

The Gonzaga Bulletin

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CHIANA MCINELLY IG: picsbychiana

Located in the Hemmingson Center a new restaurant called "HandCrafted" has become a popular dining option for GU students.

Fresh, healthy and 'HandCrafted'

By JULIETTE CAREY

The few times when students get to scarf down ingredients such as specialty prosciutto, Genoa salami, savory roast beef or house roasted vegetables, they are home for break being a back-home-baller, they paid \$16 at a pricey restaurant, or least likely of all, are an amazing chef.

Speed walking through the Hemmingson Center trying to make it from a Zoom class to an in-person class, you may just catch a glance at the new food option, HandCrafted. The new gourmet sandwich restaurant, which replaced Wolfgang Puck, opened on Jan. 11, and offers sandwiches which range from tame to strategically wild. There's even the option to build your own sandwich for those who like to play it safe.

All on-campus restaurant concepts are mutually agreed

upon by both Sodexo and the university. Last year, an in-person survey of several hundred students was conducted throughout campus at tabling events about what types of eateries students would like to see on campus. One of the top results was a higher-end sandwich location. Shortly after, HandCrafted was crafted.

"The name 'HandCrafted' speaks to the customization that our guests enjoy, and the artisan flavor profile along with the presentation," said Lisa Ridgeway, marketing director of Sodexo at Gonzaga who assists in managing retail operations including HandCrafted.

Because this is a Sodexo and Gonzaga partnership, and not a national brand, opinions from the student body and local community are valued. Feedback will be used to adjust HandCrafted to meet GU expectations.

The concept of HandCrafted was developed by Sodexo's chefs and innovators. Sodexo observed market

trends and demographics, and developed HandCrafted based off of behaviors in segments they operate in such as universities, stadiums, arenas, corporate building restaurants and hospitals.

Although the change to sandwiches was not due to COVID-19, it has proven to be an appealing on-the-go meal; a COVID-19-friendly option for students.

"With very little seating available during COVID, it was essential to have something easy to transport to another location for consumption," Ridgeway said.

There is not a sales goal or profit margin the restaurant needs to hit in order to stay, and no set duration of how long it will be in this location. The restaurant's success will ultimately be measured by student satisfaction.

For HandCrafted, success comes in the form of long

SEE HANDCRAFTED PAGE 2

Connecting physically and spiritually with each other

GU Mission & Ministry will hold First Year Search in person for first time since COVID-19

By SOFI OLLIVER

While many Gonzaga events have shifted from physical to virtual during the pandemic, GU's Office of Mission and Ministry decided to hold its Search and First Year Retreats on Feb. 5-7 and Feb. 19-21, respectively, in person.

Ben Goodwin, program coordinator for Mission and Ministry, said that these retreats are meant to be disruptive to students' normal rhythm and spiritual practices, which in previous years would mean going away for the weekend.

"The thought process is, what is disruptive right now? What is the most disruption we can cause?" Goodwin said. "The answer is just being in person."

While these weekend retreats focused on community building and

exploring one's spirituality, are still being held in person, students will be staying in their own housing overnight.

By holding the retreats on campus, Goodwin said they are able to provide students with a place for faith exploration and a break from day-to-day life at GU that isn't putting anyone at undue risk. Many of the retreat activities are being held in classrooms, where there are already safety and sanitation protocols in place for Mission and Ministry to follow.

"There's no difference between being on campus to go to class and being on campus to go to a retreat and we're staying more than 6 feet away from each other at all times," Goodwin said.

In addition to following classroom protocols such as

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COURTESY OF PAULINA THURMANN

Thurmann is one of 16 in the 12th District of the scholarship to be named a finalist.

Meet Paulina Thurmann: Rhodes Scholar finalist

By ALEXANDER PREVOST

Paulina Thurmann, a senior at Gonzaga, turned a major change of plans into an academic accomplishment.

Thurmann qualified for the Rhodes Scholarship finalists this past year, one of 16 in the scholarship's 14th District (Idaho, Montana, Washington, Alaska and Oregon). She was one out of the 953 United States students who applied to make it this far.

"Finals weekend was unreal," Thurmann said in an email. "The candidates in the room — 15 others plus me — absolutely blew me away with their passion, resolve, confidence, go-get-'em attitudes and off the charts emotional intelligence."

Cecil Rhodes founded the Rhodes Scholarship in 1903 with the goal of instilling a sense of civic-

mindedness among graduate students across nations. Famous affiliates of the program include journalist Rachel Maddow, current Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Ronan Farrow. The program has a 0.7% acceptance rate.

It is the oldest graduate scholarship in the world.

Thurmann grew up in San Jose, California. She went on to study sociology at Gonzaga University, with double minors in leadership studies and solidarity and social justice.

When choosing colleges, she cited GU's community as a deciding factor.

"I chose to come to Gonzaga for the community. It's a cheesy answer, and a lot of people give it, but it's

SEE PAULINA PAGE 3

University clubs operate under COVID-19 rules

By RED KWENDA

This past year has demanded higher levels of adaption from everyone here at Gonzaga, including the way clubs and activities are allowed to operate in a time of a global pandemic.

Last semester's club fair saw the implementation of online "booths" where students could log in to Zoom meetings and chat with club officers and members. This semester utilized a similar style to last semester's, due to the uncertainty posed by high infection rates of COVID-19.

According to GSBA Director of Clubs and

Organizations Katelyn Orcino, the importance of clubs has mattered more now than ever.

"Clubs being the No. 1 beginners and leaders in community building, they have taken more of the role of connecting students with one another through the interest each club focuses on," Orcino said in an email. "In a time when students feel alone and isolated having to be distant, club events are always a great time in which students can spend time with each other (online or social distanced) to get part of the college experience."

According to The New York Times, a survey of more than 1,900 American colleges and universities has revealed that COVID-19 has caused more than 397,000 positive

cases and 90 deaths since the start of the academic year.

By contrast, GU has had 125 positive cases among those students who are living on campus. GU also has a 1.33% positivity rate from out of 15,141 tests conducted since Aug. 22, a number representing almost four times the number of its undergraduate students.

Due in part to these numbers, some clubs have been able to achieve a sense of normalcy during this pandemic. The GU Dance Team, for instance, is still able to perform most of its routines.

"We are actually filming our routines," said Maya

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OPINION

In a pandemic what should be funded?
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Kendra Andrews: Golden State Warriors
writer and Zag alumna.

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CLUBS

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Gutierrez, a Dance Team captain. “We’re hoping to get into the Kennel to film them and have them professionally filmed. We’re just going to be posting them to social media.”

In a time where learning both in person and online is harder than ever, GU’s clubs offer students a time and place to connect.

“All our clubs are doing their best to support their peers especially during [COVID-19] and have been doing their best to their abilities to continue what they have previously done as a club,” Orcino said.

Many clubs have transitioned to an online format due to restrictions on meeting capacities.

“Student involvement has mainly been online this year doing meetings over Zoom, online watch parties and games such as Kahoot,” Orcino said. “Some clubs also continue doing some events in person within the safety measures to add the in-person connection to their club. The pandemic has affected student



GSBA held its virtual spring club fair on Jan. 29 via Zoom.

involvement, but we are seeing more and more clubs finding new ways to get their members engaged as last semester went on. We are anticipating greater involvement this semester since we have more solidified guidelines and clubs have adapted.”

For clubs already transitioning to a

mostly online format like the GU Smash Bros. Club, the new restrictions have actually improved the accessibility of the club for its members.

