

The Gonzaga Bulletin

A student publication of Gonzaga University
MAY 8, 2025 www.gonzagabulletin.com VOL. 136 ISSUE 21



GRAPHIC MADE BY ELENA TOW

Four years' worth of celebration



DYLAN SMITH IG: @d.smithphotos

A Lavender Graduation ceremony introduced queer students to the alumni network.

Alumni network supports Zags

By RUBY GROSS

Once a Zag, always a Zag — at least that is what the Gonzaga University alumni network believes in.

The GU alumni network, also known as the Zag alumni network, refers to all the resources GU has for its alumni and supporters. This includes regional alumni chapters, affinity communities and the

paid alumni association.

Drew Rieder, GU's senior director of Regional Chapters and Affinity Communities, has worked for 17 years to engage alumni, expand programming and help volunteers execute alumni events.

"Our team [at the Office of Alumni Relations] serves volunteers and helps

SEE ALUMNI PAGE 2

Ceremony brings pomp to campus

By LORIANNE SERVIGNAT

Gonzaga University students who battled through the COVID-19 pandemic are finally getting their real graduation this year instead of a drive-by one.

The commencement ceremony for undergraduates will take place this Sunday starting at 9:30 a.m. The ceremony is a place for students to celebrate their accomplishments.

Any student who will finish their time at GU within the calendar year is eligible to be recognized at the commencement ceremony.

"We just have this kind of latitude around it because what we care about is that you as a group have the opportunity to celebrate together and be acknowledged," said Angela Ruff, communications and events manager in the Office of the Provost.

Molly Shumaker, the curriculum and certification specialist in the Registrar's Office, said this celebration is not a graduation.

"The ceremony is a celebration of all your achievements, whereas graduating is like having your diploma or your degree," Shumaker said.

There is a lot of behind-the-scenes work that goes into ensuring all students are eligible and able to walk long before the ceremony

SEE GRAD PAGE 2



COURTESY OF KYLIE MUKAI

Kylie Mukai is the student speaker.

Senior speaker to take the stage

By LORIANNE SERVIGNAT

With graduation fast approaching, the student speaker for this year's commencement ceremony has been hard at work crafting a speech that encapsulates the many diverse experiences at Gonzaga University.

That student speaker — Kylie Mukai — has gone through a rigorous process and is set to speak this Sunday at the undergraduate commencement ceremony.

Mukai was selected to be the

SEE SPEAKER PAGE 2

INDEX

Graduation.....1-2, 4-6, 8-9, 11-12
Senior Shoutouts.....3, 7, 10

"Best Of"

Favorite places and moments of 2025 according to our writers.

PAGE 4-5

Timeline

The Bulletin reviews top stories from the past four years.

PAGE 9

Brunch Spot

Commencement on Mother's Day? Here are the best brunch spots.

PAGE 11



**BUY 3 MONTHS
GET THE 4TH MONTH FREE!**

107 S STATE ST, SPOKANE, WA
WWW.MORESPACEWA.COM | (509)922-2282



ALUMNI

Continued from Page 1

them market and plan their events,” Rieder said. “Sometimes we travel to those events, but for the most part, these volunteers are the ones facilitating, building and fostering community.”

One way that Zags create the community of the alumni network is through regional chapters, which unite members based on location. Rieder said that each chapter is different, but in general, chapters host events including networking socials and service projects and have no fee to join.

One recent event that the Spokane Regional Chapter put on was the annual Easter egg hunt. On April 13, GU families and kids headed to the Herak Quad for treats, games and conversation.

GU’s first regional chapters were created in 2006, Rieder said, but they have expanded to over 50 chapters that span internationally, including in Canada, Japan and Florence, Italy. Rieder said the largest chapters are those of Spokane and Seattle.

Rieder said that GU’s regional chapters have used social platforms such as Facebook and X to grow their numbers. @zagalumni has pages on both Instagram and X, and the GU website contains a full page with links to the accounts of 35 regional chapters under “Alumni Chapters Social Media.”

“I think part of the success and meteoric growth of the chapter program was being able to mobilize and engage with people on social media,” Rieder said.

The newest part of the Zag alumni network has been the creation of affinity communities, which Rieder said are identity-based, not location-based, chapters.

“Affinity communities are groups based on identity or common activities,” Rieder said. “You could be a member of any of these communities and live anywhere.”

GU launched its first affinity group, Alumni of Color, in 2022, and now offers the Military Service Community, Native Alumni Community and Lavender Community, which unites LGBTQ+ alums, as well.

Rieder said these affinity communities have connections to university departments, including the Unity Multicultural Education Center, the Tribal Relations Office and the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Resource Center.

“What we’re seeing so far is that the affinity network tracks a lot more [than regional chapters] with the academic calendar, because each

affinity group ties into a student-facing department,” Rieder said.

In addition to the regional and affinity chapters, the GU alumni network also has an alumni association for graduates to pay into.

Rieder said the association is primarily a symbolic way to show pride in the university — though members do get the perk of a 10% discount at the Zag Shop. These membership fees are a way for alumni to financially support GU students.

“If someone becomes a member, that money goes to scholarship,” Rieder said. “We also have an annual event, the Alumni Scholarship Benefit, that raises money every year for the endowment. If you get a Zags license plate, a significant portion of what you pay in your fee goes into that endowment.”

Just as students benefit from the work of the Zag alumni network, so do other GU community members. Rieder said membership in chapters and affinity communities is not exclusive to GU graduates.

“We primarily serve alumni, but our communities are all built so that alumni and friends can join,” Rieder said.

Sarah Marr, a GU grad working in the Center for Community Engagement, said that this accessibility makes GU’s alumni programs special.

“Something that I love about the alumni network [is that] they’ve tried to be very inclusive and say ‘alumni and friends,’” Marr said. “So my parents, I would say, feel connected to the Gonzaga network even though they didn’t come here.”

In fact, a current student could join a regional chapter or affinity group if they wanted, Rieder said.

But once a Zag graduates, staying connected with alumni organizations can be beneficial to their career. Marr said that staying updated with alumni newsletters like The Bark kept her informed and that reconnecting with a professor helped build her career.

“Before I started working at Gonzaga, [The Bark] gave me a nice connection back to the school. I felt like I had a pulse on what’s going on,” Marr said. “When I knew I wanted to move back to Spokane, I reached out to a professor. She encouraged me to apply to one job, and that connection helped me start my career in the nonprofit world.”

Stories like Marr’s show how the GU alumni network helps individuals tout the Zag family wherever they go in life, call on it whenever they need and give back to it however they can. The network is always growing, and Rieder said it’s never too late to get involved.

Ruby Gross is a staff writer.



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

The undergraduate commencement ceremony will be held this Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

SPEAKER

Continued from Page 1

commencement speaker this spring after a competitive process.

Everyone in the senior class was invited, via email, to apply to be this year’s student speaker in January, and applications were due by the end of February.

Ava Giacomini, events and marketing specialist for the Office of the Provost, said about 30 undergraduate students applied.

“I feel like it’s a thing not a lot of people think of doing until their senior year, and then it happens all at the last minute,” Giacomini said.

This year they received about 30 applicants for the undergrad ceremony, Giacomini said.

Then, the committee scored each applicants’ answers based on a few parameters, Giacomini said. All of the applicants stayed anonymous to avoid bias

during the scoring process.

“It was already a small pool, but everyone that applied was really qualified and had great responses to all the questions. You could tell the people that applied were really invested,” Giacomini said.

After that, 10 applicants moved on to the next round and were asked to submit a 90-second video discussing what they planned on speaking about at commencement.

The speakers were graded on content delivery and richness of the topic they chose to speak about, Mukai said.

“I thought I had some good things to say and wanted to bring an authentic and fun perspective about what undergraduate life is like at Gonzaga,” Mukai said

Three of the applicants moved on to the final round, where Interim Provost Mia Bertagnolli chose the speaker based on the committee’s thoughts and the answers the applicant provided.

Following Mukai’s

selection to be the 2025 student commencement speaker, she was asked to choose a faculty adviser to help her develop her speech. She selected Katey Roden, a professor in GU’s English department.

“There was no question in my mind who I wanted my adviser to be ... She has been one of the most formative mentors in my undergraduate experience at Gonzaga,” Mukai said.

Mukai said she wrote her speech from the perspective of her campus job working at the John J. Hemmingson Center welcome desk and seeing everyone’s lives on campus every day.

“There are so many Gonzaga students with so many different walks of life, and I really want my speech to reflect the journey that has been different for everybody,” Mukai said. “I would also like to honor the experiences of students that are often left in the margins.”

Lorianne Servignat is a staff writer.



DYLAN SMITH IG: @d.smithphotos

Darren Sekiguchi is a member of the Lavender Alumni community.

GRAD

Continued from Page 1

happens, including messaging participants, organizing the procession and creating seating plans for students.

Students registered for the ceremony by ordering their cap and gown attire. This year, there was a higher amount of students who registered for the event.

