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Christina Thomas steps into role as Title IX coordinator

By MARISSA CENTER

Gonzaga University's Title IX office is undergoing some changes this year but its mission remains: to support all Zags.

Formerly serving as the lead investigator, Christina Thomas will now be taking on the position of Title IX coordinator.

Born in the Dominican Republic and raised in New York City, she went to a small school in upstate New York where she familiarized herself with Title IX by serving on the judicial board for all four years. She went to law school after college, but eventually decided to leave and explore education. She got her master's in education and master's of public government.

Thomas came to GU in 2016, starting as a residence director. She went back to law school, got her law degree and passed the bar exam. In 2020, she changed roles as lead investigator/health educator of violence prevention and education, then to full time university investigator, to deputy Title IX investigator.

"I started doing investigations since my first year here and while I was in housing," Thomas said. "So, I've been able to see Title IX from all ends and I think that's pretty rare for a Title IX coordinator. I've been the person who is on call and gives that first support and the person who's doing the investigation. I feel like that gives me so much knowledge about the culture of GU that I think is really hard for anyone to

have, since most Title IX coordinators are starting brand new to the place."

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that protects people in education programs or activities from discrimination based on sex. The Title IX office at GU ensures that this law is being upheld at school and it receives and investigates reports of all forms of sexual harassment.

"Usually our first concern is their physical, mental, spiritual and emotional well being," said Stephanie Thomas, former Title IX coordinator. "The first thing that we're typically talking about when we're meeting with a complainant is 'How are you doing? What do you need?' We try to get them connected to the LCS [Lutheran Community Services] Northwest

advocate, who is a crime victims advocate, specifically here for GU. We also try to get them priority appointments with the Health and Counseling Center and to CCP [Center for Cura Personalis] if they are interested in getting involved with them."

According to Stephanie Thomas, reports are handled case by case and are largely led by what the person who came to the Title IX office would like to do. So, if they choose to file a formal complaint and move forward with an investigation, an investigation occurs. This would include hearings and a hearing officer who would determine whether there is sufficient evidence to hold somebody accountable. There is also the option for an informal

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The Taelman Gardens are located outside of the Welch and DeSmet residence halls and named after Father Louis Taelman.

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GU rededicates Taelman Gardens

Content warning: Includes mention of sexual abuse

By MADELINE RICKS

The Taelman Gardens, which are named after former Gonzaga University president, Father Louis Taelman, are in the process of being rededicated. The gardens are located outside of the Welch and DeSmet residence halls.

Following the Catholic Church's clergy sexual abuse scandals, Fr. Taelman's name was found on a 2015 list of Portland, Oregon alleged offenders and the Jesuit West Province Report for the sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult. While further information of Fr. Taelman's involvement in the Portland list is currently unavailable to the public, students and faculty on campus have been working to rededicate the garden toward a higher purpose. "Of all the things I've done at my time at Gonzaga, this is the most important thing," said GSBA president Miguel Acosta Loza, who began the work as director of diversity and inclusion and continued into his presidency. "[The Gardens] have always been there since the moment I took on this position."

With involvement from GSBA, Fossil Free Gonzaga, Joe Poss and Laura Gatewood at University Advancement and the Office of Tribal Relations, the GU community is following through with its promise of reparations that was released in the 2021 Commission on University Response to Catholic Sexual Abuse Crisis. Within the commission,

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Gonzaga, Whitworth launch accelerated master's program

By SAM FEDOR

Gonzaga University has partnered with Whitworth University in a first-of-its-kind program allowing Whitworth students to take advantage of GU's School of Business accelerated masters programs. Whitworth students can now participate in GU's accelerated Master of Accountancy or Master of Science in Taxation programs as undergraduates.

GU's accounting program is one of the strongest at the university's School of Business. The program has an 82.4% first-time certified public accountant (CPA) exam pass rate and is ranked 10th in the nation, and first on the West Coast. The graduate accounting program's job placement rate is consistently near 100% within three months of graduation as well.

The accelerated programs allow undergraduate students to take up to 18 credits worth of graduate-

level accounting classes during their senior year of undergraduate studies, for no additional charge.

"You're effectively getting those credits for free, because in grad school you pay per credit," said Andrew Brajcich, director of accounting graduate programs at GU.

Whitworth students will be invited to take up to six accelerated program credits per semester, compared to the nine available to GU students.

These accelerated programs have been popular with GU since their inception, and so according to Brajcich, Whitworth was the natural choice for expansion. He decided to reach out to Candice Correia, an associate professor at Whitworth University, in 2020 to discuss opening the program to Whitworth students.

"I'm incredibly excited about this partnership and the doors it opens for Whitworth students interested in

accelerating their graduate education in accounting," Correia said. "Gonzaga is the perfect partner for Whitworth given our similar values and locations."

Applications for the next academic year are open now, both for GU and Whitworth students.

"You apply typically in the spring of your junior year," Brajcich said. "We like to see two intermediate accounting grades. Applications are open for Whitworth accelerated students this year."

GU and Whitworth's program is notably also the first of its kind in the nation. But Brajcich believes it won't end there.

"We have been exploring distance programs with other schools," Brajcich said. "Although, it's unclear what

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University's Center for Lifelong Learning extends educational opportunities

By MARY SHERDEN

This fall, Gonzaga University officially launched the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL), a continuing education program that offers trainings and certifications for mid-career professionals in various areas of study.

CLL was initially established in September of 2021. After spending its introductory year developing the internal foundations and relationships necessary for success and stability, CLL launched this fall. Located in Campion Hall with two full-time staff members, the center partners with various GU departments and offers opportunities to earn professional certificates, heighten leadership skills and fulfill GU's Jesuit commitment to lifelong learning.

One member of this full-time staff is founding Director Rachelle Strawther. Strawther came to CLL after serving eight years as the director of GU's School of Leadership.

"I learned a lot about partnering with companies to design programs that people really need right now — a program that fits a need and a demand," Strawther said.

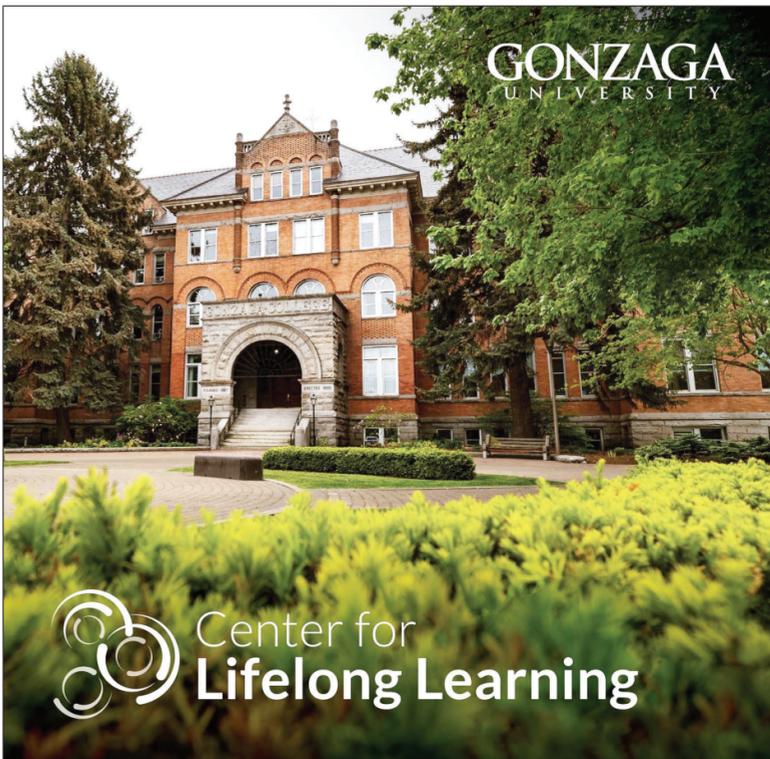
In the case of the CLL, the demand came from mid-career professionals looking for advanced training and certification beyond an undergraduate level.

