

# The Gonzaga Bulletin

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## More letters, more secure

New 15-character requirement means student accounts will be safer than ever before

By RED KWENDA

As modern technology improves, the need to secure users' privacy and data grows ever more pressing.

Here at Gonzaga University, one of the ways the institution is seeking to create a safer, more secure online experience for everyone is by making students' passwords a required 15 characters long.

The new passwords are required to meet a new minimum length of 15 characters, but are now exempt from special character and number requirements. Additionally, these passwords will come without expiration dates.

"Longer passwords are harder for computers to guess, so switching to a 15-character password without requiring special characters, numbers or capitalization decreases the chances of a program guessing your password using brute force methods," said Ismael Teshome, who works as the Next Gen Tech Bar lead. "Students can select a longer password that they won't be required to change and remember every four months."

The change to this new password system has been in the works for some time now, according to Information Technology Services SharePoint Analyst Kara McGinn.

"We started implementing the new password policy this past summer for the incoming freshman class," McGinn said. "To minimize disruption, we staggered which students had to have the newly enforced 15-character minimum password based on when their password next



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

GU students will no longer have to include special characters or numbers in their password.

expired. While many students have already had this policy implemented, all students will have this policy in effect by Feb. 26 when the final group of passwords will expire."

On any account, remembering any password is hard enough, especially when number and special character requirements are introduced. Further challenging users is

the fact that some accounts require one to change their password after a certain period of time has transpired. IT Trainer Chelsea Tau'a believes that eliminating these challenges will actually lead to more secure passwords.

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SOPHIE CROSBY IG: sophie\_crosby

Brower focuses on injustice at the core of her activism. She hopes to make a systemic change.

## Andrea Brower: Hawaiian native, environmental warrior

By LILLIAN PIEL

It can be easy to feel powerless in the face of the multitude of injustices in the world today, but Andrea Brower, an adjunct instructor who teaches across the environmental studies, sociology, solidarity and social justice and leadership studies departments, works to empower her students to create change.

Brower is highly involved in activism, on everything from militarism, environmental struggles against the chemical industry in Hawaii, where she is from, and more recently the movement for Black lives.

"At the core of my activism, I'm really interested in questions of injustice that are just baked into, you can call it radicalized capitalism, and how we create really long-term systemic change to deal with those," Brower said.

After she graduated from college, Brower returned home to Hawaii, where she then got

involved in activism focused on direct action against militarization, she said. This opened the doors for her to get involved in activism surrounding decolonization and the struggles of working-class people as well.

Brower said she worked in the non-profit sector for a few years before returning to academia so she could further her understanding of the systemic forces behind the social issues she was dealing with.

She ended up completing her doctorate in activism scholar work, focusing on inequalities in the system, capitalism and the global justice movement, she said. Her thesis focused on direct immersion and involvement in the environmental struggles on the islands against the chemical industry. Brower also said she will be publishing a book on the same subject this year.

"I became deeply interested in questions of capitalism and capitalist inequality and exploitation

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## Gonzaga Reality Twitter criticizes students in the Logan

By KAYLA FRIEDRICH

There are a lot of words that people might use to describe the Gonzaga student body: integral, involved, kind, etc. However, the Gonzaga Reality Twitter page has formed a coalition within the Logan Neighborhood that believes otherwise.

Recently, a Twitter account blasting students living in the Logan Neighborhood has gained a little bit of traction as it says in its bio GU students are "horrible, spoiled children here to party."

The account did not answer when contacted by The Gonzaga Bulletin.

With twenty-four followers, @gonzagareality has produced what they call a Logan Neighborhood coalition that plans on revealing their perspective on the ways that GU students could be doing more harm than good to the neighborhood that Zags take pride in contributing to.

Becky Wilkey, director of Campus Security and Public Safety (CSPS), said CSPS does spend time patrolling the Logan in order to ensure that even while students may be living off campus, they are still being respectful neighbors.

"An overwhelming number of our off-campus students are very receptive to the university's message and are acting in a responsible manner to keep

themselves and others safe," Wilkey said. "There are a few students who are still struggling with the protocols put in place due to COVID-19 and they push the boundaries which can lead to noise and party complaints."

CSPS is aware that not all GU students adhere to all of the COVID-19 guidelines that have been placed, but they are careful to point out that not all students display the careless behavior that the @gonzagareality account is trying to combat.

Living off campus doesn't mean that GU students participating in large gatherings and disruptive behavior gets overlooked when it comes to receiving discipline.

"The frustration from the Logan Neighborhood is valid if residents are experiencing this from our students," Wilkey said. "When we respond to these calls and find there to be a violation, we hold those students accountable."

Admittedly, not all students at GU are sticking closely to the new rules and considering how they might be affecting the rest of the people living in the neighborhood, but that doesn't reflect the majority of students.

GU has made large efforts to ensure that students are still well

SEE TWITTER PAGE 3

## COVID-19 walk-in testing no longer offered on campus

By LILLIAN PIEL

As students are adjusting to life back on campus or in the nearby area, knowing the procedures for coronavirus testing are an essential part of staying safe. Unlike in the fall semester, this semester there are not plans to provide walk-in coronavirus testing for students without symptoms.

"Walk-in testing remains an additional option but only if the current testing strategies are not proving sufficient for the mitigation of COVID-19," said Kristiana Holmes, the director of Health and Counseling Services, via email.

Kent Porterfield, the vice provost of student affairs, said that while there was walk-in testing available last semester, the university is not at the point where walk-in testing would need to be available as an

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**We're doing it because it protects our community. It's not fun for any of us but we don't want folks walking around as spreaders.**

*Kent Porterfield, vice provost of student affairs*

option. However, he will take into account any requests from students and families for walk-in testing, he said.

According to Eric Baldwin, the assistant vice president of student well-being and

healthy living, the main reason walk-in testing is not being offered this semester is because there does not seem to be a need for it, since less than half of students selected for surveillance testing are coming

in to get tested. Baldwin also said that the walk-in clinic did not allow for an accurate understanding of how coronavirus might be moving in the community.

"This semester, at least right now, it doesn't seem like that same level of anxiety is there, that same level of need is there," Baldwin said of stress about coronavirus among the student population.

However, Baldwin said that students who really want to get tested can reach out to him and ask to be included in the next week of surveillance testing.

For the first three weeks of the semester, 20% of each student population, including students living on-campus, undergraduate students living off campus nearby and law school students have been randomly

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CHIANA MCINELLY IG: piosbychiana

GU will no longer be offering walk-in COVID-19 testing for students without symptoms.

# TESTING

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selected each week for surveillance coronavirus testing, Baldwin said.

“The more students comply with it, the better our snapshot is,” Baldwin said.

Last semester, 10% of the student population was randomly selected each week for surveillance testing, Porterfield said. The number of students randomly selected each week was increased this semester to get enough students to come in for testing to have a statistically significant sample.

“When it draws from a random selection like that, it gives you a pretty true sense of what the positivity rate could be, and if you do the convenience sampling, it’s harder to draw predictive analytics or determinations,” Porterfield said.

The current coronavirus test used for surveillance testing is polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing, which is one of the most reliable tests for coronavirus, he said. The university is also preparing to switch over to doing more antigen testing, which will have a quicker turnaround for test results.

Porterfield also said that he understands

students get busy and that everyone is fatigued, but it is important to get tested to know how much coronavirus is actually within the student population.

“We’re doing it because it protects our community,” Porterfield said. “It’s not fun for any of us, but we don’t want folks walking around as spreaders.”