“There’s online tournaments and lobbies we’re able to use,” said Abigail Mozzone, the president of the GU Smash

Bros. Club. “As long as you have a Switch, the game and are able to play online, you can enter.”

Mozzone also explained that the club is moving away from being a Smash-exclusive club in order to be more inclusive for those who have neither a game nor a Switch.

“We acknowledge that not everyone has the console or the game, or has access to it, so we also do game nights on Fridays,” Mozzone said. “We pick a free game anyone can access: we’ve done Jackbox, we’ve done Among Us, we’ve done Pictionary.”

Orcino said she believes that in the future GU students will be very involved with their clubs due to lost opportunity during the pandemic.

“The traditions that many clubs have and embrace are able to continuously grow and adapt to be the best version possible,” Orcino said. “The pandemic will also give student leaders the benefit of flexibility in having meetings virtually, better technology infrastructure and the ability to operate under tough conditions with better resilience.”

Red Kwenda is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter @redkwendawriter.

HANDCRAFTED

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lines which snake the expanse of its designated barrier stanchions in Hemmingson at peak times in the day.

“We are thrilled with how the first weeks have gone, we are yielding very high student satisfaction and feedback for the new restaurant,” Ridgeway said. “Many have commented that they especially love the bread and the exciting ingredients.”

The unique flavor combos, filling size and fancy ingredients, which students wouldn’t typically own in their dorms or houses, have drawn in many students.

“I feel like everyone that has had it only has good things to say,” freshman Kate Anderson said. “I think that most students know about it, but I have come across a few who didn’t know it was there.”

HandCrafted employee Daniel Slone, who has worked with Sodexo for 1.5 years, values his interactions with students.

“It is a more personal experience at HandCrafted and I love getting to have small conversations with my customers,” Slone said. “I also have enjoyed learning how to open a new restaurant in this space from the ground up and to see how differently it can be set up versus that of Wolfgang Puck. Both have been great to work at but I really am enjoying HandCrafted and the experience I get to create for students.”

The most popular menu items have included the Smoked Ham, Brie + Pear Baguette, California Turkey Club, Garlic Chicken Caesar on Ciabatta and the Build Your Own option.

Slone’s personal favorite sandwich is the Smoked Ham, Brie + Caramelized Pear on the baguette bread.

“It has ingredients that I never would have thought to combine but it makes for a really delicious sandwich with a unique flavor,” Slone said.

The Build Your Own option has also proven to be popular.

“I love the make-your-own sandwich with turkey,

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It is a more personal experience at HandCrafted and I love getting to have small conversations with my customers.

Daniel Slone, HandCrafted employee.



CHIANA MCINELLY IG: picstychiana

HandCrafted is GU's newest eatery, located in Hemmingson near Starbucks.

lettuce, cheese and the pesto aioli, toasted,” Anderson said. “I love HandCrafted, it is such a great price and the food is amazing.”

The average price for a sandwich is \$6.49 and there are sides and drink options available as well. HandCrafted is

open from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for lunch and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for dinner.

Juliette Carey is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter @jujcray.



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

GU's Office of Mission and Ministry will hold its First Year Retreat and Senior Search Retreat in person.

SEARCH

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wearing masks, disinfecting communal spaces and contact tracing via ZagCheck, retreat members are expected to return to the same seats throughout the weekend to minimize the amount of contact between students. Retreats are smaller than prior years, with larger spaces on campus being used to accommodate everyone safely.

Senior Coordinator the Rev. Janeen Steer said for the First Year Retreat, all students will use their dining plans to eat on their own, under the protocols GU has in place for the on-campus dining halls.

Planning the retreats has been a full campus effort as Mission and Ministry has been working with the Pandemic Response Task Force, Guest Services, Plant Services and the Office of Risk Management to figure out how to hold these retreats during a pandemic.

“Everything that our Office of Risk Management has expected of us, we’re doing and everything new that we want to do has to go through them,” Steer said.

Steer said that it was the students who showed them that the retreats needed to be in person.

“We were doing events on Zoom and no one was coming,” said Steer. “You’re on Zoom all day and you don’t want to be on Zoom.”

It wasn’t until Mission and Ministry started holding its in-person Timeout Tuesdays that it was seeing consistent attendance, with many students Steer wasn’t used to seeing at Mission

and Ministry events.

“That helped us also realize people want to be in person,” Steer said. “So, last semester we had an in-person, one day retreat, and it filled up like that.”

For Mission and Ministry, the most important thing is providing students with a safe place to foster community and experience faith development during this difficult time

“We have a great opportunity to help people with their spirits right now,” Steer said. “We need to be courageous and try.”

On the First Year Retreat, students pick one of three tracks to explore their faith for the weekend. This year the tracks are focused on what is guiding you, who you are and what’s next. Students on this retreat also get to see a panel of upperclassmen discussing their own college experiences and journeys throughout their time at GU.

To Steer, the most important part of the retreat is building community, not just on the retreat but afterward.

The Search Retreat is based both on the practices of spiritual exercises and in finding the love of God and community. Through sharing the retreat experiences with others, students are meant to expand their own faith development.

“Safety is the No. 1 concern for all of us,” Goodwin said. “We want to make sure that everything we do, we’re doing in the healthiest, safest way possible for everybody involved.”

Sofi Olliver is a contributor.

Zags Basketball is back! Come get some Hawaiian food at Aloha before cheering on the Men's and Women's Basketball teams!

Don't miss these upcoming DICE events!

Register for them at the provided URLs.

Elle Hearn:
Black trans lives at stake
02.09
tinyurl.com/ellehearns

Claudia Rankine:
Exploring race and justice
02.10
<http://bit.ly/claudiarankine>

Study abroad adapts to pandemic

COVID-19 still stops international travel for GU students, but new learning opportunities are coming virtually

By KAYLA FRIEDRICH

Gonzaga's campus is starting to see more action for the spring 2021 semester, but the university's global campuses are becoming ghost towns as COVID-19 brings abroad studies to a temporary stop.

In-person access to abroad campuses are closed for the time being, but the Center for Global Engagement is still making efforts to have limited study abroad courses available to students for the summer 2021 semester.

Alisha Lombardi, interim director at the Center for Global Engagement, said that the health and safety of GU students is the No. 1 priority, and at times like these it's been difficult to provide students with the full experience being that there are travel restrictions in places where GU has campuses.

"Faculty in Florence have been giving access to parts of the city that students and tourists would never see," Lombardi said.

GU in Florence is trying to run as many virtual opportunities for students as they can. Although students can't physically go to other countries to complete their semesters but there is no worry about GU maintaining its reputation as a global campus.

"The applications for study abroad in the fall 2021 semester are moving forward and applications are open on our website, with Gonzaga in Florence closing Jan. 22 and most others closing March 1," said Study Abroad Advisor Erin Schultheis.

Even though COVID-19 has paused programs for now, Schultheis doesn't foresee it greatly affecting the number of study abroad program involvement in the future.

The study abroad offices across the world are seeing a shift in numbers but at some point in the foreseeable future, participation could pick up again.

"Gonzaga has a strong history of 50% or more of students who participate in a study abroad experience and we hope that number will be similar once the program resumes," Schultheis said. "There's a possibility that we'll see a short-term drop in participation due to challenges COVID-19 has brought, but once infection rates decline globally we expect a rebound."

Connor Nordell, a sophomore at GU, was ready to go abroad this semester until study abroad programs got canceled in November.

"I am bummed about not being able to go abroad but looking at the big picture I am thankful I can still get an education and live on campus," Nordell said. "I can't study abroad a different semester because of my major, but I know Gonzaga is doing what they can."

