

The Gonzaga Bulletin

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Panel urges action against sexual abuse

By ASHER ALI and DEVAN IYOMASA

The University Commission on Gonzaga's response to the Catholic Sexual Abuse Crisis released its 18-month report on Wednesday with recommendations for GU President Thayne McCulloh on how the university can progress as a Jesuit institution given its specific historical and geographic context.

The report stops short of issuing a formal apology or putting particular parties at fault for the presence of priests with a history of sexual abuse on the university's premises, but offers future strategies to the president for how to ameliorate the situation going forward.

"The commission actually made recommendations that operationalize some of this," McCulloh said. "For example, by recommending that we memorialize these events publicly, on the campus, then we acknowledge that harm was done and that people have suffered."

The commission advises that a working group be assembled to plan the construction of a permanent "labyrinth" near the Jundt Art Museum. That memorial, as well as recommended annual Liturgies to acknowledge the problem of Catholic sexual abuse, are particularly meant to honor individuals abused by Jesuits who lived at the Cardinal Bea House.

"We're explicit about calling that forward so that people don't forget, or believe that the university's work is trying to ignore or leave that in the past because we know that it's not in the past for many people in many communities," McCulloh said.

In December 2018, U.S. Jesuits West Province, the geographic

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The Cardinal Bea House located in the middle of GU's campus previously housed Jesuits accused of sexual abuse.

ASHER ALI IG: @asher_all3



GU students, pictured in 2017, show their Zag pride as they study abroad in Spain.

BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Zags go global after a year without study abroad program

By EMMALEE APPEL

Despite a rise in COVID-19 cases around the world, Gonzaga students continue to devote themselves to their plans to study abroad.

With many countries once again shutting down outside travel or restricting travel significantly, it has become essential for students who still want to go abroad to follow program safety guidelines and be as flexible with their plans as possible.

GU has a team of five advisors who help students sort out class schedules, housing and travel plans

for their trips abroad.

These advisors also work closely with the partnering schools to help develop new programs and advance partnerships.

Director of Study Abroad, Alisha Lombardi, supervises other advisors and holds the responsibility of working through emergency situations as they arise abroad. She also sits on the International Education Council which is made up of representatives from many university departments in order to help drive campus internationalization efforts.

The study abroad programs

were shut down during spring semester 2020, and reopened last summer. Lombardi, along with many university board members, have been working diligently to determine what is safest for students.

"We've tried to be really clear and set expectations or at least a framework that things are going to be different," Lombardi said. "Countries have different ways of handling the pandemic. We really want to make sure that as the students proceed in their process,

SEE ABROAD PAGE 3

DICE hosts block party on Sept. 3

By ALLIE NOLAND

Gonzaga's Diversity, Inclusion, Community and Equity (DICE) invites all Zags to the DICE Block Party Friday. The event will run from noon to 2 p.m. on Foley Field, right outside of The John J. Hemmingson Center and the Foley Library.

With food trucks, outdoor lawn games, music and informational programming booths, students will be able to enjoy the weather, socialize and get to know DICE. The block party is going to host trivia about the department for DICE swag prizes as well.

The event's emphasis is for Zags to get closer with each other and to get closer to the campus and the resources GU has to offer. DICE has a variety of programs for students to explore, including the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Resource Center, intercultural development and social justice.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. The outdoor gathering will provide a safe space for a back-to-school event.

"The main goal is just inviting students to hang out with us and have a little bit of fun, while building up our strength, tenacity and ability to hit the ground hard when it's time to talk about tough conversations," said Tere Graham, program manager for social justice programming.

Graham said DICE's mission statement is about standing with people in solidarity and finding common ground to build upon and learn.

The importance of this event lies in community. DICE is providing a space for students to connect, learn about one another and access resources.

"I am excited for incoming students to learn and better understand the purpose DICE holds on campus and to familiarize themselves," said Kurt Husler, an intercultural development intern at University Multicultural Education Center (UMEC).

SEE DICE PAGE 2

Special education curriculum gets a refresh

By KATE SULLIVAN

The Department of Special Education at Gonzaga University recently refreshed its curriculum and program offerings to meet the field's changing needs.

This year, the Special Education minor has been revised and a new major called Board-Certified assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) and will become available to undergraduate students.

Traditionally, a behavior analyst completes a master's program to become a board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA), but offering a four-year program is something department chair Kimberly Weber finds exceedingly necessary.

"Agencies around (the Spokane area) all have waiting lists and there is especially a scarcity for qualified behavior analysts

among the western states," said Weber, who is also a professor of special education and director of special education.

When proposing the new major, Weber and her colleagues were forced to consider the availability of programs in neighboring states, the number of additional faculty needed and what curriculum might overlap with other areas in the education department.

Despite a high demand for qualified analysts, Weber notes that there are only three to six comparable programs in the greater Northwest. The major, as well as others in the education department, include job-specific curriculum and hands-on experience in the classroom.

The newly revised special education minor is less narrow in focus and can supplement any major.

The decision to revise the special education minor was the result of rapid changes within the field during the past decade.

According to Weber, the new program makes classes more accessible in terms of personal knowledge and knowing appropriate ways to act.

There is also more familiarity and knowledge, Weber notes, surrounding autism spectrum disorder than there was when the previous minor curriculum was introduced.

"The largest group that does the special education minor is psychology students," Weber said.

A cross-credited course in both departments allows psychology majors to complete the program with 20 credits, rather than the usual 23.

Besides the benefit of non-Education majors learning how to best interact with and learn from those with special needs, Weber said there are also the benefits of critical thinking skills embedded in the special education programs.

"One really key component in our program is that the program is research-based and evidence-based," Weber said.

In the classroom, students collect data and later analyze results to determine the most effective learning approaches.

The research-based, evidence-based approach helps to minimize bias, challenge assumptions and ultimately to meet the needs of as many children as possible.

"We can't make decisions based on just anecdotes, they are helpful for nuance but

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DICE

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At each of the programming tables, there will be students there to answer questions and provide information to Zags on DICE. DICE's fall programming calendar will also be accessible via QR code or hard copy.

This week, DICE is hosting a scavenger hunt with a prize of a food truck meal and drink voucher. The scavenger hunt is to help students familiarize themselves

with UMEC and the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Center with questions about the locations, programs and options for students. The first 200 students to complete the scavenger hunt and turn it into UMEC Suite 215 by 5 p.m. Thursday will win the food truck meal prize.

"The open house block party will allow us to introduce our programs while still having fun and hopefully changing the lens of anyone who might be interested in learning more about social justice and how we can bridge some of these gaps," Graham said.

Join DICE and the GU student body Friday at noon to

hang out outside and learn about what it means to be in solidarity for others and how to create and maintain an inclusive environment. Check out @guumec on Instagram for more information and to stay updated about upcoming events.

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



Students enjoy food and conversation in the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC).

EDUCATION

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they do not provide a broad answer which can be applied to every situation," Weber said.

An element of compassion and understanding is also central to special education at GU.

One former advisee of Weber's graduated with a degree in special education and now hopes to go into nursing. The student expressed that the experience she has from being out in the field will make her a much better nurse because she has the ability to approach people from where they are.

Gaining understanding is a leading reason why students enroll in special education. One such student is junior Rachel Halbo, a special education major with a secondary social studies certification and a religious studies minor. Formative leadership experiences are what guided Halbo toward special education.

"My senior year of high school I served on my school district's board of education and that really opened my eyes to education policy," Halbo said. "Special education at Gonzaga has the most policy-based classes, which I wanted to be as exposed to as much as possible."

Halbo's long-term goal is to work in education policy. For her, a degree in special education means she will have a thorough understanding of the unique challenges and interests of developmentally challenged students.

Halbo's time serving on the board of education also showed her the importance of being in a classroom before creating policy.

Halbo said having firsthand and personal experiences are critical before changing the classroom environments of other educators, especially since making assumptions about educational environments can cause inadvertent damage.

"I really wanted the experience that I do end up having in a classroom to happen with populations that are super vulnerable to the harms of the school system and populations that I think policymakers should be paying the most attention to," Halbo said.

In regards to GU's new program offerings, Halbo finds them especially beneficial for exploring opportunities to work with special needs children and adults beyond the education sector.

