

VOL. 133 ISSUE 16

By **MARISSA CONTER**

Much of the task force's primary work aims to address the issues that led up to the racially charged attack against

As the email recognized, this is not the response many

There were three priorities outlined that the task force

SEE BSU PAGE 4



Each member of the GU women's basketball team wore shirts that said, "end racism" in pregame warmups and while linked arm in arm during the national anthem.

The entire team donned black t-shirts saying "end racism" before tipoff and played a video calling for social equality before the national anthem

By KAELYN NEW

the equality it believes in.

On the jumbotron, a video played which included multiple GU players voicing their collective support for the fight against discrimination and advocating for equal justice and inclusivity. The entire

"We are united in our direction to bring people together and we value unity and equality for all people," part of the

SEE WBB UNITED PAGE 9



A cut out of Bing Crosby stands next to his 1945 Academy Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role.

By KAELYN NEW

Conversely, students who didn't take those courses as part of their education before attending GU often end up with later

SEE REGISTRATION PAGE 4

INDEX

News.....1-4
Opinion.....5
Arts & Entertainment.....6-8
Sports.....9-11

OPINION

Getting the gift giving jitters? Staff writer Harper Hamilton shares tips on alleviating holiday shopping stress **PAGE 5**

A&E

Keeping up with the kitchens: Three news restaurants opening in Spokane

SPORTS

Grace Cahalane rowed her way to a world record while playing hurling and Gaelic football **PAGE 10**



Dancers perform a holiday-inspired number at last Friday's "Snowflake Showcase."



One of the Boundless Dance classes shares a routine they've perfected over the semester.

Dancers shine at 'Snowflake Showcase'

A collaborative effort between the dance program and the dance club allowed performers with a range of experience levels to come together and put on a winter-themed show

By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

Gonzaga University's dance program and dance club danced the night away last Friday evening for their annual "Snowflake Showcase."

Held in the Magnuson Theatre, the dance club presented two concerts on Dec. 3, one at 6 p.m. and another at 8 p.m. The concert was entirely produced by students with co-chair producers and sisters Bailey Harkness and Brooke Harkness leading the way.

Production for the event started after the 60x60 dance performance was held during Fall Family Weekend. The concert was originally meant to be an informal event. However, with the skill of the dancers and the work of the production team, according to Bailey, Brooke and Suzanne Ostersmith, director of the dance program, the caliber of the recital had increased.

"Over the years we've always called this an informal concert," Ostersmith said. "But this year, I don't think we can call it that anymore. It's pretty impressive. There's such a great variety and it really shows so many aspects of our dance program. It's really a fun celebration heading into the winter."

The concert was a celebration of all the work students had put into perfecting their dancing abilities. According to Brooke and Bailey, this concert was meant to feature those efforts in the spotlight.

"It is really great because not everyone can see how hard you're working," Brooke said. "Especially with Boundless, the dance companies and in the first year seminar class, this is a place for them to present their learning and that's really great."

Mollie Albanesi, a student in the First-Year Seminar (FYS) dance class, affirmed this sentiment, expressing gratitude for the concert. According to Albanesi, this was one of the first times where she both took a class on dance and where she performed in front of an audience.

"As someone who doesn't do the performing arts, it's not something that I get to do every day — work on something for three months and then show it off to an audience of people who are supportive and excited to see it," Albanesi said.

While the concert was a great way to celebrate the hard efforts by those in the dance, it also gave an opportunity for other dancers to meet others in the program who are learning dance. Albanesi said that before the concert, they were told to speak to at least two different dancers that they have not met before, and she said that this inspired her to continue with dance.

"Some people didn't have much more experience than me even though they seemed like they've been dancing for 10 years," Albanesi said. "It's cool to see that the way that you're putting in work and practicing can make you better at it. Improvement isn't linear. It can be exponential."

The concert featured a variety of different styles of dancing. Two classes—the FYS and Strategies for Dance Instruction—performed uniquely choreographed dances at the concert.

Multiple ballet style dances were performed by Boundless and the Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Company (GURDC). GU Bomb Squad performed a modern pop song and Boundless performed a tap number for the audience. A number of cultural dances were also featured at the recital, including an Asian Fusion dance.

"I think that it's really important to have those cultural dances just to spread the diversity of dancing," Bailey said. "Those first year seminar students, a lot of them are not dance students. They are just thrown in. I think that's really great to show that anyone can dance."

For Ostersmith, the variety of performances spoke to the volume of GU's dance program and how there is a place for everyone to perform.

"One of the things in the Gonzaga dance program is there's something for everyone," Ostersmith said. "There's

a lot of levels to experience, and so the fact that we can have faculty and dance majors dancing alongside another number, which is part of the club — student-led dancing — I think is awesome."

The recital also featured a ballet performance arranged by GU music student Annabella Gelmetti. Gelmetti said she had been holding onto these musical themes for a musical she was hoping to compose since she was 14 years old. Yet, arriving at college, she realized that a ballet might be a better home for these musical motifs. The first movement of the ballet called "The Fearies" was performed by GURDC.

"It's literally insane," Gelmetti said. "I'm so grateful. I'm so blown away every single time I see it. I can't believe it's happening, like I have to pinch myself all the time that this is happening. It's so unbelievable."

Ostersmith said this year's Snowflake Showcase was one of the better dance concerts to date. She's excited for what the dance program and GU Dance Club can put on in the future, as the program has grown exponentially since her start over 20 years ago, Ostersmith said.

"This is much bigger than anything we've ever done for Snowflake," Ostersmith said. "I'm going on sabbatical next semester, and it really makes me realize that I need a time of reflection. This program is growing beyond my control. It used to be me making it grow. And now it's growing on its own with students and faculty."

The next dance concert, "Dance as Cura Personalis," will be held from Feb. 14-17 in 2022. Both Ostersmith and Halle Goodwin, dance program assistant director, encourage attendance from the GU community.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer.

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What's the scoop on sabbatical?

By SAM FEDOR

The term "sabbatical" comes from the Hebrew word "sabbath," meaning a time of rest. But for professors at Gonzaga University and beyond, sabbatical is much more than a time to relax.

"For academics, usually it's a time to focus on your research or your teaching or a project that you've been working on in some way that maybe you haven't been able to give the attention to because of all of the distractions of the job," said Ann Ciasullo, chair of GU's English department. "At Gonzaga they happen every seven years."

Sabbatical is a time for professors to step back and focus on the things that may fall by the wayside during day-to-day teaching, including special projects, research and pedagogy, the practice and improvement of teaching.

"When you come back from something like that you're refreshed, in lots of ways, and when you're refreshed, you're relaxed, you're a better teacher," said Heather Crandall, chair of the communication studies department.

At a teaching university like GU, constantly improving the craft is all the more important.

Traditionally, sabbatical is available once a professor is granted tenure or a permanent position at their institution, typically after seven years of employment. While not every professor at GU has taken a sabbatical or plans to, it's something many long-term professors look forward to.

"I will take any sabbatical I could ever be offered," Crandall said.

However, sabbatical is much more than a vacation. Since sabbatical is paid time away from a professor's usual position, there is a process by which professors apply and outline how they intend to use their time.

"When you go on sabbatical, you have to first put in a proposal the year before and outline the projects that you are going to do," Ciasullo said.

These projects vary widely in scope and



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Maria Howard, a professor in the philosophy department, said sabbatical allows time for professors to reflect on their projects.

scale, which are largely dependent upon the discipline of the professor and their field of expertise.

"Some people have very research focused sabbaticals, and some have ones that are really focused on developing their teaching," Ciasullo said.

Some professors spend their time writing books or articles while others devote their time to research. Some spend their time traveling to visit archives at other institutions or attending conferences and workshops in other countries.

"I think that is the common thing, and most people ask, 'oh you're going to go on sabbatical, where are you going?' But I didn't go anywhere," Crandall said.

At GU, professors on sabbatical are paid during their time away from campus, a standard practice among higher education professionals. But if a professor takes the entire academic year for their sabbatical, their pay is cut to three-quarters of what it would normally be.

"I found it was OK," Crandall said. "I

had planned, you know, and I wouldn't have taken it if I hadn't figured out how to budget for it first."

Whether or not a professor is granted a sabbatical is historically not competitive at GU, said Maria Howard, a professor in the philosophy department.

For a professor to be granted a sabbatical depends on various factors, such as their department, individual specialties and if there is professor available to cover their classes while on sabbatical, Crandall said.

However, the process for applying for a sabbatical is standardized.

"It doesn't vary from department to department at all," Ciasullo said.

Once a professor has been granted tenure, they may approach the chair of their department with a plan of how they wish to spend their time while on sabbatical.

The chair of the department reviews the request and writes a letter in support or opposition of the request, which gets

referred to the dean of the professor's respective college. Through discussion with the provost, it is decided whether or not the professor may go on sabbatical.

While many factors may influence a sabbatical request's approval, a positive track record on previous sabbaticals is perhaps the most important.

"You write a report and you turn it in, and so the next sabbatical, that report will be used to determine if [you] should have another sabbatical," Crandall said. "So I didn't want to not do a good job of it."

She spent her first sabbatical co-authoring a book on gendered communication with other faculty at GU.

"You can choose to take a semester or a year," Crandall said. "I chose a year, because like I said, I've only had one, and I thought, 'go big!' It was a wonderful thing to have asked for the sabbatical request and then complete this project that I'd wanted to do."

Ciasullo created the first-year seminar course, 'Freaks, Geeks, and Outsiders,' co-authored an article on bromance films and attended a summer school in London on critical theory.

"For me, it was exactly what it was supposed to be, which was a pause, a moment of rest," Ciasullo said.

During her upcoming sabbatical, Ciasullo intends to finish a book she is currently authoring on the book and film 'The Outsiders,' develop new courses and look into alternative grading systems.

While sabbatical is intended to be productive, it is also a time of rest.

Sabbatical allows professors to have the ideal mental space to reflect on scholarly projects unabated, Howard said.

"You get a little bit of a break from the routine," Crandall said. "I definitely wanted to sleep in, and I did."

Sam Fedor is a contributor.



HAYATO TSUJII IG: @whoishayato

Around 5,000 people visit the Crosby House annually.



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The Crosby House, which was built by Crosby's father and uncles, has been open to the public since 2014.

CROSBY

Continued from Page 1

formats and he recorded more songs than any other entertainer. He did over 1,000 songs and he won more gold records than almost all the Beatles and Elvis combined. He was a radio star, he was a movie star and he won an Oscar."

Not simply focusing on his music and movie career, however, the house presents a holistic view of Crosby, highlighting his love of sports, his role in civil rights and even his experiences as a child and his time at GU.