Nordell is one of many GU students who had a small window of opportunity to go abroad but has had to



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

GU in Florence has been trying to run as many virtual programs as it can since travel restrictions started.



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Normally 50% or more of students participate in a study abroad program experience.

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I am bummed about not being able to go abroad but looking at the big picture I am thankful I can still get an education and live on campus.

Connor Nordell, a sophomore at GU

readjust their plans because of the pandemic.

Not all Zags are going to get the opportunity to experience the global campuses that GU partners with because the course work they need for their majors doesn't allow them to do so later on.

GU and its partnering campuses are aware that the abroad experience is a big part of the Zag experience and they're eager to give that opportunity back to students.

"As soon as it's safe to do, we look forward to sending and receiving abroad students," Schultheis said. "We

appreciate the tremendous resiliency and flexibility of students when it comes to the cancellation of fall 2020 and spring 2021 study abroad plans."

For any other questions, comments or concerns, Schultheis can be reached at this email: schultheis@gonzaga.edu.

Kayla Friedrich is a staff writer.

PAULINA

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When I was thinking about applying for Rhodes, one of my best friends told me that I would forever regret it if I didn't apply and at least try.

Paulina Thurmann, Rhodes Scholar finalist

true," Thurmann said. "I remember on my tour of Gonzaga the hordes of kids yelling things like 'Go Zags!' and 'We love freshman' as I was walking through the campus. I immediately felt welcomed, and I wanted to be a part of the love that was so clearly evident around campus. My decision was easy."

In her time at GU, she got herself involved with campus ministry, as well as working in the Campus Kitchens. Thurmann also is an active member of the Comprehensive Leadership Program and the Honors Program.

"Honors was my first exposure to that 'intellectually charged' environment I felt in the finalist room," Thurmann said. "My freshman colloquium, I remember feeling like this classroom held that one overly excited/passionate/engaged kid from every other previous [high school and college] classroom I'd ever been in — myself included. Feeling like I belonged in this crowd from the start of college helped me to gain the confidence and self-assuredness to put myself out there and apply to Rhodes in the first place."

On campus, she found mentors in many of her major classes and university ministry — people she describes as intellectually driven, curious and doers. For her, the greatest joy in learning is sharing that knowledge with others in an empowering way.

Thurmann wasn't sure if she should apply for the scholarship. In fact, she said that her plans were to work at a Christian camp

and mentor young girls. However, thanks to the pandemic, her schedule opened up.

"At this point, I figured I don't have much to lose given a suddenly open schedule, so I was open to doing the deep self-discernment which the application required," Thurmann said. "And sure enough, that discernment took a lot of time. I don't think I would've been able to do it, had [COVID-19] not interfered with my original summer plans."

When news of her accomplishment broke, her friends were full of support and love for her.

"I was stoked," said close friend Michael Larson. "When I had heard that she was a finalist part of me was in awe and the other part of me knew that she is the caliber of person they are looking for in a Rhodes Scholar. While I had the opportunity to walk with Paulina in this process, I also was able to dive deeper into a friendship with her and really get to know her heart."

Though she did not ultimately get the scholarship, becoming a finalist is a massive accomplishment in its own right.

"I'm so glad I took that risk, and elated that despite all the bad news of the world, we've at least got a few committed Earth-shakers who are ready and willing to roll their sleeves up and get into the 'dirty work' of true social change," Thurmann said. "Myself included."

In her free time, she enjoys cooking, gardening, reading, taking her dog Eeyore on walks and playing piano.

"I think the biggest advice that I would give to anyone pursuing a goal is to seize the moment at which the goal is attainable, or within sight," Thurmann said. "When I was thinking about applying for Rhodes, one of my best friends told me that I would forever regret it if I didn't apply and at least try."

It's this attitude that drives her to continue achieving and she hopes the same for anyone else.

"I have no doubt that Paulina Thurmann is going to change this world," Larson said. "I would recommend that you get her autograph now. She's going to be doing big things in the future."

Alexander Prevost is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter: @alexanderprvst.

How to find free money

Scholarships don't end with the application process, there are many through GU that pair students with donors

By RILEY UTLEY

College is expensive and there are no ifs, ands or buts about it. However, there are ways to find ways to fund an education. Most of this funding comes with admission to the university but what people might forget is there is always opportunities to get scholarships throughout their undergraduate studies.

At Gonzaga about 96% of students who apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) receive institutional funding. This means many students receive scholarships and grants directly from the university.

"There's the Gonzaga Guarantee, which is the award you're rewarded your freshman year, will not be reduced as long as you are in good academic standing," said Kelsey Parker, assistant director of scholarship and endowed funds at University Advancement. "That is something that our donors have committed to, the Financial Aid Office has committed to. When they're developing a financial aid package, they make it sustainable for at least the four years you are in undergrad."

Each year the Student Financial Services creates and recalibrates students' financial aid packages to maintain the money students have had each year of their education or add more money onto their package.

"We just go into our information system, run a report of students who have the qualifications met by the donor and then we match them up, so the students don't have to do anything more for those funds," said Jim White, dean of Student Financial Services. "There is probably a dozen to 20 scholarships that do require the students to do something because it may require an essay or some type of action. Those we typically advertise to the students through Morning Mail."

White said most scholarships go out around October via Morning Mail. However, there are quite a few institutional scholarships for students to apply for throughout the academic year.

Student Financial Services plans to spend about \$100 million on financial aid this year. About \$7 million of that comes from donors. Once these donations are in, Student Financial Services then allocates all the money to students across the university based off the requirements laid out by the donor.

"The tricky part about donor money is it's like a game of Tetris," White said. "You have to find the right student with the right qualifications for the donor money. It's a lot of stuff. There are about 400 individual buckets of money some of them really small and some really large. You could have an endowment that produces \$700 a year or you could have endowments that produce \$40,000 or \$50,000 a year. You still have to find the students with the qualifications and match them up. It's a bit of work but we manage it."

Sarah Everitt, the director of financial aid operations, recommended that students look for scholarships in their hometowns and through organizations they have connection to.

"Really, for a student they are going to be served a lot better by thinking of connections they have in their own communities before they go to a national organization and search for scholarships that way," Everitt said. "Both can yield scholarships

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Really, for a student they are going to be served a lot better by thinking of connections they have in their own communities before they go to a national organization and search for scholarships that way.

Sarah Everitt, director of financial aid operations

and results but we try to help students first by looking in their own communities."

Parker said that her office along with Student Financial Services work to make differences in students' lives and provide them with the opportunity to finish out their time at GU without finances being a big worry.

There are also many resources for students to look for if they are looking for scholarship opportunities or need help with their accounts.

GU has a scholarship search portal for all students, current scholarships are posted in Morning Mail and emailed to students if their qualifications fit. Students can also directly contact the financial aid office for one-on-one assistance.

"There is a lot of money people get in their first semester or year that don't get renewed in the second, third or fourth year," White said. "It makes us crazy because it disrupts a student's plans. We try to keep it as consistent as we can, and we encourage outside providers to do the same."

Riley Utley is a copy editor. Follow her on Twitter: @rileyutley.

Theaters can't make Rent but sports make bank

With the Superbowl coming up on Feb. 7, it is apparent how much our society values sports as a pastime, but where do the arts sit in the American entertainment hierarchy?

It has never been a secret that sports are a major part of the United States' psyche. With professional leagues for almost every athletic competition, it is obvious that our distraction of choice is football, hockey, basketball and the list goes on.

