

The Gonzaga Bulletin

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Anonymous Instagram account @zagsunmasked exposes students without masks

By MILA YOCH

An anonymous account on Instagram known as @zagsunmasked posted its first photo of two students walking on GU's campus on Aug. 28, one with a mask covering her nose, the other with her mask off the face and pulled under her chin, the caption written with the message "#ProtectOurZags" and a heart emoji. Since then, this account has garnered 712 followers and has posted 16 photos of students without a mask and without context in the captions. All posts contain the hashtag "#ProtectOurZags."

The Gonzaga Bulletin reached out to the @zagsunmasked account on Sept. 3.

Since then @zagsunmasked have said "no comment," and suggested they feared for their safety. In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, GU and Spokane have asked that the Spokane college community take proper COVID-19 protection measures, as mentioned in a letter from the Spokane Regional Health District, asking that students "take care of your own health, and those closest to you, by wearing face coverings." GU has made an effort to implement COVID-19 mask wearing responsibility, distributing free masks to students and posting signs around campus, alerting

students that masks were mandatory while on campus. Other U.S. universities have closed due to COVID-19, like University of North Carolina Chapel Hill that reversed its plan for in-person classes after 130 students tested positive for COVID-19. Thus, there is a real fear in the Zag community of GU being shut down and students being sent home to conduct remote-only courses. "When you don't wear a mask you put other students, parents, teachers and our community in the Logan [Neighborhood] in danger. #ProtectOurZags," said the account in their saved Instagram story

titled "Why?" The community response has been less than positive, including from those who were featured on the account, like senior Carsyn Kniss. In the photo Kniss is featured in, she was crossing Sharp Avenue from campus with her four roommates. "Two of us took down our masks for just maybe 30 seconds, because there was no one near us and it was a very hot day," Kniss said. "We had just finished walking for over an hour around campus with our masks on, and we just quickly caught our breath, which is when the photo was

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GU works to virtualize mental health services

By SOFIA CHAVEZ

Nearly a week after move-in, Gonzaga students are busy adjusting back into college life after months of pandemic-induced isolation. Meanwhile, members of the GU staff are also facing a daunting task: altering university resources to function in a virtual world. GU's Health & Counseling Services is one of the main campus resources for students seeking mental health support, receiving over 600 psychiatric visits in 2019. But since counseling necessitates contact, members of the counseling team have been forced to innovate in order to best serve students in the context of a pandemic.

"COVID-19 has definitely changed the landscape for counseling at Gonzaga University," Kristiana Holmes, the director of Health & Counseling Services at GU said. While the approach to student counseling has not changed, the format of sessions and appointments has. Holmes said that counseling services are currently being offered through Zoom, though students undergoing crisis situations are able to interact with a counselor in person. In person sessions may also be an option for students whose specific circumstances cannot be accurately dealt with in a



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

In the midst of experiencing a staff change, Health & Counseling Services is transitioning mental health support to online formats. virtual space. But the transition has not been easy. "Counselors have had to learn how to engage in tele-mental health visits in a short period of time," Holmes said. Adding to the pressure, this shift is also occurring in the midst of a crucial staff change, with the board-certified GU psychiatrist resigning, in good terms, following the end of the summer semester. Holmes said that efforts are being made to fill this position and that there are various structures of support in place to provide psychiatric care and medication management. One of those measures is the GU partnership with Psychiatric Residency Spokane and other community partners. Fortunately, in spite of many curveballs thrown at Holmes and her team, counseling staff and students alike have reported that virtual sessions have

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On-campus in isolation: Spaces for COVID-19

By DEVAN IYOMASA

In the event a student living on-campus tests positive for COVID-19, Gonzaga has repurposed two of its residence halls to serve as isolation units capable of housing up to 75 students. According to Taylor Jordan, GU's COVID-19 coordinator, there are 43 beds available in Roncalli House and 32 beds available in the Sharp Apartments. On-campus students who test positive for COVID-19 will be housed in Roncalli House, whereas students who are awaiting test results and unable to self-isolate while exhibiting symptoms will be housed in the Sharp Apartments. "We use two separate places to avoid exposures to students who are symptomatic but not confirmed positive, from students who are confirmed to have COVID-19," Jordan said via email. "They may have the flu, or some other illness, and we do not want these students to be exposed to COVID-19 while they wait for their results." Students who test positive will be required to stay in their isolation unit for at least 10 days after the onset of their symptoms or positive test result if asymptomatic and can be released after being fever free for 24 hours. Each unit is a single-occupancy room and has two sets of linens and a microwave for students' use. Meals will be delivered to students once a day, which will include their lunch, dinner and breakfast for the next day. Students will communicate with a Sodexo dietitian who arranges their individualized

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Diversity, Inclusion, Community, & Equity (DICE) active BLM programs

BLACK LIVES MATTER

#SayTheirName

Exhibit on Herak Lawn

Wed Sept. 9 - Wed Sept. 16

In memoriam of the unarmed Black people who have died as a result of police brutality.

Sept. 15

Black Lives Matter & The Catholic Church with Olga Segura

In this program hosted by the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC), in collaboration with the Office of Mission and Ministry, students will converse with Olga Segura on the role of the Catholic Church in the fight against racism.

Sept. 29

John Lewis: Get in the Way

A viewing and discussion of this documentary of John Lewis, a civil rights advocate and congressman.

Oct. 5

Talk About It Monday: It's Not About Good Cops vs. Bad Cops

A look into why the "good cop vs. bad cop" argument fails to address systemic problems with policing in America.

Oct. 23

Calling in the Calling Out Culture with Loretta Ross

Author and human rights leader Loretta Ross discusses how we can create a calling in culture instead of a calling out culture. This is a joint program between the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Resource Center and UMEC.

For more information on how to register for each program and for the full DICE calendar, visit <https://tinyurl.com/DICECalendar>. Each event is also listed on Zagtivities.

PROGRAMS CALENDAR BY MELINA BENJAMIN

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meal plan while taking into account any allergies or dietary restrictions.

Students may bring anything they want with them when entering isolation but are advised to bring enough essential items for two weeks such as clothes, toiletries and academic material. Deliveries can be coordinated if a student forgets an essential item.

As for students living off-campus in the Spokane area, GU has been collaborating with the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) to identify available options.

Off-campus students who test positive for COVID-19 will communicate with a GU contact tracer as well as an SRHD case investigator for guidance on how to properly self-isolate.

“If an off-campus student cannot safely isolate in their space, Gonzaga will work with the SRHD to safely remove that student from that space so that roommates can quarantine separately from the student who tested positive,” Jordan said via email.

Kristiana Holmes, the director of Health & Counseling Services, says that during the isolation process, both on and off-campus

students will have a multitude of resources to available to them.

“The COVID-19 coordinator and contact tracers are part of [the COVID-19 Action Response Team] (CART) and work with entities such as Housing and Residence Life, Sodexo Dining Services, Health and Counseling Services, Plant Services, academics, the Center for Cura Personalis and others to ensure students have what they need during isolation,” Holmes said via email.

According to guidelines set by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), those who self-isolate at home should stay in a separate room from other house members and use separate bathrooms when possible. The CDC also recommends avoiding contact with house members as much as possible and not sharing personal items such as silverware and towels.