Some of GU's special education majors graduate without a teaching certification, such as a friend of Halbo's who had a goal of working for the Special Olympics. The revised minor and new Board Certified Assistant

BehaviorAnalyst program allow more students to take a similar route, said Halbo.

Program changes such as these not only allow for increased variety and opportunity, but they also address employment demands across education.

"The demand for teachers is real across the nation everywhere," Halbo said.

This increases the strain on students who require increased personal attention and more time to learn curriculum.

"I think that the special ed population is one of the populations that is often left behind in our school system because it wasn't built for them and so of course it's not going to help them succeed," Halbo said. "That's something that we have to continually challenge and change."

For more information about changes in the department of special education, students can contact Weber or visit the department website via the school of education.

Kate Sullivan is a staff writer.

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- AFTERNOON CHILDCARE NEEDED**

Local family of Gonzaga Alums looking for afternoon childcare/school pick-up from approximately 2:45pm to 4pm. We can work around schedules.

One child has special needs and requires a bit of additional help. Ages are 12, 9, and 9.

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Email if you are interested: meglambo@gmail.com

ABROAD

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they aren't blindsided and end up re-evaluating their whole decision."

The study abroad programs send about 800 students in an academic year around the world in pre-COVID-19 times.

Now, only about half of that number has enrolled.

Despite lower numbers and new safety restrictions in each program and country, only five students have withdrawn fully from their plans this semester.

Lombardi said this is a result of the open communication that the advisors have with their students.

Lombardi said the only restriction placed by GU, in accordance with European Union guidelines, was the proof of vaccination requirement in order to run in-person classes in Florence.

"Specific to the restrictions, that is going to be based on the country and the program," Lombardi said. "Some programs, like Gonzaga in Florence, we strongly recommend that students not travel before or after their trip, along with a strong recommendation to limit their travel within Italy, but it's not a restriction."

In addition to safety recommendations, many programs have shifted things like housing accommodations in attempts to keep things safer for communities and

students. The biggest change is that many programs have moved away from allowing students to stay with host families and have opted to keep them in dormitory type housing, so that they can quarantine if needed.

Despite many uncertainties and changes, students are still making trips to broaden their horizons.

Sarah Bodisco, a senior at GU, is heading for Florence, Italy for the semester.

She was prepared to leave last year as a junior, until COVID-19 put a stop to all study abroad programs. This year she is excited to take a light load of classes and enjoy her time in Europe.

Bodisco is an economics and political science major, with only two classes left for graduation. She says that she ended up enrolling in a lot of art classes, despite taking her fine arts credit already.

"When I applied here, I applied for a scholarship to go to Florence," Bodisco said. "So, when I got accepted, before I even committed, I had already been accepted to go to Florence. So, it's been something I've been looking forward to since coming here."

In terms of COVID-19, Bodisco said that while she is concerned about being safe and considerate of local communities, she does want to make the most of her trip and travel when she can.

"I think [Italy's] vaccination rate is a bit higher than ours, so I have some comfort



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Only five GU students have pulled out of study abroad programs this semester.

in that I feel like I can travel safely as long as I'm mindful of it," Bodisco said. "The risks aren't enough for me to not travel at all, just to be more careful about the way I do it."

Bodisco and Lombardi agree that the biggest takeaway for students considering studying abroad is to be as flexible as possible in all plans you make when

traveling.

Overall, studying abroad is still a great opportunity for students, and as things start to recover from the pandemic, programs will begin to move forward in their efforts to allow for educational and enjoyable experiences abroad.

Emmalee Appel is a staff writer.

REPORT

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province within the Society of Jesus that GU is situated in, released the names of every priest credibly accused of sexual abuse by diocese. The list included 28 priests who lived at the Jesuit-owned Bea House on GU's campus after periods of sexual abuse, including seven priests who were a part of the community during the same period that they were accused of sexual abuse.

Priests within the Jesuits' Province who have substantiated accusations of sexual abuse can no longer preach, but are still housed in Jesuit convocations.

At the Bea House, safety plans were created for residents with credible claims of sexual abuse to keep them away from other demographics at risk.

"At the point at which the provisional made that statement at the end of 2018, to my knowledge, there were no Jesuit priests on campus, against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse had been made," McCulloh said.

Shortly after the release of the names of priests in Jesuits West Province, Fr. Tom Lamana, S.J., the local rector, made a new decree that no Jesuit with a safety plan could take up residency at the Bea House.

According to McCulloh, Fr. Lamana is now obligated to inform him if at any time the Jesuits are considering sending a Jesuit to GU who has any prior history or allegations.

"The university has no tolerance for employing people who have credible allegations of misconduct," McCulloh said.

Following the release, McCulloh announced the formation of the commission in April 2019.

Over the course of the next 13 months, the commission met 13 times to identify, discuss and put forward recommendations to McCulloh regarding the university's role in the broader Catholic sexual abuse crisis.

The report was originally submitted to administration and the Jesuit Board of Members in August 2020, but it was not publicly released until a year later due to the disruption from a new school year starting in the middle of a pandemic, according to McCulloh.

The commission, led by co-chairs Megan McCabe from the Religious Studies Department and Michelle Wheatley from Mission and Ministry, was made up of 10 other faculty and staff members and two administrative support members.

The co-chairs assembled the commission after receiving nominations from members of the community, as McCabe and Wheatley made an effort to construct a group with a multiplicity of perspectives.

"We were very attentive to the particular roles people might have and the areas of expertise that they could bring," McCabe said. "Whether that's a student perspective or our director of tribal relations, we considered what that might bring to these questions."

Together, they outline 20 recommendations including memorializations, increased support for Native and Indigenous students, dedicated financial and academic pursuits and updated policies and procedures as they relate to the placement of Jesuits accused of sexual misconduct.

The commission recommended an annual fund for faculty research and academic endeavors in relation to

the issue of sexual abuse within the Catholic church. The fund was approved by the university as the Social Justice & the Catholic Sexual Abuse Crisis Fund with a \$15,000 allocation for its first year.

On Dec. 14, 2018, Reveal News published an audio report that exposed the Jesuits West Province for transferring Jesuits in the Northwest with a history of sexual abuse to Native villages, enabling them to continue to abuse. Some of these priests were then relocated to other communities, including GU.

In the report, the commission recommends the university sponsor scholarships for Native American students and fund resources on campus like the Center for American Indian Studies.

They also recommend that GU pays specific attention to the relationship between Catholics and Natives, and use that historical context to inform their plans for outreach with local tribal communities going forward.

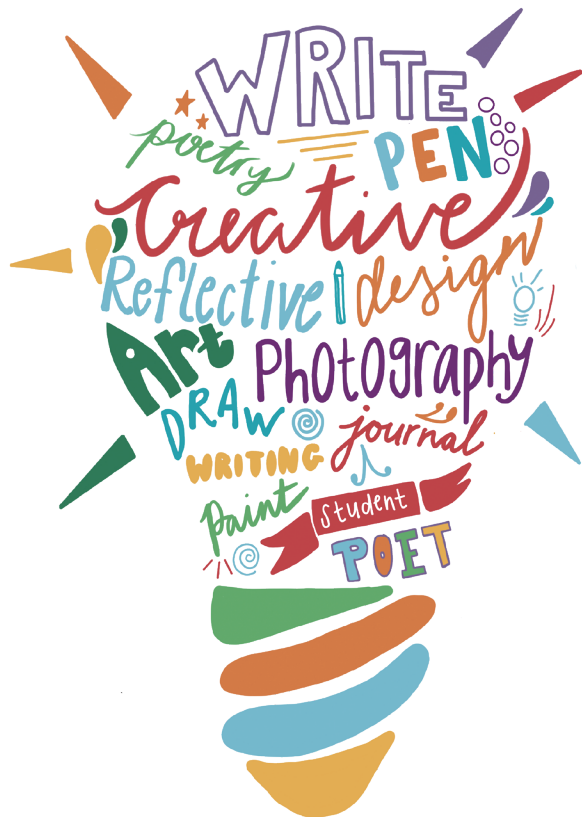
"Paying attention to the Jesuit context, Inland Northwest, Pacific Northwest and Alaska shaped the way that we paid attention to sexual abuse in the Catholic church with particular attention to the disproportionate harm against Native people," McCabe said.

