

1946

THE GENERAL STORE

ACE

Gonzaga Students Receive 10% OFF

with Student ID

Some conditions apply. Does not apply to sale items. Located just blocks away at 2424 N Division



PHOTO COURTESY OF CBS NEWS' TWITTER PAGE

John Stockton will not be permitted to attend home games in the 2022-23 season unless the statewide mask mandate is withdrawn. Refer to commentary in sports for more on Stockton.

Stockton suspended from GU home games

By COLE FORSMAN

Gonzaga University men's basketball legend John Stockton had his season tickets revoked by the school for failing to comply with the mask mandate at home games. According to the Spokesman-Review, GU Athletic Director Chris Standiford notified Stockton of the decision in a "not pleasant" conversation.

"Basically, it came down to, [GU was] asking me to wear a mask to the games and be a public figure, someone a little bit more visible, I stuck out in the crowd a little bit," Stockton said in an interview with the Spokesman-Review. "And therefore they received complaints... they were going to have to either ask me to wear a mask or they

were going to suspend my tickets."

The NBA Hall-of-Famer attended the Zags' West Coast Conference opener against Pepperdine on Jan. 8, however, was not seen at the BYU game on Jan. 13 or San Francisco game on Thursday. GU has five more home games on the schedule this season.

According to Stockton, there had been "multiple" discussions over the last two years between him and the university's administration regarding the mask mandate. GU requires all attendees at home athletic events to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within the last 72 hours. Earlier this month, all food and beverage services were suspended to promote wearing a mask.

Unless the mask mandate is withdrawn by the state or the school, Stockton will not be able to attend home games until the 2022-23 season.

Last summer, Stockton made an appearance in a COVID-19 documentary "Covid and the Vaccine: Truth Lies, and Misconceptions Revealed," a film that questions whether masks and the vaccine are effective. He has also stated his concerns on the DNP-CD Sports podcast, where hosts Tony Farmer and Chad Fisher also expressed strong anti-vaccine news.

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

COVID-19 Action Response Team adds student position

By NATALIE RIETH

Considering the recent and rapid surge in omicron variant cases, Gonzaga's COVID-19 Action Response Team is in the process of developing new ways to manage the number of infected students, while maintaining personable service and care to Zags. Announced in a recent edition of Morning Mail, GU's COVID-19 Action Response Team is adding a new student position to its team, a student case management assistant, that is now open for applications.

The new position is open to upper-class undergraduates and graduate students who are enrolled at GU. The COVID-19 Action Response Team seeks students who are familiar with GU's community, have an interest in either the health or counseling profession and who are passionate about assisting and educating students in the current functions of GU's COVID-19 protocols. The position will likely be offered to two qualified applicants, however the number of students who will hold this position is subject to change.

Kent Porterfield, vice provost of student affairs, said the main objective of introducing the new student position is to ease the current workload of contact tracers and allow them to focus on the primary motive of their position—finding epidemiological links.

Therefore, tasks like educating exposed or infected students on quarantine requirements, clarifying questions, providing referrals to outside sources, conducting wellness checks, taking parent and family calls, etc., will now fall

within the responsibility of student case management assistants.

"Because of the load that contact tracers have right now, we want to make sure that we don't lose that [connection]," said Paula Smith, assistant dean of students. "It is so central to the type of university [GU is], high touch and high care, and we don't want to compromise that."

Not only will the position allow those affiliated with the COVID-19 Action

SEE POSITION PAGE 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF AAU GONZAGA'S INSTAGRAM PAGE

The Asian American Union (AAU) will host its annual night market this Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Cataldo Globe Room.

AAU hosts annual Night Market

By NOAH WONG

The Asian American Union (AAU) will host its biggest annual cultural event on Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. The third annual Night Market in the club's history comes after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Admission is free, and the event is open to students, faculty and staff, in addition to the greater Spokane community so long as they adhere to COVID-19 guidelines.

"Night Market is a showcase of performances, activities and food from different Asian cultures that the GU community can experience," said junior Kaitlin Le, president of AAU.

Night Markets are open-air markets that are popular in East and Southeast Asia. Hosting a carnival-like atmosphere, vendors line the streets selling clothing, food and drinks.

The Night Market will include a dance medley that

ranges from traditional Chinese dances to modern Korean pop dances. AAU has invited the Spokane Chinese Association's youth groups to perform a lion dance. A lion dance is a traditional Chinese dance, typically performed during traditional, cultural or religious festivals, in which performers emulate the lion to bring good luck and fortune.

Readings of poems written by students and a fashion showcase of a variety of traditional garb will also be put on.

"I'm going to be wearing a qipao, also known as a cheongsam, which is a silk and embroidered female Chinese dress," said sophomore Megan Yee, AAU's public relations officer. "It's my mother's that she wore for her wedding."

AAU will also have a dinner menu, in which a full

SEE MARKET PAGE 3

Ken Anderson steps into interim provost role

By NOAH WONG

After fall semester, Deena Gonzalez stepped down from her role as provost to become a senior university fellow and history professor. In the wake of her departure, Dean of the School of Business Administration Ken Anderson has taken the position of interim provost.

A provost acts as a chief academic officer and oversees student affairs. The vice provost and registrar of academic affairs administration, vice provost of student affairs and dean of each school and college report to the provost, while the provost reports to the president.

"The job of the provost is to oversee all the functions of the university that comprise the student experience," said Associate Professor of Philosophy and Faculty Advisor to the President Ellen Maccarone.

The provost, often signing off on decisions made at lower levels, is the last check to ensure that the university is providing a cohesive student experience.

A member of the GU community for 37 years and the longest-serving dean, Anderson was asked by GU President Thayne McCulloh to act as the interim provost. Associate Dean of the School of Business Administration, Molly Pepper, is serving as the interim dean.

"We have started a search for a permanent provost," Anderson said. "I am not a candidate for that job — I'm not going to apply and if we have a successful search, then I will be back in the business school sometime this summer."

A committee comprised of 10 individuals, including faculty and staff, a student and a member of the Board of Trustees will work together over the coming months in evaluating applicants and ultimately finalizing a recommendation to McCulloh.