"Gonzaga has always been known for undergraduate education and graduate programs ... Continuing education and professional development programs are not something that Gonzaga has been doing ... in a consistent way," Strawther said.

Her role as director is to guide the center to work in partnership with employees of GU who want to offer continuing education programs in their respective fields.

CLL took inspiration from the supplemental education resources offered by the School of Leadership. This

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Center for Lifelong Learning

PHOTO COURTESY OF GONZAGA UNIVERSITY ON FACEBOOK

The Center for Lifelong Learning was established in 2021 before being launched in 2022.

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TITLE IX

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resolution, but that has to be voluntary from both parties. Now as Title IX coordinator, Christina Thomas will be in charge of overseeing all reports. She will be involved in the compliance pieces, getting information out, getting a case management set up, completing an analysis at the end of an investigative report as well as communicating with the parties and completing the process in a timely fashion. Something new that Thomas wants to start is weekly office hours. She wants to try booking a room in the John J. Hemmington Center once a week for a couple hours to make herself available for students to drop by with any questions, and to gain insight into what is going on with students. "My main priority is visibility," Thomas said. "I think by increasing our visibility, people can see that we are empathetic, we are human beings and we are trying to make that connection. I want to reintroduce the humanity of Title IX, because there has been this narrative of an 'us versus them' mindset and the community feels like we're not listening. I'm trying to get more programming and projects out and I want to engage more in the community

and for the community to see me as somebody who is here to support our campus community, and is here to work to eradicate sexual violence and harassment and discrimination." In the event that an incident occurs, students may feel more comfortable initially reporting to someone in their residence hall. Jon Wheeler, director of residence life, explained how the Residence Hall Association plays a role in this process. "RAs and all staff members for the department are mandatory reporters," Wheeler said. "They have to contact the residence director on call. Then, the residence director on call responds to the incident and speaks with the complainant. And at that point, resources are provided to the complainant and we ask them how they want to proceed. We do a lot of training around sexual assault for our staff and how to respond." Both Stephanie Thomas and Christina Thomas mentioned the discrepancy in reporting versus incidents that occur. The university receives 60 to 80 reports on average per year, and a quarter of them are about sexual harassment. According to the climate assessment survey, only 10% of individuals report the incident that happened to them. In this survey, students were invited to explain why they chose not to report their incident. Many cited worries about people finding out, that people wouldn't

believe them, or that they weren't ready to begin the process. "I want to encourage people to come forward," Stephanie Thomas said. "A lot of these issues go unreported or we don't hear about them until days, months, even weeks later. The earlier that people are able to report, the better, because we are able to help assist with preservation of evidence and get them connected to medical support and counseling sooner." Christina Thomas invites all forms of feedback in an effort to further embed Title IX with GU's community. "I want people to feel more comfortable here," Thomas said. "I can't do that alone. I do need the help of our campus community. I'm opening a partnership with the entire GU community and I hope people are willing to partner with me. I want to bridge the gap of how we can work together as a community to do these things and really increase bystander intervention efforts. Invite me to programs and meetings, I want to be present and active. I'm opening my door so I need you to open yours." Marissa Conter is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @marissaconter.

GARDENS

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future committee work is outlined to aid in rededication and similar processes on campus as a part of GU's promise to the community. According to Poss, these committees include Revisiting Gonzaga's Past, Commemorative Installation and Public Memorial. The Commission Report also promises to work with the Office of Tribal Affairs in redefining the university's relationship with the Native community that has been harmed by the Church's sexual misconduct and lack of recognition. "The natural work of these committees will allow for community discernment, reflection and sharing of ideas," Poss said. "It will also make sure that the decisions we make are informed by the network of relationships and communities of which Gonzaga is part." Wendy Thompson, the director of Tribal Relations at GU, has worked to bridge the gap between Spokane's Indigenous population and the GU community. These recommendations will serve as a guide for similar events on campus, and the rededication of the Taelman Gardens is a fresh example of the work already beginning. When Acosta Loza and McKenna Krey, president of Fossil Free Gonzaga, decided to reach out to the Office of Tribal Relations in the summer of 2021, they embarked on a mission with Thompson and the rest of the office to change the meaning of the Taelman Gardens. They first contacted the Office of Tribal Relations in an attempt to form a deeper connection with the office and GU students. "No one in GSBA or really any student groups have connected with Tribal Relations in the 17 years that they've been here," Krey said. Both Thompson and Krey mentioned

how shocking the allegation against Fr. Taelman was due to the numerous photographs and records of his deep involvement with the Kalispel reservation. Fr. Taelman was known for his work in the Native communities around the greater Spokane area, which makes the appearance of his name on the Portland list of abusers even more concerning. The gardens are three small plots of flowers and shrubbery that most students walk past every day. They were erected in 1912 for GU's jubilee year, with a stone and plaque added in June of 1960 by donors. Poss said this was done in the same year that Fr. Taelman celebrated his 75th year in the Society of Jesus. While the process, now over a year of work, has taken longer than expected the plans for the gardens are now being finalized and visible change is already happening. With the aid of University Advancement, the original plaque has now been removed and replaced by a foam board that reads, "Gonzaga strongly denounces sexual abuse and owns our responsibility to represent our values in what we memorialize on campus." The sign includes a promise to work with "tribal partners and university community members as [they] thoughtfully reimagine and rename this space." It also contains a QR code at the bottom which leads to a page on the GU website with links to the 2021 Commission Report and the 2018 Jesuit West Province list of sexual offenders. While the plaque is a placeholder for the upcoming gardens, it allows curious students and passerby to learn about why the space is being rededicated. Acosta Loza and Krey detailed the future plans for the space, past a temporary foam plaque. "We want it to be reflective and represent the connection between Native people and the Earth," Krey said. Along with Tribal Relations, they are partnering with the Salish Language Group to find an appropriate name for



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The QR code leads to a page on the GU website with links to the 2021 Commission Report and the 2018 Jesuit West Province list of sexual offenders.

the gardens. The goal is for the space to become precious, according to Krey. But the new gardens' higher purpose doesn't stop there. Krey hopes for the space to be for people who have been sexually assaulted or harassed on campus to come and feel seen. According to Krey, the aim is not to erase Fr. Taelman's memory or the gardens, but to instead create a precious spot at GU for often voiceless parts of the community, whether that be tribe members or sexual assault victims, where they are seen and honored. The new gardens are set to be completed in the spring of 2023. Madeline Ricks is a staff writer.

PROGRAM

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schools those might be." Both Brajcich and Correia believe that this partnership will be mutually beneficial to both universities. While it is the first partnership of its kind, accelerated programs are nothing new. "Today's higher education environment demands more graduate offerings and students are specifically drawn to accelerated programs," Correia said. "Since Whitworth does not offer graduate programs in accounting this will be a mutually beneficial partnership." Brajcich agreed. The program is also beneficial to GU's graduate programs as a direct pipeline to the school's graduate accounting programs, and ensures that

the accelerated students who enroll are both ready for graduate level coursework, along with lightening their credit load so they can continue to excel. He said that mixing the student bodies of the two universities is also beneficial. "At the grad level, discussion is really important," Brajcich said. "And the more unique individuals with unique perspectives you can get into the classroom, the better off everybody is." Besides reducing costs for students looking to pursue a graduate degree in accountancy or taxation, the accelerated program also helps them to prepare for CPA exams, of which GU has a first-time passing rate of 82.4%. "In order to take the CPA exam, you need to have 150 semester credit hours," Brajcich said. "That's effectively a fifth year ... a lot of students choose to get a grad degree instead of another year of undergrad."

The hope is that implementing this initiative and allowing Whitworth students to take advantage of this program will give them the tools needed to see a similar level of success. "It's gone as smoothly as could be expected," Brajcich said. It's also hoped that the enthusiasm for the initiative will translate to prospective students, both at GU and at Whitworth. "Our program is one of the top in the country, and that is because we get great students," Brajcich said. "So that's a big focus of this program, getting more great students to Gonzaga ... our students, they come in motivated and they work hard." Sam Fedor is a staff writer.

