EMILY NIEMANN

A vital milestone in one’s academic journey, it’s understandable how prominent graduation is in our collective subconscious. Certain aspects of the day are ever-changing, while some are steeped in centuries of tradition.

Whether it’s high school or university, academic institutions have been decorating their students and scholars in mandated robes since Oxford and Cambridge decided in favor of uniformity. Through numerous iterations, these gowns have largely transformed into what we use today, plus the mortarboard cap.

The “mortarboard” is a reference to the flat boards that mortars use to lay bricks, which is fittingly often the same shape. Unfortunately, the cap is also shaped weirdly and isn’t the most flattering for photos. But in the name of tradition, America has been using the current style of cap and gown since nearly the end of the Civil War.

Perhaps Serena van der Woodsen was right for wearing her tassel in her hair and ditching the cap altogether. In recent years, some graduates have started decorating their mortarboard caps in one way graduate can tailor graduation garments to their personal styles.

Decorating mortarboard caps is one way graduate can tailor graduation garments to their personal styles.

Activist, alum to speak at commencement

On Sunday, Angelique Albert will be the guest speaker for Gonzaga University’s Graduate Commencement. Albert serves as the chief executive officer for the Native Forward Scholars Fund, which has granted more than $400 million in scholarships to more than 20,000 Native students across the United States throughout its 50-year history. She graduated from GU’s master’s in Business Administration program in 2015 and carried a concentration in American Indian Entrepreneurship.

Albert has more than 25 years of experience working in public service, philanthropy and social justice and is dedicated to ensuring that Native students have sufficient resources to advance their academic and professional goals. The additionaly serves as an advisor council member for My Brother’s Keeper Alliance, an initiative created by the Obama Foundation that aims to foster improved life outcomes for young men of color by bridging chronic societal gaps in opportunity. Albert was raised on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana and is a proud member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Before joining the Native Forward Scholars Fund in 2017, she was the executive director of the Salish Kootenai College Foundation.

GB: How would you describe the impact that the Native Forward Scholars Fund has had on Native students throughout the nation since its founding in 1969?

AA: Access to higher education by investing in student scholarships has intergenerational effects that contribute to greater economic mobility, self-determination and Tribal sovereignty for scholars and Tribal communities. We don’t just give out scholarships, we break down barriers to opportunity.

A senior bids farewell to GU and offers words of advice.

OPINION

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A&E

GU’s annual film festival showcases student filmmakers.

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SPORTS

Rising seniors to take the reins of GU athletics.

PAGE 6

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We are all so proud of you! As you leave Gonzaga we know you are all ready to make your impact on the world! GO ZAGS.
With love from all of your families.

Hannah Wood

We love you and Congratulations Hannah! We are SO proud of you! You are such a Blessing! So excited to see how you will use the gifts God has blessed you with!

Melina Alsworth

Congratulations! We are proud of you and your accomplishments. We are excited to see where your next journey takes you. We love you so very much.
Love, your family.

Nolan McLane

We couldn't be more proud of you. Take a moment and savor this time. Then go out and conquer the world.
Love Mom, Dad, Brendan, Connor and Sean

Lily Washington

Starting your Nursing “era” and we are SO proud of you! We know you’ve had many fun adventures at GU and are excited to see what comes next. Love, Mom & Dad

Audrey Burke

Congratulations Audrey Bug! We are so proud of you! We can’t wait to see what the next chapter brings!
Love, Mom, Dad, Olivia & Claire

Will Taylor

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and MOST of all, love of what you are doing.” ~ Pele
We love you!
Your family

Evan Padilla

We’re excited for your next journey after Gonzaga. Extremely proud of your achievements. Your ‘ohana loves and supports you always. Momoe aha i mua. Noho me ka hau‘oli.

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Goodbye to four years of growth, friends

COMMENDED BY ANDERS SVENNINGSEN

April 24, 2024, was a day to remember. The sun rose bright and early, casting its warm embrace over the campus of Gonzaga University. It was a day that marked the end of an era for many, a transition to new horizons and an uncertain future. As the morning wore on, the campus buzzed with anticipation, a symphony of last-minute preparations and final goodbyes.

The deep valley, deep ascent and rigorous challenges that characterized four years at Gonzaga were laid bare in the blink of an eye. From the first day on campus, the journey had been one of growth, both personal and academic. The road was rocky at times, with unexpected twists and turns, but the Zags always emerged victorious.

In spite of the challenges, the Zags had reached new heights. The Class of 2024 was ready to take their place in the world, equipped with the skills and knowledge to make a difference. The future was bright, and the possibilities were endless.