After evaluating all applications, preliminary interviews are conducted, which will lead to a decision regarding which candidates will be invited for a campus visit. The committee expects these visits to take place in March.

SEE PROVOST PAGE 3

INDEX

News.....	1-3
Opinion.....	4
Arts & Entertainment.....	5-7
Sports.....	8-10

OPINION

Letter to the editor: Clearing up misconceptions about GU's COVID-19 policies

PAGE 4

A&E

Blake Braley brings soul sounds to Spokane

PAGE 6

SPORTS

Trkulja makes a name for himself on the tennis court

PAGE 8



Spring semester Editor-in-Chief Vincent Saglimbeni poses with last week's edition of the Bulletin.

Meet the spring editor-in-chief

By AUDREY MEASER

In his final Gonzaga University hurrah, Vincent Saglimbeni takes on the role as *The Gonzaga Bulletin's* spring 2021 editor-in-chief, with a focus on creating a family dynamic in the newsroom that will last for years to come.

Saglimbeni hopes readers of the paper will develop a greater appreciation for student journalism through reading and interacting with the Bulletin. His goals for implementing meaningful changes to the publication this semester aim to help bridge the gap between reader and writer to bring GU and the greater Spokane community closer together.

The Gonzaga Bulletin (GB): What initially drew you to the Bulletin?

Vincent Saglimbeni (VS): The first [Bulletin] experience I had, it was with our old Managing Editor, Ian Davis-Leonard. He was passing out papers on orientation weekend, and I was an orientation leader at the time, and he gave me a paper and was like "Oh Vinny you should go sign up for the Bulletin!" I was a contributor at the time and I was just, super terrified.

I just remember being super, super scared as a freshman, just seeing all these seniors in the room. I was so nervous that when we went through role I said I was a staff writer. Even though Kendra Andrews, who at the time was the editor-in-chief, did not hire me as a staff writer. I don't know—it all just kind of started from there.

I had wanted to be in sports media for a super long time and wanted to be a sports writer. From there I applied to be a sports editor, and kind of the rest is history, I guess.

I think what drew me is just wanting to see how sports journalism worked, and how it's applied in a real life setting. I didn't have any journalism experience in high school... so getting that hands-on experience was something I was super excited about.

GB: Did you always have a passion for writing and storytelling, or is this something you discovered later on in life?

VS: I always found that I was a pretty decent writer. I really enjoyed creative writing along with putting my own voice on the paper, and I think with sports it's that perfect avenue. You want to tell people what it is that you see from your perspective, and so that's why I always try to include my voice as much as I can in my writing. I think it all really started with those creative writing assignments that I had in high school.

GB: What are some of your goals for the semester?

VS: For the Bulletin, I just want to get as much content out as possible and also try and replicate the real-life journalism world as much as we can in our newsroom. One way we're doing that is by having a rolling deadline.

That's been a bit of an adjustment with our editors, especially the older ones who have been used to [the previous system]. I think they've done a really good job adjusting, though. I really just want to focus on getting

more content out there and getting really fresh content out there as much as possible.

On a personal note, I think my job personally is to make sure everyone [fulfills] their role to the best of their abilities and to play to their strengths. We've had a couple new positions that we've added at the start of the semester and some rearranging of people in previous [roles] with their new roles and I think we've done a really great job of that so far.

I just want to push the passion that I have for the Bulletin onto our staff and onto our readers as well. I just think this is such a unique opportunity that only a handful of students get to do, and I just want to give that perspective to our readers [and share with them] the work that we put into the paper every week. The enjoyment that we have [making the paper] is something that I hope I can push towards those who read the Bulletin.

GB: Who is someone you see as inspirational, either professionally or personally?

VS: I think it's gotta be my dad. He's a doctor and he runs his own practice. It's called West Coast Sports Institute, and he first gave me my passion for sports. He's a team physician for the San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco 49ers and [is] one of the reasons that I love sports today.

Getting the chance to meet some of those players because of him and getting to see the impact that he's had on the players and their families is just something that I wanted [to also do] in the sports world. That's something that we kind of share. We both want to be in the sports world helping others and using our platforms to bring change and bring a different perspective to what's going on.

GB: What's been a favorite Bulletin memory of yours?

VS: I think one was my junior year when I was a sports editor the entire year with Asher [Ali]. To go into a semester with no sports happening and then following that with every single sport [happening] in the following semester, and trying to figure out how to cover that was super fun to do. I think we did a really good job of that and Asher and I have become really good friends since that year.

Myself, him and Luke Modugno call ourselves the "Bulletin Boiyyz" and we three have been really good friends since the start. Seeing how the three of us now are all in [leadership positions] and getting to spread that joy that we all have for the Bulletin, it's been really great to be able to see and develop while working together over the years.

GB: What's been a favorite story of yours?

VS: My favorite story that I think I've written was when I got to interview Harold Rusch. He's 98 now, and he made scrapbooks for the men's basketball team. We (Saglimbeni and Digital Editor Noah Daheim) got to go to his house and we got to interview him. There was one point in the interview—and I've never done this before—

I just dropped my notes and I just sat and I just listened to this guy tell all of these stories. It was just super cool to get to interact with him and get to see the impact that he has on other people with this passion that he only started when he was around 70-something years young.

GB: What's your third favorite vegetable?

VS: I gotta say, I think it's a cucumber.

GB: I think a cucumber is technically a fruit.

VS: Well I'm saying cucumber anyways. Green beans are my favorite, especially when you season them right. And then I consider salad as a second vegetable. I know it's a mixture of other vegetables but I think salad is my second. And then with cucumbers there's a lot of different ways you can prepare them and use them in different dishes.

Asher Ali, who was the Bulletin's editor-in-chief during the fall 2021 semester and who is a close friend of Saglimbeni's, was asked about what he's most looking forward to seeing from Saglimbeni as he takes on this new role, as well as any words of advice he has to offer.

GB: What kind of leader is Vincent?

Asher Ali (AA): Very simply, Vinny is the type of leader who thrives when he understands that everyone around him is doing just as well if not better than he is. He's such a compassionate person, that by lifting other people up, he then excels more and more at his role too. Because he cares so much about the wellbeing and the success of others around him, he puts their priorities first. I think for him, especially in the leadership role he holds at the moment, I think he's going to be really successful because the Bulletin thrives when everyone does well, not just himself.