Beginning in the dining room, two display cases in the center of the room are full of black-and-white images featuring his two marriages. A display case next to the window shows the hobbies that he liked to do, including playing golf and baseball.

Display cases in the dining room also show Crosby's role as a student and later a major donor to GU. In one case, there is a fight song that he wrote for GU and another that features an image of him digging up dirt to mark the building of the Crosby Library, which is now the Crosby Student Center.

The last display room is the parlor, which features Crosby's many awards and accolades, including his Oscar and his gold records in addition to posters of his hit movies.

GU students Emmy Wagner and Elizabeth Swenson have worked at the Crosby House as docents since its reopening this



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In the parlor room, displays of Crosby's awards adorn the walls, including his gold records.

year. They said that they like how the museum shows a variety of Crosby memorabilia, not just featuring his awards but also memorabilia outside of his movie and music careers.

"Something that I kind of noticed every time I give a tour of where things are is how much of this house is really about him and not about his entertainment history," Swenson said. "I feel like a lot of people come here, and they get to learn more about [Crosby] as a person and the cool aspects of his music history. I think that's pretty interesting."

With its many displays and the depth of its archives, it is no surprise that the Crosby House draws a lot of people through its doors. Before COVID-19,

5,000 people visited the museum annually, with five countries being represented in that number.

Plowman said that there were a lot of deep lovers of Crosby who would attend the museum and that it was always exciting to meet with those people. One elderly woman from England went on a Bing Crosby pilgrimage, taking a similar train route that he would have done in the 1950s from New York City to Spokane, Plowman said. The woman ended her trek at the Crosby House and was given a personal tour by Plowman.

Wagner and Swenson also said that there are a lot of older people who grew up listening to Crosby's music, adding that there were also people who did not know Crosby at all who visited the museum.

"It's really interesting to see a lot of people from the Spokane community who didn't know this was here until recently, and just learn a little bit more about someone who has made really great accomplishments to radio and music history, regardless of whether you like him as a person or not," Swenson said.

Still, according to Plowman, only 5% of those who visit the museum are students despite the university funding the museum and it being on campus. Plowman hopes to increase this number and make the house a more prominent location on campus.

Plowman said that there are some classes that have utilized the Crosby House and the copious amounts of archived material that

GU has on Crosby.

This fall, one of the upper division classes explored the Crosby House and the archives for a class project focused on writing a story about a specific artifact. In the future, Plowman hopes to incorporate the work that Ray Rast, a professor in the history department, did with his class on learning the history of "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin, which Crosby is famous for recording.

"He has a lot of values that are important to today's students," Plowman said. "Can you imagine today's youth following all their favorite Tik Tok people and creating a scrapbook? He means something. He meant something to some back then, and I think students can learn more about him today."

While the Crosby House collection is still growing, Plowman is proud to have this museum on campus and is glad that it stays open and funded by the university.

"We're back open again and that's great," Plowman said. "I'd like to see it be doing more. But there's not much of a budget right now. [We are] just squeaking by, but I think there's great potential there in that house."

The Crosby House will be open for another two weeks on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. before it closes for the winter on Dec. 20. It will not reopen again until March 13.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer.

CRP holds its final Allyship training

By AMELIA TRONCONE

On Nov. 30, Gonzaga University's Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP), Our Unique Recovery (OUR) House, held its last Recovery Allyship training of the semester.

These 90-minute events are offered once a month and provide GU students with the opportunity to learn about substance use disorders (SUD), recovery and how to be an ally to people living in recovery. Participants of the training are given a presentation and partake in group discussion on the science behind addiction, recovery-positive language and viewing addiction through a social justice lens.

Sydney Cheifetz, health promotion specialist, is also the lead coordinator of the university's CRP and facilitator of the Recovery Allyship trainings.

"The training is meant to be super interactive and it turns folks on substance abuse disorder," Cheifetz said. "We have a handful of goals and the first is to reduce stigma and increase awareness about the millions of people that are living with addiction and that are in recovery."

Cheifetz believes that it is increasingly important for GU students to attend the Recovery Allyship trainings because of the stigma and misinformation surrounding

college students and SUD.

The normalization of substance abuse on college campuses perpetuates the false narrative that addiction and SUD are not issues until after students graduate. Therefore, Cheifetz said, despite being the most likely age demographic to experience addiction, college students are the least likely to seek help.

A long-term goal of these trainings and OUR House is to turn GU into a recovery-ready campus — a campus that uses recovery inclusive language and provides safe and supportive options for people in recovery. It is for this reason that all staff and faculty are encouraged to enroll in these trainings, along with students.

"All of us play a vital role in ensuring that Gonzaga is safe, inclusive and supportive for those that might be experiencing addiction, or interested in venturing into recovery," Cheifetz said.

The training offers insight on how to promote a judgement-free environment to help people recovering from an array of addictions, such as technology, pornography, drugs and alcohol.

Kate McGuigan, a first-year engineering major, attended the training workshop on Nov. 30 to become more knowledgeable on how to support those experiencing addiction.

"I just want to be prepared and be there

for anybody," McGuigan said. "You need to be there for people and show compassion by trying to create a comfortable space."

Her biggest takeaway from the training is that to be a recovery ally means showing empathy for those experiencing addiction or who are in recovery by ridding stigmatizing language from your vocabulary. According to McGuigan, the most valuable aspect of the training was learning how to properly respond to real life situations as a recovery ally while promoting empathy.

"I loved that we were presented scenarios for us to be able to actually think ahead of time about [our response]," McGuigan said.

Another crucial aspect of this training, according to Cheifetz, is its emphasis of GU's on-campus resources, particularly OUR House.

OUR House is a safe space for all students who are currently experiencing or recovering from addiction. It focuses on the holistic well-being of each student by offering alternatives to drugs and alcohol, resources for maintaining wellness and meetings for students to talk about their individual recovery journeys.

"It is an opportunity for students to come together and build community with other students that have similar lived experiences," Cheifetz said.

OUR House is an example of the type of space that the Recovering Allyship trainings work to create. They share the common objective of serving others in need by creating a safe space.

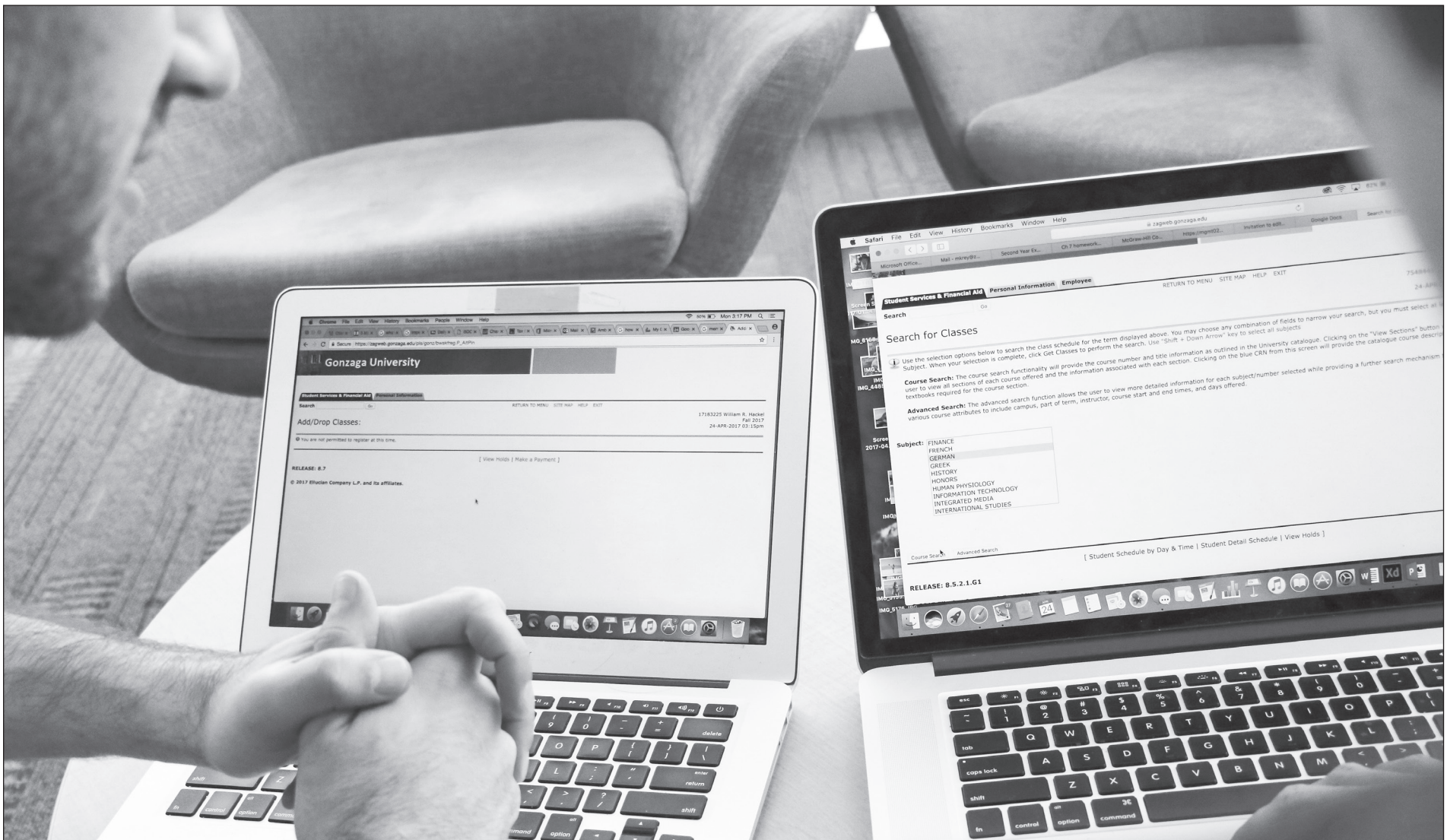
The most rewarding part, Cheifetz said, of leading the trainings and working at OUR House is being able to help young people of from different backgrounds change the narrative on a cultural level of how addiction is thought about.

"It is extremely fulfilling to foster an environment where community members, whether they're in recovery or exploring recovery, feel accepted by their peers, are empowered to live genuinely and feel comfortable asking for help," Cheifetz said.

OUR House is located at 1211 N. Cincinnati St., and hosts weekly drop-in hours for students curious about recovery on Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For students further interested in OUR House, visit their website at www.gonzaga.edu/crc.

For the Recovery Allyship trainings, check morning mail and the GU training portal for additional dates and times when training is offered this school year.

Amelia Troncone is a staff writer.



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

A recent study has found registration disparities among first-year students, who were broken up into three registration groups based on credits earned.