“Let’s say you were a senior and you weren’t sure if you wanted to participate, and then a week before you decide you really want to do it, we will make it happen and we will figure it out,” Ruff said.

The ceremony is held at the Spokane Veterans’ Memorial Arena, which has limited seating. Each student can receive seven tickets to give to family or friends this year.

To get tickets, students must log in with their student ID to the TicketsWest system, Ruff said. Instructions on how to claim tickets were emailed out on April 15, and the system went live on April 17.

Other family members can watch on a livestream that shows the students walking across the stage.

In addition, there will be a camera crew at the graduation to take pictures at every angle as

the graduates cross the stage.

“We have a team of professional photographers through a company ... so your parents can’t come down and grab a photo of you, but you can have access to all these special moments,” Ruff said.

To pick up attire for the commencement ceremony, there was an event hosted by the Zag Shop. The shop had food and music while students picked up their gowns and cords.

Because this ceremony is only the commencement and not an official graduation, students will be sent their diplomas by mail. Final grades for the semester are due on Wednesday, and once all the degrees are granted, then diplomas will be mailed out, Shumaker said.

Students that completed all their classes in May should receive their diplomas between early June and July, Shumaker said.

Commencement is designed to celebrate all the work that students put in during their time at GU.

“Commencement, if you look up the root of the word, it’s actually that you are entering a new beginning. You’re commencing a new beginning,” Ruff said.

Lorianne Servignat is a staff writer.

Keep up with campus news from anywhere!

gonzagabulletin.com @thegonzagabulletin

AUNTIE'S BOOKSTORE

SPokane's Literary Landmark

YOUR PERSONAL BOOKSTORE

402 Main Ave Spokane WA 99201

(509) 438-0206

https://auntiesbooks.com/

SOMETIMES THE DRAGON WINS

Cards, D&D, Books, Games, Comics, Figures, and more!

MERLYN'S

W 15 Main 509-624-0957

WWW.MERLYNS.BIZ

Uncle's Games

Puzzles & More!

GAMES, JIGSAWS, TOYS, AND MORE!

404 W. Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201

(509) 456-4607

unclesgames.com

BEHOLD JESUS

In

The Gospel of John

SATURDAY MAY 31, 2025 @ 2PM

At

FIRST INTERSTATE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

334 W SPOKANE FALLS BLVD, SPOKANE WA

27th YEAR

SPOKANEDREAMCENTER.ORG

517 E NORA BANDO BABES

Amazing Run,
Bando Babes!

Love, Ms & Ds



“Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead.” - Nora Ephron

Julian- we are so proud of you and we know that your future is bright. We can't wait to see what you do next!

Love, Mom & John

JULIAN PRATT

CAMERON MCCANN



You set goals and achieve them; and this is a special one. You continue to impress us with your fortitude and steadfast determination. Your FAMILY is VERY proud of you!



Congratulations Evan on all of your accomplishments during your 4 years at Gonzaga! Your future is looking bright! We love you! Mom and Dad

EVAN CLARKE

ANTONIO, CARL, ZACH & JACKSON

Madrid '24 boys,
Congratulations on your achievements and graduation! Keep dreaming big, pushing forward and never forget how far you've come. The future is bright and is all yours. We are so proud of you!

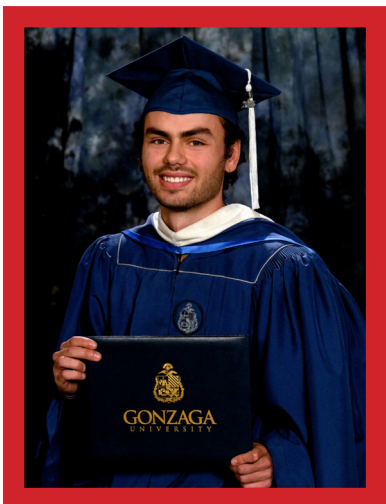
-Your families



Congratulations on a job well done! We are extremely proud of you and your accomplishments at Gonzaga. Good luck in dental school at the University of Utah!

MADDIE BAUTISTA

GEORGE CALVERT



Congratulations, George, on everything you've achieved—we're so incredibly proud of you! Can't wait to see what the future holds. You've done brilliantly, and we're cheering you on all the way!

With love from all your family



Zion, we are so proud of you! Go write the next chapter of your life. You did it! We love you so much!

ZION KEKUA A'O KALANI VAOIFI

Best of GU's campus

Best IM sport: Basketball

COMMENTARY
By OLIVIA MOWAD

Zag basketball is a massive part of the culture at Gonzaga University, so it is fitting that one of the best intramural sports at GU would be basketball. Not only is basketball a fun sport to play on a team of your creation, it also creates a fun atmosphere for players of all skill levels. Building an intramural team of classmates or friends to casually get some exercise and fun experiences makes the intramurals so worthwhile. It also is accessible for those who have previous experience to get competitive in the Sharp or Sinto leagues without a large commitment. Intramurals welcome players of all skill levels, and at the Boone

level, they make it casual and beginner-friendly. IM basketball also acts as a bonding activity for friends. Creating a team name, logo and jerseys together can be a great way to de-stress after attending classes all day. The culture surrounding all types of basketball on this campus is very positive but very competitive, making intramural basketball one of the more competitive and entertaining sports to both watch and play at GU. Not to mention, if you win your league, the reward is a coveted IM championship T-shirt, a prize worthy of some tough competition.

Olivia Mowad is a copy editor.



MYERS GORRELL IG: @myersgphoto

Intramural sports are one way Zags connect with others on campus.

Best COG meal: Grilled cheese

COMMENTARY
By THEODORE FERRO

In my four years as a Zag, I've heard just about every complaint there is about the COG. Some of it is fair — it's not a five-star restaurant, and the options can be hit or miss. But one COG meal stands out above all others: Spike's grilled cheese sandwich with a side of fries and tomato soup.

Spike's has grilled cheese just one day a week, and I've looked forward to it every week at GU. It's become a tradition of mine and many others. Some of us even show up early, anxiously waiting for the clock to hit 11 a.m.

You won't find fancy cheeses like Gouda or brie, nor artisan baguettes. It's one simple slice of American cheese between two pieces of Franz Texas Toast slathered in oil and grilled until golden brown.

So many of the other options at the COG truly deserve the hate. There are some days I look at the TV menu and turn around and eat somewhere else. But grilled cheese day has always kept me coming back, sticking through the COG's bad days.

I've watched classes, friends, professors come and go — but Spike's grilled cheese and fries has been here through it all. It isn't just the best meal at the COG — it's one of the best traditions of being a Zag.

Theodore Ferro is a staff writer.

Best event: Battle of the Zags Bands

COMMENTARY
By KAYA CRAWFORD

Every year at Gonzaga University, there are hundreds of events put on by departments, offices and student organizations including cultural events, performances and social events. While there were many amazing events this year, the student government's Battle of the Zag Bands was truly the most exciting event on campus.

Held on April 4, this event kicked off the final month of the

semester with a bang. Replacing the traditional spring concert, Battle of the Zag Bands turned Foley Lawn into a musical festival, bringing in over 1,000 students to sit and enjoy student band performances, vendors and food. With fairy lights in the trees and a full-size stage, Foley was transformed into an outdoor concert venue.

The reason that this event was the best is because it truly reflected GU and how it is a community for everyone. With blankets laid out on the lawn and friends dancing

and singing along together while supporting bands that were made up entirely of GU students, this event showed how tight-knit of a community our campus is. While a spring concert is always fun, I truly hope that the Battle of the Zag Bands becomes a tradition because just like many of our other traditions, it is rooted in community.

Kaya Crawford is an arts & entertainment editor.

Best study spot: Outside College Hall

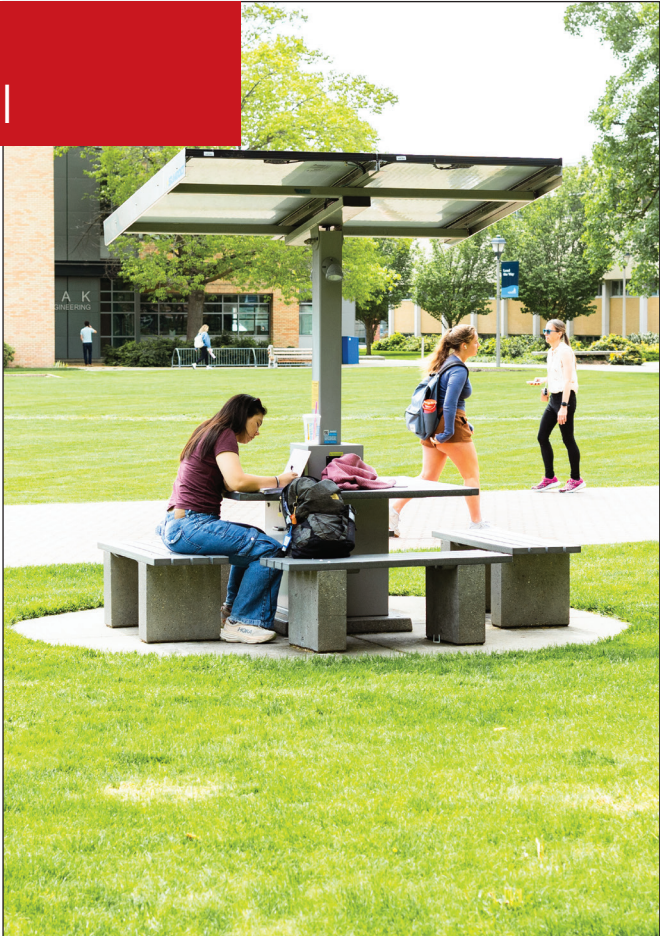
COMMENTARY
By MACKENZIE ESTEP

Gonzaga University's campus is covered in study spots, with many tables or nooks found in every building. Many students opt for the standard table in the John J. Hemmingson Center or Foley Library to complete their studies, but neither of those top the best study spot on campus: the tables outside College Hall.

