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Volunteers hand out burritos to community members every Sunday outside Main Market Co-op.

# Local social justice organization provides burritos to community

#### By CLAIRE TOLLAN

Spokane Community Against Racism (SCAR) was formed in 2017 after an act of violence in Spokane's East Central Neighborhood, sparking activism and organizing among likeminded people in the city.

minded people in the city. "A [Black] gentleman was having an altercation with his partner, and a white vigilante on a skateboard rolls up with a backpack, stuffed with guns and knives and things, and decides to insert himself into that situation," said Scott Mueller, one of the founders of SCAR. "He decided he didn't like how that went, so he turned around and shot him in the back from 30 feet away."

The white man, claiming selfdefense, was found not guilty by an allwhite jury.

"It really pulled on the heartstrings

of a lot of folks in that neighborhood," Mueller said. "...I had a little bit of background in organizing and things and we pulled together a few likeminded folks from the internet, did a lot of research, worked on getting a from-the-ground-up, a really backspace approach to what the problem here is in Spokane."

#### **SEE SCAR PAGE 2**

# Stockton supporters protest his suspension

#### By VINCENT SAGLIMBENI

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group of individuals were outside of the McCarthey Athletic Center on Saturday, protesting Gonzaga University's decision to suspend former GU basketball player John Stockton's season tickets for failing to comply with the university's mask mandate.

Protests began about an hour before the 6 p.m. tipoff between GU and the University of Portland. It was the second GU game at home after the university's announcement to suspend Stockton from The Kennel for the season.

Those who participated in the protest heard about it through a Facebook event created by the Washingtonians to Recall Inslee Facebook group. A man was seen speaking through a megaphone, exclaiming phrases like, "John Stockton isn't allowed in his own arena," among other phrases. The discourse between around 10-15 protesters and bystanders remained civil and peaceful.

Trevor Ducharme, one of the individuals who attended the protest, said he went because he does not support the mask or vaccine mandate implemented by Washington state, claiming that the mandate is causing too many issues with employment for most people and mental health issues with children and adults.

Ducharme is part of the Recall Inslee Facebook group, which Ducharme said stands for getting rid of Washington Gov. Jay Inslee due to the mandates he's pushing on people in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ducharme said he thought GU took away Stockton's rights when the university suspended him.

"I thought that was basically taking away his right and his freedom to choose of his own accord," Ducharme said. "With the vaccine mandate... who has the authority besides yourself to decide what enters your body?"

The man with the megaphone, whose name is Joe, and Ducharme said the group is not antivaccine, but rather, anti-mandates. Joe said the group has participated in other protests as well,

# Native American author Nick Estes to speak on campus

#### **By GIANA MARTINEZ**

The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Tribal Relations have been planning discussion groups on colonialism and indigeneity to prepare for the coming of Nick Estes on Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the John J. Hemmingson Ballroom.

Leah Simeon and Jeremy Rouse of the Office of Tribal Relations and Marisa Montesi of the Office of Sustainability, have been working with GSBA throughout the year in order to plan and prepare for the event.

The idea of creating these groups was to educate students about issues that Estes will be discussing in his upcoming talk.

Estes is a citizen of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe and

the author of "Our History is the Future."

"His work is so deeply intertwined with understanding Indigenous resistance and environmental justice," said Marisa Montesi, sustainability and resiliency programmer. "We are really trying to bridge the conversation of environmentalism on campus and indigeneity. Our discussion group was a great opportunity to start that conversation at Gonzaga."

Students from Fossil Free Gonzaga as well as Gonzaga Environmental Organization were in attendance at the discussion.

These groups consisted of faculty, staff, students and professors. One of the questions asked that allowed for engagement from these individuals was, "How do you define decolonization and what is the role that nonIndigenous people play in the work of a decolonization?"

Another topic of discussion was looking into the impacts that extractive industries have on Native peoples. This then led to the idea of land and whether land is a resource or something to have a relationship with.

"The groups went well," said Jeremy Rouse, coordinator of Native student accompaniment and citizen of the Yankton Sioux tribe. "I think that people seem really eager to engage and I think that next time we had to pare it down to two questions because people just had so much that they wanted to share and talk about."

Space at the in-person talk is limited, however everyone is welcome to participate virtually. Sign up links were

#### **SEE ESTES PAGE 2**

# Setons Charity Ball returns after two years

#### By CATE WILSON

After two years, the long-awaited Charity Ball is back. On Friday, the Gatsbythemed soiree will take on a new look.

Charity Ball is a yearly tradition on Gonzaga's campus, put on by the Setons of GU. The Setons are a group of 30 sophomore women dedicated to the pillars of service, sisterhood and leadership. After COVID-19 halted one of the club's most highly anticipated events, the Setons are ready to raise money for the Hutton Settlement Children's home with a funfilled night.

"COVID has put a strain not only on Gonzaga, but on nonprofit organizations that rely on donations and volunteer events," said the Seton's President Megan Baird. "We are so excited to support Hutton Settlement through Charity Ball. It is a great way for GU students to give back to the community, as well as bond with fellow classmates."

Hutton Settlement has been serving the Spokane community for over 100 years. Founded by Levi Hutton in 1919, children have been able to find a home when one wasn't always promised.

Children who have been abandoned and abused are able to live at Hutton and get involved with the Spokane community. Hutton's mission allows these children to pave their own path in life and the settlement helps them lay a strong foundation and gives them the tools to do so.

"I think any Gonzaga student can attest to the positive impact having a strong, supportive community can have on a person," said Charity Ball Co-Chair, Maren Marshall. "Hutton Settlement is all about providing a family-like community to those who maybe haven't been as fortunate to have already experienced one. Through their endless support, Hutton pushes everyone to discover their potential and use it for the better. Their mission struck a chord with us because it embodies everything we are as Setons and Zags."

The dance will be held in the Hemmingson Ballroom, but don't let the word "ball" be intimidating. Attire is semiformal and dressing according to the



Setons of Gonzaga's annual Charity Ball will have a "The Great Gatsby" theme.

theme is optional. All GU students are welcome with the purchase of a ticket that benefits charity.

Ticket sales began Monday, and will conclude today in the John J. Hemmingson Center. Tickets will be able to be purchased at the door leading up to the event if

capacity allows. Tickets can be purchased from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and students can buy one ticket for \$15 or two tickets for \$25.

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Former GU men's basketball player Robert Sacre is happiest around horses



# **Center for Climate and GEO partner** to distribute weatherization kits

#### **By MAUREEN PARKS**

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ast month, the Gonzaga Center for Climate, Society Environment and the partnered with Gonzaga Environmental Organization (GEO) to distribute free window weatherization kits to students in the John J. Hemmingson Center.

Students employed by the Climate Center and GEO club members tabled from the week of Jan. 10 through the week of Jan. 24 to distribute the kits which were purchased with donor funds. Éach kit contained enough insulating film to cover three windows, as well as adhesive tape to apply the film, which is to be tightened with a hair dryer.

Brian G. Henning, director of the Climate Center and professor of philosophy and environmental

studies at GU, described the project in an email.

"Many Zags live in the Logan Neighborhood where there is old housing stock, with many units having minimal insulation, old furnaces and single pane windows," Henning said via email. "Because landlords typically don't pay utilities, they have little incentive to improve these things. One relatively inexpensive way that a renter can reduce their energy costs is to use window weatherization kits."

Climate The Center distributed 100 weatherization kits, which is enough to insulate 300 windows.

"It's a great program that will help students save money and reduce their carbon footprint," said Climate Center Program Coordinator Karli Honebein.

Jordan Cruz, a GU junior and a Climate Literacy Fellow at the Climate Center, said the benefits of window weatherization are twofold.

'Trying to insulate our windows and trying to keep the cold out so that we don't have to run our heaters as often is nice for us because we don't have to pay as much," Cruz said. "But it's also good for the environment because it's not using as much energy.'

Honebein elaborated on how the project aligns with the greater goals of the Climate Center.

"A key piece of the Center's mission is to do good climate work in our neighborhood, and this project is a way to make real change in our neighborhood almost immediately," Honebein said.

The window weatherization on the rights of nature. oject was the first collaboration This semester, it will host project was the first collaboration between the Climate Center and GEO. Cruz described the joint effort as a success.

"Different club members from GEO have been helping us table throughout these few weeks," Cruz said. "This is the first time that the Center and GEO have been closely partnered, even though we have a lot of the same missions and values."

According to Honebein, the project was made possible by the work of students from both GEO and the Climate Center.

The Climate Center was founded by Henning in 2021. It has already facilitated a number of events, including a climate change forum for candidates for local government, numerous lectures and a moderated debate

Robin Wall Kimmerer, the author of "Braiding Sweetgrass," as well as speakers on topics including COP26, climate change in the rural northwest and wildfires.

It was recently recognized by ecoAmerica, which selected it as one of 30 semifinalists for the 2022 American Climate Leadership Awards.

"Projects like this are part of the Gonzaga Climate Center's mission to provide resources and opportunities to meet the unprecedented challenges facing humanity and the wider natural environment in the 21st century," Henning said.

Maureen Parks is a staff writer.

