

THE GONZAGA BULLETIN

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W E L C O M E

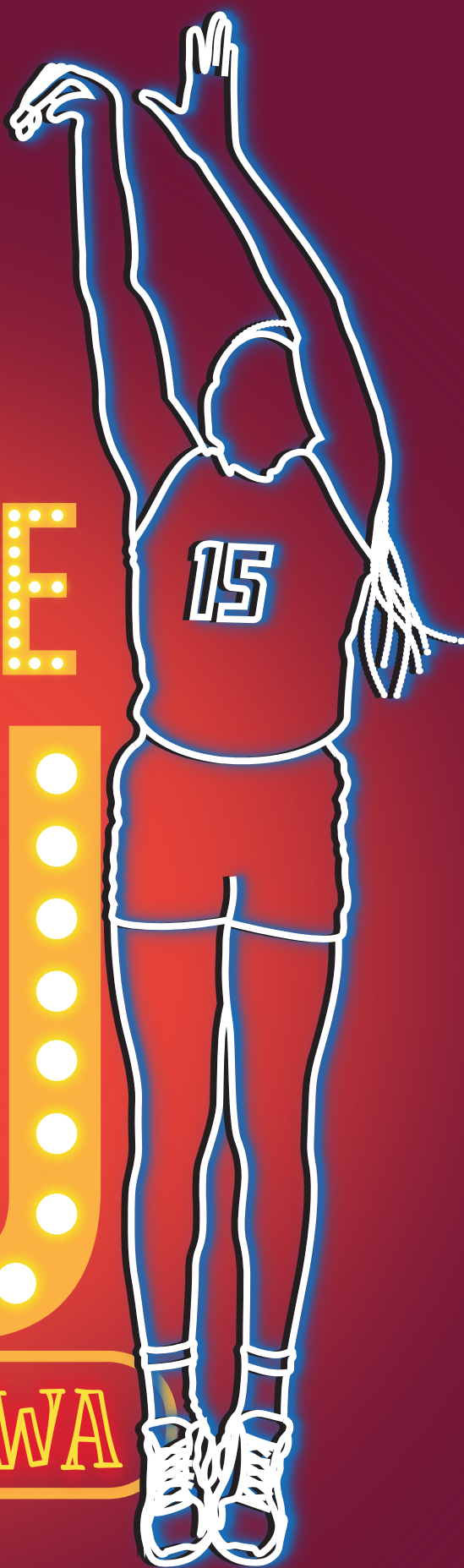
BACK TO THE *Fabulous*
West Coast Conference
TOURNAMENT

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GONZAGA
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may all
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come true



WE ARE

GU

SPOKANE, WA



Saint Mary's Augustus Marciulionis could be a contender for Men's Player of the Year.

Gaels set to dominate WCC honors

COMMENTARY
By **KYLE SWEENEY**

The 2024-25 college basketball season has flown by, and with the West Coast Conference Championships creeping closer, this season's standouts have revealed themselves to the rest of the league.

With just one game week left before WCC tournament play, here are my predictions for every individual WCC award.

Men's Player of the Year: Augustus Marciulionis (Saint Mary's)

This award has essentially been a two-man race between Marciulionis and San Francisco's Malik Thomas, and I wouldn't be surprised if the conference awarded a COPOTY between the two (although this has only happened six times since 1952). However, I give Marciulionis the edge here, as the WCC has historically awarded players on the best teams in the conference (take last year, when Marciulionis was awarded over GU's Graham Ike, despite Ike having a statistically better season). Marciulionis, the reigning WCC Player of the Year, is averaging 14.3 points and 6.1 assists on 45% from the field, which are all improvements from last year. With a win over GU on Saturday, Saint Mary's (25-4, 15-1 WCC) has taken at least a share of the WCC regular season title for the third season in a row and has had one of the most dominant conference seasons by a non-GU WCC program in recent memory.

It would be difficult to see a scenario in which the coaches don't reward Marciulionis, especially after recognizing him last season when he had worse stats and Saint Mary's had a less dominant season.

Men's Coach of the Year: Randy Bennett (Saint Mary's)

After clinching a winning record over the Zags for the second-straight season, Randy Bennett may finally have an edge over Mark Few in the WCC. Bennett has been with the Gaels for 24 years, constantly battling with Few and GU, winning some battles but losing the war. Bennett's Gaels have won the WCC Tournament just four times since Bennett took over in 2001, but the tide may be turning in the Gaels' favor. Saint Mary's has won four of the last five games against the Zags, including the WCC championship game in 2024, and have now clinched the WCC regular season title three straight years.

After losing last year's starters Joshua Jefferson to Iowa State and Aiden Mahaney to UConn, the Gaels have somehow become better, even after GU was projected to take the WCC title before the season. At 25-4, they are just one of four Division I programs with over 25 wins on the season. Bennett has done an unbelievable job this season, cementing himself not only as the best in the WCC, but one of the top coaches in the entire country. National respect is coming his way, and he deserves it.

Men's Defensive Player of the Year: Mitchell Saxen (Saint Mary's)

Another huge reason for Saint Mary's recent run of success has been Mitchell Saxen, who's never in the spotlight but always making an impact. Last year's WCC Defensive Player of the Year has improved his defensive aspects in his fifth season with Saint Mary's, averaging 1.3 blocks (averaged 1.4 last year) and 1.4 steals (averaged 0.7 last year). Saxen uses his 6-foot-10 frame to completely alter the paint for the best defense in the conference (by over six points per game).

ALL EYES ON THE PRIZE



Gonzaga women's basketball last won the West Coast Conference Tournament in the 2021-22 season.

Men's Newcomer of the Year: Paulius Murauskas (Saint Mary's)

As previously mentioned, Saint Mary's had to deal with the losses of Jefferson and Mahaney, both of which were essential to the team's WCC championship run. One of the huge reasons that the Gaels have overcome these losses is the addition of Arizona transfer Paulius Murauskas, who spent one year in Tucson before coming to Moraga, California. Murauskas has fit like a glove with Randy Bennett, leading the WCC in rebounds per game (8.1) to go along with 12.8 points, second on the team, and has been invaluable to the Gaels' continued success.

Men's Freshman of the Year: Austin Rapp (Portland)

Austin Rapp has made a name for himself in his freshman season at Portland, averaging 13.6 points, 6.2 rebounds and 1.4 blocks per game this season. The 6-foot-10 Australian shoots 36% from three and 84% from the free throw line. Rapp has earned WCC Freshman of the Year five times this season, including winning three of the last four awards overall.

Kyle Sweeney is a staff writer.



GU senior forward Yvonne Ejim is averaging a West Coast Conference-best 21.3 points per game this season.

dominated the conference. Ejim's 21.1 points per game is over four points better than anyone else in the WCC and ranks 14th nationally. Ejim also leads the WCC in rebounds per game (8.9) while averaging more than a block and a steal per contest. Night in and night out, Ejim has performed at an All-American level, leading the Zags to first place in the WCC.

Women's Coach of the Year: Lisa Fortier (GU)

With identical conference records of 15-3 up to this point of the season, Fortier and Portland head coach Michael Meek's squads have distanced themselves from the rest of the conference. It's hard not to give Meek credit for the job he's done with Portland, with the Pilots sitting at 26-3 on the season. He's whipped up Portland into a constant contender along with GU and bested the Zags in last year's WCC tournament championship despite an undefeated conference campaign from the Zags.

However, Fortier gets the edge here because of the major adjustments she's had to make. First, the roster turnover from last year to this season was substantial, and GU struggled to start the year because of it. Outside of Ejim, GU lost five of its leading scorers after last season, forcing a restart before the 2024-25 campaign. With a new roster, GU started 6-8 on the season after dropping an overtime stunner to Oregon State in the Kennel. From there, Fortier whipped the team into shape, elevating it from a potential conference disappointment to the powerhouse the conference has gotten used to seeing. GU rampaged into 14 straight wins before dropping a heartbreaker to USF on Senior Night, propelling itself back into first place.

Ejim, Fortier to earn recognition

COMMENTARY
By **KYLE SWEENEY**

With the 2025 West Coast Conference Tournament only one week away, the league's standout players are awaiting their conference honors.

The league has more parity than ever, with talent all around the women's game in the WCC. Several players across the league have solidified themselves as being in contention for WCC awards, with my predictions on each award below.

Women's Player of the Year: Yvonne Ejim (Gonzaga)

This is the easiest prediction on the list. Ejim, the reigning West Coast Conference Player of the Year, has somehow leveled up her game from last year's masterclass with the Zags (20-9, 15-3 WCC) and has completely

Women's Defensive Player of the Year: Tara Wallack (Washington State)

Tara Wallack has run away with this award, averaging 1.9 blocks (second in conference) to go along with 1.1 steals for the Cougars this season. The 6-foot-2 senior is a perfect blend of size and athleticism, using that ability to

shadow the best players on the court. The one-two punch with teammate Alex Covill (WCC-leading 2.1 blocks per game) has been terrorizing for opposing offenses and speaks to each individual's ability on the defensive end.

Women's Newcomer of the Year: Naudia Evans (Loyola Marymount)

As the conference's leader in assists at exactly six per game and sixth in points per game (15.6), Naudia Evans has made a huge impact for LMU after transferring from Grand Canyon University. Evans has five games scoring 25 or more points, including a 37-point outburst in a win against Washington State on Jan. 25 — the highest mark by an individual in the conference this season.

LMU benefited from the talents of former UL-Monroe star Brandi Williams, who transferred to LMU following five seasons with the Warhawks. Williams is second on LMU in scoring at 12.8 points to go along with 1.3 steals per game. As mentioned, Trista Hull has been fantastic defensively this season but has also made an impact offensively, averaging a career-high 8.2 points to go along with 5.2 rebounds for the transfer from Boise State.

Women's Freshman of the Year: Allie Turner (GU)

Actually, this might be the easiest prediction of the bunch (sorry, Yvonne). Turner hasn't just been the best freshman in the WCC, she's one of the best players in the conference, period. Turner has hit 84 threes this season, which is tied for sixth in the entire country and leads the WCC by 26. Turner averages 13.2 points (12th in the conference) and 3.7 assists, shooting a blistering 45% from three on incredible volume (nearly seven attempts per game). Turner has won seven Freshman of the Week awards, by far the most in the conference this season. Watch out for Turner in the future — she is an absolute star in the making.

Kyle Sweeney is a staff writer.

Saint Mary's & GU to continue rivalry

COMMENTARY
By **BROOKS COLEMAN**

Of the 31 conference tournaments that will play out over the next two weeks, none have been dominated by one program quite like the West Coast Conference Tournament.

Since 1998, Gonzaga University men's basketball has made 26 consecutive appearances in the WCC title game, winning the tournament 19 times and 10 of the last 12.

This season, top-seeded Saint Mary's is the favorite to take home the championship.

