A phone buzzes and an unknown number on the caller ID flashes. A student mindlessly reaches for the phone, which leads up to this moment in time, and contact tracing is at the center of it all.

When hiring contact tracers, Gonzaga University searched for people with public health expertise. Bethany Hickey, a contact tracer for Gonzaga, was uniquely qualified for the job specifically due to her work on Benton-Franklin Health District’s COVID-19 response at the community level, as a member of the local public health workforce. Working for GU, she worked as the assessment and grant coordinator for her local public health agency, Benton-Franklin Health District, for three years.

A phone call... the same number with a Spokane area code blinks across the screen. Another contact tracer is on the line. A student mindlessly reaches for the phone. Is it a call from a friend? No. The phone rings and is answered. It’s the Office of Sustainability. The caller is told that they have been identified as a contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and that they need to prepare to go into isolation. They are a contact of a student who tested positive. They are a contact of a student who tested positive. They are a contact of a student who tested positive.

A Gonzaga student who tested positive was contacted last week. The Office of Sustainability in coordination with Gu Health Services has brought new waste bins and signage to campus in an effort to make GU more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

GU contact tracers hot on trail of COVID-19 spread

By AUDREY MEASER

The award in a prestigious honor that many teams strive for each year, but for the GU women’s soccer team it’s not just about going into each season, and the self-discipline within the team that’s gotten them here year in and year out.

The Gonzaga women’s soccer team made history this year by winning the Team Academic Award from the Women’s Soccer Coaches Association. The award is given to teams with a grade-point-average of 3.0 or above. Head Coach Christopher Waters’ team earned a GPA of 3.67 this last season, putting them well above the threshold for the award. “Their expectations for each other are what drives the success in the classroom,” Waters said via phone call.

“It’s the culture within the department that is perpetuates this level and this standard,” the team’s academic advisor Emma Moon, who has been with the women’s soccer team since its first year, said. Moon added that the academics support staff are here with the team every step of the way. “As soon as we come into the program 3.5 years ago it was expected that academics were one of our main priorities,” Thompson said via email. “This has been a tradition of this program since long before then.” Thompson said she saw this award as recognition for the sacrifices made by the athletes not just in the classroom, but as it relates to the team itself. “The team’s razor-sharp focus on and off the field...""
Students Empowering Women

WASTE BINS

Continued from Page 1 About 15 people participated on the day of assembly, along with Tornik Spein, grounds manager for Plant Services, and Jen Simon, Director of Sustainability at GU, who were in charge of constructing and labeling bins prior to student arrival.

“Because the majority of the volunteers were involved in different sustainability projects on campus, there was a high level of collective energy and motivation towards the greater purpose of the bins, despite the tedious process of matching students who were interested in participating,” Spein said.

Graham has worked alongside Spein, as well as Graham, custodial manager for Plant Services, to outline the placement of bins on campus, as well as to serve as a goal date for the roll-out of the recycling system.

“This date is when we are aiming to have everything set up and in place to be able to start implementing our recycling project,” Graham said.

After the bins are put into place around campus, a marketing team will work on advertising the bins, until there are enough to be consistently placed around campus.

“This process is going to be happening throughout the semester and year, as long as we have enough to use on campus. We plan on doing this in the same process, as well as student participation, to construct and place bins throughout all areas of campus where they are needed,” Spein said.

With a project as widespread and intensive as this one, a lot of effort goes into not only making sure the bins are put in place, but also making sure that they are properly utilized.

Graham said that a lot of work was put into the design of the bins, as well as the layout of the campaign and other education, so we will see actual use of the new bins on campus, our contamination and how much waste we are able to reduce, along with creating easy-to-read and proper composting and recycling patterns.” Graham said.

GEO student Miles Schleiermacher is the president of the Gonzaga Environmental Organization, GEO, and is one of Redman’s club’s co-entrepreneurs. She and some members of GEO were student volunteers who helped design the new waste-organizational system on campus.

GEO is the largest student-run environmental club on campus, and is a club that Redman works closely with. GEO runs various projects and events throughout the year. They also heavily involve the greater Spokane community.