We are not afraid of opening our checkbooks to keep our favorite teams supported and in our living rooms. The desire to be there for the big game leads many to pay exorbitant amounts of money to be a part of the action.

This is proven even in an age of a pandemic, where Superbowl LV is being presented in-person, with a ticket price range of around \$6,000 to six-figure suite seats. These prices are still following the trend of the last few years, with each consecutive year increasing. People are willing to pay for the privilege of normalcy.

Unfortunately, what we consider "normal" seems to leave out a rather large section of the American economy, the arts. Museums, galleries, theaters and more have all taken massive financial hits. While this is similar to the rest of the economy, it lacks a distinct parity with the professional sports industry.

Due to the implementation of the arts, it can be excused that they haven't bounded back in the same way as sports... or can it?

While it is true, museums and plays lack the outdoor component of most sports, they contain just as much culture, and deserve equal consideration. The professional athletic industry has kept its doors open by means of public support and its own deep pockets, but what of



By DAWSON NEELY

the museums and galleries that operate by donation or meager entrance fees? The cultural education that can be found in these places are worth protecting.

The National Endowment for the Arts cannot possibly fund every town, state and national museum, theater or exhibit, leaving a sad majority left stranded by the pandemic's economic cruelty. Not only is the federal well for arts spending too small to protect its dependents, but under former President Donald Trump it was even placed in the budget cuts crosshairs and survived only on its bipartisan support in Congress. At least some of our leaders recognize the importance of the arts.

The sporting world has massive championships, such as the Superbowl and the Stanley Cup, but for the arts the exhibition of the talent requires no field or court, but merely a stage or a wall, and it desperately needs viewers. Those athletic events are televised, garnering millions in

advertising revenue, but theater and the visual arts rely on the in-person experience.

Not only have the fine and visual arts been downgraded in their support, but also the so called, "gig economy." Live music and stand-up comedy have been handicapped at every turn, and with many artists being self-employed, staying afloat has been a Herculean task. Federal aid has not, so far, saved the arts by stimulus checks and moral support.

To be fair, not all sports have been treated equally, especially at the collegiate level. Unless you're a top tier athletic powerhouse or a nationally acclaimed program, the money is tight as well.

Many colleges rely on their sports programs as means of advertising and drawing in donors of all kinds. Because of these prized ponies, so to speak, the other teams have the budget to continue operation, but if a school lacks notoriety in this way, it may become a challenge to keep their athletes in the fight.

This pandemic has been cruel in so many ways, but it has brought out the truth in many others. The stubborn nature of the human spirit has been drawn out in the refusal to halt everything in life, yet what we have ceased, what has gone unmentioned, unheard and underfunded was spoken with volume.

The arts are floundering and are in dire need of aid. Will we save them?

Dawson Neely is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @DawsonNeely.

Zag pride runs deeper than just basketball

Here at Gonzaga, we know we have one of the best men's basketball teams in the nation.

With a 17-game win streak, the Bulldogs are No. 1 in the NCAA, beating celebrated teams like three-time March Madness champions Villanova. Since 1999, the Bulldogs have participated in every NCAA tournament held, a perfect participation record for head coach Mark Few.

I remember watching GU's performance in the 2017 March Madness tournament the week I arrived in Spokane; our furniture had not yet arrived, but on the TV we brought with us we watched as the Zags went from the Elite Eight to Final Four to the championship game itself. Even though I was still new to Spokane, I felt the city's heartbreak when the Bulldogs eventually succumbed 71-65 to the University of North Carolina Tar Heels, and I also felt the city's pride in the team for going so far in the tournament.

At school, if a teacher was a

GU alumni, it was common for them to have a GU poster with the current team in their classroom. By the cafeteria, there was also a poster of the latest game schedule for the men's team.

The more I saw "Zag Swag" around school, the more fascinated I became with the Bulldog's (and by extension GU's) influence on the Spokane community.

Since I'm now a GU student, it makes much more sense to me that so much of GU's marketing surrounds the men's team; people who thought GU wasn't a real school now know otherwise thanks to the Bulldogs.

It also makes sense that the popularity of the team has actually rebounded onto the students. Who wouldn't, in a pandemic-free time, want to tent out to watch the best team in the nation live for free?

I wonder how the Bulldogs of the past, who averaged a new coach a season from 1908 to 1920, would have reacted to the news



By RED KWENDA

that their team made it to the final of the NCAA tournament.

When I first came to Spokane, I watched the men's basketball team play in March Madness. Later, however, my family would develop the tradition of going to see the women's and men's soccer teams play on weekends, as well as the women's basketball team.

Whether you're a student, faculty or staff member or someone who knows one, everyone inside of the Zag community knows that what

makes GU special is the diversity of educational and cultural opportunities.

Even though one thing might define a particular area, what's amazing about GU is that underneath the surface are all of the other people working to develop and improve the GU experience our school is known for.

It is OK to be known for one thing. Chopsticks are known for picking up sushi, and Lana Del Rey is known for writing pop music with an orchestral sound. But what makes GU great is the fact that it's not a sports school, rather a school known for sports.

For me, GU is my composition professor providing me with lessons and feedback on my work before officially becoming my composition professor. GU is also BRIDGE, a program that is "Building Relationships in Diverse Gonzaga Environments." GU is also the work opportunities, from tutoring French to writing for The Gonzaga Bulletin to

serving as a work study for the nursing department.

My challenge to all of us is to not see or portray GU as the school with the best basketball team in the nation, but as what we individually define GU to be. In the end, as people who are actually involved in the GU community — whether in person or online — how we view this school is the reality of how we exist in it.

So, the next time the Bulldogs win a game — which will no doubt be very soon — feel pride that we have the best basketball team in the nation. But also feel pride in the math classes, the cultural clubs and the SpikeNites that make being a Zag such a great thing.

In the end, "Let's go, Zags!" means all Zags.

Red Kwenda is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @RedKwendaWriter.

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Biden's burden: First 100 days

During the Great Depression, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt used his first 100 days in office to craft a legislative raft — built from executive orders and Congressional legislation — that helped keep a drowning nation from sinking. His most notable achievement? The New Deal.

Many historians laud that period of time as the greatest 100 days of any sitting president. It is the measuring stick by which we analyze other president's first, crucial steps.

What makes a good first 100 days for a president?

Usually, according to Roosevelt's legacy, it's determined by how well a president addresses the nation's most pressing issues upfront and how efficiently they work.

For example, President Barack Obama's first 100 days are most known for things like the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Much of his actions sought to remedy the Great Recession.

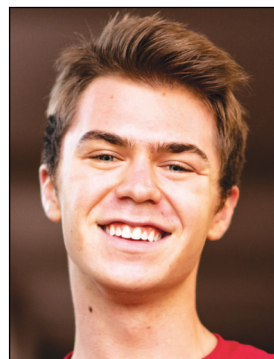
This is also usually the time when presidents also begin appointing cabinet members and delegating tasks to their respective departments.

Like Obama and FDR before him, President Joe Biden has been handed a national crisis. On top of pressures from calls for racial justice and reversing the Trump administration's damage, he must act swiftly to combat the ongoing pandemic with equity.

This is Biden's burden.

He must juggle many tasks — many of which are as overwhelming as a tsunami.

It goes without saying that Biden faces a unique challenge, and because of this, spectators



By ALEXANDER PREVOST

should regard his first 100 days with compassion. Biden has many goals, and unfortunately, many of these can't be accomplished in full until the pandemic has been handled.

To expect an end-all-be-all solution to issues like transgender liberation right now would be unreasonable given the current state of the world.

