



# Phoebe Bridgers brought the heat to the Spokane Pavilion

#### COMMENTARY By KAELYN NEW

o amount of shade could protect concert attendees from the heat of Phoebe Bridgers' recent performance in Spokane.

On Aug. 18, amid a massive heat wave, Bridgers performed at the Spokane Pavilion to a crowd of hundreds dressed in cowboy hats, skeleton costumes and everything in between. The singer amassed critical acclaim after the release of her singer-songwriter album "Punisher" in 2020 which was subsequently nominated for four Grammy awards.

To confine Bridgers' work to solely "sad girl music" would be a grave disservice, as Bridgers has proved herself as one of the most versatile performers currently in the business and did so once more during her performance in Spokane.

<sup>a</sup> Bridgers took to the stage around 8 p.m. following a brief, yet beautiful, set by her opener, Christian Lee Hutson. Hutson's performance was a perfectly calculated combination of singer-songwriter material with a folk twinge. One of his songs poked fun at the "siblings or dating" phenomena occurring modernly on social media

dating" phenomena occurring modernly on social media. Bridgers and her band walked on stage to "Down with the Sickness" by Disturbed before performing "Motion Sickness," her most popular song.

Her performance featured a stunning mix of soft vocals and stunning visual effects. A garden was projected behind her during "Garden Song" and stained-glass windows were featured for her performance of "Funeral." Her backdrop, all the while, had what appeared to be thousands of tiny stars emitting light throughout the entire performance.

"I have been describing it as an out-of-body experience and I feel like that is the best way to put it," said Gonzaga University junior Ely Ehly about Bridgers' performance of the song "ICU." The Pavilion created a distinctive ambiance for the

The Pavilion created a distinctive ambiance for the performance, as the concert drew in fans from all walks of life to bond over a shared love of music.

"I thought it was really cool seeing families and older people and younger people like myself all there to enjoy the whole show," said GU junior Johnathan Golubiec.

Bridgers additionally interacted with the crowd, allowing some audience members on the barricade to sing part of her song "Scott Street" into the microphone and sporting an audience member's cowboy hat. In between songs, she cracked jokes with her bandmates and advocated for abortion rights, encouraging audience members to consider donating to the Mariposa Fund, an abortion organization run out of New Mexico that helps undocumented immigrants receive access to reproductive healthcare.

In the middle of her performance, Marshall Vore, Bridgers' drummer, interrupted the concert to allow the crowd to wish Bridgers a belated 28th birthday, as her birthday was one day prior to the concert. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday," and Bridgers made a wish by blowing out candles on a cake.

"[Singing 'Happy Birthday'] was cool because I feel like it was a unique experience," said GU junior Edith



Phoebe Bridgers fans waited through excruciating heat to be close to the stage.

PHOTO COURTEST OF KAELYN NEW

Meade. "She hasn't done that at other shows."

The entire experience was nearly perfect, but standing shoulder to shoulder with strangers in the crowd wasn't helpful in beating the scorching Spokane heat. The concert took place on one of Spokane's hottest days in recent history; it hit 102 degrees as the doors for the concert opened. Unfortunately, the Pavilion didn't provide reprieve from much of the heat either, given that it has no AC system or much shade from the sun.

Yet many GU students, myself included, would endure the sun all over again just to see Bridgers perform.

"She very much had this like '80s rock star kind of energy which is something you don't see when you're just listening to her," said GU senior Josey Clancey.

From the mellow, soft vocals of Bridgers' music, one wouldn't expect the singer to have such a mighty stage presence. Bridgers held her ground, despite her small stature, dancing around stage and belting some portions of her songs.

"There was a rocking guitar solo at the end which

was my favorite part," said GU junior Thomas Roth, referencing Bridgers's final song in her set, "I Know the End."

The final song in Bridgers' set featured dark apocalyptic lighting and a section in which the entire audience came together to scream at the top of their lungs with the indie singer while several electric guitars riffed in the background, reminiscent of the end of the world.

Before the fans left the stands, Bridgers performed "Waiting Room," a song she wrote as a teenager from her first EP, as an encore, per the audience's request.

Perhaps I am biased, having been a die-hard listener of Bridgers since her debut album was released in 2017, but I can say confidently that it was the best concert I have ever been to.

*Kaelyn New is a news editor. Follow her on Twitter: @kaelynnew.* 

### Syllabus week is not as silly as some may think

The first week of the semester allows students to get a feel for their classes and plan out their time

#### COMMENTARY By SOFIA SANCHEZ

Most college students know that the first week of the semester is "Syllabus Week," also known as "Sylly Week." It is not the same as a typical week during the semester: this week is when first-year students, as well as returning students, are getting adjusted to college life, especially moving from home life to dorm life.

It is the first week of every semester, when professors introduce themselves and distribute syllabi to their classes. The syllabus specifies the topics you will cover as well as the due dates for any coursework, such as tests, quizzes or exams.

There are students who like having a syllabus week because they are able to see if they are still willing to take the class, and it provides them a chance to get back into the groove of being back on campus.

There are some students, however, who question if syllabus week is worth having.

To answer that question: Yes, it is worth having, because it helps the students get a better feeling for their classes as well as their professors. It also informs the students about the course and the reasons it is being taught in addition to where it is going and what the students are needing to do so they are able to succeed in the course.

Syllabus week is a distinct feature of the semester. It is not as busy as other times of the year, but if you use the week correctly, you can set yourself up for long-term success.

The syllabus can set a tone for the class in addition to the rest of the semester, and it helps students comprehend the meaning and context of the class as well as, the other students taking the same class, but it is not considered necessary for all classes.

It should exist, but it should not be required. My friends and I enjoy having

syllabus week because it helps us as students be able to see the outline of the classes for the semester. When the professor goes over the syllabus in class, it can give the students a better understanding of how they would want their class to run and work, since we are our own discipline systems.

Also, if any of the students have any questions about their syllabus, they would be able to ask them right away and not forget.

It's also a good time to introduce yourself and create a positive first impression.

By students having syllabus week, it helps them plan out their schedules for the semester and to organize their time for extracurriculars, work, assignments and class times. This is very helpful because many college students are taking between 12 to 15 credits which can be very hard to time manage, so this helps keep track of the class's main focus of that week. Especially if the student misses a class, it helps to know what they were working on while they were absent, and it helps them not get behind in their class.

I know by us having the syllabus it

is very helpful to know which professor seems to be the best fit for students learning-wise.

Since syllabus week is one of the calmer sides of college, it gives students a chance to get familiar with the campus and what clubs and organizations are offered. It's a great way to get involved and to try something new since there will be other new members trying and joining something new. It is even a good way to make friends and see what Gonzaga University has to offer for all of your interests.

Sofia Sanchez is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @ItsSofia2021.



# New mobile app lets Zags put GU in the palm of their hands

#### By ISABELLA ASPLUND-WAIN

To many students, Gonzaga University is a place where anything can happen. With a lengthy list of programs, extracurriculars to get involved in and resources available to students, there are numerous ways to engage with the community. While this can leave plenty of room for opportunities to explore, it can be overwhelming for students to find a place to start.

GU in the Palm of your Hand was first initiated in 2020 by Student Affairs with the purpose of bringing together all the different resources GU has to offer and consolidating them in one spot.

When users first open the app, they are given the option to choose from five different profiles — current students, faculty, staff visitors, parents and families or new student orientation — and can make as many different personas as they choose. The software utilizes the same single sign-on process that many of GU's online programs have, making app usage seamless and easy.

"The reason we went for the mobile app was research tells us now that text messages are read within three minutes," said Colleen Vandenboom, assistant dean of Student Affairs. "There's a shorter attention span, so if students are using their phones, then the phone seemed like the most natural spot to reach them and be able to provide support."

Upon opening it, the app presents users with a variety of tiles. From academics to campus maps, this software allows the community to openly search and find the resources they need.

For example, the support tile provides students with resources from Cura Personalis, the writing and math lab and ZagsIgnite. For departments that already have their own websites, such as the Rudolf Fitness Center's IMLeagues, the app redirects users to their webpage.

"The real dream of it is basically to reduce barriers to success," Vandenboom said.

Back in late 2020, Student Affairs began working on their project proposal. Their initial meetings included meeting with different on-campus departments, partnering with IT and observing other university applications.

Once they had charted a path for



The new mobile app will allow for students to access ZagsIgnite, resources from Cura Personalis and the writing and math lab.

themselves, they took their ideas to the Project Review Committee (PRC). New technologies introduced to campus are reviewed by a committee of vice presidents, faculty and staff. The committee votes on what projects can progress forward and funding is provided to the selected ones.