To determine coronavirus levels in the Gonzaga community, surveillance testing will continue throughout the semester, Holmes said. After consulting with Spokane Regional Health District and reviewing testing options from the fall semester, GU has also focused on a variety of other types of testing for this semester.

These types of testing include the surveillance testing, testing groups at a higher risk, such as nursing students, targeted testing for potential outbreaks, athletics testing and testing through Health and Counseling Services. While all other testing is for people who do not have symptoms, testing at Health and Counseling Services is focused on those with coronavirus symptoms, signs or exposures, Holmes said.

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

# PASSWORD

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“A common problem is that short and complex passwords are easily forgotten, hard to type and are written down—which eliminates all pretense of security,” Tau’a said. “And when a person is required to change those passwords all the time, they would be more likely to write them down and re-use their favorites. Our goal is for people to have passwords that are very hard to guess (or crack) but are easy to remember and easy to type.” According to Tau’a, a supercomputer — any computer with a vastly higher operating speed than the average computer — could potentially hack an 8-character complex password in 7.6 minutes, whereas a 15-character simple password could take up to three years for the same supercomputer to crack. This is because of the drastically increased number of combinations that arise from the extra seven characters, Tau’a said.

“The No. 1 thing to keep in mind about this change moving forward, is that unless IT’s suspects the account has been compromised, we won’t be requiring the password to be changed periodically,” said Steven Bjerken, information security engineer.

Students usually have to log into a GU account more than once, which makes typing new passwords when logging in to Office 365, Zagweb and Blackboard an issue for students both on and off campus.

“Most students are stunned at first by the length requirement but

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**There has been a noticeable decrease in the total number of compromised accounts. Implementing [Multi-Factor Authentication] was the first step in decreasing this number."**

Steven Bjerken, information security engineer

are then happy to hear that they won’t have to be changing it in the future,” Teshome said.

In this new era of password security requirements here at GU, the folks at IT have a few tips and tricks for students.

“Make a good passphrase that you can remember that you use only for your Gonzaga account,” Bjerken said.

A passphrase is several unrelated words strung together to make a phrase that meets the character requirements.

“Once you type this in a few times, the unrelated words will be committed to memory,” Tau’a said.

IT Services remains confident that the new changes will continue to produce further security for the online GU experience.

“There has been a noticeable decrease in the total number of

compromised accounts,” Bjerken said. “Implementing [Multi-Factor Authentication] was the first step in decreasing this number.”

Hopefully our next 15 keystrokes will represent the next 15 steps in securing our online presence here at GU.

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

# BROWER

Continued from Page 1

that is fundamentally baked into the system,” Brower said.

Elif Beall, an attorney turned writer, met Brower through their work together on a social movement on Kauai aimed at regulating the actions of multinational corporations that were using the land as a testing site for pesticides and genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

“We’ve become really good friends, so I know her not only as an activist and as an intellectual person but as a human, and she’s just amazing,” Beall said about Brower.

The pair worked together from 2013 to 2014 at the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA), acting as the public relations team. They wrote news releases to demonstrate the point of view of the residents impacted by corporations using the land as testing grounds, Beall said.

As for Brower’s role specifically, Beall described it as being an adviser, helping put the movement in the context of what the local community was experiencing.

“She was so brilliant at putting it in the context of the larger global system, and how what was happening on Kauai was an example of what’s happening all around the world and a bigger picture of how the multinational corporations operate,” Beall said.

Brower said she does her best to live her values by practicing sustainability through riding her bike whenever possible, composting, growing her own food and

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**The No. 1 thing I aim to convey in all of my classes is the possibility of change.**

Andrea Brower, environmental studies, sociology, solidarity and social justice and leadership studies professor.

getting hand-me-down clothes.

However, Brower is hesitant to say that individual actions will fix climate change issues. She also said that living sustainably is a privilege she recognizes not everyone has.

“It is my belief and my factual understanding based on history that it is social movements pushing for rearrangements of power in systems that are what’s going to tackle the greatest kind of environment problems, catastrophe that you could say we face today,” Brower said.

Here at Gonzaga, Brower aims to help her students understand systematic injustices, as well as empower her students to believe that they are able to create changes.

“The No. 1 thing I aim to convey in all of my classes is the possibility of change,” Brower said.

Isaac Pacor, a senior majoring in

sociology who has taken multiple classes taught by Brower, said Brower teaches in a way that connects her own experiences with social activism to the course material.

Pacor describes Brower as warm and kind, and said that she teaches in what she calls a “horizontal classroom,” meaning she is learning as much from her students as they are learning from her. While it can be tough learning about complex social issues that are deeply rooted, she does a good job of remaining cautiously optimistic, Pacor said.


“She teaches in a way that doesn’t water down the severity of a lot of the world’s problems, but it also doesn’t leave you in this state of unconstrued cynicism, which I think is really awesome,” Pacor said.

Brower said that none of the world’s problems are inevitable, that they are created by man-made systems that can be undone, and that the possibility of social


change is always imminent. She also said her students’ passion and creativity allow her to learn from them and be inspired by them.

“I think our collective sense of disempowerment today is one of the greatest dangers that we actually face, and that when we know our power, when we know the power that we have to change history, to change systems, to challenge injustices, then there is really nothing that can stop the power of people engaged in moral fight for the common good,” Brower said.

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



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**Wash Up. Mask up. Back up.**

**Stick it to Covid before it sticks to you.**



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# A lesson in allyship

Recovery Ally training provides GU students with a sense of care and understanding for those who struggle from substance abuse, aiming to end the stigma surrounding recovery

By SYDNEY FLUKER

The Recovery Ally training event is hosted to give Gonzaga students a better understanding of substance use disorders, recovery, recognizing and supporting those in need, how to be an ally and on-campus resources. This 90-minute training is offered once a month and gives students the ability to view recovery and addiction through a social justice lens.

“It’s starting a conversation about what recovery is and how to support people in recovery,” said James Hiers, a case manager for the Center for Cura Personalis (CCP).

Recovery is the process of change individuals take to improve their health and wellness and fight their substance use disorder (SUD). GU’s Collegiate Recovery Program, OUR House, provides the resources for a recovery-positive community to thrive, and a physical space where students can connect through similar experiences and a desire to stop or reduce their use of substances or harmful behaviors.

Sydney Cheifetz, health educator from the Office of Health Promotion, is a coordinator for GU’s Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP).

“The developmental stage of early adulthood puts college-aged people at a greater risk for developing a substance use disorder,” Cheifetz said.

The Recovery Ally training aims to

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**It's starting a conversation about what recovery is and how to support people in recovery.**

*James Hiers, Center for Cura Personalis*

change that. A recovery ally is someone who strives to create recovery-positive environments and to help eliminate the injustices faced by people in or seeking recovery.

“Being trained in recovery allyship is a powerful way to show care and respect for your peers and community,” Cheifetz said.

The training covers listening non-judgmentally, how to use recovery-positive language, being knowledgeable about and sharing resources and other methods to support people in their recovery process. It aims to end the stigma surrounding recovery on-campus and foster an environment where students in recovery feel accepted and supported by their peers.

“There is a stigma around recovery generally, and the ways that substance use is normalized on college campuses, and this training is a good first step to addressing that,” Hiers said.

The training also helps those to think less about addictions such as eating disorders, video games, technology, sex and porn and co-dependency. OUR House is a space on campus for students with any kind of addiction to seek help.

