

The Gonzaga Bulletin

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First-year Orientation set for Aug. 26



By ANDERS SVENNINGSSEN

The orientation experience that greeted first-year students arriving on campus in fall of 2020 was wholly unique and distinct, while still adhering to original aims of equipping newly enrolled students with the tools they would need to flourish as a Zag.

Now another year is around the corner and the class of 2025 is gearing up to begin its own journey at Gonzaga University. Faculty have again been hard at work to set in motion an orientation experience that will supply students with a foundation for their undergraduate years, while in a safe and fun environment.

First-year Orientation Weekend is set to begin Aug. 27. As move-ins commence in residence halls across campus, students will have the opportunity to receive tours, alter schedules and meet with small groups that will hold several sessions in the following days. After a welcome from Gonzaga President Thayne McCulloh, hall meetings will be held to familiarize new Zags to life in the dorms.

After tackling the logistics of moving and schedules, an activity dubbed “Playfair” will conclude the night on the Mulligan field—one of several engaging social events geared toward a larger outdoor activity following the guidance of important public health practices.

Vaccinations combined with safety regulations will help protect students. Reintroducing larger group settings has been a key step for helping first-year students acclimate to campus life according to First Year Experience Program Coordinator Justin Gambone.

“This year we will be in more larger groups such as [on] Welcome Night, opening ceremonies and [for] our keynote speaker,” Gambone said in an email. “We also wanted to provide more opportunities for students to have some fun activities after each day’s programs and so we are having more social activities for students to relax and get to know each other more.”

While shifting circumstances have dictated changes that

This year’s orientation expects over 1,300 first-year students, which is the most ever at the event.

BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

SEE ORIENTATION PAGE 3

GU’s COVID protocols ready to go for fall

By ASHER ALI

The deadline for providing proof of COVID-19 vaccination to Gonzaga University has passed, and now GU administration is moving onto the next step in ensuring that a fully inoculated community can return to a completely open campus by the time first-year students walk onto campus Aug. 26.

GU President Thayne McCulloh reported in a recent email that 75.5% of the school’s population is fully vaccinated. Earlier this week, GU’s communication team reached out to students who didn’t send in vaccine records and implored them to either work on getting vaccinated as soon as possible, or provide the school with a religious or medical exemption.

New cases of COVID-19 are proliferating in Spokane with the seven-day average increasing to over 170 new cases a day. A report issued by the Washington State Department of Health in July states that 97% of positive tests between February and June this year came from unvaccinated citizens.

When the governor’s office issued a new Higher Education Proclamation last month, it acknowledged that the pandemic is still a threat to safety and well-being but that vaccines quell a lot of those threats, particularly among younger age demographics. Therefore, Gov. Jay Inslee proclaimed that only institutions of higher education requiring student vaccinations could return to in-person instruction and educational gatherings while universities that don’t require immunization will need to follow a more restrictive set of provisions.

“When you look at the two pathways, the choice of being closer back to normal and getting people into a safer environment was for me the easier choice to make,” said Eric Baldwin, vice president of student well-being and healthy living.

Among all of GU’s schools of undergraduate, graduate and law education, Baldwin said that they are still waiting on vaccination updates from about 12-15% of the student body population. Multiple students are still submitting their records to the Mediat site every day, but those who fail to provide any update to the university could face a termination of their enrollment status.

Over the summer, GU’s Pandemic Response Task Force worked to develop nine plans that lay out the new processes and provisions for different parts of the GU community. Aspects of campus like classrooms, athletics, communications and resident halls now have their own specific plan for operations ready to go for the fall semester which are all in line with Gov. Inslee’s most updated health and safety proclamations.

The governor has not reinstated indoor mask mandates for all citizens and neither has GU up to this point, although the university will recommend that vaccinated students and staff wear masks in large congregate settings on campus like educational buildings during lecture hours and eating spaces like the COG. Students who fulfill services in the broader Spokane community on behalf of GU will also be asked to wear face coverings to protect community members.

SEE COVID PAGE 2



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

La Raza Latina last hosted its normally annual dinner fundraiser night in 2019.

Cultural clubs prepared to welcome new members

By NOAH WONG

Ingratiating oneself with likeminded individuals is a sure-fire way of finding a supportive community. Gonzaga University’s Cultural Clubs are welcoming back members old and new as they prepare for in-person meetings and big events.

Meeting once a week, the aim of these clubs is to celebrate and educate a variety of topics in each respective culture. Providing a safe and comfortable space for all students, fostering relationships and camaraderie are the ultimate outcome.

The Asian American Union (AAU) seeks to help students attain a wider understanding of the Asian American culture. Meeting Thursday nights, club meetings usually start with a discussion

about a recent event, a holiday, or history pertaining to Asian culture, with club members sharing personal experiences. They then play games centering around the discussion topics, creating an opportunity for club bonding and fun.

“I feel like we’re a giant friend group just hanging out,” said junior Kaitlin Le, president of AAU. “It’s definitely something less structured, but I think creates a more casual environment for us to just have a nice thing to go to later in the evening throughout the school week.”

AAU hopes to hold a night market that showcases Asian foods and dances, an event that welcomes the whole school as well as the public.

SEE CLUBS PAGE 2

Former Zag takes center stage as Olympic diplomat

By KATE SULLIVAN

The past few weeks, the United States has been cheering on Team USA at the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, after their 2020 postponement.

This year, while some Gonzaga University students and staff have been cheering on Team USA, they’ve simultaneously been cheering on one of their own — alumna Michelle “Missy” Paulin (’98).

Paulin is a diplomat for the U.S. Foreign Service,

stationed in Tokyo to assist in the arrival of Olympic athletes, serve as a contact for businesses and play a pivotal role in accommodating the U.S. Government delegation that attends the games.

She primarily handles non-security coordination, but does support security coordination too, as her role in Tokyo is very broad.

“This is a really unique job... We have five different types of officers: consular, management, political, economic and public affairs, and this job kind of sits in the middle of that, so you get to do a little bit of everything,” Paulin said.

Corporate sponsors and fanfare are typically woven into the Olympic games, but this year goes without those services to limit the spread of COVID-19.

The pandemic has brought many disappointments to the Olympic games, but Paulin believes the quieter atmosphere allows the games themselves to be viewed more intently.

“It’s going to be a little more subdued, and I think the focus is going to be

more on the athletes and the sporting events themselves,” Paulin said.

She considers this a benefit, as it is a return to what the Olympics are truly all about. In addition, the extension of her tour in Tokyo brought a promotion from deputy coordinator to olympic lead, as well as another year in the city that holds a special place in her heart.

Paulin’s day-to-day work varies, as well as her assignments to each embassy. In Tokyo, she attends representational events such as lunches and dinners with contacts in government and meets with other parts of the embassy. Her role also encompasses managing a team, directing others and balancing everyone’s workload.