Student Affairs was able to receive funding from the university budget in February 2021. From there, they were able to flesh out their original ideas with GSBA, IT, the marketing and communications department and other campus partners. In January 2022, they brought in Campus M, a vendor that helped platform the app. According to the Ex Libris Group, Campus M's parent company, they are dedicated to bringing new technologies and practices to the higher education market.

"One thing that I think is in alignment

with how the vendor advertises the benefits of their platform with respect to tying content behind personas is that different user groups can be present and set up in the system," said Dan Marx, IT senior project manager..

IT was able to provide their support mainly through project management duties. They ensured the app progressed according to the requested schedule and also helped manage the scope, budget and communication with the vendor. Meanwhile, the marketing and communications department focused on design and content consideration efforts.

Another three months passed before Student Affairs found themselves ready for a soft launch.

After organizing and building the app with IT and their vendor, Student Affairs set a date for the app's hard launch. Since being released, the app has also been made available through browsers as well.

When running app versus browser experiments, Vandenboom found it can take a student up to 10 minutes to fully access the resources from a department's website, whereas the app could be as fast as a minute.

"We wanted to do a harder launch in August once we felt like we had enough content on there and everything," said Vandenboom.

People are responding well to the app too. GU released a GU Mobile promotional video shortly after the launch, garnering over 1,000 new users. As of Aug. 11, the app has over 1,750 users. But Vandenboom cannot wait for further expansion, with the goal being to have every faculty member, staff member and student on the app.

#### The real dream of it is basically to reduce barriers to success.

Colleen Vandenboom, assistant dean of Student Affairs

Students can download GU in the Palm of your Hand on the app store by searching for "GU Mobile." If students want to submit feedback, they can do so from the app, by attending an open committee session or by emailing gumobileideas@gonzaga.edu

"We had a phenomenal business owner and sponsor, Colleen and Kent [Porterfield] to kind of help shepherd this one forward and to have that passion and enthusiasm to really back it and make sure that this application is getting seen," Marx said. "It's really exciting to see Gonzaga kind of finally get on board with this as a tool to help strengthen that communication engagement strategy for us."

Isabella Asplund-Wain is a digital editor.



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## The Gonzaga Bulletin

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### **UW-GU Health Partnership building set to open**

The new four-story building includes laboratiories, research spaces, study rooms and classrooms

#### **By SYDNEY FLUKER**

fter two years of construction, the University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Health Partnership's new medical school and

health education building is complete. The 90,000 square foot building, located at 840 E. Spokane Falls Blvd., will house the UW School of Medicine Spokane, GU's department of human physiology and a variety of undergraduate classes in nursing and health sciences.

The building was born from the UW-GU Health Partnership, which formed in 2016 after UW's previous partner of 40 years, Washington State University, decided to open its own medical school.

According to John Sklut, executive director of the health partnership at GU, it was important to the region that UW's medical school remained in Spokane. After discussions with community members, it was decided that GU would become the new partner. "It was clear from the beginning

of the partnership that for long term sustainability, a new facility was needed to be part of it," Sklut said.

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Seven classes of 60 students later, the program has finally been moved to what has been branded the "Health Peninsula." Utilizing the historic SIERR building for classes and certain programs, the new facility is designed to allow easy movement and connection between the two buildings. According to Sklut, the goal for the health peninsula concept is to make the building a hub for education and research.

Previously, students spent their first two years of medical school, called the foundational phase, in the Schoenberg Center, while lab spaces were spread out in other buildings.

'It's been a joy to work on this project and to see it come to fruition - to see students in the building, learning and enjoying the spaces," said Darryl Potyk, associate dean for the UW School

#### **SEE UW-GU PAGE 3**



University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga Medical School and Health Education partnership completed construction on the new medical building.

### GU's CRES department marks three years of growth

#### By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

For the past three years, Gonzaga University's critical race and ethnic studies (CRES) department has been growing extensively to provide GU students a more comprehensive academic space to explore the intersections of race, ethnicity and power.

The CRES department has expanded its faculty, created new courses and curriculum and even redesigned its minor, taking each academic year as a challenge for growth and opportunity despite being one of the newest academic departments at GU.

First launched in 2019, GU's CRES department was a product of a two-year, cross-departmental process of listening to students, alumni and faculty who wanted a uniquely academic space at GU where students could explore the subjects of race and ethnicity.

During a two-day symposium in 2018, when the university heard a strong demand from students and alumni for CRES minor, a proposal for the creation of the department was ultimately submitted and the university spent the next year searching for a department chair and one additional faculty member to fill the CRES department.

"The mission of our department is to offer a really critical study that is intersectional about race in the U.S. and to get people to think maybe differently than they had thought about history, about our political climate, about cultural context," said Bernadette Calafell, chair of the CRES department.

CRES faculty member Cassandra Dame-Griff, who joined Calafell during that first year, said the CRES department has grown since then and that it has been intentional about developing that space in the classroom

#### **SEE CRES PAGE 4**

### UMEC welcomes new director Jessie Mancilla

#### **By SOPHIA MCKINSTRY**

Jessie Mancilla has made his debut as the first director of the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC).

Mancilla stepped into his position on June 6 after serving as the associate director of Multicultural Affairs at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and the Director of Latino Affairs at Minnesota State University, Mankato in previous years.

Growing up in the Fort Worth area of Texas, Mancilla volunteered with a company called FUNimation Entertainment in high school and was initially interested in pursuing a career in the entertainment field. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Arts in Radio, Television

and Film and then proceeded to work at FUNimation Entertainment as a video editor.

Towards the end of his time there, Mancilla began to volunteer with the Catholic Diocese in Fort Worth, Texas.

He specifically worked with an organization called Pastoral Juvenil Hispana which works with young adults, many of whom are undocumented immigrants. It was there where he began to discover his passion for social justice and working with young people, which led to a change in course.

"For me, I was wanting to do more," Mancilla said. "I was wanting to be more

SEE MANCILLA PAGE 2 UMEC's first director.



COURTESY OF GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

Mancilla comes from a leadership role at Cornell University's multicultural center to become

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NEWS

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### **Office of Sustainability launches Green Event Certification Plan**

#### **By KAELYN NEW** and BROOKE BOWEN

his year, Gonzaga University's Office of Sustainability will launch a new initiative to help universitysponsored events become more environmentally conscious. The program, dubbed the Green Event Certification Plan, creates a checklist for GU-sponsored events to reduce waste and carbon emissions.

According to Jim Simon, director of sustainability, the initiative was designed by GU students in the Student Sustainability Leadership Program (SSLP), a program created in 2018 that provides students with opportunities to learn and grow in sustainability efforts. He said that he hopes the plan will put GU on track to be an environmentally neutral campus by 2050.

In spring of 2022, students in SSLP wanted to create a program that would help reduce waste at GU-sponsored and club events, so they worked to develop the Green Event Certification Plan.

"The goal of the Green Event Certification program is to reduce the environmental footprint of Gonzaga events and raise awareness around the contribution that local purchasing, transportation alternatives and waste reduction efforts can have on our campus events," Simon said.

Megan Hawley, manager of the Gonzaga University Event Service Team (GUEST), said that when the Office of Sustainability approached GUEST with the Green Certification Plan, it seemed like an amazing opportunity for the team to work with event planners on sustainability measures.

"I foresee the GUEST team working with event planners to accurately plan their events to ensure food orders are appropriately sized, supplies are used wisely, and additional resources are shared when possible," Hawley said via email.

Hawley said that she appreciates being able to rely on the Office of Sustainability as experts while using the new Green Certification tool.

"The GUEST team, GU clubs and other departments can be confident that we are all meeting the highest standards when we work together and use the same information to guide us," Hawley said.

Simon is currently helping facilitate the certification program. He said that the Green Event Certification Plan operates as a game in which events earn points dependent on their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint within the categories of food and dining, waste, transportation and coordination and planning.

To win points in the food and dining category, an event must have food sourced from local areas, vegan food options, food purchased based on an RSVP list, donations of excess food, no plastic water bottles and must only use reusable utensils.

The second category — waste prevention — allows zero waste events to gain points, while other points are gained from holding a recycling bin, compost bin and posting clear signage describing how to sort the trash



COURTESY OF GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

Jim Simon, director of sustainability, hopes that the Green Event Certification Plan will help GU-sponsored events such as year-end banquets have reduced waste and carbon emissions.

collected.

The third category — transportation — is crucial to reducing GU's carbon footprint, according to Simon. An event can win points by offering a virtual option to attend the event and encouraging guests to walk or carpool.

The last category — coordination and planning - focuses on how events chose green alternatives, granting points for events that were deemed the most efficient. Having an RSVP list, virtual advertising instead of flyers, printing flyers on one-side-clean paper or recycled content paper, recycling or reusing unused handouts, refraining from putting dates on flyers if the event is recurring, reusing decorations and many more options are ways to make events more sustainable, according to Simon.

