

GONZAGA BULLETIN 2021-2022 PREVIEW



Locked and re-loaded: GU men’s basketball ready for 2021

The Zags were close to college basketball immortality last season. Now, the No. 1 team in the nation is set to run it back with one of the most talented freshman classes in program history

By ALEXANDER PREVOST

Gonzaga University men’s basketball continues to crest the wave of success following last year’s historic season. After a nearly spotless record last season, finishing out 31-1, all eyes are on the Zags once again for the 2021-22 season.

Fortunately for the team, things are only looking up for the program this season. Aside from being the uncontested favorites for the West Coast Conference (WCC) Championship title, the Associated Press and the USA TODAY Coaches’ preseason polls have the team ranked No. 1 in the nation, beating out contenders like UCLA and last year’s national champions, Baylor University.

Including these general accolades, the Zags are seeing some of its most integral players make a return to the court.

Junior forward Drew Timme led the team to much success last season. Appearing in the starting lineup of all 32 games played 2020-21, Timme made a total of 237 field goals while averaging seven rebounds per game. During the NCAA tournament, he placed in the Top-10 most single-game points and rebounds in program history with 30 points and 13 rebounds against Oklahoma. Additionally, he led the conference in points per game with 19 and a field goal percentage of 65.6%.

Timme was named the Karl Malone Power Forward of the Year in addition to making the WCC All-Tournament team, Associated Press All-American second team and USBWA All-District IX team — to name a few. He is on the Karl Malone Power Forward of the Year watch list once again.

Other returning players such as sophomore Julian Strawther, who led the team with 18 points in an exhibition win against Eastern Oregon University last Saturday, and senior guard Andrew Nembhard, who recorded the most single-game assists in program history at the NCAA tournament, continue to carry the strong foundation from last season.

“We all believe in each other’s abilities,” Strawther said. “We believe in the coaches’ decisions, and we know that no matter what lineup is out there, we got a group of



Drew Timme (2) and the Bulldogs enter the 2021-22 season ranked No. 1 in the AP preseason poll for the second consecutive season.

guys that will get it done out there.”

Of course, the team’s success also lies in boasting one of the strongest recruiting classes to date.

ESPN’s No. 1 ranked recruit for the 2021-22 season and 7-footer Chet Holmgren has been turning heads since his commitment to GU. Over the summer, he starred on Team USA’s U19 team at the 2021 Men’s Basketball World Cup. Holmgren won the gold medal with Team USA and received tournament MVP honors. He averaged 11.9 points, 6.1 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 2.7 rebounds per game.

Holmgren is on the Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Award Watch List.

“I have a lot of learning to do, and I still have a lot of learning to accomplish before the season ends,” Holmgren said. “I look to do that and hopefully be playing the best basketball by Gonzaga standards and their ways by the end of the season.”

In addition to Holmgren, ESPN’s No.

16 and No. 22 recruits from the 2021 high school class, Hunter Sallis and Nolan Hickman, further bolster the team — with the former making five field goals during the game against Eastern Oregon.

Senior guard and Iowa State University transfer Rasir Bolton — who led the Cyclones with a 15.5-point average last season, earning him All-Big 12 accolades — also joined the roster this past summer.

Other newcomers include the No. 64 recruit in last year’s class Kaden Perry and the No. 80 recruit Ben Gregg, who graduated high school early to spend the latter part of the 2020-21 season at GU.

“They’re talented guys, and we’ve seen that in their recruitment process,” said assistant coach Brian Michaelson. “We’ve obviously seen that this fall, touched on all of Hunter’s athleticism, his ability to get out and transition is special. And obviously Chet is such a unique weapon.”

Looking forward, the climb to the top isn’t all rosy. The last No. 1 team in the AP

preseason poll to win the national title was Florida in 2007.

GU opens its regular season on Tuesday against Dixie State University. On Nov. 13, the Zags will go toe-to-toe with preseason No. 5 ranked University of Texas. Other major upcoming nonconference games include games against No. 2 UCLA on Nov. 23 and Duke University on Nov. 26.

Furthermore, the Zags will participate in the first Battle in Seattle since 2016. Held in the Climate Pledge Arena on Dec. 4, the Zags will take on the University of Alabama Crimson Tide. It will be the first time the two programs have faced off. Conference games begin on Dec. 30 against the University of San Diego and will continue on through early March, where the WCC championships will be held in Las Vegas from March 3-8

Alexander Prevost is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @alexanderpvst.

A lion, a cyclone and a bulldog walk into the gym...

The GU men’s basketball team has landed numerous transfers in recent memory, but few are as accustomed to change as Rasir Bolton

By COLE FORSMAN

Three years ago, Rasir Bolton had no intentions of attending Gonzaga University.

He had just enrolled in classes at Penn State University, where he planned on continuing his basketball career as a Nittany Lion. The team was coming off an NIT championship and the addition of Bolton added elements of speed and playmaking to the roster. He signed his letter of intent the fall prior to his freshman year and planned on majoring in hospitality management.

While he rotated in and out of the starting lineup, Bolton contributed no matter what his role was on any given night. He had back-to-back 25-point games as a starter, including a career-high 27 points against Colgate. Off the bench, he still found ways to put the ball in the basket, as he scored in double figures in four of the first six games. By the end of December, he was averaging just over 14 points a night.

Halfway through his freshman season, however, the team began to struggle. After handling the nonconference slate, PSU dropped its first three Big 10 matchups and were hovering around .500 heading into January.

And the season only went downhill from there.

During a discussion with then-head coach Pat Chambers, the coach used a racial slur that involved the word “noose” to describe his control over Bolton. The university did not act, but instead, tried to refer Bolton to a psychologist, suggesting that he needed to adjust to Chambers’ demeanor.

This wasn’t the first time the coach had made such remarks. While recruiting Bolton to PSU, Chambers used the words “organized” and “well-spoken” to describe Bolton’s parents. Chambers apologized publicly long after the damage was done.

“It was tough, but I didn’t let it affect anything else,” Bolton said. “I didn’t want to bring the team down. I just toughed it out and focused on the main thing, which is basketball.”

Bolton would transfer to Iowa State for the following season, but it wasn’t the first time he went through a change of scenery in his career.

From Petersburg, Virginia, the three-star recruit bounced around schools due to uncontrollable circumstances. One school canceled its basketball season because of personal matters involving the coach. Another decided to overhaul its athletic department and make drastic culture changes. No matter where he turned to, it seemed like the situation was not in his favor.

By the time he graduated, he had attended five different high schools, including a preparatory school as a postgraduate.

“It was situations that I didn’t have control over,” Bolton said. “It was kind of unfortunate, but things go the way they go.”

With every situation, Bolton was faced with a choice. He never wanted to leave a school, but he knew that sometimes making the tough decision could benefit his career in the long run. Balancing personal growth with the toll that comes with constantly moving weighed on his

mind as well. Depending on the situation, Bolton thought about “toughing it out,” but sometimes, he had no choice but to consider the alternative.

No matter what, though, he always had his older brother Resean to lean on.

“[Resean] would always tell me to see the bigger picture,” Bolton said. “He reminded me to keep going and that everything was going to work out.”

Ever since they were younger, the Bolton brothers shared a passion for the game. Both would tag along with their father, a basketball coach himself, to the gym and shoot baskets. When it came time to play pick-up, Resean always made sure his little brother was on his team. There was still the traditional rivalry brothers share, but in the end, both wanted to see each other succeed.

“[Rasir’s] older brother Resean wants to see him cultivate,” said Rasir’s father Ray Bolton.

Ray spent most of Rasir’s childhood as a coach alongside being a father. Starting with training camps at his Prodigy Hoops program and through the AAU circuit, Ray watched from his coach’s chair as his son developed his craft alongside future NBA players.

As a parent, Ray related to the fear of uncertainty at times, but also understood the importance of focusing on what could be controlled.

“All we had to trust and believe on was work,” Ray said. “And that’s scary. There were zero promises.”

Despite bouncing around high schools, Bolton

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Women’s basketball: the road ahead

By HENRY KRUEGER

Among the many methods coaches use to motivate their teams, the no-respect card is one of the oldest tricks in the book.

For Lisa Fortier, head coach of the Gonzaga University women’s basketball team, there was an opportunity to use the technique after the Zags were voted as the West Coast Conference’s (WCC) second-best team in a preseason poll despite being the defending conference champions.

Fortier, however, avoided the age-old tactic. “What are we trying to do?” Fortier said. “Are we trying to prove all the people wrong or are we trying to do our best and see where we fall?”

In Fortier’s eyes, the answer is simple. “I told our team that when you’re trying to prove people wrong, it’s about them, not about you,” Fortier said. “I know how those polls go and I don’t put too much weight into them.”

Some of the players, on the other hand, couldn’t help but see the forecast as anything but disrespectful.

“I think our team definitely has that gritty spirit; we’re out to prove everyone wrong,” said senior forward Melody Kempton. “We want to do the best we possibly can, but we also know what we can do and we’re going to show everybody what we can do.”

The second-place prediction may seem unfair given GU’s success in the WCC last year, but there are reasons behind it.

GU’s top three scorers last season have graduated along with four of its top five players in total minutes played. Jill Townsend, who hit the buzzer-beater to give GU the 2021 WCC title, is no longer on the roster, and LeeAnne and Jenn Wirth won’t be there to supply the team with a combined 21.6 points and 14.1 rebounds a game.

Picked first in the preseason poll was longtime rival BYU, who fell to the Zags in last season’s conference championship game.

Unlike GU, BYU returns all its best players, including sophomore guard Shaylee Gonzales, senior guard Paisley Harding and sophomore forward Lauren Gustin. All three players were named to the Preseason All-WCC Team.

Last season, the trio combined for 43.2 points, 20.6 rebounds, 8.72 assists, and 4.16 steals a game.

Aside from its top-three players, BYU retained the WCC’s top shot-blocker in 6-foot-7 center Sara Hamson.



JOE O’HAGAN IG: @ohagandaz

After winning Sixth Woman of the Year in the WCC last season, senior Melody Kempton (33) is a preseason all-conference player this season.

The senior blocked 2.48 shots a game.

Although the path to a second-straight WCC Championship looks to be anything but smooth, GU still has a shot to compete for the crown. Kempton, who was named to the Preseason All-WCC Team, is coming off a season in which she won the conference’s Sixth Woman of the Year award.

Also returning for GU are the Truong twins, junior guards Kayleigh and Kaylynne. The pair were the team’s top two distributors last season, averaging a combined 7.1 assists a game.

But it’s not just about the players coming back. GU welcomes a talented group of newcomers — headlined by freshman Bree Salenbien. A point guard and wing on the

team, Bree was a four-star recruit in high school and is the highest-ranked recruit in program history.

GU also added freshman wing Esther Little out of Ipswich, England. Praised by coaches for her work on the defensive end, Little is a relentless rebounder who could help fill the void left by the Wirth twins. Last season, Little averaged 15.5 points, 19.5 rebounds, and 6.8 assists a game for Ipswich Basketball Academy.

Other newcomers include freshman Calli Stokes, a 6-foot wing from Redondo Beach, California. The team also added Maud Hujibens, a 6-foot-3-inch forward transfer from Syracuse, and Payton Muma, a 5-foot-8-

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BOLTON

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thrived no matter where he laced them up. As a senior playing for Massanutten Military Academy, he led the Colonels to a program-record 32 wins and a No. 1 prep school ranking, averaging 20 points, five assists and four rebounds a contest. On Team Loaded, an AAU circuit team known for producing NBA talent, Bolton and company went on to win the 2017 Adidas Uprising championship with him starting every game along the way.

In college, Bolton maintained his focus amid the noise around him. After leaving PSU for Iowa State, the guard averaged 15 points per game, four rebounds and three assists while starting in 50 of the 51 games he played over two seasons. Last season proved to be his best year yet, as he earned All-Big 12 third team honors.

The individual accolades haven’t quite translated to team success, however. In Bolton’s first

season at ISU, the team went 12-20 and lost six of its last seven games. Last year’s Cyclones finished 2-22, including an 18-game losing streak, as head coach Steve Prohm was fired in March after six years in the program. Bolton has yet to be on a winning team in his collegiate career, let alone get a taste of the NCAA tournament.

“He hasn’t won a lot in college,” Ray said. “He wants to f***ing win.”

Odds are, Bolton will be dancing with the Zags this March.

Departing from Ames, Iowa, to Spokane over the summer, Bolton has already begun to gel with his new teammates. He might be new to the roster, but he’s seen as a veteran and a leader by his teammates, who show their respect by calling him “old guy.” His style of play fits the mold of GU’s fast-paced offense, while his versatility as a playmaker and ball-handler allows the Zags to play around with different lineups during the first few weeks of the season.

According to Ray, his son’s

skill set isn’t defined by a single attribute; it’s his versatility that sets him apart.

“He’s one of the most versatile guys in college basketball,” Ray said. “He has the ability to be everything that everyone questions.”

Playing alongside NBA players Keldon Johnson, Jaren Jackson Jr. and Tyrese Haliburton over the course of his career, Bolton has proven he can thrive while being surrounded by talent. This year’s GU squad will be the most stacked roster he’s been on in college, with preseason All-American Drew Timme and top prospect Chet Holmgren by his side.

“I love the culture here,” Bolton said. “I thought [GU] was a great fit for me and it feels like home.”

Cole Forsman is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @CGForsman.



ISABELLA STOUT IG: @isabellacarin27

Rasir Bolton (45) transferred to GU from Iowa State this year.

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The queen of the North: Yvonne Ejim

By SYDNEY FLUKER

Yvonne Ejim is a force to be reckoned with, in and out of the country.

The 6-foot-1-inch forward has made a place for herself on the Gonzaga women's basketball team as a valuable addition to the team.