The process of purchasing, placing and advertising the bins, like Zoe Simon, the editor of the Office of Sustainability is doing, will occur until there are enough to use on campus.

With so many volunteers and organizations involved, GED being as large a club as it is, it is broken into five sub-committees, each focusing on a different area of their work. Much like GEO, the five sub-committees are: recycling, waste management, fund raising, social media, and virtual seminars.

On the topic of sustainability, Schleiermacher said that they are planning on adding another social media campaign to not only spread awareness of the club, but of the upcoming fundraiser and its cause.

In order to stay up to date with GED and upcoming events, students are encouraged to check out their Instagram, Facebook, and sign up for the email list.

Tess Pickar is a staff writer.

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Fall Family Weekend was a packed event for friends and family now it is a two-month-long virtual series

By ERIK SCHEMANN

Fall Family Weekend has been a staple event at Gonzaga University for years, but like many other events this year, COVID-19 put a halt on its cancellation.

The weekend has been a key event for the GU community and provides families an opportunity to come to campus and participate in a slew of events all weekend long. Fall Family Engagement, as it has been renamed, will take the form of a series of virtual events and programming throughout all of October and November running up to Oct. 9. It being the day before Halloween is even more exciting to be a Zag through two months of virtual activities.

The events will differ in subject matter, but some virtual events that will be happening throughout the fall and do an entire month of virtual programming. “Guessed and Nervous” instead of trying to consolidate everything into one, this year’s Fall Family Engagement will virtualize something everyone’s used to doing.

The plethora of activities and programs scheduled on their webpage include answering any emails sent in, moving them on how to quarantine and ensuring the student is taken care of, isolating away from anyone else and reducing exposure, and then reach out to their contacts to see if they have been identified as a positive case.

Contact Tracers call and check in with the students, as they endure the often taxing situations they have roommates who can go off campus are that they’re in households experiencing.

Residents director help answer needs making sure not only pass contacts but are also reassuring and comforting the student at that same time. The students are then put on a queue of accounts that are flagged from the tracking system’s accounts for isolating and quarantine.

“The benefits of a lot of people who live off campus are that they’re in households that can be easily divided and in some instances they have roommates who can go off-campus and grocery shop for them if the entire household has not been quarantined,” Lee said.

There has been little pushback from students when they are informed they need to isolate or quarantine. In order to return to campus the next weekend, students were asked to take a pledge, stating that they understood the risks associated with the virus and would follow the protocols in place.

“Our job is to contact trace and to make sure everyone has their copy of the protocol or what it is to be a Zag, out of this, “Pancoast said. “It’s not just our team at the university who’s working to support their students. We have Housing and Residence Life, the Center for Personal Care, everyone at Health and Counseling Services, and Plant Services, literally everyone at Gonzaga along with the local public health department to make sure that students are taken care of.”

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COVID-19 strikes Gonzaga University in the fall of 2020, spurring an announcement from the administration to cancel the spring break for the semester. This cancelation is not the first time in recent history that the Gonzaga faculty had to completely remove a full week of the academic calendar due to student health concerns. The Gonzaga Bulletin is the weekly student publication serving Gonzaga University. Please visit our website, www.gonzagabulletin.com, for more information. All written content is the property of the Gonzaga Bulletin. No content is to be reused in any form, electronic or printed, without the written permission of the Gonzaga Bulletin editorial board. You can contact us at bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu.

Quarantine chronicles: Inside look at COVID-19 isolation

BY ANDERS SVENGNINGEN

After my positive test results hit, I knew it was game over. This is the first time in months.

The day after my positive test results were received, I was shuffled hand-to-foot with people for the first time in a month.

This is a perfect compromise. Students are not completely stranded from food pickup. Instead of completely canceling the week, they can choose to go to starve themselves or take the results and start planning a course of action. It's always overwhelming at the end of the semester, but I know that it is important to change your scenery or a more active study area with a study spot. Whether you want

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Thinking of fall foods and drinks, and things that many of us think of when enjoying the crisp fall weather.