According to Hawley, she hopes the GUEST team's new approach to planning events in a mindful and

purposeful manner will have a big impact while simultaneously reflecting GU's commitment to caring for a common home.

"The GUEST team is ready to help guide conversations around event planning," Hawley said. "We hope to see this new program be embraced by students, faculty and staff in all their events from weekly meetings to galas."

Hawley said that sustainability is a cornerstone of GU's culture.

"As a Jesuit institution, it is important that our values live in our everyday actions," Hawley said. "The process of creating positive outcomes is found in how we work together to make decisions and how we hold each other accountable."

Kaelyn New is a news editor. Follow her on Twitter: @kaelyn\_new.

Brooke Bowen is a staff writer.

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active and so I didn't know what route to take.

MANCILLA

Mancilla then decided to further his education at Winona State University while also finding Catholic worker houses in the same area so that he could continue his volunteer work. He received a bachelor's degree in political science and then went on to receive a master's degree in organizational leadership.

While I was an undergrad, I was very active and naturally just kind of came in terms of working with students as they were advocating for space," Mancilla said. "That was a collective with not only the BIPOC students but also the LGBTQ+ students ... [was] for there to be a space on campus, so I naturally just fell into that advocacy work and speaking up."

Now serving as the director of UMEC, he is able to merge two of his passions: Social justice work and Catholicism.

"What really drew me in was more of being able to ... integrate the piece that I was volunteering with on the social justice aspect within the Catholic base," Mancilla said. "Not only to social justice within the spiritual side but social justice on the racial and equity side and how those two can definitely work together to hit a larger audience than just the audience that it immediately impacts."

UMEC is one of two centers encompassed in Diversity, Inclusion, Community and Equity (DICE), the other one being the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Center. The three pillars that UMEC focuses on specifically are intergroup dialogue, social justice programming and mentoring. "Within those three [pillars], we're

creating programming for students and engaging students in conversations and mentoring them ... in order for them to have a sense of belonging ... and have a voice represented where they might not necessarily feel like they do," Mancilla said. "For me, the goal is really to enhance more of that celebration and [be] able to connect and engage with alum ... [as well as] the current students."

Joan Iva Fawcett, the dean for social justice leadership and community empowerment, is excited for the new director position because diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) work is so crucial on campus. She hopes that with his new role, Mancilla will be able to provide support for other staff members and faculty, specifically those who are doing DEI work on campus.

"I think it helps to have a leader who can really provide that support, that direction, that guidance [and] that expertise and we couldn't be more happy



Diversity Monologues is one of UMEC's yearly programs, in which students share personal stories around a theme.



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

UMEC provides educational opportunities that cultivate mindfulness and intercultural development. Jessie Mancilla," Fawcett said. with "Stepping into this role, he brings a great wealth of knowledge and lived experience [and] I think in general, new blood around this work is good."

As far as his goals for the coming year, Mancilla hopes to allow students to keep utilizing the space they've had in the past while also making sure that all GU students know that UMEC exists on

campus and the many resources that are available to them through the center.

'Through just the reality of the institution [and] it being a predominantly white institution, I think a lot of the time, the students when they do come in, they may not necessarily feel or have a space where they can connect or have that sense of belonging," Mancilla said. "For me, it's important to have a multicultural center

that allows [students] to not only have the space, but also where it will educate the community at a large."

Sophia McKinstry is a diversity editor. Follow her on Twitter: @sophymckinstry.

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### UW-GU

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of Medicine for Eastern Washington and chief of medical education for the partnership. "It was a big transition when we came together, and part of the idea was that we would leverage our synergies but also create a new building for our partnership."

The four-story building features laboratories, research spaces, study rooms, classrooms, a plant wall and space to interact with other students.

Welcoming the students upon the first entrance of the building is a topographical map of the Spokane area with a greeting in Salish. The first floor is largely a space to socialize and interact in between classes, with serious talk of putting in a coffee shop for the students.

The second and third floors consist of classrooms, laboratories, study rooms and offices. Classes through the health partnership are taught by faculty from both universities, some of whom work in the community themselves.

"Being co-located with the Gonzaga faculty can be a great opportunity for us to collaborate both in terms of our teaching but also in research..." Potyk said. "Getting into a state of the art teaching space here is going to be a benefit to everybody."

Senior lab and technical specialist and anatomy and physiology lab Professor Steve Conant helped find and determine what technologies would be included in the new laboratories. According to Conant, moving from the basement of Tilford was a big upgrade, and they wanted students to take advantage of the views from the new building. It was important for them to include lots of windows in the labs, giving students a quick way to destress with a view of the river.

"This anatomy lab is going to be a sophomore's first experience with our department, so it's the first class that they're actually taking in their major and for that reason, it is very important for it to be a good experience," Conant said.

Building off of success in the Tilford lab, the new anatomy and physiology lab features lots of muscle models, bone models, virtual reality systems that can be shared across all monitors, UVC cleaners for sterilization, handheld ultrasound devices and distributed computing.

"The idea is getting away from looking at a small screen to a really big monitor where people don't have to be all crowded and have a better view of everything that we're doing, so that's a feature of each of the labs," Conant said.

Many of the technologies used in the laboratories came from donations or grants from larger organizations. The handheld ultrasound systems came from the Weigand grant, while treadmills for the biomechanics lab came through a Nike donation.

One of the most notable laboratories is the environmental chamber. According to Conant, the room can replicate up to 50 degrees Celsius and down to negative 14 degrees Celsius, can go up to 95% humidity and replicate altitude of up to 18,000 feet by removing oxygen from the room. The treadmill in the room has been restructured to work in an environmental chamber.

"You can feel like you're on top of one of the highest mountains in Alaska doing exercise," Conant said.

The fourth floor of the building is currently vacant, but both universities are excited about using the space for research — possibly partnering with other schools and departments at GU as well.

"Our focus right now is on our students and making sure we're doing right by our students," Potyk said. "We're



The UW-GU Health Partnership building welcomed its first batch of students last month, and will be welcoming its secondyear students in the coming weeks.

going to have a semester to get our feet underneath us, and then we're going to start really looking at the opportunities for synergies."

The building is currently getting its finishing touches before the second-year students return, but first-year students have been actively using it for classes.

"The building will impact us [students] in a positive way because it makes us actually want to be here," said Bharti Bharani, first-year med student. ".. It's really a collaborative space. There's so many study rooms and whiteboards, really nice technology, projectors, monitors, iPad stands — they definitely gave us a lot of resources to be able to study and have a wellness space." The opening ceremony for the building will be Wednesday, September 7 at 12:30 p.m.

*Sydney Fluker is a news editor. Follow them on Twitter: @sydneymfluker.* 

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and curriculum to reflect that original desire for a deeply academic space at GU devoted to the study of race and ethnicity.

Calafell and Dame-Griff, along with Giselle Cunanan, who joined in the department last spring as a postdoctoral fellow, believe that the department has made the CRES classroom into a challenging academic environment where students can learn about how race and ethnicity relate to power.

Dame-Griff said part of creating that rigorous environment comes from how the CRES department adopts an intersectional approach to looking at race and ethnicity in its classes and that it places a large emphasis upon multiple perspectives in the classroom.

For the three CRES faculty, they said that valuing multiple perspectives and creating a rigorous academic environment is evident when studying complex topics in the CRES classroom. Cunanan and Dame-Griff said that they want the students to always be questioning and that CRES is an invitation for them to explore deeper the subjects of race and ethnicity.

"I always tell my students that there's not really a right answer, there's more of an answer that is specific to a time and a place and a community and a set of political, social or economic conditions," Dame-Griff said. "Being able to sit with and grapple with complicated narratives, about the realities that people live in, that to me has been really central to both the curriculum that we create and the classroom spaces that we are in."

Calafell and Cunanan agree that CRES has become an academic hub on campus which offers students a non-eurocentric, more racially and gender diverse curriculum — a stark contrast to traditional academic material. They hope that CRES is a place where minoritized students can see themselves in the curriculum.

"Growing up in the U.S., we've had such a eurocentric curriculum throughout schools, and so ethnic studies was a way for students historically to see themselves in the curriculum," Cunanan said. "CRES has validated a lot of people's experiences, livelihoods, and it also gives us a different way to know about the power of racially minoritized groups."

With the intentional desire to grow the department and offer a curriculum that features non-eurocentric material, Dame-Griff, Calafell and Cunanan have been in the process of adding new courses to the CRES curriculum over the past three years. This year, the department will feature a series of new classes, including a hip-hop feminism class and a university studies class.



CRES faculty members Bernadette Calafell, Giselle Cunanan and Cassandra Dame-Griff (left to right) have added a series of new classes this academic year, including a class on hip hop feminism and a class on university studies.

"

#### I think, if anything, ethnic studies is an invitation for folks to come learn some more and ask critical questions about the world ...