Doubling as a member of Canada's national team, the GU sophomore from Calgary, Alberta, was named to the West Coast Conference (WCC) All-Tournament Team, seeing action in multiple international tournaments.

It all started when Ejim was 7 years old. Her original exposure to basketball came from her family, but the Steve Nash camp she attended is where she found her passion.

From there, her natural abilities never went unnoticed. Ejim said coaches and parents would make suggestions as to where she could go play in close proximity to her mom, eventually snowballing into playing on the Canadian national team and at GU.

In eighth grade, Ejim was invited to a Team Canada camp. Ejim recounted how they had to make a different slideshow for her to lay out what her time on the team would be like, as she was the youngest by at least a year. Although she didn't make it, the exposure to that environment sparked that interest to go far in basketball.

Ejim continued to play volleyball and track throughout junior high and high school before committing to basketball for the abundance of opportunities presented to her.

"I kept going into basketball because I knew this was the thing I wanted to do," Ejim said.

That decision to stick with basketball paid off. She made Team Canada during ninth grade and played with the team through 11th grade.

"It was nerve racking," Ejim said. "The first time I got that email with the invitation to the national team, I was shocked but really proud of myself for accomplishing that. That was the 'wow' moment for me. It's the national team, it's my country, and I want to continue pushing myself with [the team]."

Ejim has traveled the world with Team Canada. Her first international tournament was in Argentina, and the lack of a major time difference made the adjustment to playing internationally easier. However, her favorite place has been Bangkok, Thailand, where she played three summers ago.

"With Team Canada, we have to keep in mind that we are representing more than ourselves and our families, we're representing our country," Ejim said. "We take that pride that we have with us wherever we go to show people in other countries what Canada is about."

At GU, Ejim has made a place for herself both academically and athletically.

Studying human physiology, Ejim is just as dedicated



Yvonne Ejim (15) played for Team Canada through 11th grade.

to her career goals as she is to her athletic ones. With her natural passion for and abilities in math and science, human physiology felt like the best major to pursue to help her reach her goal of becoming a doctor.

She cited a need to give back to those in the medical field for doing so much as her motivator for pursuing a career as a doctor. Ejim is keeping an open mind for the kind of medical science she wants to pursue, but knows she will end up in the medical field.

On the court, Ejim has made herself indispensable for both her accomplishments and her addition to team morale.

"She has the ability to challenge the defense with her ball skills and the way she can guard any position and any player out there," said Head Coach Lisa Fortier. "We are also in a time in our world where there are a lot of different opinions on many polarizing issues. Yvonne has a strong yet very thoughtful voice, and has been a leader in our discussions since the minute she stepped on campus."

By incorporating what she's learned from playing internationally, Ejim has taken her game to the next level.

With each country's team bringing a different set of skills, Ejim has learned how to adapt to different styles of playing and incorporate them into her own skill set.

Playing against national teams with a varying range of skillsets from Mali to Japan has taught her a lot about adjusting to respond to the other team's strengths.

"I get all of these different types of players from all of these different countries that bring a different style of basketball to the court, which I really like learning to play around," Ejim said.

As a part of Team Canada, Ejim has played against Japan, Mali, Argentina, Czech Republic, Russia, USA and China, among other countries. Her favorite international team to play is France, where they are all playing professionally.

"Playing against them defense wise, seeing how they move and stuff like that, I'm able to replicate that into how I move offensively and use that to get better at guarding that style," Ejim said.

While COVID-19 has complicated playing internationally, Canada's bubble strategy made it easy and safe to handle the pandemic while traveling abroad. While they didn't have to wear a mask on the court, everywhere beside the court required a mask.

This season, Ejim is excited to play with a different group of girls and get back onto the court.

"I've had a lot of good experiences traveling and meeting new people because of basketball," Ejim said. "That kind of stuff makes me fall in love with the game even more."

Her abilities are being noticed more and more. Racking up an impressive awards list, Ejim won Miss Basketball Alberta her junior year of high school. The award was given to the best female athlete in the province.

Last year, she was named the WCC Freshman of the Week after averaging 8.5 points per game on the road at Santa Clara and San Francisco. She was also named to the WCC All-Tournament Team.

In the future, she wants to play professionally overseas, in the WNBA and to be an Olympian.

"Yvonne is our team's energizer bunny," said teammate Cierra Walker. "She brings energy and competitiveness everyday. [She] can outrun anyone in transition and defend both posts and guards, and works everyday to not just make herself better but also her teammates."

With her competitive spirit and dedication to her goals, Ejim is a name to look out for in the basketball world.

Sydney Fluker is an A&E editor. Follow them on Twitter: @sydneymfluker.

PREVIEW

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inch guard from Highlands Ranch, Colorado.

While Fortier recognizes the challenge of integrating a large number of players into a new system, she's been impressed by the development of the five freshmen so far.

"The new guys, they pay attention," Fortier said. "They're not talking the whole time and they're pretty

heady, all of them, so it's not taking as long as I thought it would with so many of them, but it is still quite a few players who are inexperienced."

With the season fast approaching, GU will further prepare for its 2021-22 campaign by playing an exhibition game at home against Central Washington University on Saturday.

GU will open its season by taking on two Montana foes, as Montana State University comes into town on Nov. 11 before the Zags go on the road to play the University of Montana on Nov. 14.

During its nonconference schedule, the Zags will play six teams that were a part of the 2021 NCAA Tournament, including defending national champion Stanford on Nov. 21. GU's WCC schedule will commence on Dec. 30 with a game against the University of San Francisco.

Henry Krueger is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter: @henrykrueger.

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Offensive photos remain around GU's campus

More photos displaying culturally and racially inappropriate images have been discovered in College Hall's Rogues Gallery

By ISABELLA ASPLUND-WAIN

In March of 2019, an email was sent to Gonzaga students, faculty and staff announcing a review of the university's archives for culturally and racially inappropriate images and documentations.

The institution uncovered flagged photos and illustrations from editions of The Gonzaga Bulletin, Spires and the Rogues Gallery in College Hall, as well as collections of sheet music and Bing Crosby memorabilia. Most of the images originated from the 1930s to 1970s.

Since then, more have been discovered on display around campus. Images were recently found in the Rogues Gallery depicting a man in blackface and inappropriate

displays of Native American garb in a musical performance of "Little Mary Sunshine."

Paul Brake, dean of Foley Library, called the review a 'preliminary inventory,' because he felt that it wasn't necessarily comprehensive and still had a deeper purpose to fulfill.

"We found a few things that are problematic within – or potentially problematic within – the Rogues Gallery, but that we need to provide more context [to]," Brake said.

Raymond Reyes, associate vice president for cultural initiatives, said that as someone from a Native American and Mexican mixed background, it can be upsetting and angering to see people dressed in headdresses. He noted

that with the approach of Halloween, more displays of cultural and racial issues are animated, and that people may partake in harmful behavior without realizing it.

"I want to believe that a lot of people at a predominantly white institution do not know what they do not know," Reyes said. "We're here to create a mirror to reflect back the good, the bad and the ugly of the historical narrative that makes Gonzaga University what it is today."

On the GU archives website, the library has provided a statement on sensitive materials, which aims to provide context about the things that are a part of the institution's history. The statement also condemns those behaviors and

SEE PHOTOS PAGE 2



Suzanne Ostersmith is the founder of GU's academic dance program.

LILY KANESHIGE IG: aka.lilly

Ostersmith named as one of 12 'Women of the Year' honorees

By SOFIA CHAVEZ

It would be no exaggeration to call Suzanne Ostersmith Gonzaga's real-life Superwoman.

Since starting her work at GU in 2000, Ostersmith has taken on the role of director of dance and interdisciplinary arts in addition to serving as an associate professor.

But Ostersmith's contributions extend far beyond her job titles.

A now tenured faculty member as of spring of this year, she is also credited as the founder of GU's academic dance program, where she remains the only full-time faculty member.

An integral part of GU and its surrounding community, Ostersmith was recently recognized as a 2021 honoree for The Spokesman-Review's annual "Women of the Year" award, which honors women of the Inland Northwest for their achievements and contributions to their home communities.

Originally from the Bay Area, Ostersmith has always been interested in the performing arts.

She has been dancing since the age of 3 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in theater from the University of California San Diego and a master's degree of fine arts in interdisciplinary arts from Goddard College before working professionally in Seattle as a performer, choreographer and director.

Prior to entering the collegiate sphere,

Ostersmith's professional experience included work for a number of theater companies, like Pacific Northwest Ballet, where she created the DanceChance program in 1994, an educational program that aims to improve equitable access to classical ballet training in the Seattle area.

Upon her relocation to Spokane in 1998, Ostersmith said she feared her involvement in theater and dance was behind her.

Not one to shy away from opportunity, the turn of the century saw Ostersmith strap back on her ballet shoes.

In 2000, Ostersmith began working for the academic dance and theater programs at both GU and Whitworth University, where she served as the concurrent director for 10 years. She said her new roles brought her an immediate sense of joy and fulfillment.

"Dance has always been an important form of expression for myself, and so when I can help bring students that kind of expression and awareness of what they can do with their bodies, it's so exciting," Ostersmith said.

Only a few years after her arrival, Ostersmith started to realize the great interest and passion students had for dance at GU.

In 2006, the growth in interest led Ostersmith to create the school's first dance minor, which was a hit among students and quickly became successful.

SEE OSTERSMITH PAGE 2

Northwest Night Market returns at Kennedy Apartments

By GABRIEL MCDONALD

Thursday evening, the Northwest residential Block brought back another pre-pandemic event for Gonzaga students, the third annual Northwest Night Market.

Despite the rainy weather, around 200 GU students gathered in the parking garage of the Kennedy Apartments for an evening full of vendors, games and fun.

The event included tons of food and snacks for students to enjoy. A food truck was available for purchasing tacos and burritos and fire pits were set up for students to roast marshmallows and make s'mores.

Every 20 minutes, selected residence assistants from

GU's Northwest Block were on deck for a chance to get pied in the face.

Students also had the opportunity to throw pies at their RAs after making donations to a fundraiser run by GU sophomore Alli McKernan. All proceeds raised from the pie your RA activity helped purchase stuffed animals to deliver to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane.

Burch RA Erik Johnson said that this activity was a great addition to the Northwest Night Market.

"I think that fun events like this one help build community for Gonzaga while also supporting a good cause," Johnson said. "I'm happy we were able to have this

event at the Northwest Night Market."

Lots of planning went into the event by all of the RAs in Northwest Block, which includes the Kennedy and Burch apartments. According to Kennedy RA Lily Wang, the planning and execution of the event was a team effort.

"The whole Northwest RA staff and RHA made this event happen," Wang said. "We divided the responsibilities between teams of three to four people and each team had responsibilities that was then divided between team members."

When picking the vendors for the event, Wang said

SEE MARKET PAGE 6

Active Minds promotes mental health resources

By OLIVIA GALBRAITH

Gonzaga Active Minds, a club started in 2019, works to educate and advocate for mental health and mental health resources. After facing challenges during the pandemic while establishing on campus, Active Minds is now growing in its presence and ability to support students.

Active Minds is a national organization that has over 600 chapters on various campuses, aiming to spark conversation regarding mental health and transform the way mental health is discussed and valued in the U.S., its website said.

The GU chapter is headed by junior Anna Mottola, president, and senior Sophie Elliott, vice president.

Together, they work to foster conversations about mental health at GU, as well as bring in outside organizations to provide students with additional resources and information.

"We wanted people to have kind of like an educational experience, but also have a space where you can meet some people and get some resources," Mottola said.

She said the club is not a therapy or emotional support group, but rather a

space to find professional resources and have others provide support in reaching out for help.

"We're like a guiding hand," Mottola said. "We're there to support, but also not be the support. If someone's like, 'Hey, I'm going through crisis,' or, 'I think I need to talk to someone,' we're like, 'Here's a bunch of resources,' and we can connect you."

Mottola said part of the club is not only teaching members about the resources that are available to them, but also about the skills necessary to support others struggling with mental health, such as through productive and healthy conversations.

"We're also trying to destigmatize mental health conversations," Mottola said. "We're trying to pivot those types of conversations and make it OK to talk about your mental health."

Mottola said that she has noticed conversations shifting within the club, where members are more comfortable sharing during discussions.

"[That is] something that I find really

SEE ACTIVE PAGE 3



TERRANCE YIM IG: @terranceyimphoto

Sophie Elliot (left) and Anna Mottola serve as the Active Minds vice president and president.

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Dr. Jeffery Ramirez teaches nursing students to be people for others

By SOPHIA MCKINSTRY

At Gonzaga, the School of Nursing is a program devoted to educating students interested in pursuing a career as a registered nurse, nurse leader or nurse practitioner. Staff members work to educate their students and provide them with tools for their careers.

Dr. Jeffery Ramirez, a professor who teaches both masters and doctorate students in the School of Nursing, specializes in psychiatric mental health. Ramirez has been teaching at GU since 2009, and prior to that taught for eight years at Washington State University.

GU's mission statement, which places an emphasis on students being people for others, was what initially drew him to the university.

"[GU's mission statement] fits right in line with psychiatric mental health because our students are learning how to be more transformative," Ramirez said. "[They learn] how to transform themselves [and also] how to transform patients into recovery."

Ramirez said that often, people dealing with chronic mental illness and substance use have a higher likelihood of being homeless at some point in their lives. Because of this, students at GU focus on helping those more vulnerable groups.

"We really cater to the marginalized populations: the homeless...[and] people who have drug addictions and behavioral problems," Ramirez said. "There's a lot of stigma that goes along with those and so our program really focuses on teaching our students to be patient-centered."

One example of how the program does this is that students are required to complete a social justice project. They spend at least two days assisting a population that is considered to be under-served in the Spokane community.

Students are especially encouraged to step outside of their comfort zone and engage with people who they may not normally see themselves working with.

