

Gonzaga and Xavier to Meet in Elite 8



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It's no surprise why today's newsletter is coming out a bit later than usual: we had to wait and see if **Gonzaga** and **Xavier** would indeed win their Sweet 16 games last night! The wait was worth it and tomorrow night, for the first time ever, they will be the [first two Jesuit men's teams to play against each other in the Elite 8](#) of the NCAA D-I tournament, guaranteeing that a Jesuit basketball team will play in the Final 4 next week. Tune into [TBS tomorrow night at 6:09 PM EST](#) to watch the Zags take on the Musketeers!

Gonzaga and Xavier celebrated their Jesuit connection in a great story shared on both of their websites ([Gonzaga](#), [Xavier](#)) yesterday. **AND, we've just received word that a friendly challenge has been made by their presidents:** Should Gonzaga win, Xavier President Rev. Michael Graham, S.J. will send a shipment of Cincinnati's world-famous Graeter's "French Pot" ice cream to Gonzaga. Should Xavier win, Gonzaga President Dr. Thayne McCulloh will send him a shipment of the finest wines from Washington State. We'll report the results in next week's issue of *AJCU Higher Ed News!*

The [Jesuit Basketball Spotlight](#) will continue to have the latest news on the game on Twitter [@Jesuit BBall](#) and

Want to work at a Jesuit institution? Visit jobbank.ajcunet.edu today!

Facebook [@jesuitbasketball](#); follow us on social media and use the hashtag #JesuitBasketball in your posts. And if you're in DC tomorrow night and want to watch the game with a crowd of Jesuit fans, **come to the Hawthorne on U Street for a game watch hosted by Holy Trinity, the Jesuit church of Washington, D.C.** Click [here](#) to RSVP online!

Rev. J. Donald Monan, S.J.: 1924-2017

Last Saturday, Rev. J. Donald Monan, S.J. passed away in Weston, MA at the age of 92. Fr. Monan served as the 24th president of **Boston College**; he later served as interim president of AJCU from 1996-97 before returning to BC serve as chancellor. Over the past week, tributes have been shared by [Boston College](#), [America](#), [The Boston Globe](#), [The Jesuit Post](#), and [Le Moyne College](#), where he served as academic dean prior to his presidency at BC. May he rest in peace.

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J. Returns to Lead The University of Scranton

On Tuesday, **The University of Scranton** announced that former president, Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J. will return to lead as president once again in 2018. Click [here](#) to learn more from Scranton's website; video coverage can be seen [here](#).

New Website for Ignatian Colleagues Program

The **Ignatian Colleagues Program (ICP)** has launched a dynamic new website featuring a [directory](#) of past and present participants, a collection of [capstone mission projects](#), [video testimonials](#) from ICP alumni, and much more. Visit ignatiancolleagues.org today!

In more mission-related news, noted African Jesuit Rev. Arsène Brice Bado, S.J. will join [Creighton University](#) as its next Waite Endowed Chair in Jesuit Education, and both [Georgetown University](#) and [Regis University](#) have named two Jesuits as their new vice presidents for mission: respectively, Rev. Mark Bosco, S.J. and Rev. Kevin Burke, S.J.

In honor of **National Catholic Sisters Week** (March 8 – 14), the **Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States** conducted interviews with young Jesuits and Scholastics on the nuns who have impacted their lives; click [here](#) to check out their moving tributes!

Finally, the **Office of Ignatian Spirituality** is accepting applications for the **Contemplative Leaders in Action** programs in five cities with a Jesuit presence; click [here](#) to learn more.

News from Jesuit Colleges & Universities

Just one week after its 75th anniversary celebration, [Fairfield University](#) announced that it made a \$1 billion impact on the local Fairfield, CT economy in 2014; [Georgetown University](#) announced tuition benefits for federal employees; [Rockhurst University](#) is hosting Social Justice Week; [Saint Peter's University](#) is celebrating Ignatian Heritage Week; [Spring Hill College](#) exceeded its goal for Give Day 2017; a [University of San Francisco](#) graduate was recently named the #1 ROTC nurse in the nation; and [Xavier University](#) opened a new high-tech learning center for its nursing program.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 30th: Al Roker of NBC's *Today Show* will be live at [Loyola University Maryland](#) as part of his Rokerthon college campus tour! More events next week include Laetare Sunday at [Boston College](#) and the opening of a new innovation hub at [Marquette University](#).

After last week's issue of *AJCU Higher Ed News*, we learned that **Fordham University** was also named among the top volunteer-producing institutions for the [Peace Corps](#), and that many of its graduate programs were ranked by [U.S. News & World Report](#). If we missed any other programs, please let us know! Write to Deanna Howes: dhowes@ajcunet.edu.

Finally, we congratulate the three students from **Loyola Marymount University**, **Loyola University Chicago** and **Loyola University New Orleans**, who have been named [2017-18 O'Hare Fellows at America Media](#). The O'Hare Fellowship is named in honor of Rev. Joseph O'Hare, S.J., former editor-in-chief of *America Magazine*, and former president of **Fordham University**.



AJCU Higher Ed News is a weekly e-newsletter that features the latest news and information from the 28 Jesuit campuses in the US. To submit a story or subscribe to the AJCU Higher Ed News, please send an e-mail to Deanna Howes (dhowes@ajcunet.edu).