If students have tested positive, have any known exposure or have any questions related to COVID-19, they can contact GU’s COVID-19 hotline at (509)-313-7070.

Devan Iyomasa is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @devaniyomasa.



Two residents halls, Sharp Apartments (pictured) and Roncalli House on campus have been repurposed to hold up to 75 students in the event that isolation is needed.

UNMASKED

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taken.”

Kniss and her roommates who were photographed were also tagged in the photo.

“It just felt like a huge invasion of privacy and a step in the wrong direction for helping people wear masks,” Kniss said. “It was stressful, upsetting and annoying seeing myself, and my friends tagged and shown on this page in this way.”

For junior Makayla Smith, she had a more indifferent outlook to being featured on the account.

“I don’t really care, just because I know what my intentions were and I know that I didn’t have any malicious intent,” Smith said.

Both Kniss and Smith agree that the @zagsunmaked account should have approached the mask situation in a different manner.

“The person who’s taking these pictures and posting them, they’re just assuming things about people that they’re taking pictures of,” Smith said.

These Instagram posts recieved backlash. The @zagsunmasked account released a statement on Sept. 1 on to their story, writing a paragraph response to the most common comments, including “this is illegal / you don’t have consent,” “this isn’t the right way to go about it” and “this is bullying/harassment.”

In response to the accusation of bullying and harassment, @zagsunmasked stated that “bullying implies a power imbalance or sense of vulnerability to the subject,” citing the National Centre Against Bullying’s definition of bullying.

According to GU’s Student Code of Conduct, under the general standards of conduct’s non-exhaustive list of actions and behaviors that are inconsistent with university expectations where alleged participation in such conduct may result in the initiation of student conduct procedures, “abusive or harassing behavior, including but not limited to stalking, unwelcome communication, unauthorized making or use of any audio, video or photographic record or image of person without that person’s prior knowledge or effective consent when such conduct may reasonably cause injury or distress.”

The account was brought to the attention of GU administration. On Sept. 2, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Kent Porterfield and Gonzaga Student Body Association President, Fese Elango, sent “A Call for Community” to the student body via email addressing the @zagsunmasked Instagram account.

“While everyone should be wearing a face covering on campus and in the Spokane community, we do not condone shaming and blaming as an efficient strategy, and it truly does not reflect our Zag values for helping and supporting one another,” Porterfield and Elango said in the email. “While the intent of the Instagram account may be to address the risks of not wearing a face covering on campus, the impact is that Zag students are being shamed and hurt, which is never acceptable.”

In response to the letter, the @zagsunmasked account posted twice to their story.

“We’re not going anywhere. Changes are afoot,” @zagsunmasked said in their first post. They followed it with a letter posted to their story noting GU doesn’t condone their account and that they “don’t condone their lack of enforcement on COVID-19 policy.”

“When we can trust Gonzaga is doing everything they can to keep our whole community safe, we will pass the torch.

Until then, we have no choice but to help keep our community safe in our own way,” @zagsunmasked said, in a story post.

The post ended with the account disabling comments for the sake of the safety of the administrators on the account, the people making submissions and “other students with no connection who are actively being pursued and bullied.

As of Sept. 2, comments have not been turned back on.

In light of this situation, Porterfield hopes students will help one another.

“[Elango and I] were appealing to students to find positive and supportive ways to help and hold each other accountable for keeping our campus safe during this pandemic,” Porterfield said in an email to the Gonzaga Bulletin regarding the letter.

Some students have really taken to this message, finding positivity and humor through the situation.

Accounts like @zagpraise on Instagram and @zagshame on Twitter. These accounts have attempted to make light of the situation, posting positive student photos or funny tweets poking fun at @zagsunmasked.

“

[Elango and I] were appealing to students to find positive and supportive ways to help hold each other accountable for keeping our campus safe during this pandemic.

Kent Porterfield, Vice Provost of Student Affairs

Sophomore Eva Palmer, the owner of @zagpraise, agrees with what @zagsunmasked was attempting to do, but disliked the execution.

“In a time when confusion is really high and uncertainty is present, we need to be just kind and positive more than anything,” Palmer said.

Palmer made her account to create space where all Zags are welcomed, asking for permission to post and tag student photos.

“It’s just a safe and welcoming place for Zags to promote mask wearing but in a more proactive way,” Palmer said.

On a similar note, @zagshame on Twitter has taken to posting humorous tweets that poke fun at the @zagsunmasked account, posting things like “Why am I the only one in my Zoom classes with my mask on? This makes no sense.”

@Zagshame owner, senior Hunter Ward, thought making a parody would be a funny way to address the situation.

“The whole purpose of the parody account is really highlighting the stuff that is absolutely ridiculous about [@zagsunmasked],” Ward said.

As the semester continues, GU encourages the community to protect the health, safety and welfare of themselves as well as one another.

Mila Yoch is digital editor. Follow her on Twitter: @milagrosyoch.



Virtual counseling sessions have been more successful than originally anticipated.

SERVICES

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been much more successful than anticipated.

In addition to GU’s Health & Counseling Services, other mental health resources are made available by the Center for Cura Personalis (CCP).

“Our main role as resource brokers, as we like to say, is identifying what is needed, figuring out those resources that are available, then helping students navigate those resources,” Sean Joy, case manager, said.

The CCP team has also been instrumental in connecting students to counseling resources both on- and off-campus, including connecting students to various campus partners within the Spokane community.

Joy said that CCP strives to align with the Jesuit value of accompaniment, meaning that it works alongside students to find what works for them, and eventually helps them learn to self-advocate.

The values and missions of CCP are unaltered, but the extraordinary circumstances brought about by the coronavirus have forced Joy and his team to be creative with connecting with students.

“We have worked really hard to make sure that our resources and ability to connect with students can still be maintained,” Joy said.

For CCP, which prides itself on being personable and warm with students, this has involved a lot of flexibility and adaptation. CCP has been innovative in providing its services virtually.

Appointments with case managers like Joy are still offered for students in need of mental health resources, though they are now almost solely available through phone and video conferencing services like Zoom. Virtual meetings can be scheduled by email.

Students can also schedule an appointment by scanning a QR code available both on CCP social media platforms and on a posted sign in front of the Crosby Student Center.

Crucially, students and faculty members are also still able to refer

potentially struggling students to CCP via an online referral form on the GU website at www.gonzaga.edu/refer.

Similar to the Health & Counseling Services, the CCP staff still offers in-person consultations in crisis-response situations, allowing at-risk members of the GU community to access necessary assistance.

The efforts of CCP to offer extensive support to students is a reflection of the belief in the importance of resources for college students. Joy said that, for many students, mental health has never been a conversation until coming to college.

“Having resources, specifically around mental health, are tools and pieces that help folks thrive,” Joy said.

While those resources inevitably look different in the context of a pandemic, Joy said he believes they are more necessary than ever, especially when mixed emotions surrounding the coronavirus may exacerbate student stress.

His beliefs are not unfounded. While college students have long been plagued by distinct rates of depression and suicidal ideation, recent data provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests that this has grown since the start of COVID-19.

The difficult combination of loss, isolation and financial hardship, among other factors, can have monumental impacts on college students, many of whom already display high levels of stress.

With this knowledge, Holmes, Joy and other members of the GU counseling team are dedicated to extending their care even during difficult circumstances.