Ramirez originally planned on being a nurse administrator but discovered that helping people with mental illness was the place for him after working at Eastern State Hospital, the local state hospital in the Spokane area.

"What really has always stuck with me and why I chose this specialty was because working in an acute area like cardiac nursing, I saw a lot of suffering...but when I started working with...people with schizophrenia, I have never seen so much suffering in a human being," Ramirez said. "That's what really drew me to working with this population. A lot of the time, they just need to be understood [and] listened to."

Throughout his career, Ramirez has worked with veterans who are dealing with substance abuse issues, done consulting all throughout the country and even developed programs that attempt to reduce seclusion



ALYSSA HUGHES IG: @alyssarmhughes

At the beginning of October, Ramirez was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing.

and restraint regulations for people who are dealing with chronic mental illnesses.

At GU, he has taught many of the psychiatric mental health nursing courses over the years, including the introduction to psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner course and psychopharmacology, among others.

Because of his contributions to the nursing world, Ramirez was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing at the beginning of October.

The Academy is an organization composed of nursing scholars and practitioners who are dedicated to promoting nursing at both the policy and public health level, as well as improving nursing practices and patient outcomes in the future. While there are around 4 million nurses in the United States, only 2,000 people have been accepted into the academy.

"I had some really good mentors along the way and as one of them said, they always saw something in me that they knew I could do more than what I thought I can do," Ramirez said.

The Dean of the School of Nursing, Matt Bahr, said that he was proud of Ramirez' accomplishment and explained what it means in terms of the university and students.

"In the world of nursing, that's a very prestigious honor," Bahr said. "And candidates for that are selected based on their contributions and their work over time to advancing

public health and well-being. For him to be selected and recognized was...a huge honor for him individually, [and for the School of Nursing], this is a person that's teaching and training our students to be health professionals, and so we couldn't be any more pleased."

A humanistic, Jesuit approach for the care of others is something that's valued within the School of Nursing.

"That really resonates with nursing...there's a direct link there," Bahr said. "To be a person for others."

Ramirez said that nowadays, many people don't know much about psychiatric mental health nursing and aren't aware of what students are being trained to do once they go out in the real world. For students who are interested in becoming a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, he has some advice.

"I think they should know that it has to be a passion for them because this is not a profession of just developing a bunch of skills," Ramirez said. "The skills are internal and the only skill that we have is ourselves. We don't have the stethoscope...[and] we don't have any equipment. It's just our presence and our brain, [and] they have to understand how we use ourselves therapeutically in working with people with mental illness, or in crisis, or just experiencing some form of trauma."

Sophia McKinstry is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @sophvmckinstry.

PHOTOS

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explains how the depictions do not represent GU now.

"The function of the archive is to serve as a record of the past," Brake said. "I think to take those out of the record of the past is to pretend that they didn't exist. While we might not agree with those expressions, it is still a matter of fact that it happened and it's still important in understanding our historic context."

Brake said the Rogues Gallery will be remodeled in the future. The collection of photographs ends in 2000, and hasn't accounted for the 21 graduate years that have followed. Brake and Library Services plans to edit down the previous years in order to include the last 21 classes, as well as make room for future generations.

Brake has also been working on drafting a plaque for the Rogues Gallery, which would be displayed on both ends of the gallery as well as in the middle. The plaque would detail the origin, probable purpose and a warning about disturbing material displayed in the gallery.

Reyes said that the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement in 2019 made the school reflect on how its actions were participating in an unequal system.

"This place was built on an intercultural encounter between the black robes and Society of Jesus in the Salish Interior to Indian People of this regional area," Reyes said. "It wasn't always a good story. We've got to confront and face that ugly darkness."

The university has been taking part in audits, reviews, program assessments, meetings with the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC) and

collaborating with the history department to discover areas that needed addressing. From March 2019 to October 2019, Reyes and Brake also did programming for students, faculty and staff.

Then, in the summer of 2020, they did some faculty development through the Center for Teaching and Advising, with an affinity faculty group called 'productive discomfort.' Reyes said that whatever action takes place, it must be embedded in the curriculum in some way.

GU's next effort will be an audit of its statues to ensure they do not represent any injustices against minority communities. Reyes also hopes to put a small committee of students, staff and faculty together in the future to audit sectors of the institution and identify heavy material.

"As we try to critically engage with issues of diversity, equity, inclusion around us, I find myself always kind of examining

and re-examining my own experience and position," Brake said. "And I think that's just in parallel what we need to be doing as an institution."

Reyes referenced GU's mission statement, saying the community as a whole needs to be proactive in this movement in order to move these processes forward. The most important elements for efficiency will include emotional intelligence, spiritual literacy and multiple perspectives, he said.

Members of GSBA declined an interview, but requested the images displayed in the Rogues Gallery so that they could be removed.

Isabella Asplund-Wain is a staff writer.

OSTERSMITH

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Soon after, she created the interdisciplinary arts minor, a study of dance and visual arts aimed toward students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

"As I looked at dance programs across the nation, our minors programs were more vibrant than some other major programs," Ostersmith said.

In recent years, Ostersmith outdid herself again by creating the dance major, giving her eager students even more opportunities to express themselves through the arts.

One such student is Maria Carter, a senior dance major at GU.

Like Ostersmith, Carter has been dancing all her life and was compelled to join the program to pursue this passion. To Carter, the dance program at GU is incredibly special and a huge part of that is Ostersmith herself.

"She full-heartedly loves what she does and I think that's really amazing to find in a college setting," Carter said. "Suzanne just brings so much love to the program and so much support."

Carter said that her continued participation in the program has been maintained by the kindness and support she has experienced within it.

This community, enjoyed by Carter and the nearly 200 other students involved in the program, is not coincidental. Ostersmith has worked for nearly two decades to build a unique program that is both an educational and safe space for expression.

"In a college setting, we so often get caught up in our heads," Ostersmith said. "Dance can help us understand the world and knowledge through movement."

Having created nearly all of the dance classes at GU herself, Ostersmith has been intentional with infusing a sense of community and trust in the program's courses where students can feel free to take risks and make mistakes. Risk-taking, as Ostersmith says, is absolutely necessary for creating art.

"Creating takes risk, and learning to take risks in this kind of supportive atmosphere, it teaches you to be bold in art and in life," Ostersmith said in her 2017 video "What I've Learned" on the GU YouTube channel.

With the opening of the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, she was able to support more students than ever before.

The center, which opened in spring 2019, provided facilities to both draw in students and provide space to manage a rapidly growing and evolving program.

In reflecting on the changes in the last 20 years at GU, additional facilities aren't the notable area. Ostersmith

sees a larger volume of passionate, "fired-up" students than ever before.

Students are not only learning to dance, but also about the history of the art form and its many genres. Students are put into interactive leadership positions, producing and choreographing shows and teaching dance themselves.

This leadership-centered approach to dance has not only been a source of empowerment for students but has also allowed Ostersmith to maintain and manage the program at its current caliber considering her host of responsibilities.

In addition to teaching, Ostersmith's role as director involves producing concerts, supporting her part-time faculty and serving as an advisor for all dance majors and minors.

She is also in charge of bringing professional dance companies to campus through the university's dance endowment.

The "Dance Presents!" event on Nov. 20, for instance, will bring Seattle's Spectrum Dance Theater to campus.

Ostersmith said that she feels "pre-programmed" for this kind of work.

"I've always been one that has a lot of balls in the air," Ostersmith said. "And I seem to be able to keep them going."

This is reflected in her expansive career history, which includes over 100 performances in total.

Particular points of pride for Ostersmith are her creation of GU's "Dance in Florence" program, through which students like Carter have been afforded the chance to take their skills abroad and work with internationally renowned ballet companies.

She was also instrumental in hosting the American College Dance Association (ACDA) conference for the northwest region in 2020, an event that took three years to plan and involved over 500 registered attendees from 30 different universities.

Outside of GU, Ostersmith is an active and integral part of the surrounding community. From 1998-2011, for instance, Ostersmith owned and operated a theater that raised \$70,000 for college scholarships over her 13 years of leadership.

This year, Ostersmith undertook the task of choreographing "Orpheus and Eurydice," a show for the Inland Northwest Opera.

Her participation in the show allowed her to hold auditions for GU students, four of whom landed roles, becoming contracted members of the professional cast.

Looking forward, Ostersmith is both optimistic and motivated.

Her thoughts have been occupied lately with visions of how the program could evolve to be even stronger. In her view, the next step is garnering further recognition from



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Suzanne Ostersmith created GU's dance minor in 2006.

the campus and community.

Ostersmith notes that unlike other academic disciplines, dance has the unique ability to be something public and unifying.

"My hunger is that everyone in this kind of region knows that Gonzaga dance is something that they should go see," Ostersmith said.

Aside from ambition and hard work, what seems to underline her incredible success is a genuine passion and love for what she does.

"I feel really lucky," Ostersmith said. "When I look at those Venn diagrams that show skills, interests and opportunities, I feel really lucky because it has all kind of intersected for me by getting to create this program. The sky's the limit."

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ACTIVE

Continued from Page 1

beneficial just because the goal is to be able to have these conversations and to notice people like saying ‘Hey, I can talk about this,’ makes me feel good,” Mottola said. “Because then, I know that they’re getting something out of it.”

Mottola said he club plans on meeting twice a month, as well as host events with other groups on campus and outside organizations.

One collaboration that Active Minds participated in was with the Gonzaga Student Body Association earlier this year, where small flags with messages of hope were placed on Foley Lawn for suicide prevention awareness.

For both Mottola and Elliot, knowing that people are more open and willing to have conversations about mental health is important.

“It’s been really meaningful for me to feel like I can help the members know that they have people who are supporting them and that there are resources on campus if they do need it,” Elliott said. “I think that’s kind of what keeps me going, is knowing even if it’s just like one or two people,

we are making an impact and just letting them know that they’re not alone in what they’re going through.”

Since its creation, the GU chapter has had a few figures speak to the club, including on-campus counselors. Most recently, a speaker from the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) in Spokane talked to club members on Monday.

“We had some counselors on campus come and talk, and I thought that was really helpful just because it kind of helped break that barrier of... intimidation I think that sometimes comes with going to counseling,” Elliott said. “It seems like this kind of scary thing, and I think putting faces to the names really helped people. And for me, I think it was nice just to be like, ‘Oh, this is a normal person and this is what to expect like if I were to go to a counseling meeting.’”

Though Mottola and Elliott said that the club is still working on expanding its presence, they have found that students who are involved with the club have been positively impacted.

“Generally, people are very excited about the club,” Elliott said. “I think mental health conversations are starting to become more and more common, and it is just

becoming more prevalent on our campus and in our society. So I think people are definitely very excited and enthusiastic to know that a club like this exists.”

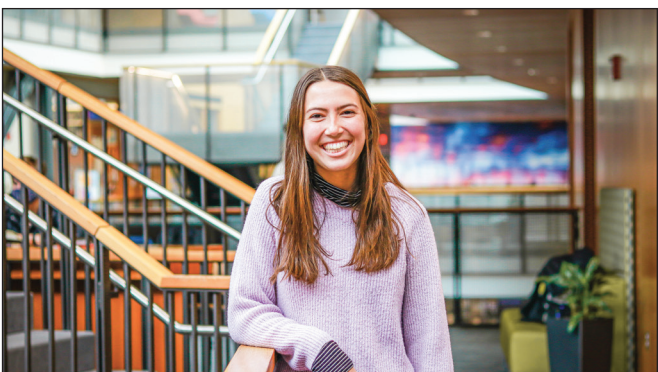
Elliott and Mottola said they hope to continue growing the club throughout the year, collaborating with other groups on campus as well as bringing in members of the broader community, like NAMI.

As for the topics discussed in Active Minds, club members’ feedback is a major influence. However, Mottola said she emphasized that she doesn’t want involvement in the club to be a stressor and wants the club to be a place of support.

“Everyone’s going through their own struggles, but a lot of the time it feels like you’re so alone in them,” Elliott said. “They’re not alone and... they do have support on campus even if it might feel like they don’t.”

Students can join Active Minds by attending the Monday night meetings at 5 p.m. in Hemmingson 201 or follow the club on Instagram for updates: @activemindsgu.

Olivia Galbraith is a staff writer.



TERRANCE YIM IG: @terraceyimphoto
Sophie Elliott is motivated by being able to provide a positive foundation for people on campus.



TERRANCE YIM IG: @terraceyimphoto
Anna Mottola wants the club to be a supportive space for members.

Global Conversation Series facilitates cross-cultural encounters

By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

Last Friday, the English Language Learning Center and the Office of Mission and Ministry united to host a Halloween-themed gathering in the Mission and Ministry office on the first floor of the John J. Hemmingson Center.

The meeting was part of the Global Conversations Series, which are weekly gatherings held each Friday afternoon for international and non-international students alike.

The conversation series has been taking place through the English Language Learning Center for years and was originally meant to create a space for international students to practice their English. However, it has now morphed into a conversational setting meant to spur cross-cultural encounters and broaden students’ understandings of the diversity of cultures out in the world.

“It’s a place to meet people and hear different perspectives that you might not get to hear in your everyday school life, dorm life or social life,” said Mackenzie Ashton, organizer for the Global Conversation series and an international student from the Philippines. “It’s a chance to engage with Gonzaga’s global community in a low stakes environment.”

While these events have been happening for some time, Ashton has always hoped that the conversation series would expand and draw more students, both international and non-international to the weekly meetings. For her, the joy that she finds in this community needs to be shared.

“When we had such a small community, we really found the value of everybody’s feeling so included and so locked in,” Ashton said. “I think that’s been something that a couple of us who were there last year have been really

excited to bring into a bigger group is that feeling that everybody’s welcome and included.”

With the now-passed Halloween weekend, Ashton thought that this was a perfect opportunity to elevate the Global Conversation series in order to hope that more people attend.