In addition to maintaining internal and external communications, Paulin frequently writes formal briefings and diplomatic telegraphs, or cables, back to the U.S. Capitol.

Briefings and cables are seemingly mundane compared to diplomatic dinners, though they can come with unexpected rewards. Paulin co-wrote a cable with a colleague which was eventually received by the vice president in Washington, D.C.

Before a vibrant career in diplomacy, Paulin majored in English literature at GU with a minor in philosophy. She has fond memories of her time at GU, where she was a member of the women’s rowing team, a student senator and a member of the Gonzaga Bulletin staff.

Paulin enjoyed many parts of the English program at GU, although one class stands out in particular.

SEE OLYMPICS PAGE 3

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CLUBS

Continued from Page 1

“We’re always happy to have faces familiar and new coming by, as well as people who don’t identify as Asian or Asian American,” Le said. “We love to share whatever we’re talking about, making them feel involved and making sure that the space is open to everyone.”

The Black Student Union plans to meet on Sundays so as not to interfere with its members’ busy course schedules. “We do a lot of education within our club,” said junior Haylee Pollard, vice president of BSU. “And we do a lot of other fun presentations throughout the year and hold events for everybody. But really, I would say it’s about a safe space for both black students and allies.”

Presentation topics can range from Black hairstyles to conspiracy theories within hip hop. Pastimes are also a focus, with club “Among Us” games being a hit last year.

In addition to its weekly meetings, BSU plan on holding bigger events like fundraisers and the BSU Dinner during Black History Month. Every year, the dinner provides music, food and lessons on an overarching topic. The BSU Dinner topic in 2020 was “The Shades: An Exploration of Blackness” — a discussion of how blackness can impact an individual’s experiences.

The Filipino American Student Union (FASU) provides opportunities to learn more about Filipino

American culture and the Philippines. During the Tuesday meetings, the club gives updates on the happenings in the Philippines and holds bonding activities. Social events outside of weekly meetings are frequent occurrences too.

Every February, FASU holds a Barrio Fiesta. While cultural dances and Filipino food are typically shared, last year, the festival was celebrated via a Zoom webinar.

“I’m really excited, especially with this being my last year. I feel like it’s a really cool opportunity to be the president and give back to the club in that way,” said senior Lyca Racho, president of FASU. “I love everyone that’s on the FASU Board, too. We’re all on the same page of we would love to see people in person again, and that’s going to be our goal.”

Hawaii/Pacific Islanders Club (HPIC) is a home away from home for students from Hawaii and those interested in Hawaiian culture. Club meetings start with a segment called Hawaii News Now that showcases current events in Hawaii, followed by Minute to Win It games or Pidgin Word of the Week.

HPIC hosts a welcome barbecue, camping at Bowl and Pitcher in Riverside State Park, an outing to Green Bluff, skating and skiing days and a luau celebration in the spring. The luau includes hula dancing and HPIC’s always popular dinner.

“Be comfortable reaching out because everyone here at Gonzaga really wants you to succeed,” said senior Erin Tsue, the HPIC co-president. “We’re all here to help you and create a safe environment for you to have a really

good experience at Gonzaga.”

La Raza Latina welcomes members with music by Latin artists, before diving into discussions about various subjects club members find important or recently learned. Sometimes, bachata lessons are taught, or guest speakers are invited to discuss topics like art or solidarity with undocumented immigrants. Meetings typically end with a game.

“I hope to build a community for the Latinx,” said junior Bianca Aranda, president of La Raza Latina. “I hope that anyone that’s interested in learning more about Hispanic culture goes to a meeting.”

The Queer Student Union (QSU) is a club that welcomes dialogue regarding personal experiences from people of the LGBTQ+ community. The club hopes to combat ignorance by providing education on content like the semantics of LGBTQ+ terms, the aromantic and asexual spectrum, and the presence of people of color within the queer community.

A drag show is held every spring, where professional and local drag queens come to perform on campus.

“It’s not just for queer people, it’s also for allies,” said junior Mattie Lagrange, vice president of QSU. “Queer Student Union is a safe place for any of the incoming class on campus.”

On Zagtivities, be on the lookout for these clubs’ first meetings.

Noah Wong is a staff writer.

COVID-19

Continued from Page 1

At the moment, classrooms are allowed to seat at full capacity given that social distancing guidelines have been relaxed, and resident halls too will be full of students this semester.

“We’re really excited about all of the steps,” said Charlita Shelton, chief of staff to President Thayne McCulloh. “But there are protocols and precautions, which means that we’re still going to make sure that we disinfect classrooms, bathrooms, study rooms, so on and so forth.”

A lot of the plexiglass that was up in dining halls last year has been taken down and more tables have been added, while employees will adhere to procedures laid out by the state’s department of Labor and Industry. For students who are wary of being near others, the university has partitioned off more isolated sections in dining halls and study spaces called safe zones.

The university will also continue to update the public database of cases in and around GU on the COVID-19 dashboard that was started last year, while additionally providing data on vaccination rates. The Zag Check app from last year will also be in effect, although its exact role is still yet to be decided and administration will have more updates on it in the return to campus guide coming out next week.

“It won’t be every day like last year, but students who are showing symptoms will definitely be using the Zag Check app to report them and they’ll be contacted by contact tracers for testing if they were close to somebody who tested positive,” Shelton said. “Vaccinations, like records and rates will be available there too.”

Students who are showing COVID-19 symptoms can get tested for free through the health and counseling services office. Students who turn up a positive test will work with GU affiliated contact tracers to notify close contacts who will need to quarantine for one week.

Those off campus who test positive will be instructed to self-isolate for 10 days, and those on campus will be



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Unlike last year, this semester won't start with a mask requirement for gatherings either indoors or outdoors.

moved to an undisclosed location just off campus to fulfill their isolation period.


This year with classes planning to be fully in-person, there is no mandate for teachers to convert their curriculums to hybrid or purely Zoom learning. However, students who need to isolate or quarantine and thus can’t come onto campus can arrange with their professors to attend class remotely.

“Faculty will have discretion to allow students who are not able to attend class in-person (for health-related reasons or due to any other extraordinary circumstance) to attend via Zoom, based on their judgment,” the Office of the Prevost said in a statement. “This faculty discretion is no different than it has always been, except that the Zoom technology is now available as an additional option

utilized to support students in their learning when they must be absent from class.”

Students can anticipate more news on campus procedures this semester from the return to campus guide and further updates from the Office of the President as the COVID-19 pandemic changes.

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




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OLYMPICS

Continued from Page 1

"Dr. [Michael] Herzog had this great Chaucer class where you had to actually read it in Middle English and then at the end, we all had a medieval-style dinner at his house and we each had to tell a story like the 'Canterbury Tales.' That was a really cool experience," Paulin said.