Creating a recovery-ready campus is one of the long-term goals of the CRP. A recovery-ready campus is one without a stigma surrounding SUDs that does not glorify or normalize substance use, but instead offers help to those in need.

If you are interested in attending this monthly training, the training dates and how to RSVP are advertised in Morning Mail.

To connect with recovery support and on-campus resources, OUR House hosts weekly drop-in hours for students curious about recovery and harm reduction. Spring semester drop-in hours are Tuesdays from 11 a.m. - noon and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Weekly all-recovery meetings are spaces for students to talk about what’s going on in their lives and anything that might benefit their recovery. These meetings are hosted Mondays from 11 a.m. -noon and Fridays from 1 p.m. -2 p.m.

These events are hosted in-person at 1211 N. Cincinnati St. or via Zoom. Email [recovery@gonzaga.edu](mailto:recovery@gonzaga.edu) to receive the Zoom link. Face coverings and physical distancing are required while in OUR House.

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

## TWITTER

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aware of the fact that there is a pandemic whether that’s through a Morning Mail email, frequent reminders to get free COVID-19 testing and more.

GU student Emilee Groth, who lives off campus in the Logan, has some thoughts on the demands of the Twitter account.

“I’ve never met anyone more social than a college student, especially a GU student, so asking them to isolate and keep their circles small is a tall order,” Groth said. “Most students are doing a beautiful job, but can you blame them for holding the occasional kickback?”

Just like CSPS, Groth is not naive to the fact that there are students who are violating not only school policies, but local and state ones as well.

Groth’s reality as a student living in the Logan versus the owner of the Twitter page are at two very different ends of a spectrum.

“The claim all GU students are horrible, spoiled children here to party is a gross generalization,” Groth said. “Are there GU students who are horrible, spoiled

and just here to party? Of course. You will find that at any college campus you go to.”

Groth said she believes in GU’s involvement and integration into the surrounding community and feels that through her experience, this idea is deeply ingrained into the minds of the students that choose to attend GU.

Students living on and off campus tend to have a lot of time and efforts invested in the Logan Neighborhood through offices such as the Center for Community Engagement.

The concerns of the Logan residents are not being overlooked by Zags but these are trying times for everyone including those in charge of keeping things in check.

The person behind the account remains anonymous but their account can be found @gonzagareality on Twitter.

*Kayla Friedrich is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @friedrich\_kayla.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF GONZAGA REALITY TWITTER

A Twitter account targeting GU and the student body about their COVID-19 response.

*William L. Davis, S.J. Lecture Series &  
The Center for Civil & Human Rights present:*

## Becoming Free, Becoming Black

A LECTURE BY:

**Ariela J. Gross**

**John B. & Alice R. Sharp Professor of Law & History  
University of Southern California**



Professor Gross is the co-author of *Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom, and Law in Cuba, Virginia, and Louisiana*, which tells the story of enslaved & free people of color who used the law to claim freedom & citizenship, while challenging slaveholders’ efforts to make blackness synonymous with slavery.

**Wednesday | February 17, 2021 | 12 pm - 1 pm**

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# Love is in the air: Double mask it

Dear lovely Zags, it's that time of the year. Again. Valentine's Day is quickly approaching as it's rather unfortunately a recurring holiday, and while there is nothing us mere mortals can do to delete Feb. 14 off our calendars, we can certainly collectively trash on it. Before Cupid loyalists can say anything, yes, I am aware that at this point hating on Valentine's Day is probably more cliché than actually celebrating its annual arrival, but we all do what we have to do to stay sane during this season of unrequited love and disappointment. For all the single, broken-hearted and bitter individuals out there I hear you and invite you all to fall head-over-heels for this brief love letter detailing reasons V-Day sucks. It's seriously therapeutic.



By KELLIE TRAN

**1. Commercialism**  
It is only fitting to begin this hate piece by exposing the most deceiving part of Valentine's Day: the gifts. Anyone who thinks Valentine's Day is anything but a cash grab is kidding themselves. Whether or not you choose to believe it, that oh-so-sweet, soft and fluffy stuffed animal you received from your boo is not just a sad vehicle used to profess their love but also a thick slice of capitalist America. It should be painfully obvious that spending a bunch of money on stuff that nobody really wants in the name of love is a scam; there is something seriously wrong with using a day allegedly meant to celebrate love as a cash grab.

**2. Unhealthy propaganda**  
Valentine's Day propaganda is single-handedly one of the biggest contributors to unrealistic perceptions of love. Measuring love through material items such as chocolate and flowers feeds into the belief that gift-giving and receiving equates to true love, which shocker, it does not. Putting intense pressure on your loved ones, and yourself at that, to prioritize meaningless material gestures is a toxic recipe for disaster.

**4. It is ostracizing to singles**  
It's impossible to escape Valentine's Day rituals. Once Feb. 1 hits, it is virtually impossible to escape obligatory couples Instagram posts, the wrath of \$5 singing candy grams and unnecessarily extravagant aisles of Dove chocolates. There is no reason singles have to feel unappreciated just because no one thought to spoil them with a \$60 Edible Arrangement.

**5. It's kind of weird**  
Has anyone ever stopped to wonder why the face of V-Day is a baby who stalks people and shoots arrows at them wearing nothing but a diaper? How about the oddly obsessive conversation hearts that say "hug me" or "marry me" or "kiss me." Or the fact that receiving gifts and heartfelt confessions from anonymous admirers on Valentine's Day is totally not creepy when it would be undoubtedly criminal on a normal day? Please, don't kiss me.

**3. It is lazy**  
Participating in Valentine's Day lends to the assumption that it is OK to only be lovey-dovey one month out of the year when in reality, love should be cherished and celebrated year round. If you only indulge in showering your significant other with love once a year, you are in all aspects a jerk. Sorry.

**6. Gender Stereotypes**  
Valentine's Day perpetuates the idea that men must be dominant in relationships by unfairly making them responsible for all the celebratory aspects of the holiday. Further, the gender stereotypes that inform V-Day make it incredibly marginalizing and confusing for the LGBTQ community. Being able to sit back and relax as your other half breaks their back, and the bank, trying to set up a perfectly romantic night is something everyone should be able to experience — regardless of gender. If we must celebrate this god awful holiday, the least we can do is make it a little more fair and inclusive. Men deserve some loving, and maybe flowers, too.

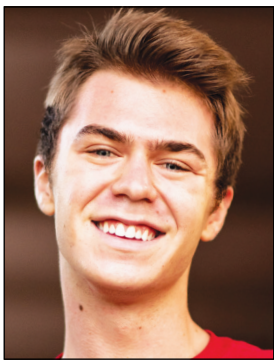
**7. Complainers**  
Lastly, Valentine's Day is annoying because of all the people who complain about it being annoying. Lonely guys, gals and singles I'm looking at you. It's a tough pill to swallow but almost all those who incessantly hate on Valentine's Day would be lying to themselves if they said they wouldn't participate in the cringey February festivities if they were in love or less touch deprived. Doesn't positing, or... um... writing a full article for The Gonzaga Bulletin, about how you don't care about Valentine's Day kind of imply that you do care? All jokes aside, even though we all deserve to be loved 365 days of the year, and I applaud those who have someone special to celebrate Feb. 14 with. But for the rest of us, I say it is OK to complain. XOXO, lonely girl.

Kellie Tran is a staff writer.