He always makes sure everyone is in their best spirit and enjoying their job. He loves his work, and I think he kind of breathes that into other people too through his leadership practices. He makes other people love what they're doing.

GB: From one editor-in-chief to another, what's one piece of advice you would share with Vincent as he takes on this new role?

AA: Every idea that you have— just run with it. Obviously you want to cross all your t's and dot all your i's, but you don't want to let your own thoughts delay an idea. Let it shine through, let an idea be rough. If you hear about a story and you're not too sure if it's worth pursuing, go at it full-force until it is.

You have a bunch of people in your corner who will be there to [support you]. You know it's your paper, take ownership of it, fall in love with it, have fun with it and just do whatever you can to make it a better place for everyone who's involved.

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

POSITION

Continued from Page 1

Response Team to carry out their jobs more efficiently, but Porterfield said it is a rare educational experience for students to be a part of a crisis response effort.

Both Smith and Porterfield said this new position will humanize GU's COVID-19 Action Response Team by adding a larger element of student connection and encouragement to its response protocols.

"I have always believed that having students as a part of our efforts is really important, as students are often our best ambassadors," Porterfield said. "I think it helps us bridge whatever communication differences there might be."

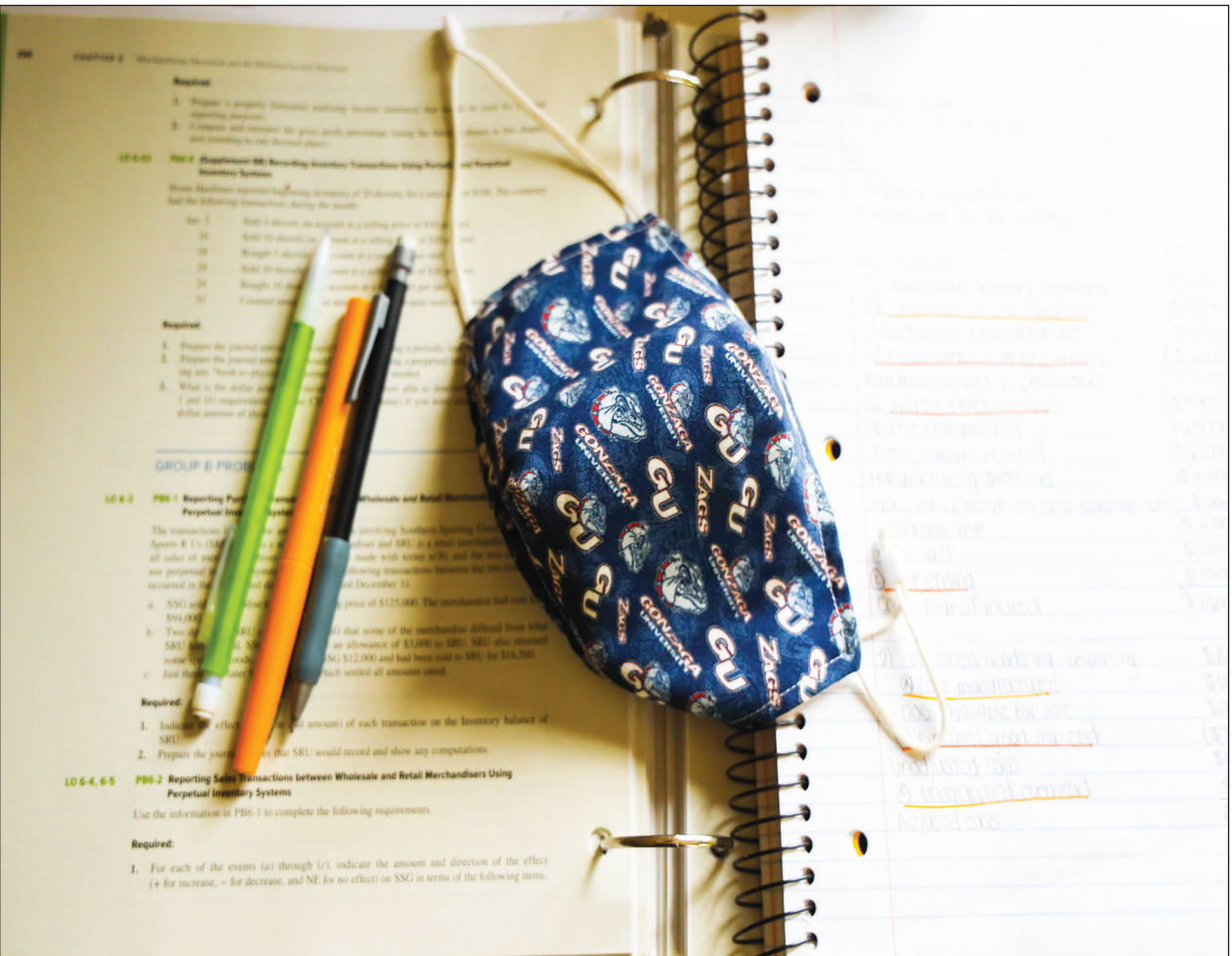
As the COVID-19 Action Response Team continues to evolve its response plan to fit the ever-changing obstacles presented by the pandemic, it doesn't only seek students who are assets to campus tracers, but also those who are highly adaptable.

"We have been working at a fast pace since the beginning of the year and would love the opportunity to slow the process down for students and allow more time to ask questions and connect with our team in a more intentional way," said Taylor Jordan, COVID-19 coordinator via email.

According to the job posting that was recently promoted on Morning Mail, the part-time remote position is paid \$16.50 per hour and is estimated to be 10-15 hours per week. Its application will remain open until the two student positions are officially filled.

To apply for the position visit www.gonzaga.edu/zagsignite and search for job #29710.

Natalie Rieth is the managing editor. Follow her on Twitter: @natalie_rieth.



The COVID-19 Action Response Team has added a new student position to help keep track of campus cases.