This spooky-themed event offered Halloween treats and started off with the game, Pinoy Henyo, as a way to promote a fun atmosphere early. Pinoy Henyo is a Filipino children’s game from Ashton’s youth. Everyone was divided into two groups and a person from each group had to guess a word while their teammates gave them clues. The game was a close match and everyone felt the energy rise throughout the room.

The gathering ended with the participants breaking up into groups to discuss their current Halloween traditions and pastimes.

“I love talking about scary stuff and playing the game,” said first year student Jack Tran, an international student from Vietnam. “I love Halloween and scary stuff, and it was fun talking about it.”

While the event was fun and drew more people from all across campus, the event did not lose sight of its roots of cultivating meaningful relationships and creating cross-cultural encounters. Many of the participants felt that they learned a lot about each other, discovering the differences that nuance a person and the similarities that unite all together.

For junior Jack Hong, it was being able to hear cultural differences and similarities of other international students in this space that made the event so meaningful. Hong, who is from Vietnam, has been involved in the Global

Conversation series before. However, he found that he learned a lot during this meeting about the traditions of Halloween.

“It’s always great to share about our differences because a lot of the conflicts that we see today in every part of life are mostly because people are seeing these differences in a negative way,” Hong said. “I think differences are actually things that we should celebrate because they are about being unique. It creates a lot of perspectives being able to be in this group and talk to people in other cultures.”

The gathering was also meant to show new international students on campus another place to meet people and the resources that the Office of Mission and Ministry can offer students who are looking for a community. Normally held in Welsh Hall where the English Learning Language Center is, this gathering was in the Mission and Ministry Office for this very reason.

“We want them to know that we do care for them. We hope that they can come here and that they can find a home,” said Jesuit Priest Dan Mai, S.J. “I’m a foreigner myself. I was not born in this country and I spent a lot of time studying abroad. I understand the experience of the international students. I wanted to have this welcome experience here, so that they can know that they can find a home here in this space.”

The Global Conversation series will continue every Friday afternoon from 2:30-3:20 p.m. and it will be held in the English Language Learning space in Welsh Hall. Ashton encourages all students looking for a diverse community to come and participate in the conversations.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer.



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Letter to the editor: Law School's COVID-19 protocol

By DR. SUSAN LEE

I am writing in response to The Gonzaga Bulletin’s story regarding the Law School and COVID-19 protocols published on Sept. 29, 2021. It’s important to clear up any misunderstandings about the assistance and support the Law School provides to our students in the event they have personal, medical or academic challenges.

First, it is our hope that all of our students feel comfortable coming to me, to Dean Jacob Rooksby, to Associate Dean Kim Pearson or to any other faculty member in the event that they are facing a situation they need help with.

In my role as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, I help identify and advocate for the resources students need, both

on and off campus. This often includes Health & Counseling Services, Disability Access or other community resources.

If a student’s needs are academic in nature, it is our practice to collaborate internally with faculty and our deans to arrive at the best solution, whether that means extensions or accommodations. This includes working with students on attendance matters that may be related to COVID-19 or other unforeseeable difficulties.

Our mission is to provide an excellent legal education informed by our humanistic, Jesuit, and Catholic traditions and values. That means respecting and caring for our students and fostering their growth.

For students who have made it known to us that they are experiencing difficulties, we will continue checking in on how they are doing and we do occasionally make

adjustments to the support plan as new issues arise.

Let me close by making it absolutely clear that the Law School does not take a “one-size-fits-all” approach when it comes to our students. We want to provide each and every student with the focused, individualized attention they need and deserve. And we do our very best to make sure that whatever plan or process we create with the student does not contribute to additional stress for the student.

I urge any Law School Student to come to me or a trusted faculty member. We want to do all we can to ensure you succeed.

Susan Lee is the assistant dean of student affairs for the Gonzaga Law School.

Monaghan statue localizes statue removal debate

In 1906 on a crisp, October morning, 5,000 Spokanites paraded a mile downtown to celebrate the christening of a tall bronze statue. There was music and speeches with every military man, veteran and band in the Spokane area participating in the celebration. A newspaper article from the Spokesman Review praised the event and the statue.

The statue itself is of a military man proudly dressed in his military uniform, staring down Riverside Avenue. It stands on an elaborate pedestal decorated with an image of a large group of natives launching arrows and spears at a lone soldier.

The statue and the celebration were meant to honor the navy captain and Spokane-born John R. Monaghan, who was killed in battle by Samoan forces in 1899. Monaghan was a member of the first class to graduate from Gonzaga University. He was the first resident from Washington state to attend the Naval Academy, and in the 1890s, he was one of the leaders who orchestrated a military plot to invade and colonize the South Pacific Islands.

Now, over 100 years later, the statue has made headlines again. This time, however, the statue does not have the unanimous approval that it once had, but is under fire as being a symbol of tyranny and genocide.

As a student-journalist living in Spokane, the stories and histories that are told and presented in the city are important to me because they are what form Spokane’s identity and truths. This identity and truths are what make living in Spokane special and separate this “Lilac City” apart from all the other urban landscapes in the U.S. From the tales published in the Spokesman Review or The Gonzaga Bulletin to the city’s unique architecture to Spokane’s statues, all of these contribute to the city’s ethos. We therefore must be aware of our identity and the acts that shape it when we are planning our city and writing stories about it.

The Monaghan statue is an actor that contributes to the identity of the city. Yet, instead of bolstering our identity, it warps it, presenting a false and incomplete narrative of our city’s and country’s past and misrepresents the Samoan population—some of which live in Spokane — as having been hostile and savage. It places on a pedestal a man whose actions resulted in the burning of Samoan villages, the bombings of churches and the killing of hundreds of native Samoans. This is no man to be honored.

The values presented in this statue are completely out of line with the identity and narrative of inclusivity and unity that is



By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

currently being promoted in our city. The statue represents arrogance and exclusivity. To let the statue remain in the heart of our city represents an obliviousness to the harmful nature that it represents and a callousness to the concerns of a population that is already underrepresented in our city. We cannot be the idealized version of the city that we so often dream about if this statue continues to exist in the prominent setting of one of our downtown squares.

The removal of the statue is a first step. However, this must be coupled with a change in how we talk about this history and how we educate the youth about this history.

Even after the removal of the statue, we must continue to grapple with the atrocities that happened in Samoa and the killings that Monaghan promoted. We must remember the Samoan people and the other Pacific Islanders that suffered during this time. Ignorance of this history will only benefit these historic oppressors. Spokane must be known as a city that does not celebrate imperialism while not trying to hide its history either.

I write this as a person that loves Spokane and cares about the people here, but also as a person that is rooted in understanding that stories and histories are important. I know that it will be difficult to shed a history and story that has been told and perpetuated for over 100 years. It is going to require reconciliation and even a fundamental change in the structures that have allowed this statue and history to remain uncensored. I also know that this decade is one of new beginnings and hope.

Now is a time where we are finally turning to the voices, like our Indigenous brothers and sisters and the Pacific Islanders, whose voices have been muted for centuries. And it is, now more than ever that I believe that we can finally remove this statue.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer.

On-set shooting prompts unclear finger-pointing

On Oct. 21, while rehearsing a scene for the movie “Rust,” actor Alec Baldwin shot a gun handed to him on set, killing cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and wounding film director Joel Souza.

With new information about this ongoing investigation arising each day preceding the incident, the focus has turned to the assistant director (AD) Dave Halls.

While it is easy to target Halls, the shooting is a signal of poor safety measures throughout the whole crew.

One person cannot be identified as the sole suspect in the incident. To accurately understand how this event occurred, investigators must look at the big picture to identify weak spots that led to this.

What we know so far about the event is that Halls handed Baldwin

the firearm and said that it was a “cold gun,” meaning that the firearm had no live rounds in it. Baldwin then began rehearsing a scene where he had to cross-draw the revolver and point it towards the camera. It was at this moment that the gun went off and let out live ammunition.

When any weapons, specifically guns, are handled on set, safety is paramount. The protocol calls for actors to be trained in gun safety while a licensed armorer checks the firearms daily. And there should never be any live ammunition.

The film’s armorer, Hannah Gutierrez-Reed, had opened the gun for Halls to inspect. This was one of three guns prepped and supposedly ready for handling.

When describing how guns are checked on set, Halls told investigators that he typically



By GRACE SPIEGEL

checks the barrel for obstructions. Then, Gutierrez-Reed opens the hatch, spins the drum and “cold gun” is called. This procedure is in place to determine whether there is any live ammunition in the gun.

“Halls advised he should have checked all of [the guns], but didn’t, and couldn’t recall if he spun the drum,” read an affidavit released last week.

Even if Halls did not check the gun fully, Gutierrez-Reed should have already ensured the gun’s

safety.

Normally, the armorer will check the firearms for proper safety, ensuring no live ammunition is present. Then, the AD will double-check and the armorer will hand off the gun to the actor.

This chain of firearm safety was disturbed for an unknown reason when Halls handed the gun off to Baldwin, instead of Gutierrez-Reed.

Many factors could have caused this to happen. The crew was rushed to film after some camera crew members walked off the set for other reasons earlier in the day. This time loss could have led to the crew speeding through safety protocols.

Another factor that cannot be left out is the fact that Gutierrez-Reed is only 24 years old. “Rust” is her second film as a head armorer. This lack of experience is concerning and should be heavily considered when looking at the incident from a larger perspective.

In a podcast interview posted last month, Gutierrez-Reed

mentioned that she almost didn’t take the job as a head armorer for her recent first movie because she felt as though she wasn’t ready.

Head armorer should be someone who has years of experience on set. While Gutierrez-Reed is dedicated to her job, she is still lacking leadership skills and the confidence in her position that only experience can teach.

While the investigation is still ongoing, it will be hard to truly identify whose fault this event was. The chain of safety measures was broken by multiple people, with no one person at the center of it all.

The investigation should focus on how the safety measures got ignored in the first place. Factors like rushing for time, inexperienced armorers, money issues and other distractions should be highly considered. These are the multiple aspects that can lead crew members to disregard the need for strict safety protocols.

Grace Spiegel is a staff writer.

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#Striketober hits work force

October was deemed #Striketober in lieu of thousands of workers going on strike all over the nation, and their work is far from over.

From companies like John Deere to Kaiser, thousands of workers have expressed their grievances by going on strike. According to Cornell University’s Labor Action Tracker, there have been at least 178 strikes so far this year, and the number is expected to rise.

Amid the detrimental impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, employers have become desperate to retain their pre-pandemic labor force. That, however, is unlikely to happen anytime soon. A record 4.3 million people quit their jobs in just August alone, many of them in search of improved benefits and working conditions.

The unemployment rate fell to 4.8% during the month of October, as employers increased wages across nearly every industry rose. A great deal of employers began offering sizeable bonuses to anyone who graciously joins their staff.

So, what exactly sparked this influx of strikes in the month of October?

Many Americans have become discontent with the growing wealth disparities in the nation. According to americansfortaxfairness.com, there are over 600 billionaires in the United States alone. Their net worth, amounting to roughly \$4.6 trillion as of August, is more than the net worth of the bottom 50% of Americans.

The value of the federal minimum wage hasn’t been adjusted to fit rising inflation in



By KAELYN NEW

the American economy. Its value has dropped more than 17% since 2009, making it nearly impossible for many employees across the nation to make ends meet. Regular salary jobs, as well, often aren’t adjusted to the market. As prices continue to rise for housing, food and other vital necessities, countless Americans are making proportionally less and less as time goes on.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many workers were forced to work longer hours in unsafe conditions or lose their jobs. Kellogg workers on strike in Michigan told their local news that they worked 16-hour days, seven days a week just for Kellogg to offshore many of their jobs.

As corporations grow and billionaires multiply, many big businesses today can replace unskilled labor across borders via offshoring. Foreign workers are more likely to accept jobs for less pay, effectively making American labor disposable.

Thus, the strikes were inevitable and necessary. Companies like John Deere to even some production sets in Hollywood were compelled to ensure better pay and conditions

for their employees or risk watching their entire workforce walk away.

It’s a phenomenon that is historically observable. After the Black Plague, Europe’s work force was drastically diminished. Since labor was scarce, workers were able to demand better labor conditions — employers could either ensure an improved work environment or lose their business.

Why are strikes so important?

Workers have power in numbers. While America may, at times, seem like an oligarchy fronting as a democracy, with big corporation elites and career politicians at the top of the food chain, this doesn’t necessarily have to be the case.

The truth is nothing could be accomplished without the proletariat. After all, what is a business without those creating the product?

So, when workers strike for livable wages and increased benefits, employers should feel obliged to at least compromise with them. This is especially important, post-pandemic, when the workforce has been drastically diminished and labor has, therefore, become more valuable.

Strikes are an integral part of regulating larger businesses and ensuring they play by the rules of the wage worker. They are necessary to ensure better pay for employees. If businesses cannot afford to provide better pay or implement better conditions, it is obvious that they shouldn’t be open in the first place.

As the spookiest season of the year comes to a close, scary labor conditions persist. Strike on.

Kaelyn New is a staff writer.



ANDREW LOF IG: @andrewlof_photography

Historic Flight Foundation allows visitors to get as close as they want to the planes, without touching, when visiting the museum.

Aviation museum flying to new heights

By AMELIA TRONCONE

November is National Aviation History Month, and what better way to celebrate it than to visit Spokane's very own aviation museum?

Under the bright fluorescent lights of the Historic Flight Foundation's (HFF) hangar, located at 829 E. Rutter Ave., sit 22 gleaming world-class aircraft. By the looks of them, you would not know that each of these planes was produced between 1927 and 1957.

The museum prides itself in offering restored and fully operational aircraft from what John Sessions, the head of HFF, calls the "Golden Age of Flight."