### PROTEST

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one of which was a protest in support of some teachers at Finch Elementary School who chose not to wear masks.

Ducharme and others were not only out to protest the university's decision to suspend Stockton, but to show their support for medical freedom for all individuals. Joe said the group was not there for politics, but to advocate for medical freedom for all, looking to do so through peaceful assembly.

"Gonzaga University continues to work hard to implement and enforce the health and safety protocols mandated by the State and by University policy, including reinforcing the indoor masking requirement," read a statement GU released after the protests. "Attendees at basketball games are required to wear face masks at all times. We will not speak to specific actions taken with any specific individuals. We take enforcement of COVID-19 health and safety protocols seriously and will continue to evaluate how we can best mitigate the risks posed by COVID-19 with appropriate measures. The recent decision to suspend concessions in McCarthey Athletic Center is an example of this approach. Gonzaga University places the highest priority on protecting the health and safety of students,

employees and the community." GU athletic director Chris Standiford said they first heard about the protests around 45 minutes before the start of the game. Campus security, the Spokane Police Department and crowd control monitored



Individuals protesting John Stockton's suspension from home games began protesting an hour before the 6 p.m. tipoff.

for those going to the game, along with an exchange in peaceful dialogue.

It's OK to not have the same opinions on all issues," Standiford said. "If people want to express their perspectives in a way that is not something that creates an intimidating environment, that's OK."

Although he did not anticipate protests to occur, Standiford said he was not surprised to see protests occur outside The Kennel. Not knowing if it will happen again, Standiford said there is an overwhelming number of individuals who

appreciate the safety measures made by the athletic department to ensure public health and safety for those who attend games in The Kennel. Standiford hopes those with differing views can find an outlet and express those views in a respectful and nondisruptive way to people's experiences.

Standiford also hopes that the GU and Spokane community can continue to do

learning," Standiford said. "This is a place where we are supposed to have civil discourse to come to conclusions on what the right thing is, and the right thing for every individual isn't always going to be the same. That's OK, and I hope we can continue to foster an environment where we can have dialogue around issues."

the protest.

Standiford said it sounded like they had contact with the protesters, understanding the limitations and rules to ensure safety

### SCAR Continued from Page 1

Along with Sandy Williams, publisher and editor of The Black Lens, a newspaper focused on Spokane's Black community, and activist Rev. Walter Kendricks, Mueller helped organize a rally.

'Even at our first protests, we had lots of signs with very explicit facts and figures on how the carceral and justice systems here in Spokane are weighted very heavily against BIPOC people in our community," Mueller said. "And from that little group was kind of born a lot of camaraderie. And that same kind of core group is still the core group of the steering committee now for SCAR."

SCAR's steering committee of eight people, five of whom are people of color, leads the organization's mission to address racial disparities through community efforts, according to SCAR's website.

The majority of the organization's work is done behind closed doors. SCAR's 25-person coalition is working on police accountability measures and supporting initiatives at the local and state levels.

According to Mueller, SCAR has led coalition work to deny police contracts and has been successful in influencing key trials through its court watch program.

'When no one's there watching, they definitely feel like they can get away with anything," said Justice Forreal, operations director for SCAR. "As long as we have that community voice together, then we can kind of understand what our city government is doing and actually take a stand."

The organization communicates with the public through weekly emails that amplify other groups working in the community, as well as keeping people informed on issues in local government.

According to Mueller, the organization relies heavily on its partners and elected officials who are sympathetic to its causes. Through direct outreach and communication with senators and representatives, SCAR seeks to inform policy decisions.

"Our community is constantly trying to slip backwards, as is the country as a whole right now," Mueller said. "So, we've got a very unique power dynamic in our structure where a minority of folks are able to have an outsized influence, which is kind of the larger power paradigm of our country that is being so problematic...They're the right thing going forward, eventually finding a way to get back to life as it once was before the start of the pandemic.

"We're an institution of higher

Vincent Saglimbeni is the editor-in-chief. Follow him on Twitter @vinnysaglimbeni.

constantly trying to build a new jail, they're constantly trying to pack the jail with people who are pretrial.'

The organization conducts data work and relies on evidence to address these issues. SCAR was one of the first groups to bring awareness to Spokane's police violence issues, Mueller said.

"They are, obviously, not supporting the houseless population in ways they should," Mueller said. "And just to get a bare minimum of services out of the system, it takes a lot of nonpaid volunteers to hold folks accountable." According to "Mapping Police Violence,"

an organization that collects and analyzes data on police violence, Spokane has the third deadliest police force in America per capita.

Black Spokane residents are five times more likely to be arrested, and Native Americans are about four times more likely to be arrested than white people, according to arrest data and use-of-force records released by the Spokane Police Department and census estimates.

'The saddest thing is going on Facebook comments section of the police forum, or any of the news channels," Mueller said. "Anytime there's police violence, you see folks blindly rooting for it, like it's a sports team.

SCAR provides community education and encourages those with a lack of understanding about anti-racism and these issues to attend these events.

"It's the 'oops-and' kind of approach to everything," Forreal said. "No one's going to start yelling at you for coming up with the wrong idea, but as long as you have an honest effort to understand, I think that is what really matters."

SCAR's multifaceted approach to addressing racial disparities also focuses on "Know Your Rights" trainings, food insecurity and housing issues.

"All the major social ills of our society are always going to affect BIPOC folks more than the white folks of Spokane," Mueller said. "So, we kind of had a multifaceted approach with food insecurity, housing issues, that sort of thing.

One of the ways SCAR addresses food insecurity, as well as community building, is through its Burritos for the People program.

"Almost all the work that we do is behind closed doors," Mueller said. "We are constantly in meetings; we work so hard for this community in tons of ways. And we need the community to know about the work that we're doing and to know that we're out there. So, we wanted to take a card from some other successful activist playbooks,

and Black Panthers and free breakfast is where the heart of our organization belongs."

Each Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m., volunteers give away free, gourmet breakfast burritos for anyone in the community.

"It helps us kind of connect more strata of our community, folks that would not normally be standing and eating next to each other," Mueller said. "And you see those exchanges and how it brings awareness, and we're doing it in a very visible spot."

The program began in May. What started with 40 burritos per week has grown to 250, according to Forreal. Along with burritos, free coffee, juice and water, trash pick-up is provided.

Burritos for the People is a community effort among chef Tony Brown, Boots Bakery & Lounge, Doma Coffee Roasting Co. and volunteers.

Giving away free food is one of the most radical things you can do in a capitalist society," Mueller said. "...We don't force literature on anybody... we are really trying to make sure that people just have that sort of experience that the community can provide for folks."

Mueller said some people have shown up for a free burrito and enjoyed the atmosphere so much that they ended up volunteering that day.

"If you don't like the world that you see, you got to be very cautious about how you spend your time and how you interact with that world," Mueller said. "And we make all the rules. The folks who get frustrated with the way the world is, to me is the lack of empathy and creativity. Humans have made every situation that we live in right now. And we have the ability to remake those systems as well. And it takes people just getting invested."

To get invested in the work SCAR is doing, Mueller recommends reading through its Platform for Change, which can be found on its website, and developing an understanding of anti-racism.

'Volunteering for an organization might only take an hour or two out of your month," Mueller said. "But if everyone was doing that, those systems would change a lot faster. If you don't like what you see in the world, participate in making it better."

For more information and to get involved, visit scarspokane.org.

Claire Tollan is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @clairetollan.

### **ESTES**

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posted in Morning Mail on Feb. 1 for the talk as well as for the discussion group over Zoom on Feb. 3.

To get involved in these discussions that concern issues of sustainability and indigeneity, visit the Office of Sustainability is located at 521 E. Sharp Ave. and the Office of Tribal Relations is at 414 E. Sharp Ave.

Based on the last discussion and the excitement that is coming with the next one, the Office of Tribal Relations is considering holding these groups after Estes' talk to cover other issues of indigeneity in order to educate the GU community.

We have had a lot of conversations about visibility, like the visibility of not just Native students on campus, but also just the history of Indigenous people in this area and in connection to the land that Gonzaga occupies," Rouse said.

As of now, there aren't plans to have more discussion groups in the future. It is definitely something that could be in the works, especially if students are interested in learning more and doing active work with both of these offices.

"I remember sitting at a talk that Leah and Jeremy hosted, it was a land back talk," Montesi said. "They had mentioned that

land acknowledgments are great and it's important to acknowledge the spaces we are occupying, but what is more important, is what we are doing to decolonize our spaces and center Indigenous voices. And that is something I have always carried with me."

Giana Martinez is a staff writer.

# **Breaking the ice on GU's campus**

#### **By SAM FEDOR**

ealing with Spokane's winter weather can prove a slippery conundrum for Gonzaga's Plant & Construction Services Department. A crew of 12 personnel, headed by Grounds Supervisor Tim Hatcher, battle the elements using a fleet of plows, anti-ice sprayers and good old-fashioned snow shovels to get the job done. But it's not always a battle they win.

Gonzaga University has seen a number of slips and falls this season, and even some injuries — including one student who had a slip and fall accident outside of the John J. Hemmingson Center. With the ever-present threat of icy sidewalks, it can be easy to feel as though little is being done about the problem. But for the Plant Services Department, more goes on behind the scenes than most students realize.