McCabe and Wheatley will again serve as co-chairs on the Steering Committee, which will oversee the progression and implementation of the recommendations.

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Devan Iyomasa is a news editor. Follow her on Twitter: @devaniyomasa.

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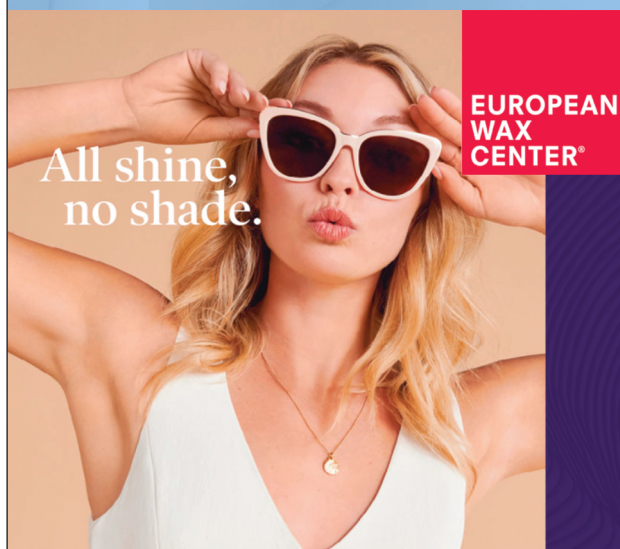
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FDA Approval: The first domino

Vaccines. They seem to be the world's main point of conversation. When the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine was approved by FDA on Aug. 23, opinions on vaccine mandates rose in volume all over social media to voice either their concern or their advocacy.

As we live in an increasingly polarized society, science and vaccines are have entered the political battleground. Conservatives' claims against COVID-19 and vaccinations turned an extremely infectious illness into a topic up for debate.

According to an NPR report, 17 out of 18 states with the lowest vaccination rates voted for President Donald Trump. Although notable right-wing senators like Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Mitch McConnell, R-Ky, endorse vaccines, as of Aug. 2 the percentage of Americans with at least one vaccine shot is still only 58.1%, per the CDC.

The Pfizer vaccine, which will now be marketed under the trade name, Comirnaty (koe-mir'-na-tee), is now FDA approved for individuals 16 years or older.

But what does this mean for mandated vaccines? We can't be sure, but based on recent news we could be headed in that direction.

Republican-nominated Supreme Court Justice, Amy Coney Barrett, who was the sole Justice to hear the 7th Circuit Court hearing, recently refused to block Indiana University's vaccine mandate. This was a shock amongst her Republican audience and a vote that shows hope for how the court will handle potential state mandate situations.

As in accordance with the religious freedom granted in the First Amendment, established religious exemptions of vaccines are respected. We see that reflected in GU's vaccine mandate.

Since the FDA's decision organizations like the Pentagon, CVS, the State University of New York system and the New York City school system, among others have established vaccine mandates. According to the "New York Times," the defense secretary recently announced that all active-duty troops will be required to be vaccinated, saying they will send out specific vaccination guidelines to the 1.4 million service members soon.



By SYDNEY FLUKER

More universities are placing the COVID-19 vaccine on their mandatory immunization list, like the University of Minnesota and the State University of New York systems. While college students are not the most at-risk of contracting the virus, these are big steps in vaccinating the population to hopefully prevent more variations from developing.

Medical practitioners are losing patience with those who are unvaccinated, as they are about 29 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19 than those who are fully vaccinated, according to a CDC study released on Aug. 24. After almost a year and a half of this pandemic, I'm surprised more essential workers haven't quit.

Doctors and nurses are losing hope. Social media is rampant with text posts describing doctors' requests for those who are eligible to get vaccinated. Posts from people who haven't been vaccinated against COVID-19 because they thought they were healthy or had already had it suddenly were violently ill or losing loved ones themselves.

I got vaccinated as soon as I could and helped my non-technology-savvy family members find

appointments for themselves, because to be able to receive the vaccine and reject that opportunity is selfish. Across the world, people are dying from COVID-19 and are unable to have access to the vaccines. The U.S. can vaccinate its entire population if it wants to, but some still reject it.

To be able to receive the vaccine, reject it, get sick and use hospital time and money is selfish. The unvaccinated are taking beds away from those who are having non-COVID-19 related issues like strokes, seizures, heart attacks, etc. In Spokane, Sacred Heart and Holy Family hospitals have stopped elective surgeries as they face a spike in COVID-19 patients and lose I.C.U. bed availability.

If not for yourself because you are healthy, think of those who cannot be vaccinated. Children are being infected at a higher rate with the return to in-person schools and the FDA has not yet approved the use of the vaccine in those over the age of 12.

"After declining in early summer, child cases have increased exponentially, with over a four-fold increase the past month, rising from about 38,000 cases the week ending July 22 to 180,000 the past week," said the American Academy of Pediatrics in a Aug. 19 report.

It took my 9-year-old cousin five days at his public elementary school to be exposed, and my aunt has received the required COVID-19 notification from the principal every single day. With the eviction moratorium recently being overturned by the Supreme Court, parents have even less of an ability to home-school their child if they are afraid of their child getting sick. Otherwise, they have to trust their school system.

We have the power to change the tide of the coronavirus if we get vaccinated. Herd immunity is possible if we get vaccinated. We have the ability to change our current situation, and it pains me that our politicized society has turned doing something for the common good into something ugly.

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

Mandated or not, masks don't stifle freedoms

Recently, I heard many of my extended family members comment on how students having to wear masks in schools is "stupid."

It's the usual argument; "They're young. The virus won't hurt them. They're already vaccinated! Why does it matter?"

Now, to an extent, I understand where they're coming from. With the vaccine now an established part of the pandemic, we're seeing fewer deaths than we've experienced since the dark of December 2020. Given the largest demographic of deaths and severe infections are related to the elderly and/or immunocompromised individuals, that doesn't really overlap with younger people.

When you're looking from a top-down, intergenerational perspective, it's hard not to disregard this pandemic as something no worse than the flu.

But my sympathy runs dry quickly.

There are many aspects of the pandemic more concerning than this.

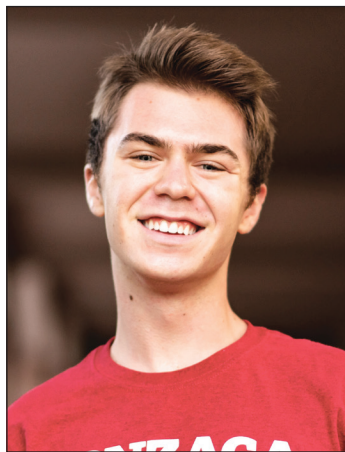
Why target masks, of all things? Why fixate on this one, particular issue?

I think it's because anti-maskers, many of whom detest any kind of government interference, see it as a symbol of government oppression. Rather than target vaccines or social distancing with the same ire, the article of clothing/medical protection device has become a divisive symbol. I think, when they see kids wearing it, there is a part of them that feels like they're being brainwashed into "the system."

Which is ridiculous.

We have a responsibility, as a community, to protect our loved ones — to protect ourselves. With the Delta variant increasing in severity — and given the high density of people in educational spaces, you bet I'm going to support masks for however long we need.

However, I feel like we're



By ALEXANDER PREVOST

failing in the optics department. Fast and aggressive responses to the virus from states and the national government are all well and good, but anti-maskers aren't going to focus on the effectiveness.

They're only going to focus on the aggressiveness.

Part of that comes from the way we've handled masks.

Referring to the requirement as a mandate has not helped the cause in the long run. As someone who enjoys the study and use of words, I think the phrase "mask mandate" is not helping.

Mandate holds such legalistic connotations. It feels stifling, dominating and commanding. The word holds the intent of punishment, and for a lot of anti-maskers, it further affirms their baseless suspicions of government takeover.

I think, in retrospect, we should have chosen a new word or phrase.

May I propose: Mask directive?

To me, the word "directive" holds less harsh connotations. It feels scientific, curious and encouraging. When I think of that word, I think of a task that must be completed by a crew — we're all in this together.

Even the phrase, "Mask requirement," is a step up from "Mask mandate."

I know that we're nearing the

end of this nightmare. Though variants of the disease may stick around for a while, the already rapid response of booster shots is proving that we've constructed an infrastructure that is getting better at damage control.