## Zags hurt Zags: Responsibility during the pandemic

There have been 449,020 COVID-19 related deaths in the United States. This is what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has listed on its website as of Feb. 4. There have been 449,020 lives lost to COVID-19. Since March, we've seen the United States transform into the leading hotspot for this pandemic. States like California and New York have witnessed crippling numbers of individuals catch and fall to the virus. Lockdowns occurred; life grew stale. Many of these inconveniences in place lead to a sense of desperation for normality, especially in younger and/or more conservative demographics. Even with what we have, COVID-19 still spreads, and it only worsens when reckless behavior ensues. There have been 449,020 dead and counting. In 1967, child psychologist and former University of

Tufts professor David Elkind published his work "Egocentrism in Adolescence" in a scholarly article. Elkind describes how teenagers develop a narrative in which they're unique and the center of the world. This is called "The Personal Fable." It is within this narrative that they develop a kind of superman complex. A myth of invincibility. In relation to the pandemic, one with The Personal Fable might say, "Oh well, I'm young and healthy, so it doesn't really matter if I get it. I'll be just fine! Lol. Let's partyyyy!" Now, I suspect that this kind of egocentric thought isn't exclusive to teenagers. In fact, I think many young adults fall prey to it as well. Take Los Angeles TikTokers for instance. Famous co-ops like The Hype House have been seen at numerous parties during the pandemic. Influencers also show similar disregard for public safety. YouTuber Tana Mongeau infamously posted a video of her and Erika Costell, a



By ALEXANDER PREVOST

fellow YouTuber, at a party last year saying, "Listen, we don't care! Sorry!" This was in regard to COVID-19 restrictions. These superspreader events put groups of people — and their loved ones, live-ins, co-workers — at risk of catching and/or transmitting the virus. Of course, they're not thinking about that. They're probably desperate for some kind of normality. A pre-pandemic party to cure that harrowing sense of isolation. And I completely empathize with that. I too wish to be able to gather with my friends and dance the night away. I too miss festivals, in-house dining and parties. However, the public safety, the health of others — friends, teachers, family — all of that comes first. Always. Which is why when I see swaths of Zags partying like

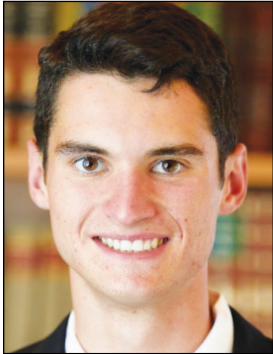
there's no tomorrow — maskless, in close proximity, in groups larger than five — I see red. Yes, Gonzaga students fall prey to "The Personal Fable," too. I can't tell you how many times I've witnessed people blatantly disregard safety guidelines. Every weekend, someone will post a pic of them and their buddies at some gathering to their snap stories, as if they want to be caught. It's not a cute look. Part of our culture on campus is, "Zags help Zags." And shouldn't this hold true during these times — especially these times? However, with the dorm-hopping, the parties, the risky behavior, it really just feels like "Zags hurt Zags." I get that nobody likes a fun ruiner; hell, I hate them too! But there is absolutely nothing fun about sending someone into quarantine, nothing amusing about the guilt you'd feel if someone got sick because of you, nothing joyous about ending up in the ICU. Just because we are young does not mean we are invincible. Think about how cringy those TikTokers look when they're caught, how the internet ridicules them. Think about how selfish and stupid they look when they party in spite of the thousands of people locked in their homes. Wouldn't want to look like that, huh? In fact, many Zags could have, what with the former

ZagsUnmasked account using public humiliation to keep people in line. The vigilantism was to be frowned upon, but given current circumstances, I wonder if they had a point. There have been 449,020 lives lost. The end of this pandemic is in sight. With anywhere from four months to a year left, we have to soldier on. In a time as critical as this, we must not lose sight of the end goal. I get that normalcy matters, but we can get there faster if we contain the virus as best we can. So the next time one of us finds ourselves in a potentially risky situation, like a large gathering or dorm-hopping, pause for a second. Think. Is this really worth it? Is putting the well being of yourself or others at risk worth it? Is the embarrassment of getting in trouble worth it? Is the isolation of quarantine worth it? Is the guilt worth it? If you find yourself saying no, remember that there are hundreds of other people like you delaying their gratification and finding new ways to enjoy them now. You are not alone. We are almost there.

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

## Letter to the Editor: Clubs must align with mission

Gonzaga's commitment to social justice is a fundamentally Catholic principle. Social justice is built upon the equal dignity of the human person. This idea is an integral part of GU's mission statement, which states that the GU experience, "fosters a mature commitment to dignity of the human person." If GU desires to live up to its mission statement and Jesuit identity, then it must reject anything that either directly or indirectly is contrary to human dignity. Gonzaga Students for Reproductive Rights comes dangerously close to violating this principle. An article concerning the club published on Jan. 21 reveals facts about the club that should concern anyone with a dedication to human dignity and social justice. The article articulates that the founders of the club originally intended to be affiliated with Planned Parenthood. The initial club, as it was associated with Planned Parenthood, was denied by the administration. The school's rejection was necessary, because Planned Parenthood is an



By IAN WILLNERD

organization that is contrary to human dignity, social justice and Jesuit values. Although the name changed, the club appears to be ideologically aligned with Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood is in the business of abortion. The Church's position on abortion is clear; in 2018 Pope Francis said that abortion "ends an innocent and defenseless life in its blossoming stage... It is like hiring a hit man to solve a problem." Which colorfully depicts the twisted evil of abortion. Abortion violates human dignity in the worst way, for it destroys it all together. True social justice, which always affirms the

dignity of the human person, is deeply opposed to abortion, and consequently Planned Parenthood. Acknowledging that the club has goals, such as real health care products, which are not contrary to social justice and are beneficial to the well-being of students, the club should not be condemned as a whole. This includes the founders, who seem to be well intended people, working to make a positive change on campus and in the world. However, if the club wants to be a part of a Jesuit university committed to social justice, then the club ought to issue a statement that affirms that all humans have a right to life from conception to natural death. This would be a positive step forward for the club establishing itself as a legitimate conduit for good. Ian Willnerd is a sophomore student and seminarian at Bishop White Seminary.

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# DJ DeSmet is in the house

Meet the mysterious duo of DeSmet who brighten cold winter days:  
Justin Gaffney and Rafa Polanco

By ALEXANDER PREVOST

Music unites everyone. No matter what our stories are, a good song can bring even the most unlikely people together. It is what helps make our days brighter. That's what these two sophomores from DeSmet Hall aim to bring to campus this year.

DJ DeSmet is a time-honored tradition on Gonzaga's campus. Each year, a pair of freshmen or sophomores are selected via a pseudo-interview process from the previous DJ DeSmet to take up the mantle the following year.

"It's sort of something that's been going on for a long time. Each year, people bring a receiver and two speakers and we try to play some music as people are walking by," said Rafa Polanco, one half of this year's DJ DeSmet.

Justin Gaffney, a sophomore civil engineering major, and Polanco, a sophomore nursing major, make up DJ DeSmet for the 2020-2021 school year. They ended up receiving the position through their connection to last year's DJ DeSmet.

Prior to their roles, Gaffney and Polanco had very different experiences with music.

"When I came to college last year, I did not know a thing about music," Polanco said. "My music taste was so bad. I was listening to the most basic stuff and then Justin and one of our other friends just really put me on."

In contrast, Gaffney had a much more grounded experience with music. Growing up in Bethesda, Maryland, he always loved going to concerts. He cites his mother as a strong influence on his music taste, enjoying good tunes with her in the car.