CENTER

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department offers webinars, conferences and certificate programs to empower professional individuals as leaders through skill-based seminars, as well as form networks and bonds with community cohorts. Kelsey Solberg, professional and community education director for the school of leadership, described the school's philosophy as teaching students leadership skills. As of now, the CLL offers five different certification programs, ranging from three to nine month completion times. "We lead from the inside out," Solberg

said. Solberg said she has high hopes for the partnership between the CLL and the School of Leadership. "Certificates are the beginning, but the possibilities are endless," Solberg said. The School of Leadership demonstrates the idea of endless possibilities with its specialized certificate programs like Women Lead, which is directed by Sherri Lynch who also manages external relations for the School of Leadership. "Women Lead itself, is really meant to educate and empower women in any stage of their professional career," Lynch said. Lynch said she additionally values the relationship shared between the School of Leadership and the CLL. "I think it really allows the two schools

to shine, as well as the subject matter," Lynch said. These types of specialized training from the School of Leadership inspired Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, Jolanta Weber, to expand GU's continuing education to more departments using CLL. This flexibility allows CLL to work with GU employees to create programs and areas of certification that the community wants and needs. "In all of our programs we are constantly asking for feedback [and] adjusting to make sure that we're delivering something that people really want," Strawther said. "If one of our programs doesn't hit the mark, then it doesn't add value." While CLL seeks to target professionals looking to further enrich

their career with various certificates and training, Strawther said that a future goal of the CLL is to expand its audience to serve almost every age group. This would mean partnering with GU units to offer programs for teenagers, the retired community and local companies. She said she encourages current GU undergraduate students to be inspired by the CLL and keep learning and growing no matter one's stage of life. "When we were first talking about this center, we weren't sure what to call it," Strawther said. "Lifelong learning just kept coming back to me personally because it felt so true to the mission. It felt Jesuit ... We're really emphasizing that learning never really stops." Mary Sherden is a staff writer.

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Housing improvement plan approved

By TOMMY CONMY

Housing on Gonzaga University's campus could begin to look different as soon as the end of next semester after the Housing Master Plan was approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Office of Student Affairs contracted with the consulting firm Brailsford and Dunlavey to help craft a master plan for what GU student housing will look like in the immediate and long-term future.

According to Vice Provost for Student Affairs Kent Porterfield, the results from Brailsford and Dunlavey emphasized improving second year housing to address pain points.

"The place we started was really thinking about sophomore housing, because when we look at our current situation, that's probably the place where we have the most gaps," Porterfield said. "We ended up with sophomores in some spaces that were originally designed for upper division students, or maybe they're living in spaces with first year students, which may not be what they desire."

Although concrete plans haven't been made or approved yet, the Board's approval allows the school to move forward with planning and designing the first phase of housing changes. The first step in the process is the formation of a steering committee comprised of individuals from Housing and Residence Life, Student Affairs, Construction and Plant Services and Enrollment Management. The committee will also include students and GSBA representatives in addition to GU's chief financial or chief strategy officer.

The goal of the steering committee is to present their findings to the Board of Trustees at the end of this semester. The Board will either approve, deny or amend the proposal before next steps can be taken.

Porterfield said the general timeline could be a year to 18 months before a new facility was designed or constructed but did not specify a specific timeline. Thus far, every option for improving on-campus housing is on the table.

"The first thing we'll be looking at is a site where we can build up initially, to be able to figure out how to absorb whatever beds we would lose in clearing a site for our larger development," Porterfield said. "We probably wouldn't rule out the ability to expand the campus ... our initial plans were trying to look at properties that are mostly if not exclusively under our control already."

Dean for Student Development Matt Lamsma was part of kickstarting this process last fall as the campus coordinator working with Brailsford and Dunlavey. Lamsma sought to think strategically about housing at GU moving forward as students are required to live on-campus their first two years and new housing hasn't been constructed since Coughlin Hall in 2009.

"We don't have the ability to tear down housing and then, say, take two years to build something new because we live at about a 97-98% occupancy rate across campus," Lamsma said. "I can't tear down 200 beds. Then I don't have room for students."

Porterfield emphasized that targeting sophomores has benefits for older and younger students alike. In a survey of hundreds of students, they found that sophomores had the most concerns and were the most dissatisfied percentage wise.

As a Jesuit institution, approaching housing holistically has been an emphasis throughout the development of this process. This included exploring how Living



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Kennedy Apartments features single occupancy rooms for upper division students on the fourth and fifth floors.

Learning Communities, academics and even village or neighborhood living concepts would influence student behavior and outcomes.

"Part of the question for us always is, you know, if we are going to require students to live on campus for two years, how is that a value added to their Gonzaga educational experience?" Lamsma said.

The nationwide housing market has also factored into GU and Brailsford and Dunlavey's decision making process. One finding from the student survey indicated that upperclassmen had difficulty in finding off-campus housing in part due to increased cost.

In Spokane, the average rent of a one-bedroom apartment has increased from \$1,162 in Sept. 2021 to \$1,550 in Sept. 2022 based on data from Rent.com. The average rent for a one-bedroom apartment in the Logan Neighborhood is \$850.

Brailsford and Dunlavey analyzed price escalation in the market as part of their consultation in an effort to project how future plans will impact students and their families going forward. This played a role in focusing on sophomores as it may create more opportunities for upper division students to live on campus.

"I think that will always be attractive to some students," Porterfield said. "But I think what [Brailsford and Dunlavey] is saying is the higher those prices go, the more important it is for the university to fill that gap."

Porterfield and Lamsma admitted that GU's housing stock is relatively outdated. Besides Coughlin, Kennedy Apartments is the newest student housing project

completed on campus, with construction concluding in 2008. DeSmet Hall, constructed in 1923, represents GU's oldest dorm while many other dorms including Welch Hall, Catherine-Monica Hall and Crimont Hall were constructed between 1957 and 1965.

"The type of places and spaces that, especially our sophomore students, but students in general, want to live in now and find most beneficial to their success probably isn't the same thing as it was 50 years ago, maybe even 10 years ago," Lamsma said.

While the steering committees' labor will not be seen for months, Porterfield and Lamsma believe the initial planning process indicates that GU is responding to student body growth and input in a proactive manner.

"It's going to be a fluid process and there are different points along the way where we'll be able to share some information and ask for some feedback," Porterfield said. "It's just important that the community participates because we want to make sure we make the right kinds of decisions and we're thinking about the right things in our planning. I hope that even just talking about the potential of renovation or new student housing will be exciting to students."

Tommy Conmy is a sports editor. Follow him on Twitter: @tommyconmy.

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DeSantis' stunt subverts human dignity, ushers in 'new populism'

When I heard Florida Governor Ronald DeSantis had flown dozens of Venezuelan migrants to Martha's Vineyard in a ploy to anger the 'liberal elite,' I wish I could say I was surprised. But the inhumanity and disrespect of DeSantis' latest political stunt should come as a surprise to absolutely nobody. Regardless of how ridiculous and theatrical, we shouldn't forget that behind all of this political theater are people's lives. Dozens of displaced individuals were turned into pawns in a cheap bid at angering political rivals. Dozens of human beings were tricked and coerced into being robbed of their humanity for a publicity stunt. It's really as simple as that.

Never mind the millions of taxpayer dollars spent to advance one man's political clout. Never mind the human trafficking lawsuits on the horizon, or the class action lawsuits filed on behalf of the migrants who were taken advantage of.

What we as the court of public opinion need to remember is DeSantis' motivation; to 'piss off the libs.' Not to serve his constituency or fulfill any of the duties of his public office, but to anger a poorly defined and often imaginary liberal elite far outside his jurisdiction.