The Plant & Construction Services crew starts their day early.

"It all comes down to the timeliness of the storms," said Tompson Spink, director of Plant Services. "Where we run into trouble is when storms occur. The ideal situation is, it starts snowing after everyone's asleep. If it's just snow, and it went for [a few] hours, then it stopped, and we show up in the morning at 5 a.m., then we have a good two and a half to three hours where all 12 guys in the crew are working."

However, these ideal situations rarely come around.

With so much surface area to cover, it can be difficult to plow, spray and salt it all - and that's without students walking on the paths while they're being cleared. If the crew knows snow is on the way, they'll pre-apply de-icing spray, or "brine" to campus walkways. This allows for the ice that is compacted beneath snow to be removed as well when the path is plowed. The brine is dissolved magnesium chloride, a more environmentally friendly alternative to rock salt.

"There's nothing worse than a daytime snow," Hatcher said.

The compacting of snow into ice is another problem. Plant Services can spray on campus, but the city streets and sidewalks that students rely on to make



Plant Services uses Kubota tractors to help plow snow on campus.

their way to and from campus are another deal entirely.

"There's a distinction between the city streets and our streets," Spink said. "In a lot of situations, we're plowing where we maybe shouldn't be, but we've said we have to keep the students safe. We're trying to keep the crosswalks and the sidewalks clear."

Fire lanes, campus streets and walkways wide enough for emergency vehicles are also Plant Service's responsibility, and they have to be clear in case of an emergency, making them first priority.

Keeping parking clear is also a challenge. If a vehicle parks on snow, it can compact the snow into ice or the vehicle can become boxed in by the snow pushed to the side by snowplows.

'We try to get parking opened up before people park on the snow... the snow has to go somewhere, so the snow usually goes at the curbline," Spink said. "Over time, we try to reduce the buildup of snow on the curbline."

Clearing a path so that students can access their cars can also prove difficult. Parking strips can often collect snow that has been plowed off of the road, and the buildup can freeze, making entering and exiting parked cars dangerous.

"What you try to do is give them alternate paths that make it obvious where to exit the curb, so sometimes that doesn't work. Sometimes you get people who decide they want to step over a pile of ice and snow," Spink said.

Keeping campus clear is no small task. According to Spink, it takes hundreds of gallons of fuel every week to move snow around campus.

Hatcher and his crew drive a fleet of 11 Kubotas, diesel-powered utility vehicles equipped with sprayers and plows, as well as five pickup trucks with plows and even a skid-steer with a hydraulic pushing plow. The crew works overtime to keep the pathways clear, and covers a lot of ground in the process.

"I spend a lot of time at home watching

radar screens and weather reports and then I have a snow line I can call so [the grounds crew] can be ready when they come in the next morning," Hatcher said.

But no matter how prepared the crew dealing with the snow and ice is never easy.

'It's the anxiety of trying to keep the campus open and keep people safe," Spink said. "It becomes this issue of 'OK, we've got 8,000 people on campus coming tomorrow and we just had a snowstorm. How do we make sure we don't end up with any slips and falls?' And it's almost impossible, but that's our goal."

Gonzaga Plant and Construction Services can be reached at (509) 313-5656 or at https://www.gonzaga.edu/about/ offices-services/plant-constructionservices.

Sam Fedor is a staff writer.

## CHARITY BALL

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More information is available on the Setons' Instagram page, @setonsofgonzaga. The club is thrilled to be able to carry on this vital tradition and hopes that it inspires next year's group of women to do the same.

"Now that we are able to bring the event, we are hopeful that future generations of students will continue to come together to raise money for a great



cause," Marshall said.

The club hopes the Gatsby-themed soiree will be a great way to bring together students during a time where GU's community needs it most, while also donating to a cause that deserves all the profits that are raised.

*Cate Wilson is a staff writer.* 

The Gatsby-themed charity ball will be held this Friday in Hemmingson Ballroom.





**OPINION** 

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# Another day, another antisemitic act

he last time I wrote an article like this was almost exactly a year ago. This time around, this hurts more to write.

Another year has passed and I still can't find the words to explain what is truly wrong here. Another year has passed where I've accidentally memorized more statistics on antisemitism from discussing it so often.

Last year, I focused on the technicalities of antisemitism. The statistics, definitions, etc. I don't want to sound like a broken record, so here I will only give a brief summary of modern antisemitism.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, antisemitism is defined as "the belief or behavior hostile toward Jews just because they are Jewish."

What happened at Congregation Beth Israel was an antisemitic attack, and has already disappeared from the news despite its recent occurrence of about two weeks ago. No one died, but four men in a congregation were held hostage.

"An attack on one Jewish person is an attack on us all," said Hannah Presken, president of Jewish Bulldogs, at a vigil held in response to the attack. "An attack on one Jewish community is an attack on us all. And an attack on anyone, no matter their faith background, is an attack on us all."

While no one died, the effects of the Colleyville, Texas congregation attack are felt throughout the Jewish community.

"There is no question that there was a lot of fear that this attack invoked on top of everything else that's going on in the world," said Rabbi Malino of Temple Beth Shalom in Spokane. "It's a level of heaviness that we're all walking around with, between this degree of attack and COVID and everything else."

When the gunman stormed the synagogue, only four men were present to livestream the Shabbat service —



#### **By SYDNEY FLUKER**

an in-person service in pre-COVID-19 times. All four escaped thanks to security training the synagogue had received in case of a situation like this.

From the training, the hostages were able to make decisions that most likely saved their lives. One man, Jeffrey Cohen, dialed 911 immediately before placing his phone face down. When the gunman, Malik Faisal Akram, demanded the men go to the back of the room, Cohen aligned himself with the exit. Using pizza sent in by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the men were able to position themselves for a quick escape. That escape came when, after hours of talking with Akram and remaining calm, Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker threw a chair at Akram and the men were able to run out.

It horrifies me that we have to prepare for such extreme situations.

If we truly are the America that claims to proudly

defend the First Amendment, why does that not extend to non-Christian religions? Why is it that we have to train for situations like this? As if the freedom of religion granted in the First Amendment does not translate to the freedom to practice said religion safely?

Walking into a place of worship should not cause anxiety.

Being Jewish — or of any minority — should not mean practicing safety protocol for potential gunmen. It pains me to write another article on

antisemitism, but I will never stop speaking up. My Jewish family shaped me with latkes and kugel and dreidel competitions on Christmas (or as we call it, Chrismukah), the day my whole multi religious family got together.

My Jewish heritage sticks with me in ways I don't even realize. As I schlep my groceries up the stairs and (usually) trip up them because I'm a klutz, I never think of the Yiddish and cultural origins of these words.

Jewish culture is an integral part of my identity, and seeing the religion be targeted time and time again is exhausting. It's enough to make one give up hope, but I know we won't.

"The fear is still there and very present for all of us in synagogue life," Malino said. "Every time we're faced with an antisemitic attack, it's incumbent upon us to say that we're still here... we're going to be able to gather, we're going to be able to pray, and we do that with a sense of pride and a sense of a need for increased security."

Let this attack serve as a reminder to include Jews in your activism. Antisemitism must be called out and understood in order to be prevented. Once again, our safety depends on it.

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

### Without a title 'Prince' Andrew faces his accuser

Amid heightened public attention toward Prince Andrew's involvement with the late Jeffrey Epstein, Buckingham Palace has broken its silence at last, but are its words enough?

On Jan. 12, a federal judge denied a motion that would have effectively dismissed a lawsuit against Andrew. The lawsuit, filed by Virginia Giuffre, alleges that Andrew sexually exploited Giuffre when she was a minor. Giuffre claims that the prince, aided by Epstein, trafficked Giuffre to his friends and sexually abused the 17-year-old.

Those following the Epstein case and subsequent trial of his former girlfriend and business partner, Ghislaine Maxwell, may recognize the famous photograph of Giuffre and Andrew. The uncropped picture features Andrew with his arm around the waist of an underage Giuffre while Maxwell smiles beside them.

If the case isn't settled in the coming months, Andrew will likely face a trial at the end of this year.

Giuffre raised the case under the 2019 Child Victims Act in New York which expands the statute of limitations for child sex abuse cases — an especially necessary measure for the survivors of Epstein's sex trafficking ring.

Andrew has historically denied these allegations, and he stepped down from his royal duties in 2019. He has openly refused to cooperate with the authorities while being under investigation and worked with his legal team to discredit Giuffre's statements, going so far as to claim that the famous photograph is doctored. Despite this, the Buckingham Palace never came forward to address the controversy implicating the prince — that is, until now. This week, in wake of the judge's decision, Buckingham Palace announced in a statement that Andrew will henceforth relinquish all his military titles. The statement also mentioned that he will no longer go by "His Royal Highness."



#### By KAELYN NEW

This statement, while entirely necessary, is long overdue and virtually ineffective. Andrew has indubitably been implicated in the Epstein scandal for years, and the crown stayed silent. This of inaction and lack of accountability allows men like Andrew to weaponize their status and take advantage of survivors.