Herzog described Paulin as an excellent and eager student, unafraid to take chances. It's been rewarding for him to see past students thrive and do important work.

"[It's] one of the things that gives us those 'this is why I did what I did for much of my professional life' moments," Herzog said.

The connections Paulin made at GU remain today. Her roommate from GU visited her while she was stationed in Barbados to go spelunking in a cave, and her rowing teammates are lifelong companions.

Despite being a busy college student, Paulin always found time to enjoy college beyond the classroom. Likewise, a large portion of her life has been devoted to serving her country, having unique experiences through the travel involved in diplomacy.

Following her graduation, Paulin accepted a job as an English teacher. During training, she befriended someone who later became involved in the Foreign Service. They had both been overseas together, and Paulin's friend nudged her to explore a career in diplomacy because it seemed like a natural fit for her skill set and experience.

From there, Paulin took a series of tests included in the Foreign Service Exam. The process combines traditional written exams and a daylong, interview-like examination.

Much later, by another serendipitous turn of events, her friend was working in Tokyo at the same time that she arrived to serve at the Olympics.

"Twenty years later, we were both together again in Japan working side by side, so that was just a really cool moment for me in my career," Paulin said.

Paulin, who is an Idaho native, has previously been stationed in Brazil, Barbados, Jamaica, Washington, D.C., and Lebanon. When the Paralympic games conclude, she will be serving at the Armenian embassy in a human

resources position.

Her role in Armenia will largely resemble the HR work she did in Washington, D.C., including assigning service officers to postings elsewhere. Still, Paulin anticipates a learning curve for the specific HR regulations she'll learn when she returns to the U.S. for the mandated four-month period to receive specialized training.

Paulin's first tour was to an embassy in Barbados, where she held a management role which included everything from logistics, to procurements, to compliance. Her job involved shipping, customs, housing, travel, warehouse and procurement.

Foreign Service officers are also required to complete a consular tour during their career, which includes visas or American Citizen Services. Paulin had the opportunity to first gain this experience in Brazil, issuing tourist visas and eventually transitioning to American Citizen Services.

"The U.S. visa process is actually one of the most rigorous in the world. We interview every single person and we also do background checks with federal law enforcement and various databases," Paulin said. "I interviewed like 100 people a day - in Portuguese, so that was interesting."

She completed the same processes in Jamaica and Lebanon, where she was assigned temporarily to expedite visa backlogs. This was especially pressing in Lebanon, where an influx in Syrian refugees posed complex challenges.

Working in American Citizen Services, Paulin not only did administrative work such as managing passports and birth certificates for newborns, but also sharpened her problem-solving skills under pressure as an advocate for distressed Americans overseas.

During this tour, Paulin also helped prepare for the Rio de Janeiro Olympics. For the Paralympic games, she continued helping with visas and American citizen services.

Paulin's time in Japan has truly come full-circle. Two decades later, she revisited the small island where she began her career teaching English. Her kindergarten students are now adults with families of their own.

"Some of them had gone to study in the U.S., so that made me very proud that I had encouraged them to go



COURTESY OF U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

Michelle Paulin poses for a photo while in Tokyo.

and study English," Paulin said.

Michelle Paulin's career as a Foreign Service officer has taken her all over the world. She is grateful for the opportunities that have come with each place, but also reminisces fondly about her time at GU where her journey began.

"I have a lot of good memories from Gonzaga. I'm glad that I chose it as my school," Paulin said.

Though no longer at GU, Paulin is a believer in lifelong learning. GU provided her with a valuable foundation for her career in service, and she learns more about diplomacy and service each day.

"Diplomacy is learned; nobody is born a diplomat," Paulin said.

Kate Sullivan is a staff writer.



Orientation leaders hype up their small groups during Playfair.

ORIENTATION

Continued from Page 1

that curtail the opportunities for large group interaction in the interests of public health, GU staff have remained committed to providing activities that are interesting and lively, while emphasizing safe, health-conscious environments for attending students and families.

"Our check-in is outside, we have socials that are outside, 'get to know you' events that will be outside and small groups are planning to meet outside," said Nicola Mannetter, director of new student and family programs. "Our goal for 2021 was to get orientation looking a lot more like it did in 2019 than it did in 2020... while making sure we're keeping everybody safe."

Day two of Orientation Weekend is centered around small group information sessions through which students can expect to be informed of the ins and outs of life as a Zag. Campus services, resources and policies are highlighted while small groups can participate in fun interactive activities.

Following a class dinner and the conclusion of small groups, incoming first years will have the chance to show their Zag spirit in Welcome Night festivities that will take place in the McCarthy Athletic Center, on Foley Field and the John J. Hemmingson Center.

"It'll be a time where students can go into the Kennel

and learn cheers from the cheer team—see the Bomb Squad and dance team," Mannetter said. "We're still doing a lot of those great things that have been done for many years."

Day three of Orientation Weekend ushers in the traditional Welcome Mass in the morning, followed by a light brunch on the Herak Quad with President McCulloh. After families are set to depart from campus in the afternoon, the evening is set to provide first year students with a range of social activities to choose from.

"More varied events will take place in the evening where folks can choose to hang out on one of the fields—listen to music and get some food," Mannetter said. "Or they can choose from more structured activities like bingo, a Gonzaga University Theatre Sports performance or even a movie night."

The final day of Orientation Weekend is scheduled as a day geared toward preparing students academically for the semester and beyond. Following Academic Convocation, advisor meetings commence along with several different welcome events such the Business Concentration Fair, Pre-Law info session, Choir's Welcome Picnic and others. All of these are devoted to the reception of students, as well as answering any questions about involvement.

Wrapping up Orientation Weekend 2021 will be an event hosted by the Gonzaga Student Body Association, (GSBA), directed toward building energy for the school year and introducing students to GSBA representatives

and membership opportunities.

Despite being a miniscule three-day span in comparison to the four-year path many students embark upon at GU, Orientation Weekend is a pivotal experience for Zags as they arrive on campus for the first time.

There are many benefits to having a positive Orientation Weekend experience, and staff are fully dedicated to delivering an unforgettable, informative and safety first impression of GU for the incoming Class of 2025.

"Our office knows that the past couple of years has been really difficult for this group of students coming into college. They lost out on sports, proms, dances, activities, vacations, social interactions and much more," Gambone said. "We hope this program gives them a strong understanding of Gonzaga and what our university has to offer them in the forms of support, guidance and resources."

Anders Svenningsen is a staff writer.



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How do we reunite after COVID-19?

If you think back to when you first toured Gonzaga University as a prospective student, whether that was in person or over zoom, I'm positive that the following phrase will take you right back to that moment in the tour.

"Gonzaga's campus and student body really just feels like such a tightly knit community."