REGISTRATION

Continued from Page 1

college credit programs due to a lack of access to equitable resources.

"Students don't get to choose which high school they go to, and studies have shown that high schools that don't offer many AP classes tend to serve more vulnerable populations of students," Staub said.

Their research examined disparities among groups of first-year students. For registration, first-year students are divided into three groups based on credits previously earned. The first group has an earlier time slot than the second, and likewise, the second group has an earlier slot than the third.

The researchers found racial disparities among the groups of registering first-year students.

"For non-minority students, about 18% of them are in that first group and only 36% of them are in the last group of freshmen to register," Swanson said. "For minority students, only 12% of them are in that first group and almost 45% of them are in that last group."

While GU's intention isn't to exclude certain racial and minority groups from access to the credit they need to succeed, that is the result.

"A lot of systemic racism is old policies that made sense at one point but now target different groups so that

some people have privilege and others don't," Staub said.

As a result of the biology professors' study, the Equity in Registration Task Force was created to further investigate and address inequities in the registration process.

The task force is headed by GU theatre and dance professor Kathleen Jeffs, and its membership boasts several representatives of other on-campus organizations including the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Center for Cura Personalis. Other integral members of the task force include Shari Rasmussen and Heather Teshome, representatives from the Registrar's Office.

"Our office is always wanting to do the right thing for our students," Rasmussen said. "So, whatever the task force determines to be the right solution going forward, we're certainly happy to do the work to make the system as it should be based on the research the committee has done."

The task force, while working to address how to better support students of color, is similarly working to eliminate other inequities unrelated to race. For instance, as Jeffs pointed out, inequities can emerge from seemingly minimal situations like having a poor advisor.

"The biology working group is concerned with racial inequities; the new task force is concerned with all of it," Jeffs said. "It's about race, but it's not all about race."

The task force will continue to work to determine if equitable registration via an alternate system is a viable option for GU.

"Our office wants to serve our students to the best of

our ability and make things equitable across the board and at all student levels, so we will undertake the results that the committee proposes and we will work with the results to put them in place for future registration processes," Rasmussen said.

If any changes are made to the current system, students can expect to see them as early as spring 2023 in a "test-drive" program, while implementation of full-scale system changes could occur during fall 2023 registration at the earliest.

A more equitable registration process potentially could have helped students like Kaila Okubo, a senior biochemistry major and co-president of GU's Hawai'i Pacific Islanders Club.

"I'm from Hawai'i and I know my high school didn't necessarily push getting college credit or Running Start," Okubo said. "A lot of my friends from Hawai'i have lower credit statuses than those who aren't [from Hawai'i]."

While the task force continues to conduct research, students should expect to see changes within the registration processes in the coming semester.

"We don't have any control over where students come from or what high schools offer AP credits," Swanson said. "What we do have control over at Gonzaga is whether we decide to perpetuate those inequities or not."

Kaelyn New is a staff writer.

BSU

Continued from Page 1

has been focusing on, the first of which is to reevaluate and improve restorative justice processes. To achieve this, Assistant Dean of Students, Paula Smith, who supervises GU's Restorative Justice program, has met with the task force to talk about ongoing changes and to encourage members of the task force to give feedback on GU's restorative justice process.

The second priority is to increase the diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) training and education for faculty and staff. As of now, over 1,300 faculty and staff have completed DiversityEdu, a three-hour intercultural fluency training program, with faculty members representing 46% of those who have completed training.

Students on the BSU Task Force are pushing for mandatory DEI training for faculty.

"We're looking to speak with our leadership in terms of the deans, to see what other support we can get from faculty

senate," Kelley said. "There was a letter that was written by our faculty in support of BSU last year, so we're looking to see what kind of support we can get for that, in terms of creating mandatory diversity, equity and inclusion training."

Kelley is referring to the letter to the editor that was published last November. The letter was signed by 154 GU faculty members, calling for the institution to take action immediately.

The third priority is to recruit and retain faculty and staff of color. Kelley and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) has been working with the senior vice president, provost office and faculty senate to revise the faculty recruitment and retention policy to include diversity, equity, inclusion specific requirements or tests.

This includes implementing strategic DEI advertising to create a broader pool of diverse candidates, and altering the University's Underrepresented Minority Postdoc Fellows program to include a focus on retention, which has resulted in two faculty of color being hired for this academic year.

"There's a symbiotic relationship between students of color and faculty of color," Kelley said. "The more students of

color you have, then you attract more faculty of color and more faculty of color attracts more students of color. So once you change the demographic picture of Gonzaga, then you will have more people with different backgrounds and experiences and the overall climate should improve."

Health and Counseling Services also hired a new counselor, Martal Prewitt, who is a person of color, and whom students of color can go to for support.

Several other departments and offices on campus are developing practices to encourage recruitment of staff of color. The task force will also include staff assembly, ODEI and human resources in a discussion about strategies to better diversify GU's staff.

Although the attack last year was disturbing for many in GU's community, Kelley recognized how this was an opportunity for change that will make GU better.

"I don't think it's a simple matter of moving on, I think some of the demands and requests by BSU were in order to improve Gonzaga, and to be more transformational," Kelley said. "I think campus should look forward to some of that change. That's gonna make the campus better."

Pollard also advocated for further efforts from the university to bring about change.

"One thing I've learned from being here is how long it takes to bring change within the institution," Pollard said. "So far the points we are currently focusing on are just a small portion of what we have outlined as areas of change. Gonzaga has a lot of work to do in order to make not only [its] Black students feel safe and welcome on this campus, but also students from all other marginalized communities. I know a good amount of students still feel a level of distrust and frustration."

She identified the cause of these feelings as a result of a lack of communication from the university, arguing had there been some more clarity in messaging between the university and students, these feelings would have been lessened.

Kelley encourages students to regularly give feedback to administration and share their experiences, as she feels transparency and humility are instrumental in making the progress that everyone wants to see happen.

Marissa Conter is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @marissaconter.

Holidays are more than dollar signs

In the U.S. in 2018, holiday shopping sales surpassed \$1 trillion for the first time in history. The average household spent approximately \$1,536 during the season, with 22% of Americans expecting to rack up debt from Christmas spending tendencies. Now more than ever, society is inundated with consumerist messaging prompting us to draw a false equivalency between how much we spend with how much we value other people and ourselves.

The familiar glow of nostalgic Christmas music certainly paints an elegant picture of simple pleasures — family, good cheer and chilly weather. But do those sentiments hold true within society today? Have materialism, commercialism and greed fueled by capitalism ousted the enjoyment of modest pleasures from society’s collective palate?

While Christmas is certainly a time to live in the moment with those we love, it’s important to examine our approach to a season that holds potential for love and kindness. For many, this means taking notice that traditions rooted in sentiment have fallen to the wayside. Although the pace of commercialism certainly assumes some of the blame, it’s unrealistic to expect absolute permanence while the world constantly changes around us.

I don’t believe materialistic values associated with capitalism have dominated or “taken over” the Christmas season. I do believe if we’re truly evaluating our priorities, we would realign the ones that have drifted apart from the spirit of giving, glad tidings and glee — at



By ANDERS SVENNINGSSEN

the risk of a cliché — things that “don’t come with a price tag.”

Christmas is still a season of warmth for so many people. Even if the modern value-added promotion of goods have strained our relationship with guiding principles, there are bountiful ways people are coming together that evade facile tendencies of commercialism. Homemade gifts are an excellent example of this.

In recent years — especially with all the free time afforded by the pandemic — the “homemade” gift has

retained and even advanced its position as a viable alternative for purchasing a present. Writing poems, baking something special and handmade cards all grace an extensive list of practical options people pursue in Christmas gift-giving unto others.

Personally (as a broke college student) I’ve found it enlightening to discover my own ingenuity and creativity while working on that budget. The popular message might be to spend in spades, but frequently, the avenues taken for gift giving are little to no cost home runs. People appreciate authentic effort and care tremendously more than a store-bought trinket.

Furthermore, a vast number of experiences and traditions associated with the holiday season don’t necessitate acquiring material things. Snowball fights, caroling or even giving back through volunteering are fantastic holiday activities that cost nothing and enrich invaluable.

Although materialism and commercialism have infiltrated Christmas traditions and customs, I’m holding out the hope that Christmas spirit is just spirit — and it exists outside of the imperfect systems of our lives. Though so much of what we hear in the world tells us that it comes with a cost or within perceived “exchange of value,” yet despite all that, the words of Buddy the Elf ring clearly in my ear.

“The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.”

Anders Svenningsen is a staff writer.

The missing women epidemic knows no color

“Missing White Woman Syndrome” is a phenomenon so prevalent that even Netflix has decided to feature it in one of its most recent and anticipated releases.

Season three of “You” premiered on the popular streaming service on Oct. 15, featuring a candid conversation about this. Spoiler alert: in the wake of Natalie Engler’s death, a Realtor and wife of a prominent businessman, the main character Joe Goldberg is discussing the news with two of his co-workers. His boss brings up “Missing White Woman Syndrome,” which Goldberg has not heard of.

Marienne Bellamy, Goldberg’s boss — who is a woman of color — explains that she is talking about how when upper-class attractive white women go missing, the incident gets tons of publicity.

“When white women receive disproportionately high attention, a message is being sent,” Bellamy said in the scene. “White ladies deserve to be rescued. The rest of us can fend for ourselves.”

Netflix couldn’t have more eerie timing as this season aired in the midst of the United States’ own Natalie Engler — the tumultuous investigation of Gabby Petito’s disappearance.

Petito was a travel blogger who embarked on a cross-country trip with her fiancé, Brian Laundrie, in her white Ford van beginning in July, according to CBS news. On Sept. 19, remains were found in Wyoming matching Petito’s description, and a couple of days later, they were confirmed to be hers. Her death was ruled as a homicide, and all signs pointed to Laundrie as the person responsible. A month later on Oct. 20, Laundrie’s remains were discovered.

Throughout the search and long after, Petito’s case was covered by every media outlet imaginable: traditional newspapers, news channels, magazines, blogs, creators on YouTube and TikTok, etc. Petito’s Instagram has been memorialized and the comments are filled with prayers and well wishes for the 22-year-old.

Petito’s story is unquestionably a tragedy and warrants all the love and support on the internet. However, her case has also ignited an equally important conversation



By MARISSA CONTER

surrounding the missing persons cases of Indigenous women in America. In fact, for these communities, these disappearances aren’t news because it happens so often.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Indigenous women, girls and two-spirits are killed at a rate 10 times higher than all other ethnicities. In fact, homicide is the third leading cause of death for Indigenous women who are in the age range of 10-24 years old (Centers for Disease Control). The National Crime Information Center has reported 5,712 cases of missing Indigenous women and children since 2016. Washington state is ranked second-highest in the nation for missing and murdered Indigenous women cases (Urban Indian Health Institute).