LILY KANESHIGE IG: @aka.lilly

Get down to business with New Venture Lab

By BAILEY WHITE

New Venture Lab, a Gonzaga University student-run organization, is a hands-on introduction to the world of entrepreneurship. Teams of GU students are paired with local entrepreneurs interested in free consulting, and in exchange, students get real-world business experience.

"At New Venture Lab, our tagline is 'Learn Business by Doing Business,'" said junior Dawson Oen, one of the three student directors for the consulting group.

Students spend nine weeks working on business development, ranging from social media rebrands, to market research to financial analysis. Oen described consulting as learning about a business and figuring out what they could be doing better.

In addition to Oen, the program is run by seniors Catherine Follett and Natalie Veto. Each semester, the directors select entrepreneurs from a pool of applicants. This semester, they received 19 applications and chose nine.

Past clients include Tasty Bun, Core4Collective, the Logan Neighborhood Council and Greater Spokane Incorporated. At the end of the semester, teams compile their work into a document and present their findings to the entrepreneur.

"When we're interviewing entrepreneurs, our main goal is to make sure [students' work] will be implemented," Follett said. "We want to make sure the students are putting their time, work and effort into something productive."

One entrepreneur who partnered with New Venture Lab is Evan Moore, the founder of Real Frequency. Real Frequency is a consulting group that helps high school students choose a college and navigate the application process. Moore founded the company four years ago and while in the startup phase, a friend referred him to New Venture Lab.

"In the last four years, we have hired four employees, expanded to four offices and quadrupled our capacity," Moore said. "I attribute a lot of that to my New Venture

Lab [consultants]."

After his positive experience with the program, he joined the New Venture Lab board.

Moore's experience is just one of many success stories. According to Follett, in 2019 a New Venture team worked with the Northeast Community Center (NCC) to determine whether opening up a coffee shop in their facility would be financially feasible. The NCC said this work saved their organization over \$30,000 in consulting fees.

This semester's entrepreneurs haven't been announced yet, but Follett said they will include businesses in the sports, art and health care industries as well as a well-known nonprofit. According to the team, this variety is part of the reason New Venture Lab is a valuable experience for students in all majors.

"Regardless of whether you're a business student, it's a great way to bring business learning to your education," said program adviser Cole Kelly. "Engineers sometimes think they're going to graduate and go off and just engineer, but they're going to go off and work for a business."

Though team leads have already been hired for the semester, team member applications are currently live.

"You'll never have a more valuable experience in college," Veto said. "We do work that is above most internship levels. It's one of the coolest experiences to talk about in an interview because you know you did really cool work that you wouldn't get exposure to in a classroom."

Team members usually commit two to three hours a week to their project. They are intentionally paired with a team and entrepreneur that aligns with their interests, Veto said.

"If you want to make a difference, if you want to see change, you have to be a part of New Venture Lab in some way, shape or form," Moore said.

Visit <http://www.gonzaga.edu/nvl> for more information.

Bailey White is a staff writer.



EMMA PATENODE IG: @emmapatenode

(Left to right) Natalie Veto, Dawson Oen and Catherine Follett run the entrepreneur organization New Venture Lab.

AAU

Continued from Page 1

meal ticket costs \$8 and a side dish costs \$3. The main dishes consist of Indian chicken curry, chow mein and tofu fried rice. The side dishes are veggie egg rolls and dumplings and the dessert is fried banana. The food will be prepped by student volunteers using Sodexo's kitchen.

Bubble tea, a drink which originated in Taiwan and is commonly known as boba, will also be sold by a local boba shop.

On Tuesday, AAU collaborated with the COG to serve fried rice at 360 degrees in an effort to promote the Night Market.

Other activities include henna booths, an origami folding station and a wishing tree for students to put up their New Year's resolutions.

"There will be a dartboard that students can aim to vote for which board member they would like to see pied in the face at the end of the night," Le said. "It's been a fun little tradition and we're going to be trying to continue that on."

AAU meets weekly, and students come to connect with

those who have had similar experiences, or have a desire to share and learn more about different cultures. They also play fun games in the later half of meetings to promote fun and bring the group closer.

"The last Night Market was held during my freshman year, and I got to volunteer and help run some of the booths," Le said. "Lots of bustling activity and lots of energy as well. We're hoping to bring that on for this year's Night Market."

Noah Wong is a staff writer.

PROVOST

Continued from Page 1

"We're now receiving materials from applicants," said Kent Porterfield, vice provost of Student Affairs. "Very soon, we will begin the process as the search committee is starting to evaluate and review those applications and materials."

GU is working with a search firm, AGB SEARCH, to recruit a pool of candidates, manage logistics and help the search committee screen candidates.

The position overview is listed with expectations of the provost to provide and nurture creative, dynamic and visionary leadership be an excellent listener, engaging intentionally with members of the university community to understand the culture and systems at work.

The provost also advances diversity, equity and inclusion approaches to support recruitment, hiring and retention efforts in academic and student affairs.

"We want somebody who can be a strong leader that has a background in cultivating academic and inclusive excellence and is able to bring people together from across the university from academic disciplines and different colleges and schools," Porterfield said. "Somebody that believes in social justice and actively works as a leader and as an individual to promote inclusion and equity and that really promotes justice within our institution and our local community."

Along with an overview of the position, a leadership profile is attached to the job posting, which explains GU's history, mission statement, university



JOE O'HAGAN IG: @ohagandaz

Ken Anderson will serve as the interim provost while the committee searches for a permanent replacement.

facts and figures, a description of Spokane and what the provost's leadership opportunities are to potential applicants.

Application and nomination materials, like a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae and five references are to be submitted by Feb. 18.