The buzzword here being "community." I said it as an orientation leader and my friends who are tour guides worked it into their spiel each time. Its message is repeated and reverberated throughout our time here.

While it won't take you long during a "normal" year to find this sense of closeness with each other on campus, this past year has been the furthest thing away from "normal."

While we were physically isolated this past year, collectively we were brought together through political and social activism. Through this, I believe we retained a sense of unity and community, albeit completely different from what we've known.

This past year we've seen a shift toward focusing on growth of the collective, rather than the focus on creating personal growth and relationships with your smaller community. Such as the community you would develop throughout a school year with your peers and fellow Zags.

It's incredibly challenging to develop and nurture these relationships and sense of school community, while having to interact with the world through a computer



By AUDREY MEASER

screen. How can we get to know our classmates and professors on the personal level we're used to if we're hunched over, physically apart and staring ahead at a screen with 30 identical black screens?

The unfortunate answer is, we don't. To be frank, much of this past year, in terms of unity and community building, was simply lost.

The kind of loss I'm referring to is the loss of those personal relationships you get to develop on a campus as small as GU's.

The kind of relationships where on day one you only know your classmates' names and home towns, but by the end of the semester you know that Sara is thinking about law school in order to help further

the climate movement, and Andrea is pursuing a degree in human physiology so that she can give back to the community and help empower women to learn more about their bodies and health.

We weren't really able to create and cultivate these kinds of relationships, but we also missed out on just the general feeling of coexisting with one another this past year.

We didn't turn to the person next to us halfway through a lecture and ask that all too familiar, question: "do you have any idea what's happening right now?"

So yes, all these little building blocks to creating a community for yourself and everyone else at GU was damn near impossible to put together in the last 18 months, but this doesn't mean it can't happen again.

If this past year has done anything, it's reminded us how important it is to treasure and appreciate the community we have on campus while we have it. It's put into focus how lucky we are to be able to gather in the Kennel to cheer on our Zags, or to bump into someone you haven't seen in a while picking up your mail or even for those late-night study sessions where both wisdom and snacks are shared.

This sense of community and unity that we all love and miss hasn't gone anywhere; it was simply just put on a temporary hold.

This is the best part. We're slowly but surely starting to return to a world where we can hug our friends and share meals with one another and come together in a shared space to just to simply "be."

But we don't have to go back to the exact way of life that we were living then. There were many things about that world that needed to change, just like there are still many issues today that need our urgent attention and support.

We have the chance to create a new sense of community, one that is truly inclusive for everyone. We get to do this on a global scale and also on a more intimate one, like on our very campus that so many of us have the privilege to call "home" for many months out of the year.

Let's not go back to the same world we left two years ago, let's take this chance to use that era as a blueprint, and cultivate a new way of life that benefits us all.

This is how I think we get this sense of unity and community back, but in a way that doesn't just feel good for you and your friends, but feels good to everyone on campus.

It's not going to be an overnight shift, but if we take it one step at a time and work with each other rather than against, we can find a new meaning for what it means to be a part of a community, and a new meaning to "Zags help Zags."

Audrey Measer is a copy editor. Follow her on Twitter @audrey_measer.

Voter suppression: a new threat to our democracy

Voter issues have always been a blockade in America's quest for democracy. Beginning with land-owning white men being the only people allowed to vote, we have now expanded our democracy to include everyone (at face value).

But we are now faced with a bigger problem: some states seem to be dead set on hindering voting rights for their citizens.

From shortening the window to apply for a mail ballot (Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky and Oklahoma) to restricting assistance in returning a voter's mail ballot (Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky and Montana), states are restricting easy access to voting—a wet blanket tossed on the democratic fire.

Even things like banning snacks and water to voters waiting in line (Florida, Georgia), limiting early voting days or hours (Georgia, Iowa) and reducing polling place availability (Iowa, Montana) are harming prospective voters and discouraging the trip to the polls. When states actively make voting an unnecessarily frustrating and overwhelming process, determination to vote diminishes, according to the NAACP Legal Defense and Education.

While some of these bills contain pro-voter policies, making suppression difficult to spot and fight, voter rights are dangerously at stake in some states. This issue largely threatens Midwestern and Southern states with Republican legislation.

As Gonzaga students, we must pay attention to our rights as voters, as they are threatened at the state and federal levels.

We must know our rights and fight for them. The Supreme Court has harmed voting rights in the past (Shelby County v. Holder 2013), requiring more than just



By SYDNEY FLUKER

judicial action to protect.

We must vote in defense of voting rights and pressure Congress to pass legislation as a protection. The For the People Act, which is now awaiting a hearing in the Senate, features pro-democratic and anti-corruption legislation that would make it easier to vote at both levels. The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act pushing to help end racial discrimination requires a review of voting changes.

We must also know about our rights as students. Strict ID laws in states like Wisconsin and North Carolina have prevented out-of-state college students from being able to

cast their ballots. Students make up a large percentage of the U.S. voting block, as in Wisconsin where they make up 6.9% of the eligible voting population — a big deal, as the Tufts institute ranked Wisconsin as the top state where young voters could cast decisive votes in the 2020 presidential election.

As students, fighting for easy access to mail-in ballots and voting access ensures our voices will be heard. However, we must fight for equity, meaning the fight goes beyond basic voting rights.

There are many ways to take initiative to expand voter action. Volunteering as a poll worker or at registration drives is a fun way of engaging with the local community and promoting democracy. Voting in support of legislation that ends voter discrimination and voter ID laws when available increases voting equity by helping groups with low-voting turnout.

"The Gonzaga experience fosters a mature commitment to dignity of the human person, social justice, diversity, intercultural competence, global engagement, solidarity with the poor and vulnerable and care for the planet," reads the GU mission statement.

In order to be aligned with our own mission statement, we as students must stay dedicated to the fight for greater equity within our democratic system.

While it has its flaws, voting remains a consistent way to change legislation in the U.S. and must not be lost to corruption. We have to ensure our voices are heard, or else we risk the destruction of the very basis of our democracy.

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

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Dear Class of 2025,

An open letter to first-years in a post-pandemic school year

To me, the way our world opens up when you reach college is similar to the way the in-game world unfolds in an open world video game. After hours of preparing and exploring all you can in this confined space, a shift in your story occurs and suddenly the sheer vastness of the land is yours for the taking.

There are so many emotions that come with this: awe, excitement, intimidation and fear.

Being a first-year at a new institution, it's OK to feel these things.

Your awe, your excitement, your intimidation, your fear — all of these feelings are natural. And during such strange times as these, it's expected that these emotions will be heightened greatly.

This is OK. Take a deep breath, and take it all in.

From experience, your first year on Gonzaga's campus is going to be a roller coaster. You're going to experience independence for the first time and learn what that means. You're going to have to live in tight quarters with someone else. You may feel stressed about your classes — you may feel none at all. You'll find some really incredible friends during your first year, but it may take some time.