This behavior is indicative of a man who would do just about anything for a smidgen of political gain. Regardless of his breach of duty, though, we also shouldn't forget just how problematic this political theater can be; after all, far



By SAMUEL FEDOR

worse has been done in the name of 'pissing off the libs.'

This new ideology of trolling 'the other side' has become a political end in and of itself. And while it's easy for conservative voters to write the more inflammatory things said by conservative politicians off as jokes, these words have meaning. They've created a culture of political antagonism, and innocent people can get caught in the crossfire. Never mind the political gridlock this antagonism is responsible for.

Not to say that liberal politicians are by any means bystanders in this war of words, but this culture of trolling has

risen to define the Trump era. To many, that's what 'Trumpism' means; a disregard for the truth or for common decency, in the name of political gain. And it's clear that DeSantis understands this playbook.

It would seem as if this twisted populism works. DeSantis has reaped political gains, despite the legal challenges he faces. And make no mistake, this dehumanizing of opposing political agendas into faceless masses is by no means unique to the right; indeed, liberal politicians and voters are just as guilty.

But political theater that plays on these fears like DeSantis' takes advantage of this dehumanization in a uniquely dangerous way, especially when the dehumanized are the most vulnerable among us.

We need to remember that these migrants, first and foremost, are people. Many of whom are fleeing the violence and poverty of a totalitarian regime in their home country of Venezuela. People who had been through hell to make it across the border in the first place.

People who were vulnerable. The agents employed by DeSantis preyed on this vulnerability. It's alleged that many of them were approached with promises of food, jobs and transportation. There's a sick irony in having been lured in with the promise of basic human rights, for the purpose of having their humanity removed from them in a petulant political game.

According to state records, this stunt cost \$1.6 million in taxpayer dollars paid to a contractor. And while DeSantis' office has been opaque regarding exactly what role government officials played. But interviews with the migrants in question paint a clear picture; of a carefully planned, taxpayer funded operation with little regard for the migrants caught in the crossfire. They were misled into signing documents that weren't even translated into Spanish, with false promises of food and hotel stays.

DeSantis now faces an investigation by a Texas sheriff who called the operation 'predatory,' as well as a federal class action lawsuit by the migrants alleging a 'premeditated, fraudulent, and illegal scheme.'

And so we, the court of public opinion, must react accordingly. DeSantis should not win political points for a stunt like this. We as Americans should be better. We should welcome the tired, the poor, those huddled masses yearning to breathe free.

At the very least, regardless of thoughts on immigration, we should agree to treat those most vulnerable among us as human beings with basic human dignity. We should condemn anything and everything that challenges that notion. DeSantis' actions do not represent us, unless we let them.

Samuel Fedor is a staff writer.

Combatting climate change critical in solving California's woes



By BROOKE BOWEN

California has been burning, flooding and experiencing some of the highest temperatures ever recorded. When areas like Huntington Beach experienced intense rain and Los Angeles experienced thunderstorms, over 10 major fires were reported throughout the state recently.

Residents are no strangers to the hot weather, but quick changes from hot to rain to smoke to flash floods are more than they bargained for. Adding even more fuel to the fire — California is facing a hurricane warning

and tropical storms because of the heat wave. The wind from the storm, reaching up to 100 miles per hour spread the small wildfires into massive forest fires.

Almost every California resident has been alerted to the unusually high temperatures and a stage two emergency. The state was headed towards a stage three emergency meaning rolling outages for California residents.

When looking at the areas the California heat wave is affecting, almost every area is experiencing a record-shattering heat index. The heat is caused by intense pressure, known as a heat dome, which traps and dries out the air creating the intense scorching temperatures.

The state is known as a large exporter of agricultural goods including dairy products, grapes, almonds and strawberries, all of which require massive amounts of water. The start of the pandemic marked a mega-drought for California, drying out the state's vegetation and the heat wave is making everything worse for California farmers.

With the highest houseless population in the United States, California leaves its most vulnerable population defenseless against the heat wave. It has a shortage of transitional housing and homeless shelters for its growing homeless population. Many of the people living on the streets today would not be there if the state would provide adequate care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further, the state refuses to acknowledge the issue as many houseless people are unable to get water. The houseless in California are unable to avoid the heat,

avoid tropical storms and are now left dying of thirst.

Governor Gavin Newsom responded to the heat waves by signing into action multiple bills. Arguably, the most important bill, Assembly Bill 2238, pushes the Department of Insurance to create a plan to prepare for future intense heat waves.

Among Assembly Bill 2238, Newsom signed into action AB 1643 with the intention of studying the effects of the California heat wave in real-time. Newsom also signed into action AB 2420 which insured the California Department of Public Health to direct pregnant people in their working conditions given the extreme heat.

His attempt to create a zero-emission state by the year 2035 put into action a week before the heat wave is questionable at best. The plan encourages California residents to purchase electric cars and with the government investing in the program electric cars will be cheaper for the average California resident.

Blackouts have prohibited California residents from charging their electric vehicles. California is not ready or able to sustain even limited solutions when global warming is only getting worse.

The heat waves in California are uprooting the lives of almost every Californian. Thoughts and prayers are no longer good enough when watching the damage global warming are doing to the state. California is struggling and there is little hope of an end to the struggle unless serious and attainable action is created to stop the effects of man-made global warming.

Brooke Bowen is a staff writer.

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West Hill lawsuit illustrates baseless fears of transitional housing

Spokane's West Hills neighborhood residents are up in arms over Catholic Charities Eastern Washington's (CCEW) plan to purchase and convert the Quality Inn on Sunset Highway into a home-like supportive housing project called the "Catalyst Project."

While this distaste towards our unhoused neighbors is a common sentiment, West Hills residents have alienated and harassed the unhoused more than they have voiced their concerns against the Catalyst Project.

According to CCEW CEO Rob McCann, the Inn would be transformed into 87 rooms for 100 to 120 adults with a similar model to their other housing projects. Catalyst will offer employment, vocational and life skill services on site and will not allow the use of drugs or alcohol in and around the building.

The center will not offer walk up services or serve as a walk up shelter, but it will select residents through a referral and screening process with priority to those ready to stabilize their lives. Catalyst will have 24/7 security and around 38 staffers, more than any other Catholic Charities housing complex of this size.

The Catalyst Project is one of the several projects in the city of Spokane's application for \$24.3 million to be used for the relocation of Camp Hope residents, a homeless encampment in east Spokane. Camp Hope has been under threat recently, with the city of Spokane going back and forth with Washington State (and mainly Washington State Department of Transportation)



By SYDNEY FLUKER

about the dissolution of the camp. A day after the State ruled that the city did not have the power to dissolve the camp, Spokane Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich released a two-page letter pledging to "clear this camp by mid-October."

West Hills residents came together to establish "Spokane for Safe Neighborhoods," a non-profit that they used to file a lawsuit that lists defendants as Catholic Charities, Dignity Housing, Empire Health, Sunset Health and the City of Spokane.

West Hills residents cite Camp Hope in responses in the Sept. 12 city council meeting as a dangerous place with rampant crime that could bleed into their neighborhood.

Residents claim to be blindsided by the announcement of the project and do not want it in their backyard and are worried about safety. The lawsuit mentions safety concerns including people with potential criminal backgrounds moving into their neighborhoods and environmental concerns from the

remodeling of the old hotel.

West Hills residents are fine to worry about their safety — it's a human thing to do. However, there is a huge difference between constructing a drop-in shelter and supportive housing like the Catalyst.

Transitional housing typically involves a temporary residence of up to 24 months with wrap-around services to help people stabilize their lives. Those not interested in receiving such help are discouraged from applying, and the sobriety factor often keeps people away. As the Catalyst does not have an expiration date on how long residents can stay, it is considered supportive housing but shares similar qualities to transitional housing. This is not to say that those dealing with addiction are scary and dangerous, but rather to show the faulty claim that West Hills residents rest their argument on. Addiction can have lifelong effects, but the wraparound services at supportive housing facilities would aid in preventing dangerous situations from arising in the neighborhood.