“I hope our students feel love and support all around them. We are here for them,” Joy said. “If they need support, we are here to guide and figure stuff out together.”

Sofia Chavez is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @sofia_chavez2.

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Labor Day weekend flies by

Each year students send off summer by celebrating the Labor Day



Sage Saplan falls from the sky during a skydiving experience over Labor Day weekend.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAGE SAPLAN



Sage Saplan and Colby Richards, pose in the hanger of skydiving facility "West Planes" during the long weekend. For a full gallery of student submitted pictures go to gonzagabulletin.com.

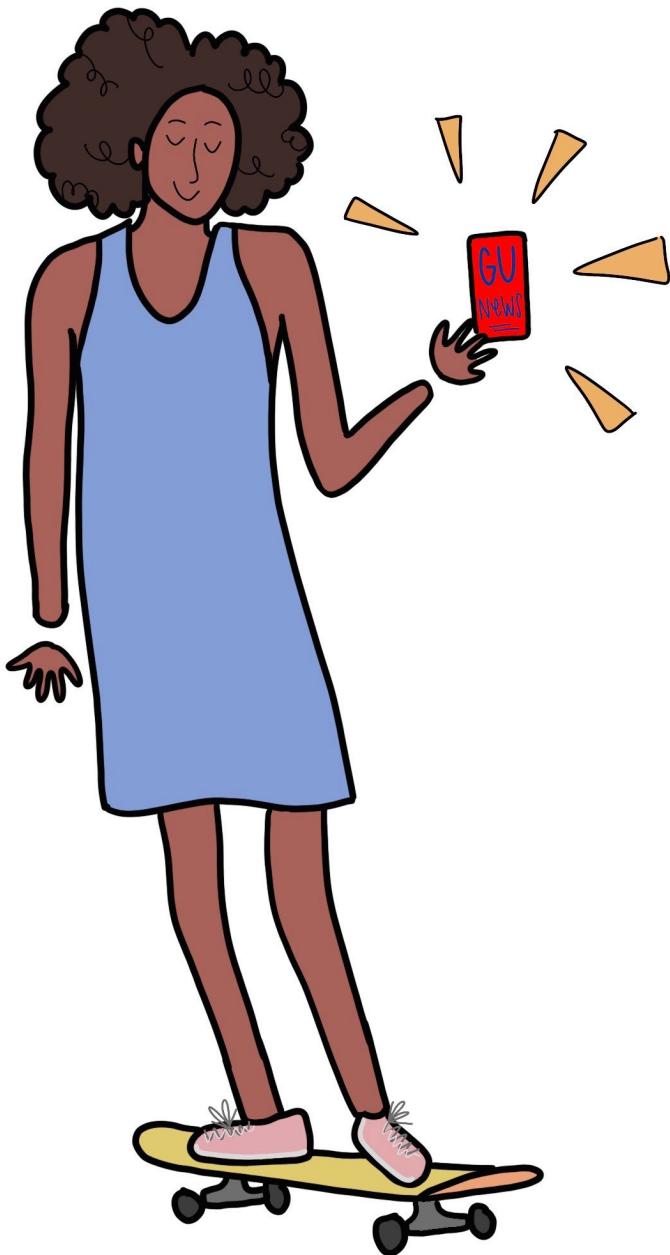
PHOTO COURTESY OF SAGE SAPLAN



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK RIEGEL

Flipping into the weekend was how some students celebrated the day off at Tubbs Hill in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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Letter to the editor: Sodexo is antithetical to Gonzaga’s mission

Zag Dining employees love working for Gonzaga University, because you, the students and larger community, make it such a rewarding experience. However Sodexo, the corporation that GU contracts for Zag Dining purposes, treats its employees in unfair ways that undermine the university’s mission and ultimately harms the community.

It’s important to note that Sodexo hires Spokane community members as well as GU students, and it tends to fail at upholding, as the Mission Statement says, “a mature commitment to the dignity of the human person” for either population.

Thus, as someone raised in Spokane who then worked for Sodexo while attending GU, and continued to do so when my status as a student changed, I can speak to the inhumane shortcomings to both demographics of workers.

I started my job with Sodexo five years ago, my sophomore year when I needed an income to afford tuition, textbooks, food and other college-related expenses. As a first-generation college student, my parents couldn’t help out much, and as a full-time student involved in multiple extracurricular activities, I needed a somewhat convenient job. Sodexo at the time presented a seemingly convenient option.

Jump forward five years, after financial circumstances forced me to take a couple of semesters off to work and save, and I’m stuck wondering why in the hell Sodexo would remove me from the schedule a week before re-opening, after a global pandemic led the company to unexpectedly lay off hundreds of employees for several brutal months with little to no support.

I understand that the entire country experienced this at the same time too. However, Sodexo handled the crisis in ways that did not promote “solidarity with the poor and vulnerable,” as the Mission Statement says.

For starters, when other campuses throughout the country began closing down, and Zag Dining employees expressed concern for our own campus, Sodexo told us we had no reason to worry. Sodexo assured us that it wasn’t planning for any disruption from the coronavirus, that we should all go back to business as normal. Some of us were



By CHRISTOPHER BARKER

even laughed at.

As campuses in Washington began to close, and managers finally began to worry with us, they still had no plan. Not to mention that communication between the managers and employees was virtually nonexistent outside of promises that we would be taken care of.

One employee was even lied to and told we would receive some kind of severance package — we got an extra \$150 added to a single paycheck once when they finally laid us off, another laugh in our face.

The events leading up to the pandemic are biannual occurrences that the virus only exacerbated. Every winter and summer vacation, Sodexo employees get laid off with limited options for working elsewhere.

We would find another job, yet many of us work for Sodexo out of necessity, because it’s convenient for school or because job openings are limited in the Spokane community, especially if you don’t possess a degree. Besides, some can’t (or don’t want to) leave the GU community behind.

These seasonal layoffs present a larger problem for employees who already receive an income that falls below a living wage. We then spend the working season trying to catch up on bills we accrued during the vacations.

In fact, last spring (before the threat of the coronavirus), the baristas at The Hemmingson Center Starbucks began

discussing our pay rate and found arbitrary discrepancies between them, such as not receiving the starting wage we each had been promised.

On several occasions when the higher-ups heard these conversations, we were told that discussing pay violated Sodexo’s policies. Thankfully, we knew this to be a legal right, and continued to do so until the problem was fixed.

Last spring, I meant to publish a letter similar to this one, but it did not meet some of The Bulletin’s requirements. I believe Sodexo found out, because the day after I submitted it they fixed the discrepancies between our payment at Starbucks.

After this incident, human resources and management invited me to a couple of conversations about the issues outlined here, and there were promises that these conditions and the communication surrounding these conditions would improve.

That was right before this pandemic, right before they re-hired all of my co-workers and completely ghosted me, like a Tinder date, only there was much more at stake than a potential partner or a good hook up: my livelihood was on the line.

They did this to one of my co-workers in the fall, they’re doing it now with me, and who knows how many countless other times it’s occurred.

The unpublished letter I mentioned also critiqued some of the more systemic problems within Sodexo, and those still need fixing. The issues experienced here at GU are played out in practices as a global entity too.