Of course, there is also the pandemic. With the delta variant and shifting protocols, that in itself is added pressure.

To say the least, there will be many highs and lows.

All of this is to be expected, and you will grow so much for it.



By ALEXANDER PREVOST

My first year at GU taught me two valuable lessons: Life is about how you react to it, and you will find your people (it just may take time).

For me, it was finding ways to get involved — not just within campus activities, but within my residence hall and my floor. GU's small campus feel is deceptive. Our community contains multitudes of niches, and falling into yours can almost feel effortless when you find it.

It's cliché to say this, but seriously don't be afraid to put yourself out there. Say "yes" to opportunities that present themselves. Try not to stretch yourself too thin, and focus on adding value to your life. Remember, if a friend group or a club isn't a match, it's OK to part ways and find something new.

The secret to getting involved on campus is to try things — old and new — and take your time with it. You may find that

niche (or two), and that feeling of belonging and naturalness is truly wonderful.

It's also possible that you might not this year, and that is OK, too.

If there is one thing you all have that my class didn't, it's the advantage of getting your classes in person. Completely. I can't stress to you how envious I am of that. Many of us probably feel like we missed out on many potential friendships or opportunities because of that.

I implore you to take advantage of that.

GU is a rich world. Though your first year may be challenging, it is the difficulties in life that are what mold us, so hang tight and strap on in for the ride.

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



Gonzaga students convene in the COG prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The price of community dining

With COVID-19 restrictions loosening, GU students are becoming more hesitant to purchase COG meal plans

By MAUREEN PARKS

Looking forward to a more optimistic semester than last, many Gonzaga students are eager to return to some of the simpler pre-pandemic joys of life, such as enjoying a COG meal with friends in the middle of a day of classes. GU students are required to purchase a full meal plan for their first two years living on campus, but many upperclassmen also elect to purchase a community meal plan after that obligation ends. After being isolated on Zoom for so long, the prospect of sharing meals with fellow students might seem more attractive to some students. When asked about the COG, a lot of students have favorable things to

say about it, such as incoming junior Cameron Wright. “I do like the COG,” Wright said. “I like the amount of options that they have; there’s something for everybody in there, and it’s just a good place you can get food with your friends.” Many upperclassman fondly remember their freshman and sophomore years, sitting in the COG and chatting with friends, all thanks to the meal plan. “I miss it now that I’m an upperclassman because the COG was just so convenient, and the food was pretty good,” GU senior Jacob Poser said. But no matter how great the COG experience is, the price of a community plan is a deterrent for many students who

might otherwise consider purchasing swipes. The Augusta Plan offers 50 swipes for \$425, the Nora Plan offers 80 swipes for \$645 and the Loyalty plan offers 110 swipes for \$855. Poser said that he does not plan to purchase the plan due to the cost. “It costs quite a bit,” Poser said. “I could just pay for my own food.” Wright echoed Poser’s gripe with the high cost of a community meal plan. When asked if he would purchase a plan, he also declined. “I think it’s probably to save money mostly, and I have a house now so it’s easier to eat there,” Wright said. Isaac Katcher, a junior at GU, enjoyed the time he spent at the COG as an underclassman, but does not plan on purchasing a community plan either.

“Just because now I have a house off-campus which is only a couple blocks away, and I feel like that would be even more relaxing for me,” Katcher said. “I can also control what I eat more.” For some students, however, purchasing a community meal plan might be worth the benefit of experiencing human connection over a meal after a year of isolation. Additionally, others might be glad to eat at the COG after finding out how difficult it can be to cook for themselves while also juggling school, work and extracurricular activities. Students will have their choice as to whether they want to purchase a meal plan or not next semester.

Maureen Parks is a staff writer.

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy Parker April 1, 2018

ACROSS

1 Grayish brown

6 Mom's mate

9 Military hats

14 Major ski resort

15 Sci-fi's ____-Wan

16 Boxing milieu

17 Wind nearing 90 knots

18 Place for a lion

19 Fish in a brook

20 Tinged with Southern charm

23 Mind another's business

24 Where Anytown is?

25 Alpine vocalist

27 Great camping site

32 Stack

33 Jackie's husband No. 2

34 Foe

36 Largest city of Senegal

39 Do more than hum

41 Start a 300-yard drive

43 Very long river

44 "Didn't" kin

46 Supermarket sections

48 "Stop" starter

49 Bend out of shape

51 Filled an empty magazine

53 Stereo-typical one-center

56 With zero remaining

57 Face-to-face word surrounding "a"

58 Impossible poker hand

64 Waters or Merman

66 Added total

67 Bean variety

68 Highest Spanish single-digit

69 Historic time period

70 Wed super-quick

71 Places for stained-glass windows

72 Heavy weight

73 Trig terms

DOWN

1 Chore

2 Piedmont city

3 Bedtime story word

4 Big name in chicken

5 As one big body

6 Extinct bird

7 Eve's boy

8 Small and insignificant

9 Grasshopper variety

10 Miss an easy one

11 We humans, to Trudeau

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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AMID	PROBE	TELL
MAKING	A FUN	FOR IT
FAUST	LISTS	
RESIGN	SAIL	
ACHE	WHINE	AHA
CROSS	COUNTRY	FUN
YUP	A ARGH	ERGO
DYNE	SALOON	
OASES	SNARL	
FUN	FOR ONE	MONEY
FRAT	ODORS	WADE
EARL	SERVE	EVEN
DEFY	ESTER	DENS

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TYPE CASTING

By Timothy E. Parker

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Today's puzzle solution

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

North Bank playground livens up Riverfront Park



The Ice Age Flood-themed playground stands tall in the center of the North Bank play area.

CHIANA MCINELLY IG: @picsbychiana



A biker rides at the new Skates and Wheels Park.

CHIANA MCINELLY IG: @picsbychiana

By ALLIE NOLAND

North Bank in Riverfront Park has amped up the outdoor entertainment in downtown Spokane. With new Hooptown USA basketball courts, a skate park, the Ice Age Floods-themed playground, climbing structures and public facilities, Riverfront Park will greet and entertain the community.

The park has been known for its greenery and beauty in downtown Spokane, with the river flowing along the walkways.

The city of Spokane's Parks and Recreation proposed a revitalization project to enhance the features of the park. After five years of construction and building, the North Bank area of the park had its grand opening on May 21 and was erected as one of Spokane's proudest recreation attractions.

With Zags returning to Spokane from summer break, many students will be making their way to check out North Bank park area located on the Centennial trail.

Whether GU students play basketball or just watch it, the two full Hooptown USA courts are an exciting addition to the downtown area. The single rims, glass backboards and distinct court lines were installed with intent to last for years, and the quality of these courts is unmatched for shooting casual hoops.