As the day concluded, the class gathered to celebrate their achievements. The atmosphere was electric, a testament to the hard work and dedication that had gone into reaching this milestone. The night was filled with laughter, tears and a profound sense of accomplishment.

Anders Svenningsen is a senior staff writer.
You have probably heard of Trevor Noah either from his time on “The Daily Show” or from his Netflix comedy specials, but his biography may be the best content he has to offer. “Born a Crime” is a creative fiction piece that explores what love is beyond the common romantic perceptions of the term. She introduces the protagonist with the same narration used in the relationship said, ultimately, how to love yourself first.

The book follows him through struggles yet to create. His biography may be the best content he has to offer. While this list isn’t in any intentional chronological order, this book honestly would frequent my No. 1 spot. If you don’t know who will be a book, allow me to introduce you to the scholar, activist, author and educator herself. “All About Love” is just one of her approximately 46 published books. This is quite the task when they have to consider genre, author, order, this book honorably would frequent my No. 1 list is made up of an assortment of genres: biography, murder mysteries, self help and fantasy. Summer vacation is the ideal time to make headway on that ever growing must-read list. eing a battle to appease their respective fathers who forced them into this competition later becomes sentiments of love and sacrifice between the fathers who forced them into this competition. As the narrator from fighting one another to fighting for the circus, the competition cannot end until one of them is dead.

**Recommendations for reading outside of the classroom**

**Commentary**

By SHEI MCLAUGHLIN

Equally the most anticipated part of summertime, this is the perfect time to read outside of the classroom. While this list isn’t in any intentional chronological order, this book honesty would frequent my No. 1 spot. If you don’t know who will be a book, allow me to introduce you to the scholar, activist, author and educator herself. “All About Love” is just one of her approximately 46 published books. This is quite the task when they have to consider genre, author, order, this book honorably would frequent my No. 1 list is made up of an assortment of genres: biography, murder mysteries, self help and fantasy.

**“All About Love” bybell books**

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PAID SENIOR SHOUT OUTS

May 9, 2024

Peyton Blanco

Congratulations, Peyton! We’re proud of your accomplishments and can’t wait to see what the future holds. We love you, P! -Dad, Mom, Madison and Ally

Madeline Szacik

Congrats Madeline on all of your accomplishments! We are all proud of you! We are excited to see what the future holds for you! Love, Dad, Mom, Emily, and Allison

Benjamin A Trigg, IV

Congratulations on your graduation, Ben! Your dedication to civil engineering inspires us. Wishing you a future filled with success and the opportunity to build a better world. Proud parents.

The 940 North Romies

Congratulations! We are so proud of you and know you will all do amazing things! Go Zags! Love, Your Families

Emma Nicole Hagner

Emma, you are a shining example of dedication and brilliance. Your hard work, authenticity, and remarkable character inspire others! Congratulations on your achievements. We are so proud of you!

Griffin Reittinger

Congrats Griffin on your graduation from Gonzaga! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. We love you! Mom, Victor & Grandma

Hunter Popma

We love you and are so honored to be part of your journey. Our life is better with you in it! Congratulations! Love, Mom, Dad, Natalie and Elise

Samuel Wright

Congratulations! We are proud of you and your accomplishments! Your future is bright and we are excited for the next chapter. Sky is the limit! Love, Your Family!
Gonzaga's rising seniors set to lead athletic program in 2024-25

By ZACH WHITE

A
fter the class of 2022 brings the torch to the rising seniors, the future athletic captains and standouts of Gonzaga University are ready to carry on the legacy set out by their predecessors.

With the success of the 2023-24 athletic season, the program will look to the senior leadership to help guide the Zags into the future. Last season, GU's roster was a blend of returning athletes and new commitments, with Ryan Nembhard, Ben Gregg, Michael Ajayi and newest commit Khalif Battle all set to represent a loaded senior class.

The rising seniors for the Zags are ready to lead as four of five men's basketball starters are returning for their senior season. The majority of GU's roster after five incredible years. Watson was a four-time West Coast Conference Tournament and regular season champion, and helped lead the Zags to five Sweet 16 appearances. In GU's most recent Sweet 16, Watson scored 14 points in an 80-68 loss to Purdue.

Watson departed the men's basketball program after five incredible years. Watson was a four-time West Coast Conference Tournament and regular season champion, and helped lead the Zags to five Sweet 16 appearances. In GU's most recent Sweet 16, Watson scored 14 points in an 80-68 loss to Purdue.

The program will be missing a host of seniors in the upcoming season. GU's women's basketball program will feature a handful of seniors in the upcoming season. GU's women's basketball program will feature a handful of seniors in the upcoming season.