On Nov. 25, 2020, Mary Johnson (Davis) was last seen walking on the Tulalip Reservation in Washington State, and has been missing since. According to CNN, a billboard on Interstate 5 and local media attention have generated not many credible tips and the tribal police have yet to make an arrest. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) just announced a reward of up to \$10,000 for any information on her disappearance in September, nearly 10

months after she was reported missing.

“If that was a little white girl out there or a white woman, I’m sure they would have had helicopters, airplanes and dogs and searches — a lot of manpower out there — scouring where that person was lost,” Nona Blouin, Johnson’s sister, said to CNN. “None of that has happened for our sister.”

I find the prevalence of this issue to be incredibly disturbing. However, the correlation of media coverage to how widespread this issue is would lead me to believe I’m in the minority with that view. When you Google “Gabby Petito,” there are 52,700,000 results covering every aspect imaginable on her case. On the other hand, when you Google “Mary Johnson missing Washington,” there are 16,100,000 results. That is over three times the amount of coverage.

Where are the dedicated police departments and multiple search teams for Johnson? Where is the 24/7 media coverage and updates for Indigenous women? To be clear, I’m not saying Petito doesn’t deserve the press. Her case also illuminates the horrifying realities of domestic abuse and abusive partners. But this should be the procedure for every woman that goes missing across all racial lines.

These women’s families wait for years for answers, and more often than not, never get them. They live in fear that it will be their mother, sister or even their own self that will be the next to disappear, never heard from again. This way of life is unacceptable.

I am glad to see this conversation brought to the limelight in the aftermath of Petito’s death. This surge in press coverage, although welcome, is long overdue.

To learn more and find ways to help, Zags can visit the websites of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women USA, Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, Not Our Native Daughters and The Not Invisible Act Commission.

Marissa Conter is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @marissaconter.

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Got gift giving anxieties?

Three simple rules to follow when getting the perfect gift

In my junior year of high school, my best friend Alice and I had gotten into a heated discussion over who, if we both had children, would get to name their child “Frank.” Being the bigger person I always am, I knew what I had to do.

When Alice’s birthday rolled around on March 14, I decided to give her, among other things, the generous gift of the name Frank for her future child. After all, I thought it would probably suit her child more. Alice accepted my gift, although it was never truly mine to give, and here we are today, two friends and one future child named Frank.

While it may be an odd story, my gift to Alice is strikingly relevant for the time of the year that has crept upon us — the dreaded holiday season.

Stress-inducing not only because of forced time spent with extended family and the unmanageable holiday traffic, but the ever-present worry of what to buy your loved ones, the holiday season remains one of the most trying times of the year. A task that never seems to get easier, no matter how many years one does it, gift-giving is a job that one should not spend their time fretting over, especially this holiday season.

While holiday gift giving may be easier said than done, there are still some general rules that make the undertaking easier.

Rule No. 1 is tried and true, and simply states that if you are not excited about your gift, your loved one probably won’t be either.

This does not mean buy



By HARPER HAMILTON

things that only you like, but if you know your gift is not particularly feeling-inducing to you, the chances that it will be to the receiver are slim to none. After all, it is not that exciting to buy underwear, so how truly exciting can it be to receive it?

Rule No. 2 is even more simple.

Give your local art store a visit. Sometimes the best gifts are those created with the thought of giving in mind, regardless of what the end result may look like. One does not need to be artistically talented to make a homemade gift.

Whether it is through a homemade bird box, a handwritten, heartfelt letter or even a short stop motion video, using your skills to provide joy to your loved ones is a satisfying experience that can be beneficial to both the giver and the receiver.

Lastly, Rule No. 3 may be the easiest of them all. Give from the heart, and you can never go wrong.

While an embarrassingly

cheesy saying, it remains true under all circumstances. The people who are in your life are in it because hopefully, they bring value to it.

While you may not be giving the world, (although your best friends and mother know that if you could, you would), gifting something small, yet thoughtful, will mean the world to your loved ones.

Whether it is a handmade card, a pair of socks that represents an inside joke with your best friend or a candle that reminds you of the smell of home given to your brother who you haven’t seen in months, all thoughtful gifts work. When one takes a moment to think about what is important to their loved ones, gift giving has the ability to become a bit easier.

Not all gifts have to be big or even tangible. When I gave Alice the name of Frank for her future child, it was something that represented a close bond, an odd inside joke and excitement of each other’s presence in our lives, something a tangible gift may not have portrayed as fittingly.

And just remember, if you find yourself at your absolute wits end without a reasonable gift in sight for your loved one, just buy them a candle. Everyone needs a candle, even your sister’s boyfriend’s dad. At the very least, he can re-gift it.

Harper Hamilton is a staff writer.

Get fitted with Spokane Alpine Haus

By TOMMY CONMY

Warm light glows out of the double wooden doors of the Spokane Alpine Haus. Settled on top of a small hill in the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood, inside of the doors lies a subtle collage of skis and their accessories, a colorful and congenial staff of employees and enough outerwear to make an person who likes the outdoors blush.

Poke around for a little longer and you're sure to run into Drew Harding or his wife, Rachel. Organized chaos is an apt phrase to describe skiing in even its simplest form and running a ski and snowboard shop is no different.

The two moved from Boise, Idaho, to Spokane to return to Drew's hometown after moving on from the Helly Hansen store ran by Rachel and managed by Drew in Boise.

A little more than a year passed and the two were suddenly roped back into the ski industry. A family friend was one of four silent partners that financed the previous owner of the Alpine Haus.

With new ownership imminent, the friend presented the two with the opportunity. The couple took the leap once again into the retail fray.

"It was a fun industry to be a part of," Drew said. "I mean, at the end of the day, you're selling toys. You're selling people fun, something that they're going to spend their discretionary income on to go out and do on their days off."

Since dedicating their time to the Alpine Haus, the two have placed a greater emphasis on hard goods in addition to the ski apparel sold at their Helly Hansen store.

A shift in the local ski scene prompted the Alpine Haus to stock more backcountry and technical gear as the Mountain Gear store shuttered its doors for good in 2020 due in part to the growing presence of online retailers cutting into profit margins.

The closing of Mountain Gear isn't necessarily a unique phenomenon for the Inland Northwest ski scene. As owners of smaller shops age, the stores meet their logical conclusion and close their doors.

Unlike other industries during the COVID-19 pandemic, winter sports skyrocketed in popularity.

"There's a lot of new families that their worlds were changed," Drew said. "They looked at skiing as something that they could go outside and do when the rest of the world was shut down. A lot of those people that we thought were going to be one-time skiers have now invested in it and said there's no way they wouldn't go out and go ski every winter now."

The store capitalized on this opportunity to reach new customers



TERRANCE YIM IG @terraceyimphoto

Spokane Alpine Haus has equipment for anyone who wants to get outdoors.

by supplying a wider array of products including paddle boards and surf boards for summer recreation.

"We were the only thing that was able to get people outside," Drew said. "During the pandemic, you look at a bike shop. You were an essential business. You're allowed to stay open to service people's means of transportation. Once we got through that first round of closure, it was an escape."

The shop has had an opportunity to flex its muscles further by advertising the junior and adult lease programs in addition to an expansive rental selection

and tuning, boot fitting and regular maintenance.

"If we can't give good customer service why would anyone else want to come back and see us so we focus on making sure that customers get what they need, not what we want to sell them," Drew said. "If it's not right for the customer, it's not right for us to talk about."

At the center of the customer experience is ski tuner Fred Nowland. Nowland has been treating the Alpine Haus customers since 2004. Prior to that, he ran the Rossignol Test Center on Mount

Hood in addition to spending summers tuning for the U.S. Ski Team and Rossignol in the '90s.

Although the Alpine Haus moniker implies a specialization in skiing, Rachel and Drew made a concerted effort to expand their offerings to encompass all mountain interests.

"When we bought the store, the store didn't have much of snowboard presence," Drew said. "That's something that we've built over the last six years. When we first bought it, there wasn't a lot of apparel options in here. Now, you name it, from apparel like a cheaper Quiksilver coat all the way up to an Arc'teryx jacket. Our goal is to hit a mark."

With five ski resorts within two hours of the metro, the Inland Northwest ski scene is surprisingly vibrant. Although Spokane does not mirror the traditional atmosphere of a ski town like Aspen, Colorado, or Jackson Hole, Wyoming, one feature in Powder Magazine in 2017 proclaimed Spokane as the next best ski destination in America, as satellite ski communities become the only fiscally feasible way to hit the slopes.

"Most of these places aren't affordable anymore," Drew said. "You go to Tahoe and the average home price is a million dollars. Who can afford that to ski?"

Although a pandemic drove people to mountains and the outdoors, the exclusivity and high sticker price of those same mountains threaten the accessibility of the sport.

Nonetheless, the Alpine Haus strives to open the mountains to all through their lease program that provides kids with equipment to take advantage of free skiing offered by Mt. Spokane.

"It's certainly the highest quality [shop]," said Paal Bredal, a former employee and current vice president of the GU Ski and Snowboard Club. "The gear that they sell is only the best stuff. Their slogan is 'The Premier Ski Shop in Spokane,' and that's completely true."

Now in its 45th year of business, the Spokane Alpine Haus has become a family affair. Drew often sees second or third generation customers waxing poetic about their first pair of skis from the Alpine Haus decades ago.

"We have something for everybody, depending on what your budget is, or what tech piece you're looking for," Drew said. "At the end of the day, we're just trying to help people slide down snow. Whether it's on a board or skis, who cares?"

Visit Spokane Alpine Haus at 2925 S. Regal St. or follow @thespokanealpinehaus on Instagram to get connected.

Tommy Conmy is a staff writer.



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Wooden City in the heart of downtown

By OLIVIA SANDVIK

In recent years, Spokane has diversified its retail and hospitality industries. Downtown Spokane is filled with unique shops and restaurants such as the Wooden City Spokane.

Wooden City Spokane was added to the city's diverse portfolio when its doors opened to the public on Aug. 13, 2020.

Although Wooden City has its roots in Tacoma, Washington, in 2018, co-owners Abe Fox, Jon Green and Eddie Gulberg opened the Wooden City Tacoma.

The trio planned on opening the Spokane location in the spring, but the date was pushed back due to the pandemic.

Becca Collard, the general manager of Wooden City Spokane, said the downtown scene feels alive as ever and she is thankful to be located in the heart of the action.

Near the restaurant are River Park Square, Riverfront Park and music venues.