Beyond function and quality, these courts show the beauty and heart of Spokane with the huge mural painted on the concrete. The mural is a pop-art style piece that showcases a basketball between two hands, covering the two main courts.

Another feature that will be attracting Zags is the new Skate and Wheels Park. Tucked behind the newly built public facilities and the maintenance building, visitors

will find a huge, smooth surfaced skate area.

The university district area is limited in skating options, so the new Skates and Wheels Park gives GU students who love to skate a place to wheel around and try new tricks. The motivation to build the skate park came from public interest.

Less thrilling to college students but extremely exciting to families is the 40,000 square foot Ice Age Floods Playground. The play area features a 3-story Columbian slide tower, an alluvial deposit fossil dig, a log jam climber, Glacial Dam splash pad and other play structures.

Jessica Stevens and her family are from Yakima and visited Riverfront Park for the first time this August. Stevens, her husband and their elementary school-age son said they were surprised to see how large and engaging the playground area is.

"I was thinking, after stopping in [the park], that we could actually come back for a few days and just spend that time here," Stevens said. "It has changed my view on how much time we can enjoy in the park areas. There's so much to do."

The Roskelley Performance Climbing Boulder is a smaller addition to the North Bank project but provides a unique and Pacific Northwest touch to the whole installment. Different from traditional, brightly colored climbing holds, the artificial boulder offers rock ledges and natural looking holds to those wanting to climb up and to the top.

The city of Spokane's Park and Recreation succeeded at making this playground area a seamless part of the nature-filled, beloved city. The natural colors and unified design plan make the recreation area easy on the eyes.

Spokane locals, Debby and Dave Ward, visited the park for the first time at the beginning of August.

"They did a great job at keeping it natural looking versus just making look like a regular playground," Debby said. "It fits right into the rest of the park."

After spending an afternoon walking around the North Bank installment, the Wards plan on bringing their grandchildren next visit to play at the Ice Age Floods Playground and on the splash pad.

"Riverfront Park was already just a nice place to bring the kids, but this really does add something to it all," Dave said. "Spokane does a great job of keeping the parks updated."

Additional parking, large public restrooms, a picnic shelter and tons of trees and grass patches were also put into the space. Spokane has limited public restroom access, so these additions were huge to the city.

North Bank is now one of the five main elements of the entire Riverfront Park, including the Skate Ribbon and SkyRide Facility, the Loeff Carrousel Building, the U.S. Pavilion and Event Shelters and the Public Spaces and Park Grounds.

Check out North Bank on your next walk on the Centennial Trail.

Allie Noland is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @allie-noland.

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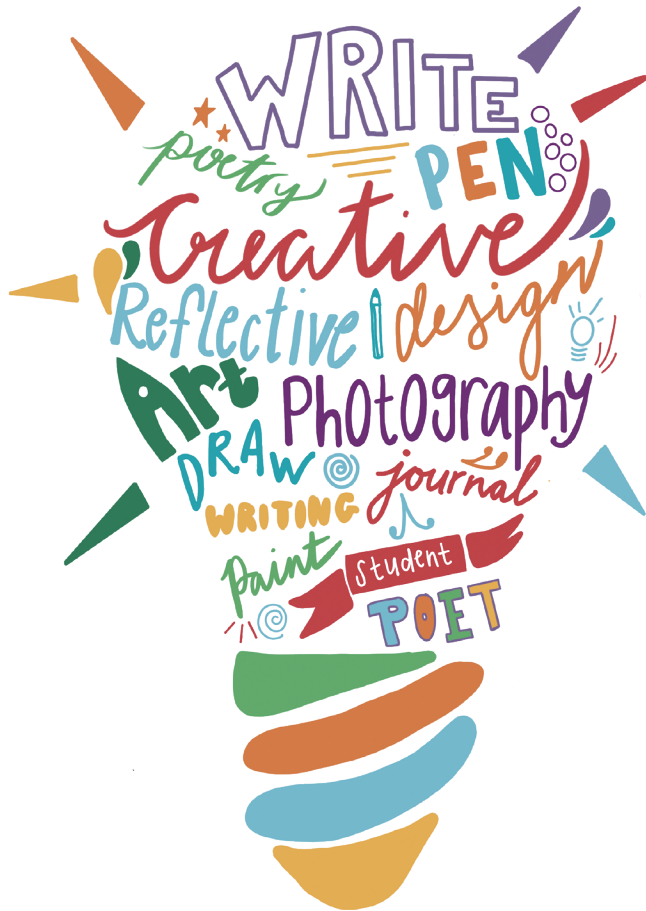
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The living legacy of Mike Roth

Determination, passion and the right cast of characters were the backbone of an illustrious career for GU's long-time Athletic Director

By COLE FORSMAN

Mike Roth had no idea what he had gotten himself into. For years he had aspirations of being an athletic director of a university, but he could not have foreseen the future for Gonzaga University.

For a school where sports were second fiddle to academics, the men's basketball program reaching the Elite Eight was a euphoric moment for the entire community. Simply appearing in the NCAA tournament alone was considered a feat, let alone taking down some of college basketball's bluebloods in the process.

But it didn't take long for the celebration to get rained on by stress and exhaustion.

Shortly into Roth's tenure, while the Bulldogs continued to thrive on the hardwood, he learned the true rigors that come with consistent success. A friend of his that was also an athletic director cautioned about living in the "dog years" as other GU athletic programs continued to raise the bar. Roth didn't initially take the warning seriously before realizing the price of winning was taxing.

"It takes its toll," Roth said. "The job never ends."

The pressure to succeed never flustered Roth; it fueled him for two decades.

"If you're a competitor, that's all you want," Roth said. "We aren't seeking out the stress, but we are seeking out the success."

He wasn't scared to take risks, either, not even in his first year as athletic director. Coming off that Cinderella run in 1998, Dan Monson left for the University of Minnesota, leaving the men's basketball team without a head coach. The Bulldogs were on the cusp of taking the next step in becoming a true contender on a yearly basis; it just required the right person to lead them. After examining his options, Roth realized the leader he needed was right in front of him; Mark Few, who was on the team's staff as an assistant coach.

The hire was a shock to many. Even those in the GU community were stunned by the move, including Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, who was in his first year as the university's president. Spitzer couldn't even recall who Few was when Roth told him the about the coaching change. Other faculty members scratched their heads as well, but it wasn't about public perception to Roth. To him, a risk in other people's eyes was a step in the right direction for the program.

"If you're not willing to step out of your comfort zone and take a risk, the chances of you feeling that level of success aren't what it could be," Roth said.



Mike Roth was the driving force in creating a unique culture that has propelled GU athletics to new heights.