They profit almost \$1 billion off of the thousands who they underpay as well as the hundreds of private prisons and jails they serve. I wished I had been brave enough to publish the former letter last spring, but I needed the job then. Now, I’ve got nothing to lose but my complicity in carceral capitalism, that global system which prioritizes profit over people.

GU, we’ve been failing a large part of our community for too long, and it’s time we do better and reclaim Zag Dining from Sodexo.

Christopher Barker is a former Gonzaga student.

GU curriculum allows Zags to explore their biases

World change occurs when many people alter their viewpoints and decide to act, but the real question is where this altered perspective comes from.

Personally, every single class here at Gonzaga has positively impacted me. From core classes to my major, even the ones I initially wasn’t interested in helped to shape me.

Some emphasized our personhood over our ability to show up for class or complete homework, others enabled me to unpack biases and stereotypes or to learn from societies in the past. And still others gave me courage in my own abilities to create and communicate.

But the class that impacted me the most was ENGL 466: Global Modernisms taught by Yasaman Naraghi, a teaching fellow of English, is a wonderful professor hired as part of the Underrepresented Fellowship Program and who designed her own classes.

Some preconceptions I entered the class with were: I thought modernism was simply an American-British movement during the interwar period of World War I and World War II and a reaction to the war and against Romanticism.

As an English major and avid reader, I’ve experienced many, many novels and short stories and certainly have an ever-growing list of works I want to read. I felt confident in claiming I had at least heard of the most influential or important pieces of literature.

Simple words such as tradition, form and style I could define easily enough; I had been using these words for the majority of my life and assumed I had a strong enough grasp on them. I thought I knew my place in the world and more or less how the world worked, and that while in many respects I come from a place of privilege, that I was aware of this and its impact.

My assumptions were utterly



By CAITLIN RELVAS

wrong.

Misconceptions and ignorance were corrected each class, and during each discussion I marveled at how my worldview was being reconstructed, bit by bit.

Through the novels, supplemental readings and class discussions, I discovered that modernism instead is a worldwide movement, inspired by different political and cultural events. Many of the novels and characters we read emulated the identity crises of their respective countries because of the effects from World War I, but not all.

This complicates the definition of modernism. What are the characteristics that link these global movements, and how we do acknowledge that often modernism in other countries wouldn’t exist without the Anglo-American version?

These are just a sampling of some of the questions we tried to

answer.

Looking at the characteristics, we turned to supplemental readings defining words like tradition or style in a modernism context but found that these readings even when actively trying to not, have Eurocentric biases still did.

One essay looked at the modernist movement in Mexico, specifically viewing several female artists, all of whom were white and in fact appropriating the Mexican culture. If that is the example for tradition, then many traditions need to be reexamined.

We also struggled to define these simple words, such as “form” and often went so abstract it was difficult to ground ourselves, and settled with a definition by example, which still isn’t perfect.

Each author and culture do something a little different in terms of tradition, style and form, and the threads connecting these are difficult to discern, even with a greater knowledge of where works come from.

We read novels I had wanted to read, novels I read before and novels I never would have experienced. Even the ones I was familiar with we explored in an entirely different way.

“Invisible Man” by Ralph Ellison follows a nameless young black protagonist through the societal and cultural racial injustices of early 20th century America. “Cosmos” by Polish author Witold Gombrowicz

revolves around two young men in the countryside as they seek pattern and meaning in seemingly random occurrences.

“No Longer Human” by Osamu Dazai is a Japanese novel that chillingly explores the nature of humanity and human connection.

Each of these and more worked to slightly alter my worldview, showing a new culture, new perspective, new way of engaging with the world while at the same time revealing universal truths about humanity.

I’ve realized that my view of the world was very Eurocentric and that there’s so much more I don’t know than I previously thought. I encourage the GU community to similarly question their own beliefs and discover what they don’t know; then we can grow from a place of more understanding and compassion.

I started Global Modernisms with a clear statement of what that meant, then left with more questions than answers and a complicated definition. But the confusion is truer and clearer than a simple statement and is a start to changing structural issues caused by Eurocentrism.

Now I must determine what I want to do with this knowledge.

Caitlin Relvas is a staff writer.

The Gonzaga Bulletin

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Best gigabyte for your buck

As we roll into the new year students are gearing up for their classes and assignments, but many are missing an essential tool for their learning: a new laptop.

While each student requires a computer for their learning as many classes are now remote, there isn’t a baseline or standard each student should hold their laptop to. Each major and occupation can share a different concept of the perfect laptop.

Every Zag has their own needs, and Gonzaga students can save money, time and effort by buying the right laptop for their lifestyle rather than draining their pockets with a “one size fits all” recommendation.

Students that are casual users and not pushing their machine to the limits should invest in a Dell Inspiron 14 ryzen 7/ intel i5 or ASUS Vivobook S15 S533 i5.

These laptops range from \$550 to \$700, saving students money. Additionally, they offer touchscreen features, and the Dell laptop offers a 2-in-1 feature tablet and laptop function. This provides usability while maintaining a great user experience.

Students who are creators or moderate users should consider a 13 inch Apple MacBook or an ASUS Zenbook 14. These



By HUNTER HAUSER

laptops are great for using photoshop, making videos, and doing extensive multitasking.

Prices for these laptops range from \$899 all the way to the higher end for the MacBook at \$1,399.

Both laptops offer i5 or i7 processors and 16GB of working RAM, allowing content creation to run smoothly. This also allows media to be made and rendered quickly while managing your busy workload, all at your pace. At convenient sizes and weights both laptops can be taken on the go at any time.

Any engineers or students using graphic intensive programs should consider purchasing the HP Envy 13 or Dell XPS 13 on the smaller end, or the Acer Helios 300 and Razer Blade 15 on the heavier end. These laptops are great for making 3D modelled diagrams, using simulations, running

multiple operating systems and anything else graphically intensive.

On the smaller but powerful end the HP Envy 13 and Dell XPS 13, ranging from \$999 to \$1,399, both offer i7 processors with 16GB of RAM and either Iris or Nvidia integrated graphics. Both offer touch and 4k screens, making them the perfect fit for a student working on difficult and hardware intensive tasks.

Both engineer laptops and gaming laptops are the most powerful type of laptop. The Acer Helios 300 and Razer Blade 15 both offer 6-core i7 processors with Nvidia RTX graphics cards. The combination of graphic and processing power will be able to handle any intensive task life may throw at you.

Three drawbacks with these laptops are battery life, weight and cost. These laptops can do a lot but must always be tethered to a wall for charging. Prices can range from \$1,197 to \$1,899, which is quite expensive but truly worth every penny if it is the right fit for you.

Regardless of what type of student you are, laptop buying should be efficient and cost-effective, saving you time and money in your education.

Hunter Hauser is a staff writer.

How to deal with it: Board & card games for a virtual semester

Commentary by VINNY SAGLIMBENI

With COVID-19 sticking around for the long-haul and subsequent corresponding restrictions of social gatherings, finding new ways to stay entertained is more important now than ever.

These card and board games will allow your housemates and roommates to bond with each other more, whether you wish to make the games very competitive or just want to have a fun time.

Here are the top three card games and top three board games to play with your housemates and/or roommates.