"It's one of the better collections of air worthy vintage airplanes in the world," Sessions said. "Because we actually fly these, they have to be kept up to a level of airworthiness."

Sessions originally founded the museum in 2003 in the Seattle area. However, as his collection grew, he began searching for a new location to house his fleet.

In late 2019, he decided on the museum's current location, Felts Field, because of its unique history. According to the National Parks Service, Felts Field was established in 1926 and was the first airport in the Inland Northwest. It also acted as the main commercial and military airport for the region through the 1940s and was the location for the region's first National Guard Air Unit.

Sessions, who was raised in Spokane, has held a deep appreciation for history at a very young age. Both of his parents served in World War II, his mother as a nurse and his father as a paratrooper who fought in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day.

"We were raised with history as an important element of what we talked about around the house," Sessions said. "Particularly [the] history of the World War II period and the years leading up to it."

Sessions' love for aviation came later in his life when he was about 29 years old, deciding to try flying after a colleague recommended it to him. He quickly became obsessed, flying over 2,000 hours soon after becoming licensed. What ignited, and continues to ignite, his passion

for flying is the serenity and liberation he feels when up in the air.

Sessions decided to combine his love for history and aviation by opening HFF. He wanted to establish a place where people with varying background of aviation could gather and experience flying through the years.

His love for history pushed him to only display aircrafts that were produced from 1927 to 1957. He believes that the innovative and everchanging dynamic of this time period is reflected through its aircraft, which makes them even more special.

"There's all kinds of stimulation here just in considering the history of the airplanes, they each have a role in a sequence of events and are important to the world," Sessions said. "They each also have a group of personalities associated with them."

Sessions' goal is to simultaneously educate the public about the aviation history of this time and give back to the community. The museum is a nonprofit Washington Corporation that is set up as a public charity to accept donations. To serve as an outlet of education and sharing, the museum holds classes, workshops and lectures for aviation enthusiasts of all ages to learn about flight and different STEM fields.

What makes HFF special, according to Leland Vincent, a volunteer tour guide for and former Air Force aircraft mechanic, is not just its commitment to education and service. It is also HFF's ability to utilize the best refurbishment resources around to restore the planes to original condition. Unlike other museums with displays that are static, each of the planes in HFF's collection are in working order.

"You go to Boeing Field's Museum of Flight and it's cool, but [the planes are] dead," Vincent said. "Here, instead of just being a museum piece, you could see the planes go up in the air."

He also believes that what makes the museum unique is its dedication to fully immerse the general public in all things aviation. HFF seeks for its visitors to not just view the aircrafts, but to truly experience all the different

aspects of aviation.

To accomplish this, the museum has employed a few techniques to make the experience more immersive, less stuffy and more entertaining. First, the displays within the museum do not have any barriers, with the intention of allowing guests to get as close (without touching) to the planes as possible. Furthermore, for the true pilot experience, visitors can climb into the cockpits of different planes located on the tarmac portion of the museum to feel like a real pilot.

Lastly, several volunteers, many of whom are military veterans, walk the floor of the museum to share aviation knowledge with the guests. Vincent's favorite aspect of volunteering at the museum is meeting the people who come to visit and hearing their stories.

"Veterans from different wars come in every now and then they're just loaded with stories," Vincent said. "We listen as much as we talk- maybe even a little bit more listening."

While the museum serves a diverse age demographic, they are eager to expand their younger fanbase because, as Sessions believes, aviation and aviation history will become increasingly important for younger generations in the years to come.

"Going forward aviation careers and related fields like space are going to be fertile fields in the years ahead," Sessions said. "Aviation as a whole is going to be an exciting growth industry."

In the same respect, Sessions says that the museum is ready to grow and is actively acquiring new aircraft to refurbish and display. He hopes to cultivate the collection so that it sets a solid legacy that outlives himself and anyone else at foundation.

Historic Flight Foundation is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. For more information about the museum, visit its website at historicflight.org.

Amelia Troncone is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @ameliatroncone.

Novel to film: 'Dune' impresses with visual adaptation

REVIEW
By EMMALEE APPEL

Science fiction on the silver screen can be quite the challenge, but Director Denis Villeneuve and cinematographer Greig Fraser have proven masterful filmmaking with "Dune."

Assumptions about this movie being a simple cash-grab due to the big-name actors and a soundtrack by the notorious Hans Zimmer couldn't be further from the truth. The cinematography, music, casting choices and worldbuilding are just a few of the amazing things about this movie.

Known for its in-depth lore and dense worldbuilding, the novel "Dune" is a staple in the sci-fi world. Written by Frank Herbert and published in 1965, the novel is set in a dystopian future where a feudal interstellar society sees noble households grappling for political control of the planet Arrakis due to the money-making spice that comes from the sandy terrain.

With tones that appear subtly critical of political exploitation, white-savior complexes, messianic figures and ecological destruction, the film has a sense of depth

that can be applied even outside the fantasy realm.

It should be said that if high-fantasy sci-fi isn't a genre you enjoy, the movie may not be for you. The film, which is 2.5 hours contains a lot of exposition, and even in visual storytelling, this can cause poorly directed movies to feel slow.

However, if you understand that the film is not an action-packed Marvel movie with a clear conclusion, then, hopefully, you can appreciate that Villeneuve did an excellent job of adapting a novel known for its dense content to the big screen and leaving the audience wanting more.

In terms of cinematography, the visuals, sound effects and music combine gorgeously. Each and every shot in the movie is truly beautiful and Zimmer outdoes himself yet again with a score that makes you feel present in this universe.

Additionally, Fraser and Villeneuve achieve a thoroughly artistic way of showcasing extreme visual dynamics through use of scale in the shots, which adds to the fantasy universe's depth.

Keeping with the theme of beauty, the actors casted in this movie are phenomenal. Timothée Chalamet

portrays our main character, Paul Atreides. Chalamet's performance is absolutely outstanding and proves his range as an actor as he moves outside the romance and drama scene that he has been known for thus far.

Chalamet expertly portrays Paul's shift from a scrappy, curious and determined boy to the more distressed and melancholic young man that we see by the end of the film.

There are several big names in the film including Rebecca Ferguson, Oscar Isaac, Jason Momoa and Josh Brolin just to name a few. The most attention however, is of course drawn by Zendaya. As a popular movie star, she commits to the role as Chani.

Overall, "Dune" is thoroughly enjoyable and although it is clearly a part-one, a second movie has been confirmed to continue the amazing story. Part two is set to premier October 2023.

The movie is available on HBO Max with select subscriptions and in theaters.

Rating: 9/10.

Emmalee Appel is a staff writer. Follow them on Twitter: @emm_appel.

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Seeking a Sitter for Our Two Boys

On Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 7:30. Possible second shift Tuesday afternoons from 11:30-5:30 in Nov/Dec. Email martaborkova@gmail.com if interested.

Studio For Rent

Cute studio apartment in Audubon area. \$800.00 includes all but Wi-Fi. In nice neighborhood on bus routes. For more information email tkwcatlady@gmail.com

Childcare for Two Boys

I am in search of part-time nanny for before & after school, M-Th. 16-18 hrs/wk. Reliable car required. \$16/hr. Please contact Lissa @ 509-863-7303. Thank you!

Four GU student-dancers perform with Inland Northwest Opera

By KAYLA FRIEDRICH

Hosting an on-stage performance for the first time in 25 months, the Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox held a crowd for the second showing of Orpheus and Eurydice last Sunday afternoon.

This past weekend, four Gonzaga dance majors — Ryan Hayes, Brooke Geffrey-Bowler, Alaina Margo and Maria Scott — took to the stage in a professional performance with the Inland Northwest Opera to retell the ancient legend of a man willing to go into the depths of Hell for his true love.

Directors and other team members flew from all different parts of the country to get everything put together in time for the show. Performers were part of the monthlong turnaround of the opera that was sung in Italian by the members of the INW Opera Company.

As the orchestra tuned up their instruments and the crowd settled in, part of the GU family was backstage getting ready for their second professional showing of “Orpheus and Eurydice.”

Suzanne Ostersmith, associate professor and director of the dance program at GU, was selected as a local choreographer for the opera and when asked to find dancers, suggested that a few of her GU dance majors would be a good fit for the show.

“I was quite delighted to see all four students rise to the challenge of the occasion,” Ostersmith said.

Ostersmith said her dancers were eager and thrilled to be a part of their first professional gigs, being that the two seniors, Hayes and Geffrey-Bowler, intend on becoming professional performers.

In comparison to dancing as a student, under the professional realm of things



GU dance majors Ryan Hayes (top left), Maria Scott (top right), Alaina Margo (bottom left) and Brooke Geffrey-Bowler (bottom right) performed in the Inland Northwest Opera last Sunday.

there are a lot more moving parts to create the stage presence of an opera.

“Working with a live orchestra makes things a lot different because it’s a collaboration with musicians and dancers,” Geffrey-Bowler said. “I think

being involved with professionals in so many different fields was really exciting and a great opportunity.”

The students were introduced to a new network of the industry and experienced firsthand the collaboration between a

variety of artistic mediums.

The dancers took on a few different roles throughout the story, such as mourners of Eurydice’s death, furies at the gates of hell and members of Elysium, a dream-like state in the underworld.

In the beginning of the act II intermission, Geffrey-Bowler and Hayes took the spotlight from Orpheus for a minute as they performed a pas de deux, or partnered dance, as Orpheus was preparing to enter Elysium.

“It’s pretty phenomenal to be working professionally as an undergrad student,” Ostersmith said. “This has been a thrilling experience to be in this setting with my students.”

Scott, a GU first-year and double major in dance and psychology, was ready to take on the professional side of the dance world back in September when she auditioned for the opera.

“It has been an incredibly positive experience and an even more incredible opportunity to dance with the Inland Northwest Opera Company,” Scott said. “It’s also nice to get paid doing what you love.”

This opera was an opportunity to bring the art-loving community back together after prolonged months of being apart due to the pandemic and it was also an opportunity for Zags to engage with a community beyond the one on campus.

For any future events at the Fox Theater, it is required to bring proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test to ensure entry to the auditorium.

Kayla Friedrich is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @friedrich_kayla.

MARKET

Continued from Page 1

that the event planning staff tried to pick vendors who could support local small artists and businesses.

“We started by picking vendors among Gonzaga students who we know are running small businesses,” Wang said. “We also reached out to Mt. Spokane since ski and snowboarding season is coming up.”

Alexia Saad, a student attending the event, said that her favorite part was all the vendors with all their small businesses.

“There was everything from thrifted clothes to handmade earring and patches that I thought was pretty cool”, Saad said.

To get the word out prior to the event, the planning staff posted flyers throughout Burch and Kennedy Apartments. Flyers were also posted digitally using the GU Housing Instagram page and through emails sent out by RAs to their residents.

According to Northwest Block Assistant Residence Director Caitlin Casey, the advertising for Northwest Market Night seems to have been successful and exceeded expectations.

“We were unsure of turnout because these large events haven’t happened since before the pandemic,” Casey said.


“Most students on campus have never experienced them, so we couldn’t rely on word of mouth of past attendees for advertising.”

For those unable to attend Northwest Market Night, there is no need to worry. Zags can expect more events like this one to happen throughout the remainder of the academic year.


“Northwest block will be hosting another campus wide event in the spring,” Casey said. “If you can’t make one of our events or you don’t live on the Northwest block, check out what’s happening in the residence hall you do live in.”

Gabriel McDonald is a contributor.

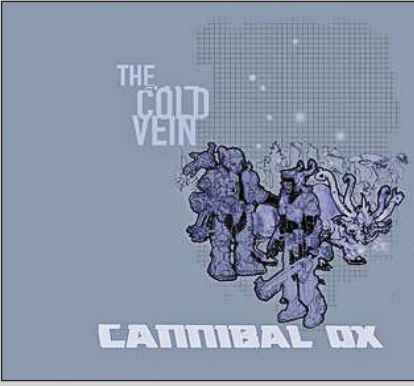
ZAC: The best of underground hip-hop



Submitted by
LUKE MODUGNO



Submitted by
SYDNEY FLUKER



Submitted by
ASHER ALI

The Unseen Quasimoto

The ever-mythical Otis Jackson, aka Madlib's colossal influence on the rap game, isn't only limited to his otherworldly skills behind the boards. Jackson's venture into the rap game under the alias Quasimoto displays the producer's quirky knack for world building and clever wordplay. Much like his partner in crime MF DOOM, Jackson indulges in creating a rap alter ego on "The Unseen," one that takes shape through his pitched-up vocals, wildly imaginative production and nefarious bars. "The Unseen" is easily one of the most incredibly produced albums.

Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star

"Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star" details the current issues, philosophical ideas and overall life in Brooklyn, NYC as Def and Kweli know it. The two emcees collaborated on this album in 1998, creating the groundwork for politically-conscious hip-hop to grow from. The first single released from the album, "Definition," addresses hip-hop's obsessions with death and the death of Tupac and Biggie. "Brown Skin Lady" is a love letter to BIPOC women, encouraging them to embrace their features against Western influence.

The Cold Vein Cannibal Ox

"The Cold Vein" is one of the many highlights from the golden age of early 2000s New York underground. The debut project from hip hop duo Cannibal Ox, led by emcees Vast Aire and Vordul Mega, is as grimy and disparate as one would hope to get out of an underground project. Artist El-P currently of Run The Jewels produced this entire project, using a mixture of sharp drums and harrowing piano keys to keep the tone as ominous as the bars that Aire's and Mega spit.

October album releases you might have missed

COMMENTARY

By SYDNEY FLUKER

What a great month October has been for music. Lana Del Rey released what critics believe to be her best album so far. "Faces" by Mac Miller was put on streaming services. New albums from Don Toliver, Young Thug, Meg The Stallion and JPEGMafia have all been dropped this month.

Staying on top of new music to listen to can get overwhelming. With the amount of big-name albums and singles that have dropped this month, here are some albums that may have slipped through the cracks.