It may be too late to change the phrasing, but it's worth a retrospective note that the pushback could have been averted given we handle the optics with just a little bit more care.

Regardless, the push against the mask mandate has been around as long as this pandemic, and the fixation on the mandate is just as irritating now as it was then. This is a matter of teamwork, protecting ourselves and each other. Now is not the time to get selfish.

Especially when it comes to the safety of the youth.

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

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20 years of war, the end?

Oct. 7, 2001 – how many of us hadn't been born when we went to war? A large portion of college students have lived their entire lives experiencing the U.S.'s war with the Middle East. This generation has become the beneficiary of a 20 year conflict that has engulfed politics, religion and world culture, not to mention many lives.

Those born after the 9/11 terrorist attacks are old enough to enlist, to fight for a war they're not old enough to truly understand. They've become the new wave in the cycle of struggle that has highlighted our history in the Middle East, particularly Afghanistan.

With just that laid on the table it appears like a full-fledged retreat from the area seems appropriate. However, a hasty withdrawal would create a power vacuum most likely filled by the Taliban. If that's an easy conclusion to reach, then why did we make this exact choice?

While leaving Afghanistan saves lives, it places countless others in danger. These include our allies and service members in charge of the mass exodus.

Benefited by hindsight we can see that this was folly, well-meaning but costly. By removing our presence, we welcome in other occupying forces with agendas less than centered on human rights.

Our time in Afghanistan was aided immeasurably by our allies. From interpreters and siblings in arms to moral support and counsel, they paved the way to any successes we had in the region. These poor individuals are who we are abandoning, left in front of the charging new regime.

Global pressure, economic



By DAWSON NEELY

and militant, has led to a greater expansion of women's rights in Afghanistan. Education has become more accessible, no longer hidden away under a patriarchal lock and key.

These women who have so greatly benefited by our aid will lose so much if we merely abandon our post without a replacement plan. Their daughters will be forced away from the liberation of schooling and back into Sharia Law.

The Taliban has made promises as to its future treatment of protected classes, but after our soldiers are gone, our command stations leveled, what remains of those words?

Now there are those who defend this retreat, content to stop "policing the world," and to settle back in American borders. How nice would that sentiment be to hold onto if the images of refugees weren't burned into your brains?

Now, I was born during a war, raised in a culture constantly shaking from the clash of terrorism and righteous vengeance, and I would love

to begin my 20s at peace. Unfortunately, I can't close my eyes and accept the placations of "the war is over!"

If we leave without a second's thought, then we finish building halfway through our house's construction. We fought for safety, retribution and an expanding sense of global rights, but now we seem content to let our efforts fall by the wayside.

I am by no means saying that a protracted war is desirable, or even the proper course of action, but a harsh and resounding halt to aid in the region has proved a disaster. We are to a point where our options are limited and running out. Backed into a corner, we must decide to move forward on a path to peace with nonviolent tools.

Being given the opportunity to learn in one of the most prosperous nations on Earth has given each one of us the unique vantage point to view world events. From that precipice we get to choose our stances on global issues, including that beautiful freedom of speech.

We all, by participation in the civic world have the ability to demand of our leaders that which we want to see in the world. From failings at home to those abroad, it is our duty to stand up for what we believe.

Now the question becomes, "what do you believe?"

Dawson Neely is the opinion editor. Follow him on Twitter: @DawsonNeely.

Roots Coffee Kitchen plants roots in GU community



CHIANA MCINELLY IG: picsbychiana

Roots Coffee Kitchen is serving Caffe Vita coffee, an independent and locally-owned coffee company in Seattle.

By ALLIE NOLAND

Whether it be grabbing coffee with a friend to catch up, sitting down to study or grabbing a quick cup of joe before class, coffee shops are a part of student life. Zags now have a new spot to check out, just two blocks from campus.

Roots Coffee Kitchen opened this week at 1307 N. Hamilton St., adjacent to the Logan Tavern. Next Door Coffee was the previous coffee shop that occupied the space, but Roots Coffee Kitchen is ready to take it on with a new twist.

Amanda Baxter and Nick Byrd are co-owners of the new plant-based cafe, and the pair put an emphasis on the importance of mind, body and spirit. The engaged pair wanted to provide a space for community and connection for the Gonzaga area and Logan neighborhood.

“We want to build relationships and connections with the community,” Byrd said. “Through coffee and food, we are excited to inspire others about health and wellness.”

Roots Coffee Kitchen has a full coffee bar, with espresso drinks and drip coffee. The coffee shop will also have food options on its menu, including smoothie bowls, toasts and rice bowls. One of the featured menu items is the Zuma Bowl — a blend of mango, banana, blue majik powder

and choice of milk, with chia seeds, coconut, banana and granola on top.

Each of the menu items are named after happy feelings or places in California that inspired Byrd and Baxter to open up shop.

Roots Coffee & Kitchen is intentional with its sourcing. Roots Coffee Kitchen’s bread comes from a local bakery called Viva Ultra, and its coffee comes from Caffe Vita, an independent, Seattle-based coffee roastery.

“Food is medicine, and that’s the motto we want to live by,” Baxter said.

GU’s community is a huge demographic that Roots Coffee Kitchen aims to target and support. Roots Coffee Kitchen is offering a discount to students if they show their Zagcard.

“The Gonzaga student body is really like the bread and butter for this particular location,” Byrd said.

The coffee shop will also be offering a \$14.99 a month bottomless drip coffee subscription, so students have a go-to, off-campus place to study with Wi-Fi. Zags can sign up for the subscription on their website.

Baxter and Byrd are excited for the coming months. Roots Coffee Kitchen plans to have yoga events in the coffee shop. With these types of events, the cafe allows the community to be in touch with their health and wellness

in all areas, not just food and drink.

Roots Coffee Kitchen is also hoping to host live music regularly in the shop. Baxter and Byrd’s plan is to invite local artists into the space, on a tip basis, to share their talent and provide entertainment for their customers.

Further down the road, Byrd said that Roots Coffee Kitchen is looking into hosting trivia for the community. You can check out Roots’ Instagram and website for event updates.

With the closure of Forza Coffee and Next Door Coffee, Roots Coffee Kitchen aims to fill the shoes of being a study space and coffee place for Zags. Byrd and Baxter invite students to grab a drink and a snack and study in their space.

The cafe is open Tuesday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. It is closed Monday and Sunday. Roots Coffee Kitchen has full intent on expanding days and hours as they get in the groove of running their cafe.

Follow them on Instagram @rootscoffeekitchen or visit their website at www.rootscoffeekitchen.com.

Allie Noland is an A&E editor.

Halsey demonstrates mastery on new album

REVIEW
By ALEXANDER PREVOST

It’s a straight up masterpiece.

“If I Can’t Have Love, I Want Power” is about the joys and horrors of pregnancy, maternity and sexuality. Halsey and her tight knit group of collaborators paint this multilayered story vividly from start to finish. If Taylor Swift, Jack Antonoff and Aaron Dessner are a holy trinity of musicians (see: folklore), then Halsey, Trent and Atticus are their dark counterparts.

Seriously, their chemistry is off the charts.

Each track is so perfectly instrumented. The production doesn’t just feel meticulously placed; it is effortless. Skewing towards industrial pop and rock, punk and grunge, the songs fit together seamlessly — embodying their own sounds and genres without ever feeling disjointed.

The opening trio of songs is a fantastic example of this. Starting with the harrowing, borderline terrifying piano ballad “The Tradition,” the simple production transitions into the chilling slow burn “Bells in Santa Fe.” Throughout this track, there is this impending sense of doom, as the prickly synths build and build.

Then, at the last second, it abruptly switches into the urgent hi-hat that kicks off Halsey’s best song to date, “Easier than Lying.” This fiery, industrial rock banger is cathartic. Adding the layers, each verse and chorus gets more infectious and angry. Fit with her roaring vocals and cutting lyrics, it releases the growing catharsis of the past two tracks powerfully.

The album’s mastery just doesn’t stop there.



COURTESY OF HALSEY'S FACEBOOK PAGE

“Darling” is a golden, heartwarming acoustic lullaby to her (then) child-to-be. “The Lighthouse” holds the grungiest, most dirty production on the project, fit with lyrical imagery of a siren luring sailors as an allegory for mistreatment.