CARD GAMES

1. SPEED

Ready to test out your reflexes and knowledge of what numbers are consecutive? Because if you are, Speed is the game that does exactly that. With the fast pace and use of rapid fire awareness, Speed is a great way to get together with your housemates and/or roommates and skyrocket the energy in your house from zero-to-100 real quick. It may be frustrating at first, especially playing with friends who are quick-witted, but once you get the hang of it, you'll be mastering the game in no time.

2. SPOONS

Similarly to speed, Spoons is an all time classic card game that can get the blood pumping and raise the heart rate to a healthy level. The musical chairs-like card game embraces the ideas of competitiveness and awareness in a

great way, as once you get four of a kind (four aces, four sevens, etc.) the game turns into the ultimate race of not being the last one to pick up a spoon. Just be prepared to have a tug of war with one of your friends when fighting for that final spoon, because you definitely don't want to be kicked out of the game.

3. POKER

Everyone's favorite weekend game with the squad, Poker is one of the best card games to play with your friends during these times. Whether you are playing for real money with the poker chips (responsibly, of course) or using goldfish instead, poker games like Texas Holdem and Blackjack are fun games that can let you practice your Poker face and bond with the people you are living with. Furthermore, if you have never played before, there will always be someone to help you out, but once you get the hang of it, just remember not everyone will lend a helping hand.

BOARD GAMES

1. MONOPOLY

A game that goes way back, Monopoly is one of the more ordinary board games, but is always remembered as a classic board game. The fun thing about Monopoly is that it can be applied to real life situations, especially if you are a finance or business major, if you are so ambitious to have a monopoly one day. Even if the game goes longer than you would like, Monopoly is a board game on the Mount

Everest of board games and it would be disrespectful to not put Monopoly on the list.

2. ONE NIGHT WEREWOLF

Although it may not be the traditional household board game, One Night Werewolf is a different game to play with your friends that can change up the typical board game roulette. With the objective of finding the werewolves, One Night Werewolf becomes a game everyone can get behind, especially during the Halloween season approaching.

"[One Night Werewolf] is quick, works with a large group and changes every time," junior Scott Tornquist said.

3. THE SETTLERS OF CATAN

If you thought Monopoly was a game for OG board gamers, The Settlers of Catan is on another level. What has now become a world-renowned board game, not much is needed to explain why Catan is one of the most popular board games to play. Tornquist said even though the game is easy to learn, it is difficult to master.

All in all, whether you are a big board game and/or card game fan or not, these activities can change your weekly routine and form stronger connections with your friends.

"Board games are how I met my friends freshman year," Tornquist said. "Two years later we are all living together and they are my family here at GU, all thanks to some board games."

Vinny Saglimbeni is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @vinnysaglimbeni.

Remembering Chadwick Boseman: Actor, activist, king

Commentary by LAUREN THOMAS

On August 28, film and television lost one of its most influential Black actors, Chadwick Boseman.

The headliner of the blockbuster film, "Black Panther," who passed away from colon cancer at the age of 43.

Though his untimely death shocked millions, his film career and inspiring fight for racial justice are what will keep his memory alive.

Boseman began his career in acting after he graduated from Howard University, a primarily Black school in the year 2000. He returned in 2018 to deliver the commencement address and discussed how in his early career, he was fired from a role because he questioned the producers and directors about the inclusion and active use of stereotypes.

"Whatever you choose for a career path, remember, the struggles along the way are only meant to shape you for your purpose," Boseman said during his address. "When I dared to challenge the system that would relegate us to victims and stereotypes with no clear historical backgrounds, no hopes or talents, when I questioned that method of portrayal, a different path opened up for me, the path to my destiny."

Ever since the beginning of his acting career, he was an outspoken activist and an inspiration to young Black Americans.

He would often speak about the challenges faced by historical figures he played as well as his own challenges in being a successful black man in America.

His breakthrough role was in the 2013 film, "42," where he played Jackie Robinson, the first Black person to play Major League Baseball outside of a segregated Black league. Robinson withstood all examples of racial injustice, from verbal to physical attacks to abuse for breaking the barrier of segregation.

After his successful debut in "42," he then played the role of James Brown in the film, "Get On Up," thus earning the reputation of playing historical Black figures in film.

His next iconic film role was the portrayal of Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall in the film "Marshall". The American lawyer and civil rights activist defended an innocent Black man during the time of legalized segregation. Marshall later became the first African American member of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Written in the Sept. 5 edition of The Economist in the obituary section, it is said that Boseman, "slipped into each role, studiously, scene by scene, [and] kept one thought in mind. His character was a strong black man in a world that conflicted with his strength...But there was something in him, some particular talent, or obsession, or part of his past, that made him stand tall.

That made him say, 'No'."

The most successful and famous role Boseman played was the Black king T'Challa in the film, "Black Panther." Boseman was the first Black lead in a Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) film and sequentially became the headliner of one of the most important movies for Black Americans and African representation in this decade. It won the award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture in the 2019 Screen Actors Guild Awards.

"Black Panther" broke box office records and became the first film headlining a superhero to be nominated for the Academy Award for best picture, as well as earning six other nominations and winning three, becoming the MCU's first Oscar-winning film according to NPR journalist, Malaka Gharib.

"It's a movie about what it means to be Black in both America and Africa—and, more broadly, in the world." Time Magazine journalist Jamil Smith said. "Rather than dodge complicated themes about race and identity, the film grapples head-on with the issues affecting modern-day Black life."

The film "Black Panther" is evidence that a depiction of reality with people of color rather than whiteness can be even more profitable and successful than one could ever conceive.

"We knew we could create a world that

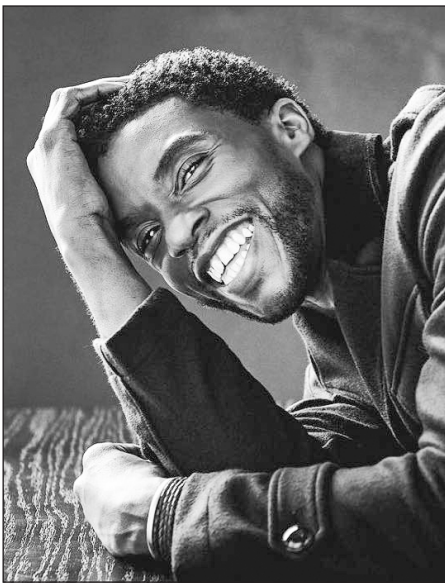


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHADWICK BOSEMAN'S FACEBOOK

In addition to his role in "Black Panther" Boseman also starred in "42," "Get On Up" and "Marshall."

exemplified a world we wanted to see," Boseman said. "We knew that we had something to give."

Lauren Thomas is a staff writer.