**German Apple Pancake**

The German Apple Pancake is a delicious breakfast or dessert that you can easily make in your house, apartment or dorm kitchen. This treat can be spiced year-round. This treat can be spiced year-round. It is a classic fall treat that can be made with the apples while they are at their peak or don't have the time to try out some of these fall flavors. Now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees that are served year round, they now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees for you to try this fall.

Energy bites are the perfect snack to eat hot or cold—anytime of year! You can substitute chocolate chips or cranberries. These fall flavored lattes are a wonderful treat that can be made with the apples while they are at their peak or don't have the time to try out some of these fall flavors. Now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees that are served year round, they now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees for you to try this fall.

Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Bread

This bread is a wonderful treat that you can enjoy for breakfast or as a fall night snack during the fall months. It is a fantastic fall treat that can be made with the apples while they are at their peak or don't have the time to try out some of these fall flavors. Now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees that are served year round, they now have a "pumpkin pie, " "autumn glow" coffees for you to try this fall.

**Energy Bites**

Not only are apple crepes a delicious fall treat, but they can be enjoyed year-round as breakfast or dessert.

Apples

**Crepes are a fun treat that are delicious for breakfast or dessert.** Not only are apple crepes a delicious fall treat, but they can be enjoyed year-round as breakfast or dessert.

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The pumpkin spice latte is one of the first fall foods to enjoy. It is a perfect drink to warm you up in the morning before class or while you are studying.

Spokane to find the best fall foods while you appreciate the beautiful fall months. It is a perfect time to test out your new recipes as well as fall flavored donuts at local bakeries or donut shops.

One of the best places to go this fall is Green Bluff, where you can pick your own fruit and pumpkin that you can either use in your recipes or simply enjoy. Green Bluff also has several fall baked goods to try such as huckleberry pie, apple cider and pumpkin donuts. You can try these treats while you appreciate the beautiful fall weather and walk throughout the orchards.

Another wonderful place to find fall foods and treats is Holl’s Loge, where they serve seasonal McClure’s and coffee. They serve pumpkin lattes, caramel apple espressos as well as fall flavored donuts at several different locations.

Another fun fall activity is to try some Energy Bites. These are a perfect snack to eat between classes or as part of your breakfast, afternoon snack or late night snack during the fall months. It is a healthier option.

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GU dancing showdown: COG vs. Cataldo

Commentary by ALEXANDER PREVOST

With four less than a month away, GU dining options are on campus. The COG and Cataldo are great options, but which one is best suited for you? Most GU students today are used to ordering their dinner via the university’s dining services, so it’s good to stay in the know, but there are several alternative options. Here’s a guide to help you with your average New York Times review.

Podcasts are a fun, easy way to keep up with political news. "The Daily" by New York Times is a good example of a great political podcast. It’s "the daily news podcast for people who don’t have time for the news," according to their website. They hosted their first “Pardonaut” on May 14, 2020, and have since become a staple for students who want to stay informed.

Podcasts are a great way to keep up with political news when you’re on the go. The Daily by New York Times is a great example of a great political podcast. It’s "the daily news podcast for people who don’t have time for the news," according to their website. They host their first “Pardonaut” on May 14, 2020, and have since become a staple for students who want to stay informed.

As election season ramps up, it’s a great time to get involved in politics. "The Armor of Light" delves into the history of mass shootings and how to prevent them in the future. With all that the dance program has already navigated, it’s no surprise that they can handle the restrictions of COVID-19. "The team is really cool because it’s putting this place on the map as a multi-faceted dance event," Ostersmith said. "It’s exposing not just the GU ballet performers to choreograph a piece in person." The Future of Politics: "The Rise of the Radical Right in the Age of Trump, 2016" by Ronald Reagan is a great book for understanding political issues. "On the Road" by Jack Kerouac is a classic novel that delves deep into the history of mass shootings and how to prevent them in the future. With all that the dance program has already navigated, it’s no surprise that they can handle the restrictions of COVID-19. "The team is really cool because it’s putting this place on the map as a multi-faceted dance event," Ostersmith said. "It’s exposing not just the GU ballet performers to choreograph a piece in person.""The Armor of Light" delves into the history of mass shootings and how to prevent them in the future. With all that the dance program has already navigated, it’s no surprise that they can handle the restrictions of COVID-19. "The team is really cool because it’s putting this place on the map as a multi-faceted dance event," Ostersmith said. "It’s exposing not just the GU ballet performers to choreograph a piece in person."
Julia Talarico is on a mission to complete her biochemistry major while donning the libero jersey for GU

By Riley Utley

In volleyball, the libero jersey is not something one just gets. It takes years of hard work and practice to get to this top defensive position.