#### Giselle Cunanan, post-doctorate fellow in the CRES department

Calafell said that the department wants to offer classes that are still reflective of CRES's academic identity but that also feature topics that GU students and themselves are excited to talk about and learn about. She said that the new hip-hop and feminism class she will be teaching this semester is a topic that she is excited to teach.

"We teach to our passions and, at least, many of us teach with our connection to what we're doing in our research, so we bring to bear our scholarly expertise," Calafell said. "I teach a course on monstrosity, race and gender and I teach a brand new course now on hip hop feminism. Those are both courses that come from both what I'm interested in as well as what the students are very interested in."

Overall, Dame-Griff and Calafell said that they see the growth of the past three years as being a small vision of the departmental change they hope to see in the future. Dame-Griff and Calafell said they ultimately want to expand the minor and create a CRES major, a hope for some GU students.

This, according to Dame-Griff, would be a five to ten year process that would require the department to think deeply about expansion of department faculty, course design, assessment and financial sustainability, but the department is committed to navigating this major project.

Dame-Griff said she has valued sustainable growth in this process and that she is grateful for the steady departmental development of these past three years. She said she recognizes that this desire for a CRES minor was a dream of students and that one of the reasons she was hired was to help build up this program and make it long lasting.

"This question of sustainable growth is, for me, the most important question," Dame-Griff said. "It's the thing that animates everything that I do as an instructor, as a curriculum developing person, as a person here in this particular department. I want to keep [GU's CRES department] alive and I want to keep it healthy."

Calafell, Dame-Griff and Cunanan all said that a continued place of growth as a department will be the broader recognition of CRES's presence on GU's campus from students and faculty. The three CRES faculty members said that they want people to be more aware of the department's growth and new classes that are being taught.

Cunanan said that she wants people to know that CRES features unique conversations about race and ethnicity through an intersectional and academic lens. She said that students should take CRES classes because conversations about race and ethnicity are distinct from conversations happening in other campus departments.

"We study race relations to power in interdisciplinary ways and not in the same way as that other departments do," Cunanan said. "With that, we are able to ask different questions, approach them in unique ways and come up with many answers as to how, why things are the way that they are. I think, if anything, ethnic studies is an invitation for folks to come learn some more and ask critical questions about the world, so we can just keep questioning the way that things are."

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a news editor. Follow him on Twitter: @noah\_sokol03.



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N **OPINION** 

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AUGUST 25, 2022 5

### **Pelosi Visits Taiwan: A Sino-US Shakeup**

**O** n August 2, Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan, marking the first time in 25 years that such a high ranking official has entered the country. This was one of the stops on Pelosi's tour in Asia, in which the U.S. House Speaker embarked on to have "productive meetings that will continue to inform Congress's work to advance our values and interests and strengthen our partnerships in the region," according to a Newsroom press release.

Despite visiting several other Asian nations, it was this stop in particular that drummed up quite the controversy. Due to the tumultuous relationship and history between Taiwan, otherwise known as the Republic of China (ROC), and the People's Republic of China (PRC), commonly referred to simply as China.

The citizens who make up Taiwan originate from mainland China. In 1949, the ROC government relocated to Taiwan while fighting a civil war with the Chinese Communist Party. Since then, the ROC has continued to govern the main island of Taiwan and a number of outlying islands, leaving Taiwan and China each under the rule of a different government.

Despite these two states operating independently of each other, both the ROC and the PRC still officially claim mainland China and the Taiwan area as part of their respective territories. In reality, the PRC rules only mainland China but claims Taiwan as part of its territory under its "One China Principle".

This power struggle has led to high tensions for years between the two. The PRC has not been shy to utilize threats and military presence in nearby zones to the ROC to showcase their displeasure in the ROC's pursuit of democracy.

And that is, expectedly, what happened upon the announcement that Pelosi would make her visit. Chinese



#### By MARISSA CONTER

President Xi Jinping called President Joe Biden and asked him to prevent Pelosi's visit, since he felt it was in violation of the "one China policy," which the U.S. has acknowledged according to the Washington Post.

Biden did not oblige, citing that Congress is an independent branch of government. However, he did express his reservations over the trip, as well as other White House officials Washington Post. While many had concerns, Pelosi's trip also garnered support from other government officials, such as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who issued a statement in support. It is reasonable to have doubts over the consequences of Pelosi's trip due to the PRC's history of military responses. However, Pelosi has every right to visit Taiwan. While the U.S.'s relationship with China is important, its positive relationship with Taiwan can not be overlooked.

In a tour of Asian countries aimed to re-affirm positive international relations, it is natural that Taiwan would be on the itinerary.

"Though the United States does not have diplomatic relations with Taiwan, we have a robust unofficial relationship," according to the U.S. Department of State. "The United States and Taiwan share similar values, deep commercial and economic links which ... serve as the impetus for expanding U.S. engagement with Taiwan."

If we continue to downplay our relationship with the ROC for the sake of our relationship with the PRC, we continue to send the message to China that as long a threat is made, we will comply. We will carry on this pattern of walking on eggshells, and the unstable nature of our relationship with China will continue.

It is appropriate to be in communication with both parties in order to pursue the U.S. overall mission to strengthen Asian-Pacific relations. There is no action that can guarantee an outcome that is universally satisfactory, which is why there are times where the U.S. will have to make controversial decisions. The conflict between all nations involved is far from over, but it will never be over without notable actions that inspire further dialogue and cooperation.

Marissa Conter is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @marissaconter.

### Monkeypox spurs division, facts-based response is key

The Biden administration has already declared monkeypox a public health emergency, and the US Food and Drug Administration has allowed for emergency use of certain vaccines. More recently, the White House announced an accelerated timetable for the production and distribution of 1.8 million additional doses of the Jynneos vaccine. With 15,000 cases already reported in the U.S., the early rollout of vaccines combined with serious rhetoric from the White House is encouraging.

However, there are several conservative politicians and news pundits who are pushing dangerous misinformation. For example, Governor Ron DeSantis said he will not declare a state of emergency against monkeypox. The governor also stated in an attempt to downplay the issue, "I am so sick of politicians, and we saw this with Covid, trying to sow fear into the population ... we're not doing fear".

Conservatives in the media are also only framing monkeypox as a "gay disease", such as Greg Gutfeld on Fox News asking, "will a monkeypox shot stop the danger from having sex with a horny stranger?" This misinformation stems from the fact that members of the LGBTQ+ community, especially gay men, have been disproportionately affected by monkeypox. However, monkeypox is not a sexually transmitted disease and can be spread through various ways including skin-to-skin contact as well as touching infected objects, fabrics and surfaces.

A lot of the messages that conservatives are pushing are the same homophobic claims used during the HIV/ AIDS epidemic. Throughout the first half of the 1980s,



#### By ANTHONY MAUCIONE

as almost a "divine punishment for sin". It wasn't until the end of 1985 when Reagan first mentioned AIDS, at which point in time over 12,000 people in the U.S. had already died from AIDS.

Believing that homosexuality was a sin, Reagan talked about the AIDS epidemic in 1987 with biographer Edmund Morris and stated that "maybe the Lord brought down this plague," because "illicit sex is against the Ten Commandments". This language mirrors several claims made by conservatives today when discussing monkeypox. Several prominent figures have used the disease as an opportunity to attack the LGBTQ+ community by also accusing some to have had sexual relations with children after news had broken that some children had been infected with monkeypox.

"If monkeypox is a sexually transmitted disease, why are kids getting it?" said Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene, who has a long history of anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric.

Furthermore, Fox News host Laura Ingraham has suggested that public schools are "essentially grooming centers for gender-identity radicals." This climate has already resulted in LGBTQ+ teachers being targeted. This surge of misinformation has also come along with increased attacks against the LGBTQ+ community. For example, Florida's "don't say gay" law, which will take effect next year, bars teachers from discussing anything to do with LGBTQ+ issues with kids up to the age of 12, while 19 other states have introduced similar bills in the past year.

With monkeypox continuing to spread, even within Washington state, it is important to stay safe and stay informed on how the disease spreads and its symptoms. We must not let misinformation take over the narrative of monkeypox the same way it did with AIDS. Discuss with your doctor to see if you should get a vaccine, and, moreover, we must all work together to protect marginalized groups such as the LGBTQ+ community from dangerous misinformation campaigns facing them today.

Anthony Maucione is a staff writer.

the Reagan administration completely ignored the crisis and even prevented the CDC from doing any research into HIV. Conservatives, especially Christians, saw AIDS

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### Homelessness in Spokane ought to be a higher priority

As homeless rates increase, city officials must use their position and resources to combat root causes

#### By ANTHONY MAUCIONE

With the cost of rent and housing in general increasing to record numbers, the ability to have a roof over one's head is becoming more of a luxury that less and less people can obtain. People across the country are finding themselves at higher risks of being pushed into the unhoused population, and Spokane is no exception.