Gonzaga's rising seniors set to lead athletic program in 2024-25

COMMENTS

The rising seniors for the Zags are ready to lead as four of five men's basketball starters are returning for their senior season. Zach White is a sports editor.
Senior editors close their GU chapter

BY THE GONZAGA BULLETIN SENIOR EDITORS

Marissa Conter — Editor-in-Chief

I can write without a doubt that my four years at Gonzaga have been the most rewarding part of my life and will forever be engrained in my consciousness. Before I got here, I had no idea what I wanted to do or who I wanted to be. But having been in the middle of a search to find myself in my first year, I was in the middle of a search to find myself at this university.

Thank you to Professor Kafentzis and Kip, whose guidance and mentorship has been invaluable throughout my time in the journalism department and all of the paper. But I owe it to all my friends who have always been there for me. I couldn’t have done this without them — be it through a work, a class, a studio, or a conversation. Thank you to Kip and Kalamazin, my advisors whose wise and witty advice I would be lost without. Thank you to all the other seniors who have been with me on the paper and for being so great.

Thank you to my fellow senior editors for being the best team I’ve ever been a part of. To Morgan and Joanne who were always there for me, to Mike and Asher who were always there to hang in there with me when things got tough. I also want to thank those who’ve stepped up into the editor-in-chief role, who guided me when I was a quiet staff writer. Thank you to my friends and family who have supported me throughout these past four years. Lastly, thank you to my parents and siblings for your endless love and support, I am forever grateful for you.

Sophia McKinstry — Diversity Editor

Working for The Gonzaga Bulletin has been, hands down, one of the highlights of my university experience. I came into college as an undeclared major, and it wasn’t until I was able to write for the paper that I found my calling. I have grown to truly love journalism. The people I’ve gotten to work with and work to, and thank you to Professor Kafentzis and Kip, whose guidance and mentorship has been invaluable throughout my time in the journalism department and all of the paper. But I owe it to all my friends who have always been there for me. I couldn’t have done this without them — be it through a work, a class, a studio, or a conversation. Thank you to Kip and Kalamazin, my advisors whose wise and witty advice I would be lost without. Thank you to all the other seniors who have been with me on the paper and for being so great.

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Madeline Reed — Digital Editor

All I know about began at the Gonzaga Bulletin. I loved to write. That was all I really came to this paper to do. I had no further expectations than to find a place to write. I did not — could not — anticipate just how transformative my time here would be. The past three years with The Gonzaga Bulletin have allowed me to grow and nurture skills that I never thought I could develop. And if I have any experience here at GU but that whole person. All the while, I have been able to cherish this wonderful gift of learning, sharing, and mentorship.

I’ll always look back fondly on the early morning editing pages hot off the press and evening events with pizza and coffee and good company as we worked to create our new edition. I owe a special thanks to the entire Student Media staff, my project is a product of your dedication and determination. I also want to thank my friends and family who have supported me throughout these past four years. I have been able to cherish this wonderful gift of learning, sharing, and mentorship.

For GU, thank you for being the host managing editor and roommate. I could have asked for a more helpful and fun roommate. You pushed me to do what I loved. I will forever cherish the memories that I was able to make in Student Media. I want to thank my fellow

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Maddie Halle — Multimedia Editor

I wrote everything I could — hard-hitting news, sports stories, features, how-tos, game coverages of sports I never really cared about. By example and being there for me for both Bulletin and GU, you have taught me invaluable things about my own passions through my time at Gonzaga University. Before GU, I had zero experience in student media. Getting to climb the stairs — or admittedly take the elevator half the time — all the way up to the fourth floor of College Hall has been the bane of my existence and my greatest source of frustration. But I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here.

By THE GONZAGA BULLETIN SENIOR EDITORS

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Maddie Halle — Multimedia Editor