Both of them love playing surf rock and alternative rock music most, with a goal of bringing positivity and a movie-mood to campus.

"We try to keep it upbeat," Gaffney said. "Positive. Make people feel like they're in a coming-of-age movie as they're walking by because college is hard. Every day is stressful. Anything we can do to just brighten days and maybe introduce people to some music they didn't know before."

Being on campus, DJ DeSmet will gladly accept requests from interested inquirers, granted they're campus appropriate. Be it a formal request, a recommendation in passing



Justin Gaffney (left), a sophomore civil engineering major and Rafa Polanco (right), a sophomore nursing major, make up the DJ DeSmet duo.



As DJ DeSmet, Polanco enjoys sharing music and brightening other people's days.

conversation or even a note under the door, the DJ duo are always open to expanding their musical palette.

Every year, new DJ DeSmets will try to put their own twist on the role. This year, the two have brought study music to the table.

"There's times when it's 7 p.m. on Thursday night and we'll make a playlist specific to study music — just calm stuff, and we'll throw that on so that if there's someone out there doing homework, they can jam to that," Polanco said.

Things look different for everyone, given the ongoing pandemic. The stress of these days has further encouraged the two of them to a commitment of good energy.

"It all comes back to what we're trying to do — in brightening people's day because there's times where COVID has ruined so much," Polanco said. "It took away part of our freshman year. It took away part of people's senior years. It's affected college students quite a bit."

This sensitivity to the now has steered them away from playing moody or sad music, focusing on upbeat bops.

Each of them have different favorite aspects of their job. For Polanco, it's about sharing music and brightening other people's days. For Gaffney, it's the mystery.

"I kind of like how you're almost like a figure," Gaffney said. "Everyone kind of knows what it is, but not a lot of people know that it's us. It's kind of mysterious in a way, and it's kind of cool

## Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg February 14, 2021

**ACROSS**

1 Treaty

5 Berry bowl berry

9 Thanksgiving pie choice

14 State confidently

15 Ending for "love"

16 Shake, like a tail?

17 Wonder Woman, for Gal Gadot

18 Neglect to mention

19 Stirred up

20 Abnormally favorable arrangement

23 Ring bearer, maybe?

24 Sombrero or fedora

25 "I've got it!"

26 Eve's sound

28 More like a fox

30 Graham cracker brand

33 What something might be worn down to

35 Edge of a shirt sleeve

36 Beef-grading org.

37 Working diligently

40 Ease up, as a storm

42 Not us

43 Misplace

44 Spiegel (German news site)

45 Nickname that rhymes with "Jay"

47 Jem and Scout

50 Perplex

54 It can come after "after"

55 Ants on a

56 Breakfast glassfuls, for short

58 Corn discard

59 Instrument related to an upright

63 Test versions of apps

64 Actor Alan

65 Jason's ship

66 They whiz down snowy hills

67 Plan you ignore on a cheat day

68 Not at all assertive

69 On the ocean

70 Raison d'

71 Signal quality symbols

**DOWN**

1 Breaks down grammatically

2 Open admission

3 Base for a low-calorie green soup

4 Cherry or chestnut

5 Hi, in Hilo

6 "The Iceman \_\_\_\_"

7 Solo for Leontyne Price

8 Business connection?

9 Every 24 hours

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER**

M	I	C	S	C	H	E	F	O	B	I	T	
A	R	Y	A	B	O	A	R	D	L	E	N	O
D	U	C	K	H	U	N	T	E	R	D	A	R
A	L	L	S	O	R	T	S	A	D	I	F	E
T	E	E	P	S	A	E	R	R	O	R		
				D	I	T	C	H	I	D	I	G
N	O	I	F	U	N		I	N	C	H	E	C
E	C	O	N		D	I	N	A	H	G	N	A
R	H	O		L	O	R	D		S	U	D	A
D	O	D	G	E	J	O	U	R	N	E	Y	
				T	U	G	O	N	E	A	U	S
P	O	R	E	S		C	A	S	S	E	T	T
O	P	U	S		S	K	I	R	T	S	T	E
P	A	C	T		P	E	T	E	Y	N	E	R
E	L	K	S		A	G	E	D		A	R	I

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www.upuzzles.com

2/14

**Be My Valentine by Wren Schultz**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22				
23				24				25				27
28				29				30	31			
				33				34				36
37	38	39		40				41				42
43				44				45	46			
47				48				49		50	51	52
54				55				56	57			58
				59				60				62
63								64				65
66								67				68
69								70				71

# Solidarity Requires Accountability



from education to action


Leslie Mac will tackle what true accountability looks like, why this crucial part of anti-racism work is often overlooked, and examples of mechanisms for accountability to utilize.

## Thursday February 18th 6:30 PM (PST)

RSVP on Zagtivities and join with the Zoom link

<https://gonzaga.zoom.us/j/92125090929>





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## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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



# COVID-19 friendly restaurants for a food-lover's Valentine's Day

Commentary by THEA SKOKAN

There are a lot of ways to say, "I love you." There are a lot of gifts to give and paper Valentines to write, but there is no love language truer than that of food. Here is a list of restaurants with COVID-19 accommodations here to help you say those three little words while saying nothing at all:

**Luna, 5620 S. Perry St.**  
Luna is a crowd favorite in Spokane. Located on the South Hill in a converted house, it is likely one of the most cozy and romantic spots you'll ever stumble upon. Luna is a short walk away from The Bluffs, a beautiful lookout point. This is one of the more expensive options but for anyone looking to splurge and make sure it's a memorable night, this is the place to be. Luna is offering reservations in its heated "snow globes" outdoors for anyone over 21. Private, romantic and, most importantly, COVID-19 safe, you can't go wrong. If you already have a romantic atmosphere at home and all you're missing is the food, Luna is offering several Valentine's Day takeout specials including a dessert platter and a takeout package for two.

**One Tree Cider House, 111 S. Madison St.**  
Not only do they boast a large selection of ciders for any couple over 21, but it also has a variety of unique, house-made pizzas and appetizers. To set it apart even more, One Tree is offering a Valentine's Day charcuterie board for two with meats, cheeses, veggies, nuts and jam. There's nothing more romantic for under \$50 out there.

**The Melting Pot, 707 W. Main Ave.**  
Here is your opportunity to utilize that coupon book. In



Osprey offers private "snow globe" seating to compliment its riverfront view.

every Student Media coupon book there is a buy-one-get-one-free four course meal option for The Melting Pot. The value of a free four-course fondue meal is immeasurable, not to mention romantic. You don't even need to tell your date their meal was free. While it is doing in-house seating, The Melting Pot is only giving out a few reservations to remain safe. Reservations can be easily made online with the option for additional romance to be added to your table.

**Osprey, 700 N. Division St.**  
Only a five-minute walk from campus, Osprey offers riverfront views in the privacy of your own "snow globe," similar to the restaurant, Luna. For Valentine's Day, each igloo reservation between Feb. 12-14 will receive a complimentary bottle of wine (if over 21), heated seating and a four-course dinner. If you've ever admired this restaurant on your daily COVID-19 walk along the Centennial Trail, now is your chance to give it a try.