They have outlets to charge your electronics and shades in case the sun is blazing. They're not too far of a walk from the main spots on campus, yet they are secluded enough that you can focus without too many distractions. You can also move to the stone tables behind the trees to be even more secluded.

However, if the weather is not cooperative, a runner up for best study spot is Hemm Den. While very close to the normal tables in Hemmingson, the vibes and comfort are astronomically better downstairs. There are many options for seating, so no matter what the study mood is, there is an option. It usually is less busy than upstairs in Hemmingson, so there is no need to fight for a table, making it a great place to study while not walking too far.

Mackenzie Estep is a staff writer.



LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo_b00th

Studying outside College Hall allows students to enjoy the sun.

Best Album: 'Eusexua'



COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

'Eusexua' by FKA Twigs was released January 2025.

COMMENTARY
By MADDOX REIMER

The best album of the 2024-25 school year was "Eusexua" by FKA Twigs, released in January. In a sentence, this album is the edgy older sister of "Brat," "Club Classics" disfigured in a dim and grimy Eastern European rave. Sonically, Twigs combined influences from 90s trip hop, art pop and Eurodance — think Björk, Massive Attack and Portishead — with more contemporary hyper-pop references like Charli XCX and SOPHIE.

The title-track opener, which I've had on repeat since its release as a single in September, is the clear highlight of the album, with a propulsive kick drum beat, a climactic and synth-driven build and lyrical themes of love and desire untethered from all constraints. If you don't care for this song, the album will probably not be for you. Other highlights are the thumping rhythms on "Drums of Death" (very aptly named), the relentlessly catchy "Childlike Things" and the intricately layered IDM-influenced "24hr Dog." Twigs proved with this album that along with Charli XCX, she is one of the most bold and adventurous voices in dance pop today. I couldn't recommend "Eusexua" more, and please track me down to tell me if you enjoy it as much as I do — or not!

Maddox Reimer is a staff writer.

The Gonzaga Bulletin

Editor-in-Chief
Noah Apprill-Sokol
Managing Editor
Natalie Keller

News Editors
Laura Erickson
Henry Krueger
Emily Niemann
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Kaya Crawford
Shel McLaughlin
Sports Editors
Cam McCann
Zach White
Opinion Editor
Alex Hernandez
Photo Editor
Lucy Booth

Digital Editors
Lily Pearse
Mary Claire Phelps
Copy Editors
Brooks Coleman
Olivia Mowad
Adviser
Kip Hill
Technical Adviser
Brett Hendricks
Assistant Director
Joanne Shiosaki
Program Coordinator
Morgan Scheerer

LETTERS POLICY

The Gonzaga Bulletin welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and no more than 600 words. The Gonzaga Bulletin reserves all rights to edit letters. Please include your name and a telephone number for confirmation purposes only. All written correspondence will be considered fit for printing unless otherwise requested. Email letters to bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu with "OPINION" in the subject header. The deadline for letter submission is 5 p.m., Monday.

The Gonzaga Bulletin is a weekly student publication serving the Gonzaga community. Weekly circulation is 3,000. Opinions expressed in the pages of The Gonzaga Bulletin represent the views of their respective authors and not necessarily those of the faculty, student body or administration of Gonzaga University.

Please direct all queries to bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu or 509-313-6606.

Contact Info:

Email: bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu
Office phone: 509-313-6606
Advertising: 509-313-6839 or adoffice@gonzaga.edu
www.gonzagabulletin.com

Best of Spokane

Best bookstore: Jupiter's Eye Book Cafe

COMMENTARY
By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

It might be the newest shop on the shelf of Spokane's local bookstores, but do not judge Jupiter's Eye Book Cafe simply by its cover before walking in and exploring its collection of books and cozy environment.

Jupiter's Eye opened this January and has already become an essential stop for book enthusiasts in Spokane. It is certainly worthy of being titled as "best of."

The bookstore has carved its niche in the local bookstore scene with its specially curated selection of books that focuses on the genres of sci-fi, mystery and horror. These limited genres, while maybe not for everyone's taste, make this store a beloved spot for lovers of these genres.

Still, what makes this spot stand out is the bookstore's very own cafe, which caters snacks and beverages from nearby businesses. This cafe embraces the store's goal of supporting local businesses by selling Roast House coffee, tea from Revival Tea Company, pastries from Made with Love and bread and coffee cake from Twenty-Seventh Heaven Scratch Bake Shop.

With its collection and cafe, Jupiter's Eye is the perfect reading nook. It is a great place to study, browse for one's next read or eat a snack. Stop in from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Tuesday-Saturday or 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday at the store's location at 411 W. First Ave.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is the editor-in-chief.



The newest book shop in town, Jupiter's Eye focuses on sci-fi and fantasy.

Best bar: Cease & Desist Book Club

COMMENTARY
By HENRY KRUEGER

Ask around and you'll hear mixed opinions about the state of nightlife in Spokane. But Cease & Desist Book Club exemplifies what makes an evening in this city distinct: originality, character and a commitment to quality.

A speakeasy-style bar in the heart of downtown, Cease & Desist is fronted by a charming bookshelf, a nod to its literary name and a stark contrast to the lively sounds spilling out of neighboring Lord Stanley's. Step inside, though, and you're transported into a much more intimate setting.

It's the kind of place that suits almost any occasion: solo or with friends, as a starting point or a nightcap. There's no expected dress code, despite it being one of the premier bars in town.

The space is on the smaller side, but that's done intentionally. Don't expect to make a reservation — it's first come, first served.

Henry Krueger is a news editor.



Cease & Desist offers a speakeasy vibe downtown.

Best 2024 film: 'Flow'

COMMENTARY
By MACKENZIE ESTEP

Out of all the movies released in 2024, the one that stood out the most was "Flow," from the Latvian director Gints Zilbalodis. "Flow" captivates the audience with beautiful visuals, minimalist storytelling and strong themes of survival and unity. Set in a climate disaster, "Flow" follows a lone cat trying to navigate a flood-ravaged landscape in a world where only animals are left. "Flow" stands out because of its unique storytelling without dialogue. The animation in "Flow" is almost watercolor-like, with bright colors and interesting textures. The storytelling relies on a beautiful score and some prerecorded animal noises. Even without any dialogue, the story is incredibly captivating and emotional. In an era of fast and loud narratives, "Flow" brings something new to the mix. This will cause audiences to take time to reflect and truly feel the emotions of the storyline without it being drowned by dialogue. While its style is not typical, the absence of words brings more urgency to the message of the movie. It is different from many of the movies released this year, but it stays with the viewer, it doesn't just entertain.

Mackenzie Estep is a staff writer.

Best coffee shop: Atticus Coffee & Gifts

COMMENTARY
By KYLE SWEENEY

Atticus Coffee & Gifts, located in downtown Spokane near Riverfront Park, was my go-to spot for coffee in 2024-25. Named after Atticus Finch from Harper Lee's award-winning novel "To Kill a Mockingbird," the shop provides the perfect spot to study or grab a cup of coffee, tea or delicious sandwiches.

Atticus embodies the feeling of a great book, as the wooden dining area is surrounded by "To Kill a Mockingbird" decor and an autumn-like setting of orange and brown adornments. As one ventures farther into the store, Atticus also provides a bookstore, offering a wide range of literary choices.

Most importantly, Atticus provides fantastic coffee. Its regular black coffee is smooth and flavorful, and the mochas provide a tasty treat that made me itch to come back. Coffee shops that are inviting to revisit can sometimes overpower middling coffee, but a coffee shop that has both a comfortable interior and great coffee is something that can't be missed. Don't pass up a chance to check out Atticus and its bookstore.

Kyle Sweeney is a staff writer.



Atticus Coffee & Gifts offers matcha alongside its variety of drink options.

Best thrift store: Global Neighborhood Thrift



Global offers a student discount for sustainable finds.

COMMENTARY
By CAM MCCANN

Ole reliable.