Prince Harry was stripped of his titles for walking away from the crown, and this pales in comparison to the allegations being thrown Andrew's way. Andrew received a slap on the wrist. He still gets to return to the comfort of his status — his yachts, the Royal Lodge and exuberant affluence. Therefore, it's quite curious that the royals are issuing a statement only now that Andrew may face trial and criminal charges. It appears that they are only speaking out on the issue now that Andrew's involvement with Giuffre is receiving heightened publicity and the scandal cannot be swept under the rug.

While Andrew may be one of the first people involved with Maxwell and Epstein to possibly face charges, he likely will not be the last. The conclusion of the Maxwell trial is bound to bring other prominent figures into question.

Maxwell was found guilty on five of six charges in December, but most of the people associated with Epstein's sex trafficking ring — whether via flight logs or court evidence — still roam the streets. Most of those implicated in these crimes are wealthy white men, and some are even politicians.

Unfortunately, however, the wealthier one is, the easier it becomes to pay for the silence of survivors. Many prominent figures involved in sexual abuse scandals settle with the survivors outside of court, effectively buying their silence and preventing the public from hearing about their heinous crimes.

If anything, Andrew is an anomaly. His abuse scandal has been made public, but most high-status sexual abuse can easily go undetected; contracts can be signed, and hush money can seal the lips of survivors.

I suspect that this case will be fiscally settled outside of court. While Andrew should be judicially reprimanded, his affluence serves as a shield from true justice.

This begs the question: can those with exorbitant wealth truly be held accountable? If some people can pay their way out of offenses, is justice a universal ideal?

When money buys silence, the cycle of abuse is

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permitted to continue.

Kaelyn New is a staff writer. Follow her on Twitter: @kaelyn\_new.



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# A house that's not a home

Five-alarm fire in the Bronx highlights inequities

On the morning of Jan. 9, a fire broke out in a duplex apartment in the Bronx, New York. The deadly fire killed several residents and reportedly started from a malfunctioning space heater. Several residents of the apartment had previously complained that the existing heating system did not do nearly enough to keep the building warm during the winter, which led some to buy space heaters.

The fire and subsequent smoke that spread throughout the building was further exacerbated by the apartment's "selfclosing" front door which remained open either from malfunction or from being manually disabled. Furthermore, the apartment, built in 1972, had no fire escapes or extensive sprinkler systems. In fact, according to the building codes, sprinklers were only required in the trash compactor and laundry room of the building.

The high-rise fire has led to further conversations regarding housing inequality. Many discussing the event have highlighted the racial and economic disparities involved in low-income housing such as the apartment building that caught fire. Newer apartment buildings are typically required to have more advanced sprinkler systems along with other fire-prevention initiatives (most of which do not apply to older buildings within the

Ólder buildings are not only more susceptible and



#### BY ANTHONY MAUCIONE

more dangerous with regards to accidents such as the Bronx fire, but they have also been shown to have negative effects on the mental and physical health of low-income residents. Low housing quality, which has become synonymous with older buildings constructed as a result of low-income housing programs, mixed with overcrowding in residential areas can factor into poor mental health. These issues can be worsened when compounded with other economic distresses that affect many residents of these poorlymaintained housing units.

Other elements within these units can lead to further danger for the residents' physical health. Asbestos is a key factor to this effect, with the material being favored during the construction of buildings in the U.S. from 1930 until as late as 1980.

Other toxins such as lead and mold can also be hazardous to residents. Lead is a toxic additive common in construction materials, which is similar to asbestos in this regard. Moreover, lead-based paint is more likely to be found in buildings constructed before 1978, according to the EPA. Mold, however, is a more naturally occurring toxin, but older buildings are more susceptible to mold growth and it is still a dangerous contaminant.

Older apartment buildings comprise a significant portion of the aging infrastructure across the country. These outdated buildings have been neglected and not kept up to an acceptable living standard, and this problem will only grow worse if not addressed soon. Fires like the recent tragedy in the Bronx will persist and will do so disproportionately in older low-income housing.

Broad housing programs to revitalize and upkeep lowincome housing is desperately needed across the country. New initiatives alongside better zoning laws, such as more adequate and advanced sprinkler systems in apartment complexes, can help create a safe and decent space for people to live in.

These are systemic issues that must be changed through fixing the current broken system that affects so many residents of both public and private housing. No matter someone's income, all people should have access to not just a roof over their head, but also a mentally and physically healthy place to live a dignified life.

Anthony Maucione is a staff writer.

# **A&E events on campus this FABruary**

#### **By GWEN MITCHELL**

n the world of theater, music and dance, there is a lot happening on Gonzaga's art scene this February. Here's a rundown of what you can look forward to this month:

### "Home: Imagining the Irrevocable" Opening — February 4, 4-7 p.m.

The Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center (GUUAC) is soon to unveil its newest exhibition. Curated by Olivia Evans and Tracy Poindexter-Canton and featuring the work of several local Black artists, this new exhibit explores the concept of "home" through various artistic mediums. The gallery will be open until Feb. 26 from 4-7 p.m. on Fridays and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

### "Shared Identities in Portraiture" by June T. Sanders — February 9, noon- 1 p.m.

June T. Sanders, trans artist, curator and educator, will deliver a lecture describing her most recent work, "Easy World," in addition to her overall ethos on portraiture, photography and artistic style. The lecture will be held in the Jundt Art Center room 110.

#### Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company performs "Lunar New Year, the Year of the Water Tiger" — February 10, 7:30 p.m.

The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Co. will be performing "The Lunar New Year, the Year of the Water Tiger" at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. The performance celebrates the beginning of 2022 with a fusion of American dance and Asian heritage.

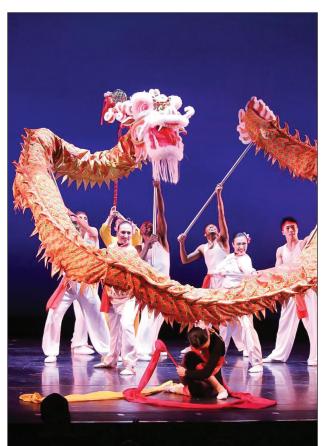
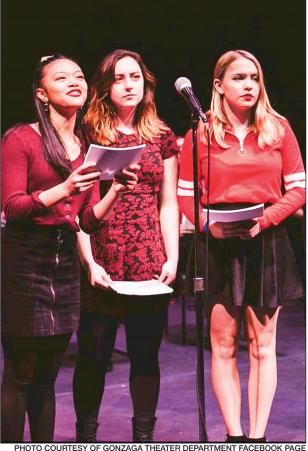


PHOTO COURTESY OF NAI-NI CHEN FACEBOOK PAGE Feb. 1 is the start of Lunar New Year, a Chinese Holiday.

"The Waiting Room" by Lisa Loomer - February 10-11, 7 p.m.

The Gonzaga Theatre Department will be putting on a staged reading of Lisa Loomer's dark feminist comedy, "The Waiting Room" on Feb. 10. The reading will be accompanied with a talk with Communication Studies professors Heather Crandall and Kris Morehouse, alongside director Leslie Stamoolis and members of the student cast. This reading will take place in Magnuson Theatre in College Hall.



"The Waiting Room" is a staged reading performance.

### Dance as Cura Personalis GURDC Showcase — February 15, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

For the only time this season, the Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Companies will perform a showcase of their work before touring Spokane. It will consist of dance pieces exploring indigenous themes through ballet and modern dance. The showcase will take place in the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center.

### 2nd Annual ScreenDance Film Festival — February 16, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

As part of Dance as Cura Personalis Week, the Department of Theatre and Dance will be holding their second Annual ScreenDance Film Festival at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. The film showcase will be followed by a panel of dance and film enthusiasts. The showcase's proceeds will go to benefiting Dance for Parkinson's.



Arcis Saxophone Quartet is a group from Munich, Germany.

Arcis Saxophone Quartet — February 17, 7:30 p.m. From Munich, Germany, the Arcis Saxophone Quartet will be coming to GU to perform an ensemble of chamber music. This performance will take place in the Coughlin Theater in the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center.

#### Winter Jazz Concert — February 23, 7-8:30 p.m.

The Music Department's seven Gonzaga Jazz Ensembles will be performing a jazz concert. This concert will showcase a variety of jazz styles, from classic jazz to experimental jazz. The concert will take place at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center.