The Gaels have exerted dominance over the conference, falling just once on the road against San Francisco and taking down the Zags twice. Defense and rebounding are the Gaels' calling cards, as they've held opponents under 60 points 10 times in WCC play and have posted a top-30 offensive rebounding percentage nationally.

Their most impressive performance of the year came on Saturday night. Highlighted by 18 points from freshman Mikey Lewis and 16 from Mitchell Saxen, the Gaels walked into the Kennel and embarrassed the Zags on Senior Night, leading for all 40 minutes in a 74-67 rivalry

win.

The Zags currently occupy the tournament's second spot after beating a red-hot Santa Clara squad, although that could change during Saturday's matchup against San Francisco.

On Tuesday, the Zags overcame the Broncos, who prefer to take and make a lot of triples, as they rank top-40 nationally in 3-point percentage and offensive efficiency, with almost half of their field goal attempts coming from beyond the arc.

GU will take on current second place San Francisco on March 1 to end the season. While the Dons have a difficult schedule ahead of them, their clash with the Zags will likely decide who will clinch the tournament's second seed.

USF's host of offensive threats is headlined by Malik Thomas, who leads the conference in scoring at 19.5 points per game. Thomas torched the Zags for 26 points in Spokane but was unable to carry the Dons to victory. He'll get another chance on Saturday.

From there, the road gets a lot more difficult, as the teams seeded five through 11 will have to win at least three games to advance to the title game.

Fifth place Oregon State is the only true

threat to make a run like this, as it's shown the ability to take down superior opponents throughout the season — including home wins over GU and Santa Clara. Highlighted by scoring threats like Michael Rataj and shooters like Nate Kingz, the Beavers can go toe-to-toe with anyone on the right day.

Loyola Marymount is the current sixth seed, and the team is limping into the tournament after a bright start. The Lions picked up some big wins over Oregon State and Santa Clara early on, but they've struggled to find offense of late, dropping five of their last seven and eclipsing the 70-point mark just twice during this stretch.

Seventh place Washington State has no shortage of talent, but the injury bug has bitten the team harder than just about anyone else in the WCC this year. After a promising 3-0 start to conference play, the Cougars have been in a tailspin since an overtime home loss to Pacific in January, losing 10 of their last 13 games.

Portland, Pepperdine, Pacific and San Diego will all have arduous journeys to reach even the quarterfinals. The WCC's top teams should have no problem holding off this quartet of bottom-feeders.

WCC tournament play will kick off with the 10-11 matchup on March 6, with the tournament set to conclude on March 12.

Brooks Coleman is a copy editor.



Saint Mary's defeated GU 74-67 last Saturday.



GU and Portland last faced off on Jan. 16.

Gonzaga, Portland championship favorites

COMMENTARY
By **ZACH WHITE**

In a wide-open tournament field, old rivalries will be reignited and new program leaders will look to make their mark as teams vie for the women's West Coast Conference Tournament title.

The tournament will be held in Las Vegas at the Orleans Arena, taking place from March 6-11.

Gonzaga University women's basketball is all but set to enter the tournament with the coveted triple-bye. Led by All-American hopeful Yvonne Ejim, the Zags are currently 20-9 on the season and 15-3 in conference play, with their record placing them joint-first in the standings. Ejim is the conference leader in points (21.2) and rebounds (8.9) per game, with the senior forward looking like a surefire pick for WCC Player of the Year. The senior forward is one half of a lethal high-low threat alongside standout Allie Turner.

GU's biggest rival for the trophy will be Portland. In the Pilots' two regular season losses to GU, Maisie Burnham averaged a team-high 14.5 points across both games. On the season, the sharpshooting senior guard averages 50.8% from the field and 40.0% from beyond the arc, representing a

significant outside shooting threat for the Pilots.

Portland boasts the WCC's highest-scoring offense, averaging 77.8 points per game, nearly 10 points more than the next-highest mark in the conference. In a conference that is likely a one-bid league, the Pilots and GU will be favorites to face off in the tournament final for a third-straight year.

The defensive-minded Washington State currently averages 6.2 blocks per game, the nation's third-leading mark. Alex Covill and Tara Wallack average a WCC-leading 2.1 and 1.9 blocks per game, respectively. The Cougars' defensive efficiency sees them place third in the conference's points margin statline, behind only Portland and GU.

On the offensive side, WSU is led in scoring by sophomore guard Eleonora Villa, who averages 14.0 points per game while shooting 44.6% from the field. Wallack's 13.3 points per game are the next-highest mark for the Cougars, with the senior guard also holding a team-high average of 7.0 rebounds per game.

Boasting the league's best defensive ranking, the Oregon State Beavers hold their opponents to an average of 62.2 points per game. OSU holds a dominant

advantage on the defensive glass, grabbing a WCC-leading mark of 28.3 rebounds per game.

Led by sophomore forward Raegan Beers' double-double average of 17.8 points and 10.3 points per game, the Beavers have troubled the WCC's leaders, beating both Portland and GU in conference play this season.

Fellow Northern California outfit Saint Mary's is led by Kennedy Johnson's 12.2 points per game. The Gaels won their first four games in conference play, but have since cooled off and will need to win the tournament to earn an NCAA tournament bid.

The remaining teams in the field include Pacific, Santa Clara, Loyola Marymount, Pepperdine and San Diego. These programs will have a tough task in capturing the WCC tournament title, having to string together four or five wins for the first time in their seasons.

Nothing is guaranteed in this year's edition of the women's WCC tournament, and with action set to begin next week, all eyes will turn to Vegas and the events soon to unfold.

Zach White is a sports editor.

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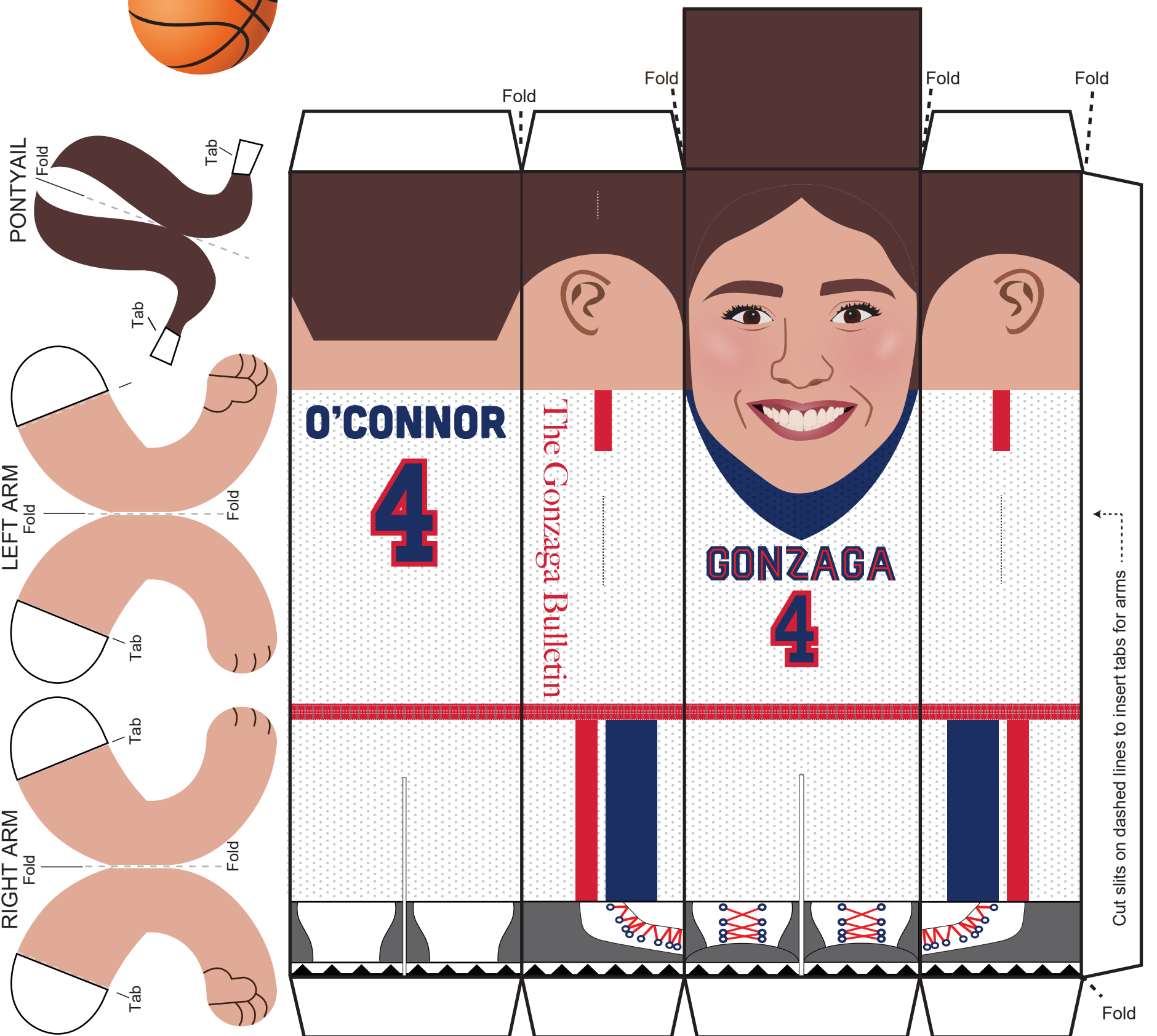
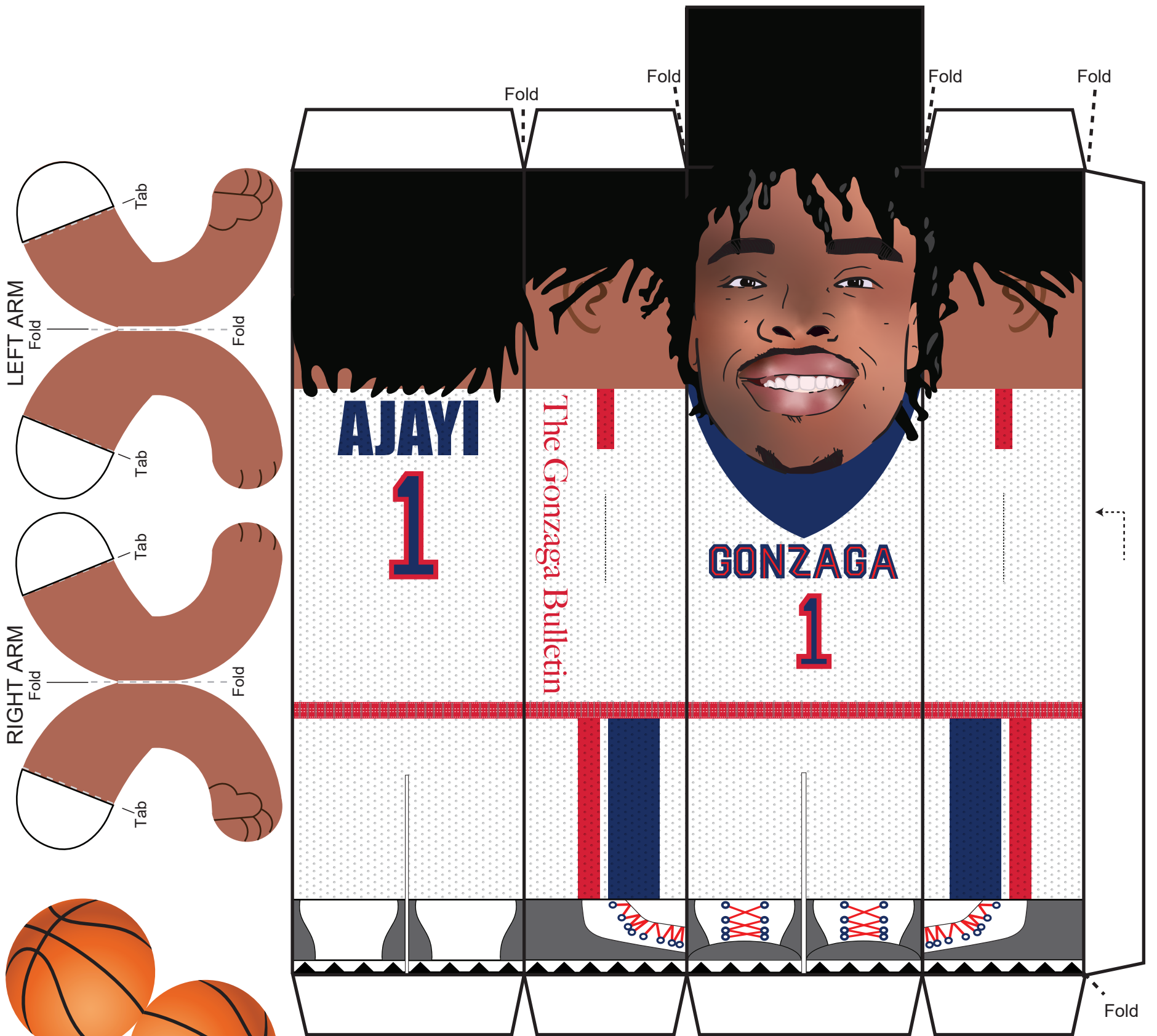
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Opportunity Northeast boosts community