Note: he has done a lot so far. From reversing the Pentagon's ban on transgender people serving in the military to bringing the United States back into the Paris Climate Accord, he has been effective in remedying the most glaring damages from his predecessor. Biden has also taken action to abolish private prisons.

His administration's efficiency is commendable.

However, the steps Biden takes next, especially post-coronavirus (fingers crossed) is what will really shape his legacy. If he were to focus his efforts on, say, fixing campaign finance laws, perhaps he would go down with a more memorable reputation beyond "a transitional president."

What should he focus on?

First and foremost, the pandemic. Biden must put the majority of his executive power

toward economic relief and vaccine distribution. California has recently opened the Los Angeles Dodgers Stadium as a mass vaccination site.

An idea for the Biden administration to ruminate on: maybe it should mandate other states open stadiums or arenas as vaccination sites to increase distribution efficiency.

Beyond that, it should also focus on canceling student debt — something many students, Zags included, struggle with. Offering struggling students or adults with debt in the midst of this pandemic could help many out.

Of course, there are several other issues it should direct attention to. LGBTQ liberation and health care are issues that come to mind.

But for now, it would be prudent for this administration to direct its efforts toward the most immediate threat against the U.S., save for the rest of the planet.

An administration's momentum, its legacy, is often set up by the strength of their first three months in office. Here's to hoping that these past few weeks are an indicator of good things to come.

Alexander Prevost is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @Alexanderprvst.

What does Chick-fil-A's success mean for Spokane small businesses?



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUINS FACEBOOK

Ruins is a local Spokane restaurant with a rotating monthly menu that has been featured on the TV series "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives."



PHOTO COURTESY OF STELLA'S CAFÉ FACEBOOK

Even though Chick-fil-A chicken sandwiches are hard to resist, opt for a small business alternative, like Stella Café's hot chicken sandwich.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STELLA'S CAFÉ FACEBOOK

Stella's Café offers its famous "Dirty Fries," which have also been featured on "Diners, Drive Ins, and Dives."

By SYDNEY FLUKER

Spokane's first Chick-fil-A opened its doors on Dec. 1 to a frenzy. Traffic wrapped around the block and backed up Newport Highway as people waited for the popular chicken sandwich franchise to open. One man reported waiting up to 14 hours, and some customers even slept in their cars. But with all this excitement surrounding a fast-food franchise from Atlanta, what happens to the small businesses it affects?

The day after the grand opening, Ruins' Instagram page (@_ruins) posted a picture of people camping outside a Chick-fil-A opening in Lynnwood, WA as an example of the new Spokane location, and with a caption that sparked conversation in the community.

"People are camping out to get in line for Chick-fil-A... and we have sold six burritos today," said the Instagram post "If you have the resources, and I know not everyone does, try to keep it local until this pandemic eases up and some normalcy returns."

The post blew up, with 5,264 likes as of Feb. 3.

"Because of that post and because people saw what was going on, our business at Stella's has almost doubled," said Tony Brown, owner of both Ruins and Stella's Café.

Bob Hemphill, owner of Chicken-N-Mo, a Southern style restaurant, also noticed the effects of Chick-fil-A, but they were different than expected. He reports that there has been no effect on his business.

"There have been a lot of Southern restaurants that have opened up," Hemphill said. "But they had no effect on me because we specialize in things other places don't... Chick-fil-A don't do pork and beef and ribs, but we do."

In a pre-COVID world, Brown thinks Chick-fil-A wouldn't have had as much of an effect as it does now.

With a franchise of that size, the planning that goes into opening takes years, meaning the time at which they opened wasn't entirely their fault.

Unfortunately, the timing could not have been worse.

"At a moment when so many small businesses are either going under or on the verge of going under, a fast-food chain behemoth wanders into town and sets up shop, where they immediately find success," Brown said.

The ability to have a drive-thru option and its own parking lot immediately puts them a step above other small businesses.

"If you have a drive-thru, or were easily able to pivot to a full takeout oriented business, then you've been able to find success," Brown said.

Chick-fil-A is different from other small independent restaurants opening up. With the power of an intense marketing machine and a corporation to back them, the Chick-fil-A franchise is guaranteed success, which takes away from the partnership small restaurants have with each other.

"If another local restaurant opened around the corner from us, we would be excited," Brown said. "It brings a gravity to the neighborhood, where their customers will be exposed to us and vice versa."

There is also an opportunity with small businesses that you can't find with large franchises.

"You always want to look to learn from new businesses," Hemphill said.

In the restaurant business, learning from others and adapting to change is key.

"If they are doing something you can learn from, then that's what you wanna do," Hemphill said. "Don't throw rocks because they are similar to yours, you gotta learn from them."

But with fast-food chains like Chick-fil-A opening more and more locations across the nation, local restaurants are being caught off guard and forced to fight to stay open.

"Re-adjust it and get back on course," Hemphill said. "The more you keep the doors open the more successful you'll be."

There are clear benefits to eating locally over choosing a franchise. Menus are more exciting and offer a wider variety of options, especially for those with dining restrictions. Shopping locally also allows you to support local farmers and local chefs. And one of the most important reasons, it keeps money within the community. Supporting local businesses allows them to stay open and hire more employees, something communities need now more than ever.

Chick-fil-A's chicken sandwiches are killer, but they aren't the only option available. Stella's Café offers healthier alternatives to fast-food classics like the McRib, chicken sandwiches, and Baja Gorditas. Chicken-N-Mo has Southern classics like fried catfish, ribs, sweet potato puffs and fried chicken. There are loads of local options that give Chick-fil-A a run for its money, and helping local businesses survive is more important than ever.

"Shopping local means you've helped your community, it makes you feel good," Brown said. "Our restaurants are here for you."

Sydney Fluker is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @sydneymluker.

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg February 7, 2021

ACROSS
1 Emcees' needs
5 Restaurant founder, often
9 "In memoriam" bio
13 Stark girl on "Game of Thrones"
14 Room and
15 Funny Jay
16 Sidestep
18 Blowgun projectile
19 A wide variety
20 Cost of a spot
21 Shorts
22 MADD spot, e.g.
23 Autocorrect target
25 Shirk duty at an archaeology site?
29 "You're ___ at all!"
32 Part of a foot
33 Earth-friendly prefix
34 MBA student's subj.
35 Entertainer and PGA Hall-of-Famer
37 Chew persistently
38 Letter after pi
39 One of 10 leapers in a carol
40 Khartoum's country
41 Avoid the "Don't Stop Believin'" band?
45 Pull at

46 Water, in France
47 Maple syrup base
50 Astringent targets
52 Magnetic tape holder
54 Great work
55 Eschew the turf in surf and turf?
57 Agreement
58 Nickname that sounds like the letters around "Q, R, S"
59 "Fiddling" emperor
60 "Benevolent" lodge members
61 Like some wine and cheese
62 Grammy winner India, ___

DOWN
1 Upset with
2 Winner's boast
3 Recurring sequence
4 Noted Fifth Avenue retailer
5 Cold relief brand
6 Overhead purchases?
7 Before, in poetry
8 POTUS elected in 1932
9 One can't learn new tricks, it's said
10 "C'mon, help me out!"
11 Memo opener
12 Canvas bag

Get Away From It All by Alan Massengill

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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16				17					18			
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54						55	56					
57						58				59		
60						61				62		

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REuse duce cycle

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

	7			4		8	3	
		5						6
4				5	8			
			7					1
	1	3		6		4	2	
9					4			
			4	8				3
3						9		
	9	6		1			5	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Today's puzzle solution

4	5	2	7	1	3	9	6	8
8	1	6	9	2	5	7	4	3
3	7	9	6	8	4	2	5	1
7	9	5	4	3	1	8	2	6
6	2	4	5	9	8	3	1	7
1	8	3	2	6	7	4	9	5
2	6	7	8	5	9	1	3	4
9	4	1	3	7	6	5	8	2
5	3	8	1	4	2	6	7	9



Bob Gallagher, opened 4000 Holes record store at its original location in 1989. Since then, it has moved twice and currently resides on Monroe Street.