The City of Spokane is currently working on a proposal to use state funding to house approximately 100 people in a Quality Inn in collaboration with Catholic Charities. While this homeless shelter would have limited space and high barriers of entry to give services out, it is a small step in the right direction.

However, this proposal has come about with a slew of hostile and violent actions from the city government, especially from Mayor Nadine Woodward.

Throughout summer, the mayor and her administration have worked tirelessly to criminalize homelessness and place further harm on those who are unhoused. Mayor Woodward's first proposal in recent months is aimed at making it illegal to sit, lie or camp in major portions of the downtown area.

The plan would actively push people away from vital services and is simply a terrible attempt to hide the problem rather than being a part of the solution.

Along with this proposal, the mayor stated in a speech that "we make it easy to be homeless". Describing the current conditions and political climate for those affected by homelessness as "easy" is a blatant and dangerous subversion of reality.

A more recent issue many within these vulnerable populations have had to endure is the numerous heat waves Spokane has been experiencing. In the City of Spokane's Municipal Code, Section 18.05.020 requires that the city opens cooling centers that sufficiently meets the needs of unsheltered individuals when "the temperature is predicted by the National Weather Service to be 95 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for two consecutive days or more". With several days meeting these criteria, the City of Spokane has failed to uphold even its own codes.

City officials have not sufficiently protected the citizens of Spokane from this heat wave by not opening even a single cooling center, and instead opted to just tell people to try to seek refuge from the heat in some of the public libraries scattered around the city.

Mayor Nadine Woodward and her administration have also contacted state agencies in a failed attempt to dismantle a volunteer-ran cooling center they deemed an illegal building near Camp Hope, the biggest homelessness camp on state land in all of Washington.

Furthermore, the city has placed fencing around areas in downtown Spokane to prevent unhoused people from seeking shade and shelter underneath bridges. To make matters even worse, Spokane police continue to use the tactics of "sweeping" areas to break apart unhoused groups while sometimes confiscating and even destroying their only possessions they have to survive, including their tents.

The Čity of Spokane is not only refusing to assist its own citizens during dire conditions but is also actively endangering and harming those without shelter through violent and suppressive methods. This hostility cannot be accepted as the norm, and any government officials supportive of such measures must be met with constant criticism and resistance.

The people of Spokane need to work together to protect one another from deadly weather conditions and hostile police actions. Housing for all should not be seen as the end goal, but rather considered as the bare minimum for everyone to have a safer and more dignified life.

Anthony Maucione is a staff writer.

A&E

# Food-Tok favorites: Four viral recipes that won't break the bank

#### **By KAYLA FRIEDRICH**

ith the internet and constantly changing food trends floating around social media platforms, there is a whole world of possibilities when it comes to adding new meal ideas your routine.

Making your own meals can keep you out of the dining halls while giving you the satisfaction of indepence and a full stomach.

Here are a few meals ranked from most to least practical and affordable for college students.

#### **Custard Toast**

Coming in a strong first place is custard toast.

This recipe went viral on TikTok early this year but it's still one of the easiest, most affordable breakfast options that I've found to date.

Custard toast requires ingredients that are (most likely) already in your fridge, and if you're looking for a way to finish off some fruit before it expires, this is the treat for you. TikTok-er "Cooking with Ayeh" broke this trend down back in January.

#### Ingredients:

Bread of your choice 1-2 large spoonfuls of Greek yogurt Drizzle of maple syrup or honey One egg Fruit Cinnamon

#### **Instructions:**

Preheat your air fryer to 350 F.

Mix the egg and Greek yogurt together to create the custard and add maple syrup or honey to sweeten things up.

Whisk everything together.

Press the center of your bread with the back of a spoon and fill it with your custard mixture.

Place your fruits and cinnamon (optional) on top and place your toast into the air fryer.

Cook for up to five minutes or until golden.

#### **Chicken Stir Fry Bowls**

Chicken stir fry bowls have been part of my go-to meal roster since day one and it's an easy way to get your proteins in.

#### **Ingredients:**

Frozen teriyaki chicken Frozen or fresh bell pepper and onion Microwave minute rice

#### Instructions:

Preheat your air fryer to 360 F and cook the chicken for 20 to 30 minutes.

Frozen veggies can be cooked in the microwave according to the packaging and fresh veggies can be cut up, seasoned to your liking and cooked in the air fryer.

Cook the rice in the microwave according to the instructions on the package, add all ingredients and sauces of your choice to a bowl.

Mix and enjoy!

#### Salmon Rice Bowl

This dish was first made popular by Emily Mariko, whose aesthetically pleasing cooking videos took over everyone's TikTok feed.

It is fairly simple for those living in a dorm or those sharing a kitchen with five other people.

This is a low-stake meal that checks all the boxes.

#### Ingredients:

White rice Salmon filet Soy sauce Sriracha



Custard toast is a sweet treat that can use up some of the perishables in your fridge.



An easy staple recipe, the chicken stir fry bowl is packed with flavor and protein.



Kewpie mayo Seaweed

#### Instructions:

If your salmon is not already cooked, this can easily be done in the air fryer. Season the salmon to taste and cook it in the air fryer for up to 10 minutes.

When the salmon starts to flake, it's ready.

Flake the salmon on top of the rice. Add soy sauce, mayo and Sriracha on top and mix everything together.

Grab your chopsticks, carefully wrap the rice mixture with the seaweed and enjoy the perfect salmon bowl bite.

#### Feta Pasta

If you're going to carb load, you've got to do it right. Another trend that hasn't died is feta pasta.

This dish is going to leave you with plenty of leftovers and no room for dessert but it will require you to use an oven in any cooking space available to you.

#### **Ingredients:**

Block of feta cheese Baby tomatoes Box of pasta noodles of your choice Olive oil Crushed red pepper Garlic powder Onion powder Salt and pepper

#### Instructions:

Preheat your oven to 400 F and grab an oven-safe skillet or glass Pyrex. Place the feta

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Feta pasta is a tasty carb loading essential that still hasn't lost it's popularity on socials.

block and tomatoes in the pan. Add seasonings to taste.

Drizzle olive oil on top and bake for 40 minutes or until the feta is turning golden brown and tomatoes are popping.

While the feta bakes, cook the pasta noodles.

When the feta block comes out of the oven, dump your pasta into the skillet, mix and savor.

College doesn't mean that cooking needs to be boring and tasteless. If there's an air fryer, there's a way.

Kayla Friedrich is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @friedrich\_kayla.



A&E

### **The Backseat Lovers provided** some real love for Spokane

#### COMMENTARY BY ISABELLA ASPLUND-WAIN

Iternative indie rock band Backseat Lovers performed on Aug. 11 at the Knitting Factory for a crowd beaming with enthusiasm and packed so tight you could barely turn around, singing along to every word.

Mercury., a Nashville-based electric indie band, opened for the quartet. Although a much smaller band, they had an exhilarating stage presence and a very strong bond with one another — often times dancing together and hugging between songs.

'This is my favorite part of the set because it's when these guys get to come over here and sing with me," said Maddie Kerr, lead singer and guitarist of Mercury. "They are my best friends in the whole entire world."

At the microphone stood Kerr and her bandmates Devin Badgett, Żack Lockwood, Eden Joel and Billy Ayers soon joined her to perform their song "We Were So Close, But Now We're So Far." The light, airy acoustics picked up as the melody continued to soon transform into hard-hitting percussions and an amplified guitar solo.

Sakura Azzopardi, a first year student at Reed College, said she had never heard of the opener before but liked their music. When Kerr received a flower from an audience member though, Azzopardi felt her fast and bubbly response was a bit rehearsed.

Mercury. played their two latest releases "Moment" and "I Don't Know You Like I Used To," both of which lean more into that edgier rock tune than the typical summer beach vibes we heard in their 2020 album "We Were So Close, But Now We're So Far.'

Then came the moment: as the lights dimmed, a familiar guitar sound rang as "Intro Jam" filled the room and the band of four emerged from the darkness. The guitarists and vocalists moved around the stage with ease as the drummer was backlit by colorful lights and three panels that imitated the kind of tall stained-glass windows you would see in a church.

The stage gave off a calm, inviting and lively presence an atmosphere that fit with its audience well. The attendees danced, sang, talked and took pictures with one another, radiating the idea that the Backseat Lovers foster a tight-knit community of listeners.

"Although it was kind of crowded and hot in there, the people were really nice compared to some other shows," said Ellie Johnson, a junior at Gonzaga University.

"



#### Backseat Lovers performed at the Knitting Factory on Aug. 11

Lead singer Joshua Harmon built intimacy with the crowd as well, stopping between songs to admire the cheering fans, creating a sense of deep connection.