On the pop-punk, sapphic banger, “Honey,” Halsey

details a wild love that left a deep impact on her heart. Quickly followed up by the haunting “Whispers,” which vividly chronicles her impulses of self-sabotage and fear — brilliantly produced, it details a universal feeling while still feeling like a chapter in the story.

“If I Can’t Have Love” demonstrates that Halsey has honed their lyrics to a tee. Often, their words unfold effortlessly.

Where this LP does its best is in its intimate moments, and I think no track embodies this better than “1121” (the day they found out they were pregnant with their son). Probably their most heartbreaking track, it chronicles the fears Halsey has about losing their child to a miscarriage — something they have experienced multiple times before. It touches something deep in the soul.

Deeply personal, immaculately produced, lyrically enthralling, “If I Can’t Have Love, I Want Power,” is wall-to-wall enchantment. I hope that I did it justice in this review. Know that — even putting fandom aside — there is no album to come out this year worth recommending more.

This is the album of the year. Period.

Favorite Tracks: all of them.

Final Score: 10/10

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

Ready for drama? Shakespeare in the Park is back

By EMMALEE APPEL

In an attempt to bring social events back into the regular flow of things, the Spokane Shakespeare Society presents two plays this summer at Riverfront Park that are free and family friendly.

Celebrating its returning season, the local group is partnering with Spokane Parks and Recreation to bring several showings to the downtown area. In August, it brought Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” directed by Amanda Cantrell and Jamie Suter. The show was staged Aug. 6-8, 20, 22, 26-27 and 29.

In September, director Jessica Loomer will present five showings of “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged,” by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield. These shows will all take place in the evenings, running Sept. 17-18 and 23-25 along with the potential to add October dates.

Shows begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Open seating will begin 30 minutes prior to curtain.

The nonprofit organization was founded in January and made the announcement of their productions on Shakespeare Day, April 23. The group is a proud recipient of the Spokane Arts Grant Award, helping them create the best shows possible for the Spokane community and allowing them to provide a more accessible event.

Despite being a nonprofit, it was involved in a professional theater, meaning everyone engaged in the production is paid a stipend. So, while the shows are free, small donations for tickets are accepted and appreciated.

Executive Director and Co-Founder Amanda Cantrell has an extensive history in the arts, working with theaters in Texas, Georgia and Alaska, as well as working in education to create theater departments in public schools in Texas. She also holds a doctorate in nonprofit leadership.

“We founded it because Spokane has amazing parks and there wasn’t any Shakespeare that was regularly happening, so it seemed like a huge, missed opportunity,” Cantrell said.

The organization, according to Cantrell, is in an open-ended agreement with the Spokane Parks and Recreation to bring plays to the downtown area during the summer, and possibly fall, in upcoming years. The group has also taken several safety precautions as Spokane continues to face COVID-19 concerns.

“It was really important to the parks that our cast is fully vaccinated, so everyone involved is fully vaccinated ... We really tried to make sure that we are keeping everybody safe and doing what we can to make sure the cast is safe and producing in a way that makes the community feel comfortable,” Cantrell said.

Performances take place outside, in the Lilac Bowl or the Riverfront Pavilion, making it much easier to bring live theater back to the community during the tail end of the pandemic, all while taking advantage of the summer weather.

The outdoor staging also allows for magical scenery that fits the midsummer aesthetic very well. With fun props, modern costumes and enthusiastic actors, the show comes to life in a wonderful way.

Cantrell decided on a modern spin of this classic Shakespearean comedy. Although the Shakespearean language is still fully intact, the actions, costumes and mannerisms feel very modern-day. The fairy magic of the play is humorous and engages the audience in a dream-like experience, just as Shakespeare intended.

With the audience sitting on a grassy hill looking down to the stage, seating was plentiful and comfortable, and many families brought picnic style dinners and to make an evening of it.

The performance has also thoroughly increased

excitement for the September show as well. “The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged,” directed by Jessica Loomer, is a modern comedic performance about Shakespeare’s many works rather than a retelling of a singular play.

“It’s a three-man show, and these men have decided to put on a show of the complete works of William Shakespeare, all 37 plays and sonnets and so on, in 90 minutes,” Loomer said. “Because of that, many of his works get mentioned by name and have a passing joke about them, and then it moves along.”

The play is a fast-paced, silly and modern show that Loomer reported as a fun experience for not only the audience, but also the actors and herself, as they had the ability to revise and play with the material to make it more fitting for all ages and today’s pop culture.

The three actors — Jerry Sciarrio, Kaylan Martin and Robert Tombari — all have extensive comedic training as well as Shakespeare training, allowing them to create a top-tier show. Loomer herself has been directing since college, and has worked with children’s theaters, festival playwrights and directed a main stage play at the Spokane Civic Theatre.

In addition to the five September showings, Loomer’s play has also received a possible encore request from the parks to bring her show to the Downtown Fall Festival this coming October.

Overall, the Spokane Shakespeare Society is already impressing the community by creating a space for a new and exciting artistic feature in the Spokane area that people of all ages and lifestyles can enjoy in the beautiful parks of our city.

Emmalee Appel is a staff writer.

Back to backpacking: Best places to go in Inland Northwest



GU students backpacking through Lone Lake Trail near Mullan, Idaho.

By MAUREEN PARKS

Gonzaga students are lucky to live in a beautiful place with endless outdoor activities, and one great way to experience the Inland Northwest is to go backpacking. Fortunately, students do not need to travel far to go on a great trip, and if they need gear or advice, GU has ample resources for them.

Gonzaga Outdoors, located in the basement of the John J. Hemmingson Center, is the destination for students looking to try backpacking near Spokane. Many students are familiar with the guided trips provided by the program, but GU Outdoors can also rent out gear for students’ own trips. The trip leaders and program directors in the office are also able to give advice and answer questions.

"We take students different places in Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Oregon," said Kate Lammons, a GU Outdoors trip leader. "We provide backpacking trips, but we can also rent out gear for pretty affordable prices and give lots of advice on where to go and what to do if [students] want to do their own trip."

Fortunately for GU students, there are many trails near Spokane that are great for backpacking. Beehive Lakes is

a popular destination, located near Bonners Ferry, Idaho. The trail is 3.6 miles each way and features a beautiful lake and many campsites at the top.

Lammons said her favorite backpacking spot is at Priest Lake in Idaho.

Lone Lake Trail near Mullan, Idaho, is a short and steep climb with a great reward, and it is only an hour-and-a-half drive from campus. It shares a trailhead with Stevens Lakes Trail, another great backpacking destination.

Across the border into Montana, there are many more trails, such as Hub and Hazel lakes, a trail that is just under 8 miles round trip and features two stunning lakes that both have numerous campsites.

"I really like Heart Lake," said GU Outdoors Assistant Program Director Dave Gilbert. "It's beautiful — sometimes there's mountain goats. There are big cliffs; sometimes there's still little pockets of snow. Heart Lake is awesome. That whole Idaho-Montana divide has great places to go."

For students willing to drive a little further, the hike to Stanley Hot Springs in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in Idaho is popular. The hike is beautiful, but the real treat is the hot springs waiting for hikers at the end.

In addition to GU Outdoors, there are good resources

for students to research backpacking trails online. The Washington Trails Association has a virtual hiking guide with 3,897 trails — it features detailed information about the trails as well as reviews on conditions from people who have recently visited. AllTrails is another popular option for finding a great hike and has a wealth of information from other hikers.

While backpacking might seem like an intimidating activity to try for the first time, GU students have so many resources available to them that it is easily achievable. With GU Outdoors gear rentals, there is no reason to spend a large amount of money on equipment. There are many knowledgeable and experienced people eager to help students plan their first trip to the backcountry.

Guided trips are also the perfect way to try this activity with no prior experience at all.

"People should go backpacking," Gilbert said. "Day hikes are awesome and camping is awesome, but there is something about going to sleep and waking up having hiked into somewhere really special and remote. It's a great experience."

Maureen Parks is a staff writer.