I wrote everything I could — hard-hitting news, sports stories, features, how-tos, game coverages of sports I never really cared about. By example and being there for me for both Bulletin and GU, you have taught me invaluable things about my own passions through my time at Gonzaga University. Before GU, I had zero experience in student media. Getting to climb the stairs — or admittedly take the elevator half the time — all the way up to the fourth floor of College Hall has been the bane of my existence and my greatest source of frustration. But I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here. I grew to love here.
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| 707 Girls            | It has been an honor to be your parents and watch the mystery of you unfold before us. Let Joy be your fuel as the next part of life unfolds, you are all deeply cherished by us!
|                      | Love, Bice, Bruno, Bryant, Osthoff, Sallee and Tu Families                                                                                                                                             |
| Kelly O’Neil         | Kelly – Gonzaga has been blessed to have your sunshine these past 4 years, but your biggest fans in California can’t wait to have our SUNSHINE back! Love, Mom & Dad                                                                 |
| Audrey Stevenson     | You have amazed us since the second you were born. Your passion, dedication, and thoughtfulness are a blessing to everyone around you. We love you very much!                                                        |
| Alexandra Bratt      | Alex, we are so proud of all of your achievements at Gonzaga! We can’t wait to see all you accomplish in your next chapter. Wishing you much love and happiness, Mom, Dad, and Torie                                        |
| James, Clark, Sam, Jack, Jacob and Brady | Farewell for now, but not forever. Congratulations on your graduation and all you have accomplished over the past 4 years! |
| Grant Phillips       | A new journey awaits you Grant and we’re so excited to see where you’ll go next. Life is full of adventures. Enjoy them all! We love you immeasurably. Mom, Dad, Riley and family |
| Sander Van Hamersfeld| Congratulations Sander on your graduation from GU! We are so proud of all your accomplishments and excited to see where your next journey takes you. Go Zags! Love, Mom, Dad, Bowen and all the Van Hamersfeld and Yelle family |
| Olivia Schaefer      | We’re so very proud of you and all you have accomplished! You are going to build magnificent things. Congratulations on your graduation and Go Zags! Love Mom & Dad                               |

May 9, 2024
Dear Mr. McClain,

I am writing to oppose the establishment of an Israeli Studies program at Gonzaga University in 2024. As a student at Gonzaga University in 2024, I am writing today to express my opposition to the establishment of this program.

I believe it was in 2012 that the Office of Student Life announced that Gonzaga University would offer a minor in Israeli Studies. I know I am not the only one who is calling for the university to rethink this decision. In 2012, I signed a petition against the Israeli Studies program and by inviting Archbishop Tutu to speak on the university’s campus, the university is showing its students and the larger community that it values its ties to Israel.

Choosing a man whose life work was fighting apartheid in South Africa to speak is ignorant and shows a lack of understanding of the Paese. I believe that the university should rethink its decision and instead invite someone who understands the South African experience.

Additionally, if the university is going to have a program on the Israeli experience, it should consult with the Palestinian community to learn more about their experience. As President of the Gonzaga University Students for Justice in Palestine chapter, I have many questions for the university administration.

I believe that the university administration should be held accountable for its decision and that this program should be cancelled.

Yours sincerely,

[Student Name]
Students from Gonzaga University and Integrated Science and Environmental Technologies (ISaET) created a film, "A Frozen Legacy," that explores the relationship between climate change and the human race through the lens of Antarctica. The film, directed by Sahil Chauhan, a computer science major, and Grace Baek, a nursing major, was one of the 18 films that were recently screened at the 2023 Student Film Festival. Chauhan said that the process of filmmaking was a learning experience for him, as he had to bring all the elements of the script together through rewriting it in the editing process. "You film it and rewrite it when you edit it," Chauhan explained. "I really liked Carson's film and how he incorporated visual effects into the documentary-style film. I think it was a really cool way to show the relationship between humans and the environment."

Chauhan also enjoyed getting to work with film professionals, such as the assistant director and the cinematographer, who were also from Gonzaga. "It was really exciting to see how they handle the camera and the lighting," he said. "It was a great way to see how other people work on a film project." The film was shot in a variety of locations, including Antarctica, and the crew had to adapt to the harsh conditions of the environment. Despite the challenges, Chauhan said that the experience was worth it, as it allowed him to grow as a filmmaker and learn new skills. "I think it's really important to get experience in different roles on set," he said. "It helps you develop your skills and understand how the different departments work together to create a film."
Students create plant propagation and restoration course

By HANNAH BROWN

G onzaga University professor of biology Julie Beckstead and students Olivia Hinds and John Bergin have created multiple needs within the community and come up with a solution: a new plant propagation and restoration course. The Department of Agriculture-National Institute of Food and Agriculture grant will be offered every other spring beginning next year as a 300-level biology or environmental studies course.

One of Beckstead’s main objectives in offering this course is to improve knowledge of and cultivate an appreciation for plant life.

“Plants get overlooked,” Beckstead said. “In general, people see plants as a blur, and if you’re managing wildlife or habitat, you need to know your plants because plants dictate everything else around you. Plants are the foundation that all other organisms typically have strong interactions with.”

This experience has been something that has provided Hinds with a greater understanding of plants, especially after she and Bergin, a junior at GU, were exposed to Lenga tree restoration in Torres del Paine National Park while studying abroad in Chile.