Wooden City's menu features casual, fine dining. There are traditional items such as pizza or burgers, but there are also items such as wood-fired bone marrow or petrale sole.

"The menu is upscale American," Collard said, "... and when we do things that you are familiar with, we're doing it in a way that is elevated, consistent; amazing every time."

The pepperoni pizza, for instance, is not only topped with red sauce and mozzarella but hot peppers, honey and fresh oregano, too.

When asked what her favorite menu item was, Collard pointed to the Hungarian wax peppers.

"I will always have a soft spot for the Hungarian wax peppers," Collard said. "They are amazing and a stable Wooden City item."

The Blistered Hungarian Peppers contain sweet sausage, aged cheddar cheese and toasted ciabatta bread with a chive oil base underneath. If you are looking for a savory appetizer to share, this is the item to order.

Wooden City also offers a wide selection of beer, wine, cocktails and mocktails.

"For those who are drinking, our Old Fashioned is always a favorite... we make it in a large batch, put it in a keg and it comes

out on draft," Collard said.

For those looking for an alternative or who are not old enough to drink, Collard points to the mocktails offered.

"We have the virgin version of some of our cocktails, like the Shrub & Soda and the Here Again," Collard said.

Additionally, Wooden City offers Pineapple Daiquiri with pineapple, lime and simple syrup and Lavender Lemonade with thyme syrup, lemon, demerara and lavender soda.

Every day from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wooden City Spokane has its happy hour.

"So for our happy hour, we have some of our items that are traditionally on our home menu," Collard said. "But then, we have some specialty things like the mushroom skewers, which are awesome. They are cooked in the woodfire oven."

Other specialty items include the seasonal toast, crispy polenta and cheesy bread. As for the drinks, there are specials on select drafts, wines and cocktails.

Since its opening this past summer, Wooden City has seen many customers come through the doors.

"[Wooden City Spokane] can book up completely some nights so it's definitely recommended to make a reservation," Collard said.

Reservations should be made a day in advance during the week and 1-3 days in advance for the weekend.

The restaurant is popular among GU students, too. Many GU students work at Wooden City Spokane and dine with their friends and family regularly.

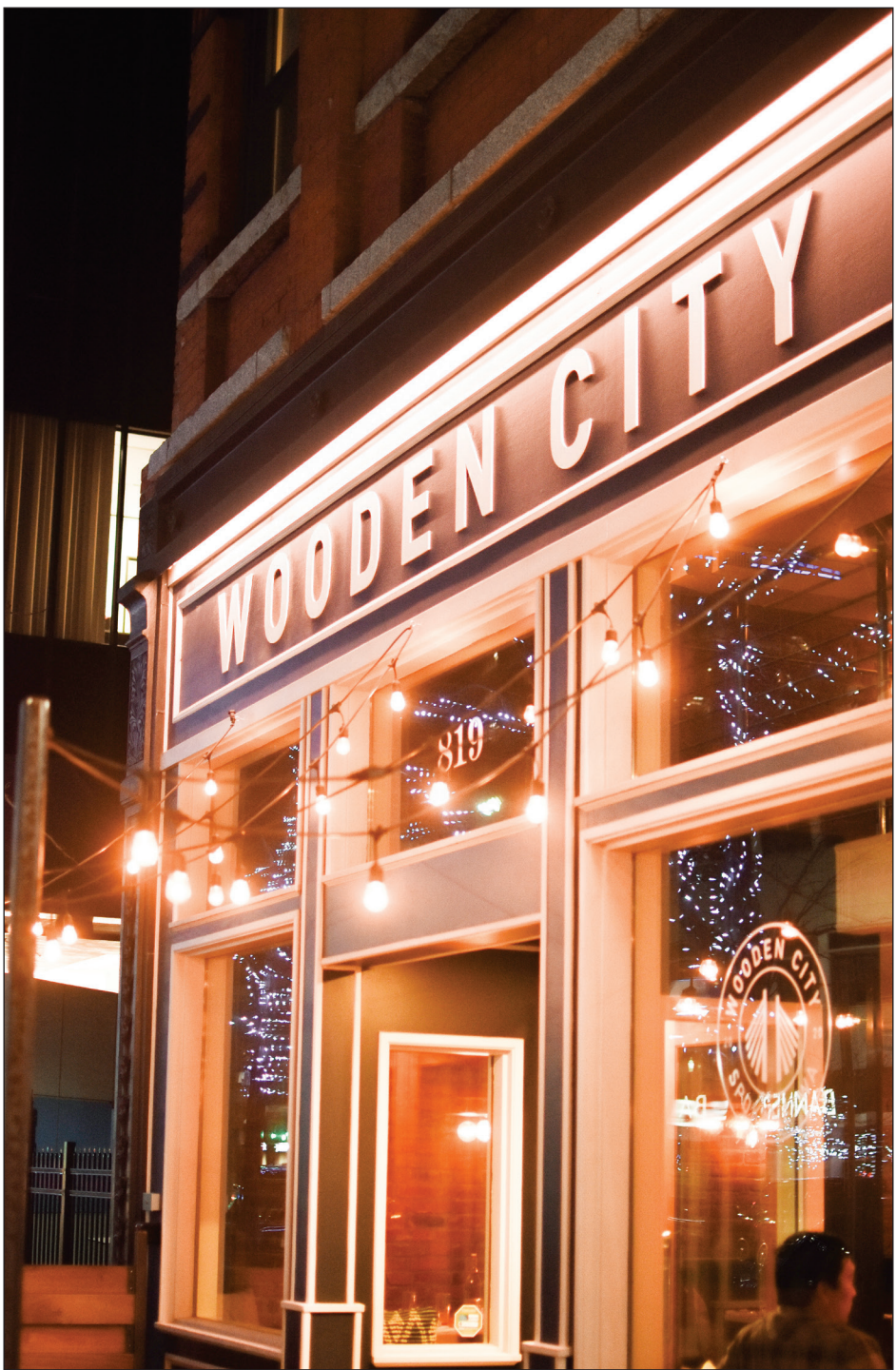
"It's very hipster and kind of trendy feeling... It feels like a restaurant from a big city, not Spokane," said Lina Maurice, a senior at GU who has dined there.

The modern industrial architecture highlights warm low-lighting and slick furnishing. Greenery is dispersed on tabletops and hung on the wood sidings.

The restaurant is located at 821 W. Riverside Ave. in the heart of downtown. It is open weekdays from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on weekends from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Follow the restaurant on Instagram: @woodencityspokane or visit their website at woodencityspokane.com.

Olivia Sandvik is a staff writer.



MAKOA DE ALMEIDA IG: @mdealmeida

Wooden City is located downtown at 821 W. Riverside Ave.

Holiday music in question: Do we like Michael Bublé?

By VINCENT SAGLIMBENI

Christmas time is here and Christmas music is ringing across phones, malls and houses across the country and the world. With many great Christmas music songs and artists, such as Mariah Carey's hit single, "All I Want for Christmas is You," and the classic Charlie Brown Christmas album, Christmas music brings all who celebrate the holiday together in an impactful way.

None, however, do it better than Michael Bublé's Christmas album.

The Canadian-Italian singer released his famous Christmas Album "Christmas," in October of 2011. Since 2020, over 4.3 million copies have been sold in the United States, with 37,00 copies being sold in the first week of its release in Canada.

For whatever reason, there seems to be people who don't like Bublé's album. Whether it be that he's solely copying greats

like Frank Sinatra or Dean Martin or saying that he is only a Christmas music singer, the criticism of this album stretches to belittle the work of Bublé.

But in that same vein, the critiques are what make Bublé's album the best.

As some have said, imitation is the most sincere form of flattery. Bublé honors the works of Sinatra and Martin through his Christmas album, instilling classical jazz and blues rhythms and vibes to his Christmas songs. Furthermore, he might be only famous for his Christmas album, but that's exactly what this is about. This isn't a comparison about who is the better overall artist — this is about who has the best Christmas album.

All of that is to say this: Christmas music isn't the same without its greatest album — Michael Bublé's Christmas album, to be exact.

So when it's time to bundle up near the fire and open presents with your

friends and family, you can best believe Bublé will be playing in the background at many homes this holiday season.

Vincent Saglimbeni is the managing editor. Follow him on Twitter: @vinmysaglimbeni.



COURTESY OF AMAZON

Michael Bublé's Christmas album is the most listened to holiday album on Spotify.

By LUKE MODUGNO

Let me start by saying this: music is easily the most subjective art form in existence. While you won't see my Spotify Wrapped littered with Taylor Swift or One Direction, I can respect and appreciate the

fact that people have a diverse and eclectic set of sonic preferences. What I can't respect are copycats and culture vultures like the stupidly overrated Michael Bublé.

Bublé has absolutely no business in being in the discussion for one of the greatest Christmas music artists. Talk about a red flag, if another person says their favorite Christmas album is the lazy, uninspired "Christmas" by Bublé, I might hurl.

I get it. The Christmas season is about spreading joy and happiness. But hearing Bublé's objectively worse renditions of classic Christmas records on repeat over the radio in December never fails to make my blood boil, even in ice cold weather.

Let's take a closer look at his supposed Christmas magnum-opus in the 2011 record "Christmas." Of the 16 tracks on this album, a grand total of TWO of them are original songs, with the rest of the tracklist defined by

covers of the most popular Christmas songs originally performed by artists like Frank Sinatra, Mariah Carey, Burl Ives and other Christmas music legends.

While Bublé's voice is solid, it's nowhere near as soothing and classic as the legends. Hearing him harmonize over these songs instead of the original artists is the epitome of musical disappointment for me.

I cannot even begin to fathom how one comes to the logical conclusion that Michael Bublé is the best Christmas music artist. The mere existence of Dean Martin, Sinatra, Nat "King" Cole, Mariah Carey and even Gonzaga's own Bing Crosby nullifies any kind of valid advocacy for Bublé. This December, give yourself the best gift you can receive this holiday season: avoid Bublé's dull, unoriginal Christmas music.

Luke Modugno is a digital editor. Follow him on Twitter: @lmodugno5.

Street sweep: Zags celebrate holiday traditions

As students finish up finals and head home, many Zags are excited to spend time with family

By ISABELLA ASPLUND-WAIN

As Gonzaga University prepares to send its campus home for the holiday season, students look forward to the traditional festivities they enjoy every year from Dec. 17 until Jan. 9. From board games to family dinners, GU students do it all during the holiday season.

Ally Schmidt, a GU senior, said that her family always watches the movie "White Christmas," starring Bing Crosby, which reminds her of her home away from home. She felt like the holidays are just a special time to get the family together and that she can always count on doing it together.