For the Fun of Fit

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

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ACROSS

1 Deadly
7 Send without stamps
12 Cowboy cry
17 Weakness
19 Error
20 Ancient region of Asia
22 Constitutional guarantees
24 Computer choice
25 Use up
26 Garment district load
28 Sushi serving
29 Reprimand
31 Middleweight champ, Tony ____
32 Kiddies' song starter
35 Habituates
37 Revealed everything
38 Fido's foot
41 To and ____
42 Some drums
43 Spoil
44 Icicle holder
45 Rock group staff
47 Fisherman's purchase
51 No votes
52 Referential words
56 Human resources personnel
57 Alligator brand
58 Biblical verb after pride
59 Rainier's realm
60 OED entry
61 Competition that's for the birds?
65 Not agin'
68 "The ____ Queenie"; Spenser
70 Singer Tucker
71 '70s do
72 "The ____ the Wild"
73 Farrell and Ford
75 Sea of Japan port
76 Autumnal equinox
78 She-devil
80 Spherical beginning
81 Ending for acid
82 Kind of solution
85 Log entry
86 Marks a ballot
87 Reunion attendees
90 Mitsubishi model
91 D-Day landers
92 Actress Kedrova
93 With modesty
94 ____ Jima
96 Snowy country
101 Stargazers' instruments
105 Flatterer
106 Metropolis with many airports
109 Without pretensions
110 ____ maid
111 Young hare
112 Busy bees
113 Notched as a leaf
114 Blood components

DOWN

1 Test site
2 Author Bagnold
3 Story
4 Gave a hand
5 Soap substitute
6 Safety device
7 Connecticut collegian
8 Chatterers
9 Plant pests
10 Cordage fiber
11 ____ majeste
12 Hem and haw
13 Nobel or Noyes
14 Sign of a saint
15 Ear-related
16 Porker plaint
18 P.M. time
20 Succeed
21 JFK's UN ambassador
23 Happen periodically
27 ____ Mountains of Missouri
30 Charlemagne's realm: abbr.
32 Chicken
33 Third place

34 Agricultural apparel
36 Political cartoonist
37 Famed family of music
38 Janus feature
39 Ways to go: abbr.
40 Director Craven
42 Family nickname
43 Political organization
44 Part of GE
46 Accomplished
47 Danger spot
48 Worrier's words
49 Dandy's complement
50 Italian brothers
53 Double curve
54 Court
55 With some weight behind it
59 Thom, the shoe man
61 Moolah
62 Buck addition
63 Annoy
64 Bill, the science guy
66 Wandering
67 Ways to go
69 ____-ran: loser
71 Peach State cap.
72 Give a ticket

73 Grub
74 Leg part
75 ____ Miss
76 Copier cousin
77 Big exam
79 Authorizes
82 Agrees to
83 Total
84 ____ the land
87 Deal maker
88 Veteran inmates
89 Actress Woodard
90 Blighted area
91 Maxi compared to mini
93 Vail visitor in winter
95 Exempt from
96 CD predecessors
97 Waterless
98 One billionth: comb. form
99 Rolled cubes
100 Summit
102 Grey Cup org.
103 Traffic sign word
104 Pipe part
107 Pay dirt
108 Religious abbrs.

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

				3		5	6	
	4				9	3		
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Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit from 1 to 9. For strategies on solving Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

2	3	6	1	5	4	8	9	7
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8	1	9	4	6	7	5	2	3
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3	8	1	2	4	5	6	7	9
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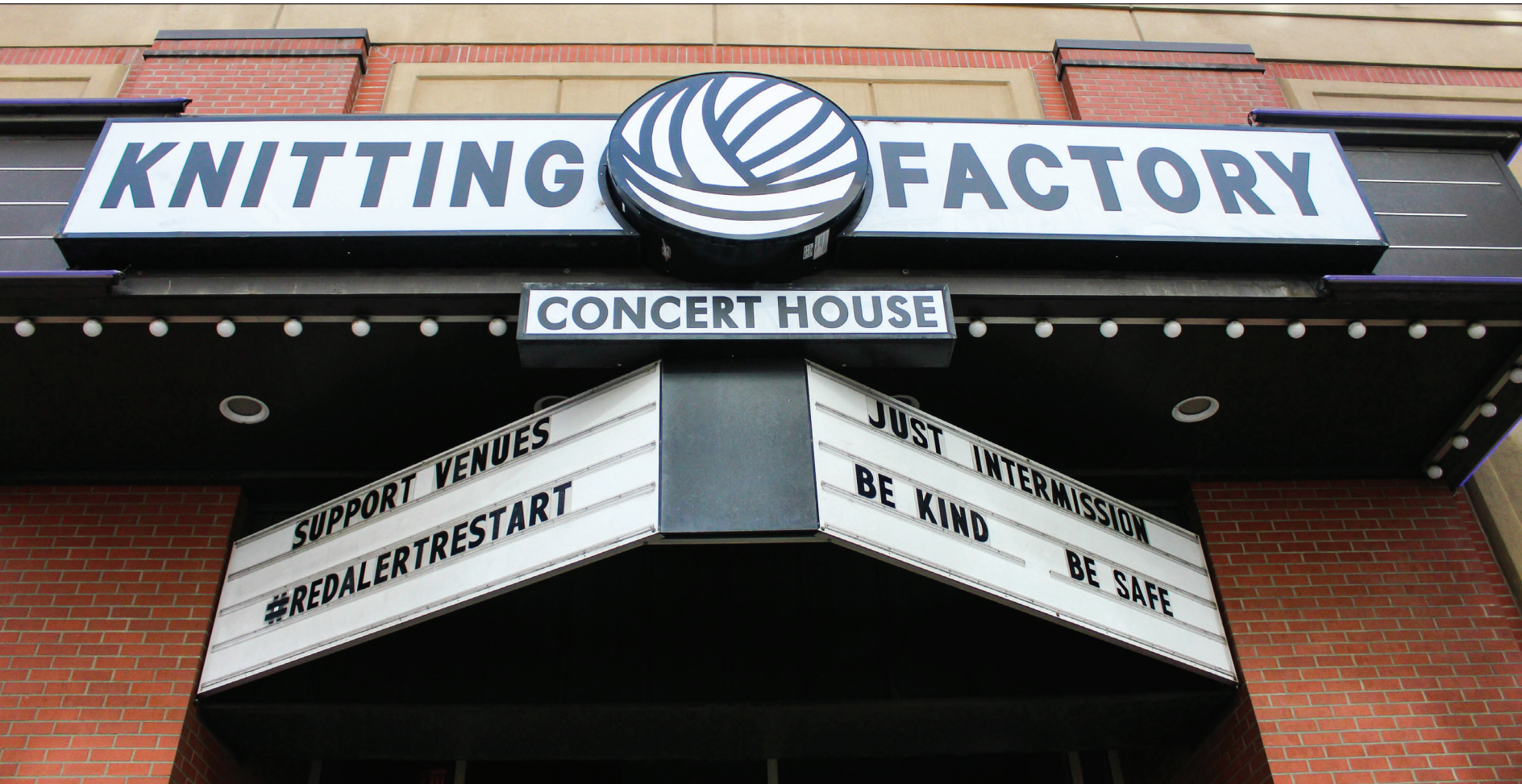
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9/5/2021



The Knitting Factory is a popular concert venue located on West Sprague Avenue.

Concerts are back, full volume

By TOMMY CONNOLLY

It has been almost 18 months since live shows and concerts have taken place, but the wait is no longer. Concerts and events are now taking place across Spokane and the greater region.

“It is nice to see people get back together and watch a concert,” said Mike Parks of Riverfront Park maintenance. “There was a lot of planning both this year and last to have this work, and seeing it come full circle has been special.”

New to Spokane this fall for concerts and events will be the U.S. Pavilion. The U.S. Pavilion at Riverfront Park is the venue in Spokane that will host artists and events with a capacity of 3,000-5,000 people. Big-name artists such as Louis the Child, Machine Gun Kelly and various country artists are part of the concert series at Riverfront throughout the fall.

Current precautions in place to slow the spread of COVID-19 include delegating sections for vaccinated and unvaccinated patrons, placing sanitation stations around the venue and encouraging mask-wearing for all guests.

“We encourage all guests to wear a mask to make the experience as safe as possible,” said Andy Kuzak, director of events.

In the past week, AEG Presents, Riverfront Park’s contractor for its concert series, has instituted a new policy requiring all guests to show a negative test for COVID-19 or proof of vaccination against COVID-19.