There is a large difference between transitional housing and an average drop-in shelter, but the rhetoric surrounding such facilities remains the same. West Hills residents should not be afraid of their potential neighbors.

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

Garland District welcomes Vintage Print + Neon's bright designs

By JONAS BEARS

Historic past inspires the future for many business owners in Spokane's Garland District, including local artist Chris Bovey, who opened up shop in the Garland District earlier this month.

His new store, Vintage Print + Neon, is located at 914 W. Garland Ave., between Mary Lou's Milk Bottle and the Garland Theater. For Bovey, the location is ideal.

"There is a lot of history here," Bovey said. "I do a lot of landmark prints, and I'm sandwiched between two right here."

Bovey has an eye for the quirks and peculiarities that make Spokane unique; his silk screen prints have a vibrant, vintage look, and they feature iconic local landmarks — some of which include Dick's Hamburgers, Donut Parade and Riverfront Park's "Garbage Goat".

Though he has been selling these prints on Etsy for years, Bovey recently decided it was time to expand.

"I wanted to do more than just prints," Bovey said. "Now people can print their own shirts; that's something I couldn't do until I had my own place."

The garage door entryway provides a wide welcome into Vintage Print, and neon arrows direct customers inside.

The interior walls are strewn with Bovey's prints, rusted license plates and refurbished neon signs. With Bruce Springsteen playing overhead and a Donkey Kong arcade cabinet against the wall, the store induces a sense of nostalgia for customers. Customers are able to print their own silk screen T-shirts in store, as well as purchase an array of items featuring Bovey's work.

Shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, water bottles and more can now be found at Vintage Print but the selection is constantly growing.

"The socks and pillows are new, and I want to carry aprons in the future," Bovey said.

For now, neon simply serves as decor inside the store. "I'm still learning my skills with neon," Bovey said. "Soon we'll have more neon pieces for sale in here."

The store doubles as both workshop and storefront for Bovey. While customers shop, he prints to keep up — the silk screen process is all done by hand. Though laborious, Bovey plans to teach others his skill; he will soon be hosting print-and-pint nights at Vintage Print, inviting members of the community to enjoy drinks and create silk screen art of their own.

In the Garland District this kind of community building is key, as the area is made up of local businesses that are now having to compete with chains and online stores to stay afloat.

The Garland Theater has already agreed to team up with Vintage Print for upcoming movie showings, encouraging customers to buy certain prints in exchange for free movie tickets.

Giant Nerd Books is another business which has recently begun to call the Garland District home. Owner Nathan Huston made a point of stopping by Bovey's store during opening weekend to show his support.

"Chris is a great guy," Huston said. "He's great for memorializing a lot of Spokane history that may have



DYLAN SMITH IG: d.smithphotos

Chris Bovey opened his new small business "Vintage Print + Neon" where customers can shop for handmade designs.

“

There's a lot of history here. I do a lot of landmark prints, and I'm sandwiched between two right here.

Chris Bovey, local artist and owner of Vintage Print + Neon

otherwise been overlooked.”

Bovey's ability to memorialize Spokane's history allows viewers of his work a lens into the past.

The White Elephant, a locally owned sporting goods store that went out of business during the COVID-19

pandemic, is the most recent example of a landmark that no longer exists which Bovey has managed to preserve in his art. Others that have vanished include the Manito Park Zoo and Hastings bookstore. Because of Bovey, the legacy of these places can live on.

Bovey has a series of prints which depict retro logos of high schools and universities in the Spokane area.

His Gonzaga University design features a throwback rendition of Spike the Bulldog, which is currently being sold on prints, clothing and engraved ThermoFlask water bottles in-store. A few other prints also reference GU, like the "Home Cookin'" print, which pays homage to Zags basketball specifically.

Although the Spokane area is his primary focus, Bovey has begun to take on other locations in his art. He now offers prints of national parks, the Oregon coast and the Puget Sound. There appears to be no end in sight for Bovey, and Vintage Print + Neon has simply opened the door for new projects to come.

Jonas Bears is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter: @jonas_bears2.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level 1 2 3 4

		6	3		7				9
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					9	1			6
							5		8
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Solution to Last Week's puzzle

10/23/22

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

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

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I NEED A CHANGE

By Pam Amick Klawitter

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| ACROSS | 71 Cartoonist Chast | 5 Aleppo native | 62 Garden product |
| 1 Chunks of marble | 72 Spot for withdrawals | 6 Fill-in worker | 63 syllable |
| 6 Private eye | 75 "Yeah, sure" | 7 At any time | 64 Corners |
| 9 Wild hog | 76 "For sale by" sign poster | 8 Parking lot siren | 64 Norton of "Fight Club" |
| 13 Word of welcome | 77 John of the "Harold & Kumar" films | 9 Threw under the bus | 65 Goes off |
| 18 Sly | 79 Allende novel about a masked hero | 10 Desert hangout | 66 Sis's playmate |
| 19 Brand of sport sandals | 81 Excellent reason to avoid a career as a milliner? | 11 Analogous | 67 Escape artist's props |
| 20 Blue area on a map | 83 ___ goo gai pan | 12 Doctors-in-training | 68 Whole ___ bread |
| 21 Universal principle | 84 "Furry up!" | 13 Rash | 69 Moon stage |
| 22 Broadcaster | 85 Notes before sols | 14 Surplus | 72 Concert venue |
| 23 U.S. citizen | 86 Mates | 15 "That's not true!" | 73 "Lemon Tree" singer Lopez |
| 24 "No warranties" | 87 Betting tactic | 16 Chaney of horror | 74 Drive-up lodging |
| 25 Speed-reads | 89 Kin of -trix | 17 Sounds in a yoga studio | 76 Brutus Buckeye's home |
| 26 Parliamentary official overseeing strollers? | 90 Fr. holy women | 19 Island where Gauguin painted "Vahine no te tiare" | 77 Screw cap alternative |
| 30 Poke bowl tuna | 92 Dad ___ | 27 Fancy pillow covers | 78 Hindu festival of colors |
| 31 Wine sediment | 93 Evidence that leads to identify thieves? | 28 Clothing department | 80 "Back to you" on a walkie-talkie |
| 32 Calendar boxes | 95 Animation collectibles | 29 Figure skater Hughes | 82 Aesop work |
| 33 Brave showing at the bug zapper? | 97 Xperia Tablet maker | 33 Eyeball benders | 83 "I Try" Grammy winner |
| 39 Côte d'Azur view | 98 Forest female | 34 Snack chip | 84 Astonished cry |
| 44 California's ___ Alto | 99 How one kisses a famous rock at Blarney Castle? | 35 California town whose name means "the river" | 87 French door piece |
| 45 Fake ID flashers | 107 "Cancel the launch!" | 36 "Continue, please" | 88 "Here comes the next act" |
| 46 Charge toward | 109 Suffix with buck | 37 Fit of pique | 91 Recap numbers |
| 48 Pie ___ mode | 110 NFL analyst Tony | 38 Kate's husband on "This Is Us" | 93 Syllables from Santa |
| 49 Like this answer | 111 Light fabric | 39 Change into something new | 94 Cars at a charging station |
| 51 Blue chip called "Big Blue" | 112 Free-for-all | 41 Bring about | 96 Cosmetician |
| 52 Clean | 113 Dash dial | 42 Jimmy of the Daily Planet | 97 Inventory |
| 53 halfheartedly? | 114 Profess | 43 Actress Naomi | 99 French Quarter city, informally |
| 54 Horned African grazer | 115 "Miss Congeniality 2: ___ and Fabulous" | 46 "Invisible Man" writer Ellison | 100 Not written down |
| 55 Farm enclosure | 116 Stop | 47 Mosaic flooring | 101 Wander around |
| 56 Trees with caffeine-rich nuts | 117 Humboldt River city | 50 Malted spot | 102 "Silent All These Years" singer Tori |
| 57 Zero out | 118 "That's correct" | 52 Coast Guard fleet | 103 Flag |
| 58 Besides | 119 Watermelon leftovers | 53 Monopoly card | 104 "Drinks are ___" |
| 59 OB or ENT | DOWN | 55 UCLA or USC | 105 Call for |
| 61 Bounded | 1 Sign of healing | 56 Mideast drink made from fermented milk | 106 Fades to black |
| 62 Putting spots | 2 Dragon's digs | 60 Polo Grounds legend Mel | 107 "Preacher" network |
| 63 Guy who invented tiny nails? | 3 Farming prefix | 61 Dotes on | 108 Quilting party |
| 67 Breakfast cereal magnate | 4 Vegetable in red flannel hash | | |
| 70 "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" Oscar nominee | | | |

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol and Joyce Nichols Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
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10/23/22

Roam Coffee brings Nordic-style roasts to Spokane's coffee scene

By LILY JOHNSON

Roam Coffee House is bringing rural, family-operated and Nordic-style roasting to the Inland Northwest — a change of pace for a region known for its classic urban-style dark roasts.