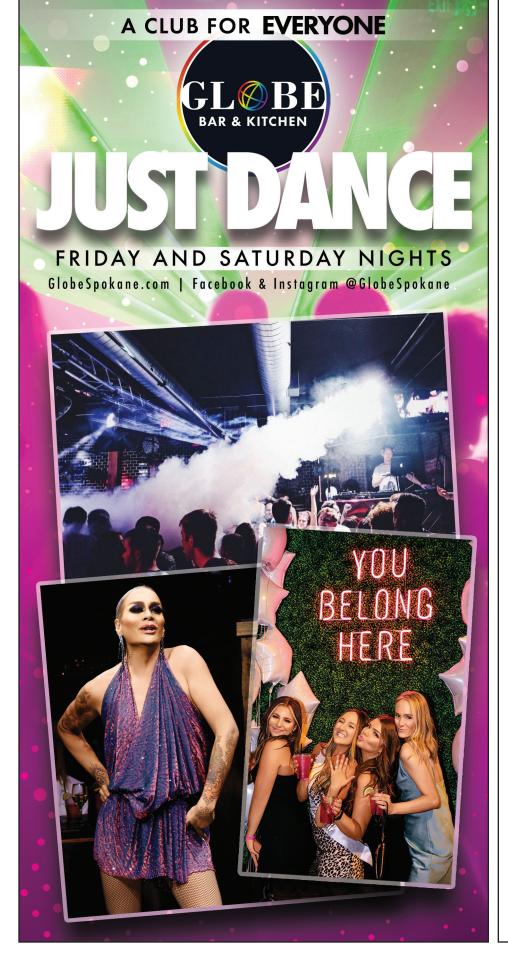
### Hold Fast to Dreams, Gonzaga Choirs Social Justice Concert — February 26, 7:30-9 p.m.

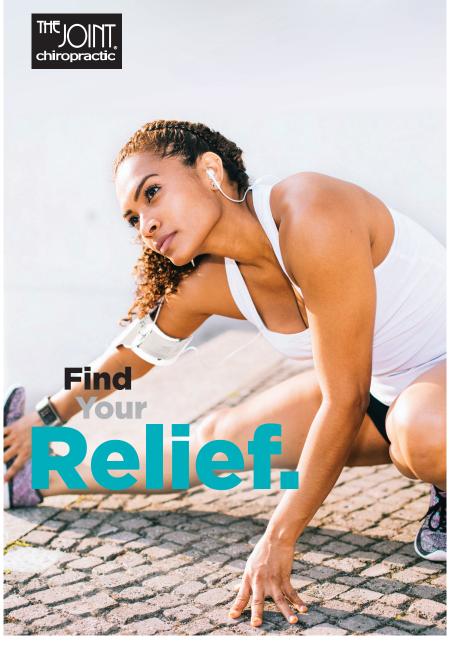
GU Choirs will be presenting a diverse choral program intended to highlight themes of social justice issues. The concert will feature Concert Choir, Chamber Chorus, Discantus Treble Chorus and Glee Club. The concert will be held in the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. A pre-concert lecture will be held in the Recital Hall.

#### Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra Concert, Featuring piano soloist Alon Goldstein — February 28, 7:30-9 p.m.

Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra will be performing a classical music concert featuring piano soloist Alon Goldstein. The concert will be taking place in the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. Despite rumors of a giant watch party being held in McCarthey Athletic Center, it will be held in the John J. Hemmingson Center.

*Gwen Mitchell is a staff writer.* 





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All of Revival Tea Co.'s tea is blended at the company's headquarters in downtown Spokane.

ALYSSA HUGHES IG: alyssarmhughes

# What's the tea on Revival Tea Co.?

#### By LILLIAN PIEL

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When Drew Henry founded Revival Tea Co. in 2018, his original plan was to sell his spiced chai tea online. However, Revival quickly grew in popularity and now has 61 different blends of tea, a tasting room in downtown Spokane and almost 2500 wholesale partners that serve and carry Revival Tea.

Henry had the idea to start Revival Tea Co. while on a trip in Ireland with his wife. Henry's family used to distill their own whiskey in Northern Ireland, and he originally wanted to open a distillery in the U.S. In Ireland, however, Henry said he was drinking six cups of tea a day.

According to Henry, tea is the second most consumed beverage in the world behind water. However, coffee is the second most consumed beverage in the U.S., with tea coming in third. Henry saw the need for craft tea in the U.S. and seized the opportunity.

"The whole tea industry in the United States is just very stuck back in the times, so we said 'oh, my gosh' what if we took all the things we were gonna do with whiskey and switched to tea, and essentially kind of started this craft tea wave, and thank goodness we did," Henry said.

All of Revival Tea Co.'s tea is blended at the company's headquarters in downtown Spokane. According to Henry, Revival is the only tea manufacturer between Portland, Oregon and Missoula, Montana, and the only tea manufacturer to be based out of Spokane.

In 2020, Henry opened Revival's tasting room and retail shop in downtown Spokane, located at 415 W. Main Ave. Visitors to the tasting room can stop in for a cup of tea or grab a bag of loose leaf tea or tea bags to take home.

The tasting room inhabits what was formerly a speakeasy, so Revival offers tea mocktails in addition to hot teas, iced teas and tea lattes. Tea flights, which



a sweet iced tea and the lemon ginger tonic as an iced tea as well.

Since Revival Tea Co. is a small business, MacDonald said she appreciates knowing the owners of the company and how they come in almost every day. MacDonald also emphasized how she likes everyone that she works with, and how getting to know regular customers creates a safe space and a caring environment at Revival.

In addition to the environment at the tasting room, MacDonald said people should visit Revival because small businesses are an important aspect of the community. They worked at Starbucks before Revival, and working at Revival changed how they think about small businesses and the influence that people can have as consumers.

"The impact that you have just as a consumer with your choice in money, it goes a lot farther at a small business and also it affects your local community so much more," MacDonald said.

As for Henry, he recommends the fresh crafted spiced chai, the tea that started it all. He also noted that Revival's best-selling tea is the blue tea, which includes butterfly pea flower, passionfruit, mango, mint and lemongrass. Henry said the tea turns blue and is described as tasting blue.

Henry also recommends the Northwest breakfast tea, a black tea with eastern white pine needles. However, Revival has a tea for every occasion, he said.

"We want to cater to people who drink six cups of tea a day, but we also want to be able to introduce people to our little cup of liquid sunshine," Henry said.

Revival Tea Co. is motivated by putting people before profit, Henry said, which drives the company forward and helps expand its ability to give back to the community. The company donates to several local nonprofits and helps feed insecure children in the Spokane community as well. "One of the things that came along with shifting from whiskey to tea is you know whiskey isn't always a positive thing in people's life, and we believe with tea that we actually have an opportunity to do good," Henry said. "Not just through people making better habits, but really the core of our business and our major why is being able to reinvest back into our communities."

include a choice of three different teas for customers to try, are also a popular option for tea-lovers who want a tasting experience.

Over the course of the next five years, Revival Tea Co. will be opening additional tasting rooms across the West Coast, although the tasting room downtown will be the only one in Spokane, Henry said.

The company also has plans to offer factory tours in the spring, which will begin in the tasting room for a cup of tea and an overview of the company's history, including the chance for visitors to blend their own tea

#### Revival Tea Company is located at 415 W. Main Ave.

to take home from Revival Tea Co.'s headquarters and production facility.

Madison MacDonald, who works at Revival Tea Co.'s tasting room, said that picking a favorite tea at Revival is difficult because there are so many options. During the winter, they recommend the licorice tea and orange spice cinnamon tea, which lean toward the sweeter side. In the summer, Macdonald recommends the hojicha as

*Lillian Piel is a news editor. Follow her on Twitter @lillianpiel.* 

# Morning and evening buzz with The Wet Whistle

#### By AMELIA TRONCONE

People should not have to choose between an a.m. buzz or a p.m. buzz. This is the motto of Jessica Moseley, owner and operator of downtown Spokane's newest coffee bar, The Wet Whistle.

Located at 210 N. Howard St., The Wet Whistle puts a new twist on your typical coffee experience by specializing in both coffee and cocktails. The coffee bar is currently in its soft opening phase but plans to hold its grand opening sometime in mid-February.

The Wet Whistle is a sister company of the Whistle Stop Coffee Shop, a café that has been in the Spokane Valley since 2007.

Moseley, who owns both locations, has seen the number of coffee shops in Spokane almost double in the last 15 years. This increase in coffee shops inspired her to expand her business and add a flair to Spokane's coffee scene.

"I wanted to change the concept a little bit because I think there is such a saturation of just coffee," Moseley said.

Further than changing the concept of coffee, Moseley wanted to change the concept of affordability. She believes that life's little splurges, such as coffee or eating out, should be both affordable and good quality. Since these are usually the first things people cut when trying to save money, she placed a lot of importance on making her business affordable.

It was also important for Moseley to create a space that is suitable for people of all ages and preferences. She wants The Wet Whistle to be a place where people can grab a cup of coffee and study in the morning, then come back for drinks with their friends in the evening.

"I wanted to create a space for everybody," Moseley said. "[For] coffee drinkers, non-coffee drinkers or people who just want to grab a drink after work."

The Wet Whistle is dedicated to fostering a safe, cozy and inviting environment, creating a space for



ALYSSA HUGHES IG: alyssarmhughes

The Wet Whistle serves coffee and tea in the mornings and serves cocktails in the evening.

everybody. They strive to make all customers feel welcomed and comfortable by accommodating to their needs. Their array of not only beverages but food as well is a reflection of their desire to fulfill their customers' desires.

Reilly Schmidt, assistant manager of The Wet Whistle, believes that its affordability and flexibility makes it a great spot for college students. She says that on one hand, it is a homey and safe place where students can easily do work for as long as they need to. On the other hand, it is also a fun, youthful place for a night on the town.