"I mean, particularly being in college now, it's sweet to have those tradition to come back to because I know a lot of families don't," Schmidt said. "As my siblings get older, and we all move to different places, it's nice to be able to count on being able to come back together."

Emmet Balseiro, a GU senior, felt similar about the holiday season. Balseiro and his family always plays card or board games on Christmas Eve. He said he felt extremely fortunate to have his family together all in one place and that the sense of togetherness is his favorite part of Christmas.

Meanwhile, Sam Knapp, a GU first-year student, celebrates Christmas Eve by



DYLAN SMITH IG: @dylansmit.h

Staff writer Isabella Asplund-Wain (left), speaks to GU junior, Jaxon Miller on Bulldog Alley to talk about family traditions during the holiday season.

opening gifts containing family pajamas and stuffed animals. Despite her brother being 30 years old, she said the family tradition continues to thrive and that it is how her family shares the love they have for one another.

"I feel like it's the only time of the year

that my family is able to get together just because my brother doesn't live with us anymore," Knapp said. "So, it's kind of just a good way for all of us to celebrate."

Similarly, Lainey Klein, a GU sophomore, said that her mom hides matching Christmas pajamas around the

house that her and her siblings have to find. Her mom also gives them a book every Christmas Eve that they are supposed to read before the next Christmas.

On Christmas Day, Klein said that her younger brothers usually wake her up around 4 a.m. Her family always eats bacon, eggs and potatoes in the morning and she also attends "The Nutcracker" play with her mom.

"When I was younger, [Christmas] meant food and school," Klein said. "But now that I'm older, I feel like it means more about family because I don't get to see my family often. So getting to go home is really important to me and I can't wait to go see them this year."

Some Zags don't share as many hard-set traditions, but still find the holidays as a good time to reconnect with family. Jaxon Miller, a GU junior, said that although he doesn't have many customs, he felt like the holidays were a good time to get food with family and catch up.

"Especially now you don't usually get to see everyone — and especially not together — and so it's pretty special that everyone is together," Miller said.

Isabella Asplund-Wain is a staff writer.

Business watch: Spokane welcomes three new tasty businesses

By SOPHIA MCKINSTRY

Spokane is home to a plethora of small businesses that sell anything from food to souvenirs to books and more. Whether it be a sit-down restaurant or a lunch spot where students can grab a quick bite, here's a breakdown of three businesses that are opening in the next two months.

Summit Kitchen
Co-owners Kevin Pereira and Jhon Goodwin are opening a brand-new restaurant in Spokane called Summit Kitchen, which they're hoping will be a spot for community members to come together and enjoy good food. The duo also owns Lost Boys' Garage Bar and Grill, which is another restaurant located on Wall Street.

"We opened Lost Boys Garage just over six years ago and our plan when we opened Lost Boys was to open three or four more locations...throughout different areas of Spokane," Pereira said. "It took us a little longer than we thought it would...[since] not many people wanted to open a restaurant during COVID."

The restaurant will be located at 1235 S. Grand Blvd., taking over Lindaman's Bistro which closed in 2019. The inspiration for the name "Summit Kitchen" came from a business that was located there from 1911 to the mid 1950's, which was called Summit Trading Company. That same building was also home to a florist and then the Lindaman's for 35 years.

"We kind of wanted to honor the history of the building," Pereira said.

Summit Kitchen will serve an array of foods ranging from burgers and grilled cheese sandwiches to fettuccine and sautéed dishes. The restaurant will also be open for breakfast Monday through Friday, so guests will be able to order sandwiches, burritos and coffee. In the future, they're also hoping to make their own pastries, bread and hamburger buns as well.

The goal of Summit Kitchen is to be a place where people can come to hang out and enjoy a good meal. Lindaman's was viewed as a gathering spot where study groups, church groups and general community members could come to socialize and engage in conversation with one another, and Pereira and his business partner are hoping Summit Kitchen can be that same space for people.

"We're just really looking forward to putting new life back into the building and kind of putting our own spin on things and becoming a gathering place for the neighborhood again," Pereira said.

For students who are interested in keeping up with progress on the opening, be sure to check out their website: <https://thesummitkitchen.com/>.

Hidden Bagel
Hidden Bagel got its name due to a lack of bagel shops in the Spokane area, and owner Jennifer Davis is hoping to change that with her new business.

Located on the South Hill and hoping to expand to other locations like Kendall Yards once they open, the shop will be in the space right next to The Scoop, which is an ice cream shop that Davis has owned for 10 years. Davis



COURTESY OF IG: @HIDDENBAGELCO

Hidden Bagel owner Jennifer Davis wanted to expand the bagel market in Spokane.

had been waiting for a space to open up to either expand ice cream or do something else, and bagels seemed like the perfect option.

"The Scoop used to sell bagels...and breakfast burritos and sandwiches and waffles, but because we got so focused on ice cream, we just ran out of room to do all the food stuff," Davis said. "The neighborhood was super disappointed...so when the opportunity came up, bagels were it."

Davis then met with a bagel consultant in New Jersey, where she learned how to use the equipment, how to make the different types of bagels and more. The consultant, Beth George, has been in the *New York Times* and helps business owners all over the country who are opening up their own bagel shops.

Hidden Bagel is planning on opening sometime in December or early January and will be home to nine to 12 different types of bagels daily ranging from plain to

cinnamon raisin to pumpernickel, six to nine kinds of cream cheeses, bagel sandwiches and an espresso machine. They're also hoping to add waffles to the menu eventually.

There will also be stools and cushions where people can sit to enjoy their bagel and coffee and watch the traffic go by. For students who enjoy getting off campus to study on the weekends, this will be the perfect spot to grab a quick breakfast and get homework done.

"People are really excited," Davis said. "It's almost like a lot of pressure. [But] I love the everyday challenge. Every day, there's a problem you have to solve. It keeps it interesting, and I love change, so I love not having the same thing every day and I love being able to problem solve and figure things out."

For any students who are interested in keeping up with the opening of Hidden Bagel, be sure to follow the Instagram account, @hiddenbagelco.

Tre Palline Gelato Napolitano
For students who have a sweet tooth, this gelato shop is set to open the second week of January. Located in the old steam plant building on Lincoln Street, a husband-and-wife duo from Italy are taking on the daunting task of bringing authentic gelato to the streets of Spokane.

Ashley and Marco Napolitano came to Spokane four years ago with the hopes of opening a shop and sharing their love for gelato with the community. Ashley has been working in the restaurant industry for over 15 years, while Marco is a chef and has been making gelato for over 35 years. The name of the shop, Tre Palline Gelato Napolitano, is inspired by how the pair originally met.

"I first met [my husband] when he was working in a gelato shop, and to be able to stay and spend more time with him, I would have three scoops," Ashley said.

"Tre Palline" means "three scoops" in Italian.

The shop is going to have around 30 flavors of gelato, with 18 in the display at a time, as well as seasonal flavors for the holidays. There will be weekly posts to let people know what flavors are going to be available. They're also planning on eventually serving coffee, shakes, Italian lemonade, Coca-Cola products and even spaghetti gelato, which is popular in Europe.

"Everything is built from the...base to the finished product in-store," Ashley said. "All the ingredients are authentic [and] we import from Europe, so it should be exciting [and] something new for Spokane to try. We just want to bring a taste of Italy here to Spokane for everybody [and] we're really excited about it."

Students who want to find out more information or stay updated on the opening of the shop can head to their Instagram, @trepallinegelatonapolitano.

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

Anniversary

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

1 Old West assemblage

6 Dreaded Soviet system

11 Taxis

15 Loony tunes

19 Bit of mischief

20 Province bordering Madrid

21 "There should be ____ against that!"

22 Thames school

23 Picnic items

25 Umpire's call

27 ____ standstill

28 Web address

29 Puritanical preacher

31 Motown, Mich.

32 She bear: Sp.

34 Weed whackers

35 Yonder

36 More appealing to a horse, say

39 Hose

42 Rice-shaped pasta

44 Country singer

46 Average guy

47 Baron's superior: abbr.

51 Indulge

52 Gilbert and Sullivan offering

54 Seasoned sausage

55 Not long ago

59 Sub finders

60 Certain attys.

61 Chess pieces

63 Classical start

64 1950's pol. inits.

65 Tennis redo

66 Theme of this puzzle

72 Toy maker

73 Family members

74 Debtor's letters

75 Lobe location

76 Make-believe

77 Covered with grass

79 Elvis song, say

81 Wheels for families

84 Kept at, as a barn

86 Sells in shops

88 Vintner's prefix

89 Stan or Spike

90 Utensils

95 Met or Club, e.g.

97 Top layer

98 Warfare

99 Certain chemical: comb. form

102 Former Yugo, notable

103 Woman

105 Hit sign

106 Monetary backup system

110 Wash, neighbor

112 ____ Magnon

113 Sierra Nevada resort

114 Hawaiian viewing

118 Elevator man

119 Oz traveler

120 Finish

121 Gossip

122 Coy act

123 Ogles

124 Hotel offerings

125 Quick Halloween costume

DOWN

1 Duvalier's moniker

2 Rampaging

3 March honoree, informally

4 It's you, in Vienna

5 Light tan

6 Irritates

7 Sch. Jefferson founded

9 Actor Baldwin

10 Fuel mixture

11 Hindu social systems

12 Choir section

13 Cows' home

14 Do the butterfly

15 Bonn bigwig

16 "A Day ____ Races"

17 Castle feature

18 Sound of slumber

24 Proportionately

26 Famous NYC Deli

30 Color quality

33 More sore

37 "The die ____": Caesar

38 And others, to Antony

40 Sun ____-sen

41 Rhone city

42 Alley

43 Della and Pee Wee

45 Jack who played Felix

46 High spirits

48 Sign of stress?

49 Sesame, for one

50 Role fillers

53 Parks on a bus

54 Paella ingredient

56 Deep boredom

57 Yellow River joiner

58 Puppy ____ crush

60 Weaken

62 Finger feature

64 In ____: owing debts

66 "I ____ emotional": Whitney Houston lyric

67 ____-ball

68 Teyye's instrument

69 Show approval

70 Spring holidays

71 Rescue price, perhaps

78 Rotol nerve center

79 List topper

80 First name in mysteries

82 Make out

83 Fido's brand

85 Cloth ending

87 Close of the day

90 ____ precedent

91 Organized

92 Outrageous

93 Tell the tale

94 ____ attention

96 Bewildered

97 Home movies, perhaps

99 Beaming

100 Raccoon relative

101 "The Living End" novelist

102 Issuance from Uncle Sam

104 Basketball

107 London gallery

108 Sea call

109 Rat Pack name

111 Ice cream brand

115 Stir

116 The word, often

117 Nervous laugh

POSSIBLE WORDS

POSSE GULAG CABS BATS
ANTIC AVILA ALAW ETON
PAPERPLATES STRIKETWO
ATA URL COTTONMATHER
DEIT COSA HOES THERE
OATIER NYLONS BORZO
CRYSTALGAYLE JOE VISC
SALAMI NEWLY SONARS
DAS MEN NEO AES LET
GIFTSFORANNIVERSARIES
ELF KINLOU EAR ACT
TURFED OLDIES SEDANS
STO REIDIN RETAILLS
OENO LEE SILVERSPOONS
NLER VENEER COMBAT
ACETO TITO SHE SRO
GOLDSTANDARD ORE CRO
LAKE TAHOE DIAMONDHEAD
OTIS TOTO ENDUP YENTA
WINK EYES ROOMS SHIET

12/5/2021

Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

12/5/21

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

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When some members of the team knelt before playing Stanford on Nov. 21, the jeers from some fans in attendance disrupted Claire Graham while she was singing the national anthem.