That philosophy still applies two decades later. As the basketball team grew more prominent and talented, Roth and Few made sure that the competition would get steeper as well. Schedules now feature the likes of Kansas, Duke, North Carolina and other top-tier programs on a yearly basis, including last season when the Bulldogs faced five top-25 teams. The daunting nonconference stretches are a challenge worthwhile for Roth.

"In order to win, we have to put ourselves in a position to lose," Roth said.

But conquering the hoops landscape wasn't enough; Roth wanted every athletic program at GU to reach new heights in competition. It was clear that an entire revamping of the department was needed as well, starting with a rebranded logo and new color scheme to match. Roth began repainting the department from top to bottom and tearing down old designs of the past. While the remodel was necessary, Roth understood it would take more than just looks to achieve his next goal. He needed a staff that collectively had the same passion and motor he possessed.

While everyone was in agreement that significant change was needed, actions spoke louder than words. Just like the hiring of Few, Roth began searching for the right people who would fit the mold he wanted the university to become. He found specific coaches who would go on to improve the quality of their respective programs, like Mark Machtolf in baseball and Kelly Graves for women's basketball.

But the most important additions to the staff were arguably Chris Standiford and Shannon Strahl, who are both the future of GU's athletic department.

Standiford joined as the assistant Martin Centre director in 1993 but has worn many hats during his time at GU. He was the lead man on numerous projects, including the construction of the McCarthy Athletic Center, Luger Field and the Stevens Center to name a few. Behind the scenes, Standiford is the administrator for baseball, golf and rowing while serving as the school's representative on the West Coast Conference Basketball Cabinet. By excelling in his many duties, he was named a top assistant athletic director by Silver Waves Media in 2021.

Now it's time for Standiford to take the reins as athletic director, a role he prepared well for with the help of Roth.

"He's a teacher first and foremost," Standiford said. "He's been an unbelievable mentor to me ever since I got to Gonzaga."

Since 1999, Strahl has largely been involved with the compliance and academic aspects of the athletic department. She thrived in a fairly new department, as she was promoted a year after joining and hired a full-time academic coordinator and second compliance staff member. Strahl has helped thousands of student-athletes with their academics over the last two decades, including a 40-semester stretch where the Bulldogs averaged a 3.0 GPA or higher.

And most importantly, both are willing

“If you're not willing to step out of your comfort zone and take a risk, the chances of you feeling that level of success aren't what it could be,"

Mike Roth, GU Athletic Director

to go the extra mile for the university.

"I know they'll continue to push forward," Roth said. "They've been such an integral part of everything we've done over all these years."

Above the success and achieving his goal, Roth takes great satisfaction in how the GU culture was built and the bonds he formed over time. Staying with the basketball team on a single hotel floor room during the NCAA tournament was a reminder to him that even the worst conditions are alleviated with the right people. Or when a fellow athletic director is stunned that GU athletes don't live by themselves, Roth takes great pride in knowing his players are friends with one another outside of team activities. It's these little moments that indicate a lasting culture was built the right way.

Because of that, Roth believes he'll still have a sense of connection and purpose as he heads off into retirement.

"If I've done my job, then we will continue to be successful, and my satisfaction will be off the scale," Roth said. "I don't think I'll miss it because it will always be there."

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

Welcome to Hooptown, USA: Best places to play basketball in Spokane

Home to the biggest 3-on-3 basketball tournament in the world, its not hard to find a pickup game in the Lilac City. Among all courts, these stand alone as the best



LILY KANISHIGE IG: aka.lilyy

Mission Park has been a go-to hoops destination for years due to it's convenient location. and frequent activity.



LILY KANESHIGE IG: aka.lilyy

Before it becomes the focal point of this year's Hoopfest, Mission Park and Riverfront Park has hosted countless pick-up games throughout the summer.

By LUKE MODUGNO

Spokane is widely known as Hooptown, USA. No, it's not just for Gonzaga University's illustrious basketball programs or even the famed Hoopfest, this city breathes an innate passion for the game of basketball. While driving around Spokane, seeing a pickup basketball game at a park is almost as natural as the towering evergreens and the river that runs through the heart of our city. Here are the best places to play pickup basketball around Spokane:

5. Audubon Park

Located nine minutes north of campus, Audubon Park is one of the cleanest parks in Spokane. Like many parks in Spokane, Audubon features a Hoopfest court, as well as a new futsal/basketball court that opened in 2019. This park usually has pickup basketball games happening any time on the weekends, with sporadic games being played during the week in the afternoon. Due to its considerable distance from campus, Audubon places a bit lower on this list, however its quality and quantity of courts cannot be dismissed.

4. Mission Park

By far the closest in proximity to campus and located just east of Safeway, Mission Park is almost always guaranteed to have pickup games running. Additionally, you're sure to see someone you know at Mission Park, as this is the most popular spot to play pickup among Zags. However, there are a few drawbacks to playing at Mission Park. The Hoopfest court at Mission Park features a steel backboard and double-rims, a basketball player's nightmare. Furthermore, the court itself is unusually small, as the full court is barely comparable to a half-court at the RFC. Yes, this court is the most populated with Zags and features near 24/7 pickup games, but don't come to Mission Park to improve your jump shot.

3. Peaceful Valley Park

About one mile from GU's campus, Peaceful Valley Park is one of the most popular locations to play pickup basketball amongst Zags. Featuring a Hoopfest full-court, single rims and a lovely mural, there isn't much to complain about when it comes to Peaceful Valley Park. Although you're sure to find a game on the

weekend, pickup games can sometimes be hard to come by at this park. Boasting a breathtaking view of the Spokane River as well, Peaceful Valley is an optimal home to hoops in Spokane.

2.Chief Garry Park

One of the top locations to play pickup basketball in Spokane, Chief Garry Park is a basketball player's dream. Just a two-minute drive from Mission Park, Chief Garry has not one, but two full Hoopfest courts. Surrounded by large trees that provide shade from the scorching Spokane sun, the glass backboard, single-rim hoops are exactly what is missing from a place like Mission Park. Along with the beautiful mural that is painted on the court, Chief Garry simply checks all the boxes for a suitable pickup basketball location. Full-court, five-on-five pickup games are harder to come by here, so bring a few friends with you if you're looking to play pickup basketball at Chief Garry.

1.Riverfront Park

Seriously, what isn't there to like about the newly opened Hooptown USA Basketball Court in Riverfront Park? Two full courts, check. Glass backboards, check.

Single rims, check. Less than a 15-minute walk from campus and overlooking the Expo 74' Pavilion and Great Northern Clocktower, the Hooptown USA court is the premier location to get some buckets in Spokane. In honor of Juneteenth, the courts have a dazzling multicolored mural currently. Since the word has spread about this court, there has been essentially 24/7 full-court pickup basketball happening everyday at the Hooptown USA Courts. Additionally, late-night pickup is also an option here, as the park features floodlights that allow you to shoot around at any time of day. Perhaps the only drawback of these courts is that they are unavailable on Sunday nights, as an organized men's basketball league uses both full courts. Besides that, the recent arrival of the Hooptown USA Basketball Courts has completely changed the pick-up basketball game in Spokane, get down there get yourself some buckets.