KAHLOMO CUNNINGHAM

Food is served to community members at a "Meals for Female Trauma Survivors" event at Gonzaga Family Haven last November.

By HOLLY FIJOLEK

Gonzaga University's Opportunity Northeast initiative is celebrating its fifth anniversary of creating more substantial engagement within the Spokane community.

The initiative started with a listening project for the community, which led to identifying needs that residents wanted to be addressed, including whole health, educational opportunity and an engaged campus and community.

Molly Ayers, assistant dean of the Center for Community Engagement, said Opportunity Northeast has been GU's response to a national shift in how universities interact with and uplift surrounding communities.

"This shift toward place-based work was looking holistically at the ecosystem of a neighborhood and how a university and all of its resources and strength could

leverage those," Ayers said. "This would support youth, families and individuals who live in the neighborhood in ways that were driven by their own priorities."

Dylan Jouliot, data and evaluation analyst at CCE, said that the initiative has been successful in deepening community work that was already in progress.

"I think we've done a good job of keeping up with what we set out to do and what we said we were going to do," Jouliot said. "We've really gotten some key cornerstone programming off the ground."

One program that is supported by Opportunity Northeast is the Essential Skills Program, hosted at Gonzaga Family Haven. Ayers said this program works with other local partners to provide workforce education to unemployed or underemployed women in northeast Spokane.

"Over the past four years, 42 women have graduated from that program and gone on to higher paying jobs

or post-secondary education," Ayers said. "The goal is to get them into jobs that can help them sustain themselves or help them continue education, and that's been a real success."

Jouliot said creating accessible ways for women in the community to gain workplace skills was a major need identified by the community.

"There's childcare provided as part of that, too. We're looking at what are the barriers to success that exist for women in northeast Spokane and trying to chip away at as many of those as possible," Jouliot said. "It's been really cool to watch that come to fruition."

The Gonzaga Family Haven remains a focal point for other programs, Ayers said, including the weekly Wednesday meals where 8,200 attendees are able to eat and build connections with one another.

SEE SERVICE PAGE 3

TRUMP'S FIRST MONTH

ICE in Spokane raises questions for community

GU responds to protect undocumented students

By MADDOX REIMER

In early February, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested a former student at Spokane Community College.

In addition to that arrest, The Spokesman-Review also reported that arrests throughout Spokane are increasing after a flurry of executive orders passed in the last month by President Donald Trump.

Several administrators at Gonzaga University have signaled the rising prospects of an ICE arrest coming closer to campus.

Vice Provost of Student Affairs Kent Porterfield and Joan Fawcett, the assistant dean for Diversity, Inclusion, Community and Equity at GU, said that their work in addressing the potential of

rising ICE arrests dates back to November, just after Trump's election. They said the administration at GU has worked on plans and approaches to protect undocumented community members.

This matter has come front and center for Porterfield's work in student affairs. He said that ICE crackdowns have wide-ranging implications across communities.

"We have students, faculty, probably staff, who may not be undocumented themselves, but they may have family members who are undocumented, or who have immigration status issues," Porterfield said. "We have international students who are here on visas, and those are immigration issues as well. And there just may be people in your neighborhood

SEE ICE PAGE 2



LUCY BOOTH IG: photo_b00th

"Red cards" from UMEC's "red card initiative" provide students information on immigration.

GU Admin respond to executive orders

By HENRY KRUEGER

Gonzaga University President Thayne McCulloh reaffirmed in a Wednesday statement GU's commitment to its Jesuit mission in response to executive orders from the Donald Trump White House seeking to end Diversity, Equity and Inclusion practices.

The statement comes after the United States Department of Education issued a statement on Feb. 14 ordering all educational institutions, including colleges, to cease such diversity practices.

Thayne McCulloh, who's in his final semester leading GU, said recent policy shifts in immigration, healthcare, research funding and social services are already impacting universities nationwide.

"It is clear in this new year 2025 we have entered a season of tremendous change," McCulloh said in the statement.

"Nowhere is the change more evident than at the federal level, where many Executive Orders, funding freezes, and layoffs have significantly affected government agencies as well as public and private organizations."

McCulloh cited a list of actions the university has taken to engage with policymakers, including several meetings with national higher education associations and members of Congress. Additionally, GU has joined advocacy efforts through organizations like the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and the American Council on Education, pushing back against federal assertions that DEI programs may be discriminatory.

"We are a university community called to be people with and for others — especially those whom society has historically discriminated against,

SEE ADMIN PAGE 3

Trouble with STEM grants

By SEAMUS MCCARTHY

It's safe to say that Brian Henning, the director of Gonzaga University's Institute for Climate, Water and the Environment, feels uncertain right now.

The Climate Institute — an office on campus devoted to addressing climate change effects in the Inland Northwest — has had trouble being reimbursed for its \$19.9 million grant that it received from the Environmental Protection Agency last year.

"In typical times, that means we have a legally binding contract with the federal government," Henning said. "In typical times, the government would pay its bills right now."

However, the reason for these delayed reimbursements, Henning said, could be benign.

"I've been told that at the beginning of a new administration, it's not uncommon for there to be a period where the new political appointees who are going to be leading [federal] agencies pause communication," Henning said. "The duration [of this pause] and the motivation behind it is a little bit unclear right now."

The uncertainty around funds comes after President Donald Trump issued several executive orders that would restrict funding for science research.

Some of the decisions have led to the firing of 388 employees from the EPA, along with 200,000 other federal employees, according to the agency.

Betsy Bancroft, a professor of biology and environmental studies at GU, is also nervous about her federal funding.

Having received a grant from the National Science Foundation, Bancroft said this fear comes from the foundation potentially being impacted.

"I worry pretty much every day right now that we're going to wake up and [my grant] is gone and my students that I employ can't be employed anymore," Bancroft said. "There are all these people [in science] that are good at what they do and put their heart and soul into it that are losing their jobs. And that is scary, worrisome."

Bancroft said that the collapse in funding comes as people are losing sight of important matters surrounding the environment. She said the potential risk

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Wondering about Trump's executive orders?

SEE ORDERS PAGE 2

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OPINION

Drilling for answers? How the Trump administration may affect your future.

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A&E

Inlander Restaurant Week looks to connect community through dining.

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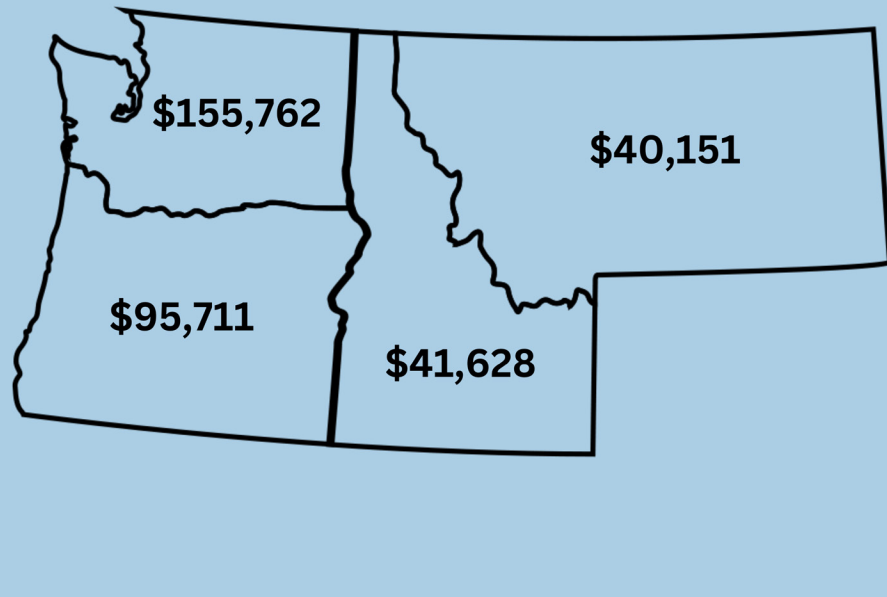
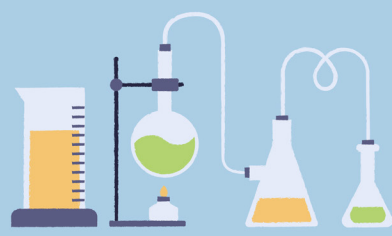
SPORTS

Baseball readies for first February home game since 2008.

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TRUMP'S FIRST MONTH

National Science Foundation grant awards in 2024



DATA COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

In 2024, the Pacific Northwest received \$333,252 in grant funds, money that could be at risk.

STEM

Continued from Page 1

to the United States would be the country losing its position as a leader in the scientific fields.