That's how I describe Global Neighborhood Thrift. Cheap prices, student discount, close to campus and a friendly kitten named Smudge roaming about. It's everything a Gonzaga University student could ask for out of a thrift store.

Going there was the staple of my fashion evolution, and though I still

may struggle with my wardrobe, Global certainly changed the game for me. I adapted to a more grown-up look. Although the swanky dress coats and button-ups were slightly disheveled, the idea and look were still there.

Make sure to sift through the racks and coax Smudge into some pets before your time with a GU discount comes to an end.

Cam McCann is a sports editor.

SPokane WA

IRONSIDES

1411 E Iron Bridge Way
Spokane WA 99202

Up to Three Months Free on
Apartment Homes!!!

A brand-new apartment complex offering studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartment homes

Ironsides is located right on the Spokane river, a 10-minute walk from Gonzaga campus. Ready to move now or waiting until Fall? Ironsides has immediate availability, or you can prelease an apartment home all the way out until September 2025

We are filling up fast, so give us a call today to schedule a tour at 509-606-4766

BULLETIN BOARD

GONZAGA CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

New postings go online daily. <http://www.gonzagabulletin.com/classifieds/>
Questions email: classifieds@gonzaga.edu

Recorded Memories

Vinyl • Cassettes • CDs • Posters • Stickers • Shirts • Movies • Music Memorabilia • New Releases • Old School • All Music Styles • Special Orders • Custom Care Packages

Located eight blocks north of Gonzaga
Corner of Hamilton & Indiana
Phone: 509-483-4753
Email: RecordedMemories@yahoo.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/recorded.memories.5



The Gonzaga Bulletin seniors have a cumulative 21 years of experience working for the student publication.

LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo_b00th

Senior editors bid adieu to Gonzaga Bulletin

By BULLETIN SENIOR EDITORS

Eight seniors are graduating from *The Gonzaga Bulletin* editorial staff. Here are their last thoughts on the publication.

Zach White

As I graduate from Gonzaga University, I express my heartfelt thanks to *The Bulletin* for three years of continued support and development. Working here gave me a voice, a community and the confidence to pursue writing with purpose. I will look back fondly on the entire experience; from representing the publication at the NCAA Tournament, to weekly budget meetings with the entire staff. I am incredibly grateful to my fellow editors, professional mentors and to anyone who read my work. I will miss my time with the paper greatly, though I will take the lessons I gained with me wherever I go.

Cam McCann

The Bulletin meant many things to me, but first it was an identity. I left GU's track and field team in need of one, and at the start of my first full year without running for the program, my good buddy Henry Krueger asked me to join the paper. 134 articles later, I found myself. Getting to write for other publications like *Runnerspace* or the *Associated Press* would have never worked without Krueger's sage advice. Not only that, but the sportswriting crew will always have a place in my heart.

Mary Claire Phelps

The Bulletin has been a wonderful experience that has brought me many memories that I will cherish. I will forever be grateful to it for giving me the space to grow as a writer but also as a leader. When I first joined as a staff writer, I felt out of place and was not confident in myself as a writer. However, the team was so helpful and encouraging to me to step out of my comfort zone and find my passion. Since becoming an editor and during my time on staff, I have grown as both a writer and a person. This organization gave me a voice and community that I will always be thankful for.

Noah Apprill-Sokol

There is likely no other place that I have spent so much time in than in *The Bulletin* office. The space has become a second home for me — with its couch, a great sleeping spot, its refrigerator of snacks, but most importantly, its people who have made it a safe and welcoming place. Thank you to all who have supported me in this work, including my advisers Joanne Shiosaki, Morgan Scheerer, Kip Hill and John Kafentzis. Additionally, I am grateful to my friends, family and mentors (like Karen Petruska) for encouraging me to continue to be a part of this newspaper community. I am proud to be a part of this long legacy of storytellers and change makers, even if it is just with a byline or two or a front page of mine stapled to the office wall.

Shei McLaughlin

I joined *The Bulletin* my sophomore year with minimal writing experience and a lot of anxiety surrounding being published for the first time. I walk away from my role with a better eye for what inspires me to write and the ways I can bring the stories of others to life. A very special thank you to my former and current co-editors for going through the motions of arts and entertainment with me and for teaching me the ins and outs of being a journalist. Thank you to Kip Hill and Morgan Scheerer for always pushing me to be a better editor. Finally, thank you to my friends and family that made each story with my byline and each page designed in my vision feel like a huge accomplishment.

Laura Erickson

Joining *The Bulletin* my senior year, I was worried my lack of experience would set me behind my peers or make me feel left out of the staff's social circle. While learning the ropes of editing a newspaper late in the game presented its challenges, the community, knowledge and experience I've gained throughout my time here made it all worthwhile. I thank *The Bulletin* for putting faith in me and seeing my potential, providing me the tools to advance my career in journalism and leading me to friendships and connections that will surely last a lifetime.

Kaya Crawford

When I transferred to Gonzaga University in the fall of 2023, *The Bulletin* was the first thing I committed to, knowing that I would cover GU sports. I gained so much more than press credentials from my experience. I gained a community, the chance to meet new people across our campus and the Spokane community and growth as a storyteller and a person. I want to extend a thank you to all my co-editors who helped me through the long production nights and to Morgan Scheerer and Kip Hill for making me a better editor. Thank you to my friends and family for reading every story. Goodbye *Gonzaga Bulletin*!

Henry Krueger

When I look back on my four years at GU, it will be impossible not to think of *The Bulletin*. This newspaper has given me friendships, memories and skills that I will carry forever. It became my home and my voice — a place where I deepened my love for storytelling. It also gave me a sense of community when I first arrived in Spokane as a nervous 18-year-old from Sacramento. I'm especially grateful for the guidance I received from Kip Hill, John Kafentzis, Joanne Shiosaki and Morgan Scheerer, along with the friendships I built with editors past and present. This newspaper has grown so much since I first stepped into CH434, and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

Sudoku By The Mephram Group

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

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

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

3/16/25

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

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						26				27			28		29		
						30				31			32				
33	34	35	36			37		38		39	40		41				
42						43		44	45				46		47	48	49
51						52	53				54		55				
56						57					58	59			60		
						61	62				63	64	65			66	
67	68	69								71						73	
74										76						78	
79										81	82					83	84
87						88				89	90	91				92	
93										94						95	
						96				97						98	99
102	103	104	105							106						107	108
109										110						111	112
																113	114
118																115	116
123																117	118
																119	120
126																121	122
																123	124
																125	126
																127	128

SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE

By Paul Coulter

ACROSS

- 1 Make the world a better place
- 7 Passed into law
- 14 Poker pronouncement
- 19 Not necessarily against
- 20 Like cast iron and silicone
- 21 Payoff
- 22 Gets right to the
- 24 Actor Jason
- 25 Small vortex
- 26 Hide out
- 27 Grenoble peak
- 29 PIN sites
- 30 Talkative bird
- 31 In the ***
- 33 Pastoral people of Kenya and Tanzania
- 37 Tiny pest
- 39 Pacific tuna
- 41 Latin heart
- 42 Gentle skin care brand
- 44 First name in jazz
- 46 Plunge after a workout
- 51 Balder-
- 55 Royal Shakespeare Company venue
- 56 Data
- 57 Handbill
- 58 Shorthand for a person who prefers platonic partners

- 60 Sure to happen
- 61 Former
- 63 Words of likelihood
- 66 Trig function
- 67 Part of many Arab names
- 70 Dog #
- 73 USN rank
- 74 Dairy din
- 76 Jane Curtin title role
- 77 Movie credits and music charts
- 79 Dad
- 80 HMO alternative
- 81 Steam after a workout
- 83 Game with suspect tokens
- 87 Red disk hieroglyph
- 89 One %
- 93 Dogie catcher
- 94 Has
- 95 Cheers
- 96 G7 member
- 97 Native people of Colorado
- 98 Sinuous swimmer
- 101 Copycatting
- 102 Plays @
- 107 Prone to snooping
- 109 Biblical birthright
- 110 Fight like a knight
- 111 Discarded devices
- 114 Role for Ingrid
- 118 Ban alcoholic beverages
- 120 Non+
- 123 Fish

- 124 Clear French brandy
- 125 Bring out
- 126 Informal farewell
- 127 Displayed contempt
- 128 Meet
- 1 Shower with love
- 2 "Say your piece" piece
- 3 Neuter, as a horse
- 4 "For your eyes"
- 5 Periods before soccer shootouts, briefly
- 6 Embroidered mat
- 7 Wicked
- 8 Alt-country singer Case
- 9 Again
- 10 CBS forensic drama series
- 11 Woven mat
- 12 Paperless IRS option
- 13 2017 hit for Luis Fonsi
- 14 Co. with an iconic 8-bar logo
- 15 Dalmatia native
- 16 "We __ please"
- 17 Word dropped when things are getting serious, informally
- 18 Dealer's offer
- 20 Fat substitute brand
- 23 "The Best" singer Turner
- 28 Genesis patriarch