What sets Roam Coffee House apart from other coffee shops in the area is its unique method of roasting their coffee beans. Commonly known in the coffee industry as Nordic-style roasting, this refers to the lightness of the grade to which the beans are roasted. In common vernacular, this might be described as a less-bitter tasting flavor to the resulting coffee that is brewed.

According to Shelley Quigley, the owner of Roam Coffee House, that lighter flavor is what they strive for in their coffee. "We never want your coffee to be bitter," Quigley said. "It was really important to us to highlight the characteristics of that coffee, because someone put a lot of effort into it."

Roam Coffee has five different single-origin coffees that are used in some of their everyday blends, as well as a slightly different Columbia roast that is used in their espresso. Quigley says they are used to highlight the diversity of the coffee flavors, rather than homogenize it.

On Sept. 24 Roam brought its coffee to Spokane with the grand opening of the coffeehouse at 1908 W. Northwest Blvd.

Quigley said the event attracted a large crowd, and the new location has already gained some regular customers in the first few days of being open.

As a fifth-generation wheat farmer from Harrington, Washington, Quigley described their initial goal as a coffee company was to create a "farmers-supporting-farmers" mission.

"It really started with my perspective of being a farmer, knowing that coffee is usually grown in developing nations," Quigley said. "... We have this view in the



ANDREW LOF IG:andrewlof_photography

Roam Coffee House has unique roasting methods that sets their brew apart from the rest.

Pacific Northwest especially that just kind of appears in your cup, and it's easy to not think about the father and mother, and probably kids, that helped create that plant and nurtured it."

Though the Quigley farm does not grow coffee, the idea of giving people a window into the family-farm life and experiencing it firsthand was a concept that they were attracted to.

"We really wanted to connect that to people — there are family farmers here and family farmers there," Quigley said.

She explained that Roam Coffee House's true mission is to help educate people and reduce the separation between the nations that produce the coffee and the nations that benefit from that production,

noting that being able to share what they believe is the best cup of coffee around is just a bonus for them.

"We love being able to connect with people," Quigley said.

Roam's first location opened in 2021 in Medical Lake — a town just east of Spokane. Roxann McNaughton, a Spokane resident of 25 years, knows Roam Coffee House from the Medical Lake location and is excited about the new Spokane location.

"[I like] the personality — the community-oriented attitude, and they make great coffee," McNaughton said.

McNaughton noted her appreciation for Roam Coffee House's dedication to supporting other local small businesses and loves the other products that Roam

Coffee sells within their store.

Along the walls of the coffeehouse, customers can find small exhibits of other local businesses, including The Supper Club, a restaurant they share the space with. Quigley said much of their success in the new location can be attributed to the owner of The Supper Club.

According to Quigley, Roam Coffee believes in small businesses supporting other small businesses and is honored to share the space with fellow artisans.

"There's a value in being able to get things from real people," Quigley said.

David Faunt Le Roy, a GU alum from the class of 2013, was drawn to Roam Coffee House because of recommendations from friends.

"I've been in Spokane 13 years now, and my favorite part of Spokane, and the northwest in general, is the small hole in the wall, local businesses," Faunt Le Roy said. "I think that spirit is so powerful, and I just encourage people to lean into this place with their time and their money."

Faunt Le Roy grew up on a farm as well, and said it was great that he was able to support a local business' mission such as Roam Coffee's.

Roam Coffee House's Spokane location is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is about a seven-minute drive from GU.

"We're really grateful to be here," Quigley said. "We're really excited to be able to enter into Spokane and this neighborhood specifically on Northwest Boulevard."

Roam Coffee House hopes to support the educational community specifically and welcomes students and staff members in need of coffee.

"We want everyone who walks through our door to feel supported," Quigley said.

Lily Johnson is a staff writer.

"Hairspray" welcomed Spokane to the monumental 60's

REVIEW

By LILLIAN PIEL

I've seen the movie adaptation of the musical "Hairspray" before, so I thought I knew more or less what to expect when I saw it live — I was wrong, that's for sure. Not only was "Hairspray" filled with way more raunchy jokes and innuendos than I expected, the show is much more complex than I initially gave it credit for.

Movie musicals are highly underrated, in my humble opinion. They're more accessible, and you can watch one a lot easier than you can go to a theater to see a live musical. However, watching "Hairspray" proved once again that nothing can quite compare to the magic of watching a musical come to life on stage, complete with all its vibrant costumes, energetic choreography and harmonies blending in exactly the right way to give the audience chills.

"Hairspray" is set in Baltimore in 1962 within the context of the Civil Rights Movement, and is centered on Tracy Turnblad, who dreams of dancing on "The Corny Collins Show," a popular TV show that features teenage performers. However, because "Hairspray" takes place in the 60s, the larger plot details how "The Corny Collins Show" is racially segregated, and throughout the show, Tracy learns about activism, racial injustice and how to do what's right.

Add in some love story subplots between many of the main characters, a protest against the segregated show and a competition between Tracy and Amber, the daughter of the show's main antagonist, for the title of 'Miss Teenage Hairspray,' and you've got a show with plenty of tension to spare.

Throughout the entire musical, I was entranced by the bold colors of the costumes of everyone in the ensemble, from jewel tones to flashy patterns. The costumes complemented the vibrancy of many of the songs, which were peppered with harmonies and solos that gave many of the cast members their chance to be in the spotlight.

The bright, multicolored background that shifted patterns to match the tone of each scene and the pink and purple lighting that bathed the stage throughout many of the songs also drew the audience into the world being built onstage, which contrasted with some of the more



COURTESY OF "HAIRSPRAY" ON TOUR FACEBOOK

"Hairspray" ran at the First Interstate Center for the Arts from September 20-25.

complex themes the show tackles, including racism, body image and either choosing to stand by when injustice is happening or engage with a movement.

I was already a big fan of the song "I Can Hear the Bells," but hearing it brought to life by the bright, bubbly vocals of Niki Metcalf, who played the role of Tracy, and watching the ensemble progressively join in the number in a daydream-like sequence that embodied Tracy's lovestruck feelings brought a big grin to my face. Other highlights include "Welcome to the 60's," a large, upbeat ensemble number, and moving ballad "I Know Where I've Been," performed by Sandie Lee in the role of Motormouth Maybelle.

Of course, I wouldn't be doing "Hairspray" justice without mentioning the showstopper finale, "You Can't Stop the Beat," which resolves most of the conflicts in the show and gives each of the main characters a chance to close out their stories. The ensemble was also impressively in-sync throughout the whole dance and never missed a beat, a common theme throughout the entire musical.

Even though "Hairspray" was a hoot and a half to experience, because it tackles identity in the context of the 60s, watching the musical raised a lot of questions for me as an audience member.

At one point of the show, Tracy, who is white, is sent to detention with all of the Black students at the high school she attends, where they have a discussion about societal issues. While "Hairspray" does discuss racism and we see many of the characters learn about white privilege and decide to join the effort to integrate "The Corny Collins Show," it is still told through a white lens, and at times it felt like the show attempted to lump together everyone who belongs to a marginalized identity group. While Tracy is ostracized by many of her peers because of her body type, that can't be compared to race.