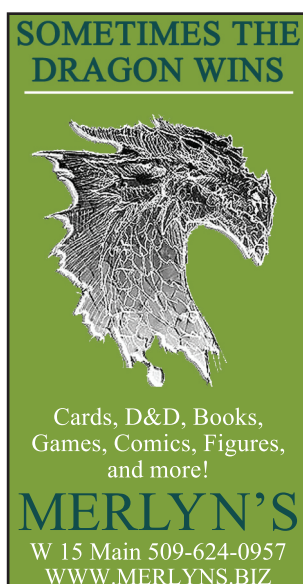
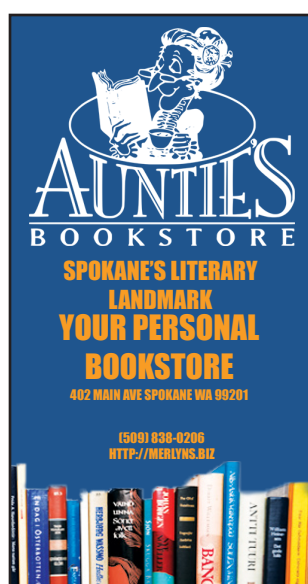
"I want someone who really knows how to put together a strong team of

people, to lead us into our next chapter at Gonzaga", Maccarone said. "Someone who can both be visionary, but also detail oriented, someone to be able to help us as a community, integrate the student experience, both academic and extracurricular and other kinds of co-curricular activities."

Students are encouraged to take the

opportunity to meet with candidates during the campus visits, as it offers students a glimpse of what GU's future could look like as well as what the candidate's future community could look like.

Noah Wong is a staff writer.



GU official outlines COVID-19 policy

A letter to the editor in response to last week's piece on GU's pandemic response

I am offering this submission to *The Gonzaga Bulletin* in response to an opinion piece printed in last week's edition. It is important to me as the university's COVID-19 compliance officer that our community is informed about health and safety measures taken and in place, and that our community has accurate information.

Claim: Knowing that cases would increase, GU didn't implement any further safety protocols for students other than (sic) encouraging the booster.

Fact: Several safety protocols were implemented at the beginning of semester to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus, including a requirement to test before campus arrival, first week testing of unvaccinated undergraduates, first week residence hall surveillance testing, permission for faculty members to teach online for the first few weeks, expanded pick up dining options and more.

Claim: No proof was needed for unvaccinated students to show their test results or upload them to GU's medical database.

Fact: All unvaccinated undergraduates were required to submit proof of a negative test, test through Health and Counseling Services or submit proof of a positive test within the last 90 days. Compliance with this requirement is tracked, and students who fail to comply are subject to holds on their enrollment.

Question: According to GU's website, all students are required to get vaccinated, yet somehow we still have a few hundred unvaccinated students?

Fact: Since the announcement of a vaccine requirement, students have had the option to submit medical and religious exemptions, as Washington law permits. Students seeking exemptions are required to provide documentation signed by a health care provider acknowledging that they understand the risks of becoming vaccinated and remaining unvaccinated, and agreeing that they may be subject to additional testing and safety expectations.

Claim: By not requiring vaccinations and testing, the school is putting everyone on campus at risk without



By TAYLOR JORDAN

holding anyone accountable, especially since there are no protocols for unvaccinated students to ensure the safety of everyone else.

Fact: As noted above, testing has been required and protocols for unvaccinated students are in place and enforced. Additionally, in accordance with CDC guidelines, students who are unvaccinated and are identified as a close contact to a positive case are directed to quarantine.

Question: Why are students still able to attend classes if they have been exposed to COVID-19?

Fact: Students who are exposed and boosted do not need to quarantine, which is consistent with new CDC guidance. Students who are unvaccinated or are eligible to be boosted and are not yet boosted are still directed to quarantine.

Question: Why are we still allowing students to attend games at such a high capacity, even when GU is making additions to the school such as expanded Pick-3 to lower COVID-19 exposure?

Fact: Unvaccinated students are required to test prior

to entry into the McCarthy Athletic Center. Everyone is required to wear a mask.

Claim: Students who get exposed throughout the semester should also be forced to quarantine before coming back to classes.

Fact: Again, unvaccinated and un-boosted students do quarantine. CDC guidance is being followed.

Claim: Currently, when a student is exposed to COVID-19, GU doesn't make the student do anything more than wear a mask.

Fact: This is false. All students who are exposed are directed to test at day five. Unvaccinated and unboosted students are not permitted to go to class and are directed to quarantine.

Claim: It's irresponsible of GU not to create policies where students are held accountable for their exposures. It shouldn't be up to the students to make a safe campus—GU should be ensuring that already.

Fact: As noted above, policies and practices in place do ensure students are accountable. Importantly, all members of the campus community are responsible to help keep the campus safe. It is a collective effort, and students have an important role and responsibility to help create a safe environment.

Members of the Gonzaga University community have invested thousands of hours in working closely with local public health authorities, evaluating options and implementing policies and practices to help keep the campus community as safe as possible. Administrators, faculty, staff and students have been part of the dedicated response team facing this challenging situation with courage, intelligence and compassion. We are grateful to all members of the community who have risen to this challenge and worked hard to keep themselves and others safe and healthy.

Taylor Jordan is the COVID-19 Compliance Officer and Clergy Compliance and Behavioral Intervention Team Coordinator.

Does Jan. 6, 2021 mark our new normal?

In 1920, Warren G. Harding was the first president to run on a campaign of normalcy. This campaign strategy of using the nostalgia of the electorate who had just faced a world war was effective. Harding destroyed his Democratic rival James Cox, winning 404 of a possible 531 electoral votes.

The call for normalcy has become a popular tool in a presidential candidate's wheelhouse since then, and it has been used in both Donald Trump and Joe Biden's campaigns. People in America like the notion of the familiar and, as past elections have indicated are often nostalgic.

With over a year since the rally and insurrection at the nation's capitol, the cry for normalcy is stronger than ever. Yet, if what conspired at the capitol building proves anything about current politics in the U.S., it indicates that a return to normalcy might be impossible, at least not the normal we all expect.

For me, U.S. politics and governance is built on the foundation of seeking out justice and truth in the hope that one day we will have a country that is just and honest. It is about a democratic rule that values the desires of the majority without infringing on the rights of the minority.

Before the events of Jan. 6, I had no need to question the longevity of these convictions in America. I valued this noble goal and revered the honest traditions and the precedents that have held this nation together for over 200 years. I had hope in the people of this country as they have supported this mission in the past by respecting these traditions and the authority they hold.