"Blessings and Miracles" Santana

If there is one thing Santana does better than anyone, it's adapting his music to the times while staying true to his Spanish rock origins. "Blessings and Miracles" is more developed than his earlier albums and excellent in its own way. The pop-inspired "Move" brings back the iconic Rob Thomas for another song, while "Rumbalero" is a 2021 rendition of "Oye Como Va" or "Africa Bamba." For being 74, Santana has not lost an ounce of skill.

"to hell with it" PinkPantheress

Getting her start entirely through Tik Tok, PinkPantheress' fame has grown astronomically since being discovered in July. The Tik Toker's infectious energy comes through on this hyper pop-ish album. Giving techno-British-pop from the 2000s vibes, PinkPantheress packs everything she has to say into a perfect 19 minutes — the definition of a digital age album.

"Mercurial World" Magdalena Bay

Magdalena Bay's "Mercurial World" is an otherworldly, ethereal, video-game inspired indie album. The first song transports the listener to an apocalyptic world where synth dance pop is the norm. "Mercurial World" is classic Magdalena Bay, giving the energy of a somehow smoky neon-lit underground club where everyone ends up sweaty and covered in glitter.

"This Thing of Ours 2" The Alchemist

Standing at around 11 minutes long, "This Thing of Ours 2" is the sequel to the 20 minute album released earlier this year. With rappers like MIKE, Zelooperz and Vince Staples on his tracks, The Alchemist masterfully crafts beats that empower whoever is featured on the track. "This Thing of Ours 2" is a great album to check out in between passing periods.

"Red Hand Akimbo" Paris Texas

Walking the line between rap and rock, Paris Texas' EP "Red Hand Akimbo" unexpectedly dropped earlier this month. Sounding like a more developed and rock-inspired version of BROCKHAMPTON's "SATURATION" days, "Red Hand Akimbo" is unlike anything in the game right now.

"Weight of the World" Maxo Kream

"Weight of the World" presents Maxo Kream for who he is in an unapologetic and personal manner. With features from big name artists like A\$AP ROCKY and Freddie Gibbs, Maxo fits diverse beats and styles into his 44 minute album. He raps about hardships, drugs and loss over hype and heavy beats, creating an interesting dichotomy for the listener to enjoy. Plus, who doesn't like it when Tyler, The Creator flexes on a rap song like on "BIG PERSONA?"

"Yard Sale" The Brook & The Bluff

The Brook & The Bluff prove their indie status with their new album release, "Yard Sale." While this album is one of their more low-key projects, it has some groovy piano riffs and catchy lyrics with "Doobie Bronson" and "Say Goodbye." Perfect for a scenic rainy-day car ride, tunes like "Wallflower" and "On Top of the World" slow everything down to round out the album.

Sydney Fluker is an arts and entertainment editor. Follow them on Twitter: @sydneymfluker.

Zags get spooky with Halloween fits

COMMENTARY
By GRACE SPIEGEL

Halloween is known for spooky vibes, unhealthy amounts of candy and dressing up. But by far, the best part of Halloween is getting to see what everyone dressed up as.

Gonzaga loves Halloween, so it's only fair to mention some of the best costumes seen in the Logan Neighborhood this past weekend.

Three categories will have winners: Group, couples and stand-alone costumes.

Group costumes were all over the place this year. But the most common was Scooby-Doo characters. Velmas, Daphnes and Freds littered the parties. While it is a great costume and is pretty easy to accomplish, it can only get an honorable mention because of its frequency.

After searching through the endless Scooby-Doo lookalikes, the best group costume revealed itself: "Surf's Up."

A group of GU upperclassmen, Sam McCloughan, Cullen McEachern and Ben Hogan all win best group costume.

It was perfect. Big Z and Tank Evans could be recognized from across the room. They dressed up so perfectly that there was no questioning what each person was. Each costume started with a basic penguin onesie but came together with some sharpie details and iconic DIY surfboards.

This costume was the obvious winner because of its creativity. "Surf's Up" is a great movie, but isn't thought of when it comes to group costumes. It was refreshing to see a group dress up as uncommon movie characters.

The next category is couple's costumes. Once again, there were a lot of Scooby-Doo characters. Freds and Daphnes ran the couple's costume scene. While cute, it was a bit overdone.

An honorable mention goes to couple Holly Zakowski



COURTESY OF GRACE SPIEGEL

Miguel Acosta Loza and Mckenna Krey dress up for "Midsommar."

and Aidan Halstead for their Calvin and Hobbes costume. Zakowski, who was Hobbes the tiger, created her own tiger-striped top and tail, nailing the do-it-yourself costume.

The winner of the best couple's costume goes to GU juniors Mckenna Krey and Miguel Acosta Loza for their "Midsommar" costume.

Krey dressed up as Dani when she won May Queen and Loza dressed as her boyfriend in the bear onesie. Not only is this a hilarious take on the horrific ending of the

movie, but it is also extremely creative. Loza conveyed the fate of his character perfectly by wearing a bear onesie and painting his face with red splotches.

If some readers don't know why this is hilarious, google the ending of Midsommar.

Krey wore a white dress with an intricate flower crown that resembles the one in the movie perfectly. In the end, what pulled it all together was Krey's ability to make the same iconic pouty face as Florence Pugh.

"Miguel's mom brought the bear outfit all the way from Ecuador," Krey said, "I made my outfit in 3 hours on Friday. Thanks to dollar tree fake flowers, I hot glued the heck out of everything."

The couple said they wanted to make the horrifying movie less scary by making it their Halloween costume.

Lastly, the stand-alone costume. This one was tough because there were so many creative ideas.

Some of the best costumes were a Disney adult, the Black Swan and Rodrick Heffley.

The best stand-alone costume goes to GU junior Ryan Kapust, who dressed up as Tommy Shelby from "Peaky Blinders." Kapust went all out for this costume, wearing a three-piece suit topped off with a newsboy cap.

What earned this costume No. 1 was Kapust's connection to the show.

"I chose this costume because I love the show and have wanted to dress up as Tommy for a while now," Kapust said.

When someone dresses up as their favorite TV or movie character, it's a win. Kapust nailed the "Peaky Blinders" suit perfectly, showing his true love for the show.

It was hard to choose winners for each category, with so many people having amazing costumes. But, these costumes stood out among others and showed dedication and creativity. Well done, Zags!

Grace Spiegel is a staff writer.

Sci-fi short story anthology of 2021 leads with 'what if?' ideas

REVIEW
By OLIVIA SANDVIK

The science fiction and fantasy genres often explore "what if?" scenarios. The short story authors of "The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2021" meet that expectation indubitably.

The ongoing series is spearheaded by John Joseph Adams, the series editor. Veronica Roth, a bestselling author, co-edited the 2021 edition.

Adams created a list of the best 80 short stories created in 2020 and Roth narrowed the list down to 20. All 20 short stories were featured in the 2021 edition.

The themes presented are relevant, thought-provoking and propose social critiques. Major themes offered include advances in medicine and technology, memories, life, death and the afterlife, life-altering events and symbolic creatures.

Notably, Meg Elison's "the Pill" and Karen Lord's "the Plague Doctors" explore opposite effects of advancements in medicine.

"The Pill" shows how normalizing and enforcing a pill capable of eliminating obesity entirely will take away people's freedom of choice. The author expresses that a drug like this could promote a better society, but in turn, society could use it to exclude those who do not wish to take it.

"The Plague Doctors" mirrors that of the current pandemic. The story illustrates that taking risks to find a cure is worthwhile if it is solely in the interest of saving lives.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) was the outstanding category of technology in many of the 20 short stories.

Stories that incorporated AI technology were Yoon Ha Lee's "Beyond the Dragons Gate," Ted Kosmatka's "the Beast Adjoins," Daryl Gregory's "Rifle Brothers," Karen Lowachee's "Survival Guide" and Gene Doucette's "Schrödinger's Catastrophe"

"Survival Guide" compares the pros and cons of integrating AI technology into

the education system. After extensively researching the current education system, Lowachee rationalizes that AI could make information more accessible and create an overall more intelligent society but could also create a docile society.

"Schrödinger's Catastrophe" examined how space and time could differ in other parts of the universe. In the fictional Quadrant Brenda, the bizarre change in how one perceives space and time caused the spaceship's AI system to function on an incomprehensible level.

Life, death, the afterlife and memories were interconnected themes in seven of the short stories. This set of stories considered resurrection, permanently erasing "memory deposits" of objects with a paintbrush and Mnemosyne oil. They went back in time to reexperience loss, trekking to your own death to uphold familial honor. These stories traveled to an impossible place for deceased loved ones, unearthing dark truths surrounding suicide and having your grief cut away to

be turned into a rat.

Ahmad, Liu, Kagunda, Elliott, Greenblatt, Pinsker and Delgado all push the boundaries of what life, death and whatever comes after encompasses. Their "what if?" inspired stories provoke deep thought and personal reflection on the ubiquitous topic.

Notably, dragons, magic-consuming demons, a sin-eating tiger, rats created from grief, aspiration-supporting roaches, the "crawfather" and the mythical ciguapa were symbolic creatures featured in several short stories. Each creature represented a critical aspect of the story it was in.

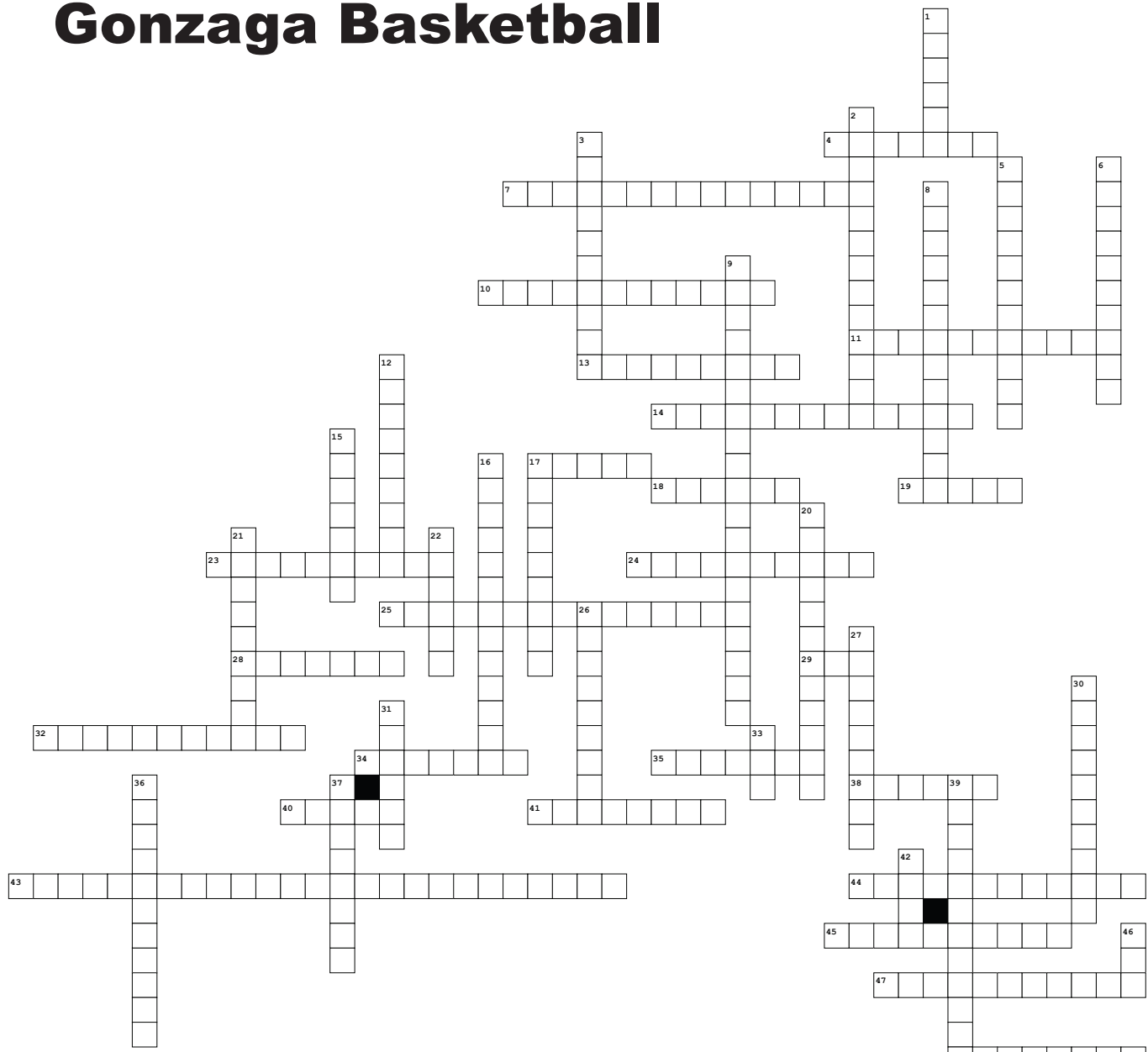
"But I dare say that the 'what-if' cannot always exist in the same realm as the 'what-is,'" Kagunda said, in "And This is How to Stay Alive."

This quote encapsulates the book's intent perfectly.

Rating: 9/10

Olivia Sandvik is a staff writer.