WBB UNITED

Continued from Page 1

team’s collective statement in the video said. “We push for the need for change to create a more inclusive society for everyone. We ask that you please join us for a moment of silence to reflect on the change that we work to inspire.”

Not only did the fans stand in silence to embrace the moment, but cheered the players on for their collective effort as well.

The team remained standing and interlocked with one another as the national anthem was performed, all still in the same shirts so nobody could tell them apart. And as the last chord of the national anthem was belted out by Wednesday night’s performer, the fans gave out a resounding applause and took their seats.

“Social injustice is something that we really value fighting against so it was really important to us that we figure out a way that we could really get our fan base on board,” said GU senior Abby O’Connor after the game. “[That demonstration] was the thing that we thought was going to work and we’re thankful our fans enjoyed it, are accepting of it and want to join the fight with us.”

The decision to demonstrate as a team comes five days after the Zags’ 54-47 win at home against the Wyoming Cowgirls on

Dec. 3. Before that game, several players on the team knelt during the national anthem, which produced a reaction from some fans in the McCarthy Athletic Center. Discontented crowd members booed and shouted at the players to stand up before and during the national anthem’s playing.

While the crowd’s displeasure was relatively new, a consistent number of team personnel had been kneeling during the national anthem since the beginning of this season. It wasn’t until GU’s marquee matchup against Stanford on Nov. 21 that the demonstration drew a more prominent ire from the crowd.

Prior to the start of the Stanford game, KHQ news anchor Claire Graham sang the national anthem, but the beginning of her performance was drowned out by boos and chants directed at the kneeling GU players.

After the game, GU Head Coach Lisa Fortier provided reasoning behind some of the players’ decision to kneel.

“The kneeling for the anthem that our players are doing is in regards to social injustice and racial issues that still exist in our world,” Fortier said at a news conference after the game. “It has nothing to do with hating our country or anything like that.”

Fortier mentioned that she wished to see mutual respect between fans and players in future games, but it wasn’t long until the kneeling players were booed once more at the home game last Friday night

against Wyoming.

At the following news conference, Fortier reasserted her previous sentiments about players kneeling during the anthem.

“One of the things I didn’t get to say last week is that we live in a free country where there’s freedom of speech ... I can’t be frustrated with people who are voicing their opinion the same way that our players are voicing their opinion,” Fortier said. “I just wish we could figure out a way to meet in the middle.”

As well, Fortier strongly emphasized that the players aren’t kneeling out of disrespect for the U.S. military or veterans, nor are they kneeling out of contempt for the U.S.

Rather, the team wants to see continued conversations about social and racial injustices happening both nationally and internationally. Many of the players feel kneeling keeps the conversation about these fundamental issues going.

While some players kneel and others stand during the anthem, each player has mutual respect for one another’s reasonings — a kind of mutual respect they would love to achieve with fans someday.

“Although I stand, I am in full support and I respect my teammates’ decision,” said junior guard Kaylynn Truong after the Wyoming game. “I don’t think our fans understand why they’re kneeling and, I mean, I do. Everyone on the team does ... We told each other why we’re doing what we’re doing.”

Truong went on to reiterate that her teammates’ intentions were never to disrespect the U.S. as a nation, calling the notion a “misconception.”

Her teammate, sophomore forward Yvonne Ejim, mentioned that she was kneeling for injustices everywhere, including for her home in Canada.

“I want my community in Canada to feel like they’re respected, they’re valued, they’re treated fairly,” Ejim said. “It’s not just about the people at Gonzaga or the people in Spokane. It’s about all people because we all deserve that respect and value.”

With the acquittal of Kyle Rittenhouse and the conviction of Ahmaud Arbery’s murderers fresh in everyone’s minds, the issue of justice versus injustice is likely to remain a contentious and highly politicized topic.

However, the team found a way to bring their faithful attendees together under a single message Wednesday night. While understanding everyone may not see eye to eye, players hope to ensure that all viewpoints are appreciated and heard.

The Zags play their next home game against Stephen F. Austin in McCarthy, and neither the players nor Fortier stated whether they will perform the same demonstration again.

Kaelyn New is a staff writer.

Wandering in a winter wonderland

Take a deep dive into GU Outdoors' different snowy activites

By ALLIE NOLAND

Gonzaga winter culture is centered around snow sports. For some Zags, suiting up for the snow and finding something to do in the cold might be a new experience. Gonzaga Outdoors is making it easy to get outside in the freezing temperatures.

Trips and events throughout the winter months will be offered to students, including skiing, snowshoeing, snowboarding, ice skating, winter camping and more. All necessary gear is provided with the trip purchase outside of skis.

For Zags that love hiking or who want to try something new, snowshoeing is a suitable option. Meshing adventure and exercise, snowshoeing is one of those snow sports that require minimal gear and little experience. Mount Spokane, Mount Kit Carson and High Drive are some of the areas that GU Outdoors has led snowshoeing trips.

“I led a snowshoe trip up Mount Spokane last year, and none of them had ever snowshoed before,” said Blake Miller, a GU Outdoors recognition and events coordinator. “It’s a great mountain for beginners.”

With the lifting of certain COVID-19 restrictions, GU Outdoors plans to have day ski trips to resorts like Mount Spokane, 49 Degrees North and Silver Mountain. GU Outdoors does not rent out skis, but rentals can be purchased on the mountain.

Night skiing at Mt. Spokane is one of the most popular winter trip options that GU Outdoors offers, according to Cameron Messke, GU Outdoors office assistant. In the past, buses have been sent up to the mountain in the afternoon and students ski under the lights. Returning time is around 9 p.m. for these trips.

This year, GU Outdoors is hopefully going to continue these evening trips on some of the weekends this winter,



From snowshoeing trips to skiing, people are welcome to winter activities with GU Outdoors

BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

according to Kenzie Gass, GU Outdoors community outreach coordinator.

Well-kept, groomed trails can be found on Mount Spokane for cross country skiing. GU Outdoors plans to offer many cross country trips this winter. These day trips typically run from around 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Winter camping will be part of the trip programming this year, with a variety of difficulty levels. These trips usually include snowshoeing to a cabin or campground site, followed by hot cocoa and scenic views. In

the past, some of the locations have included Steven’s Lake and Leavenworth.

“Trips are really open to beginners and for students who really haven’t had experience outdoors,” Messke said. “They are for everyone and anyone.”

To stay updated on trips, sign up for GU Outdoors weekly email trip list. Email outdoors@gonzaga.edu with your student information to get signed up.

Aside from trips, GU Outdoors offers snow rentals to students. Renting out the

gear in the office is significantly cheaper than renting from any other outdoors store or company, according to Messke. The rentals include snowshoes, snowboards, snowboarding boots, probes and shovels.

Helmets are free. The snowboarding package, including a pair of boots and a board, is \$15 for one day and \$25 for the weekend. The snowshoeing package, including a shovel and a pair of snowshoes is \$8 for one day and \$12 for the weekend.

If you have any questions about winter trips or snow

rentals, stop by the GU Outdoors office in Hemmingson 015 or visit their website gonzagaoutdoors.gonzaga.edu.

Allie Noland is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @allie_noland



LILY KANESHIGE IG: @aka.lilly

In 2019, Grace Cahalane was named the WCC Newcomer of the Year after finishing in first place at the WCC Championships in the second varsity eight boat.

Row, row, rowing right into the history books

After accomplishing the unthinkable in high school, GU women's rower Grace Cahalane continues to exhibit her determination as a Bulldog

By ASHER ALI

It seems nearly inconceivable to row a million meters consecutively on a rowing machine in four days between 10 people. Well, Grace Cahalane on the Gonzaga University women's rowing team did that her junior year of high school; except she did it with a group of four other people, and they completed it in three and a half days. Undertaking a challenge like that, which set the Concept 2 record for the longest small team consecutive row and fastest small team million meter row, would not come without its obstacles, and Cahalane experienced that within the first day.

After finishing her time on the machine from midnight until 2 a.m., Cahalane was monitoring the next rower on the machine when she began to feel extremely lightheaded. She passed out moments later, which alarmed her teammate, who ran out of the room looking for someone to help.

"I just opened my eyes and I'm sitting next to the [rowing machine] while the other girl ran out of the room to grab someone," Cahalane said. "I didn't stand up but I just leaned over the erg and grabbed the handle and started pulling because I'm just thinking, 'we can't lose.' The other people ran in the room telling me to stop but I kept going."

It takes a special toughness and level of mental fortitude to be a rower at the level that Cahalane has risen to as a member of the V8 boat for GU, which has claimed the West Coast Conference (WCC) title in back-to-back seasons. For Cahalane however, a lot of that toughness was built before she ever even strapped into a rowing machine.

Growing up in San Francisco, Cahalane

began playing Gaelic football and hurling when she was seven years old. Both sports originate from Ireland, where Cahalane's parents are from.

Gaelic football is a sport that uses the hands and feet to move a soccer-shaped ball called a Gaelic ball between teammates to try to get the ball either into a goal for three points or between two goal posts for one point. On defense, players use their shoulders to contest movement and can attempt to slap the ball out of opposing players' hands.

Hurling is played with a baseball-sized ball called a sliotar and sticks called hurleys where players bat the sliotar to one another up the pitch before trying to hit the sliotar in a goal. Defenders use their bodies and their own hurleys to stop the other team from advancing.

Both sports are contact heavy and high endurance, and as a goalie for hurling on her local club, Cahalane had seen more than her fair share of injuries.

"Grace is tough," said Grace Nickas, a fellow senior on the rowing team who was recruited to GU along with Cahalane. "Like I couldn't do the rowing challenge that she completed, and those other sports she played in high school are tough."