The walls of the capitol building were not the only thing breached on Jan. 6 last year. The actions led by white supremacist groups shined a light on the fragility



By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

of these traditions. The events highlighted how a portion of Americans have given up on seeking truth and instead have resorted to creating their own truths and traditions.

Since Jan. 6 last year, I have felt trapped in déjà vu. On the news, I have seen more far-right protesters on the streets using Christian imagery to support their positions, just like the crosses and religious posters at the capitol building. In the red state of Missouri, my home state, I still see MAGA signs and far-right propaganda, signs that match the violent and threatening message I saw a year ago.

I have realized that the U.S. is trapped in a hall of mirrors with each day a warped reflection or re-creation of the Jan. 6 atrocities. The effects of Jan. 6 were not limited to one day; it has ripples, and we are stuck reliving those

ripples.

There is a new rule book in America ... a new normal.

This new normal is the buzz of fake news and conspiracy theories from the TV screen. It is the passing of election laws in state legislatures which allow states to overturn and censor elections. It is political rallies with images of Jesus wearing MAGA hats and crosses on Confederate flags. It is one where identity trumps policy. It is one of fake truths and empty traditions.

We must adapt to this new normal and be consumed by it or challenge this normal with our own desperate search for truth in politics. This is the heart of America — its ideals and the truths we stand for — that we are wrestling for. It is not who will have power in Congress or be the president for the next four years but whether democracy and its truths will survive and be valued.

I have written for a newspaper since my freshman year of high school and I have been passionate about politics for even longer. The values of truth and justice within politics are important to me because I believe that they give government purpose. If we have destroyed our country's foundation, can we really stand at all?

This might sound like I am flaunting the dramatic or that I have been swallowed by American political rhetoric. But, it is already quite clear to me and many others that the events of Jan. 6 last year have changed the U.S., have changed us.

We are caught in a crossroads, a decision to accept the creation of a fake truth or seek the natural and real truth. The decision we make here is important — it will determine which normal we will live by.

Noah Apprill-Sokol is a staff writer.

The Gonzaga Bulletin

Editor-in-Chief

Vincent Saglimbeni

Managing Editor

Natalie Rieth

News Editors

Devan Iyomasa

Audrey Measer

Lillian Piel

Arts & Entertainment Editors

Allie Noland

Sydney Fluker

Sports Editors

Cole Forsman

Henry Krueger

Dawson Neely

Opinion Editor

Chiana McNelly

Photo Editor

Diversity Editor

Asher Ali

Online Editor

Alexander Prevost

Copy Editors

Kate Sullivan

Tommy Conmy

Adviser

John Kafentzis

Technical Adviser

Brett Hendricks

Assistant Director, Student Media

Joanne Shiosaki

Program Coordinator

Morgan Scheerer

LETTERS POLICY

The Gonzaga Bulletin welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and no more than 800 words. The Gonzaga Bulletin reserves all rights to edit letters. Please include your name and a telephone number for confirmation purposes only. All written correspondence will be considered fit for printing unless otherwise requested. Email letters to bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu with "OPINION" in the subject header. The deadline for letter submission is 4 p.m., Tuesday.

The Gonzaga Bulletin is a weekly student publication serving the Gonzaga community. Weekly circulation is 3,000. Opinions expressed in the pages of The Gonzaga Bulletin represent the views of their respective authors and not necessarily those of the faculty, student body or administration of Gonzaga University. Please direct all queries to bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu or 509-313-6826.

Contact Info:

Email: bulletin@zagmail.gonzaga.edu

Office phone: 509-313-6826

Advertising: 509-313-6839 or adoffice@gonzaga.edu

www.gonzagabulletin.com

Vaccine or Game-Set-Match?

On Jan. 16, the decision to officially deport Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic from Australia due to an unwillingness to get the COVID-19 vaccine was upheld, making Djokovic unable to enter in the Australian Open, which he currently holds the title for.

The Australian government made it abundantly clear that medical exemptions from the vaccine for players traveling to Australia for the Australian Open would be extremely limited. However, after talking with two medical councils, Djokovic was given an exemption, which soon caused anger among many Australians who did not agree with the exemption.

Despite obtaining a medical exemption, Djokovic was detained immediately after landing in Melbourne due to not having the necessary qualifications to enter the country (specifically the COVID-19 vaccinations). After being released from an immigration hotel where he was held for several days, Djokovic's freedom did not last long. His entrance to the country was officially denied, as his visa being revoked due to his vaccination status.

While many of Djokovic's fans were upset upon hearing that the tennis star would not be able to defend his previous Australian Open titles, Australian Immigration Minister Alex Hawke, who had originally denied Djokovic entrance into the country, stood by his decision. Hawke believed that the tennis player's decision to remain unvaccinated could cause anti-vaccination support to increase, as well as Djokovic's status putting other players and people he may come in contact with at risk.



By HARPER HAMILTON

While some may think the decisions made by the Australian government were too harsh surrounding Djokovic's deportation, these are the decisions that must be made in a time like this. In the U.S., beds are filling up in hospitals the way they have been— not only for the past several months, but for the past two years. Those who have made excuses to remain unvaccinated, waiting until more was learned about the vaccine, potential unknown side effects or simply not wanting the government to control their bodies are still making excuses.

As the pandemic persists, it is clear that if those who are unvaccinated remain unvaccinated, society's problems will remain problems. It is time that those with the power and influence to make change and keep people safe, such as the government we have elected, put their power to use and hold everyone equally accountable, regardless of class, race or status.

While vaccine mandates have been created in countries around the world, how good is a law that is not enforced? When looking at the deportation of Djokovic, it is important not to applaud a

government for doing the right thing — it is the bare minimum — the thing they were expected to do when they were elected. We must demand more out of those we have elected to represent us, because in a time of turmoil such as the time we are living in now, what good is a government that hands out exceptions to those who have enough money in their pocket to pay for them?

The truth is, while COVID-19 may not discriminate against rich or poor, our governments do. Djokovic is not only a tennis player, but a tennis star with an over \$2 million net worth. In order to understand the weight of the Australian government's decision to revoke Djokovic's visa, we must look at this pandemic through a lens of intersectionality. Those who are rich have the power to work around the rules. This time, it did not work, and we can see how when the government holds people accountable in the ways it should, people are kept safe.