"I worry about management of our public lands, I worry about fires," Bancroft said. "We need to manage these things and we need people to do it. And there's no substitution for that."

The current political climate and the uncertainty that scientists feel have prompted questions about the relationship between science and politics.

Bancroft said that science is important to helping guide policy and that politicians should support climate research.

"There's a role for scientists as politicians," Bancroft said. "I think it would be really helpful if more scientists ran for office."

Bancroft and Henning said that scientists should be doing work that centers and involves themselves in the community.

Meanwhile, Henning said he believes that the Jesuit mission of the school requires that scientists at GU use their work to help care for those who are most vulnerable.

"[Our mission] doesn't allow some sort of a false neutrality where we're just sort of disconnected and looking in on society from some sort of objective viewpoint," Henning said. "We're called to do certain kinds of work on behalf of those who need it the most. Are we advocating for action? Yes we are, in order to help the community to respond and act in a way that's hopefully more thoughtful and better informed."

However, Hugh Lefcort, a biology professor at GU, said that scientists should try to let their research do the talking for them and leave interpretation up to politicians. Lefcort said that he would

caution against scientists becoming activists for any particular political viewpoint, because when scientists speak out about topics they are not certain of, they risk being wrong and further worsening the crisis of public trust.

"Politics and science don't mix well. I understand that politicians have to do their job, but as a scientist, I have trouble saying things that I don't know," Lefcort said. "Politicians have to exaggerate, but in science, we never say anything we don't know."

Students in STEM fields will also have to navigate this political climate when they graduate.

Lefcort said that while worrying about scientific research being funded is a legitimate concern, he said STEM students should keep things in perspective.

"A lot of this is stuff that is being thrown at the wall and probably won't stick," Lefcort said. "If you look at American policy over the last 100 years, whether it's Democrat or Republican, it's amazingly flat ... someone like [Robert F. Kennedy Jr.] could do terrible things, but he will probably just be average."

Bancroft said that as scientists, graduating students should look at nongovernmental organizations that are doing science as well as taking jobs at the state level.

Henning said that students should remain hopeful and focus on their own communities as a way to help fight against climate change.

"Our motto is to make it local and keep it hopeful," Henning said. "We're not trying to solve [climate change] globally. We're trying to focus on the Inland Northwest. That's our community. That's our place."

Seamus McCarthy is a staff writer.

A refresher course on executive orders

By KAYA CRAWFORD

President Donald Trump has signed more than 70 executive orders since his inauguration on Jan. 20. Already, some of these orders have caused uproar and have been prevented by federal lawsuits. However, there is a question of what exactly an executive order is.

Michael Cecil is an assistant professor of law in Gonzaga University's Law School. He said that an executive order is a directive from the president that guides the enforcement or administration of the law.

Cecil said that executive orders have been issued since former President George Washington's time in office and are rooted in America's history.

"Certain presidents have certain political agendas, and they'll deploy those agendas in a way that aligns with their party or their ideology or their views on a public policy issue, whatever it may be," Cecil said. "Presidents have issued executive orders since the beginning."

Cecil said examples of the ways executive orders have been used are when former President Harry S. Truman desegregated the U.S. military in 1948 with Executive Order 9981 and when former President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which authorized the forced relocation of Japanese Americans to internment camps during World War II in 1942.

"[It was a] very famous, and I would say disastrous case in our history, but that was also under an executive order," Cecil said. "So you kind of see that they can utilize [executive orders] in many different ways."

Trump has used executive orders in various ways in the first month of his second term in office. According to an NBC News analysis of Federal Register data, Trump had signed 72 executive orders as of Feb. 20. The report said that Trump signed more executive orders in his first 10 days in office than any recent president had in their first 100 days.

Jeffrey Omari, an assistant professor of law and the faculty director for the Center for Civil and Human Rights in GU's Law School, said that it is common for presidents to exercise executive orders when they are first entering office.

"I think what's unique or troubling about this circumstance is that there have been so many executive orders, and they seem to basically destabilize our federal government," Omari said. "And the federal government is essential — essential in sustaining the institutions of this country. So I think that's why there's been so much uproar."

One executive order that has caused controversy is Trump's executive order revoking birthright citizenship, Omari said. The U.S. Court of Appeals has rejected this order, and 18 states have sued the federal government over it, according to the NBC report.

"It's been a very hot button topic in the media as of late, because that one is clearly in conflict with the 14th Amendment of

“

I think what's unique or troubling about this circumstance is that there have been so many executive orders and they seem to basically destabilize our federal government.

Jeffrey Omari, GU Law professor

the Constitution," Omari said.

Omari said executive orders cannot be in conflict with the Constitution. Cecil said that executive orders have a problem in "that no one knows or no one's decided the source authority for executive orders" and legal scholars have debates over theories of where the executive order and power for it comes from.

Both Omari and Cecil said that paying attention to executive orders is important and that reading news from all sides of an argument is also key in being able to form one's own opinion. Cecil also said it is important to read the orders themselves and to listen to voices one disagrees with.

"The answer to freedom of speech is not to shut down a speaker, it's to have a counter narrative," Cecil said. "There's this old quote that if you don't believe in freedom of speech for those you disagree with, you don't believe in freedom of speech at all. So the answer is not to shut down voices you disagree with. The answer is to understand what they're saying and debate and discuss in a rational, thoughtful manner."

Omari said that while it is important to remain knowledgeable about the executive orders being signed, it is also important to find a balance and prioritize mental health.

"Sometimes maintaining your mental well-being means you might need to take a breather from what's going on because it's stressing you or your family, and I think taking breaks is OK," Omari said. "But there should be a balance. You don't want to just completely tune out and be ignorant to the world that's happening around you."

Kaya Crawford is an arts & entertainment editor

ICE

Continued from Page 1

or community or hometown or church, or whatever the case might be, who are directly impacted."

Porterfield also said that his work has been changing rapidly under the Trump administration.

"A lot of the executive orders are not terribly precise, so we are spending a fair amount of time trying to understand and interpret what they actually mean," Porterfield said. "It's a hard place to be, because it's just not clear what all that we're dealing with."

Fawcett said that she has been working directly with cultural clubs and organizations around campus, as well as preparing resources that will be accessible for community members online. At an event organized by the Unity Alliance of Culture Clubs on Jan. 23, she said that a range of topics came up.

"Our focus was on international student visa holders, campus security and enforcement and admissions and FAFSA," Fawcett said. "So again, this is much more than just ICE agents showing [up]."

When it comes to the actual presence of ICE agents on GU's campus, Fawcett said that it is critical for students, staff and community members to be aware of one basic protocol:

"Send [ICE] directly to the Office of the General Counsel," Fawcett said. "They're really the only ones authorized to communicate with [ICE] on behalf of the university."

The Office of the General Counsel, as described on the office's website, coordinates all legal services related to GU and is located in College Hall.

Fawcett also said that many of the concerns surrounding immigration and deportation on college campuses fit into larger issues.

"There's so much under attack and being stripped away in terms of sustainability issues, in terms of higher [education] funding," Fawcett said. "In terms of anything that is even remotely race related, should we cower in fear?"

Hawai'i/Pacific Islander Club President and Social Justice Peer Educator Zion Vaoifi has been working to raise awareness of this issue among fellow students. Vaoifi has been leading the "red card initiative" at GU, passing out printed red slips containing information on how to



JOSHUA GARCIA IG: flamedmedia

GU's Dream Week, held earlier this school year, acknowledged students impacted by immigration.

respond to ICE agents.

"[The initiative] is to keep people and students who may not be aware of their rights informed and able to respond if an ICE agent approaches or requests entry to their home," Vaoifi said in an email.

Vaoifi also said that the community response has been positive, and he has been working on the initiative with cultural clubs.

"Department groups across GU have expressed interest in helping out where it is needed," Vaoifi said.

Vaoifi said that he has been working with nonprofit groups, such as the Pacific Islander Nonprofit Association, to print out red slips in a variety of languages — particularly Marshallese, given the high population of Marshallese immigrants in Spokane.

Invoking GU's mission statement, Porterfield said that upholding and adhering to Jesuit principles is also a critical response to this issue.

"Our work around human dignity and social justice is

beyond just a sociopolitical interest — it's deeply a part of our mission," Porterfield said. "The walking with people, the embracing human dignity, the belief in cura personalis and care for the whole person. If those things aren't part of what we do, then we're not Jesuit institutions."

Fawcett said that care and conversation are particularly important in upholding these same values.

"I think we should all be concerned when we see already vulnerable groups being threatened even further," Fawcett said.

For students and community members hoping to learn more about this issue and engage in these conversations, Fawcett has been involved with the coalition of cultural clubs in organizing a second conversational event on immigration on Monday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the John J. Hemmingson Center ballroom. A similar event was held earlier this year after the inauguration.

Maddox Reimer is a staff writer.



DYLAN SMITH IG: d.smithphotos

Longer passing periods are intended to adapt to Gonzaga University's growing campus.

No need to run GU extends passing period from 10 to 15 minutes

By LILI CATHERSAL

To accommodate students traveling across campus, Gonzaga University will increase passing periods between classes from 10 minutes to 15 minutes for the 2025-26 school year.

Since the UW-GU Health Partnership Building opened in 2022, the university's campus has expanded, making it difficult for some students, particularly those in the human physiology program, to arrive to class on time.

"They were not only always late to some of their classes, but also had no time to communicate with their instructors at the end of class periods, which created a strain on both students and faculty," said Mia Bertagnolli, GU's interim provost.

The proposed change has received student support from the health sciences department. Fourth-year student Grace Fink, a human physiology major, said she has struggled with the commute to class since her sophomore year.

"It was nearly impossible to make it to class on time," Fink said. "I had to begin biking to my lab classes, and our professors would start class late to accommodate the stream of out-of-breath students that couldn't make it to the official start time."

Fink said that while the professors in the Health Science building understood that their students would be late, faculty outside of the department on the main campus didn't understand that human physiology students were struggling to get to their classes.

This sentiment was echoed by human physiology senior Keely Lipp.

"Professors in the Health Science building are aware and understanding and usually delay class start a bit, but some professors on the main campus don't understand why we're late," Lipp said.

Since 2022, interest in expanding the passing periods has been brought to the attention of the Gonzaga Policy and Planning Committee. The 2023-2024 school year was a period of review and community input to determine the nature of the change.

"There were a number of issues taken into consideration, including the possible impact on lunch periods, as well as how students relying on childcare could manage the expansion of the instructional day," Bertagnolli said. "There was also consideration of the positive impact this change could have for everyone, especially those with mobility challenges."

According to Bertagnolli, the original proposal was brought to the Academic Council for discussion and an advisory vote in April 2024. The motion was discussed and approved by then-Provost Sacha Kopp.

Fink expects the change to alleviate the challenge of arriving to class on time.

"I have the walk down to a science, and most of us can make it in 13, 14 minutes," Fink said. "With 15-minute passing periods, I wouldn't be forced to be late to all my classes."