Watching the musical also made me question the role of Edna Turnblad, Tracy's mom, who has historically been played by a man. While swapping the gender of a character happens often in theater, it didn't sit right with me that Edna's size and her lower voice were often made the punch line.

Without a doubt, "Hairspray" is entertaining — and it will have audience members laughing, nodding along to the beat and hopefully thinking deeper about the way the musical discusses race, gender and identity.

Lillian Piel is the editor-in-chief. Follow them on Twitter: @lillianpiel.

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Honing her Craft: GU's all-time service ace leader looks to leave her mark



EMMA PATENODE IG: emmapatenode

Former Washington Gatorade Player of the Year Kennedy Croft is in her fifth year at GU.

By SYDNEY FLUKER

For Kennedy Croft, being a competitor is a family business.

Growing up in Tumwater, Washington, Croft was surrounded by ex-collegiate athletes and coaches with her mom, dad, two uncles, cousin and grandfather all heavily involved in their respective sports.

"[Mom] definitely influenced me just to be a competitor," Croft said. "She didn't care what sport I picked, but it was more of whatever I could do to be the most competitive and have the most fun."

Croft's mom, Tana Otton, played and coached volleyball for most of her life, coaching at Tumwater High School throughout Croft's time there.

"I've just been around the game forever ... I'm pretty sure her water broke while she was serving the ball at practice," Croft said. "I was just always a little gym rat growing up and then started playing club [volleyball] really young, at age nine."

While playing for the Puget Sound Volleyball Academy, Croft kept busy playing softball and basketball up until seventh grade when it became time to decide which sport to commit to full-time.

"I don't know if it's because my mom was a volleyball coach, or just because I had the most fun playing volleyball but I ended up choosing that to take more seriously," Croft said.

Under her mom's leadership at Tumwater High School, Croft led the Thunderbirds to state titles in 2014 and 2016. She was named the Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year for Washington in 2016-2017, recording 480 kills, 263 digs and 47 aces her junior season. She holds four school records at Tumwater for single match kills, single season kills, single season aces and single season digs.

Knowing she wanted to play volleyball in college,

Croft began to search for her future team.

"[Gonzaga] said they could see a future for me here with hitting, which I was super happy about because a lot of the D1 schools I was talking to wanted me to be a libero because I'm kind of undersized," Croft said. "Gonzaga wanted me to hit and that's where I find my love of the game is on the offensive, so I came here and have been here since."

In her four years on the Martin Centre court so far, Croft has thrived on hitting. Since her first year in 2018, Croft has played in nearly all eligible matches, becoming a reliable starter for her senior season.

In the fall of 2021, she led the team in kills (261) and service aces (34) and came in second for most digs with 207. Croft also recorded double-figure kills 10 times that season, scoring a career-high of 27 kills against Long Beach State last September, earning her 10th career-double-double.

"Kennedy is just such a consistent player," said middle blocker Kelsie White. "She's a competitor. It's honestly so awesome to go against her in practice. I know firsthand how hard it is to defend against her."

When she's on the court, Croft is focused on competing as best as she can.

"I want to say that I go on to the court the same every day, whether that's practice or a game, just coming out with a fiery edge and being a competitor — that's what I find the most fun about volleyball," Croft said.

This year, the team's goal is to win the West Coast Conference (WCC) Championships and go to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1990.

Croft graduated in the spring with a major in sports management and promotions. Taking the extra year of eligibility that the pandemic gave her, she is now getting her master's in organizational leadership and will complete that program this spring.

With the online nature of her master's program, Croft

plans to move to San Diego, California, to live with her brother in the spring to see if she can see herself calling San Diego home. She hopes to get a job in the sports marketing field once her program finishes up.

As of now, she doesn't see herself staying in the volleyball world but isn't ruling it out entirely.

Her final season with the team saw some significant changes in the organization, welcoming almost an entirely new staff including head coach Katie Wilson.

According to Croft, seeing the new traditions arising in the program makes her excited to see how the team will grow. Even though she won't be here playing, she will still be rooting for this program forever.

"I've had so many years of volleyball and learning a specific way, so to fight so hard to change habits for one year could seem like 'oh, why would you do that?' but it's been so fun," Croft said. "It's been super intense with just working super hard to change habits that I've had for 10 years, but the way that she coaches and teaches and her philosophy on everything is super cool and informative. Getting to learn from her and to get a new view on volleyball for my last year, it's just been really fun."

For her final season at GU, Croft is focused on one thing — leaving the jersey better than she found it.

"I just want to show the young people the standard of which a Gonzaga volleyball player should act and play," Croft said. "Whether it's that or how I perform on the court, it's about leaving the jersey better than I found it."

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

Drew Timme's case for National Player of The Year

COMMENTARY

By DANIEL FORTIN

Gonzaga University's Drew Timme was recently voted the best player in college basketball ahead of the 2022-23 season in CBS Sport's anonymous preseason poll of 100 college basketball coaches.

Timme was the top answer among the coaches, taking 43.9% of the vote. In second place was 2021-22 National Player of the Year Oscar Tshiebwe with 33.7% of the vote, followed by North Carolina's Armando Bacot (10.2%) in third. This makes Timme the favorite to win the National Player of the Year award this season.

Timme, who was also a consensus All-American last season, averaged 18.4 points, 6.8 rebounds and 2.8 assists on 58.6% shooting from the field. The Texas native shot 28.6% from 3-point land and 69% from the free-throw line in 32 games.

So, is this Timme's year to win National Player of the Year? Besides the anonymous coach's poll, what is there for Timme to show that he is the best college basketball player and a likely candidate to win the award?

Well, there are more than several things that make him a favorite for the award:

For starters, his play style. While posting up is considered outdated in terms of the NBA landscape, in college basketball, scoring from the low post is still seen as a viable and efficient way to score and generate plays. His footwork around the post is also unique in that it makes him almost impossible to guard in the low block.

Where most big men often use their height and athletic ability to score, rebound and block shots, Timme uses his IQ, passing and low-post scoring ability to generate plays both on offense and defense.

Another aspect of Timme's game



CHIANA MCINNELLY IG: picbychiana

Timme was voted the best player in college basketball in an anonymous coaches poll.

that elevates him above the other candidates is the improvement of his 3-point shot.

In his three years at GU, 582 of Timme's 597 made field goals came from inside the arc, but he's has spent the offseason refining his 3-point shot. After going 8-28 from the 3-point line as a junior, Timme went 5-of-8 at the

draft combine including an impressive performance in which he scored 21 points on 5-of-7 shooting including 4-of-5 from beyond the arc.

"I obviously needed to work on my defense and my 3-point shot and I think I did a good job today of showing that," Timme said to the Spokesman-Review during the combine. "I think I was

really vocal on defense and mostly in the right positions. Sometimes I wasn't, but I thought I did well rebounding, and I hit a three and I made the right plays off the perimeter, whether it was driving or passing and all that. So, I think I've grown a lot in that area."

If Timme can add outside shooting to his already impressive offensive repertoire, that could make him one of the most dangerous offensive players in the NCAA.

Timme's proficiency in low-post scoring and passing off the block is not the only thing that makes him an ideal candidate for the award — it's his mindset, passion and charisma. From his amusing postgame interviews to his mustache celebrations, he will always leave you with an understanding of who he is; a guy having fun doing what he loves. No matter the stakes, the game, the lead, etc. Timme will be passionate and rally his teammates no matter the situation.

"He's unbelievable," said GU men's basketball head coach Mark Few to the Spokesman-Review. "There's no better point scorer in all of college basketball the last two years ... He really loves it here and enjoys being around the guys."

Another big reason that Timme is a favorite to win the award this year is that he will be the undisputed No. 1 scoring option for the Zags. With the departure of Andrew Nembhard and Chet Holmgren, Timme will look to lead and take control of the Zags' offense.