Gonzaga Basketball



Across

- name of the event held every fall to kick off the women's basketball season
- current MBB player with the lowest jersey number
- the name of the "dance" the student section participates in before every game
- Former WBB head coach, who is now head coach at University of Oregon
- the number of consecutive NCAA Tournaments the men's team has appeared in
- full name of current WBB player with the highest jersey number
- the state Drew Timme hails from

- country where Kevin Pangos was born
- how many of the WCC teams are in California
- MBB staff member who played on the men's team from 2011-2015
- term used to describe the 2008 MBB historic NCAA run
- the last names of the two former Zags who have been selected as NBA All-Stars, in chronological order
- NBA team three past Zags are currently playing on
- what conference Gonzaga is a part of
- Gonzaga's first one and done player

- the school the WBB team lost to in the first round of the 2021 NCAA Tournament
- the number of players on the current WBB team
- the state the WBB team is travelling to over Thanksgiving break for a tournament
- name of the GU mascot
- the name of the event when student sleep outside before big games
- who the Zags lost to in their first NCAA championship appearance
- full name of the only GU player to play in the 2021 summer Olympics

- the former 6'1" forward known best for her electric blue hair and aggressive play
- one of the two current MBB players who attended Gonzaga Prep
- the east coast school Dutch player Maud Huijbens transferred from

Down

- the number of NCAA Tournaments the WBB team has appeared in
- former WBB player who is the daughter of a MBB legend
- the furthest round the WBB has made it to in the NCAA Tournament
- the team WBB beat in the WCC championship in 2017
- city and name of WNBA team which a former Zag plays for
- the first men's basketball player to get drafted into the NBA
- full name of the former Gonzaga player who recently won the WNBA title
- the name of GU's student section
- last name of the current women's coach
- full name of the current 6'1" WBB player who grew up close to Spokane
- the highest pre-season AP ranking the women's team has earned
- the former WBB player who sunk a buzzer beater to win the WCC championship for the 2020-2021 season
- last name of GU MBB's tallest player in history
- last name of the twins on the current WBB team
- the number of players on the current MBB team
- the gym where basketball games are held
- Chet Holmgren's jersey number
- shortest player currently on the men's roster
- last name of the men's coach
- full name of the only new transfer on the current MBB team
- last name of the tallest current women's player
- the city where the 2021 NCAA Tournament "bubble" was
- the number of times WBB has won the WCC tournament
- number of former Zags currently in the NBA

Gender barriers and a Cinderella story: The history of GU basketball

What started as an intramural sport on campus has evolved into two perennial programs in the college basketball world

By DANIEL FORTIN

With Gonzaga University basketball back in action, it's a good time to recount the interesting origins of both these prestigious programs. The Bulldogs have been on the world map since 1999 when the men's team had a Cinderella season and made it all the way to the Elite Eight of the NCAA basketball tournament. By piecing together historical documents and older Gonzaga Bulletin articles, we'll recount how these programs got their start.

Before there were legends like Adam Morrison and Courtney Vandersloot, there were players like Eddie Mulholland, William Milligan, Bill Mulligan and Frank Burgess, who were some of the earliest star athletes in GU's history.

The men's program started in February 1905 after the Senior Division Gymnasium (now Magnuson Theater) was built. Similar to baseball and football programs at GU, there was no set schedule or league play at first. Instead, there were numerous intramural teams for students of all ages. But a year later, the team would play against other schools. Basketball, similar to now, was played in the winter at the same time as the football season back when GU had a football team.

The first official starting lineup from the 1906-07 season featured Eric Healy and William Page in the backcourt, Jared Healy and Ed Burley at the forward spots and Timothy Murphy at center.

But it wasn't until the 1907-08 season that GU introduced its first official intercollegiate basketball team. It was divided between each class similar to the freshman, junior varsity and varsity system in high school sports.

That team featured Eddie Mulholland, who was a tri-athlete star that played baseball, football and basketball. He was also the smallest player on the team but was a physical and tough player despite being undersized for his position. Regardless, the Zags finished with a 9-2 record in its first official season, all without a coach.

Following the end of World War II, GU's enrollment returned due to two factors: the G.I. Bill, a law that provided a range of benefits for some of the returning WWII veterans and co-education. Also, in the fall of 1948, GU enrolled female students for the first time. Previously, women had mostly been attending professional schools such as law, education and nursing schools.

With 75 women registered in the fall of 1948, the male-female student ratio was 29 to 1. Sports was frowned upon for women at the time, making for a somewhat hostile environment. The decision to permit women into athletics was met with some opposition by the GU community, with most competitions played on the intramural level.

To meet the needs of the growing number of women at the campus, GU announced in October 1951 the formation of the Spurs, a national college women's service group affiliated with the Intercollegiate Knights. Initially, the organization accepted 35 freshmen and sophomores.

In November 1989, the Intercollegiate Knights decided to break from the National Spurs so that it could function more effectively. The Knights were forced by the national organization to change its name. The group adopted the name "Setons," after St. Elizabeth Ann Seton because of her example of leadership and service.

It wasn't until 1955 that women's basketball would

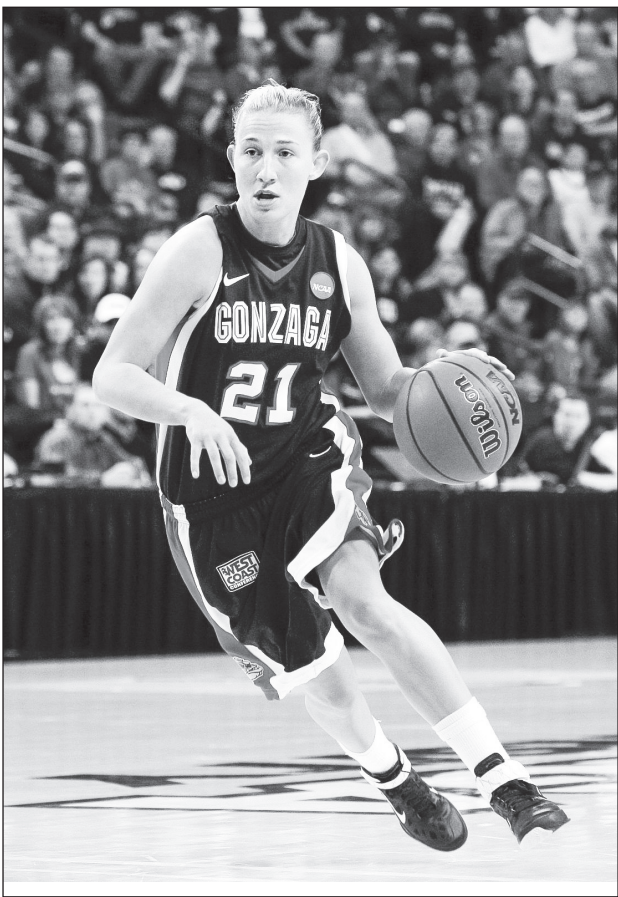
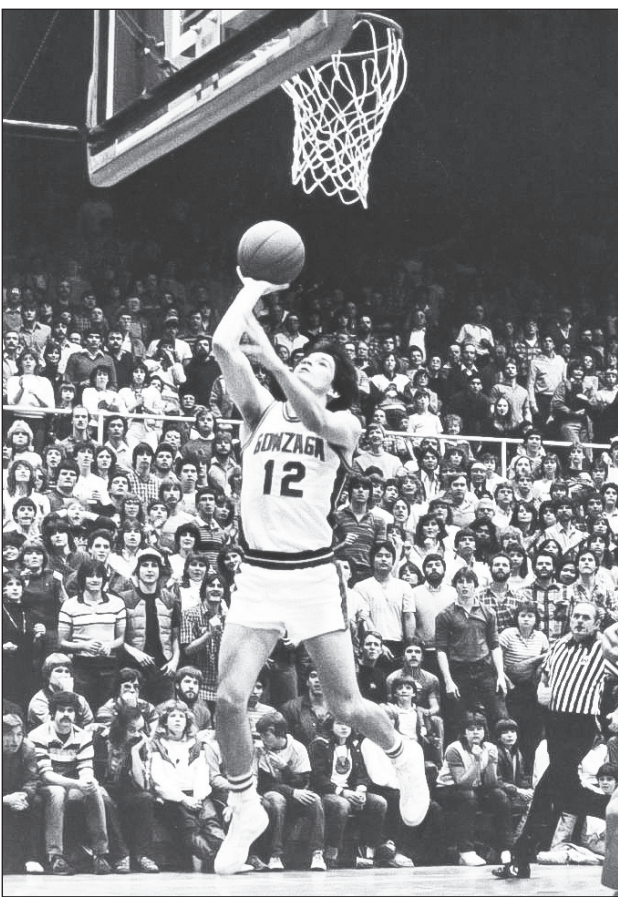


PHOTO COURTESY OF GONZAGA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FACEBOOK

In her four years as a Zag, Courtney Vandersloot was a three-time WCC Player of the Year and the first player in NCAA history to end a career with 2,000 points and 1,000 assists.



COURTESY OF GONZAGA ARCHIVES

NBA Hall of Famer John Stockton averaged 20.9 points in his senior year at GU and was named the conference's player of the year.

be able to compete against other teams following the formation of the Women's Athletic Association (WAA). Its purpose was "improving girls' athletic programs and game facilities."

By the spring of 1959, the WAA included other sports for women like volleyball, swimming, figure skating, archery and skiing. The women's basketball team practiced and played at the Boone Avenue gym, where Magnuson Theater in College Hall now resides.

With support from the school and the introduction of basketball, faculty was a big step for women's sports in the university. Most of the matches for the WAA were intramural, but eventually, the women's team did face the Spokane YWCA. GU lost by 10 points, but the game itself was a monumental moment for the program.

In the following fall season, the women's team joined the newly formed Pine League, which included Whitworth, Holy Names College and Eastern Washington College of Education.

The women's program eventually joined the NCAA in 1987 and began to play in the West Coast Conference from then on out. In more recent years, the team has had success in making it to postseason play. Since 2007, the Zags have made it to the NCAA tournament 12 times, including four appearances in the Sweet 16.

Forwarding women's sports at GU are due in large part to Majorie Anderson, who was the physical education teacher, volleyball coach and basketball coach. She is remembered as the "birth mother to women's athletics at Gonzaga" according to Stephanie Plowman, a special collections librarian at GU.

In the 1993-94 season, both teams appeared in the postseason together by earning trips to the National Invitational Tournaments. The following year, the men's squad competed in its first NCAA tournament after winning the WCC tournament.

Since then, both the men's and women's teams have achieved success. The men's team has appeared in the last 22 NCAA tournaments, including six straight Sweet 16 appearances. The women's team achieved its highest ranking in program history in 2019 at No. 12 in the Associated Press poll.

And so, while it's in a different place than 72 years ago, the history of basketball at GU shows the growth of these two prestigious programs.

Daniel Fortin is a staff writer.

Bulldog Band dances to the beat of its own drum

With the start of the college basketball season, its time for GU's sporty musicians to dust off and tune-up their instruments after a year off from performing

By ALEXANDER PREVOST

As the basketball season makes its grand return, the well-acclaimed Gonzaga University Bulldog Band graces the stands once again.

During the 2020-21 season, the Bulldog Band was unsure about its direction. Although they were able to congregate for practices and participate at live games, the band didn't get a chance to play — both at home and on the road.

"Nobody knew how long it was going to take until we were back at games," said Director David Fague. "So we were ready to go at any moment, and it never happened."

Fague, who is an alum of GU, has been the director of the Bulldog band since 2004. After being sidelined last season, he is determined to bring the thunder once again.

One of the unique aspects of this season is that the Bulldog Band is seeing more newcomers than returners. For that, Fague is looking to his veterans and section leaders to guide the band in the right direction. Despite this new challenge, there is an air of positive energy and patience circling the band.

"I just try to stay positive and make sure everybody knows, 'hey, don't be harsh on yourself, don't be harsh on anybody around you. Just know that we're going to get there,'" Fague said. "We're going to look and sound great. It's just going to take a little more time this year, but it's going to be awesome in the end."

In terms of other differences from last season, coronavirus procedures are significantly lighter. Last season, students were required to play their instruments while wearing masks with slits in them. Bell covers were also required.

This season, the Bulldog Band will still need bell covers. However, they will only be required to wear masks in between playing. No social distancing will occur, which Fague cites as a net positive for the band's cohesion and spirit.

Across the band, there are a total of 13 different sections represented, including



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

For a majority of the 2020-21 basketball season, the Bulldog Band was unable to perform in the McCarthy Athletic Center due to the coronavirus.

mellophones, drumline and woodwinds. Each section is guided by a section leader, and the band as a whole is led by a student conductor and their assistant student conductor. Other leadership positions in the band include a president, vice president, social media manager (who the band endearingly refers to as the "social butterfly") and the "fungeer." This particular role is dedicated to leading cheers and humor.

"What I enjoy most is probably how friendly the people are," said sophomore alto saxophonist Ari Love. "I've only been to a couple of games and have been comfortable talking to whoever I happen to be standing next to during the game even if I don't know them."

Guiding the organization are two key principles: inclusivity and fun.

"I want them to be like, 'alright, let's have some fun,'" Fague said. "I don't need to think about my tests. I don't need to think about this or that or whatever.' All we do is we look at our games — the ways we are the same, and the way we are the same is that we love being in the Bulldog Band, we love playing music and we're going to cheer on the team and have a good time."

To maintain his environment, Fague encourages open, honest communication and determination to make the environment as warm and friendly as possible.

Looking forward, the band's return focuses on taking it one step at a time, and

in time, they are confident they will reach that same high as before. They'll be playing next at the men's basketball exhibition match against Lewis-Clark State on Nov. 5.

"Every year, when that rehearsal comes around and I stand up there on the podium and I look around, I'm like, 'Ah, I am home,'" Fague said. "That's how I want band members to feel, too."

Alexander Prevost is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @alexanderprvst.

Devon Thomas brings Zags together in new DEI role

GU's newest member to the athletic department is committed to uniting student-athletes through diversity and inclusion efforts

By ISABELLA ASPLUND-WAIN

Devon Thomas was hired as Gonzaga University's first senior associate athletic director for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) on Oct. 4. His role is designed to educate, connect and support student-athletes and GU staff in an effort to align themselves with the university's DEI efforts.