“Between August 28 and October 1, AEG Presents

concertgoers are required to either provide proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of the event. This negative COVID-19 test result (molecular, PCR or antigen) must be administered by an official testing center and must be dated no more than 72 hours prior to entry,” the AEG Presents statement reads regarding its new policies.

If a patron is unable to get vaccinated or chooses to not take a COVID-19 test, they can request a refund before the start of the event.

Also in the last week, the city of Spokane has reinstituted its policies on mask-wearing inside all city buildings. All people, regardless of vaccination status, are now required to wear a mask inside of city buildings. Attendees to concerts at Riverfront Park would be required to wear a mask when purchasing alcohol inside the venue or using the bathroom inside of the pavilion.

“We just had our first show last week,” Kuzak said. “It will take some practice and getting used to to get the kinks out, but to see people singing and having fun was awesome.”

The concert series at Riverfront Park will host the most amount of people for its concerts and events, but they are not the only venue that is back up and running for entertainment. Locations such as the Spokane Comedy Club and The Knitting Factory have also begun to welcome back crowds after a long layoff.

For smaller venues such as The Comedy Club and The Knitting Factory, the past year has felt like an eternity.

“It has been a long year and a half,” said Matt Carlson, director of operations and production for the Knitting Factory. “To be able to bring back live entertainment and show that joy to people is so rewarding.”

The Knitting Factory began its first live shows and performances last Wednesday, with indie rock group Modest Mouse.

“We want to make sure people feel safe at our performances,” Carlson said. “Our number one priority now is safety and making sure people enjoy the performance.”

Like the Knitting Factory, the Spokane Comedy Club is getting back into the business of live shows and performances by various comedians, including shows by popular comedian Tim Dillon in October.

“When the pandemic started, I thought we were going to be closed for two weeks, which seemed detrimental to me at the time,” Adam Norwest, president of the Spokane Comedy Club, told the Spokesman-Review.

The energy seen in the club has been infectious, a Comedy Club employee said.

Now, Spokane Comedy Club, adapting to the times, has new restrictions in place, such as mask-wearing, social distancing and increased sanitation practices.

On Aug. 23, masks once again became required for all indoor spaces regardless of vaccination status.

Tommy Connolly is a staff writer.

Who's Who

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

1

Paint poorly

5

Gathering of gnats

10

Mitchell mansion owner

15

ER order

19

First brother

20

Chocolate bean

21

Picture puzzle

22

Impish one

23

Renowned composer

25

Horror tale author

27

Unsavoury sights

28

Gives off

30

Marital art of Japan

31

Pastry purchase

32

Butterfingers

33

Aper

34

Monastery superior

37

"The Most Happy ____": Loesser

38

Sweet, juicy orange

42

Songbird

43

"Harlow" star

46

Plus

47

Vote count

48

Bank holding

49

Worn

50

Lhasa ____

51

Witticism

52

CORE cofounder

56

Make over

57

Lasted longer

59

Axel and Lutz

60

Proclaim

61

____ up: crammed for an exam

62

Like an old joke

63

Kenyan tribe

65

Soprano Alma

67

Plover's cousin

68

Italy, poetically

71

Small amounts

72

Noted anchor

74

Dernier ____: latest fashion

75

Bagel or bialy

76

Santa Fe's arty neighbor

77

Raisin cake

78

Bay baby

79

Poet's monogram

80

Pulitzer composer for "Vanessa"

84

A way to learn, with by

85

Man of great strength

87

Plains tribe

88

Wisecracked

89

Luau wear

90

Beat it

91

____ and polish

93

Cools one's heels

96

Vertical

97

TV

101

"Lolita" star

103

Former manager in Baltimore

105

Yemen port

106

Farwell, to Fidel

107

Wide-eyed

108

Apparatus

109

Budget item

110

Great Dame

111

Blacksmith, at times

112

Spread

18

Amateur

24

Be sullen

26

Track official

29

Ponder

32

Composer Jerome, et al.

33

Craftsman

34

Where Crockett last stood

35

Marshy place

36

"Grace Under Fire" star

37

Let go

38

Bud holders

39

English explorer

40

Map within a map

41

Idolize

43

Percussionist's stick

44

Drew a bead on

45

Far from smooth

50

Rite site

52

High ____: prankishness

53

Escaped

54

Condor nest

55

Asserts wildly

56

Ancient war god

58

Nearby

62

Discontinue

63

Possibly

64

Go on ____: rampage

65

Waistline

66

Immoral

67

Reverent

68

Mops decks

69

Steaming

70

Felt poorly

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Lords' ladies

73

Genesis name

76

Good luck charm

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Artistic tracing

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Birds' feed

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82

Adriatic wind

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Comes to

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Agree

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Sunday sign-off

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Vivacity

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102

Footfaraw

104

Exclamation of delight

SUDOKU

Level

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2

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4

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

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

8/29/21

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

Intramurals return with Sophomore Games

RFC offers new event for second-year students while bringing back past favorites



Freshman and sophomore games kick off their fall intramural competitions on Sept. 12. Students can registration on IMLeagues.

By NATHAN OMODT

As Gonzaga University resumes class this fall and students arrive back on campus, the Rudolf Fitness Center (RFC) is preparing for the full reintroduction of intramural sports. With a high percentage of GU students being vaccinated, the RFC staff is cautiously optimistic on the outlook of intramurals this fall.

“We have a very high level of students who are vaccinated,” said José Hernandez, director of the RFC. “So that gives us an opportunity, with our masks, to go out and try our best with intramurals.”

With the current restrictions in place, the RFC staff feels that they are still able to move forward with the intention of hosting intramurals and other activities.

However, intramural games will be dependent on the containment of COVID-19 not only on campus, but also at the state level.

“We are going to follow the university policy and state mandate’s protocols and procedures about what to do with the pandemic,” Hernandez said. “If we have to wear a mask, if we have to social distance, that’s what we will do. We will not deviate

from what the state and university policies and procedures are.”

Even with some COVID-19 restrictions in place, the state of intramurals will be much more vast than last year. This fall, the RFC plans to host indoor soccer, softball, volleyball, flag football and 5v5 basketball, as well as the return of “freshman games” and the introduction of “sophomore games.”

“Because we could not offer freshman games last year, we will offer freshman and sophomore games to honor last year’s freshmen,” Hernandez said.

Freshman and sophomore games allow students to become involved in intramurals at GU, meet new students in their grade and play a variety of intramural sports before anyone else. Rising junior Brayden Heller fondly remembers his time participating in freshman games.

“I had a really good time playing in freshman games,” Heller said via text message. “I got to play games with some of the guys in the same dorm, while I also got to meet some other people from other dorms. I highly recommend participating if you get the chance.”

Besides masks, the RFC believes that intramural sports will be similar to how students remember before the pandemic. Students will be able to sign up for the

intramurals of their choice at three different levels of competition. However, the names for the three different levels of competition have changed from prior years.

Shelly Radtke, associate director of the RFC, elaborates on the three different levels: Boone, Sharpe and Sinto.

“Boone is going to be the recreational level, Sharpe is going to be the intermediate and Sinto is the competitive level,” Radtke said.

Each level of competition will have slightly different rules and different prize incentives for winning the league. The RFC staff believes this will help balance the competition at each level.

“Boone is more of a ‘I haven’t played this sport, I’m here for fun’ type, whereas Sharpe is more of an ‘I’m not too bad’, semi-competitive level,” Radtke said. “Sinto is the ‘I am going for the championship, let’s bring it’ type of competition.”

The three different levels will allow students of all skills to participate in the intramurals they want to — no matter the level of competition GU students find comfortable, they will be able to find their fit.

“I had a blast with intramurals and highly recommend participating, no matter the skill level,” Heller said.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Sept. 2
➔Men's Soccer at UC Davis, Davis, CA, 4 p.m.
➔Women's Soccer vs. Hawaii, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 3
➔Cross Country at Clash of the Inland Northwest, Cheney, WA. 10 a.m.
➔Volleyball vs. Seattle University, Gonzaga Invitational, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 4
➔Women's Cross Country at USF Invitational, San Francisco, CA, 10 a.m.
➔Volleyball vs. Air Force: Gonzaga Invitational, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 5
➔Women's Soccer vs. University of Montana, 1 p.m.
➔Men's Soccer at Sacramento State, Sacramento, CA, 1 p.m.
➔Volleyball vs. University of Oklahoma, Gonzaga Invitational, 2 p.m.