Amongst their 11-song setlist were familiar tracks like "Just a Boy," "Maple Syrup" and "Kilby Girl." They were not afraid to bring a variety of sounds ranging outside of their classic summer hits, though. "Watch Your Mouth," a soulful song with intricate guitar chords was followed by "Dugout," a painful story about yearning for change but being stuck in old relationships.

Most of their set consisted of music from the 2019 album "When We Were Friends," with a few singles like "Just a Boy," "Out of Tune," and their most recent release "Heavy" featured as well.

Aaliyah Fedak, an Idaho resident, drove from Sandpoint for the concert. Although she didn't

This is my favorite part of the set because it's when these guys get to come over here and sing with me. They are my best friends in the whole entire world.

7

immediately recognize the band name when she saw the concert advertisement, she started to recognize some of their music from popular social media apps like TikTok when she played them back. Her favorite song played was "Pool House" from their 2019 album.

After the Backseat Lovers finished up "Still a Friend," they thanked everyone for the show and headed off stage. The room was dark once more as staff appeared to start moving items.

But the crowds weren't done. As people roared for an encore, Harmon reappeared on the platform. He picked up his guitar and announced he would be singing "Snowbank Blues," an unreleased song. The acoustics were accompanied this time by a single-stage light, illuminating him and his colorful, sticker-filled guitar.

The live music was layered, well-executed and prepared to take listeners on that rollercoaster of emotions. This was also evident in the choice of lighting, which varied from bright flashing lights to dark blues that bathed the stage.

On top of good music, their interactions with one another — as well as audience members — felt both meaningful and genuine. The Backseat Lovers and Mercury. delivered a memorable set that left fans wanting more, making this an indie-pop fan favorite.

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Complete the

grid so each

row, column

and 3-by-3 box

(in bold borders)

contains every

digit 1 to 9.

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Isabella Asplund-Wain is a digital editor.

Maddie Kerr, lead singer and guitarist of Mercury.

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

#### Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

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7 Diarist Anaïs
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A&E

### "The Sandman" TV show is sure to amaze all comic book lovers

#### COMMENTARY By DANIEL FORTIN

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eil Gaiman has developed a live-action adaptation of his comic "The Sandman" for Netflix. The series centers around Lord Morpheus of the Endless (Tom Sturridge), the King of Dreams, but many refer to him as just "Dream" or "The Sandman."

The season begins in 1916, with Morpheus, one of the seven Endless, being captured by an occult ritual that was seeking Death (one of the Endless.) But instead, they captured Dream who is imprisoned for 106 years. He eventually escapes and sets out to reclaim his stolen equipment and restore his kingdom to its former glory.

During season one of "The Sandman," we follow Dream through his endeavors. The first few episodes focus on Dream getting his tools that were stolen by Sir Roderick Burgess (Charles Dance) and were traded away through the years.

Within these first few episodes, Tom Sturridge consistently shows his acting range. During the first episode, Sturridge rarely talks, but the actor does so much with his body language that you feel what he is feeling or thinking without him having to communicate.

Sturridge brings an emotional depth to Dream that could not have been accomplished by many others, ranging from his despair of being without his tools and feeling weak to the final scene of the show where he displays why he is considered a god.

Within the first part of the season, we are introduced to a variety of characters, some of which do get lost within the season. The standout, aside from Sturridge, would have to be the Corinthian (Boyd Holbrook), a nightmare that had escaped the Dreaming and wishes to unleash the nightmares into the real world, also known as the Waking World.

A criticism of the show is that there are not enough scenes with Holbrook's character. It is a joy to watch when Corinthian and Dream have scenes together, especially toward the end of the season. There is no need for the over-dramatics with confrontations in this series and it is perfectly executed with the script and acting from Sturridge and Holbrook. But sadly, there are not many scenes with the two together and the show suffered a bit for it.

"The Sandman" is more than just a comic adaptation. It tackles themes of loss and grief as well as identity, all perfectly personified not only within Dream but also in his creations, both dreams and nightmares. It also highlights the value of hope, how everyone has a right to dream, as well as the consequences when those dreams lean too far into reality and their limits.

One of the main problems with "The Sandman" is its lack of pacing and identity. It feels as if the season is split into two, with the first half focusing on Dream finding his tools but then the second half introduces new villains and a new problem for Dream in the shape of a Vortex.

In truth, it would have been better if season one focused on Dream gathering his tools and dealing with his crumbling kingdom. The first part of the season really does underuse its villains, like Corinthian, while dedicating a whole episode to Johanna Constantine (Jenna Coleman) who has little to no impact outside of her episode.

Overall, "The Sandman" is an interesting watch, especially when it brings more human elements into the show, from the question of immortality and the value of human experience perfectly shown through Hob Gadding (Ferdinand Kingsley) to the poignant scenes with Death (Kirby Howell-Baptiste). The Sandman suffers from pacing, underuse of villains and having too much content for the first season.

Overall rating: 8.5 out of 10

Daniel Fortin is a copy editor. Follow him on Twitter: @Daniel\_Fortin\_.

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"The Sandman" premiered on Netflix on Aug. 5.

### "Bodies Bodies Bodies": A bloody good satire



#### COMMENTARY By KAELYN NEW

A24's latest release "Bodies Bodies Bodies" is a promising slasher where, as the title suggests, bodies do indeed hit the floor.

Director Halina Reijn's "Bodies Bodies Bodies" follows a queer couple, played by Amandla Stenberg and Maria Bakalova, and their friends as they take shelter in a remote, elaborate mansion to party amid a hurricane.

Featuring contemporary hyperpop sounds from the likes of Charli XCX and Slayyyter, "Bodies Bodies Bodies" arrived in theaters to make a statement, and a bold one at that.

The satirical slasher serves as

from wealthy families.

Once the hurricane begins, the characters decide to play "Bodies Bodies Bodies," a whodunnit game in which an assigned killer taps someone on the shoulder in the dark and then that person proceeds to pretend to be dead until there is only one person remaining.

The game, coupled with substance use and some samurai sword action, appears to be going as planned until characters actually begin dying. Then, all hell breaks loose.

Friends accuse friends of silencing one another, body dysmorphia is weaponized and no one is safe.

As the movie's name implies, the group of friends begin to live delivered a stellar performance as an out-of-touch 20-something year old with a TikTok following and money to spare.

COURTESY OF "DIGITAL SPY"

"Bodies Bodies Bodies" features stunning LED light-fueled visuals, reminiscent of the average college dorm, and an anxiety-fueled soundtrack by Disasterpeace. The shaky camera work at some points throughout the film adds tension to the bloody slasher, enough to make viewers sit on the edge of their seats and bite their nails.

The film takes an observant look at how relationships are formed in the digital age and the values held in a time where semantics take precedence over actual activism. All the while, like any remarkable slasher, the film keeps viewers guessing who the murderer is up until the very end, and the reveal isn't extraordinarily easy to anticipate. Regardless, the film grants a comedic reprieve to viewers while concurrently parodying a generation of people who care more about buzzwords than the people around them.

COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

"Bodies Bodies Bodies" premiered in theaters in August.

#### a commentary on "woke" culture brought about through social media, primarily Twitter and TikTok.

From the jump, the film poses itself as an analysis of Gen-Z behavior and class privilege. The characters wrongly employ words that are all too familiar with those who are chronically online, including "gaslight" and "toxic," while simultaneously refraining from superfluous out-of-place cultural references.

Each character, minus Alice's much older boyfriend Greg, played by Lee Pace, relies on "Twitter speak" to convey their emotions and argue about who holds more privilege while each of them comes out the game "Bodies Bodies Bodies."

The shining character throughout the film is undoubtedly breakout star Rachel Sennott who plays Alice. While all the characters are acutely out of touch with reality, Alice is on a completely different planet.

Providing the most comedic relief, Sennott's character is an obvious caricature of the average Twitter or TikTok user.

Pete Davidson's character, David, was another surprising comedic standout. While audiences could've anticipated that his acting might imitate his work on Saturday Night Live, he

#### Rating: 9/10

*Kaelyn New is a news editor. Follow her on Twitter: @kaelyn\_new.* 

### Is it a "Bad Habit" to play "Gemini Rights" on repeat?

#### COMMENTARY By MADELIENE REED

As August draws to a close, we can reflect on some of the summer's hottest albums: though the competition is high, Steve Lacy's "Gemini Rights" can certainly defend its place as one of the most influential albums of this summer. The album's warm acoustics and dreamy vocals make for an easy, hazy listen which is sure to complete the mood for any setting.

Lacy has showcased his skills through a variety of collaborations with other artists — notably, his part in writing features on Kendrick Lamar's album "Damn," and on Tyler the Creator's "Flower Boy." In 2015, he produced "Ego Death" as a member of The Internet, which was then nominated for best urban contemporary album at the 58th Annual Grammy Awards.