"Spots like that are really missing from the area," Schmidt said. "Spots [that] take care of every accommodation."

Another aspect that makes the spot great for college-age residents is its focus on making the customer feel like family. According to Moseley, her priority when opening the business was to bring the small-town vibe of the valley to downtown Spokane. She hopes that The Wet Whistle is the kind of place where the baristas know the customers' names and orders.

The family-like atmosphere is Schmidt's favorite part of working at The Wet Whistle. She believes that they are able to achieve this kind of ambiance because Moseley makes sure that only the best of the best are hired. Additionally, she says that the employees themselves are like family, which translates to their customers.

"Working for this company feels like a second home and [my coworkers] have really become my second family," Schmidt said.

The Wet Whistle's location previously housed one of Spokane's most popular coffee shops, Indaba Coffee. For this reason, Moseley is both nervous and excited to see how they are going to be perceived.

Her excitement also comes from being able to truly connect with the customers who come to visit. She finds that the most rewarding aspect of running the business is building relationships with the people who make up the community.

"It's really nice just to be able to talk to people," Moseley said. "[To] talk about their life stories and learn the different aspects of their lives."

As of now, there are no concrete plans to further expand The Whistle House or open new storefronts. Instead, Moseley wants to focus on getting the current location up and running. Furthermore, she wants to cultivate their location to make it the best that it can be for the Spokane community.

"With everything going on in the world right now, [I want] The Wet Whistle to be a place where people feel comfortable to get out of their house," Moseley said.

For more information about the café, visit its website at www.wet-whistle.com.

Amelia Troncone is a staff writer.

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# **Familiar faces at Spokane film festival**

#### By KAELYN NEW

ights, camera, action. The Spokane International Film Festival (SpIFF) is taking filmmakers' dreams onto the screen this February.

The in-person festival will be held at the Bing Crosby Theater in downtown Spokane on Friday and Saturday, with six different showcases that feature the works of local, national and foreign filmmakers.

"It's like a cross between an art exhibit and a film screening and I think that it creates something genuinely new when you can be in a room with the people who made a film," said Pete Porter, director of the Contemporary Arts Alliance that runs SpIFF.

In addition to feature-length and short films, SpIFF will offer audience members the chance to ask questions to several animators and directors present at the showcases.

The "Best of Northwest" showcase, which will take place on Feb. 4, includes the work of filmmakers from the Pacific Northwest.

One of those filmmakers, Jennifer Wolfe, says her short film, "You Will See Us," is inspired by the story of the lead actress who worked for Lyft when she was terrorized by a male passenger.

'The film is about a female rideshare driver who picks up somebody on the night of a men's uprising — a men's rights uprising - in Portland, Oregon, and has to drive him into the middle of nowhere," Wolfe said.

Wolfe says her film is a mixture of the horror and

thriller genres, drawing some inspiration from the events of Jan. 6, 2021.

Another filmmaker, Stimson Snead, directed "Tim Travers & the Time Traveling Paradox," a short film that will also be featured in the showcase. The film's premise revolves around a man bending the laws of time as he uses a time machine. Snead says he's most excited to screen the film in front of the community that helped make it.

"It's one thing getting to see your film screened at a festival among strangers. It's another thing getting to screen it with all the people who put the time and effort into it. That's very exciting," Snead said. Events on Saturday include an animation showcase

and "World Shorts I," which offers the spotlight to several foreign short films. Saturday's schedule also includes the screening of three feature-length films: "Re-Opening," "Casablanca Beats" and "Vinyl Nation."

SpIFF offers an exclusive opportunity to see films that one wouldn't typically find in movie theaters. Festivals like this are often how filmmakers get their start in the industry.

"Some filmmaker out there in the world is going to come up with something new, and we're going to be one of the first places that you can see that," Porter said.

Even more films will be featured as a part of the SpIFF online festival. The online film selection, which features over 90 movies, documentaries and short films, provides countless opportunities for viewers to adopt a different outlook.

"Check out a different perspective if you're up for said Alena Schoonmaker, former director of SpIFF it." and current senior programmer for female directed and LQBTQ+ films. Schoonmaker has dedicated her time to ensuring that the program showcases a diverse variety of short and feature-length films.

"Let's say a teenager watches LGBTQIA+ short [films] and they're like, 'oh, look, there's a nonbinary short, and it's totally similar to my story'," Schoonmaker said.

SpIFF features several LGBTQ+films including "Aimee Victoria" directed by Chrystee Pharris. The film, which can be viewed as a part of the online festival, explores the relationship of two women of color amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Filmmakers are there to tell their stories, but they want to tell them to [the viewers]," Porter said. "You complete what they're doing when you come to them to be part of it.'

Prospective audience members can watch the wonderful work of Wolfe, Snead, Pharris and others by visiting SpokaneFilmFestival.org to purchase tickets for virtual events or purchase in-person tickets from BingCrosbyTheater.evenue.net.

Kaelyn New is a staff writer.

## The best film from 2021 you never saw: 'C'mon, C'mon'

#### REVIEW

#### **By ANTHONY MAUCIONE**

As we begin 2022, there are several major movies coming out this year which will be eagerly awaited for by critics and audiences alike. But before jumping into the new wave of movie releases, one film in particular from 2021 should not be left unnoticed: "C'mon C'mon.

With a limited release last November, "C'mon C'mon" boasted great reviews from critics and audiences alike. The film was released in several film festivals and was later picked up by the well-known film distribution company A24. However, it is not widely known, despite showcasing some big names in Hollywood and receiving raving reviews.

Even when looking into box office success, the film has not even made enough money from ticket sales to cover the cost of the budget for the film (a relatively small \$8.3 million). With limited advertisement combined with the presence of several blockbusters coming out in the same month, there is seemingly a small amount of people who have even heard of the film, let alone seen it.

The film's plot revolves around a radio journalist named Johnny who is traveling to different cities throughout the U.S. In each city, Johnny, played by the extremely talented Joaquin Phoenix, interviews children about their thoughts on the world and the future. The perspective of children truly interests Johnny and he must dive deeper into the mind of a kid when tasked with taking care of his 9-year-old nephew,



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDE

Despite the high ratings, "C'mon, C'mon" barely broke even.

a task that becomes increasingly more difficult for the protagonist.

The film is entirely shot in black and white which creates beautiful shots of the inner-city. The acting adds so much to the film as well, with strong performances from the entire cast. The performances are of such a high quality throughout that the audience will likely forget that they are watching a film and not a documentary.

What makes this film shine above the rest, however, is its true dedication to the perspective of children, a lost cause in recent media. The film is beautifully reminiscent of well-loved shows such as "Mr. Rodgers' Neighborhood" and "Sesame Street." Just like these shows, "C'mon C'mon" explores the diverse voices of children and treats their opinions with the same thoughtfulness and regard as if they are adults.

While "C'mon C'mon" is more for an adult audience with several heavy topics being discussed throughout, including dementia and mental illness, the film never strays from the voice of children. The movie includes scenes throughout of the interviews Johnny conducts with children. These interviews, while seemingly separate from the central plot, are especially insightful and impactful to the audience. "C'mon C'mon" is captivating throughout the film and even until the very end as the director decided to sprinkle extra clips of the interviews throughout the end credits.

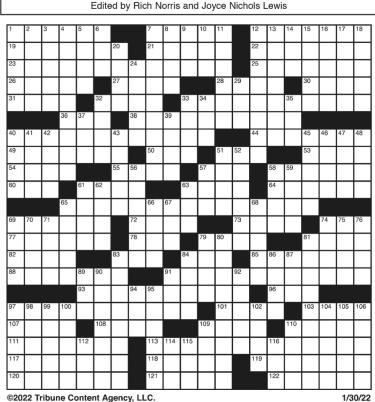
This film is exceedingly beautiful, both with its images and emotional messages that will be sure to bring some tears (most of which are happy tears, thankfully). The movie offers strong critiques and commentary on the nature of parenting and the lives of children as a social group; topics that are both timeless and paramount. "C'mon C'mon" is truly a masterpiece among feel-good movies.

Rating: 9/10.

Anthony Maucione is a staff writer.

#### Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

### Sudoku By The Mepham Group



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#### **MAKING A DENT**

#### By Matt Skoczen

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**SPORTS** 

🎔 @gonzagabulletin

# The Baldwin Dinners: The spark that became an act of community building

#### By ALEXANDER PREVOST

t all started in the summer of 2019 in a grocery store.

After the Baldwin house was purchased by cross country alum Luke Mason's family, he and a group of his teammates moved into the house. Right out the gate, the six of them came up with an idea — each night, someone would cook once a week and prepare a meal for the house. In addition to this, the chef of the night could invite one guest of their choice.

The twist?

8

The guest of honor's identity would be a secret to the rest of the house.

What began as a way to build kinship among teammates quickly evolved into something much more.

"We knew that the cooking was going to be important, but [the Baldwin Dinners] started out as kind of a little idea," said redshirt junior Yacine Guermali. "We made the Instagram almost instantly, and the first posts got a lot of love, so we kept it going."

They hosted their first Baldwin dinner on July 17, 2019.