“I think the point is to be able to make that connection with students,” Hinds said. “Part of the purpose of making this class is to allow students to be able to even get to the point of being considered for government jobs.” Hinds said. “Any person that’s trying to get a job with USDA or go into government work regarding biology or environmental studies would immediately be put as a no, even if [they] have relevant experience.”

In addition to expanding the opportunities GU provides to its students, this course also emphasizes consciousness and care for the land by improving knowledge about the surrounding area and its native plants.

“This is not only a really big native plant factor in the class, so it helps students learn more about what they’re living right now, even if they aren’t from Spokane,” Bergin said. “It’s really good [for] grounding them in our local ecosystems and learning more about the plants that we see in our everyday lives.”

This course is believed that helping students connect with their environment is a key aspect of addressing climate change.

“Plants are beautiful,” Hinds said. “It’s fun to get your hands on something and feel the textures and learn how to cultivate them yourself.”

“Any student who wants to serve on a city level, or any kind of government level, really should consider doing work with the Logan Neighborhood or with any of the neighborhood councils because to learn how to get through some of the government bureaucracy and the changes that are required — all the various hoops. It’s a learning experience,” Schmidt said.

Hannah Brown is a staff writer.

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Known for its basketball, the last year GU had a football team was in 1941. New sport on campus would foster year-round school spirit

By JACKIE MANESS

Gonzaga University prides itself on its reputation for unparalleled school spirit. This year, Princeton Review’s annual “Students Who Love Their School” ranked GU as No. 1 in the country. Zag fans can speak for themselves of the electric energy that fills The Kennel during basketball season. It lacks nothing short of something magical, something you itch to experience for yourself. But there’s a problem in the fact that basketball season doesn’t start until early November. With this being the case, if GU were granted one wish by a genie, I would most definitely wish for GU basketball to be a yearlong extravaganza. Unfortunately, a genie has yet to grace my presence, so in the meantime, I am left to wait impatiently for November to come around again.

Before I committed to GU, I went on a campus tour. I remember a mom asking one of our tour guides if GU has a softball team. The tour guide answered with a sense of excitement on campus. I remember a mom asking one of our tour guides if GU has a softball team. The tour guide answered with a sense of excitement on campus.

What a presumptuous question and one especially offensive to the fall athletes. Yet, as much as I wanted to shrug off her question, it kept picking away at me. Upon hearing this, I was annoyed. Although it can be easy to wish for a genie, I would most definitely wish for GU to be a yearlong extravaganza. Unfortunately, a genie has yet to grace my presence, so in the meantime, I am left to wait impatiently for November to come around again.

The exisiting sports teams are a pillar of our community and provide a space for all Zags to participate in school spirit. Although it can be easy to wish for a genie, I would most definitely wish for GU to be a yearlong extravaganza. Unfortunately, a genie has yet to grace my presence, so in the meantime, I am left to wait impatiently for November to come around again.

There are currently the only Pac-12 universities in the Pac-12, and if GU joined, we could push the Pac-2 to be a third of the WCC in Division I sports, so why not provide one more sport for them to compete in? If GU were to create a football team, I can guarantee that the enthusiasm that runs so deeply through GU basketball fans would mean us up to the support level of current Division I teams. Student interest in college football is already prevalent. Most students are willing to travel as far as Pullman and even Seattle to partake in the exhilarating atmosphere of college football.

New sport on campus would foster a sense of community in the GU and Spokane community. The excitement of game day is something that GU can offer students who currently do not have the means of adding a new sport. If GU did actually have the funding to assemble a softball or football team along with a coaching staff, we would be set for fall and spring for athletics. But realistically, GU does not have the means of adding a new sports team, which makes it even more important to appreciate the athletics that GU does have.

The existing sports teams are a pillar of our community and provide a space for all Zags to participate in school spirit. Although it can be easy to wish for a genie, I would most definitely wish for GU to be a yearlong extravaganza. Unfortunately, a genie has yet to grace my presence, so in the meantime, I am left to wait impatiently for November to come around again.

Not only would a softball team add to our campus tour, all the pieces of the puzzle would fall into place. First of all, the Patterson Field Complex was officially completed this year and has 35,000 square feet of new space. All this new space would mean that GU will have the funding to assemble a softball team. If GU were to create a softball team, the answer is precisely why GU needs a new Division I sport. Many students sign up for a softball team, others say we need a football team, but the common consensus seems to be that student athletes are craving a new sense of excitement on campus.

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So, rather than fantasizing over a genie, as a reminder to appreciate the athletics we have now.
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