Thomas described his job in two parts. The first part is DEI, which is meant to act as a conduit between student-athletes and staff, as well as synthesize all aspects of campus and community life.

The second part of his job is being responsible for the athletic marketing and communication units, ensuring GU is accurately represented as the Zag brand continues to grow.

"In addition to diversity, equity and inclusion responsibilities he oversees external operations," said Shannon Strahl, deputy athletic director. "So, marketing, creative services and communications. He has a breadth of experience and a depth of experience and just a drive to be good [and] to do great things."

Thomas is from Jacksonville, Florida, and attended the University of Louisville. In 2008, Thomas started as the assistant athletic director of sports marketing at the University of Central Florida.

One year later, he came to GU to be the director of the Annual Giving. His collaboration with Dennis Kalina, GU associate athletic director for development and external operations, brought a more marketing-based approach to the annual fundraiser, and he continued to operate it for the next two years. He felt like his background and experiences in the South would bring a unique perspective to the department and would be key in leading the DEI initiatives.

Chris Standiford, GU athletic director, and Strahl met Thomas during his time working at the Annual Giving. Standiford said the thing that has stuck out about Thomas the most is his positive and outgoing personality. He joked that he doesn't think Thomas has a bad day, but if he does, he certainly doesn't show it.

Standiford felt this position was very important to the athletics department and that the department's current efforts are more representative of the purpose and mission at GU. He recognized that the department could play a more active role in consciously and intentionally working in areas of DEI during a time when the university was growing its presence and commitment. Strahl described this move as "only natural" for the athletics department.

"The institution has goals around diversity, equity and inclusion, and we're no different in terms of understanding we can do better in this area," Strahl said. "We're excited about the ability to partner with other campus resources and continue to help our student athletes and our staff grow in this area."

When the department posted the position, Standiford said he didn't really think Thomas would apply, nor was he someone they thought would want the position originally.

"When I first met Devon, I never thought about him [for the position]," Standiford said. "But when he reached out and said he was interested in the job and wanted to learn more about it, I was immediately excited and knew he'd be the perfect fit."

The department couldn't help but gush over the work he has done within his first week on the job. As a former student-athlete, Thomas was able to make connections with student-athletes and staff. His impact on the athletic department thus far makes Strahl excited for the



PHOTO COURTESY OF GONZAGA ATHLETICS

Devon Thomas was formerly a deputy athletic director at Eastern Washington University for three and a half years.

opportunities his position will bring to the rest of campus. "The potential is so great and there's a lot of national momentum around diversity, equity and inclusion in college athletics," Strahl said. "I'm excited that Gonzaga can be on the front wave of that."

Standiford also appreciated Thomas' willingness to engage, his commitment and positivity. He was confident Thomas would be a great connector, and that his communication skills will make him an important part of their senior staff. He felt as though his presence and perspective would be essential to their meetings.

Thomas hoped his position would provide more opportunities for open dialogue, create a safe environment for students and staff to express themselves while integrating athletics into the university's overall goals for DEI. He hoped to accomplish this all the while identifying and celebrating what is truly unique about the athletics department.

As he gets comfortable in his new role, dialogue on a smaller level is at the forefront of his mission. Conversations with GU's Chief Diversity Officer Robin Kelly, DICE Faculty Athletic Representative Peggy Sue, as well as additional individual meetings is currently his top priority.

He said that these conversations will help identify any existing challenges and create a symbiotic relationship between the athletes and staff.

"I've got two biracial children," Thomas said. "I live in a mixed race home, and there are conversations even now that we continue to have to have as I raise my own children – and the differences that exist. So I want to make sure we are looking after and providing an opportunity for our student athletes to really express themselves, to talk about the things that are happening, to open a dialogue and to be aware of some of the things that they may not know are going on."

On Oct. 13, Thomas had the opportunity to participate in a social justice series, which is hosted once a month. The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) met with the women's soccer team and had the opportunity to connect with them. Thomas said he got to share some of his life with them, and vice-versa.

"We really opened up for some of our other student athletes to share some of the stories that they've had.

So last night was very good, I mean it was probably the best day that I've had here, and it's because we created an opportunity to talk with student athletes," Thomas said. "It was really eye opening last night. So how do we share that information broadly from student athletes to campus? Are there some opportunities to create synergies with both? I think there is."

Thomas said that some of the programs are definitely more tailored and designed for specially the student athletes, but that their community activities — such as "think pink day" for volleyball — will be more advertised. He plans to get the greater GU institution involved through social media, fliers, Kennel Club reminders and more.

Having the opportunity to participate in the social justice series also inspired Thomas and reminded him of why he loves his job.

"The deep breath that students take when we really get to talking," Thomas said. "[The event] was a great opportunity to disarm them. I have to work harder to meet them where they are, which is great because then you can see those shoulders go back a little bit and [them] go 'oh, he's just a regular guy.'"

In the future, Thomas hopes to create a council of student athletes and staff for DEI. He believes that an organization like this would help inform senior staff on issues that are arising within the athletics department. He recognizes that SAAC already has a committee similar to this, so he hopes to build upon their programs and resources.

"I don't want to recreate the wheel, especially from some of the great work that is already being done here on campus," Thomas said. "I mean, there really are people, and very talented people, that are working their tails off to move the ball forward as it relates to diversity, equity and inclusion. My job, my goal is to ensure that we are not moving in a completely separate direction, but that we are amplifying the message that is coming from central campus."

Isabella Asplund-Wain is a staff writer.

An athletic wear tale as old as time: Adidas vs. Nike

COMMENTARY
by LOUIS SUMME

If you walk around campus and take a look at people's shoes, you're bound to see a lot of Nikes. But you're also likely to see a fair number of Adidas. Although these two shoe companies are very similar, there are many areas in which Adidas beats Nike by a landslide.

To start off, Adidas has a much more minimalistic and simplistic design that remains extremely stylish while keeping its integrity. Although Nike has a nice design, their products feel less authentic than Adidas.

In addition to these general design differences, the brand of Adidas has a direct correlation to a single sport (soccer) while Nike tries to do it all and affiliates itself with all different sports. The singular connection to one sport builds a lot more trust in my eyes, and I'm sure other customers' eyes as well.

Adidas is also a much more recognized foreign product compared to Nike, as Adidas is a German company and Nike is based in the United States. Adidas'

foreign edge builds a lot of excitement in Americans' eyes, as well as in the eyes of people from different nations since most clothing brand products originate from the United States.

Finally, the logo of Adidas beats Nike's logo by a landslide, as it is much more dynamic and varies a lot more. Nike tends to just stick to its simple swoosh logo, sometimes adding Nike and "Just Do It," but aside from this, there isn't much variation.

All in all, Adidas is a higher quality brand that is much more minimalistic and stylish; induces a feeling of authenticity in customers' eyes; has a foreign edge and has a better and more dynamic logo.

Louis Summe is a staff writer.

COMMENTARY
by DANIEL FORTIN

Nike has been known to produce very good high-quality sports shoes and apparel. They also have some innovative technologies like Air Max technology that enhance the performance of the athlete. Air Max technology provides extra comfort to the feet by allowing the air to ventilate and move freely. Nike has some great running shoes, like the Roshe-Runs, the Air Presto, the Air Max series and others.

I've been wearing the same Nike shirt, shoes, socks and jackets for about four years while playing football and basketball, and they haven't aged or been damaged at all.

I also find their brand message to be more powerful and their athletic accomplishments are more transcending. "Just Do It" is the most recognizable motto in the history of marketing and is a brilliant but simple phrase.

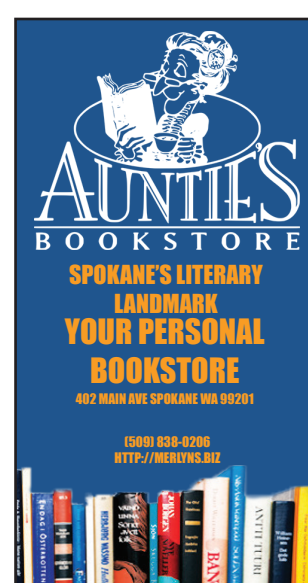
As of 2017, the Nike brand is valued at \$29.6 billion. Nike ranked No. 89 in the 2018 Fortune 500 list of the largest

United States corporations by total revenue, making it the most valuable brand among sports businesses.

Nike is also one of the older and still is one of the biggest brands in terms of sports shoes and apparel. It has been well-established for a very long time now. In my opinion, it grew with respect to its signature basketball athletes. At first, it was Michael Jordan who really put Nike on the map with the Air Jordan 1s, which are not only used for basketball but as a fashion statement as well.

Then you have the late great Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving. Then next, to a lesser degree, players like Scottie Pippen, Penny Hardaway and Gary Payton. These athletes put Nike ahead in terms of its celebrity/athlete sponsorship and some of these shoes have revolutionized the shoe game.

Daniel Fortin is a staff writer.



Ben Foos: From the V8 to the toe board

By SYDNEY FLUKER

Ben Foos is going for gold. Hailing from Pleasanton, California, Foos found rowing during his junior year of high school when he switched over from the marching band to regain the competitive spirit he needed.

As someone with dwarfism, a genetic mutation that causes short stature and disproportionate limb length, finding a sport that allowed him to be competitive and still play a sport was difficult.

When Foos found rowing, he began traveling the 40 minutes (without Bay Area traffic) to and from practice for the Oakland Strokes. His older brother, who also rowed in college, helped him through the recruitment period, and Foos signed to Gonzaga during his senior year of high school, where he coxswained for the Zags for four years.

A couple weeks ago, he returned from the Chula Vista Development Camp put on by the US Olympic and Paralympic committees.

The development camp invites athletes to their facility for training and classes. With COVID-19, there have been less athletes and camps being hosted, but they have been working with CDC regulations to keep it accessible.

But the coxswain wasn't there for rowing.

Rowing competitively after college was never something Foos considered because of the time commitment. The team aspect of it, where all members have to be there for practice to run, makes it comparable to a full-time job at the professional level.

Instead, Foos is competing in shot put for the Paralympics, a competition he's been training for for years, even while on the GU rowing team.

"The whole idea of the Paralympics is that it's a level playing field, so the only people I compete against are other little people from around the world," Foos said.

The two field events dwarves can compete in are shot put and javelin. Body type, technique and nutrition made shot put the right choice for him.

His sports management class sophomore year changed his life when it introduced him to this new world through two guest speakers, Teresa and David Grieg, who became his coaches.

The Grieg's run Parasport Spokane, a nonprofit that works to



PHOTO COURTESY OF GONZAGA ATHLETICS
Ben Foos graduated from GU in 2020.

expand athletic opportunities for those with a physical disability or vision impairment. They rent space from Valley Christian School to make this possible, and have enough space for basketball wheelchairs, weightlifting gear and a full basketball gym.

After talking with Foos, the three decided to move forward with training and competing, and he began in October 2017.

"He was quick to take up the sport and is motivated to do what he can to excel at it," David said. "He's taken a hard look at what he needs to do in life to support his training and competition aspirations. This includes lifestyle, nutrition, energy output relative to fitness needs."

Integrating rowing and shot put strength training together worked well, and the combination of training for both sports didn't cause any scheduling conflicts. With both his rowing and shot put coaches working together, he was able to benefit from both sports simultaneously.

Switching from a team sport to an individual one posed new challenges. Not only did shot put require a deep understanding of technique and strategy for a new sport, but it was a whole new competitive environment.

"Be open to learning and take in as much as you can while maintaining a competitive spirit," Foos said. "It's especially important to push yourself to your goals since there is no one to lean on in competition."

Giving him even more opportunities to travel around the country and the world, Foos has no regrets making that switch.

His favorite memory with Parasport was at a Desert Challenge Games competition in Arizona during his first year of competing.

"It was the first time my eyes were opened to the competitiveness of the Parasport world and [I] was able to see all different disabilities from around the world," Foos said.

After graduating from GU in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in finance, Foos stuck around Pacific Northwest to pursue his master's degree in education at Eastern Washington University. With his degrees, he hopes to teach business courses to high school students.

Now, he is training around five days a week and working at Chipotle while working towards his educational and athletic goals.

"When Ben is focused on a goal, he's dialed in," David said. "For him, this goal is the World Championship team next year, Para Pan American Games in 2023 and another World Championships, all leading into Paris Paralympic Games 2024."

As they prepare for the next season, Foos is stretching before work and weightlifting after. About a fourth of his time is spent training with his team, and the rest is done in his at-home gym in his garage.

With shot put being a summer sport, they are focusing on weightlifting and strength building for the first part of the year's training. This means weightlifting four times a week and doing a technical throwing workout session once a week.

"We see it as a mountain that we're climbing, and we are distilling it into how we are able to take each step upwards, sometimes sideways and every now and then we take a step back, reflect and reassess our course together," David said. "[Coaching Foos] has been a fun experience and Ben's level of intelligence and sense of humor have helped make my job, as his coach, a whole lot easier."

Sydney Fluker is an A&E editor. Follow them on Twitter: @sydneymluker.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Nov. 4

➤Volleyball vs. BYU, 6 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 5

➤Women's Tennis vs. Gonzaga Invitational, Day One, All Day

➤Men's Basketball vs. Lewis-Clark State, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 6

➤Women's Tennis vs. Gonzaga Invitational, Day Two, All Day

➤Volleyball vs. San Diego, Noon

➤Women's Basketball vs. Central Washington, 2 p.m.

➤ Women's Soccer at LMU, Los Angeles, CA, 4 p.m.

➤Men's Soccer vs. Saint Mary's, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 7

➤Women's Tennis vs. Gonzaga Invitational, Day Three, All Day

➤Women's Rowing at Head of the Lake, Seattle, WA, All Day

➤Men's Rowing at Head of the Lake, Seattle, WA, All Day

Tuesday, Nov. 9

➤Men's Basketball vs. Dixie State, 6 p.m.

Home games in bold

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