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg September 13, 2020

ACROSS

1 Actor Baldwin

5 Ancient game?

8 Submits, as a blog comment

13 When repeated, island near Tahiti

14 Band such as Green Day

15 Picture-perfect

16 Concession at a Denver football game, as some spell it?

19 Answer to "Who, me?"

20 Foam ball maker

21 Used to own

22 How some music is stored

24 Hair gunk

26 Concession at a Florida hockey game?

33 Uproar

34 Track competition

35 Apt-sounding name for a manicurist?

36 Start of a return address?

37 Tennis great Roger

39 Compete

40 Planet Express captain in "Futurama"

42 At any point

43 Soccer practice warmups

44 Concession at a New York baseball game?

47 Patel of "Slumdog Millionaire"

48 Discontinued Swedish car

49 Lifelong bud

52 Record for later

55 Fantasy creature that's lucky in Chinese culture

59 Concession at a Boston basketball game?

62 Workers' comp submission

63 Emulate an eagle

64 Forbids

65 Fashion sense

66 Palindromic explosive

67 Requests

DOWN

1 "Dear" advice columnist

2 Myths and such

3 Mythological bow wielder

4 Great depressions?

5 Alternative conjunctions

6 Disney's "The King"

7 One may be geodesic

8 Stealthy thief

9 Poetic homage

10 Meyers of late night

11 Half of TTFN

12 Winter transport

14 1988 Doors hit

17 Bottom-of-page abbr.

18 Therefore

23 Myers of politics

25 On the (fleeing)

26 Blender setting

27 Liability's opposite

28 Christopher who played Superman

29 Cause of stiff shoulders, perhaps

30 Tennis great

31 Complaint

32 Windows to the soul, it's said

33 Analog camera's need

37 iPhone app that uses the camera

38 Kindle, say

41 Drug that causes trips

43 Ritchie Valens classic

45 Temperature control syst.

46 Singer Alessia or Irene

49 Secretly emails

50 Blackjack table material

51 Chef Bobby

53 Note passer's summons

54 Macro or micro subj.

56 Major or minor stats

57 Sty squeal

58 Loch

60 Up to, briefly

61 Sewer anima

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	B	O	D	E	S	E	G	G	S	T	A	T
R	E	V	I	L	E	A	U	R	A	E	I	T
C	L	A	S	S	A	C	T	I	O	N	X	E
C	I	A	T	O	D	O	E	T	A	O		
C	A	M	S	A	H	E	M	E	M	M	A	
A	L	I	T	O	T	E	D	I	D	E	S	T
R	U	N	S	U	P	W	O	L	V	E	S	
S	M	O	L	D	E	R	G	A	I	N	S	O
R	O	O	N	E	Y	S	E	S	A	M	E	
U	D	D	E	R	D	A	R	T	S	G	A	S
S	E	E	S	C	O	M	E	C	E	N	T	
A	C	T	P	A	C	D	U	A	L			
B	R	A	S	C	H	O	O	L	T	E	R	M
L	E	I	S	T	E	W	N	O	F	A	I	R
E	E	L	T	I	R	E	A	Z	T	E	C	S

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Stadium Eats

by Queena Mewers and Alex Eaton-Salners

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				14				15			
13				17				18			
16											
19					20				21		
			22		23		24		25		
	26	27				28	29		30	31	32
33				34				35			
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44				45				46			
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49	50	51		52		53	54		55	56	57
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62					63			64			
65						66			67		

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RECYCLE

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Today's puzzle solution

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

Keep in touch: How to stay connected with Zags near and far

By LINDSEY WILSON

With Zags spread all across the nation, some in Spokane and some at home, this unprecedented year has brought challenges of all kinds.

Adjusting to online learning, wearing masks and constant hand washing has created numerous challenges for GU and its students.

Due to the lingering risk of COVID-19, Zags may find themselves limited in what they can do with their friends in and around campus. Luckily, through technology, there's many different ways to connect with other students while staying safe and healthy.

Clubs are a common way that many Zags meet other students. Just because learning isn't remote, it doesn't mean that joining a club is out of the question. On Zagtivities, there's a vast list of different clubs that are accepting new members to join virtually.

On September 14 and 17 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. there is a virtual club fair where students can look into what different clubs around campus are doing during COVID-19. Information about these two fairs can be found on the Zagtivities website.

One of those clubs that will be attending the virtual club fair is A Moment of Magic, a nationwide organization that specializes in bringing magic to those who need it most. Its regular agenda includes going to hospitals dressed as princesses, superheroes and fairies and even though COVID-19 restrictions have halted in person visitations, the club is still able to continue their mission virtually.

"We are continuing to provide hot line calls over FaceTime, Zoom, Skype and other online platforms where a child



LILLY KANESHIGE IG: aka.lilly

With GU implementing a hybrid approach to learning this semester, Zags utilize clubs and video chatting apps like FaceTime and Snapchat.

can schedule a one-on-one call with their favorite character," said Ellie McElligot, president of the GU chapter of A Moment of Magic.

A Moment of Magic is also continuing its weekly meetings virtually. They meet at 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays on Zoom. The club is also actively looking for new members to join, which would be a great opportunity for new Zags to meet some new friends virtually and safely.

"To recruit new members, we are mainly utilizing social media and spreading info by word-of-mouth," McElligot said. "On our Instagram page (@momentofmagicgonzaga) there is an

interest form in our bio that any interested students can fill out."

There are a number of Zags who are learning completely from home over the course of this semester. One of them is sophomore Garrick Bateman, who is learning from his hometown in Fort Collins, Colorado.

"I just thought if I stayed then I would be a little less confined and a little more active," Bateman said. "I had a lot of friends from Colorado who were also staying, it was nice to know that I had a bit of a social network to lean into at home."

Bateman is learning in his sister's

empty bedroom, which he set up to be a make-shift office in order to have the separation between where he works and relaxes.

Bateman keeps in touch with his friends from GU primarily through his group messages and Snapchat, but he feels that the best way to stay connected to his friends is through regular FaceTime calls.

"Just like seeing your friend's face is good, and talking on the phone and hearing their voice is really important too," Bateman said.

Through different video-chatting apps, students that are far removed from their friends can feel closer than ever before. Websites like NetflixParty allows people to watch Netflix in real time with a group of their friends. Hulu has also released a feature in June of 2020 allowing subscribers to watch their favorite movies and TV shows together, while apart.

There are also a number of websites that people can tune into to play different games together with their friends, even some that may be a blast from the past. Cprewritten.net is a new version of Club Penguin, a game that was popular in the mid 2000's amongst kids. There are a number of flash games on the website, and users can waddle around town with their friends.

Thankfully, through modern technology, being alone doesn't have to feel so lonely. Through virtual club meetings and FaceTime and Zoom calls, Zags are able to stay connected with their friends and the GU community.

Lindsey Wilson is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @lindseyrwilson1.

First Friday uplifts Spokane artists, businesses and community

By SARAH VAN LIEW

Despite the significant challenges brought about by COVID-19, a tight-knit community like the one that has been cultivated in Spokane always prevails.

First Friday is a glimmering example of that community.

The event is held on the first Friday of each month in downtown Spokane to encourage and uplift the Spokane community while promoting local businesses and artists.

"A huge part of our economy is the creative class, this includes visual artists, musicians, chefs, wine and beer makers, and more," said Elisabeth Hooker, the marketing and programming director for the Downtown Spokane Partnership Business Improvement District. "Spokane is full of talent, but it wasn't appreciated until recently.

Events like First Friday give artists a platform to begin to sell art and to make a living for themselves as an artist. It also provides an opportunity for patrons to discover something new, or someone new."

First Friday is one way that Spokane has continued to support its local businesses as well as local artists in the area even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It creates a meaningful event each month for the Spokane community.

First Friday is an event held in locations all across the country, giving cities the opportunity to promote businesses and encourage involvement in art, music and the greater community.