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

NIL rights: The future of college athletics

GU student-athletes now have the chance to profit from their play.

By COLE FORSMAN

It's a new era in college athletics. Following the latest name, image and likeness (NIL) interim policy passed by the NCAA, the days of amateurism are now a thing of the past.

No longer will student-athletes have to wait until the professional leagues to make a profit. Entrepreneurship, endorsement deals and other business opportunities have been made available for those looking to expand their personal brands.

The interim policy has just two measures that all institutions must follow. Athletes must not receive compensation for their play, nor can universities use NIL deals as part of their recruiting strategy. Shannon Strahl, Gonzaga University's senior associate director of compliance, stated that this was to help keep a common ground among all NCAA athletic programs.

"Otherwise, institutions in states where state NIL laws are not in effect have the discretion to set policies that work best for them," Strahl said via email.

Outside of those parameters, schools across the country were left to implement their own NIL regulations.

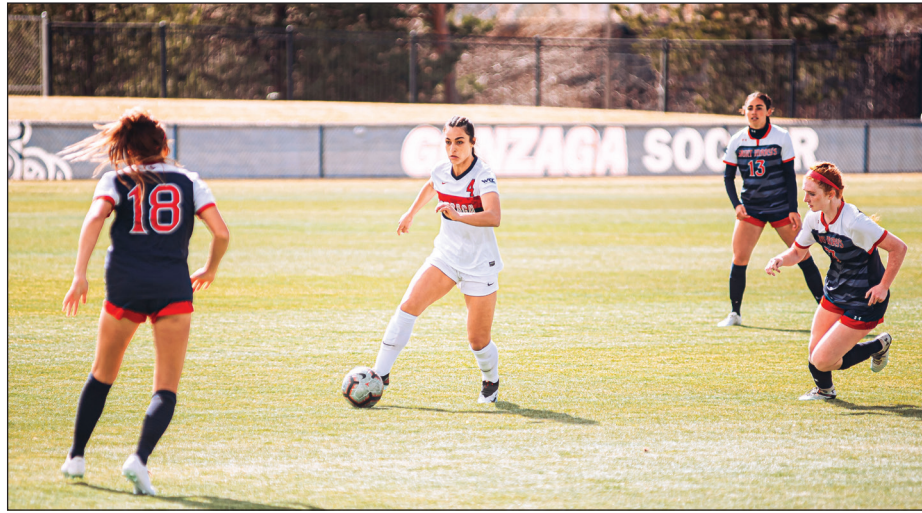
So, what exactly does this mean for GU athletic programs?

As of July 1, all student-athletes are permitted to partake in NIL activities with limited interference from the university. This allows for a player to have their name used by corporations, businesses or other parties outside of GU for promotional purposes.

Appearing in TV advertisements or receiving discounts on products are both examples of NIL activities. Owning and promoting a business is also permitted.

In conjunction with the NCAA's overarching policy, GU will prohibit student-athletes from accepting any recruiting benefits or compensation for their athletic performance. Other activities including the promotion of banned NCAA substances, sports gambling and anything else that goes against the university's Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic values are also not allowed.

Student-athletes may now also hire an agent to help market their personal brand while remaining in school. This does not include exploiting a player's athletic ability for profit or assisting them in securing an opportunity in a professional league. In the past, such an act would warrant forfeiting NCAA eligibility, causing many athletes to



CHIANA MCINELLY IG: picsbychiana

Student-athletes like GU women's soccer player Maddie Kemp will have new opportunities open to them to benefit financially from their name, image and likeness.

conduct under-the-table deals with outside representation.

Similarly, school boosters can engage in NIL activities as long as they follow the same regulations for agents. GU has defined a booster as an outside party who has promoted the university's athletics before, such as making donations to the department or assisting in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes and their families. As a private college, GU receives a majority of its funds through generous donors, including season ticket holders that attend every home game.

Student-athletes must be careful when mentioning their association with GU during NIL endeavors. Certain logos and trademarks are not to be used for promotional purposes by players unless authorized by the school beforehand. Referencing any institutional affiliation during a commercial or any other form of media is allowed, however.

"Gonzaga student-athletes may reference that they attend Gonzaga," GU's Associate Director of Compliance Rian Oliver said via email. "They may not use any additional logos, trademarks or references to the institution."

On the flip side, GU will provide documents that would allow the school, West Coast Conference and NCAA limited usage of an individual's NIL for promotional purposes. This includes TV and internet broadcasts of games and mandatory team activities like practice. If for some reason a student-athlete does not release their NIL rights to the university, they would not be

allowed to compete in the ensuing game or match.

Whatever the business or promotion an athlete is partaking in to receive financial compensation, GU has stated the reward must not exceed the fair market value for that activity. A common practice in business, this term is used to define the average or expected rate for completing a job, thus preventing employers from overpaying their employees. Of course, market value varies depending on the line of work.

To help determine the worth of any NIL activity, as well as provide other resources to student-athletes, GU has partnered with INFLCR. Specializing in athlete branding, INFLCR is used by over 1,000 institutions across the country and has formulated metrics to gauge the fair market value of a promotion or advertisement done through social media.

The company will also aid GU's Next Level program designed to educate athlete's about personal branding, entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

In addition to this, the university will allow for the use of campus facilities for NIL activities. Bulldog athletes would have to request and pay the going rate for that specific venue's space. This is not to be confused with a different clause that states no member of GU's staff and faculty may facilitate or otherwise help with NIL endeavors. Instead, a venue request would be treated as any other inquiry the university might receive.

"Our facilities staff regularly receives requests for facility rentals or reservations

GU SPORTS

Tuesday, Aug. 17
➤ Men's soccer vs. Carroll College, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 19
➤ Women's soccer vs. Eastern Washington, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 20
➤ Men's soccer vs. College of Idaho, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 22
➤ Women's soccer at Georgia University, Athens, GA, 10 a.m.
➤ Men's soccer vs. Western Washington, 7 p.m.

All home games in bold

from outside entities," Oliver said. "A student-athlete NIL request would be vetted in the same manner."

The new policies are certainly a lot to digest, as administrators and athletic directors continue to educate themselves more on the concept of NIL. There will most likely be adjustments and tweaks along the way, but the overall goal of empowering student-athletes will remain consistent.

"We want to empower student-athletes with resources to prepare them for the NIL landscape," Strahl said. "Not only so they can better capitalize on opportunities but also to help protect themselves from potential pitfalls."

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

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