Lili Cathersal is a contributor.

SERVICE

Continued from Page 1

Jouliot said the weekly meals that are provided by Campus Kitchen volunteers create a depth of engagement between people that goes beyond the big issue of food insecurity.

"The first couple of dinners, it was a few residents popping their heads not knowing what this is," Jouliot said. "Now, people who are regulars come every week and sit down in community with each other."

Opportunity Northeast has also supported Catalyst, a youth summer program for Rogers High School, on-campus vaccination clinics, the Coffee to Careers program, the Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy and more on-campus groups and events, Ayers said.

As CCE looks toward the future, Ayers said the center recently wrapped up a second listening project with the community to reassess needs and progress.

"As relationships deepen in the community, we continue to find

new ways to connect and support the work," Ayers said.

Jouliot said this assessment confirmed that many needs have stayed the same, but it also brought up more on the topic of workforce training and hiring opportunities that are made available to northeastern Spokane residents.

"There's an economic angle that wasn't the primary focus of our initial five-year plan," Jouliot said. "We've seen conversations about how we can use our buying power as Gonzaga, a fairly large institution, to uplift the neighboring community."

Ayers said the place-based engagement is important to bring the community into close relationship with the activities of GU staff and students.

"We are able to bring life to Gonzaga's mission of working in service to the common good," Ayers said. "Opportunity Northeast provides a strategic direction for our collective community engagement efforts, which leads to a greater impact."

Holly Fijolek is a staff writer.

ADMIN

Continued from Page 1

marginalized, and ostracized," McCulloh said in the statement.

Acknowledging the uncertainty of the moment, McCulloh pointed to GU's history of resilience through past challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While the going may not be easy, and the challenges may be very real, we must not allow disruptive forces to distract us from our individual and collective purpose, which is nothing less than the pursuit of truth as well as the transfer and generation of knowledge in service to humanity," McCulloh said in the statement.

McCulloh also encouraged community members struggling with the effects of recent policy changes to use the university's "Care & Support Resources" page.

"As a university that prioritizes its commitment to the health and welfare of every one of its members, it is important that I reinforce and underscore Gonzaga's commitment to doing everything we possibly can to support all of our students, faculty, and staff," McCulloh said in the statement.

McCulloh concluded his statement by stating the university will monitor proposed and implemented changes at the federal, state and local levels.

"We will continue to share information that becomes available and continue to work to create opportunities for community engagement on important topics," McCulloh said in the statement. "Do not hesitate to bring forth your concerns and suggestions so that we together can actively engage these issues."

Henry Krueger is a news editor.

● ● GSBA Election Results ● ●

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Speaker of Senate: Madelyn Derr

All amendments passed.



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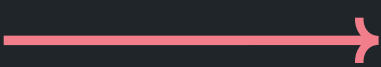


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LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Kennel Campout honors Zag spirit

Celebrating Gonzaga University basketball is one of the things that makes this university so special. In particular, the Kennel Campout, a nearly 20-year-old tradition, engages a large portion of the student body to camp outside in support of our student athletes. A few other universities have similar traditions, but no one does it in the same way the Zags do.

Since its origins in 2006, Kennel Campout, formerly known as Tent City, has gathered students to sleep outside the night before a major basketball game to earn their position in line. Over the years, the event has grown and it's become more than just sleeping outside. Now, it is a whole event that includes scavenger hunts, silent discos, movie nights, free food and often merchandise for those who attend. This event starts a few days before the game, determining each tenting team's spot in line on game day. This is Tweet Day.

Tweet Day is the Wednesday before a Campout weekend when a Tweet is released from the Kennel Club "X" account right at 12:15 p.m. It names a location on campus that all students participating choose to run to try and be the first student there. The first student there gets Tent Spot No. 1, the second student Tent Spot No. 2 and so on. As each tenting team is allowed anywhere from one to six people, a common strategy is having each member in a different location, spread out across campus. This allows for the maximum opportunity for a team to make sure at least one member can get to the Tweet spot.



By SILJE SQUIRES

The Kennel Club Board recognizes that running to a location might not be possible for everyone given physical ability, scheduling problems or something else. To do our best to offer a solution, we give the opportunity for pinch runners. Anyone is welcome to have a pinch runner, or someone who will run in their place on Tweet Day. Students can find a pinch runner themselves, or Kennel Club can connect you to someone who will pinch run for you. If you are not someone who has a problem with running on Tweet Day and enjoy the excitement of the day, there is also an interest form so you can volunteer to pinch run for another team. We understand that this is not a perfect solution. However, with pinch running and the opportunity for five other students to be placed around campus for a team, we hope this provides enough for every

team to have a chance at Tent Spot No. 1.

Additionally, students are invited to fill out a form if they do not have a group. Many groups sign up for the event with fewer than the maximum number of students allowed. For those who do not have a group to tent with, we have been able to find them a group they can jump in with, so they have other people to share the experience with.

While the Kennel Club Board does recognize this is a flawed system, we have done our best to provide options for those who may not otherwise be able to participate. In the last two years, we have implemented more forms for feedback, changed the name of the event to recognize its biases and have shifted the event to address its shortcomings. This event highlights the energy, dedication, resilience and camaraderie it takes to be a Zag. Kennel Campouts are meant to be an event that allows the most dedicated students to show out for our student athletes. It is not required to attend any game as GU basketball remains accessible for all students, no matter their involvement with Kennel Club.

Silje Squires is a GU student and president of the Kennel Club.

One month in and Trump is fracking up my future

"Drill, baby, drill," is what President Donald Trump said in regard to fracking, a practice used to extract oil. While he argues this will help America become more economically independent, fracking carries the risks of long-term consequences — causing health effects due to water contamination, and environmental damages and even increased likelihood of earthquakes.

In all areas of policy, Trump's agenda spread through America's bureaucracy faster than my head could swivel. I began to quickly understand the impacts of this administration with every slash from Elon Musk's chainsaw and every egregious new phrase spawning in the news.

In a sense, ever since Trump entered the Oval Office, I've seen my future get fracked. So many people bought into the idea that Trump's harmful policies would be beneficial in the short term, without realizing the long-term effects.

The new administration's foreign diplomatic methods have already sent destabilizing ripples, inhibiting me from my study abroad destination of choice. This summer, I am planning on studying Arabic, with hopes of studying abroad in the Middle East in a year. With the news cycle projecting images of Middle Eastern leaders reacting to Trump's

handling of the current situation in Gaza, I feel more uncertain about the likelihood of being able to safely study in the region.

My career aspirations have also been shaken. With the growing prevalence of humanitarian-oriented governmental branches getting axed, the plan I had carefully drawn for myself started to crumble. Like a chemical slowly leeching into a stream, Trump's administration has been contaminating the White House's organizations and departments.

I know people who feel similarly. One of my closest friends has decided to study law in Canada instead of America. As a prospective environmental lawyer, she feels discouraged by Trump's

flagrant anti-climate stance. Another one of my friends wonders if she'll be able to find a job in public health under Robert Kennedy Jr.'s leadership of the Department of Health and Human Services. I've been learning and witnessing how vital a healthy bureaucracy is to American politics.

Many facets of American life and experiences are inherently shaped by politics, although it may not always be apparent. I had no idea that the government was capable of shutting down Diversity, Equity and Inclusion programs. My jaw has continually dropped as I've seen what I didn't even consider happening actually happen.

The future feels extremely uncertain

given all of the changes to the American landscape, which has been disrupting the landscape I've imagined for myself and for the world. It's hard to pivot.

It's frustrating, crushing and frankly numbing. When you've built your life and your school career around striving for specific things, and then see how easily it can be disrupted, it's honestly difficult to find the drive to continue as usual.

I've been considering shifting around my study abroad location. I've also been looking into nongovernmental organizations so I can still make differences that I want to, regardless of who is in office. I believe it is absolutely critical to not lose sight of what you think is right and just. It's necessary to remain firm in your values and what you want for yourself, even when it's hard.

As paralyzing as it is to see the constant change, as well as your entire vision for your future uprooted, I suppose it's practical to seek solid ground and dig in while remaining flexible. Even when political drilling uproots your plans.

Lily Pearse is a digital editor.

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Contact Info:

Email: bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu

Office phone: 509-313-6826

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

U.S. social contract under threat

With the ideals of patriotism and America being stolen by authoritarians who want to throw away our Constitution, imprison legal American citizens in El Salvador and destroy any hope of appeal or equality under the law, it is necessary to reaffirm what values we the people of the United States hold above all others. In my studies, I have interviewed everyone (from militia members in North Idaho to Antifa members in Spokane and every step of American idealism in between). I have found we all hold seven core values. Three are protected by the law, three are under the law and one remains, regardless of any law. In this two-part letter, I will convey my findings and reaffirm our commitment to the social contract of America.

This concept of the American social contract is something we grew up under, fought, bled and died for and took a stand against dictators and tyrants to uphold. Every value is written into the American psyche by the blood of our nation's bravest and wisest. This contract is what formed our country; it is what made these separate states come together to create the greatest nation on earth; however, it is also what will cause our destruction if we continue on this path of authoritarianism and leave our core values behind.

You see, dear reader, we the American people hold seven values that stand higher, deeper and firmer than all other laws and values that we live by: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are to be protected by the law. Justice, equality and representation are to be held firm under the law. Yet there is one value stronger than all others regardless of any laws: revolution.



By JOSEPH GHODSEE

The American people hold this above all others, for we wrote it into the Constitution, our Declaration of Independence and into the hearts and minds of all Americans. For revolution is not only our right, but our duty toward a tyrannical government. Without revolution, our representative republic would never have existed.

Life is the value that gives all people not just a right to survive, but to thrive, live, love, laugh, breathe, eat, drink, be born, marry, have a family and even die without government interference. Life as a value allows us to live without government permission and tasks the government to protect our lives. What is the point of having any other rights if people are not even permitted to live?

Liberty is the value of self-determination protected by the law. If our reasonable decisions do not interfere with the reasonable consent of our fellow Americans, then we should be allowed to do whatever we want to do. This is why our Founding Fathers hesitated to create the Bill of Rights, because they knew that if they put down a limited number of rights, then an authoritarian government could infringe on all other actions that were not listed

but were assumed freedoms. Due to this, the Constitution should not be seen as an obstacle, but the bare minimum. Americans have a right to keep their morals to themselves and their conscience, and nothing should interfere in that sacred right. For what is the point of renouncing a king if we the people can't make our own decisions?

The pursuit of happiness is the value that we will all be afforded the right to live however we see fit. One person may find happiness pursuing money, another may pursue influence and another may want to live in the woods, without a penny or friend to their name. We are all afforded the right to determine our conditions of happiness and work to achieve them. The government is only allowed to interfere if our pursuits intervene or injure the life, liberty or pursuit of happiness of another. For what is the point of living under liberty if we cannot dictate what we want and work to achieve it?