By remaining firm in its standing on the vaccine mandate, regardless of Djokovic's personal standings and influence, the Australian government models what governments across the world should be doing during a time like this: holding everyone accountable.

There will always be those who fight against rules and laws, even when those rules and laws are made in favor of protecting the greater good. It is a fine line we walk trying to understand when personal liberty takes precedence over doing what is best for the larger population. Australia has shown us that right now, during this pandemic, we must think of others before we think of ourselves.

Harper Hamilton is a staff writer.

Singing soul in Spo with Blake Braley

By SYDNEY FLUKER

It's never too late to find your passion. Growing up, the Spokane soul singer Blake Braley was all about sports. At this time, singing was nothing more than something fun to do in the car. So when he graduated from high school, his next step was unclear.

Following high school, he went to Eastern Washington University (EWU) to pursue a career as a lawyer. After almost completing his first year, Braley dropped out.

Following EWU, he started learning how to play guitar and improve his vocal abilities. He enrolled in music school at Spokane Falls Community College, dropping out almost a year after that.

Despite such changes, each step served its own importance. It was high school where he met Tristan Pierce, his guitarist and co-songwriter. It was EWU where he discovered a passion for music, and it was SFCC that pushed him to get serious.

Meeting Pierce in high school was almost coincidental. They had taken Spanish together, but it was when their advisory classes merged that their musical paths crossed.

Pierce was asked to perform his audition piece for Berklee College of Music to their advisory class. When their teacher asked if anyone could sing for him, Braley's friends volunteered him.

"We just decided that music was something that would be fun to do together and we started off playing covers," Pierce said.

Working together, the two have come a long way since their high school Spanish class.

"Starting out with the band just fell into my lap," Braley said. "Tristan used to play in this band at Chaps on Friday nights, and the singer was out one week, so Tristan asked if I wanted to take over as the singer for one night."

Typically, small-time bands have a rotating lineup of musicians. But that night, the musicians Braley continues to play with as his main group now happened to be the band members.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLAKE BRALEY'S FACEBOOK PAGE

A Spokane native, Braley frequently performs at local venues as a singer, keyboarder or organ player.

While he held some part-time jobs at the start of his music career, "gigging" has become his main source of income — performing three to four times a week with a few different bands as a singer, on the keyboard or the organ.

Furthermore, the kinds of gigs he performs have changed over time. Starting off, there were a lot of gigs at bars and coffee shops, where the music is directed towards covers. Since starting at a Forza in Spokane Valley in 2016, Lucky You Lounge

has become his favorite venue in Spokane.

"Whenever I can get into a regular venue, I can cater more towards my original music," Braley said.

Braley and Pierce work closely in developing their original music. Together, they write most of the lyrics and music. Once the song has a solid footing, it gets sent to drummer Juan Parris and bassist Eddie Ramirez for them to build their own sections.

Most of his songs released so far were

written around the time Braley was 20, about five years ago.

"I was going through the 20 year old trials and tribulations of trying to be in a relationship," Braley said. "So most of those songs are about a girl or girls, going through heartache, things like that."

Producing the music was a whole separate challenge. Braley and Pierce had to learn as they went, while Parris and Ramirez had been in the game for longer and were used to the process.

Braley purchased an at-home recording setup in March 2020, allowing him to spend the initial lockdown period familiarizing himself with it.

"Since I started playing music, I felt like I've been having to play catch up," Braley said. "I started music when I was 19 or 20, and I knew nothing, not a single thing, about music other than how it made me feel and that I like to sing."

He dropped his first EP in July of 2019, titled "Better." His last official project, the self-titled EP "Blake Braley," was released right before the pandemic hit.

While his tune has stayed rooted in soul and R&B, the pair has been working on developing their sound for their upcoming full length record. Their newer album is still rooted in soul, but has more R&B influences and a modern feel, compared to the retro soul self-titled album.

The growing music scene in Spokane has helped the musicians mix up their sound from time to time. By playing in each other's bands week after week, a strong community has formed for musicians of all regards.

"My favorite part about playing music in Spokane is how intertwined we are," Pierce said. "We're all playing with each other's projects, so you never really get bored or stuck on one project for too long."

Currently, Braley plays Saturday nights at Zola and at various other venues throughout the week. His music is available for listening on Spotify and Youtube.

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

Where is the art? Explore Spokane's art scene

COMMENTARY

By NATALIE RIETH

Spokane's art scene is packed with stellar museums, galleries and opportunities to support local creators. But if you are new to the Spokane area and in search of local art, where do you start?

As a helping hand to art enthusiasts who are new to the Spokane area, here are the first three stops to include in your local art bucket list.

Jundt Art Museum

For Zags living on campus without a car, Jundt Art Museum is the perfect museum getaway. Jundt Art museum is divided into three exhibition spaces: Jundt Galleries, the Arcade Gallery and the Chancellor's Room. Currently, Jundt Art Museum is showing two new exhibitions this spring semester: "Revisited: A Grand Tour: Images of Italy from the Permanent Collection" and "From the Collection: The Bible in Art."

"Revisited: A Grand Tour: Images of Italy from the Permanent Collection," located in the Jundt Galleries, showcases a collection of over 76 images of Italy, like the canals of Venice, the Renaissance architecture of Florence, the classical remains of Rome and popular monumental sites seen throughout Italy. Collectively, the collection is presented as an immersive Grand Tour travelogue for its viewers.