**Crumb Cookies, 3524 N. Government Way Coeur d'Alene**  
Yes, this cookie shop is all the way in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Yes, this cookie shop is technically closed on Sunday's which happens to be Valentine's Day. No, I do not think that should stop you from making this your Valentine's dessert. These cookies are well-known nationwide and a Saturday romantic road trip to get a dozen delicious cookies could be the perfectly unconventional type of Valentine's Day you and your significant other are looking for. Eat six on the way home and save six for the next night, it's a win-win. While you're there, keep an eye out for the Valentine's special, a warm cake batter cookie topped with cake batter cream cheese frosting and heart-shaped sprinkles.

Thea Skokan is a news editor.

## Best Boozy Beverages for 21+ Zags

Commentary by DAGNY ALBANO

With Spokane County still in Phase 1 of Washington's Roadmap to Recovery plan, many Gonzaga students' favorite drinking destinations are closed for indoor dining and drinking. Local restaurants and bars are still providing alcoholic beverages to go, and trying some fun drinks from these places is definitely worth a shot.

**Spokane Comedy Club: 315 W. Sprague Ave.**  
If you're looking to shake things up, head to the Spokane Comedy Club building downtown. The restaurant trio of Fat Boy Wings, Quesadilla Queen and Spokane Breakfast Company offer an assortment of specialty alcoholic milkshakes including "Drunken Peanut Butter Cup" with Sheep Dog peanut butter whiskey. Patrons can also add a shot of booze to any of their classic flavors such as vanilla, chocolate or cinnamon toast crunch. Alcoholic beverages must be purchased with food from any of the three available menus.

**Downriver Grill: 3315 W. Northwest Blvd.**  
Looking for a drink to help make Sunday morning brunch mimoso-so-sweet? Downriver Grill offers mimosas and Bloody Marys for pick up and staff favorites include Blood Orange and Lavender Mint mimosas. Downriver Grill also offers evening cocktails,

so drop by (maybe give it a few hours after you've tried their brunch?) and snag a Huckleberry Lemon Drop, Snowbird or Tequila Ora. These cocktails come in adorable mason jars that can easily be repurposed into cute house decorations. Or, you know, you could just mix another drink in it later on.

**Gilded Unicorn: 110 South N. Monroe St.**  
If you're in a group and are looking to grab cocktails for a night in, the Gilded Unicorn downtown offers cocktail kits for four. Staff favorites here include the Unicorn Old Fashioned, the Morgana and the Mezcal Negroni, which contains an intoxicating mix of Mezcal, Cynar and Lo-Fi Amaro. The Gilded Unicorn also offers all to-go cocktails in individual portions.

**Elk Public House: 1931 W. Pacific Ave.**  
The Elk Public House offers both cocktail kits and to-go cocktails from their menu. If you don't know where to be-gin, try an Orange or Lemon Sidecar, as recommended by the staff. Not in the mood for a specialty cocktail? The Elk also offers \$10 growler fills or \$15 wine bottles. I mean, come on, wine not try one of these?

**GLOBE Bar & Kitchen: 204 N. Division St.**  
The GLOBE Bar & Kitchen also offers some

pretty marti-neat specialty cocktails like the Pornstar Martini, Thyme after Thyme or Smokey the Pear. If it makes you hoppiier, enjoy a growler of beer to go along with something off their brand new food menu, which features delicious daily specials.

**Rincon Tapatio: 1212 N. Hamilton St.**  
If you feel like you're drowning in homework and want to take a moment to relax, swim with the fishes by ordering a fishbowl to go from Rincon Tapatio on Hamilton Street, located just off-campus. If you need a recommendation, I'd man-go with the mango fishbowl.

**Illinois Ave. Bar and Grill: 1403 E. Illinois Ave.**  
Looking tequila few hours at home with the roommates? Order some Tequila Sunrises and a few appetizers or meals from Illinois Avenue Bar and Grill. All of their to-go cocktails, which also include margaritas and White Russians, are carefully packaged to ensure a safe and legal drive home.

**Bistango Lounge: 108 N. Post St.**  
If you want to bring a whole new meaning to lounging around the house, downtown's Bistango Lounge re-opened on Feb. 9 and is serving a handful of cocktails to go. The lounge muddles fresh ingredients in lots of their cocktails, making them

tough to serve for takeout, so be sure to call ahead and see if your cocktail of choice is available to-go.

**Logan Tavern: 1305 N. Hamilton St.**  
For those who are looking to spice things up while staying as close to campus as possible, try a staff favorite spicy margarita at the Logan Tavern, which recently reopened for takeout. The tavern's website is updated daily with all available food and drink options to-go.

**Jack and Dan's: 1226 N. Hamilton St.**  
**The Star Bar: 1329 N. Hamilton St.**  
Even though some other GU favorite drinking destinations are not offering to-go drinks right now, local bar owners have plans for grand returns. Jack and Dan's plans to reopen their doors at 50% capacity within the next few weeks. The Star Bar is also currently open with a covered and heated patio, serving up plenty of Kamikazes, Long Islands and Washington Apples.

Our local bars and restaurants are working hard to come up with crafty ways to get us the drinks we hold near and dear to our hearts. So, I encourage my fellow Zags to try to stay in high spirits and support our local businesses by getting drinks to go. Cheers!

Dagny Albano is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter @dagny\_albano.

## Bulletin Cook Book week 2: Roasted pesto gnocchi

Commentary by GEORGIA COSOLA

Classes, homework, extracurriculars and jobs fill up student schedules to the brim. Add in thinking about cooking and taking the time out to make multiple meals a week that are healthy and convenient? Forget about it.

But there is no need to resort to the quick, frozen meals that can get repetitive after just a few days. It is possible to have convenience, nutrition and deliciousness all in a quick meal. Able to be made in one pan, minimal cleanup and hands-off cooking makes this delicious roasted pesto gnocchi dish accessible for anyone who has access to a pan and oven.

**Roasted Pesto Gnocchi**  
**Ingredients:**  
1 Package of Gnocchi  
1/2 Cup Pesto  
10 Cherry Tomatoes  
½ Red Onion  
1 Small Zucchini  
Handful of Arugula

**Steps**  
Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.  
While oven is preheating, wash and cut red onion and zucchini into

chunks. Wash and slice cherry tomatoes in half.  
In 9-by-13-inch pan (or any other size pan you have) mix red onion, zucchini and cherry tomatoes with a drizzle of olive oil.  
Season mixture with a pinch of salt, pepper, garlic powder, Italian seasoning and red pepper flakes to your liking.  
Mix in gnocchi and ¼ cup of pesto in the pan together. Distribute mixture evenly across the pan.  
Bake in preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes on middle rack.  
Take out and mix remaining ¼ cup pesto, add arugula and enjoy!  
Garnish with parmesan cheese, fresh basil or additional spices.  
Add any other veggies to roast that you might have in your fridge that may be going bad or you simply want to eat. I have added bell peppers and mushrooms and it was delicious.  
Any kind of gnocchi you can find works. If I crave a healthier option, I usually go for the frozen kale or cauliflower gnocchi from Trader Joe's. Please note, you may have to adjust roasting time accordingly with frozen gnocchi. An extra five minutes in the oven will do the trick.  
As for pesto, I usually opt for the Trader Joe's Vegan Kale Pesto. Nonetheless, any kind of store bought pesto will do wonders for this dish.  
Gnocchi reheats well. Add in fresh tomatoes—or other fresh veggies — and a balsamic glaze after cooling to create a fun gnocchi pasta salad.

Georgia Cosola is a staff writer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIA COSOLA

Roasted pesto gnocchi is a nutritious and tasty one-pan meal that Zags can make in a pinch.

Somewhere down the line you're going to wish you had a special memento from your college years to remember all the good times life had to offer.