CODY BUCKLEY IG: codypb

Selling fun: 4000 Holes is a Monroe Street staple

By LILLIAN PIEL

There's something so enchanting about being inside an old-school record shop like 4000 Holes record store, whether it's the selection of music playing overhead, the thousands of records to be flipped through, the album art that decorates every wall or the people.

Take it from Bob Gallagher, owner of 4000 Holes record store. Gallagher has bought records since he was a kid and loved The Beatles when he was younger, but he started seriously collecting records in the 1970s, when he said he got 'Beatle mania' again.

"As a kid, I always wanted a record store. I mean early on, I remember going into the local record store, and it was like sort of a church for me. It was so cool, all that stuff in there," Gallagher said.

When Gallagher first started collecting records, he realized that he wouldn't be able to keep collecting them on his salary, so he started selling records and found out he had a talent for it. Eventually he had enough to open a store, and so he opened 4000 Holes in 1989, Gallagher said. The store's current location on 1610 N. Monroe St. is its third location, and Gallagher said he's been there for the past 16 years.

Gallagher said that when grunge became popular the store did well, but when the recession hit, his store was fortunate to not go down like many other record stores did at the time. About 12 to 13 years ago, vinyl started making a comeback.

"We always carried records even though they weren't popular, but we were always a record store, and so after records picked up immensely, people kind of realized how

cool they are again, and business is great," Gallagher said.

Gallagher attributes the resurgence of interest in vinyl in part to Record Store Day, which began 12 years ago. On Record Store Day, customers can head to indie record stores for limited edition records.

Digital music initially led companies to phase out records, but companies slowly began making records again as they grew in popularity, Gallagher said. This was no surprise to him, who said records have always been fun.

"If you're a record person, once you see one it's not really a choice, you like 'em. It doesn't really matter generation-wise or anything, it's all about the records," Gallagher said.

Shari Riley, a customer at 4000 Holes and vinyl fan, said she likes records because you don't see the same kind of artwork with digital music like you do with records. When asked what her favorite part of 4000 Holes was, Riley said she likes the wide selection of music, which includes everything from rock to reggae to blues and all of the album covers and posters.

"Vinyl is classic," Riley said.

When COVID-19 hit, Gallagher had to temporarily close the store and step up selling records online, which kept business alive, he said. Once he was able to reopen the store, Gallagher did so, making sure to follow and enforce all COVID-19 safety precautions, including limiting the number of people allowed inside the store and wearing masks.

Part of what makes 4000 Holes special is the customers. Gallagher said that there's a loyalty between record buyers and record stores and that everyone has their own little spot in the world when it comes to favorite



CODY BUCKLEY IG: codypb

Gallagher has collected records since he was a kid and his dream was always to open a record store.

records.

Natalie McRae, a long-time customer of 4000 Holes, said her dad grew up coming to the store, and so did she. When she was younger, she would get gift cards to spend at 4000 Holes, and now her and her fiancé have about 3,000 records, she said.

McRae said she is a huge vinyl fan and enjoys coming to 4000 Holes and flipping through records without searching for anything in particular.

"It's fun to just go see if there's anything you flip through and find something you love," McRae said.

Gallagher also said that on weekends

when the store is busier, customers will often be discussing shared music tastes. He said this makes 4000 Holes fun for him every day and a cool place to come as well. It's not uncommon for people to be 'talkin' rock,' as Gallagher put it.

"It's pretty cool to have a record store, I'm pretty happy that I've been able to spend my last 30-something years doing records. People love records, I tell people, 'I sell fun.' Even the heaviest, darkest metal can make somebody feel good," Gallagher said.

Lillian Piel is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @lillianpiel.

Bulletin Cook Book week 1: Coconut curry

By ALLIE NOLAND

As college students, we often find ourselves getting sick of eating pasta, salad and frozen meals every night. Trying to branch out, we also find ourselves buying groceries to cook with, like carrots, tofu and potatoes but end up letting it go bad in the refrigerator.

Do you have leftover produce? Leftover proteins? Are you on a budget? Curry is your answer. It takes around 20 minutes to make, and you probably have most of the ingredients in your fridge already.

Easy Yellow Coconut Curry

Ingredients (Safeway prices):

- Canned Coconut Milk - \$1.50
- Trader Joe's Yellow Curry Sauce - \$2.99, Not available at Safeway.

- Onion or Shallot - \$1.42
- Rice - \$2.29
- Leftover veggies (potatoes, bell peppers, carrots, Brussel sprouts, etc.)
- Leftover protein (tofu, lentils, a can of beans, chicken, etc.)

Yellow Coconut Curry is my go-to meal when I want something deliciously comforting but also super easy. You can throw whatever you want in it, put it over rice and have a tasty meal.

In a medium sized pot, pour some olive oil in on medium heat, chop up an onion and sauté until translucent. Next, add your chopped veggies and protein.

Do you have a half of a bell pepper that is about to go bad? Do you have some chicken breast leftover from the night before? Do you have a can of beans that

has been sitting in the pantry for months? Throw it in!

After sautéing for five minutes or so, pour a can of coconut milk in the pot. Let it simmer. Then add Trader Joe's famous Yellow Curry Sauce. It's full of flavor and you only need to add 1/3 of the bottle, even less, depending on taste. Any curry paste would also work in substitution.

Let everything simmer. Let the coconut milk cook off a little bit. Once it reaches the consistency of your desire, take it off the heat. Cook some rice and pour it over. If you're a real foodie, top your dish with green onions and cilantro.

With this meal, you can make a bunch of it, save it and eat it for a few days. It's cheap and so tasty.

Salad Rolls / Fresh Spring Rolls

Ingredients (Safeway prices):

- Rice Wrappers - \$2.49
- Rice Noodles - \$1.49
- Peanut Dipping Sauce - \$4.49
- Leftover veggies (carrots, cucumbers, bell peppers, lettuce, cabbage, etc.)
- Leftover protein (tofu, chicken, shrimp, etc.)

Just like curry, salad rolls are a perfect way to use leftover produce and proteins from your fridge. Curry is hardy, and salad rolls are light and fresh.

Start by cooking your rice noodles as directed on the box. Rinse them with cold water, drain them and set aside.

Next, slice your veggies super thin, into a noodle like shape. Carrots, cucumbers and bean sprouts are the best for salad rolls, but you can put almost any veggie in them. Proteins like tofu and

chicken can also be cut into thin pieces.

Once everything is set and ready, pour warm water onto a dinner plate. Next, take a rice wrapper, dip it in the water, covering every area, and set it on a working surface.

Add your fillings next, starting with veggies, followed by proteins, and top it off with some rice noodles. If you want to get fancy with it, mint and cilantro are delicious additions. Once you have everything you want in the center of the rice wrapper, carefully fold it up like a burrito.

These salad rolls make for a fun, healthy, homemade lunch or dinner. Grab a housemate and try one of these meal ideas out.

Allie Noland is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @allie_noland.