"Gemini Rights" stands as Lacy's third album behind "Apollo XXI," which was also nominated for best urban contemporary album at the 62nd Annual Grammy Awards, and "The Lo-Fi's", a compilation album of his previously released singles in 2020.

Renowned for his skills as a guitarist, Lacy masterfully synthesizes elements of R&B, rock, funk and soul into his music to create the emotions that drive the story behind this album.

"Gemini Rights" follows Lacy as he ends a relationship — and the emotions and interactions that follow: a perfect serenade to a summer heartbreak. The album begins with a simple piano line and harsh lyrics, setting the scene for the hurt that Lacy feels. "Static" heeds an explicitly blunt warning, urging the audience that if they can't express their love to their partner, they should break up.

Lacy leans into the passion and sensuality of his emotions in tracks like "Mercury" and "Buttons" in which his vocals melt into the strong, forward bass and beats, which are contrasted with a light, airy harmony on his choruses.

As the album progresses, Lacy continues with the piano motif as a means by which he furthers the story.

"Amber" opens with a spoken intro, where Lacy describes two lovers who met at the right time, yet one couldn't handle the other's affection — perhaps a nod of acceptance and growth from the harsh warning at the beginning.

The sweetness of his vocals is brought to full fruition in "Sunshine," where alternative soul singer and key collaborator on this album, Foushée, brings a sunshine-like warmth to the album.

"I still, I still love you" sing Lacy and Foushée, repeating the phrase over and over again.

It's these bright, uplifting yet lyrically raw tracks that truly define Lacy's style, and their bright, passionate confidence is what sets him apart from any other artist.

Lyrically, Lacy rarely strays from simplicity, which tends to work in his favor — it balances with the complexities of the music and matches the turbulent and, at times, blunt emotions that he brings forward.

Sure, "Gemini Rights" is, by no means,



COURTESY OF "COMPLEX"

#### "Gemini Rights" by Steve Lacy was released on July 15. Fans can follow Lacy's heartbreak from track 1 to track 10.

revolutionary. I can't imagine that this is the peak of his discography.

As it is only his second album, Lacy has time to grow, both in popularity and in style. The album has been received well by fans of the genre, with "Bad Habit" gaining popularity on social media sites like TikTok.

With the album's bittersweet ending, one can only help but yearn for more. Is

this his full potential? Only time will tell as Lacy unveils his talents as a musician within his own discography.

Rating: 8.5/10

*Madeliene Reed is a copy editor. Follow her on Twitter: @madeleinesreed.* 



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The Gonzaga women's volleyball team returns 13 players from last season, including junior outside hitter Kennedy Croft, center, who led the team in kills and service aces in 2021.

### Under new coach, Zags volleyball team looks to establish winning tradition

#### By HENRY KRUEGER

University volleyball didn't have to deal with much change.

The graduate student played in the same system, under one coach and each season had been a losing one.

However, with the hiring of Head Coach Katie Wilson, Croft and the rest of the team are learning a completely new way to play volleyball.

An assistant coach at Notre Dame for seven years, Wilson's methods involve using data-driven analysis in practice to measure each player's production and efficiency.

The heightened attention to detail keeps players accountable, something Wilson has made a point of doing in practice.

"I think she's the perfect balance of savage, but we know that she cares about us," Croft said. "We do a lot of stats in practice, and your stats are your stats, there's no fluff, it is what it is. It's been really nice getting pushed in that way." Irish reached the NCAA Tournament three times during her tenure.

She enters GU in a similar situation as when she joined Notre Dame — the Zags are coming off a season in which they posted a 9-20 overall record and haven't had a winning season since 2016.

She'll be working her magic with a roster that is largely the same as last season, with 13 players returning.

Croft headlines the group of players returning as she was named a West Coast Conference (WCC) Honorable Mention last season when she led GU with 261 kills and 34 service aces. Her 99 career service aces ranks eighth in program history.

With 2022 being her final year of eligibility, Croft wants to leave her mark by making this season the start of a positive change.

"I want this year to be the foundation of a change in the program," Croft said. "I'm really happy that I have this last year with the new coaches and just being a part of the start of a change is going to be really cool." since most of this year's team was able to participate in the spring scrimmages where they were coached by Wilson for the first time.

"Our experience is a strength and we had that spring season together and we learned a completely whole new system," Russell said. "We had that spring season to just really buckle down and figure out everything and find the tempo of things and just kind of find the groove of everything."

But while the Zags are excited about the players coming back, they seem equally eager to see what the newcomers bring to the team.

Graduate transfer Kelsie White is one of the five new Zags. She transferred from Montana State to pursue a Master's in Organizational Leadership at GU.

A 6-foot-4 middle blocker, White finished her career at Montana State with 485 kills and 398 blocks, ranking seventh in program history with 327 block assists.

"She's just an awesome leader and she's freaking good at volleyball too," Croft said. "But she's just such a good person and such a good competitor. Her blocking is insane and I can see her doing some cool things this year."

#### "

#### I want this year to be the foundation of change in the program.

Kennedy Croft, an outside hitter on the GU volleyball team

facing Iowa and Oklahoma on Friday before playing Florida International on Saturday.

"I'm looking forward to playing Iowa because it's our first game," Croft said. "I'm really pumped about just seeing if we can see the work that we've put in during the spring and this preseason and just see that show up."

Wilson's coaching style has also increased the level of intensity in practices, which Croft has enjoyed.

"We compete a lot in practice," Croft said. "We're always looking for points so it's so fun in our gym this year, and in spring, it was super fun. We're all just getting after it and competing against each other, and it's really fun."

Wilson is looking to bring with her the same level of success she experienced at Notre Dame where she helped turn around a program that went from a 7-25 record in 2015 to back-to-back 22-win seasons in 2016 and 2017. The Fighting Croft returns alongside two other key offensive weapons in junior setter Keau Kamake'eaina and senior outside hitter McKenna Marshall. Last season, Kamake'eaina totaled a team-best 615 assists while Marshall racked up the second-most kills with 251.

The Zags also bring back two notable defensive contributors in senior defensive specialist Viktoriya Ivanova and junior opposite/middle blocker Juliette Russell. Ivanova led the Zags with 265 digs and Russell was second in blocks with 61.

Russell believes GU will benefit from the returning experience, especially

First-year setter Hannah Stoddard is another newcomer who has impressed in practice.

"We only had one setter last year in Keau and then we have a new setter, Hannah, and she's a freshman and she's been doing a great job because setters are like the quarterback of the team so her taking on that role as a freshman is pretty big," Russell said.

The Zags begin their season this weekend at the Oklahoma Invitational, a three-game tournament that has GU GU then heads home to host its own tournament where the Zags will play Idaho State on Sept. 1, Nevada on Sept. 2 and Cal State Northridge on Sept. 3. All three games take place in the Charlotte Y. Martin Centre.

Henry Krueger is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @henrykrveger.

### Women's Basketball Head Coach Lisa Fortier to join Butte College Athletic Hall of Fame

#### By HENRY KRUEGER

Gonzaga University Women's Basketball Head Coach Lisa Fortier is set to join her third Hall of Fame after it was announced last Thursday that she is a member of the 2022 Butte College Athletic HOF Class.

The Sept. 16 induction will come roughly two years after Fortier received the same recognition from Cal State Monterey Bay and Placer High School.

"I am completely humbled by these honors," Fortier said in a news release. "I loved my time at each of these schools, and I value the relationships and experiences that have come from my time spent at Placer High School, Butte College and CSU Monterey Bay. I am so thankful for the teammates, teachers, coaches and mentors that have entered my life through education and basketball."

A native of Grass Valley, California, Fortier was a standout guard at Placer High School and she still holds the record for most charges taken.

She continued her playing career at Butte College, helping the Roadrunners advance to the Elite Eight of the NorCal Playoffs during the final season of her threeyear tenure.

Fortier spent her final two seasons at Cal State Monterey Bay where she was named All-Cal Pac Conference, NAIA Academic All-America and CSUMB Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

She finished her time at Monterey Bay as the Otters' all-time leader in scoring, 3-pointers, free throws, rebounds and assists. Almost two decades later, she still ranks in the top 10 in 13 of the program's all-time statistical categories.

After graduating magna cum laude from Monterey Bay in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in human communications, Fortier enrolled at GU to pursue a master's in sport and athletic administration.

During her time as a graduate student, she served as



Women's Basketball Head Coach Lisa Fortier has an all-time record of 205-54 during her eight seasons at Gonzaga.

the director of operations for the GU women's basketball team.

She left Spokane for a year to be an assistant coach at the University of Northern Colorado before returning in 2007 to handle the same role at GU.