I, Joseph Isaiah Ghodsee, do solemnly swear that any attempt to seize Americans, strip us of our rights and ship us to a gulag with no legal recourse is a declaration by our government that they will no longer protect our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In the second part of my letter, I will cover how this declaration does not end with our most fundamental right but is also a sign that any values we hold firm under the law are under threat. Until then my fellow patriot: resist fear, hold strong.

Joseph Ghodsee is a GU student, and the second part of his letter will be available online.

BOOKSTORE BINGE

Fantasy fun at Jupiter's Eye

By KAITLIN SMITH

Nestled in a storefront in downtown Spokane, a new cozy and welcoming space opened its doors on Jan. 17 to bring together two things that go hand in hand: books and coffee.

Jupiter's Eye Book Cafe has had its doors open for three weeks, but it has already created a warm and welcoming environment for the community while also supporting local Spokane authors.

Morgan Lynch, the owner of Jupiter's Eye, was born and raised in Spokane and attended Eastern Washington University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in history. Lynch said her dream was to be a librarian at the Smithsonian Institution after graduating from college.

Instead of pursuing this, Lynch decided to return to school at Spokane Falls Community College to complete a graphic design program. Upon graduating, Lynch said that she worked for multiple marketing firms before deciding to open up her own business.

"Reading in coffee shops is one of my biggest hobbies," Lynch said. "I got to a point with my graphic design career where I was feeling like I'd gotten about as far as I wanted to get, and it was time for a change."

Located at 411 W First Ave, Jupiter's Eye focuses its collection of books on the mystery, sci-fi and horror genres.

"The genre and curation is an important part of the space for us," Lynch said. "There's other bookstores in town that do other genres really, really well ... and I think it's cool that we can carve this little niche out for ourselves."

Lynch said the decision to be located downtown was intentional and important to the integration of Jupiter's Eye into the small business community.

"There's something about the vibrancy of downtown that I really like," Lynch said. "I like feeling like a part of the city ... there's just something kind of romantic about it."

Additionally, Jupiter's Eye has become part of the bookstore community in Spokane. Lynch said that the other bookstores in the community have been welcoming.

"I've been so thankful to have been so welcomed," Lynch said. "It's very much like a rising tide lifts all boats; we all thrive in this bookish community."

Lynch said that Jupiter's Eye has seen a great start to its business and believes part of the success comes from the support of the greater Spokane community.

"People really believe in supporting this city," Lynch said. "People who live here want to go to their local bookstore, their local coffee shop, their local boutique — they want to support events because at the end of the day, this is our town."

In addition to its book selection, Jupiter's Eye also offers a full cafe menu with coffee, tea, sandwiches and



LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo.b00th

Jupiter's Eye Book Cafe is located in downtown Spokane, offering books of myriad genres, coffee and alcoholic beverages.

pastries. The cafe also serves a selection of beer and wine. Lynch said that the space could appeal to Gonzaga University students as a study space, as it offers Wi-Fi and a large, reservable table that is tucked into a book nook.

Lynch also said the book selection that Jupiter's Eye offers can appeal to college students, as it offers a slight escape from reality.

"The escapism in here is what appeals to me about these genres," Lynch said. "If you're overwhelmed, or if you're like, 'What am I doing with my life?' You just need to go read a book and get a different perspective; get out of your own pit for a little while."

Another goal of Jupiter's Eye is to feature local authors, both in its book selection and by hosting book signings. Local Spokane author Travis Baldree was at the grand opening of the cafe last month to offer book signings on his New York Times bestseller "Legends and Lattes." The cafe has also welcomed three additional local authors for the first rendition of "Reading by the Fire," where Jupiter's

Eye hosted live readings of the works of local authors.

"There were about 30 of us that were all here listening to it," barista McKenna Hader said. "So I think the community is already cultivating here."

While Lynch said that she has been excited about the success that Jupiter's Eye has seen in its first month of operation, she is also excited to see how the cafe will grow while holding true to its core values and beliefs.

"We definitely want to be a safe space. We have a lot of queer authors, own voices, stories of all types of people," Lynch said. "And we definitely want people to know that coming in here is an absolutely safe space, no matter who you are."

Kaitlin Smith is a staff writer.



RACHEL TRUSSELL IG: @racheltrussellphotography

Giant Nerd Books is located in Spokane's Garland District and is home to vintage books, comics and Elivra the dog.

Getting geeky at Giant Nerd Books

By EMILY NIEMANN

A lizard sits beneath a heating lamp in the window and houseplants crawl over the shelves filled with second-hand books. One section on occult religion, another on comics and a handful of glass cases filled with rare leather bound books line the walls of Giant Nerd Books. All of the customers are overseen by the store's unofficial manager, Elivra the bookstore dog.

Giant Nerd Books has been open for four years in the Garland District as one of the few vintage books stores in Spokane.

Nathan Huston, the owner of Giant Nerd Books, said that the inspiration for the name of the store was somewhat autobiographical.

"I'm six and a half feet tall and I weigh about 270 pounds, and I'm covered in comic book tattoos," Huston said.

The name was also came from an inside joke that Huston's friends came up with

while on a road trip. Huston said that his friends would ask him a series of ridiculous questions in a game they dubbed "Stump the Nerd," which later devolved into the nickname "Giant Nerd."

Huston said his friendships helped guide the passion fueling his business.

"I really like finding just the right niche [to] fit a book to a person," Huston said. "Something that somebody has been looking for for 20 years or that they were looking for their whole life but didn't know existed — I like being able to produce that."

Huston began online selling in the '90s on eBay, which quickly became his primary work. When his friend, Josh Scott, reopened Time Bomb in 2005, Scott asked Huston to create a section of books for the store. The vintage toys and other memorabilia in Time Bomb, a local trinket store, served as a backdrop to Huston's growing collection of books and comics.

During this time, Time Bomb was on North Monroe Street and Broadway

Avenue, and when the space next door opened up in 2013, Huston decided to take the opportunity.

"I had a garage full of books by that point, so I rented it and turned it into a store," Huston said.

After a slew of plumbing problems at his old location, Huston said he moved Giant Nerd Books to its current location in 2021. Time Bomb is still one of the store's neighbors, operating across the street.

Giant Nerd Books offers a variety of rare, vintage and novel reading materials, with the oldest book in Huston's current collection being a Latin copy of "Cicero" from 1579. Huston said that the collection is sourced from a variety of places, but often from people in Spokane who inherit large book collections.

"The longer I stay in business, the more stuff walks in my front door, which is nice," Huston said. "It's less wear and tear on me."

Huston's "co-pilot" and long-term

girlfriend Anna Garrison helps manage buying books from small publishers. She said that her inclination toward different publishers varies from week to week.

"We just did an order from the PM press," Garrison said. "They do a lot of activism and radical politics, but [it's] very community oriented, kind of grassroots."

Garrison also said that Giant Nerd Books helps round out the personality of the Garland District, especially with its remodeled event space where the business recently hosted a record sale and plans to host some art shows and a "mini comic-con."

"I think [the store] fills a niche that is not currently being filled, because we tend to kind of focus on marginalized topics," Garrison said. "We're trying to really utilize this event space, and it's like a free space that anyone can use for whatever thing they are into."

During all of his years working as a bookstore owner and collector, Huston has found numerous rare copies of some of the literary world's most beloved authors. Huston said one of his coolest finds was a signed copy of Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" bound in asbestos and a first-edition of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby."

Huston said he grew up in Spokane but found himself a part of the "rush" to leave once he became an adult.

"I was born and raised in Spokane, [but] I spent a lot of the '80s and most of the '90s not being here once I got out of high school," Huston said.

After living in Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago and Minneapolis, Huston made his way back to Spokane with the intent to make Spokane better. Huston said that the journey back to Spokane was comparable to his other journey in taekwondo.

"People think in martial arts, when you get your black belt, that's when you've got it made, and that's when you can go out and beat up the world. Wrong," Huston said. "Getting your black belt is like getting out of elementary school. When you start working on your more advanced levels, that's when the real work starts. Leaving Spokane is like getting your first black belt; coming back and trying to do something to make the town better is when the real work starts."

Emily Niemann is a news editor.

TRUMP'S FIRST MONTH

Paying attention to political messaging in the arts

COMMENTARY
By KAYA CRAWFORD

The age-old adage is that a picture is worth a thousand words, but whose words are they? Certainly, they belong to the artist who is using their craft to convey a message of some kind. Perhaps they are also the viewer's, whose interpretation of the message is built in part by their own experiences. A picture is worth a thousand words, and often, those words are a message that demands our attention.

Amanda Gorman once said in her 2018 TED Talk, "Using Your Voice Is A Political Choice," that all art is political. Gorman, who became the youngest inaugural poet in history when she recited her poem "The Hill We Climb" at former President Joe Biden's inauguration in 2021, uses her poetry to address issues including climate change and racism.

"The decision to create, the artistic choice to have a voice, the choice to be heard is the most political act of all," Gorman said in her TED Talk.

Art, therefore, is inherently political. The messages that exist through paintbrush, song, photograph, movement and dance are more than something to see. Art is something to pay attention to, analyze and interpret.

When Kendrick Lamar took to the stage for the Super Bowl halftime show on Feb. 9, his performance was more than just entertainment. It was full of political symbolism and messages.

The whole performance was set in "America's Game," with Samuel L. Jackson playing a figure known in American history — Uncle Sam. The dancers wore red, white and blue and even formed an American flag divided during "Humble." A New York Times opinion article written



COURTESY OF SINGKINGKARAOKE ON IG

Lamar's Super Bowl halftime performance on Feb. 9 featured various political symbols.

by Tiana Clark, a poet and professor at Smith College, said this served as a "reminder of the backs that built this country against their will"

Lamar also made nods to America's history of slavery and racism, citing "40 Acres" and alluding to Field Order No. 15, which allocated land owned by Confederates to former Black slaves, only for former President Andrew Johnson to overturn the order in 1865. The phrase "game over" flashing in the crowd at the end of the performance did not just signal the end of the show, but perhaps the fact that no one can win America's game.

There were multiple interpretations of messaging during the halftime show, but

many do not ignore the political nods and messaging threaded throughout.

Lamar's performance is being used as an example for how the messages art conveys require more than just watching the performance. You can listen without hearing and look with seeing. To truly understand art, one must be willing to think deeply about it and consider the messages being portrayed.

Art and politics walk hand in hand, even in a literal sense. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts was founded as a cultural hub in America with bipartisan origins. According to its website, "the Kennedy Center presents world-class art by the artists

that define our culture today, delivers powerful arts education opportunities nationwide and embodies the ideals of President Kennedy in all the Center's activities provided throughout the living memorial."

For decades, the Kennedy Center has served as a space for the arts, showcasing the diversity of America and providing educational opportunities for artists. Various performing artists have been recognized by the center, which hosts plays, musicals, concerts, dances and other performances. The center is the host of the National Symphony Orchestra and hosts the Kennedy Center Honors, which recognizes five artists each year for their contributions to American culture and the arts.