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A new story for former Zag

By VINCENT SAGLIMBENI

On her walk from the Integrated Media Building on Gonzaga’s campus one day, Kendra Andrews, a freshman at the time, received a text from the sports information director asking if she could meet him at the McCarthy Athletic Center in five minutes to talk with GU basketball player Jeremy Jones. Without hesitation, Andrews said yes, scrambling for questions and writing profusely on her way to the building, taking advantage of the opportunity given to her to complete that story.

Andrews continues that value of taking advantage of her opportunities to this day, as the former Gonzaga Bulletin editor-in-chief was hired as a reporter for the Golden State Warriors for NBCSAuthentic in the Bay Area. Andrews will be writing, podcasting and doing some television work through sideline reporting with the network.

The Bay Area is filled with a rich sports culture. With “Battles by the Bay” between the San Francisco Giants and Oakland Athletics and San Francisco 49ers and Oakland/Las Vegas Raiders, as well as the unification of Bay Area sports fans with the Golden State Warriors, San Jose Earthquakes and San Jose Sharks, Bay Area sports culture is unlike any other.

The passion each fanbase shows for its team reflects greatly on those who are a part of each organization, showing pride in being a part of this special community. Andrews knows this better than anyone else, and the Oakland native will now have the chance to rekindle that passion by covering the Warriors.

“Being from the Bay Area, there’s just such a rich sports environment,” Andrews said. “Especially in Oakland, we take such pride in the sports teams that we have and had here. Growing up, entertainment in our family was watching Warriors, the 49ers and the Raiders.”

Prior to being hired by NBCSN, Andrews’ journey in sports media started when she got the opportunity to shadow Associated Press Bay Area sports writer Janie McCauley in her senior year of high school. Enticed by the idea of getting paid to talk and write about sports, Andrews went with McCauley and got a taste of what came with the job. McCauley told Andrews that whatever school she would go to, she would find out who the sports editor and editor-in-chief were and she would write for the school newspaper, leading her to come to GU to do just that.

“I was impressed with her initiative to track me down,” McCauley said. “She reached out to me and I took her under



GU alumna Kendra Andrews ('19) contributed to the Gonzaga Bulletin from 2015-2019.

my wing. She was so eager to learn and to go do any different assignments I had.”

Andrews majored in journalism and minored in solidarity and social justice during her time in Spokane. She worked for the Bulletin all four years, moving up from staff writer her freshman year to sports editor her second semester of sophomore year and all of junior year to managing editor fall semester of her senior year and editor-in-chief in her final semester.

Only two years removed from her graduation, Andrews learned during her time at GU that experience is more valuable than a degree. She took advantage of the opportunities given to her by covering a program like GU basketball in a small market and the attraction the program brings as one of the powerhouses of college basketball, receiving lots of coverage on the local scale and increasing coverage on the national scale.

Along with being flexible and prepared for any situation, Andrews also learned to not always go for the obvious story.

“If people want to know what happened in the game, they will either watch it or look at the highlights on ESPN or look at the box score,” Andrews said. “[Media] being there and being in the locker room and getting to know coach Few and the players, you have access to so many things that no one else does, and it’s our job to shed light on that.”

Andrews worked with former Bulletin sports editor Jackson Frank for

a year while Frank was a sophomore and Andrews was a junior. Frank said he learned a lot from Andrews, referencing her poise and presence in the newsroom as notable features. While only being a year older than Frank, he said Andrews acted as if she had been in the position before.

After realizing that they were working really well together, Frank said Andrews allowed him to find his stride, eventually passing the baton to him as the new “head” sports editor of the Bulletin. Frank also admires Andrews’ confidence. He said she’s not necessarily afraid to make enemies, but she’s definitely not afraid to ruffle some feathers if it means getting what she wants in her journey as a sports journalist.

“One of [Andrews’] best traits is that she’s very determined,” Frank said. “She has a vision for what she wants in this career and her life to an extent... she’s really great at making connections, she’s really personable and she’s not afraid to put herself out there.”

Andrews and Frank still talk on a weekly basis, and the connection they share continued outside of GU. From having weekly meet-ups at Duffs in the Kennedy Apartments to getting small charcuterie boards prior to Bulletin production nights, the two still have a strong relationship today. Andrews put in a great word for Frank to get a position writing for The Athletic as the GU men’s basketball beat writer.

How did the Andrews Athletic connection come about, exactly? The

Seattle editor of The Athletic reached out to Andrews in her senior year and asked her if she wanted to contribute while still at school, and she said yes.

Once graduation came around, in the typical determined and confident fashion of Andrews, she asked if there was an opportunity to continue covering the Zags or if there were other opportunities with The Athletic. After conversations, Andrews found a job with The Athletic covering the Denver Nuggets. Most of her time was spent focusing on writing game recaps and feature stories about the Nuggets, as well as covering other stories that came up within the organization.

Transitioning from the college basketball scene to the professional scene, the one thing that caught Andrews’ attention the most was access. Rather than solely going through the sports information directors, Andrews formed connections with agents and the players themselves to get the information she needed to write her stories. Whether it was having a heart-to-heart conversation with Nuggets forward Will Barton or getting recognition from head coach Michael Malone, Andrews has gotten a lot from her experience in Denver.

“It’s a 24/7 season,” Andrews said. “There really isn’t an offseason because even during the offseason, it’s about trades and the draft and what needs to happen next. There is really no stoppage.”

Similar to Andrews, another East Bay native will be starting a new role of her own. Fellow Oakland native Kamala Harris was recently inaugurated as vice president of the United States three days after Andrews was hired by NBCSN. Wearing an “Oakland in the White House” T-shirt, Andrews said she was inspired seeing Harris as the new vice president, and seeing the parallels the two share with acquiring high level positions in a traditionally white male-dominated industry. Andrews is on her way to inspiring others to do what they love.

Like Harris and President Joe Biden, Andrews will be part of a dynamic duo of her own. Her sister, Malika Andrews, currently works as an NBA reporter and writer for ESPN, and with that, they may be the first sister duo to be sports reporters. Sharing a journey similar to her older sister is something Andrews is proud of, as the East Bay will be repped greatly in the NBA scene.

Little does she know how the same things could be said about herself: Oakland and GU’s own, Kendra Andrews.

Vincent Saglimbeni is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @vinnyagsaglimbeni.

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GONZAGA
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Kicking things off

Gonzaga women’s soccer prepares to make its return to the pitch this spring while introducing a new swath of freshmen players to the program

By VINCENT SAGLIMBENI

After 450 plus days of practicing and waiting, the Gonzaga women’s soccer team will finally get the opportunity to compete. With the fall season cut altogether due to COVID-19, head coach Chris Watkins and the team look to bounce back from a season that brought promise and ambition to the future of GU women’s soccer.

Last season, the Bulldogs were 12-6-1 on the year and 5-3-1 in conference play. Headlined by the play of then seniors Madeline Gotta, Samantha Heilman and India Jencks, the Zags now look to continue from last year’s play with veteran leadership this season. Led by captains Jordan Thompson and Sophie Braun, the senior defender and junior midfielder, along with the rest of the team are excited just to get out on the field and play some soccer.

Thompson was recently named to the pre-season All-West Coast Conference (WCC) team. Surprised by the honor, Thompson said she’s looking forward to the challenges that will come this season, looking to capitalize on every chance they get.

“I wasn’t expecting it at all,” Thompson said. “I think it’s just a testament to the program and to the team and to the coaching staff itself. I’m just one player and I don’t make or break anything. Everyone around me is what makes a team and what makes a season.”