- 30 Go for the gold?
- 32 Backyard hideaway
- 33 Taco choice, on menus
- 34 Big name in cosmetics
- 35 Feudal worker
- 36 "The Ape and the Dolphin" fabulist
- 38 French crown
- 39 Broke bread
- 40 Hardy follower
- 43 Foreseeable future
- 45 In the __ of: totally absorbed by
- 47 Lamb bleats
- 48 Creepy story?
- 49 Blow up on social media
- 50 "Blades of Glory" actor Jon
- 52 "The Time Machine" race
- 53 Chart made from overhead photos
- 54 Fill
- 59 Act like a startled doodlebug
- 62 Violated, with "of"
- 64 Air pump meas.
- 65 Auspicious tarot card
- 66 Opera singer
- 67 Drive
- 68 "That's how it's done!"
- 69 Slangy denials
- 71 Much of the time

- 72 Food sticker
- 75 NYSE banner events
- 78 Deep-six or eighty-six
- 80 Sponges
- 82 Abbey area
- 84 Mandolin cousin
- 85 Computer operator
- 86 Vintage etailer
- 88 Change after a blackout, as a clock
- 90 All the rage
- 91 Farm female
- 92 Court material
- 97 "That's a lie!"
- 99 Come after
- 100 "The Hobbit" sequel series, for short
- 102 Impressionist
- 103 All together
- 104 Girl Scout's award
- 105 Big and strong
- 106 Minnesota representative
- 108 Omar
- 108 Break, as ties
- 111 Decorative pitcher
- 112 Surfing need
- 113 Battery contents
- 114 Sacred Nile wader
- 115 6-Down material
- 116 Letter opener cut
- 117 Voice above
- 119 Vote for passage
- 121 Poem of tribute
- 122 Connecticut collegian

CAMRYN BECHTEL

Camryn - we are so proud of you and thrilled you are employed! There is nothing that can stand in your way. We love you so dearly!

-Mom & Dad.



Congratulations, Maya! Your future in the world of technology is bright and we can't wait to see what's next for you. IMUA! Love, Mom, Dad, Bailey, Aileen and all your extended family

MAYA RANE TIU

LYLY NGUYEN



Congratulation Lyly!!! We love you very much and are very proud of you! May your life be filled with His Love, Peace & Joy. Praying for each other... -"Your Family"



Congratulations, Sydney! We're beyond proud of your hard work, resilience, and achievements. Keep dreaming big, your journey is just beginning!

Love, your Fam

SYDNEY MCDONALD

BRANDON POBLETTE

Today Brandon is not just graduating: he is breaking free. It wasn't easy. It was the daily war against exhaustion, the inner voice demanding more, the world casting doubts, and still, here he stands: upright, whole, invincible. Every dawn stolen from sleep, every defeat swallowed in silence, every moment of rage, was the forging of a spirit that does not bend, that understands success is to resist and to keep moving forward. Today we are not celebrating a diploma, we are celebrating the victory of a stubborn soul that refused to be less than what he dreamed. Brandon: may your rebellion always be your beacon, may you never fear the fall, and may you always rise greater than the world. May your path be fierce and sweet, may you never lose the madness to keep trying, may defeats make you wiser and wilder, and may you always, always remain the miracle that began in silence and now rises to fly. Congratulations — our pride over you knows no bounds



All of your hard work and dedication has paid off! We are so incredibly proud of you and love you so much! Wishing you the best in your future endeavors and know we're always here for you.

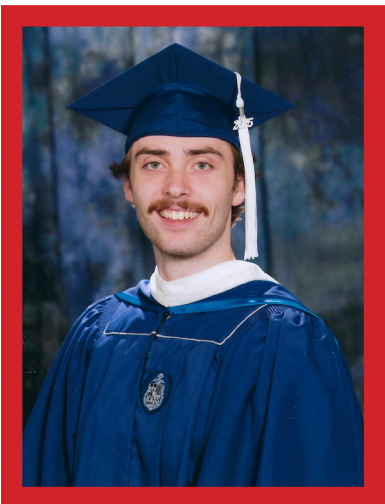
Love, Mom & Dad

BECCA CHRISTIAN

AALIYAH MARIE FUATA



Congratulations baby girl! We are so proud of you and your accomplishment! Let this verse from Proverbs 16:3 guide you, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." Love you!



Congratulations! We love you and we are so proud of you! We can't wait to see what's next.

Love, Mom, Dad, Matt, and Mem

JOE IERARDI

Exhibit displays GU senior art

By JULIAN MYERS

Work created by 13 Gonzaga University art students took up residence in the Urban Arts Center for Scramble: Senior Art Exhibition.

The mediums used by each artist at the gallery included paintings, prints, sculptures and wood carvings. The artwork also focused on a variety of themes including reflections on personal experiences and topics of an artist's particular interest.

Kelly Hewitt, an art student, made a sculpting project viewing the Chinese Zodiac through the lens of endangered animals.

Each animal on the zodiac is represented by an endangered species that is similar to the original, Hewitt said. For example, the snake was rendered as a San Francisco garter snake, which is registered as an endangered species in the United States Endangered Species Act of 1867. Another animal, the dog, was reinterpreted as the red wolf. Few remain in the wild.

"I tried to do an amalgamation of animals from all over the world," Hewitt said. "I've had some Californians come in and recognize the San Francisco garter snake. I've had some people who are from the southeast who are like 'Oh my gosh, the red wolf,' because that's native to the Florida swamps."

This exhibit was inspired by Hewitt's love for science as much as her love for art.

"I'm both a conservationist and a sculptor, so it was a really easy intersection to assign endangered animals to the personas of the Chinese Zodiac," Hewitt said. "My goal is that it would inspire people to want to do conservation, because in our everyday lives everyone can participate in conservation."

Madelyn Zeledon, another art student, said she embraced her Nicaraguan, Filipino and American cultural heritages through food. She used multiple mediums to make a single, cohesive exhibit.

Zeledon said she made eight monotype prints, which



LIZZY BENNETT IG: @lizzyjaynephotos

Sophia Sibulo's sculpture, "Suspense," was among the work featured in the exhibition.

were made by painting over a smooth surface, such as metal or glass, and pressing the paper against the surface. Each of these monotype prints was a different food from Zeledon's diverse cultural backgrounds. American food such as the hamburger and the banana split sundae were displayed alongside Nicaraguan cookies called rosquillas.

"I cut up different pieces of paper and would crumple it or just try to imitate that texture that you can see in the food," Zeledon said.

Additionally, Zeledon said she made a reduction wood block, which is created by carving into the wood, printing the wood with ink and then carving deeper to create layers in the wood. The picture hewn into the wood was based on a real photograph of Zeledon and her grandmother making a Nicaraguan lemon cake together. This memory is placed at the center of the display, with the eight prints surrounding it.

As a final touch, Zeledon said she incorporated a wax melter into the exhibit for a multisensory effect. This wax melter emits scents similar to some of the foods depicted in the exhibit.

Art student Sunny Lustic said she expressed her experience with mental health struggles through fantastical creatures.

"I grew up consuming a lot of fiction and fantasy material, and I really loved it," Lustic said. "I prefer animal subject matter because I really liked the symbolism that comes behind animals."

The animals portrayed were each different. One was a four-legged reptilian creature from European mythology known as a Basilisk that towered over the doorway of

a home seen through the fish-eyed perspective of an electronic doorbell camera.

"The Basilisk has to do with my struggle with going outside and my social anxiety," Lustic said. "If you look outside, he's just lurking out there, preventing you from going anywhere."

Another was an Arabian horse made into a unicorn standing in a forest. The perspective of the piece was designed to give the viewer the ability to see the unicorn both in front of and behind the trees, Lustic said. This makes the horse appear constricted, tangled and trapped between the trees.

"Playing with depth and field of view symbolizes my struggle with freedom, with my anxiety, and how it can be kind of caging and very limiting at moments," Lustic said.

The art of Jou An Lai, a trilingual artist from Taoyuan, Taiwan, featured her own constructed language across many of her works, she said. Two of the more prominently displayed pieces were speculative biology diagrams of fantastical creatures, with the notation written in this language.

Another section of Lai's exhibit was a framed sheet of paper titled 'let's build a world together.' This sheet, which was blank at the start of the event, accumulated the drawings of previous viewers. There were custom stamps made by Lai as well as colored pens to enable this collectively creative exercise, she said.

The senior art exhibition will return next spring.

Julian Myers is a staff writer.



LIZZY BENNETT IG: @lizzyjaynephotos

Jou An Lai's artwork included speculative biology diagrams and interactive pieces.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ZAG DINING GRADUATES!



The best and worst of times

By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

As graduation nears, many memories will live and die with Gonzaga University's class of 2025. *The Gonzaga Bulletin* pulled some of the top stories from throughout the last four years to create a timeline of the class of 2025's GU experience.