In his first month in his second term in office, President Donald Trump was elected as chair of the board of trustees for the Kennedy Center by a newly constituted board. Trump had ousted many of the former board members appointed by Democratic presidents and appointed people into vacant seats. In his first term, Trump did not attend the Kennedy Center Honors, unlike past presidents.

Trump indicated in a statement on social media Feb. 7 that he would dictate programming at the center and would end drag performances, according to an article from The Associated Press. A performance from the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. that was scheduled for May was canceled, and some artists, including actress Issa Rae, have canceled their appearances at the Kennedy Center in protest. Most recently, the cancellation of the stage play "Eureka Day," which is centered on an outbreak of mumps, was announced.

If a president is willing to take charge of an arts center as a means to further an agenda, it is impossible to say that art is not political.

This is all to say that we must pay attention to art and the messages it conveys. Look at the murals on the sides of buildings, listen to the lyrics of your favorite song and read the messages on your social media. There is something there that we can learn from.

A picture is worth a thousand words, and the messages of those words demand our attention.

Kaya Crawford is an arts & entertainment editor.

Sudoku By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 3 4

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

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle 2/2/25

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

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.

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20						21								22				
23						24								25				
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48						49	50	51						52				
55						56								57	58			
61						62								63				
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97						98								99				
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108	109					110								111				
114						115								116	117	118		
120						121								122				
123						124								125				

- "TOY STORY" BY GARY LARSON**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Halls rival
 - 7 Open to change
 - 15 Irritates
 - 20 Undermines
 - 21 Army training exercise
 - 22 Radiant
 - 23 Spinner for an early riser?
 - 25 Waititi of "What We Do in the Shadows"
 - 26 Proton partner
 - 27 Finish
 - 28 Fate
 - 29 Future esq.'s exam
 - 30 Punchy salad ingredient
 - 33 Overused theme
 - 34 Sp. titles
 - 37 Free
 - 39 James of "Funny Lady"
 - 40 ___ and cheese
 - 43 Unkempt do
 - 44 Classic playset made of cut logs?
 - 47 Magic, on scoreboards
 - 48 Headline writer
 - 52 "Enough already!"
 - 53 Build on
 - 54 Muse of history
 - 55 Discover
 - 57 Japanese dog breed
 - 59 Gamekeeper
 - 61 Phrase on Texas license plates
 - 63 Nickel, e.g.
 - 66 Verdon partner
 - 67 Equipment for playing catch in a costume?
 - 71 "A Christmas ___"
 - 74 "The Hobbit" dragon
 - 75 Homer that scores one run
 - 79 Likes a lot
 - 81 Arena levels
 - 84 Like a sailboat's mainsail
 - 85 Narrow inlets
 - 86 Louisiana cuisine
 - 89 Volkswagen convertible
 - 91 Did a do
 - 92 Place to retire
 - 93 Rollerblades that are a dime a dozen?
 - 96 Fellow
 - 97 Hero
 - 98 Study, say
 - 99 Tailor, at times
 - 101 "___ cannoil!"
 - 102 Rest atop
 - 104 Step up from nano-
 - 106 Buggy terrain
 - 108 Ethically challenged
 - 110 Embargo
 - 111 Folks who may be up a creek with a paddle
 - 114 Center of power
 - 115 Competitive activity with infinite possibilities?
 - 120 Bracelet spot
 - 121 Natives of Wyoming
 - 122 Skilled speaker
 - 123 Honkers
 - 124 Totals
 - 125 Meditative genre
- DOWN**
- 1 No longer working, briefly
 - 2 Part of a press kit?
 - 3 Carry on
 - 4 Nonalcoholic beer brand
 - 5 Some driving instructions
 - 6 Type of plane that doesn't fly
 - 7 Hymn ending
 - 8 Three Gorges project
 - 9 "Should I take that as ___?"
 - 10 Piece of rpm
 - 11 Fixes, as a piano
 - 12 Political columnist
 - 13 Hawk
 - 14 Indoor rower, for short
 - 15 Controls supply
 - 16 Showing shock
 - 17 Shapers for kids' goo?
 - 18 Jab
 - 19 Smack
 - 24 Monopoly purchase
 - 28 Polish metropolis
 - 30 Clause separator, at times
 - 31 Puzzle cube creator
 - 32 Nice season
 - 33 Diplomat's skill
 - 34 Common sense?
 - 35 Bull rider's sport
 - 36 Like some drones
 - 38 Sound of reproach
 - 39 Currency with toonies, briefly
 - 41 Sign before Taurus
 - 42 Geneticist's research subject, perhaps
 - 45 Like most films
 - 46 Social app with a synagogue directory
 - 49 Kevin Bacon horror film with an "Aftershocks" sequel
 - 50 Marked down
 - 51 Goes off
 - 54 In an angry manner
 - 56 Website help pages
 - 58 Public relations concern
 - 60 Like ice cubes in water
 - 62 Piña colada ingredient
 - 64 Muscles worked by planks
 - 65 Southeast Asian
 - 68 Really enjoy
 - 69 Ancient civilization remnants
 - 70 Inc. relatives
 - 71 Keto no-nos
 - 72 "So long, mon ami"
 - 73 Travel version of a stackable building set?
 - 76 Phone line?
 - 77 NBA analyst
 - 78 Bear in a crib
 - 80 Pod relative
 - 82 Broadcast again
 - 83 ___ voice
 - 87 Many moons
 - 88 Copier problem
 - 90 Firm up
 - 93 Clothing lines
 - 94 Colonel Sanders's place
 - 95 Midsize car
 - 100 Damon who wrote the stories adapted as "Guys and Dolls"
 - 101 Donkey's call
 - 103 Victor's cry
 - 104 111-Down and Phillips, in a 1960s pop group
 - 105 Klutzy
 - 107 Paris possessive
 - 108 "The Traitors" host
 - 109 Cumming
 - 110 Not stereo
 - 111 Singer Elliot
 - 112 Actress Wilson
 - 113 Lip-lock, in London
 - 115 Josh of "Wolf Like Me"
 - 116 Way off
 - 117 "Well, lookie here!"
 - 118 Wizard singer
 - 119 Test for M.A. hopefuls

Restaurant Week connects community

By HOLLY FIJOLEK

More than 100 local restaurants are preparing for the Inlander's 13th annual Restaurant Week, which begins on Thursday and ends March 8. This 10-day event features curated three-course menus at each location that fall within a set price, ranging from \$25, \$35 and \$45 per meal.

Tamara McGregor, organizer of Inlander Restaurant Week, said the event is a great opportunity for locals to explore culinary culture while also having a cost-effective dining experience.

"If you go with one or two friends and are really strategic about what you order, you can get a really good sense of a restaurant and what they have to offer," McGregor said. "You're trying their appetizers, multiple main courses and multiple desserts."

McGregor said the inspiration for Restaurant Week originated when visiting a similar event in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, which reminded her of the strong culinary gains happening in the Spokane community.

She said a partnership was formed between Visit Spokane and The Inlander to put on this event meant to make Spokane more of a food destination like Portland, which also helps business for local hospitality workers.

"[Some goals are] locals taking pride in our locally owned restaurants that are uniquely ours, and shaping how outside visitors think of our area as a really strong culinary community, while also really impacting our economy," McGregor said.

Simon Moorby, a bar manager at Hogwash Whiskey Den, said that Restaurant Week is a business opportunity like no other for restaurants in Spokane.

"This is an event that really ties us all together," Moorby said. "Now I get that it only lasts 10 days, but within those 10 days, those who are either avid diners or like to see what's available in the area can try new spots or try their favorites at a discounted price."

Hogwash has participated in Restaurant Week almost every year since it began, Moorby said, and the years when it did not participate proved how important the event was for business.

Hogwash's typical menu features over 300 bottles of whiskey and plays on comfort foods from around the world. One item featured on the Restaurant Week dessert menu is a Thai tea poached pear, which Moorby said was created by the bar's chefs specifically for the event.

Moorby said the restaurant attempted to create a menu that caters to the hundreds of people that the staff meets throughout the week through a mixture of experimentation and classic dishes.

"We do like to vary our Restaurant Week offerings," Moorby said. "We wouldn't want to offer the same thing we did last year, but at the same time, feature staples on the menu that will continually be offered."

Jonathan Sweatt, owner of The Flying Goat, Downriver Grill and Republic Pi, said that similar strategies are applied at his restaurants when curating the menus offered each year.

"We try to balance what people want to come in and have, but also kind of push the envelope for the chefs and kitchen crew so that they can always continue to create,"



JOSHUA GARCIA IG: @flamedmedia

The Flying Goat, which offers various comfort foods, will feature three lunch-sized pizza options for Restaurant Week.

Sweatt said.

The Flying Goat features three lunch-size pizzas for the entree on its menu, including an eggplant and curry pizza and chorizo mezzuluna, which Sweatt said is similar to an open-face calzone. Additionally, Sweatt said The Flying Goat often uses locally sourced produce and sometimes uses heirloom tomatoes and basil grown in his own garden.

Restaurant Week, while filled with many bites, also features a Drink Local partnership with local breweries and wineries. McGregor said this is unique to the Inlander's Restaurant Week compared to others across the country.

"We require all restaurants to have at least one Drink Local feature on their menu to support local producers," McGregor said. "It'll create a flavor profile that's unique to Spokane and Coeur d'Alene with a taste of the region, and it shines a spotlight on local businesses."

Sweatt said the local focus and the timing of the event at a typically slow point in the year for restaurants is a way for businesses and diners to celebrate together.

"It gives everybody a push to go out and not only enjoy their favorite restaurants, but enjoy a restaurant that you maybe haven't been to in a while or that you've never tried before," Sweatt said. "So I think it's a great way for us all in the food industry to get together and celebrate what we do."

McGregor said that results from a public survey taken from attendees last year found participants also see the

event as a good way to connect with local businesses.

"We asked people, 'What's the No. 1 reason why you take part in Restaurant Week?' and I expected people to say it's a good deal or to try someplace new," McGregor said. "But the No. 1 reason why people took part was to support those local restaurants. That means a lot to me that they get what we're trying to do here, that if we want to upgrade restaurants, we have to support them."

For eventgoers in the next week, Sweatt said the emphasis on community bonds is something to keep in mind as they try many courses at their favorite spots.

"I think that in this day and age, it is more important than ever for us to just be able to support each other, and at the same time have some great food when you come out and enjoy it," Sweatt said.

Menus are available for viewing on the Restaurant Week website and in the official event guide available at participating restaurants and some grocery stores. Making reservations ahead of time is recommended for diners hoping to take part, McGregor said.

Holly Fijolek is a staff writer.

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WCC to struggle post-Gonzaga

COMMENTARY
By SEAN LIVESAY

Gonzaga University's departure from the West Coast Conference will be a tough change-up for the future of the conference. Keeping the recent trend of conference consolidation in mind, the WCC will likely not live past the next decade.