Along with the veteran presence on the team, 13 freshmen will be added to the roster this season. Veteran players include Maggie Connors, Payton Stiles, Maddie Cooley and Haley Archuleta. The younger players include names like Erin Healey and Lauren Elwer. The mix of veterans and underclassmen representation on the squad this season will be something to look at going forward.

Even though the Zags lost their top goal scorers last season, Watkins said this is still an extremely talented team.

“We’re so excited,” Braun said. “It feels like it’s been a super long time, and it has been a super long time, but we’ve been able to keep training for the past year and a half since we’ve played a game. It’s been really cool to finally get the opportunity to actually prove that we’ve grown and that we’ve improved and to be able to reap the benefits of all the training. We’re really



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After starting 16 games her sophomore year, junior Gabriela Maas returns as a key piece in GU’s defense.

excited and we can’t wait.”

Prior to the team’s matchup on Feb. 3 against Dixie State, Watkins said the team had only been able to play 11 vs. 11 within the team for only a month or so. The team would only practice 3 vs. 3 when the pandemic first started, only having a total of six players at training at a time. Abiding by all the guidelines set by the county, the university and by the WCC, Watkins said the team has been working every day for the past 450 days, as a team and individually, and now it’s time to get things going.

Watkins said this will be the first time in his time at GU that he will be coaching a relatively youthful team. Nevertheless, Watkins said it is still a very talented squad, and with that, expectations are high coming off a strong performance last season.

Coming off a fourth place finish last season in conference play, the Zags have challenges that come with the heightened play of WCC women’s soccer. Teams like the University of Portland, Santa Clara,

BYU and Pepperdine will provide the Zags with much-needed tests throughout the conference schedule.

Prior to conference play and after the matchup with Dixie State, the team will have a match against the University of Oregon Feb. 7. Braun said the matchup in Eugene will be a good test to see where the team is and how they will look to continue to build off that performance.

Watkins and the Zags have patiently waited their time to play and now it’s finally time. Feeling relieved and thankful to have some normalcy by having the chance to play soccer, the GU women’s soccer program is poised to have a strong and competitive 2021 season.

“It’s hard to put into words,” Watkins said. “The girls have worked really hard, and all of us want life back to normal. This is just a little bit of normalcy for us... We’ve really enjoyed having the chance to go out and do what we love to do.”

Vincent Saglimbeni is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @vimmysaglimbeni.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Friday, Feb. 5

➡Women’s tennis vs. Northern Arizona, Tucson 9 a.m.

➡Women’s cross country at Oregon XC Open, 10 a.m.

➡Volleyball at University of Pacific, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

➡Women’s tennis at University of Arizona, Tucson 11 a.m.

➡Volleyball at University of Pacific, Stockton, noon

➡Men’s tennis vs. Seattle, 1 p.m.

➡Men’s tennis vs. Utah State, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 7

➡Women’s tennis at University of Arizona, Tucson 9 a.m.

➡Women’s soccer at University of Oregon, Eugene 1 p.m.

➡Men’s soccer at University of Washington, Seattle 4 p.m.

Monday, Feb.8

➡Men’s Golf at Nick Watney Invitational, Fresno, CA

Tuesday Feb. 9

➡Men’s Golf at Nick Watney Invitational, Fresno, CA

➡Volleyball at BYU, Provo 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

➡Volleyball at BYU, Provo 6 p.m.

All home games in bold

Lacing ‘em up

Gonzaga men’s soccer has improved its status in the WCC over past two seasons, and the team looks to maintain that trend this season with its sights set on Conference gold

By SAMANTHA DIMAIO

Gonzaga men’s soccer has recently played its first competitive game (an exhibition against Seattle University) since the fall of 2019. Almost a year ago, COVID-19 forced all sports to immediately postpone their seasons until further notice. Fortunately, they got to play through their conference. After a slow start during preseason games, GU ended up placing third in the West Coast Conference, the highest the program has finished in over 10 years.

“I think we just started to create an actual team identity and playing style,” said senior midfielder, Joe Corner. “I think guys were starting to feel more defined in what their role was and how to play certain positions on the field, and I think that’s only continued in the time that we haven’t been playing games over the last year or so.”

When the team returned this fall after an unusually uneventful 2020 spring season, the guys were only allowed to play in small groups because of COVID-19 restrictions. They took that opportunity to focus on footwork, tight possessions and fitness.

As some restrictions were lifted, they were able to add more and more players to the field. Eventually, they could scrimmage each other and focus on broader techniques. They have especially been working on their defensive shape and offensive plays that can get them into and through the final third of the field to take a shot on goal.

“I think we have good reason to feel confident,” said Head Coach Paul Meehan. “I feel like every day we get a little bit better and I’m looking forward to seeing where we are in late April.”

As the spring season comes into view, the guys cannot wait to get back on the field again and play with more of the competitive nature that has been suppressed for so many months. However, Luger Field is still out of operation because of the winter weather. Therefore, most of their nonconference games will require them to travel and play on their opponents’ fields. Not only that, but they have been forced to practice on Mulligan



LILY KANISHIGE IG: aka.lillyy
Demitrius Kigeya was named to the preseason all-WCC after ending last season as a second team all-conference player.

Field, which is turf rather than grass.

Now that their championship season has started, they have been training six days a week as opposed to the five days a week they were training in the fall. After playing an exhibition game against Seattle University just a couple weeks ago, they were able to recognize what areas they were successful in, as well as what they still need to work on before the onset of conference games.

Compared to last year’s team, this one seems entirely different. Along with crucial returners like Corner, Theo O’Malley, Demitrius Kigeya, Frankie Ljucovic, Cole Rovegno and Johnny Hansen, the program has welcomed 10 new players, the majority

of whom have the potential to be starters as the season begins.

“I think it is a testament to the coaching staff bringing in quality guys that are going to make immediate impact,” Corner said.

Finn Simmersbach, Sebastian Karlholm, Angelo Calfo, Wylie Trujillo, Gideon Davis, Richard Ruiz, Devin Slingsby, Milo Libby, Logan Dorsey and Andres Labate have all been welcomed not only because of their skill but because of their dedication and character as well.

They fit in with the team because they consistently put all of their effort into practices. With that, their transition into the program was as smooth as it could have been in the middle of a global pandemic,

and there was no tension amongst the players.

“Part of our culture is to be hardworking, committed to getting better on a daily basis and just being the best teammate and friend that you can be within the program,” Meehan said. “The character part is crucial for us and we will never compromise talent over character. I think our guys are proof that you don’t have to, that you can have good people who are really good players at the same time.”

There are several sports teams that have been robbed of their competitive seasons because of COVID-19, but for men’s soccer in particular, competing in the spring rather than the fall gave them extra time to bond and figure out how to play together before conference games begin. This was crucial considering over half of their team is comprised of newcomers.

“We’ve grown tight-knit pretty quickly over the last four or five months,” Corner said. “I think that’s going to be our strength going forward; we have a lot of trust in each other and a lot of trust in what we’re trying to do in the system we’re trying to play, so I think that’s going to be what we always turn to.”

GU men’s soccer always aims high with the goal of winning the WCC. In past seasons, Corner admits it may have been an unrealistic goal, but the team and the program has grown so much over the past few years that it is now more achievable.

“I think we have the players and the quality and the depth to be able to do that,” Corner said. “Obviously, it is on us to execute, but I think we have all of the tools available to be able to do something like that; we just have to go out and do it.”

GU is scheduled to play a non-conference game on Sunday against the University of Washington. Conference games begin on Feb. 28 with their first game against the University of San Francisco.

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