Freshman Year

Amid the backdrop of COVID-19, the class of 2025's freshman year experience was defined by changing campus policies

At the year's start, all students were required to wear masks, but this changed as restrictions were removed in March and the COVID-19 Action Response Team was disbanded in April.

In the campus sports scene, GU men's basketball head coach Mark Few pleaded guilty to driving under the influence, while former GU basketball star John Stockton's season tickets to The Kennel were suspended for not complying with the university's COVID-19 policies.

Campus life also became a hotbed for political activism, as students circulated petitions and hosted protests related to abortion, the removal of a war statue in downtown Spokane and calls for greater Asian American representation on campus.

A new provost was also selected and the Bollier Center for Engineering and Applied Sciences opened.

Sophomore Year

Campus growth marked the class of 2025's sophomore year, as the university started its campus-wide effort to update its strategic plan.

The UW-GU Health Partnership building opened, and the university approved its plan to build more housing, including the dorm Mantua Hall.

GU transitioned away from using the Blackboard education platform to Canvas, and changes to the registration process were proposed to make it more equitable for students.

The university also announced that it was replacing the Act Six Scholars program with a new initiative meant to supply over 15 students with full-ride scholarships and mentorship opportunities.

Two students died during the senior class' sophomore year, including Diego Garza, whose parents went on to create a free Lyft service for GU students in 2024.

Additionally, the hate group Patriot Front vandalized the College Hall mural wall twice before two individuals

were arrested in the fall.

Junior Year

Campus life became a lot more political during the class of 2025's junior year.

Students organized multiple protests and wrote letters about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, while GU administrators hosted a lecture series on the issue.

A contested faculty vote approved changes to the faculty handbook, and across campus, faculty and staff voiced concerns about a university-wide budget cut that in some cases removed all funding to departments.

GU's women, gender and sexuality studies program became a major despite being held up by administration.

Still, the university added more cultural clubs, including the Chinese Student Union, the Muslim Student Association and the Vietnamese Student Association. The Jewish Student Union, the Muslim Student Union and South Asian Student Union all hosted their first signature club events.

With sports, GU men's basketball hit a rough patch, losing for the first time in The Kennel after a 76-game streak to Loyola Marymount University and then later to Saint Mary's.

In the Saint Mary's game, students interrupted play by throwing items onto the court, resulting in GU Athletics' call for disciplinary action and investigation The Zags still made it to the NCAA Tournament to bring their Sweet 16 appearance streak to nine games.

Additionally, faculty grappled with the rising use of artificial intelligence in the classroom, including tools like ChatGPT.

Senior Year

In its final year, the class of 2025 saw a leadership transition, as the university community celebrated the retirement of President Thayne McCulloh and the successful selection of President-elect Katia Passerini.

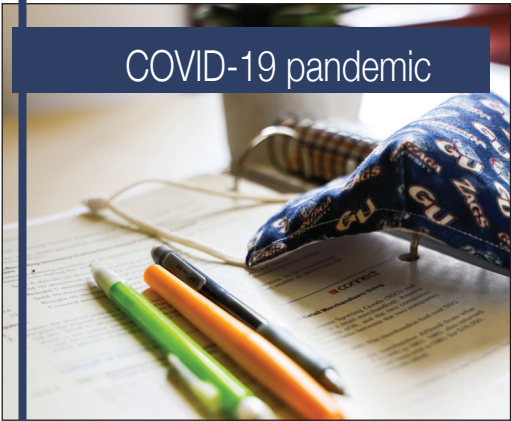
GU also grappled with a changing political environment caused by the 2024 presidential election and new government policies from President Donald Trump, including those that have targeted federal funding to universities and the visa statuses of international students.

Sports on campus also started a transition after the university announced that it was leaving the West Coast Conference to join a growing Pac-12 squad.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is the editor-in-chief.

Class of 2025 Timeline

Freshman Year



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Student protest on abortion

Bollier Center opens

Plans for Mantua Hall approved



DYLAN SMITH IG: @d.smithphotos

Canvas replaces Blackboard

Patriot Front vandalizes GU twice



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Sophomore Year

Israeli-Palestinian protests rock GU



LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo_b00th

GU men's basketball struggles

Cultural clubs' first signature events



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Junior Year

Election comes to campus



LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo_b00th

GU set to move to Pac-12



ASH ELLIOT IG: @ashpotatophotos

Senior Year

GU finds new president



MYERS GORRELL IG: @myersgphoto

Graduation

THE AMAZING TREE HOUSE GIRLS

What an amazing, beautiful group of friends you are! You have lived life to the fullest at Gonzaga! We are so proud of you! Wishing you the best after graduation!
Love, Your Proud Families



Today: AU degree, strong values, lasting friendships, amazing experiences.
Tomorrow: Endless possibilities for you to make a difference by pursuing your passions!
Love, your family

PATRICK BENNETT

JAMES & ERIN POWERS



We are blessed beyond our worth with the two of you!

Love,
Dad & Mom, Adam
& Toni, Chris & Alissa



Congratulations, Brynn! Your strength, courage, and heart led you here. Watching you pursue your dreams has been a great joy. The future is yours—keep believing. We couldn't be prouder.
Love, Dad, Mom, Avery and Kinsley

BRYNN NEAL

JOVANNA DIAZ PRUDENTE

Congrats my hermosa, you did a great job! I'm proud of you for what you have achieved! You never give up on your dreams! No matter how hard or difficult you always try your best. Te amo mi hermosa Con amor Tu. -Mama



We're so proud of you! You've created so many fun memories these past four years. It's been a blessing watching you continue to dance. We love you!
Love, Your Family

ARIANA FORD-DAILY

KATE MCGUIGAN



Our sweet daughter Kate, we can't believe this day is here! You've worked hard to get to this point, and it's been an honor to watch you grow. This day is a testament to your resilience, your brilliance, and your belief in yourself. You've learned not only from textbooks but from life, and we know that this is only the beginning of a beautiful journey. You possess everything you need to create the life you want. The world is full of possibilities, and we know you'll continue to shine brightly, make a difference, and leave your mark wherever you go. This world is lucky to have you, Kate! No matter where life takes you, know that you'll always have a cheering squad...we are your biggest fans! We are so incredibly proud of you, and can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll accomplish. With all our love and admiration, XO Mom & Dad (Nicky, Whit, Grandma, Grandpa & Grammy)



Dylan we are so proud of you! Congratulations! You did it!

With love, Mom, Dad, and Abby

DYLAN SMITH



Best of Brunch



Fine dining at House of Brunch

By LAURA ERICKSON

When thinking of brunch, lobster and caviar likely aren't the first foods that come to mind. At downtown Spokane's House of Brunch, however, they're menu staples.

House of Brunch owner Jackson Connery opened the restaurant two years ago alongside his friend and business partner, Brad Duffy. Having worked together for several years at a private golf and lake resort in Coeur d'Alene, they said the main goal of starting their own business was to create a next-level dining experience that is often neglected in the brunch world.

"I just saw a hole in the market as far as restaurants go, at least in the cities that I frequent," Connery said. "I just felt like there was an opportunity where I could just kind of seize it and put all of my cool ideas and stuff into effect — and brunch was it."

The idea to open a restaurant was originally Connery's, but the dream became a reality once he and Duffy joined forces.

"I had always kind of wanted to be my own employer as well," Duffy said. "So we came together and decided that we wanted to bring all the good things we learned from [the resort] to the public."

House of Brunch's menu features both classic dishes like chicken and waffles as well as entrees featuring higher-end ingredients like lobster benedict that one wouldn't usually find in the average brunch joint. The menu, Connery said, rotates seasonally with the intention of curating flavors that match the time of year. This menu system also gives Connery and his executive chef frequent opportunities to create new combinations and learn what best fits Spokane's palette.

"I wanted to have some things that were breakfast, some things that were lunch and a bunch of things in between," Connery said. "But I just wanted to make sure that when you read the menu, it was new, right? It was fresh. It was something that you may or may not have seen before."

One dish in particular, however, has never left the menu: the French omelet.

Connery's self-proclaimed favorite dish, the omelet is folded over Gruyere cheese and served with sauteed wild mushrooms and sliced medium-rare steak.

"It's always the first entree on the menu because it's such a perfect dish to me," Connery said. "The way that the omelet is cooked is just a different texture than most omelets, and it's just outstanding and something that I'm really proud of that we can do consistently."

Growing up in Florida, Connery said he likes to circulate some southern-inspired dishes on the menu — a current one is corned beef and grits.

"There's always a restaurant that's doing something cool or something new or something more exciting," Connery said. "We want to make sure we're on the forefront of that."

While Connery noted the difficulties in sourcing local ingredients during winter months, he said House of Brunch receives all of its eggs from an Idaho farm and the French omelet's wild mushrooms are also farmed locally.

"They're brown eggs, and they are delicious," Connery



JOSHUA GARCIA IG: @flamedmedia

Connery's "perfect dish," the House of Brunch french omelet, can be enjoyed at 818 W. Riverside Ave.

said. "We pay a little bit more than you would for normal eggs that you would get from the distributor, but I feel like they just taste so much better and are healthier for you."