Building the momentum, Baldwin Dinners were hosted once a week. Over time, they racked up more and more guests on deck. However, the pandemic threw a wrench in the system. Now, they're back in the game, continuing to spread the love.

A typical Baldwin dinner begins with the designated chef preparing a meal. Usually, a chef will have a few signature dishes up their sleeve, and if they're introducing a new meal to their roster, they've been practicing making and experimenting with it in the weeks prior.

"The guests will come," said redshirt senior Ben Hogan. "Dinner will already be made. They'll sit down, we'll take some photos of the whole group. We'll take some photos of the meal, and this whole time we're recording stuff here and there."

During dinner, the hosts and guests will participate in what they call, "Conversation Nation," in which they focus on getting to know the ins-and-outs of their guest of honor.

"That's probably the best part of the night," Hogan said. Following this, guests will participate in a rapid-fire uestion interview sign their name on the wall down to

question interview, sign their name on the wall down to the basement, sealing the evening with a golden dinner sticker.

Over time, the guest selection process has changed. What started with surprise guests that only the chef knew, the folks in Baldwin House now all know in advance due to scheduling. With the goal of having everyone in the house present for the dinner, they've now been looking to build connections with other athletic teams and friend groups.

"That's been a lot more of the recent ones," Guermali said. "Like, 'Who would love a Baldwin Dinner?' There's definitely a lot of people that would. We kind of have that thought process, but it's really nothing too deep."

These dinners serve as a way to build a community, and through interviews and conversation, the folks at Baldwin want to highlight the stories of their guests for all to see.

In terms of memorable guests, Guermali and Hogan have a few standouts. One of their favorites is Women's Basketball Strength and Conditioning Coach Mike Nilson, who was the former nutritionist and weights coach for men's cross country.

In addition to being what they'd consider to be a whiz in nutrition, Nilson distinguishes himself through his



COURTESY OF @BALDWINDINNERS INSTAGRAM

Yacine Guermali, left, with Abbey Arguilez during the first Baldwin Dinner of the 2021-2022 school year on Sept. 1.

"He's always wearing some sort of swag," Guermali said. "Actually, that night, if you go back to that post when we had him, we were all wearing sweatsuits that night, so that was fun. I guess that has to be far and away our most unique guest, as all the other ones had been students."

Looking forward, the folks at Baldwin have many plans to grow their following. Aside from their passionate alum and student fan-base, there have been talks about bringing in more kinds of people, including higher ups like Gonzaga President Thayne McCulloh.

They have other ventures to be announced as well. Students, staff and faculty can follow their Instagram account @baldwindinners. They continue to develop their around.

"The conversation nation at the dinner table — talking with the guests, getting to know them if we didn't already or if it's just a teammate or something," Hogan said. "We get through some pretty ridiculous hypotheticals. God, I just love talking around the table."

*Alexander Prevost is the online editor. Follow him on Twitter @alexanderprvst.* 

# Finding motivation to stay fit during new year

#### COMMENTARY by NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

Be it with an early-morning class, a hundred-page reading or an eight-page essay, everyone struggles at least once to stay motivated. For those gung-ho enough to embrace fitness as a goal, the challenge of staying motivated is even more difficult. Finding motivation and then sustaining it can be at times as difficult as running 8 miles or lifting 150 pounds, and yet, it can be the difference between breaking a goal or failing miserably.

Fitness goals — a common New Year's resolution — are desires that particularly require strong motivation and the keys to sustaining it. These resolutions are often the most elusive resolutions to keep. Without consistent motivation, as inevitably exemplified every year, these resolutions only lead to a four-stage path to failure: set high expectations, exercise daily for a few weeks, abruptly stop, repeat for next year.

To avoid this self-destructing journey, here are some few tips to staying motivated in order to help you hurdle over any obstacle that stands in the way of breaking your fitness goals.

1) A community with a routine will make fitness a fun part of your daily life.

Finding a community that is willing to workout and support you is always a strong place to start when taking charge of your exercise journey. A good community will make the difficult grind of fitness a fun, social activity while also helping with accountability.

They will also help make exercise a conscious part of your routine. As creatures of habit, it is vital to continuing fitness in the long-term that exercise becomes a habit. Scheduling exercise throughout the week with a group of friends is the most effective way of making fitness a part of your life.

During high school, I ran every day after school with a group of classmates. It was the habitual match with this community that made fun and enjoyable any day of the year, including in 15 degrees or in the pouring rain. In fact, now, without this group of friends, I have continued to exercise and embrace fitness.

Overcoming a challenge alone can be isolating but embracing adversity with a community can create tight bonds that



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

The Rudolf Fitness Center offers a number of amenities, including state-of-the-art cardio and weight training equipment, an indoor track, Intramurals, a six-lane, 25-yard indoor pool and three full-sized basketball/volleyball courts.

will last a lifetime. There are many clubs, like the running club or weightlifting club on Gonzaga's campus that are willing to be that supportive community. These clubs meet weekly would be a good starting point for anyone wanting to integrate exercise into their daily lives.

2) Realistic goals will create a strong foundation to improve upon in your fitness journey.

One of the biggest mistakes that people make when working on a fitness goal is being too ambitious with their hopes. Goals are meant to set a direction, a target on what to aim for, but when goals are too lofty, they become unattainable and thus detrimental to one's motivation.

The common proverb — "you must walk before you can run" — is a perfect description of this. Small goals might not bring the same euphoria that trying to accomplish the impossible might bring, but they will provide the necessary confidence to continue and grow in one's fitness.

"I love the dopamine hit in my brain when I achieve a goal, but at the age of 37 after achieving a lot of these goals, I realize that the process of working towards these goals is as equally important as the euphoria of actually achieving them," said the olympian, U.S. track star and now YouTuber Nick Symmonds on his first of his show, "The Nick Symmonds Show."

Big goals can always be broken down into smaller, more attainable goals. Dividing goals based on the long and short term will help lay out a roadmap to success and will give the necessary stability and foresight required to stay motivated on a task. All fitness goals are an uphill marathon. Tackling smaller goals will provide the necessary foundation to take on the larger goals.

An extra tip to help with goals and motivation is to write your goals on a notecard and tape it to a place that you can see it each day. Back home, I would tape my goals to my bathroom mirror, and now at college, I have them glued inside of my notebook. Daily reminders of your goals like this will keep you from becoming lost in the drudgery of workouts and focused on the positivity of its outcome.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer. Follow him on Twitter @noah\_sokol03.

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Senior Matthew Lang has appeared in 50 games over his four years as a Bulldog, with plans to continue his collegiate career while pursuing his CBA in accounting.

# Walking-on to the future

From Portland to Spokane, senior Matthew Lang has been on his grind to play the game he has loved for his whole life

#### By VINCENT SAGLIMBENI

Being a walk-on as a collegiate athlete is no easy task, not to mention at a program like the Gonzaga University men's basketball team. But GU men's basketball player Matthew Lang has followed his love for the game since high school, finding his spot and role on one of the best collegiate programs in all of college athletics.

Lang's love for basketball started when his dad played in junior college at Lower Columbia College in Longview, Washington, spreading love of the game to his son and coaching him in middle school.

"He was always my coach when I was in grade school and middle school," Lang said. "It's something that we just connected over, so his love for the game transitioned into me."

Lang's developed passion for hoops transferred over to high school. He attended Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon, where he averaged 15.4 points per game and took Jesuit to the quarterfinals round of the OSAA Class 6A tournament his senior year.

When Lang played for his AAU team, GU had attended his games, but not for Lang. They were originally there to look at Lang's teammate Kamaka Hepa, who was being heavily recruited by GU at the time. Hepa would eventually go to the University of Texas and later transfer to the University of Hawaii, but assistant coach Brian Michaelson, a Jesuit alumnus, reached out to Lang and offered him a preferred walk-on spot on the team. "I enjoy being around him," Michaelson said. "He's easy to get along with... I think Matt and I share times of what [it's like] back home in Portland. To talk about when he was in high school versus when I was in high school, people that we know from the Portland area that we have mutual connections to, I think those are fun things to reminisce and share with Matt."

Like most walk-on players, Lang had to take it on himself to get the reps he needed to make the impact he wanted on the GU men's basketball program. With the players who are on scholarship having coaches on them to practice at certain times, players like Lang have to take more of an independent approach, finding time of their own to put in the work they need.

"For the walk-ons, you kind of do your own thing," Lang said. "If you want to come to the gym and get better, you can. If you don't, [the coaches] aren't going to say anything. It's your responsibility to get to the gym and get your shots up."

With the independence came an appreciation for playing for such a prestigious program for Lang. Getting the chance to travel across the country and play against other teams was a big time realization for him, as he was able to understand how big the opportunity was playing for GU.

Lang specifically remembers the time GU played Duke University at the Maui Invitational his freshman year. Lang previously played against then Duke point guard R.J. Barrett once in high school, who his AAU team beat in the EYBL. Lang said watching players like Zion Williamson as well as his own teammates compete was special for him. "It's pretty cool to take a step back and think, 'wow, these guys are my friends and they're getting picked in the NBA," Lang said. "That's something that not a lot of people can say."