Along with just about every other event planned to take place in recent months, First Friday was affected by COVID-19 and had to be reassessed in light of social distancing and government guidelines.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FIRST FRIDAY

First Friday provides a platform for Spokane creatives to show off their work, supporting small business around the community.

"It's of course been changing a lot since the pandemic hit, and just like businesses have had to find a way to innovate to keep their doors open, First Friday has been doing the same the last few months," Kevin Campbell, business relations coordinator of the Downtown Spokane Partnership Business Improvement District said.

Throughout the past several months, First Friday did not happen in person, but was offered as a virtual event in the form of an online open gallery and a virtual panel discussion.

Now, the event has moved more in person, while still offering several ways to get involved virtually.

"We expect to hold both in-person and online activities for a while moving forward," Hooker said.

Campbell said that this month's First Friday held on Sept. 4th included many different ways to support local Spokane businesses.

"We've got some bars and bistros that

are featuring art that people can come and see in person, and we have some virtual events where people can get on Zoom and participate. It's a fun variety," Campbell said.

Although the event is smaller due to COVID-19, many businesses participated in First Friday for September.

"While the event is focused on galleries, often tasting rooms, restaurants, coffee shops and more will participate," Hooker said.

180 Bar and Bistro, SaranacART, The Clay Connection, Auntie's Bookstore, Chase Gallery and several other businesses participated in the First Friday event this month.

Since the pandemic, an aspect of First Friday that has become virtual is Auntie's Bookstore's "3 Minute Mic." For seven years, Auntie's Bookstore has been offering this open poetry mic which involves local poets and is a creative way to inspire the participating Spokane community.

"I think that local business is really

important to the health of our community," said Claire Davey, the events coordinator of Auntie's Bookstore. First Friday additionally features one artist each month as the poster artist. Free posters which feature the month's artwork can be picked up at River Park Square or the Spokane Visitor's Center during the event.

This month, the poster artist was Frankie Benka, who created the work "Steam Plant."

Frankie Benka is an artist from Spokane who creates many forms of visual art such as painting, ceramic art, sculpture and photography.

"The inspiration for this month's poster is the Steam Plant and looking at things in a different light. Literally," Benka said.

First Friday holds an important place in the hearts of its participants.

"First Friday is important because art is important," Benka said. "I think it is especially important to keep First Friday alive during the pandemic because people need a break from all the doom and gloom and find something that uplifts their soul."

Something as important as art and local businesses can encourage and inspire our community at any time, but especially during a pandemic where encouragement is so greatly needed.

"Art doesn't have to be hung in a museum to be appreciated, nor does it have to be expensive," Hooker said. "You can find joy in objects or moments just about anywhere and we are proud to provide First Friday as a platform for that to happen."

Sarah Van Liew is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @sarah_vanliew.

Passing the thyme: GU students turn to baking during quarantine

By AUDREY MEASER

It's fair to say the past six months of this quasi-quarantine/summer break has seen its fair share of viral entertainment trends.

From late March when the Netflix phenomenon "Tiger King" took over the world, to the DIY phase of mid-May when everyone felt the simultaneous need to paint mini canvases and learn to crochet.

Then came the flurry of flour, butter, sugar and eggs as everyone everywhere felt the need to fill their ovens with various baked goods. Social media became flooded with polls on whose muffin recipe was truly the best and the next "must try" hit recipes. Experts and amateurs alike took this time to show off their artisan creations.

In the tornado of cakes, brownies, muffins and pastries galore, there was one stand-out baked good that everyone was locked in a fierce competition to perfect: banana bread.

Whether you've been perfecting the art of the banana bread loaf your entire life, or have only just made your first batch, this time during quarantine provided a creative outlet and sense of accomplishment for countless people across the nation.

Blake Tokatly, a junior computer science major at Gonzaga had his first taste of baking when he was 12 years old with his mom.

"I would help my mom make cookies

for my brother's football team," Tokatly said via email. "By high school I was taking over most of the holiday baking."

Flash forward to today and Tokatly has turned his love of baking into a club at GU. "Bulldog Baking Bunch" is a club he co-created with his fellow Zag Kate MacRae to bring students together who might otherwise not interact.

"Before COVID-19 we had hopes of hosting baking events for recipe swaps, good food and great conversation," Tokatly said. "As things (hopefully) settle down we hope to host in person or virtual instructional sessions for students. The time spent is worth it when you're doing something you love."

While he waits out of the pandemic before starting the club back up, you can follow along as he shares his baking creations on his new YouTube channel "The Blakery."

If you've just started to dabble in baking, it can feel overwhelming as you navigate the plethora of online recipes available. Tokatly suggests talking to as many people as you can and staying open to suggestions.

"The more tips, tricks and methods you know the more you'll get comfortable and develop a sixth sense for baking," Tokatly said. "In particular, learn about how to use butter, eggs and flour properly, I consider this to be the cornerstone of baking."

Robyn Fietz, a GU junior studying

accounting and entrepreneurial leadership has also turned her love of baking into more than just a hobby. After winning a book on how to make cake pops in the fifth grade, Fietz began making them for friends and family.

"It evolved into a full business after I created a website and Facebook page," Fietz said via email. "I signed a lease on a commercial kitchen, obtained my business license, and before long I was selling them at a handful of coffee shops in my hometown and for events such as weddings, birthdays, baby showers, etc."

From humble beginnings, her small business Cakepop Girl LLC was born. Fietz doesn't get much time to bake during the school year but loves to come home during breaks and pick up where she left off.

Her love of baking began at young age. Ever since she can remember she's loved being in the kitchen baking. Her favorite show at the time "Cake Boss" only spurred on her enthusiasm for baking even more.

"The cakes that Buddy [the owner of the bakery] and his employees made inspired me to create my own baked goods and decorate them," Fietz said.

While baking can sometimes feel more like a chore than a joy, she always loves testing out new recipes, flavors and designs. Her advice for new bakers is to stick with it, even through all the stumbles and setbacks.

"Don't get discouraged if a recipe

doesn't turn out great. Keep trying or move on to a new recipe, but don't give up and think you're a bad baker," Fietz said.

Follow the Bulldog Baking Bunch on Instagram for updates on club meetings and gatherings: @bulldogbakingbunch. Or send them an email at bulldogbaking@gmail.com for more information.

Follow Fietz's cake pop account on Instagram at @cakepop-girl for custom orders. For those still in search of a go-to banana bread recipe, Tokatly has shared his holy grail one here:

Blake's Banana Bread Recipe:

- 3 bananas (mashed),
- ½ cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup butter (melted)
- 1 ½ cup flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt.

Optional: ½ cup chocolate chips [I use semi-sweet but milk are good too!]

1 cup walnuts [or pecans]

Mix everything in order. Place in greased loaf pan. I usually rub the pan with frozen butter then line with flour. Bake at 325F for about an hour (Until toothpick comes out clean).

Audrey Measer is the opinion editor. Follow her on Twitter: @audreymeaser.

Can the clubs play?

Club sports plan to resume activities Sept. 24, but the level of engagement will vary depending on the sport

By DEVAN IYOMASA

With many restrictions placed on club activities and social gatherings, club sport athletes face uncertainty surrounding details of how their season will proceed, or if it will at all.

Spokane County is currently in Phase 2 of Washington's Safe Start Recovery Plan, meaning only outdoor recreation involving five or fewer people is allowed, according to the Spokane Regional Health District.