The most significant factor contributing to my prediction of a WCC collapse is the tremendous loss of revenue for the conference due to GU's departure. GU has generated 60% of the WCC men's basketball revenue during March Madness since 1991, by far the highest grossing event for the conference.

Without football, the WCC must heavily lean on men's basketball to generate revenue for the conference, a bulk of which is generated in March. The addition of Washington State University and Oregon State University will simply not be enough to make up for the consistent revenue generated by the Bulldogs, especially as they will leave with the Zags for the Pac-12 in 2026.

Most programs in the WCC receive their largest paycheck of the year from their contests against GU in men's basketball. Without the opportunity to consistently be matched up with a brand-name team that guarantees plenty of eyes on the program, I suspect that schools in the WCC will look to realign with larger, more financially opportunistic conferences.

Some comparisons can be drawn between the current circumstances of the WCC and those in 2010 with the Big East, another conference heavily focused on basketball. When the highest grossing programs in the Big East such as Louisville, Notre Dame and Syracuse announced their intention to leave the conference, the conference was suddenly pulled into a scramble to keep itself alive.

The Big East was able to ultimately survive, however, because nationally respected basketball programs such

as Villanova, Connecticut and Georgetown remained in the conference. GU is the only nationally respected basketball program in the conference; many casual NCAA basketball fans aren't even aware that schools like Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount exist and are only aware of the WCC's existence because of GU.

The WCC simply doesn't have the same backbone that the Big East had. With the conference so reliant on a single program to keep the money flowing in, it's hard to imagine the WCC staying afloat when a majority of its national recognition is stripped away.

It is easy to see schools like Saint Mary's and San Francisco being the next to go. It would be likely for these schools to squeeze into the Mountain West Conference or possibly the Pac-12, although the latter is currently searching for another football-sponsoring school to maintain their Football Bowl Subdivision status.

The lack of football in the conference gives most members little opportunity to find realignment, making the future of programs like Portland and Pacific extremely uncertain. Unfortunately, the current trend of conference consolidation will likely leave the majority of non-football sponsoring schools in jeopardy of losing Division I status.

Even if the WCC manages to find a way to survive, the quality of play within the conference will significantly decline across all sports. Most notable recruits want substantial Name, Image and Likeness deals with schools that regularly compete in games that garner national attention. The elimination of GU's revenue from the conference, alongside the only two nationally televised games most conference members participate in all season will significantly damage the ability of these schools to pull in talented players.

In order to survive, the WCC may have to outlive the Pac-12 and bank on the collapse of the significantly



BULLETIN FILE

Jonathan Williams cuts the net after GU's 2018 WCC title.

restructured conference. It is possible that schools such as Utah State and San Diego State would retreat to the WCC in this scenario, but this is still unlikely.

The WCC will likely be a shell of its former self during the 2026-27 academic year. Expect Saint Mary's to dominate the conference in men's basketball during this time while other sports simply won't feel the same without GU on the schedule.

As the trends of conference realignment and consolidation grip the NCAA's Division I programs, smaller programs, such as practically every program still committed to the WCC, will suffer while bigger programs thrive. The future collapse of the WCC is just another step in the direction of the NCAA.

Sean Livesay is a staff writer.

Gaels find GU's newest nemesis

By HENRY KRUEGER

If Mikey Lewis wasn't already on the long list of Saint Mary's men's basketball players loathed by Gonzaga University fans, he's doing everything he can to earn his spot as a freshman. The fearless, bucket-getting guard has torched the Bulldogs with 34 points and nine 3-pointers across two regular-season meetings.

Lewis slammed the door shut on GU during Saturday's matchup, drilling a trio of 3-pointers and going 3-for-3 at the free throw line in the final eight minutes to guide the Gaels to a 74-67 victory and the West Coast Conference regular-season title.

In the process, he spoiled GU's Senior Night, garnering boos from the crowd at the McCarthy Athletic Center.

"He answered the call and then some," said Saint

Mary's head coach Randy Bennett.

Bennett, in his 24th season at the helm, has a knack for finding players who can excel in big moments. Lewis is just the latest clutch shot-maker to don a Gaels uniform, following in the footsteps of former Saint Mary's guards Aidan Mahaney and Jordan Ford.

Players like Lewis have historically been catalysts to defeating the Zags, who have lost to the Gaels in four of the last five meetings. The most recent battle marked the first time Saint Mary's has won two straight games in Spokane during Bennett's tenure.

Lewis was named WCC Freshman of the Week following his 18-point outing in Saint Mary's rivalry win — the fourth time he's received the honor this season. Coming off the bench, he's reached double figures in 11 games, including a 23-point effort to help the Gaels take down Nebraska in November.

"He's had a few of them. So when you do that, at least you have the belief you can do it, and he does," Bennett said. "He did it against Nebraska, Gonzaga the first time. He was better this time and this one was on the road. He's had a number of those. Guys would be happy they had that many in a career and he's had it in his first year, so it's pretty cool."

Lewis' production has fluctuated in his first year. He hasn't been equally prolific against all WCC teams, combining for six points on 2-for-7 shooting in two games against Washington State this season.

Lewis is also still developing as a playmaker, currently averaging more turnovers (0.9) than assists (0.7) per game. He has registered zero assists in 16 matchups this season.

"He's either hot or cold when he comes in — he's kinda like their [Khalif Battle]," said GU head coach Mark Few after Lewis scored 16 points in a victory over the Zags in Moraga, California, on Feb. 1.

For the Gaels, Lewis' development comes at the perfect time. With March around the corner, Saint Mary's will need his scoring punch to make a run in both the WCC Tournament and the NCAA Tournament.

"He just changes the whole thing cause it gives you another shooter that you don't want to leave open," Bennett said.

In a season where the WCC's power dynamic has shifted back to Moraga, Lewis has cemented himself as GU's newest villain — and he might not be done yet.

Henry Krueger is a news editor.

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Baseball to host BYU in home opener

By KYLE SWEENEY

Two old frenemies will meet once again on the diamond as BYU visits Spokane to take on Gonzaga University in a three-game series starting today at Steve Hertz Field.

Despite BYU's transfer to the Big 12 in 2023, the Zags and Cougars will meet for the 15th consecutive season for matchups today, Friday and Saturday, marking the earliest baseball game hosted by GU since 2008. Thursday will mark the 55th all-time meeting between these two rivals, with BYU sweeping last year's three-game series down in Provo, Utah.

"We know each other very well. I have a lot of respect for their program and [we have] a long history of some great battles," said GU head coach Mark Machtolf. "We're looking forward to extending that even though we're not going to be in the same conference."

The weather this weekend should hold up, with projections showing sunny and around 50 degrees on Thursday. In its last series against Baylor, GU played in 29-degree weather in the opening match.

"The weather is starting to look good for this weekend, so I'm excited," said junior second baseman Hudson Shupe. "Home turf is a big thing, so it's nice to get in that home field routine."

GU (2-4) has struggled at the plate so far this season, though the team showed signs of promise in its recent 8-7 extra-innings victory over Baylor, which handed the Bears their first loss of the season. Through six games, GU has only been able to muster 3 runs per game, including a four-game stretch when the team only crossed the plate four total times.

However, Shupe has been one of the top bats in the West Coast Conference, hitting a conference-leading .522 to start the season, striking out only once in 23 at-bats. Shupe is second in the conference in hits (12), third in on-base percentage (.577) and fifth in on-base + slugging (1.229) to start the 2025 campaign.

GU has hit only .217 as a team so far — the second-lowest in the WCC — and is last in the WCC with 44 hits this season.

"We have to do a little better job with two strikes offensively and just get great at bats," Machtolf said. "We haven't really done that yet. I think that with time, we will be a good offensive team."

Conversely, BYU (4-4) has been hot at the plate recently, averaging 10 runs per game in its recent 2-1 series win over CSU Northridge, which included a 19-run outburst in the first game of the series. Through eight games this season, the



LUCY BOOTH IG: photo_b00th

Gonzaga hosts former rival BYU on Feb. 27 for its earliest home opener since 2008.

Cougars boast five players hitting .290 or above, including junior outfielders Bryker Hurdman (team-leading .393 average) and Luke Anderson (.344 average, three home runs, team-leading 11 runs batted in) along with first baseman Cooper Vest (.303 average, team-leading four HRs, seven RBIs).

As a team, BYU has an OBP of .370, over 100 points higher than GU's (.264) so far in the young season.

GU has shown major improvement on the mound and boasted a 4.06 team earned run average, a huge decrease from last year's 7.36 season total (third-worst in the WCC). Payton Graham (5 innings pitched, 0 earned runs, 7 strikeouts) and Gabe Brabec (5.0 IP, 1 ER, 7 strikeouts) both excelled in their first starts this season.

GU's bullpen has also looked sharp, including Michael Cunneely (5.0 relief innings, 1.80 ERA), Finbar O'Brien (7.2

relief innings, 1.17 ERA) and Erik Hoffberg (6.1 relief innings, 4.26 ERA).

While the Cougars have had the better start in the batter's box, the Zags have the advantage on the mound. BYU holds a team ERA of 6.62 through eight games, struggling mightily in the bullpen. Five different relief pitchers hold a double-digit ERA (GU has none). However, senior right-hander Hayden Coon has been lights out so far in relief, pitching five shutout innings in two relief appearances.

For BYU, every pitcher to start a game this season has been right-handed. Payton Gubler (1-1, 4.09 ERA), Garrison Sumner (1-0, 5.40 ERA) and Jaden Harris (1-0, 12.38 ERA) will start for the Cougars this weekend, while Brabec, Miles Gosztola (0-2, 7.04 ERA) and Justin Feld (0-1, 7.27 ERA) will get the starts for GU.

"This group will continue to get better, and I'm excited to get back to Spokane for

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

- Thursday, Feb. 27
 - » **Baseball vs. BYU, 3 p.m.**
 - » Women's basketball at Pacific, Stockton, California, 6 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 28
 - » **Baseball vs. BYU, 3 p.m.**
 - » Women's tennis vs. Montana, 4 p.m.
- Saturday, March 1
 - » Men's tennis vs. Seattle U, 10 a.m.
 - » **Baseball vs. BYU, 1 p.m.**
 - » Women's basketball at Santa Clara, Santa Clara, California, 2 p.m.
 - » Men's basketball at San Francisco, San Francisco, California, 8 p.m.
- Sunday, March 2
 - » **Women's tennis vs. Seattle U, 10 a.m.**
 - » **Men's tennis vs. Idaho, 2 p.m.**

Home games in bold

our home series," Machtolf said. Game one of this three-game rivalry series begins on today at 3 p.m. Game two on Friday will also take place at 3 p.m., and Saturday's series finale will begin at 1 p.m., with all games streaming live on ESPN+ for any GU student to tune in.

Kyle Sweeney is a staff writer



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