With two bars, the House of Brunch also offers a champagne list and a variety of alcoholic beverages. For those looking for non-alcoholic options, the establishment also offers juices, espresso and other coffee drinks.

Every aspect of the House of Brunch's interior was selected with the intent to create the bright, sunny and fun feel of brunch, Connery said. With wallpaper and decor inspired by street and contemporary art and custom-made booth seating, Connery said he hopes guests feel like they're on vacation when they walk in.

The presence of music is also a big part of the House of Brunch dining experience. A playlist including EDM, hip-hop and indie genres with over 1,000 songs hand-selected by Connery and other staff members regularly fills the space. On Sundays, guests can enjoy live music from a DJ.

For both Connery and Duffy, the customer interactions make all their thoughtful design decisions and hard work worthwhile.

"I get to see the look on people's faces and how excited they get when they get there," Connery said. "They

celebrate some of the most important celebrations in their life — weddings, baby showers, all kinds of fun stuff — and they choose to do it with us."

Since its opening in March 2023, the location has gone through a few minor renovations, but a current focus is improving the outdoor seating areas to extend its "vibe" to the streets of Spokane, Duffy said.

"We kind of are a little different. We have kind of loud music, bright atmosphere, we're fun, energetic," Duffy said. "We don't want to stomp on anyone else's toes. We're just bringing what we know and what we love to Spokane."

Connery said that while the House of Brunch takes reservations, he encourages people to stop by on a whim because "sometimes, you need spontaneous brunch."

"I just feel so happy that Spokane is taking us in, and we've seen the success that we have," Connery said. "I couldn't be happier."

Laura Erickson is a news editor.



LUCY BOOTH IG: @photo_booth

People's Waffle offers sweet and savory waffle options at 15 S. Howard St.

Brunch brawling around Spokane

COMMENTARY
By EMILY NIEMANN

For those of us who enjoy slow mornings, brunch is the perfect meal. Even if you sleep in and miss the usual breakfast opportunity, delicious egg dishes and toasts are still waiting for you. For the influx of Gonzaga University families with commencement, there are some great brunch spots nearby to visit before exploring the rest of Spokane.

People's Waffle in the downtown area offers a surprisingly eclectic menu, using the waffle as a jumping off point for its inspiring flight of toppings. There are savory waffles with vegetables and meats and sweet waffles that add new flavors to

the traditional palette. Nestled between other shops and businesses in the area, the restaurant is family-friendly, with a colorful interior and creative dishes. It offers gluten-free and dairy-free options as well. There is also a wonderful Euro-inspired coffee shop and cocktail bar next door to People's Waffle called Emma Rue's.

From Spokane-famed restaurateur Celeste Shaw, Chaps opened its homey, casual atmosphere in 2006. Though now under new ownership, the restaurant has wonderful brunch options that are sure to keep you full until dinner. The ambience is one of my favorites at any restaurant in Spokane. The place is a favorite among

locals, boasting renowned breakfast meals and pastries. If you want an iced coffee or a Red Bull Italian Soda, a Pacific Northwest staple, this is the place to go. Its pastries are also available at Dear Coco.

For more of a modern vibe, try House of Brunch. Located in downtown Spokane, it offers numerous gluten-free breakfast options. A short walk from the Riverfront Park area and the Davenport Hotel, House of Brunch is in the heart of downtown. Get a delicious late morning meal, and then set off for your day of walking through Spokane's busiest streets.

On Spokane's Main Avenue is Madeleine's Cafe and Patisserie, a French

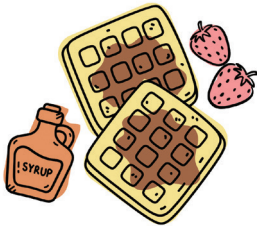
restaurant that offers bistro-style brunch options. Its outdoor seating options make it stand out from other breakfast places and allows you to enjoy Spokane's nice weather during the spring and summer months. Its prime location also provides ample people-watching while enjoying an omelet and latte.

Located in the nearby Kendall Yards neighborhood, The Yards Bruncheon offers a mix of lunch and breakfast options. Overlooking the Spokane Falls, enjoy one of its signature sandwiches in an up-and-coming neighborhood. The shops surrounding the restaurant are the perfect entertainment while you wait for your table during the busy brunch hour. The lookout provides one of the best backdrops to take pictures with your Zag while you are in town with the entire family.

Rounding out our list is Bruncheonette, located on the north side of the river near campus. Voted as the best brunch in Spokane four years in a row by the Inlander Readers Poll, Bruncheonette is open every day of the week. Offering a menu filled with savory and sweet options, the food is fresh. The atmosphere is relaxed and laid-back — the essential vibe for starting your morning off right.

Spokane has a handful of wonderful brunch options to get together with family and enjoy the best meal of the day. Celebrate your graduating Zag with a stop at some of the best restaurants that the city has to offer.

Emily Niemann is a news editor.



Senior Zag athletes conclude GU careers

COMMENTARY
By ZACH WHITE

Whether it was on the soccer pitch, on the basketball court or around the racing track, Gonzaga University's student-athletes produced standout performances throughout the 2024-25 academic year.

As GU athletes competed in their respective sports, the leadership of coaching staff and senior teammates was key in achieving success for each team. Several prominent Zags depart their respective programs after stellar years, leaving behind indelible marks on GU athletics.

Women's basketball forward Yvonne Ejim etched her name into the program history books this season, breaking a host of records as her team captured a third-straight West Coast Conference regular season title. In her final season with the Zags, Ejim led the conference in scoring (20.7 points per game) and rebounding (9.3 per game), while placing second in field goal percentage (53.1%).

Ejim became GU basketball's all-time leading scorer in 2024-25, as she reached 2,385 career points. Her performances saw her selected in the third round of the WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever. Alongside Ejim, her teammates Tayla Dalton, Maud Huijbens and Esther Little will also depart the program following successful Zag careers.

On the men's basketball side, GU bids farewell to two four-year Zags, as well as three recent transfers who made a lasting impact. The Zags reached the NCAA Tournament for a staggering 26th-straight year on the backs of senior leadership that included Nolan Hickman, who departs the program after a storied four-year career. Additionally, long-tenured Zag and boyhood GU fan Ben

Gregg also ended his career in Spokane.

The 2024-25 season saw transfer guards Ryan Nembhard and Khalif Battle also play their final games for GU, as well as forward Michael Ajayi. Battle added an electric scoring ability and standout athleticism to the Zag program. Meanwhile, Nembhard produced record-breaking performances this season, becoming the all-time program single-season assist leader with 344.

In addition to excelling on the hardcourt, GU athletes produced standout performances in cross country and track and field. Rosina Machu thrived on the cross country course, setting a GU program record in the 6K at the Arturo Barrios Invitational in a time of 19:10.0. Machu's times saw her earn NCAA 10,000-meter National Finalist and Second-Team All-American honors in her senior year.

On the sprinting side, senior Zag women's runners set two program records in the 2025 indoor season. Alexis Knight wrote her name in the record book with a program-best 7.95 second 60-meter dash at the Inland NW Invitational. Ellie Armbruster ran a program-leading 400-meter dash mark of 57.14, breaking the previous record by nearly three seconds.

On the men's side, Wil Smith departs from GU as the all-time program leader in the 8K (22:11.5) and 10K (28:25.4). Smith's marks saw him earn NCAA 10,000-meter Semifinal Qualifier, NCAA 5,000-meter Final Qualifier, NCAA 5,000-meter Second Team All-American and USATF 10,000-meter Olympic Trials Finalist honors, in addition to being awarded All-West Region XC and First Team All-WCC XC in 2024.

On the pitch, GU women's soccer concluded its debut season under new head coach



Senior forward Ben Gregg departs GU after a five-year career.



Yvonne Ejim will leave as GU basketball's all-time leading scorer.

Katie Benz. Senior forward Paige Alexander led the team in goal involvements, including scoring a team-high six goals. Senior midfielder Chelsea Le contributed eight goal involvements to a Zag team that finished third in the WCC.

GU men's soccer played out its final campaign under head coach Aaron Lewis, which included the program's best start to a season since 1997. Senior attacking duo of Stefano Campisi and Chris Swider contributed 11 goal involvements for the Zags in their final year with the program.

On the baseball diamond, GU continues its 2025 campaign with aspirations of reaching the NCAA Tournament. Locked in a tight battle for control of the WCC, the Zags are led in runs by senior outfielder Ty Yukumoto, while fellow seniors Tommy Eisenstat and Max Coupe are the team's second and third-

leaders in home run totals, respectively.

GU's rowing programs also represent the Zags in ongoing competition. With nine seniors on the roster, men's rowing recently won the Fawley Cup in its first season as a member of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation. The women's program looks to capture its 23rd WCC title in program history, led by senior rower Amanda Triebensee, a former CRCA All-American and World University Games winner.