Home games in bold

In order to sign up for intramurals, students will need to download and sign up in the app IMLeagues. Once signed in, students will be able to find the various intramural sports that are being offered and sign up for them. Sign-ups for freshman and sophomore games began Aug. 30 and the games begin Sept. 12. If there are further questions, students can reach out to the RFC.

Nathan Omodt is a staff writer.

Bulldogs Crawsover to pro-am in Seattle

Holmgren and company appear in annual tournament held by former NBA player

By HENRY KRUEGER

With a few months to go until the start of the college basketball season, Gonzaga University’s top three ranked freshmen recently competed at the Crawsover Pro-Am in Seattle.

The Crawsover Pro-Am, put on annually by veteran NBA guard and Seattle native Jamal Crawford, is a league that runs during July and August held at Seattle Pacific University. This year’s pro-am had eight teams that consisted of professional, collegiate and high school players, most of whom are from the Seattle area.

While the schedule included eight regular-season games and three playoff games, the group of freshmen only played one game together on Aug. 21, representing Worldwide Sports Management.

The Zags who competed were center Chet Holmgren, the No. 1 ranked player on ESPN’s Top 100 list for the 2021 high school class, combo guard Hunter Sallis, ranked No. 16 and point guard Nolan Hickman, slotted at No. 24. These three players headline GU’s latest recruiting class — ranked the third best in the country.

The trio gelled exceptionally well on the court — combining for 80 points and 36 rebounds against The Unit, a team featuring multiple players from the University of Washington.

Holmgren, who possesses a level of coordination and

mobility rarely seen from a 7-footer, scored with ease — ending the game with 35 points. He also used every inch of his 7-foot-3-inch wingspan to corral in 17 rebounds.

Sallis had 25 points and 11 rebounds while Hickman did a little bit of everything, finishing with 20 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds.

The Unit ended up winning 110-106, but the strong performances from GU’s star freshmen were encouraging.

Crawford took to Twitter to compliment Holmgren in particular.

“It was unreal to see a unicorn in real life!” Crawford tweeted. “[Chet Holmgren] is special.”

Sallis and Holmgren would be done after one game, but Hickman played another the following day. Hickman, who’s from Seattle, put on a show for his hometown, racking up 42 points, dishing out seven assists and leading Worldwide Sports Management to victory against Ball is Life.

Hickman’s stat line from both games was impressive, but much of the focus was on what he did off the court. Before playing in the Crawsover Pro-Am, Hickman announced that his foundation, The Give Back Foundation, would be giving \$1,500 to the Rotary Boys and Girls Club, a youth organization in Seattle.

Crawford took notice of Hickman’s generosity and shouted the GU guard out on



COURTESY OF CHET HOLMGREN'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Five-star recruit and freshman Chet Holmgren recorded 35 points and 17 rebounds in his lone appearance in the Crawsover Pro-Am.

Twitter.

“[Nolan Hickman], your game is sick, but who you are as a person is SPECIAL,” Crawford tweeted. “Your parents have done an unbelievable job...Keep leading the generation that’s following you. So much respect.”

Hickman returned the same level of gratitude toward Crawford.

“JC, my big brother!” Hickman tweeted. “Thank you

so much my dawg this means so much to me you don’t even kno[w]! Love!!”

The Bulldogs don’t start their 2021-2022 campaign until November, but many have already begun trying to gauge the potential of this year’s squad. Although some will argue that pro-am games shouldn’t be taken seriously and that they’re designed for players to put up large statistics, the showing from

GU’s top three freshmen is a good sign.

The Bulldogs begin their season on Nov. 13 when they host the University of Texas.

Henry Krueger is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter: @henrykrueger

Shannon Strahl steps into new role

The newly appointed deputy athletic director continues to create excellence at Gonzaga

By ISABELLE ASPLUND-WAIN

Deputy Athletic Director Shannon Strahl has always been passionate about sports. “Both of my parents played sports, including my mom, who grew up in the '50s and '60s, where sports for women weren't as robust as they are now or even as they were for boys back then,” Strahl said.

In 1995, she was offered a scholarship to play for Gonzaga University's women's soccer team. During her undergraduate years, Strahl studied business administration with concentrations in marketing and human resources.

“She was a business major; very, very good student, but she had no intentions of going into college athletics,” said Mike Roth, former GU athletic director.

However, her involvement in the Student Athlete Advisory Committee — a student group that provides student-athlete representation on concerns involving their programs — opened up many opportunities for her future at the university.

After earning her undergraduate degree, she spent a week soaking up the sun before jumping into her master's program.

“Being able to get my graduate degree as well at GU was such a blessing,” Strahl said.

She felt like the mentality was “go off and get your graduate degree at another school, and expose yourself to others,” but her relationships with the faculty and environment made for a pleasant transition into graduate school.

It wasn't long before Strahl was approached by the staff liaison at the time, asking if she would be interested in working for the Compliance and Academics office.

Strahl took the offer. This opportunity allowed her to earn credits toward her graduate degree. She said being a graduate intern just provided “a different level of education.” She felt that the flexible schedule and relatability to her master's degree allowed her to better understand her curriculum while still providing enough time for other endeavors.

“If you're working somewhere, or interning somewhere, you can take that experience and relate it to the course, or you can take what you're learning in the course and relate it to where you're working,” Strahl said. “It becomes way



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Shannon Strahl has been with the university for 23 years, most recently as the senior associate athletic director.

more tangible and you're actually putting it into practice — just a different level of education.”

In 2000, Strahl was hired full time at GU. She said that the advantage of transitioning from being a student-athlete into an intern, then a full-time employee shortly after, was being able to bring that perspective of the student-athletes.

“I was grateful for the opportunity to kind of be that first filter,” Strahl said.

Once more, Strahl wanted to provide a voice for student-athletes and anticipate what they would want from the department.

“The responsibilities that Shannon has taken on over the years continue to expand, and it's all because of her abilities,” Roth said. “She has shown the ability to handle situations and to make great decisions and to move Gonzaga athletics — and ultimately the University — in an extremely positive way.”

Roth got to know Strahl better when she began working for the athletic department.

“I have always found her extremely competent,” Roth said. “She really fits Gonzaga.”

Today, Strahl is in awe of how much growth the campus has experienced since she played soccer for the team.

“We're nationally ranked now as an

institution and as an athletic program,” Strahl said. “Who would have ever thought a tiny school from Spokane, Washington, would be on the map like that?”

From the academic rigor expected from students in the classroom to the athletic programs that student-athletes partake in, Strahl is excited to be a part of that evolution.

She thinks what continues to make GU special is how the university is still rooted in its values, beliefs and culture, but is able to adapt to the changing environment and the changing needs of the student athletes.

She tries to maintain the institution's mission by always staying grounded in GU's roots, but having an idea of GU's future and what it hopes to be.

Strahl also supervises men's and women's soccer, but stating that “we are all engaged with all of our sports teams and student-athletes.”

Roth reassures though that Strahl's duties stretch far beyond her job description. Strahl's responsibilities include student resolution, NCAA representation and enforcing COVID-19 protocols, all while staying true to the school's mission.

“She had her normal job to do, which was 50-60 hours a week, and now we added on another 40 hours a week of COVID,” Roth said.

When Strahl wasn't in the office or attending a meeting, she was covering shifts at Gonzaga's COVID-19 testing center.

“By the time we got to the end of our competitive season in June, I think Shannon was pretty exhausted,” Roth said. “At the same time, it shows that she didn't hesitate. She never complained.”

Strahl is passionate about her position, but the journey hasn't come without its challenges.

“The hardest part, from when I first started up to now, is trying to manufacture those opportunities with student-athletes because they don't happen organically anymore in the job I do,” Strahl said.

On Sept. 1, Chris Standiford, who was the deputy athletic director, took over Roth's position. Strahl took Standiford's position, moving up from being the senior associate athletic director.

She hopes that the transition will not disrupt the efficiency and effectiveness of the department, and that the university continues to capitalize on the passion and talent that it already has on board.

Isabelle Asplund-Wain is a staff writer.

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