Devan

The designs are pretty edgy!

Marianne

The yearbook is important because it is a printed book that highlights the year through words, pictures, and design.

Natalie

Reserve your 2021 Spires yearbook today at

commerce.cashnet.com/spub

questions?  
Email spires@gonzaga.edu



# XC goes stride for stride

By TOMMY CONMY

Gonzaga's most lactic-acid-filled group of athletes are running toward three grueling seasons of competition condensed into a six-month span this spring thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the cancellation of the 2020 track season and the postponement of the cross-country season, the NCAA scheduled the cross championship race this year on March 15, two days after the indoor track and field championships conclude on March 13. The outdoor track and field championships are scheduled for June 9-12.

Despite this condensed schedule, expectations run high for each respective program.

"We have big goals," said Pat Tyson, director of cross country. "We will compete against No. 1 BYU and No. 10 Portland. From there, get that birth to Stillwater, Oklahoma."

The men's team began the season ranked fifth in the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) West Regional XC poll and received votes in the National poll as well. The No. 5 ranking marks the highest the Bulldogs have ever ascended in the poll after beginning last season at No. 7. National publication Stride Report ranked the Bulldogs as No. 20 in the nation.

On the women's side, Assistant Coach Steve Surface has equally lofty expectations for his group.

"The expectations for the team are as high as they've been since I've been at Gonzaga," Surface said. "Our group believes that we can move ourselves up at the Conference level, regional level and hopefully put ourselves in a position to race into March."

The women's team began its campaign slated at No. 13 in the West Regional XC poll. Both teams will focus primarily on cross country this spring, shifting their focus to outdoor track after nationals.

Running is an inherently team-oriented pursuit and the pandemic challenged that reality as teammates were separated for months at a time. To curb the woes of no longer being able to train and spend time together at school, Tyson said that the men's team stayed connected over Zoom.

Fitness is crucial to a cross country athlete's success and Tyson said the men's team had "eye-opening" time trials that were "shocking" to kick the year off.

Perhaps the most fit man on campus, James Mwaura will lead the charge for the Zags this year after qualifying and competing in the NCAA D1 National Championship race in 2019. He is only the second Zag to compete at the national championships. Mwaura is one of the most highly touted recruits GU has ever signed and has lived up to that billing so far, already achieving school



The return of runners like redshirt junior Alex Walde adds depth and support to a men's roster headed by James Mwaura.

records in both the 5K and 10K in outdoor track.

"As of right now we are putting a lot of emphasis on cross country rather than indoor, the goal for us as a team is to make it to nationals," Mwaura said. "Last year we were close to making it so with everyone returning I think we have a good shot of making it."

Aiding Mwaura in the chase for a team bid to the national meet is redshirt senior Ben Hogan who joined Mwaura on the USTFCCCA All-West region team last season.

A majority of the men's team didn't compete at the highest levels of high school running before coming to GU. That makes the development of this group even more special for Tyson as he has his most talented group of runners yet during his time at GU.

Tyson said that the runners are learning about the joy of building a team and thinking beyond themselves, which he said has put value into competing alongside one another.

Surface took a different approach in maintaining the fitness of his 31 athletes for the women's team.

"We didn't fake energy," Surface said. "We embraced each day for what it was emotionally and moved through it. We did the best we could each day with the training task in front of us but didn't fake it. We felt like faking energy was a short-term solution."

One of the runners leading the charge for the Zags in this unusual season will be sophomore Paxton DePoe. Just after accomplishing a personal record in the mile last indoor track season, DePoe and her teammates learned their season would be canceled.

"It was honestly devastating," DePoe said.

"I just had to trust my fitness and be ready for any opportunity to compete."

Same as with other programs, the women's team had to train resiliently for months last year without their teammates.

"There came a point as a team where we had to move past grieving our loss of a spring track season and decide to put in the work," DePoe said. "Training solo over the summer and winter break felt like a big obstacle at some points but knowing that all my teammates were putting in the same effort helped me get through all the lonely long runs."

Helping the Zags to achieve their team goals will be junior transfer from the University of Wisconsin Kristen Garcia. Garcia paced the Zags to a fourth-place team finish in GU's first and only competition this season before the West Coast Conference Championship (WCC) meet, running the 5K course in 17:32.1, good enough for 15th in the race and eighth all time at GU over that distance. Three more Zags finished within the top 30 at the Oregon XC Open to guide GU to a solid season debut.

The performance from the Zags lays a solid foundation for a year in which the Zags have high internal expectations. "As a team, we see ourselves competing at nationals," DePoe said. "We know that that's where we want to be, and we are working hard to make it a reality."

The men's team will run their first race at the WCC Championships on Feb. 24 as their season opener against No. 1 BYU and No. 10 University of Portland in Eugene, Oregon was canceled due to COVID-19.

Tommy Conmy is a staff writer.

## GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Feb. 11

- Women's soccer vs. Southern Utah, 3:30 p.m.
- Women's basketball vs. University of San Francisco, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 13

- Men's tennis vs. Seattle University, 11 a.m.
- Women's basketball vs. Santa Clara University, 2 p.m.
- Men's basketball vs. University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, 3 p.m.
- Women's tennis vs. Montana State University, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 14

- Volleyball vs. Saint Mary's, 1 p.m.
- Women's tennis vs. Washington State University, 2:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 8

- Women's golf vs. Rebel Beach Intercollegiate Day One (Spanish Trail CC), Las Vegas, NV.
- Women's soccer vs. Eastern Washington, 1 p.m.
- Volleyball vs. Saint Mary's, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

- Men's Tennis vs. University of Idaho, 5 p.m.

\*All home games in bold\*

# Spring 2021 Student Journal Submission

Deadline February 12th

Submit your poetry, essays, art & more today at [www.gonzaga.edu/smsubmit](http://www.gonzaga.edu/smsubmit)





# Swinging for high expectations

With a veteran-heavy squad, Gonzaga men's golf tees off its season with high hopes

By COLE FORSMAN

The Gonzaga University men's golf season is officially in full swing (pun intended) for the 2021 campaign following an abrupt end to last year's season due to COVID-19.

"We're just ready to compete again," said Chris Mogg, a graduate student. "We did all of the little things to get ourselves ready for this and our team is in a great position."

The Zags began last season with a rocky start before a strong finish in the winter. In the fall of 2019, GU struggled considerably, with its best finish of ninth place at the Oregon State Invitational coming in October. This would also be the team's only top ten finish before the new year.

Prior to the cancellation of the remaining schedule, however, the Bulldogs found a groove at The Joust in Jurupa Valley, California, last February. Sitting in seventh place heading into the second day, GU would end the tournament with a fourth-place finish behind senior redshirt Matthew Ruel, who shot a 214 (+4) over the two-day stretch. Junior Zach Stocker also cracked the top 20 by shooting a 220 (+10).

That momentum from the winter will have to carry over to 2021 if the Zags are to regain their competitive nature in the West Coast Conference (WCC). GU has not had a top five finish in the WCC tournament since 2016, which also marks the last time the team appeared in the NCAA tournament.

"We know we can go out and compete and beat these teams," Ruel said. "It's just a matter of believing in ourselves and trusting what we've been doing."

For this to happen, it will most likely fall on the shoulders and swing of Ruel. The Florida native led the team last season with an average score of 72.4 in five tournaments with multiple outstanding individual performances.