Across the board, several senior Zag athletes delivered titles and broke records as they represented their respective programs and the university as a whole. While GU athletics will miss their impact, their legacy will continue with next year's crop of senior athletes.

Zach White is a sports editor.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

- Friday, May 9**
- Track and field at Oregon Twilight Meet, Eugene, Oregon, (men's team only)
 - **Baseball vs. Saint Mary's (three-game series)**
- Saturday, May 10**
- Track and field at Pac-12 Open, Corvallis, Oregon, (men's team only)
- Tuesday, May 13**
- Baseball at Washington State, Pullman, Washington, 6 p.m.
- Friday, May 16**
- Baseball at Portland, Portland, Oregon (three-game series)
 - Women's rowing at WCC Championships, Lake Natoma, California, 5 p.m. (two-day regatta)
- Saturday, May 17**
- Track and field at West Coast Last Chance Meet, San Francisco, California, (women's team only)
 - Men's rowing at MPSF Championships, Lake Natoma, California, 5 p.m. (two-day regatta)

Home games in bold



B|E|C|U

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!

BECU celebrates your hard work and achievements.

We're excited to support you as you embark on a new adventure. Wherever you're headed, we're ready to help you invest in your future!

Find out more about how we can help at becu.org

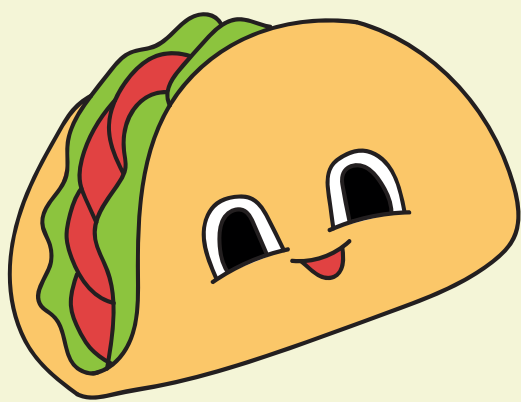
Go Zags!

Insured by NCUA. Membership required. Restrictions apply. All Pacific NW residents are eligible to join.

— SINCE 1990 —

Spring Dining Guide

Spokane's Best



TWO LOCATIONS ARE BETTER THAN ONE!

Kendall YardS South Hill



hidden bagel



FIND SCRATCH MADE BAGELS
AND ICE CREAM AT BOTH LOCATIONS



EATALOHA.COM



SPOKANE'S OWN SLICE
OF THE BIG ISLAND



1724 N. MONROE ST. (509)-327-4270
1220 W. FRANCIS AVE. (509)-413-2029



Come enjoy a lunch combo



BANGKOK THAI

In the U-District with beautiful riverfront views!

1003 E. Trent Ave #180 • Spokane, WA 99202 • (509) 325-8370

20%* DISCOUNT with Student ID

3 additional locations to serve you:

South Hill

1325 S Grand Blvd
Spokane, WA 99202
(509) 838-8424

Spokane Valley

101 N Argonne Rd
Spokane, WA 99212
(509) 315-9943

Liberty Lake

1312 N Whitman Lane
Liberty Lake, WA 99019
(509) 505-4108

*20% off regular priced menu item



ATILANO'S



MEXICAN FOOD

San Diego's Best Burritos

Fastest Mexican Food in Town!

\$1 Taco Tuesday

Locations:

- 7920 N Division St
- 3624 E Sprague Ave
- 802 W Francis Ave
- 901 N Sullivan Rd
- 12210 N Division St
- 1256 W Sunset Highway
- 725 W 3rd Ave (Downtown)
- E Apple Way Ave (Couer d'Alene)



COME CELEBRATE YOUR GRAD WITH SOME TACOS AT ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS!

- GU DISTRICT - 1801 N HAMILTON ST - 509.863.9591
- NORTH SIDE - 10208 N DIVISION ST - 509.822.7907
- SOUTH HILL - 2718 E 57TH AVE - 509.381.5540
- COEUR D'ALENE - 412 W HAYCRAFT AVE - 208.292.4061

DELEONSTACOANDBAR.COM



CARUSO'S
SANDWICHES & ARTISAN PIZZA
* DAILY FRESH *

HOME OF THE ZAGS

MIX + MATCH BOGO 1/2 PRICE

MONDAY - FRIDAY 3:00PM - 6:00PM

1120 N DIVISION ST
(509) 868-0585
ILOVECARUSOS.COM

BRICK FIRED PIZZA • PASTA • SANDWICHES • SALADS • WRAPS • CATERING



Cannot be used for alcohol purchases, gift cards or combined with any other discount offer. Bulldog bucks are not accepted for this BOGO discount, however, because we love you, we will offer 10% off when using BDB's during this offer. Expires 06/30/23

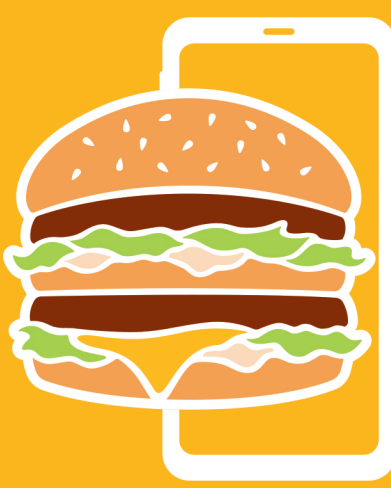
Pita Pit



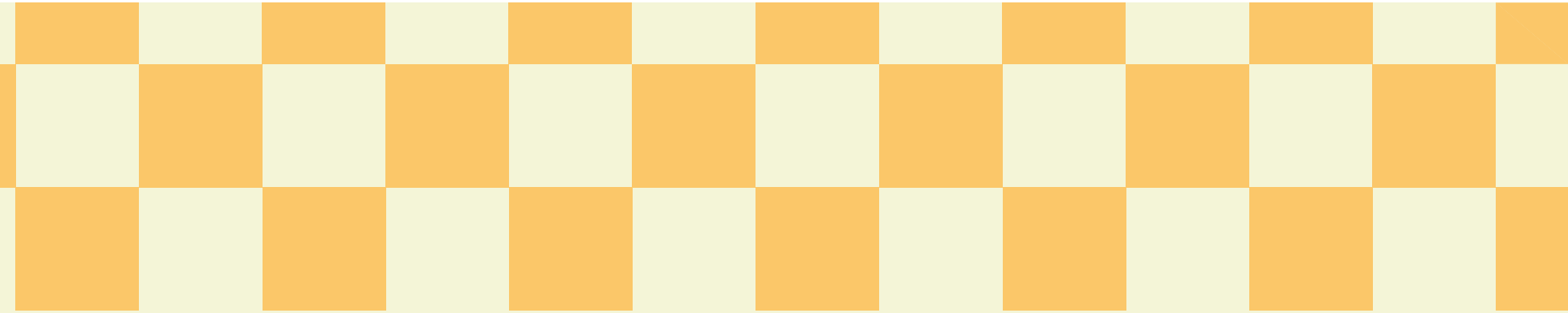
818 E. SHARP
509-483-7482

Deliciousness At Your Fingertips

1617 North Hamilton



1. Open the McDonald's App on your smart phone
2. Choose your favorite deal
3. Pickup your order in the drive through or at the walkup window
4. Enjoy



BOIADA
Brazilian Grill
Churrascaria | Steakhouse

A TASTE OF BRAZIL
is closer than you think!

Spokane Location!
509.474.1150
245 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.

Coeur D'Alene Location!
208.930.0197
2380 N. Old Mill Loop

FRESH MARKET TABLE SALAD BAR

BRAZILIAN BEVERAGES

SLOW COOKED MEATS

SIGNATURE DESSERTS

www.BoiadaBrazilianGrill.com

D.LISH'S
BURGERS

NOW ON DOORDASH!

10% OFF THE LISH

FOR GU STUDENTS & STAFF
*MUST SHOW STUDENT/STAFF ID

froyo earth
FROZEN YOGURT

Where Zags Gather!

809 E Boone Ave, Spokane, WA
Open Everyday 1pm - 10:30pm

DOORDASH DELIVERY AVAILABLE @THEFROYOEARTH

WE OFFER GONZAGA STUDENT DISCOUNTS!

28 E SINTO AVE SPOKANE, WA 99202

JIMMY JOHN'S
JJ
SANDWICHES

Freaky FAST Fresh

ORDER AT **JIMMYJOHNS.COM**

CONGRATS GRADS!
FROM GENO'S

GENO'S
PIZZA & PUB
SPOKANE
CRAFT BEER

HOMEOWN NORTHWEST PIZZA | WINGS | 15 BEERS AND CIDERS ON TAP | LOTS OF TV'S
genospub.com | (509) 315-8207 | 1414 N. Hamilton Street

Congrats Grads! Celebrate with 15% off your next purchase by mentioning this ad.

Hallett's
Chocolates & Coffee

1419 E Holyoke Ave Spokane, WA 99217
(509) 484-6454 | <https://www.hallettschocolates.com/>