Cahalane suffered a concussion at one point while playing keeper in hurling going into her first year of high school, which eventually led to her to stopping soccer, which is the sport that she originally intended to play for her high school. That's when Cahalane found rowing, which she initially used to stay in shape while getting ready to join back with her Gaelic football and hurling club.

Cahalane still continued to play both of her country's native sports until the end of her junior year of high school

when her recruitment for rowing took off. Gaelic football and hurling offered her opportunities that most athletes dream about, from playing with and against the equivalent of the U.S. U-17 national team, traveling to cities like Chicago, Boston and Atlanta, even getting to travel to Ireland to play against clubs there.

"A highlight for me was going to Ireland to play one of my friend's clubs in high school," Cahalane said. "Also playing against the top team here in the states my sophomore year of high school was really fun because they're a rival and almost always beat us, but that year we beat them in a really close game."

While Cahalane left Gaelic football and hurling behind in order to seriously pursue rowing, she believes her time away from the sports is temporary and she'll be back playing for her local women's club after college.

After hanging up the cleats and boiling her college rowing choices down to three schools, Cahalane chose GU because of the winning culture at a program that she still felt like she could make an impact on in due time. However, when she got to a team that had a different head coach than the one that recruited her in high school and a team culture that was more concerned with not losing rather than winning, Cahalane felt that the time for her to make an impact was then and now.

She and the fellow rowers in her class took it upon themselves to start building a healthy team environment that would make everyone who came after them feel truly welcome. While Cahalane was recruited to row at GU, walk-ons are an essential part of the team every year because they fill out the roster. For a good portion of her freshman season, walk-ons

weren't included in the same workouts as the other athletes and were kept more on the fringe of the team dynamic.

"Grace is the type of person to put the needs of others before herself naturally," said Abigail Gagnon, a senior on the rowing team who joined as a walk-on in 2018. "She took it upon herself to reach out to us trying out for the team to make sure we were doing OK and if there was ever anything that we needed."

Cahalane's persona emanated to the rest of her teammates. Through the past two seasons, despite another change at head coach in 2020 and multiple assistants moving in and out, the current senior class has cohesively built a team culture that is founded on a desire to help each other out through care and healthy competition.

"I used to come to practice every day just like everybody else, kind of dreading it and just trying to get it done," Cahalane said. "It's different now because I get up everyday excited to compete next to people who are almost as fast if not as fast as me, and I know that if I work hard, then they'll put that much more effort in and the entire team gets better from that."

Cahalane's aspirations for this season is to win the West Coast Conference championship and finish out her senior year strong with the rest of her teammates at the NCAA national championships.

Asher Ali is the editor-in-chief. Follow him on Twitter: @asher_ali3.

Ski and snowboard club to hold winter sports competition

By TOMMY CONNOLLY

Anyone interested in a set of new skis? This year Zags have the chance to do that as part of the Gonzaga University ski and snowboard club.

The skis are the grand prize for a season long competition called "GNARZAGA" put on by the on-campus club. The competition consists of a variety of challenges that are inspired from the movie "G.N.A.R."

"In the movie they created a competition of stuff to do with stuff like tricks, what lines your skiing and they were trying to ski all the hardest cliffs," said Paal Bredal, vice president of the club. "What it's really about is having fun on the mountain."

The club created its own spreadsheet of challenges that includes multiple categories that club members can earn points from. The categories consist of club business, skills and adventures.

Every challenge is worth a specific number of points, with certain challenges requiring video proof, such as any tricks or skills and some adventure challenges. If you were to do every challenge in the competition the grand point total is one million points.

"At the end of the year we have a barbecue in the parking lot at Schweitzer where we do a little raffle for some skis and other stuff," Bredal said. "This year since GNARZAGA is a season long competition we're going to do an awards ceremony and the winner gets a free pair of skis."

The skis will come from a local Spokane outfitter that the club will do work with over the course of the season.

One challenge about the ski and snowboard club is the amount of people in the club can make the sense of community hard to find sometimes. With over 600 members, getting to know everyone is difficult.

"We have done things like raffles and contests, but we wanted to do something that spanned for the whole season," said Tommy Harlow, an officer on the club board. "This is something that people can get involved in all season."

The involvement aspect is especially important for the



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

GU's ski and snowboard club offers discounted season passes for Zags at Schweitzer and Icon Pass.

club, as many people join the club to get discounts on ski passes at Schweitzer and Icon Pass. The competition is hoping to entice people to stay involved with the club and be a part of activities throughout the semester.

Doing backflips and 180s can be hard for some skiers, but the list of challenges also include challenges that help benefit the club and its board members.

"We wanted to do some things that would help us out," Harlow said. "Stuff like shirt submissions and attending trips all help the club."

The trips that the club is offering this season include a trip to Bozeman, Montana, where skiers will get the chance to ski Big Sky and Bridger Bowl, a trip to Jackson Hole, Brundage, Idaho, and a weeklong trip to Schweitzer over winter break.

Along with helping the club with activities to earn points, members who show off their skills on the mountain can separate themselves to rise to the top of the leaderboard. Skills such as skiing challenging lines and a variety of spins and flips all let club members push

themselves to keep getting better on the mountain.

"We want to keep motivating and pushing people to challenges themselves on the mountain," Harlow said.

What comes after the skills is the adventure section. In this section, more fun challenges are included, such as skiing in jeans, being first chair and spending a night in the Schweitzer Parking Lot.

All the challenges in the list are hoping to get people involved in the club and keep the spirit and community alive. Make sure to sign up and join the GU Ski and Snowboard club to have the chance to compete in GNARZAGA for the chance at a free pair of skis.

Tommy Connolly is a staff writer.

Remember Zags fans, it's only December...

With losses against two of college basketball's premiere talents, the early season struggles should not indicate what's to come in March for men's basketball

COMMENTARY
by TOMMY CONMY

The Gonzaga Bulldogs (7-2) came up short in a 91-82 showcase against the Alabama Crimson Tide in the newly minted Climate Pledge Arena for the Battle in Seattle.

The contest was supposed to serve as one of the final stepping stones into West Coast Conference (WCC) play for a team with national title aspirations. Instead, the loss marked the earliest point where the Zags have lost two games in a season since 2011. Over the prior two seasons, the Zags have a combined record of 62-3.

More concerning than an additional 'L' was the Zags lack of purpose on offense and defense, particularly in a lethargic, mistake-riddled first half.

Head Coach Mark Few noted in the postgame news conference that Alabama was more "purposeful," than the Zags.

Although the Zags rallied in the second half with a noticeable uptick in their pace of play, the 18-point hole they dug for themselves against a formidable opponent couldn't be overcome.

A lack of losses over the past two seasons have spoiled Zag fans. The most games lost in one season by Few in the last decade is 10. Other previous seasons have included up to three losses in conference play. Over that same stretch, the Zags have advanced at a minimum to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, excluding the 2019-20 tournament that was canceled due to COVID-19.

But now, a loss against a ranked opponent is unacceptable and indefensible, having fans in a tizzy over their misfortune following the program's first two trips to the national title game.

Alabama Head Football Coach Nick Saban recently addressed this exact issue in his weekly coach's show called "Hey Coach!" Responding to a lack of gratitude by the Crimson Tide faithful, the future hall of fame coach didn't hold back.

"You could say it's not fair to [Alabama] players that they get everybody's best game, but they do," Saban said on the show. "They have to be



ANDREW LOF IG: @andrewlof_photography

Over his last three games, guard Andrew Nembhard is averaging 6.3 points per game on 30% shooting from the field.

able to compete through that and play over that. When I came here, everyone was happy to win a game. Now we're not happy to win a game anymore. We're not happy to win a game at all."

Sound familiar? The Zags were cellar dwellers before Dan Monson and Mark Few turned the Zags into a name heard around the country for their success.

With increased and sustained success, expectations from a fanbase rise equally.

This year, the men's basketball program has four true freshman that get significant minutes in addition to transfer Rasir Bolton and pseudo-freshman Ben Gregg who only joined the team for the second half of last season. Although green, expectations ran rampant for the most highly touted recruiting class in the history of the school.

"Our players work their butt off to be the best that they can be and to get criticized for what they work hard for so that you can be entertained, so that you can enjoy and have pride and passion for what they accomplish and what they do," Saban said. "They're representing you all. You should be proud and happy to support them and appreciate what they do and have some gratitude."

Even if the Zags dropped games to Washington, Texas Tech and two games

a piece to Saint Mary's and BYU, they would finish with a 28-8 record heading into the WCC tournament in March.

Speaking of the WCC, the conference is far stronger this season than in years past. The University of San Francisco leads the conference with a 9-0 record, followed by 7-1 BYU and 8-2 Saint Mary's. Right on the Zags' heels are the vastly improved 7-3 Portland Pilots.

College basketball analyst Jon Rothstein has speculated that the WCC could be a three-bid league for March Madness for the first time since the 2011-12 season. Losses to teams not from Provo, Utah or Moraga, California, are not as unthinkable as they once were.

The Zags are far from being in hot water. Will they lock up a second consecutive No. 1 overall seed come tournament time? It's still possible.

The real concern is if the Bulldogs of March will look like the puppies of November. Few is too experienced of a coach and Drew Timme and company are too talented a collective of players to simply roll over.

"Nobody wants to win worse than [the players] do," Saban said. "Not me, not you. I don't care what kind of fan you are, nobody wants to win more than the players that play. And nobody feels worse

GU SPORTS
CALENDAR

Thursday, Dec. 9
➔Men's basketball vs. Merrimack, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11
➔Track and field at Spokane Invitational, The Podium, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 12
➔Men's basketball vs. University of Washington, 2 p.m.
➔Women's basketball vs. Stephen F. Austin, 6:30 p.m.

Home games in bold

than they do when they lose. Nobody. All you self-absorbed folks out there that can't look past your own self to appreciate what other people are doing."

College basketball is, in a word, anarchy. Don't forget that the Zags have already convincingly defeated then No. 2 ranked UCLA and former No. 5 ranked Texas. Upsets occur, conferences cannibalize themselves in conference play and the Associated Press top 25 is a constant churn based on opinion, speculation and prisoner-of-the-moment over reactions.

For many Zag fans, the big red panic button is on the table with the lid open. One more loss and the nuclear launch codes are being entered. Exercise caution, close the lid and put the button away for now.

Tommy Conmy is a staff writer.

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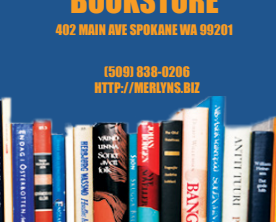
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