His lowest round of the season came in the Ka'anapali Collegiate Classic where he shot a 67 (-4), a score he would match later in the season at The Joust. He also finished inside the top 25 at the Nick Watney Invitational after three consecutive sub-70 scores. The recent success can be attributed to a positive mindset change, Ruel said.

"I always wanted to prove to everyone else that I could compete," Ruel said. "What



COURTESY OF GONZAGA ATHLETICS

**Fifth-year senior Matt Ruel and the Gonzaga men's golf team are ready to compete once again in the 2021 season.**

helped me last year is that I had to just go out there and play my own game."

Joining Ruel for another season is Stocker, who had quite a productive first season with the Zags. In 14 rounds of golf he averaged a 73.6 score with his best individual round coming in the Nick Watney Invitational where he shot a 69 (-2).

And, by the grace of the NCAA, Chris Mogg was granted another year of eligibility, which means the Sammamish native will appear as a graduate student for the 2021 season. In his three events last season, Mogg averaged a 78.25 score. And now, with another year of eligibility, he has a chance to compete for a WCC title.

"That's the biggest reason why I came back," Mogg said. "I want to be a part of this team because I want to see us do something that I haven't seen in my four years."

The Zags will also welcome a new wave of talent to this year's roster. Talented freshmen Jace Minni and Andrew Reinhardt are set to join the ranks, along with redshirt sophomore Keith Lobis.

Reigning from Delta, B.C., Minni comes to GU as one of the best golfers in Canada for his age. Not only was he the 2019 British

Columbia Golf Junior Player of the Year, but he also won the Vancouver Zone 4 Amateur that same year. The fifth-best golf prospect from the class of 2020 was even named to the Delta Sports Hall of Fame for his outstanding career, cementing his legacy as one of the region's finest.

Reinhardt, from Portland, was also quite the golfer coming out of Jesuit High School. The third-ranked prospect of 2020's class was 2019 Class 6A Oregon State champion after finishing three-under to take the crown. He was also among a select few from his region to advance to the 45th Boys' Junior PGA Championship following rounds of 68-73.

"They're going to be two freshmen who come in and compete for qualifying spots," Ruel said. "I have faith in these two guys and I know they have great careers ahead of them."

After two years of no competition, Lobis is finally ready to join his fellow Zags out on the course for 2021. In high school, he won the Class 4A GSHL District Championship both 2016 and 2017 and was an All-Region selection twice while at Union High School. The Camas, Wash. native also performed on the international stage, as he finished in the top 25 out of 160 golfers at the 2017 Optimist

International Junior Golf Championships.

"[Lobis] has definitely made some strides since he came in as a freshman," Mogg said. "All areas of his game have come together."

To kick off the season, the Bulldogs will travel to Fresno to play in the Nick Watney Invitational on Feb. 8 for the two day event. The team will then stay in California for the Wyoming Desert Intercollegiate just 10 days later before heading down south to Texas for the Colin Montgomerie HBU Invitational.

The second half of the schedule features some familiar locations for the Zags. The team will head to Eugene, Oregon, for the Duck Invitational followed up with a trip to Seattle for the Seattle Redhawk Invitational on March 29. GU will wrap up the regular season after competing in the Cougar Classic in Provo, Utah.

"As a team, it doesn't matter what the course is, the West Coast Conference Championship is the biggest event," Mogg said.

The Zags have quite the road ahead of them if they are to hoist the WCC trophy in Henderson, Nevada, in late April.

*Cole Forsman is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter: @CGForsman.*

## GU women's golf prepare fore what's in store in 2021

By DAGNY ALBANO

After a record-breaking 2019-2020 season cut short by COVID-19, the Gonzaga women's golf team is ready to hit the course competitively for the first time in over nine months.

In fall 2020, the Zags were gaining momentum as they earned back-to-back team tournament wins at the Coeur D'Alene Resort Collegiate Invitational, their home tournament, and the Pat Lesser Harbottle Invitational hosted by Seattle University. At that tournament, the Zags posted school record-low 18- and 36-hole scores, propelling the team to a 13-shot victory. Junior Quynn Duong also took home medalist honors with an individual win, finishing at -7 overall and a four-stroke victory.

As the team was performing at their highest level yet, the quickening spread of COVID-19 caused the spring season to come to a screeching halt.

"Coming into the spring semester, we were super excited, we had high expectations for ourselves to do well and make it into the postseason, but of course COVID cut it short," said fifth-year golfer Jessica Mangrobang, who is utilizing her extra year of eligibility granted by the NCAA to continue leading the Zags this season.

The Zags have had to wait even longer to build on last fall's success with the competition canceled in fall 2020. The 2020-2021 season is limited to just the spring, with the highly-anticipated West Coast Conference (WCC) tournament occurring at the end of this shortened season.

The team has been working hard on re-developing routines during this unusually long break from competition. They want to be prepared to combat any hesitation or



COURTESY OF QUINN DUONG

**Last years women's golf team poses in Las Vegas: sophomore Cassie Kim, junior Quynn Duong, junior Federica Torre, fifth year senior Jessica Mangrobang and junior Alyssa Nguyen.**

trouble with getting back into the competitive mentality, since there is still so much uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and its potential effects on this spring season.

Another added challenge for the Zags has been finding ways to practice outside in Spokane's winter weather.

"We're trying our best to travel to Tri-Cities, or Walla Walla, or Moses Pointe in order to practice outside so that we can have practice on grass instead of just being inside hitting on mats," Mangrobang said.

Seeking out those opportunities will give the Zags a better chance at success with tournament play beginning next week.

This spring the Zags are predicted to finish fourth in the conference. Duong and Mangrobang have both been selected onto the All-WCC Preseason team based on votes

from the five league coaches. But Mangrobang believes that everyone on this year's team has potential to fill a leadership role, which could help propel the Zags to an even more successful spring campaign.

"Honestly, that's the funny thing about our team, is that everyone could be a leader. I don't think there's such thing as seniority or age in terms of our group because we just see each other as equals and we just help each other whenever we can," Mangrobang said.

The main factor fueling the Zags' motivation this semester is getting back into the competitive mindset that comes with regularly participating in tournaments.

"I love competing, I love being able to perform under pressure, so I just really miss the tournament setting," Duong said.

The Zags' spring 2021 schedule features six

tournaments along the West Coast, providing the team with the opportunity to travel, which hasn't happened since last fall.

"It's been a while since we've traveled, so I'm just really excited to go back out there and start playing tournaments again," Duong said.

While some tournaments on the schedule will be new to the Zags, other venues are more familiar, which returning Zags are excited for.

"I'm excited for the Red Rocks Invitational since we've already played that one. So we have a little bit of experience there," Duong said.

Traveling and competing in tournaments regularly will also allow the team to get back into the rhythm of competition and hopefully gain momentum throughout the season.

"I prefer having tournaments more frequently so that you're just constantly in that [competitive] mindset," Mangrobang said.

Mangrobang also noted she and the rest of the team are excited to hit the ground running in order to make the most out of this one-semester season. Between the mental preparation and the effort the squad has taken to maximize their practice opportunities, the team is optimistic about the season.

This year's squad also has strength in numbers, boasting the largest team in recent years. A larger team could lead to a higher standard of play and further elevate the team's performance.

"This is the biggest team that we've had in a while, so it's super competitive even within the team right now," Duong said. "I think this is the best that we've been in a long time."

The Zags open their season on Feb. 15 at the Rebel Beach Intercollegiate tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada.

*Dagny Albano is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @dagny\_albano.*

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