Over his time at GU, Lang looked to Michaelson and then-senior Jack Beach on getting adjusted to life at GU. Both being walk-ons themselves, Lang said Michaelson and Beach knew what it was like being in his position, so learning from them was great for Lang to get acclimated to the school.

Through Lang's hard work came a big reward. Lang was put on a full scholarship for the spring semester of his sophomore year, and although it was only for a semester, he said it was still a very cool experience, as it made his week.

"It was pretty cool to tell my parents as well," Lang said. "They were proud and super happy, obviously. That was always the goal. Even though it was just for the semester, it was cool and I was very appreciative of it."

You can see Lang today executing handshakes with his teammates and hitting his signature 3-point basket that will give everyone in The Kennel free tacos. Lang's working on getting a handshake with everyone on the team, and at times is still getting used to some of the ones he created with his teammates. When it comes to giving free tacos to The Kennel, Lang meant to ask GU athletics how many times he's actually hit the shot. Lang knew, however, that he had hit the shot every year he's been at GU. Lang hit two or three taco shots his sophomore year, and from there, made the taco shot his own signature shot.

### GU SPORTS CALENDAR

#### Thursday, Feb. 3

- Men's basketball at San Diego, San Diego, CA., 6 p.m.
- ➤ Women's basketball vs. Pacific, 6 p.m.

#### Friday, Feb. 4

- Track and Field at Washington State Invitational, The Podium, all day
- ➤Men's tennis vs. New Mexico, 4 p.m.
- ➤Women's tennis vs. Montana State, 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Feb. 5

- Track and Field at Washington State Invitational, The Podium, all day
- ➤Women's tennis vs. South Dakota, 1 p.m.
- ➤Women's basketball vs. BYU, 2 p.m.
- ➤Women's tennis vs. Seattle, 5 p.m.
- ➤Men's basketball at BYU, Provo, UT., 7 p.m.

#### Monday, Feb. 7

Women's basketball vs. San Francisco, 6 p.m.

#### \*Home games in bold\*

at a different school, Lang plans to use his COVID-19 year and play another year of college basketball, but he said that decision will come at the end of the season. With the recent addition of freshman walk-on Joe Few, Lang hopes to be a mentor to Few the same way Beach was a mentor for him. It could have been easy for Lang to decide to transfer to get more playing time somewhere else. But for Lang, the connections he made with GU and the experience playing for one of the most prestigious college basketball programs in the country will be some of the memories that will last with him for the rest of his life.

Lang said he was grateful to have been on the same team as some guys who are representing the Zags in the NBA. Being able to call guys like Killian Tillie, Rui Hachimura, Corey Kispert and Jalen Suggs his friends is something Lang will remember.

Looking forward, Lang is looking to head off to graduate school to pursue his CBA in accounting. Whether it be at GU or Vincent Saglimbeni is the Editor-in-Chief. Follow him on Twitter: @vinnysaglimbeni.

## Zags trio receives national and conference recognition

#### By COLE FORSMAN

Three standouts from the Gonzaga University men's basketball team were recognized for their efforts this season on Monday. Senior guard Andrew Nembhard was named one of the 10 candidates for the Bob Cousy Award, while Chet Holmgren and Drew Timme were selected to the John R. Wooden Award late season Top 20 list. Holmgren also received another West Coast Conference (WCC) Freshman of the Week honor.

Nembhard, who was named to the award's preseason watch list, remains in contention for the nation's top point guard honor after the catalog was narrowed down from 20 to 10 players. Three new candidates were announced as well, including Auburn's Wendell Green Jr., Baylor's James Akinjo and Colorado State's Isiah Stevens. A national committee of college basketball personnel, along with votes from fans, will determine who makes the final cut of five players in late February.

While a specific date has not been decided, the winner of the 2022 Bob Cousy Award will be presented sometime in March, along with the other four positional awards.

Nembhard is coming off his third 20-point game this season after he dropped 22 and four 3-pointers against Portland on Saturday. The former Florida Gator leads the WCC in assists per game with 5.3, including 6.8 in six conference games.

As for Holmgren and Timme, they are serious candidates for the Wooden Award as two of the most efficient players in the country. While leading the WCC in three different categories, Holmgren sits fifth in the nation at 63% shooting from the floor. Timme is also among the conference's best for scoring and field goals made.

The list of contenders for the prestigious award will be narrowed down to 15 before nearly 1,000 voters rank 10 players in order prior to the NCAA Tournament.



OE O'HAGAN IG: @ohagandaz

Senior guard Andrew Nembhard is averaging 10.1 points and 5.3 assists per game.

The winner of the Wooden Award will be announced following the tournament's conclusion in April.

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



SPORTS

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# From hoops to horseshoes

After a lengthy career on the hardwood, former GU men's basketball standout Robert Sacre has found tranquility as an amateur horse breeder

#### **By SYDNEY FLUKER**

t's never too late to rediscover a passion.

"Only you can find true happiness," said Robert Sacre, former Gonzaga and NBA basketball player and amateur horse breeder. "Life is so heavy, especially with all that's going on in this world. The biggest key in life is to find your inner peace and happiness. That sounds a little weird, but I think it's true."

For Sacre, that inner peace and happiness is found when he's with a horse.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, his early life was surrounded by horses. His extended family lived nearby and owned horses, meaning Sacre was on a horse by the age of 1.

"[Horse] was my first word... I just fell in love," Sacre said. "There's a lot to be said about working with them and they've been one of my passions."

After moving to Vancouver, British Columbia, at the age of 7, he lost touch with horses completely. Embracing the city life and basketball, he didn't touch a horse until coming to Spokane to play basketball for GU.

Eventually, he met people with horses and found his way back to the animals from his youth.

Now, he has two horses of his own and has sold a couple of race horses.

Biggie, a quarter horse and thoroughbred cross, stands at about 17 hands. His other horse, Swingtime, is slightly smaller at about 16.3 hands and is a Tennessee Walker.

"My beer doesn't spill when I ride that horse- he's that smooth," Sacre said.

Sacre bought Biggie from Carl Grether, owner of Tom Grether Farms and an experienced breeder.

In the business since 1990, Grether has bred horses for over 20 years. He and his wife, Lori, began sponsoring the GU men's basketball team in 2008, helping with the flights and boosters. They noticed Sacre's energy immediately.

About a decade later, they were re-introduced at a mutual friend's farm and eventually Grether sold Biggie to Sacre.

"We had been talking and we had a good relationship, so I said 'Well Rob, I don't know if you're interested, but I've got this mare that I would let you borrow with me..." Grether said. "And he said 'OK, I trust you Carl."

The partnership was also a new experience for Grether, who had never really partnered with anyone before.

"To have somebody [positive] like [him] is really important because there was no way I was going to get involved with somebody that's negative," Grether said.

Grether offered Sacre the mare if he would work with him on breeding. Sacre paid a quarter of the stud fee for the sire's sperm and Grether would pay the rest.

His mare already had a foal in her stomach, so Sacre paid the back-time and they split the two foals.

For the one that was yet to be bred, they had the mare and a sire in mind, but it was no ordinary sire.



On Jan. 12, Robert Sacre's Gun Runner colt sold for \$275,000 at the Kneeland January Horses of All Ages Sale.

"Gun Runner, the sire, was the hottest sire in North America and was hotter than any sire in the last 20 years," Grether said.

Through an auction, the two got the sire for a stud fee of about \$52,000 - about five and a half times higher than the listing price.

Their spending paid off.

At the Keeneland auction in Lexington, Kentucky, where they were sold the second foal, Sacre and Grether sold the short yearling to an agent for Cherry Knoll Farm for \$275,000.

Grether had been to Keeneland before and had some of his horses in Lexington, so he was familiar with the area. Grether showed Sacre the stud farms, racing tracks and bourbon distilleries on their trip to the auction.

Despite the fun they had on their trip, Sacre is taking some time off from the breeding world until November. During the break and with the energy he has from not playing basketball, he plans on getting his excavation business going and spending time with his family.

Currently, his horses are staying on a farm in Montana. In a of couple months, he'll bring them back to Spokane and will help his 5-year-old daughter start training for rodeo this summer. All three of his kids love dirt and being around horses.

"I'm very grateful they all love doing that type of stuff," Sacre said. "I take them with me everywhere I go when it comes to my horses. They've been on a horse since before they could walk at least, so they know what to do around them and how to act."

Riding horses teaches important life lessons, according to Sacre. It's imperative to get back on after you are bucked off so as not to develop that fear, so Sacre makes sure his kids always find a way back in the saddle.

"The key of life is that you just have to do it," Sacre said. "You're going to get bucked off in anything you do in life, so it's a great expression to get back in the saddle once you get bucked off."

Now on a break and owning enough land for two horses outside of Spokane, Sacre focuses his energy on what makes him happy: that meditative state found in the backcountry and being with horses.

"That's why I love my horses so much, because it puts you in that moment where you're in that flow state," Sacre said. "Most of our depression, anxiety, being upset and all that type of stuff comes from thinking about the past... from thinking about the future and what we need to do. But when you're in that moment, that's all you're focused on. And that's the closest thing to enlightenment you can be in."

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

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