Once Spokane enters Phase 3 of the recovery plan, outdoor group recreational sports involving 50 or fewer people will be permitted.

As schools begin to reopen with the potential for an increase in cases, Gonzaga's student involvement team has made the decision to postpone all club sport activity until Sept. 24. From there, club activity moving forward will be evaluated on a club to club basis.

Michaela Johnson, program coordinator at the Center for Student Involvement, said the center will examine aspects of each sport such as the amount of contact between players when setting regulations for teams to abide by.

"We are considering allowing clubs to practice with certain instructions in place," Johnson said via email. "This may include adjusting specific drills to abide by the social distancing measures that are in place."

According to Johnson, several club sport leagues have postponed their seasons to the spring.

As for team funding from the Gonzaga Student Body Association, clubs are funded entirely through the Student Activity fee included in tuition. Johnson said those figures are still being determined since total enrollment numbers have not yet been finalized, so it is unknown how team funding will be impacted.

"For the funding they will have available, there will be some changes to what club expenses they can fund, which will be informed by the same guidelines the rest of the university is following for budgets tied to tuition and fees," Johnson said. "Those guidelines are still being finalized in the coming weeks."

Given the uncertainty of the season, team captains are tasked with finding new ways to move their teams forward this season.

Women's club volleyball captain Victoria Conlon said that they have been unable to hold tryouts or open gym sessions, making it difficult to engage her team.

"I was looking forward to taking on a leadership role with the girls to help us compete at our best level, but my expectations are shifting," Colons said via email. "These unique circumstances are challenging me as a leader to come up with creative ways to keep the club engaging and continue to be a supportive outlet."

Conlon has been communicating with GU administrators to discuss alternatives for their team such as practicing outdoors on a campus lawn instead of in the gyms.



Clubs will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Center of Student Involvement to assess their aptitude to resume former operations.



Multiple club sport leagues that Gonzaga teams play in have elected to postpone fall play.

According to Conlon, she and co-captain Chloe Pisciotta have been working on a plan for the fall semester since GU's closure back in March.

Similar to Conlon, William Dodds, men's club rugby team captain, has been working on ways to move forward with the season while adhering to additional safety measures.

"With rugby being a contact sport, obviously it's not very COVID-19 friendly in regard to social distancing," Dodds said via email. "Adaptation will most likely involve our practices being purely skills-based with minimal contact between players. This process will also most likely involve increased classroom time to go over game film and strategies, rather than the normal schedule of physical practices."

Dodds has also been communicating with his team via a Facebook group and checking in on his teammates during this difficult time.

Despite the challenges, Dodds describes his outlook on the upcoming season as "cautiously optimistic."

"We have a lot of talent and are in a new league so there's definitely things to look forward to once the COVID-19 situation eventually stabilizes and we can get some games going again," Dodds said.

For seniors like Dodds and Conlon, this season presents an unprecedented finale to their club sports journey.

Conlon said she reminisced about the days when she could ordinarily go to practice to relieve some stress after a long day of class.

"I know my teammates have similar feelings, so I'm disappointed they're missing out on that as well," Colons said. "But we will get through this and come out stronger as a club and as individuals."

Devan Iyomasa is a staff writer. Follow her Twitter @devaniyomasa.

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We are looking for a women's soccer player to work with our daughter 1 or 2 days a week on soccer skills. Our daughter is a sophomore at Gonzaga Prep.



Laura Stockton played for the Zags from 2015-2019. She now plays for Herner TC.



Jessie Loera was a point guard for the Zags from 2016-2020. She now plays for Breidablik.

Running the show internationally

Former Gonzaga women's basketball point guards Laura Stockton and Jessie Loera are set to play overseas to pursue professional careers.

By SAMANTHA DIMAIO

For years, Zag fans have watched Jessie Loera and Laura Stockton play in the McCarthy Athletic Center. Even before they became teammates, the two former Gonzaga women's point guards competed against each other in high school games. Now, Loera and Stockton join a hefty list of GU alumni who have moved on from the Kennel to pursue professional careers in basketball.

"I think it's really cool how now we're both taking that next step of playing overseas," Loera said. "I'm excited to see what this experience will be like and where it will take me."

In the beginning of August, Loera signed with a club team in Kópavogur, Iceland called, Breidablik. They offered her a contract fairly quickly and she is now the one American on their team.

About a month after it became official, Loera endured the endless hours of travel to Iceland to then only spend five days in isolation as per the team's COVID-19 protocol.

She has spent some of her miniquarantine researching the new country in which she resides and is looking forward to exploring the caves, volcanos, mountains and northern lights when her schedule allows it.

"I know Iceland's just a beautiful country," Loera said. "I'm sure there's more that I don't know about, but I'm excited to see it all."

Not only has Loera's family always encouraged her and supported her decisions, but her teammates at GU were always there for her, too. Up until the day she left, they pushed her to be the best player she could be.

"I'm super excited for Jess," Stockton said. "It's been super fun to get to play with her over the years... I know

what she's about; she's such a little fireball and I know she's going to kill it overseas."

Everything that Loera has learned from all of her teammates and coaches will stick with her as she begins her professional career. Even though Iceland's style of play may be slightly different because of the faster pace, the intensity and the referees, Loera said she is ready to adapt and bring in her own unique style that Zag fans so deeply love watching.

"I might not be able to be as pesky as I used to be," Loera laughed. "I'm excited though to be able to learn the game here and see how different it is [from] back home."

As for Stockton, the original plan was to sign with an agent after senior year, but her season-ending injury delayed the process. However, once she healed several months later, she signed with an agent and landed a contract with a team in Germany called Herner TC.

"This has been a goal of mine for really as long as I can remember," Stockton said.

Like Loera, Stockton had a support system in her teammates and family, especially when she was injured. They helped her overcome any struggles and obstacles preventing her from reaching her dream and encouraged her to persevere through it all.

Though her large family of successful athletes is currently spread out across the world to pursue their careers, a close bond still remains. They stay in touch through FaceTime and when they do get to see each other, they're filled with enthusiasm.

Since her older brother Michael has already been playing professionally in Europe for a few years, now playing in France, Stockton has had the opportunity to visit the country a couple of times and experience its

culture before moving there. She knows the basics of the language and will not be completely on her own, but it is a major change from Spokane where she has lived for so long.

Before GU, Stockton played at Gonzaga Prep. She said she has always played competitively and that will not stop now. Since she played for a nationally ranked university in the country with thousands of fans in the stadium, competed in March Madness and participated in several interviews on television, the pressures of playing professionally don't phase her.

"Being able to be put on that big stage has definitely prepared me for what's next at the professional level," Stockton said. "It doesn't scare me to have more pressure. I'm used to it just because we played at such a high level at Gonzaga."

So many years of club games, high school tournaments, March Madness, practices every day and being a student on top of it all has finally paid off for Loera and Stockton. They will soon begin their overseas careers with the support of their friends, family and Zag fans everywhere.

"It took a lot of hard work to get here and I know Laura has done a lot of stuff, too, to get to where we are," Loera said. "I know a lot of it, though, had to do with Gonzaga and the support that we had from there, the community and the students. I'm sure she could say the same thing, that we're very thankful for everyone who helped us get to where we are today."

Samantha DiMaio is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @dimaio_samantha.

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