"[Timme]'s nasty, tough, can score, his IQ is dependable," an anonymous coach said to CBS Sports. "He's the best post player I've seen in college basketball in I don't know how many years and he's a consummate winner."

Daniel Fortin is a copy editor. Follow him on Twitter: @Daniel_Fortin_.

Newcomers shine for men's soccer ahead of WCC slate

By HENRY KRUEGER

This year's Gonzaga University men's soccer team features a lot of familiar faces.

The program's top four goal-scorers from 2021 have returned, and head coach Aaron Lewis is back for his second season at the helm.

It's a positive sign for a team looking to follow-up its first seven-win season since 2016, but as the Zags have seen early on, it doesn't guarantee the same level of success.

After starting off 2021 with a 4-2 record, this year's group went 1-5 during their first six games.

But senior forward Demetrius Kigeya didn't hit the panic button following his team's slower start. Instead, he preached a different message.

"I think overall, our biggest thing before was being patient," Kigeya said.

The Zags' patience paid off as they've won three of the past four matches to bring their record to 4-6 ahead of the conference schedule, which begins Saturday against San Diego.

GU's seven total goals during its 3-1 stretch was more than it had through its first six matches.

The increase in scoring could be due to many factors, but Kigeya has stood out offensively with four assists since Sept. 15. Sophomore forward Logan Dorsey also contributed two goals during this span.

However, aside from the returning players, the Zags have benefited from the performance of some of their newcomers, including defender Diego Domenech and forward Victor Gadea.

The two freshmen came to the program from Valencia, Spain, where Domenech was a captain for Alzira FB, while Gadea played for UD Alzira.

In their first season at GU, both players have logged significant minutes and have made a noticeable impact, according to their head coach.

"It took them a little bit more time than I think they would have liked but you're starting to see the quality of our Spanish guys," Lewis said.

Lewis noted Domenech's recent defensive dominance, which has helped the Zags limit opponents to four total goals over the past four games.

"Diego over the last couple of games for us in the back line has been fantastic," Lewis said. "He's won so many aerial duels and he's just been able to shut down other teams offensively."

But Domenech is more than just a lockdown defender. In GU's most recent



Freshman forward Victor Gadea (22) celebrates after scoring his first collegiate goal in GU's 2-0 win over UC San Diego on Sept. 18.

match with St. Thomas on Tuesday, he scored his first collegiate goal with a header off a corner kick from sophomore forward Wylie Trujillo. The goal gave his team a 1-0 lead in the 28th minute and the Zags went on to win 3-2.

It wouldn't take Gadea as long to score his first goal after he found the back of the net in a 2-0 win against UC San Diego on Sept. 18.

While Gadea has yet to score again, Lewis already sees the 19-year-old's potential to become a prolific goal-scorer.

"Whenever he gets the ball, he's very slippery so you can get him the ball in tight spaces," Lewis said. "It's obviously nice to see him score and I think that might unlock him for future games."

Another newcomer who has stepped up for the Zags is freshman midfielder Robbie Mora, who has one goal and two assists on the season. His only goal came in a 3-2 loss to Sacramento State on Sept. 9.

"Robbie is very skillful, but he has some toughness and some grit in the midfield for us and so he's coming along,"

Lewis said.

Embarking on their seven-game West Coast Conference schedule at the end of the week, the Zags will need to continue their level of play since their conference consists of some of the nation's top teams.

Nationally-ranked No. 9 in Sunday's United Soccer Coaches poll, Portland made it to the second round of the 2021 Men's College Cup where they lost to eventual runner-up University of Washington.

However, Portland isn't the only highly-touted team in the WCC. Kigeya mentioned a few other teams who could challenge GU.

"San Francisco looked pretty good the last time I watched them and then LMU and Pacific are usually also pretty good," Kigeya said. "But if we keep playing like this, I think we got it in the bag to be honest."

GU's opening conference match with San Diego takes place at Luger Field at 7 p.m.

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

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Sept. 29
 ➔ Volleyball vs. San Diego, 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 30
 ➔ Women's tennis at Cal Fall Invite, Berkeley, CA, all day

Saturday, Oct. 1
 ➔ Men's tennis at ITA All-Americans, Tulsa, OK, all day
 ➔ Volleyball vs. BYU, noon
 ➔ Men's soccer vs. San Diego, 7 p.m.
 ➔ Women's soccer at San Francisco, 7 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3
 ➔ Women's golf at Pat Lesser Harbottle Invitational, Tacoma, WA, all day
 ➔ Men's tennis at ITA All-Americans, Tulsa, OK, all day

Tuesday, Oct. 4
 ➔ Volleyball vs. Chicago State, 6 p.m.
 ➔ Women's golf at Pat Lesser Harbottle Invitational, Tacoma, WA, all day

Wednesday Oct. 5
 ➔ Women's soccer vs. Pepperdine, 7 p.m.

Home games in bold

The Gonzaga Bulletin

CAUGHT READING

MARY CATHERINE MULLER
 WAS CAUGHT READING AND WON A
 JIMMY JOHN'S GIFT CARD!



Pick up a copy of The Gonzaga Bulletin every Thursday and you might get caught reading and win a gift card too!

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New postings go online daily. <http://www.gonzagabulletin.com/classifieds/>
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Lava Rock Removal Opportunity

Residential home seeking help to remove lava rocks. I have 4 zones. Rocks will need to be raked up from beds, shoveled into a wheel barrel and carried to and dumped onto a tarp to be hauled away. Hauling of rocks is not part of the help needed at this time. Equipment provided. Pay is \$20 a n hour. Job is located East South Hill between Ray and Frey- 8-minute drive from campus.

Retirement Community Work Opportunity

Full and part time shifts ranging from Dining Servers, Groundskeepers to Nursing Assistants/Caregivers. Please visit our careers tab at Welcome to Riverview | Riverview Retirement Community to apply or call/text 509-822-0852 with questions!

Administrative Assistant Needed

Our media-based non-profit organization, Sit and Be Fit, is looking for an energetic administrative assistant to join our team. Duties include customer service, product fulfillment, inventory management, and a wide array of administrative support tasks. Must have a dependable car, excellent computer and writing skills, along with an adaptive personality and the ability to work independently. Starting wage: \$25/hr. Hours: Tuesday-Friday afternoons. Location: Spokane South Hill. Please send resumes to sitandbefit@sitandbefit.org

Seeking Reliable Babysitter

Seeking Babysitter for 5-year-old twin boys. Need occasional weekend/ weeknight childcare. We have a cat and dog, a large yard, and a quiet neighborhood. Must have reliable transportation and experience with kiddos. Email Katie at kmg31@gmail.com or text 509-999-9043.

Mother's Helper Needed

South Hill Mother's helper, child transportation needed. Seeking help with transporting children to games/practices as well as meal prep and quick errands between the hours of 3:30 pm-6:30 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Competitive pay, gas and mileage paid as well. More hours available if so desired. If interested text Erin at 616-485-6911

Help Needed for Odd Jobs

Retired couple needs a handy person to do odd jobs, some inside some outside. We live in Garland District two blocks west of N. Division. We will provide all the tools and supplies. We pay \$18.00 per hour. 4 hours minimum per visit move furniture and carpet from main floor to basement or garage. Hose down house siding, windows and doors. Put up and take down Holiday decorations. Vacuum, Swiffer mop, Swiffer duster 509-957-6200 - Thank you Tim and Sue.

PART-TIME HELP NEEDED

Gray Dog Press needs a part-time person to help in our finishing department. No experience necessary, we will train you. We are located only 10 minutes from campus. Please call us at 509-533-0025 or email julie@graydogpress.com if interested.

Babysitter Needed in Eagle Ridge

Looking for an engaging & reliable babysitter for our kids on M/F afternoons. Date night and weekend availability is a bonus. Located in Eagle Ridge. Competitive pay. Call 509-344-9465.