Fortier was promoted from assistant to head coach on April 14, 2014, and has since guided the Zags to four

West Coast Conference Championship titles and six NCAA Tournament appearances in her eight seasons at the helm.

Henry Krueger is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @henrykrveger.

### **Construction of Downtown Spokane** stadium sees steady progress

#### By COLE FORSMAN

nummer in Spokane has two guarantees: heat and construction. It's the time of year when road maintenance crews and contractors revamp worn-down streets and buildings as temperatures hover around triple digits from July well into August. Spokanites understand the work must be done, but the seemingly endless detours can be annoying when commuting.

But this construction season has one project no one's grunting or moaning over - one that will revitalize the local competition and entertainment scene. Once it's debuted, the new downtown stadium in Spokane will be the Lilac City's next hub for high school sports, pro soccer and live entertainment.

"It's going to be the most diverse and inclusive spot in Spokane," said United Soccer League (USL) Spokane, said Oniced Cindy Chapman. "That's what I hope ... that everyone feels welcomed there and people from all over want to be there."

The new \$35 million venue is set to open in the fall of 2023. Its proximity to downtown makes for an ideal home for the Spokane School District's member institutions to host football, soccer and track and field events. With a capacity of 10,000-12,000 including standing room, the stadium will be home to Spokane's new and unnamed USL team, as well as concerts and graduations.

Construction crews officially broke ground in the winter, digging up the surrounding earth to lay the building's foundation. Locker rooms, pathways and infrastructure to lower-level buildings have begun to take shape since. Aside from minor conflicts with materials, Greg Forsyth, director of capital projects at Spokane Public Schools District (SPSD), was pleased with the progress made on the stadium thus far.

"It's been moving along quite well actually," Forsyth said. "We've ran into a few hiccups here and there ... but we've moved through that and we're ready to come up out of the ground."

Those common "hiccups" don't compare to the problem that's strained the nation's economy for months now — inflation.

According to the latest Producer Price Index, prices of building materials have skyrocketed over the last year, as the overall construction input prices are up 17.3%. Structural metal products (21.4%) and asphalt (18.8%) are the most notable increases, while plumbing and concrete became more expensive from July to August as well. While prices are beginning to flatline, they reached an all-time high in February when the highest spikes in construction costs in over 50 years were recorded.

As a result, Forsyth and the SPSD got creative with what materials are brought in to build the stadium and when.

The emphasis was on procuring items that had long lead times or were in possible short supply," Forsyth said. "In doing that, we can accomplish saving money with purchasing them before inflation take its toll."

Forsyth said that certain supplies like concrete, rebar and steel were arriving on-site ahead of schedule before prices potentially increased. Some revisions have been made to the construction process for the sake of simplicity and availability, such as using masonry in place of steel, if possible, as well as changes to interior design and structure. To maintain the integrity of the stadium though, Forsyth assured that any changes to the project are nearly unnoticeable and won't affect the viewing experience for fans.

Outside the stadium, the Spokane Public Facilities District (SPFD) looks to recoup parking losses caused by the construction in the area. Using a \$5.25 million loan from the county, SPFD acquired the Value Village thrift shop on the other side of Boone Avenue with plans to use the lot as parking and public transportation for the stadium.

Construction to tear down buildings and renovate is set to take place next spring.

While new construction methods were implemented on-site, USL Spokane also made efforts to ensure the project was completed as expected. The pro soccer league contributed \$4 million on top of securing state-of-the-art seating, lighting and broadcasting technology.

Many of the upgrades are required in order to properly host and stream matches, but Friday night lights in Spokane will take on a whole new meaning as well.

"It's such a great investment because everyone gets to benefit off of it," Chapman said. "We don't just turn on [the lights] for soccer and shut it off - the high school teams get to have this great lighting. They get high-quality streaming for their games if that comes as an opportunity in the future?

The USL's interest in Spokane peaked after the city voted for a new stadium in



Construction is underway at the future site of the USL Spokane Stadium next to The Podium in Downtown Spokane.

2018, although it took some help to get it downtown. Many residents wanted the stadium located at the old Joe Albi site northwest of the city, but after the Downtown Spokane Partnership got involved, revisions were made to the proposal. An economic study found that \$11.4 million in revenue would be generated at the downtown location, an economic impact eight times greater than renovating the 70-year-old Albi site.

According to Matt Meyer, director of entertainment at SPFD, the decision to move downtown was a "no-brainer" in more ways than one.

"It all just makes sense," Meyer said. "Just knowing the economic impact that it's going to have — there's going to be more businesses and more people that are going to see a kickback and impact business-wise than if it were to stay up at Albi."

Meyer, who handles all entertainment bookings for the SPFD, has explored possible concert tours to bring to Spokane's newest attraction as early as October 2023. He's talked with Live Nation, an entertainment company with a strong Pacific Northwest presence, and is working toward setting up a Korean Pop concert,

among other genres of music.

To complete the summer atmosphere, Meyer envisions "block parties" on Dean Avenue prior to concerts, complete with food trucks, beer gardens and performances from local artists. The street will act as both an extension of security as well as a place for concertgoers to relax before entering the stadium.

High school athletics, pro soccer and live entertainment — Spokane's next big venue has something in store for everyone to enjoy all year long.

It's truly going to be a place to celebrate something unique for Spokane." Chapman said. "Different cultural foods and music - that's what I'm excited about. It's not this traditional or standard 'go to a sports event' type of thing."

Cole Forsman is the managing editor. Follow him on Twitter: @CGForsman.

### The Zag Dining Dish

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### Five activities to do around Spokane over Labor Day weekend

**By SOFIA SANCHEZ** 

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Whith school back in session and Labor Day approaching, some students have already begun wondering how they'll occupy themselves during the long weekend that stretches from Sept. 3-5.

Gonzaga University's location in Spokane offers students a collection of outdoor activities to explore.

One popular place is the trails that lead from the GU campus to the Spokane downtown area, known as the Spokane River Walk trail. This trail is about two miles long and takes an average of 37 minutes to complete. It is also dog-friendly, and wheelchair and stroller accessible, with a good mix of shade and sun.

"I enjoy going to nearby trails, especially ones with waterfalls or a river nearby," said Maricia Hernandez, a second-year student, who enjoys hiking, camping, fishing and boating.

Hernandez described the River Walk Trail as a good way to spend time with friends and family and make fun, exciting memories.

According to the "AllTrails" website, a popular trail that many hike or bike is the Doomsday Hill to Mission Park. It features different views of the river and is approximately a 10-mile hike that takes about 3 hours, 20 minutes to finish. It is also a dog-friendly trail as long as they are on a leash.

Another well-known place that many students visit, especially during the summertime, is the Riverside State Park Bowl & Pitcher. This park is a 2.1-mile hike with many different views of the nature and city around. You can start by hiking across the swinging bridge at the Bowl and Pitcher. When crossing the bridge, you can see a substantial basalt structure rising out of the river.

"I really like to go to the Bowl & Pitcher State Park and go swimming with all of my friends," said Connor Robitaille, a secondyear student. "Though the water is very cold though so be prepared."

For the students who have access to transportation or their own vehicles, Hernandez recommends exploring areas outside of Spokane.

"Take advantage of the nature around you," Hernandez said.

There have been many students who have visited Coeur d'Alene Lake, located in Idaho. It is Northern Idaho's second-largest lake. Over 26 miles long, the lake has more than 135 miles of shoreline which is dotted with parks, campgrounds, beaches, hiking trails and recreational facilities. The Coeur



Riverside State Park is a 9,000-acre park on the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers.



The Downtown Spokane Pavilion is an outdoor venue that holds events for the community.

d'Alene River and St. Joe River are the two principal rivers that feed the lake, and the Spokane River is formed by the lake's outlet. They also offer the fun "Coeur d'Alene Scavenger Hunt: Lovin' the Lake Life!" Visitors are able to walk to all of the best

### GU SPORTS

CALENDAR

Thursday, August 25

Men's soccer at Denver, CO, 6 p.m.

Saturday, August 27

➤ Women's soccer vs. Oregon, 7 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 28

➤ Men's soccer at Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 10 a.m.

\*Local events in bold\*

"

#### Take advantage of the nature around you.

Maricia Hernandez, a secondyear GU student

landmarks and hidden gems, respond to trivia questions and complete challenges. They are offered everyday for \$12 per person and each participant selects an interactive role, with varying difficulties.

Downtown Spokane Pavilion holds many different outside events for students and community members. The Pavilion is an outdoor venue with tiered landscaping, a 40-foot-high platform with panoramic views of Spokane's skyline and the Spokane River and LED lights that transform the area into a kaleidoscope of hues and patterns at night. It is also used for a range of events, including a concert series, cultural activities, the Hoopfest center court, GU basketball watch parties and much more.

*Sofia Sanchez is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @ItsSofia2021.* 



### The Gonzaga Bulletin



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