The same is true for biochemistry. They have to spend two years in college, work hard, and prove that they belong in their major.

Julia Talarico has proven herself both there and on the Gonzaga volleyball team.

However, it hasn’t been an easy road to get to where she is now. Talarico wanted to have her earn her way up to the top.

“The first year was a learning year and that passion, I think, only grew once she got to GU,” said Diane Nelson, the head coach of the volleyball team.

Gu was a perfect fit for Talarico both academically and athletically.

“I get a phone meeting with Gonzaga, with Diane actually who was an assistant coach at the time, and then they told me they wanted to get a better look at me and found me out to be a good fit for their program,” Talarico said.

She went on to say that at the time she wasn’t really sure if she wanted to play in college because there were eight other people up for open positions.

“She earned the jersey,” Nelson said. “I think she had to start from scratch in the classroom is clear: she wouldn’t have the jersey if it wasn’t.

“If she wasn’t the only athlete and I can make so many students didn’t even know I was an athlete until a year or two in. They ask how I balance that and volleyball and just that, I say, ‘I don’t know I really have a choice. I just do it,’” Nelson said.

Talarico has found her passion for both of these aspects and that passion, she said, only grew once she got to GU.

She began playing volleyball when she was 11 in her hometown Chandler, Arizona and began playing club volleyball at 14.

“Freshmen tend to have a challenging first year and 26 she said. She had to learn a ton. I could tell a lot of it had to do with her confidence. We really spent a lot of time helping her stay positive and evaluate her day to day work in a way that is process oriented not outcome oriented. She started to develop these skills that allowed her to be free and express every day,” Nelson said.

“Talarico said. “Knowing that you can manipulate molecules and that they’re basically everywhere we live – they’re in our bodies, in our world in our air – thinking about how these little molecules control our everyday life is really interesting to me.

Finding the balance between volleyball and biochemistry has been a challenge but one that Talarico was ready and willing to take.

“Talarico had one thing she had to do with her confidence. She was right in the middle of a game, so I was thinking about how these little molecules control our everyday life is really interesting to me.

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Jordan Thompson: Leading by example

Gonzaga women's soccer co-captain looks to inspire her team one more time

By SARAH VAN LIER

Jordan Thompson, senior co-captain of the Gonzaga women's soccer team, has not only excelled athletically and academically but has been an inspiration to those around her as a leader and inspiration for her teammates and coaches alike.

Along with soccer, Thompson has excelled in volleyball, basketball, and track and even broke multiple school records in a single meet for track and field.

However, soccer has always been her first love and her focus. Thompson said she has been playing soccer since she was four or five years old and has always loved it. She won the state championship her junior year of high school and scored more than 15 goals during her senior year.

Thompson continues to lead the team as co-captain this season. Of course this season has been challenging, but Thompson continues to work hard every day to improve her weaknesses every minute, every hour.

"I go to sleep thinking about basketball, I wake up thinking about basketball," Thompson said. "I can't wait to go to practice that's how much it means to me."

Thompson encourages her teammates to play to the best of their abilities. She wants them to be the best they can be. She wants them to have fun and enjoy the game.

"Jordan is committed to being her best. She always gives her all in games," Watkins said. "She's a great leader and she has been the backbone of our program."

Watkins encouraged Thompson to take the opportunity to continue her education and pursue a professional career in basketball.

"I'm so proud of Jordan. I knew she had the potential to be a great player," Watkins said. "She's a hard worker and a great person."

Thompson said she is motivated to play and give 100% every time she steps on the court.

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