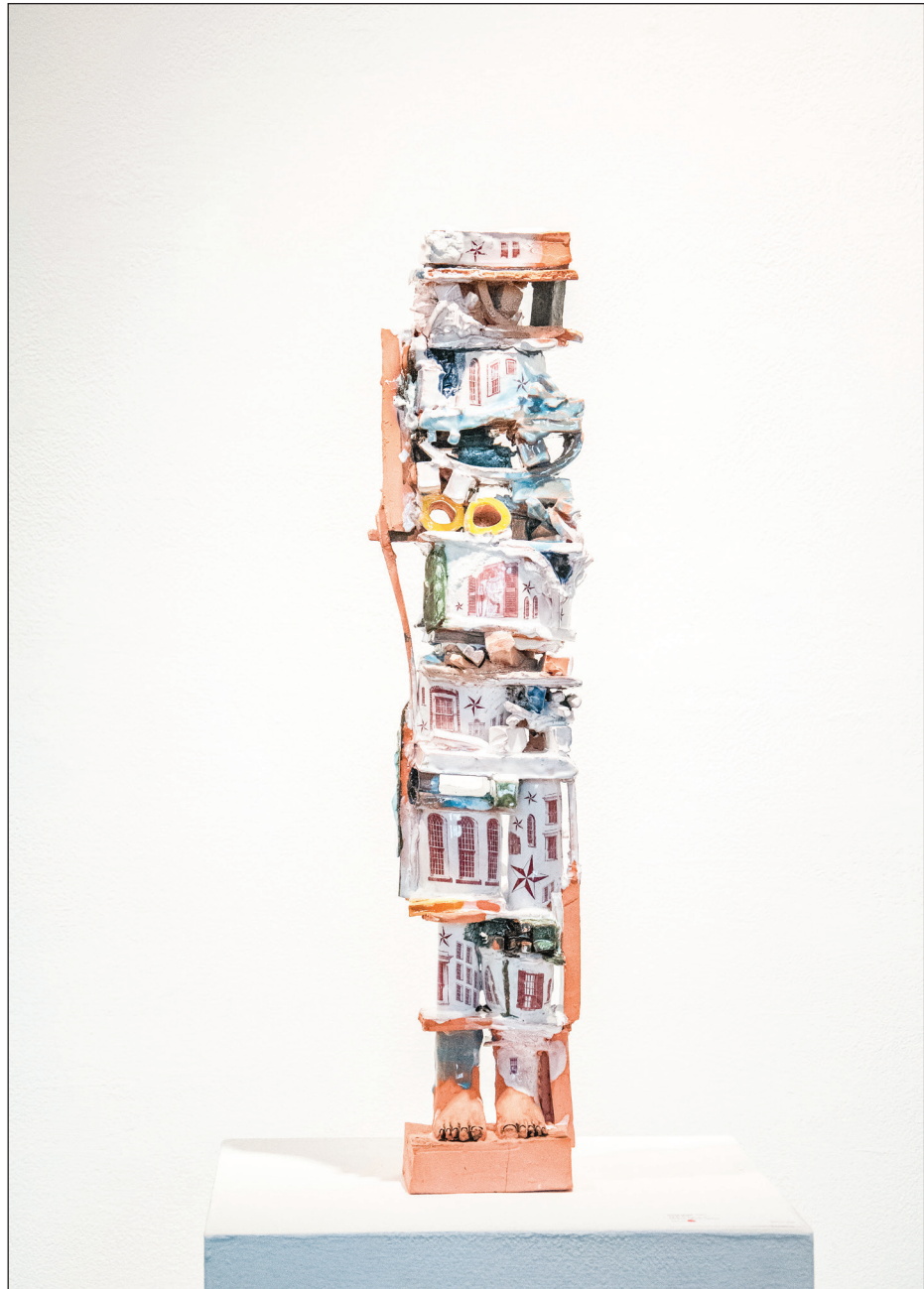
"[I am excited for the viewers to be able to] connect with the ideas, artists, their expressions and individual works of art and just the opportunity in particular for this [Italian] exhibition to be up again," said Paul Manoguerra, director and curator of Jundt Art Museum in a recent article of *The Gonzaga Bulletin*. "This is the opportunity to experience the cultural heritage that the university is serving through the art that's in the collection."

"From the Collection: The Bible in Art," located in the Arcade Gallery, displays nearly 30 works of art from the 16th to the 20th century that depict scenes from both the New and Old Testament.

Prominent works displayed in From the Collection: The Bible in Art include "Creation" by Marc Chagall, "Resurrection, The" by Salvador Dalí and both "Presentation in the Temple: Oblong Plate" and "Christ Driving the Money Changers from the Temple" by Rembrandt van Rijn.

Jundt Art Museum's Arcade Gallery is also home to Dale Chihuly's permanent glass installation called "The Gonzaga Red Chandelier," and an additional display case of multiple smaller works by Chihuly. Enthusiasts of Chihuly travel far and wide to visit his sculptures in Jundt Art Museum's collection, so taking a study break to view Chihuly's works during your years as a Zag is a must.

Jundt Art Museum, located at the southwest end of Gonzaga's campus, is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



RACHAEL HALEY IG: @rachael.haley

First Friday events are a customizable way to explore the art scene throughout Spokane.

Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture

The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC) is currently showing four temporary exhibitions in its various gallery spaces:

"Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures from the Driehaus Collection," open until Feb. 13, features stunning works of stained glass by artist and craftsman Louis Comfort Tiffany.

"Recent Acquisitions: Selections From The Safeco Art Collection," open until Feb. 6, features an ongoing collection of artwork, started in the '70s, captures distinct features of the Pacific Northwest aesthetic.

"Continuous Lines: Selections From The Joe Feddersen Collection," open until Feb. 6, features contemporary Native American art by artist Joe Feddersen, who reflects on a combination of his artistic interests and his friendships through his works.

In collaboration with the United Tribes of the Upper Columbia, "Awakenings: Traditional Canoes and Calling The Salmon Home," open until Aug. 21, highlights the experience of the annual Columbia

River Canoe Journey through a display of both contemporary and historic canoes.

"The Idohans," open until Jan. 30 and held in MAC's Helen South Alexander Gallery, shows the paintings of contemporary Western oil painter Jeff Weir and multimedia artist Tanden Launder. Collectively, both Weir and Launder's works illustrate their love of the American Wild West narrative and its connections to the pursuit of freedom.

If you are seeking an enjoyable stroll down Centennial Trail, MAC is a certainly a walkable destination from GU's campus. Not only does MAC feature fantastic exhibitions, but it also has one of the best local gift shops. With a mix of exhibition-related gifts and works from local creators, MAC's gift shop is one of my go-to places to find gifts for artsy friends and loved ones.

MAC is located at 2316 W. First Ave., and is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and every third Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

First Friday

In need of a Friday night plan? First Friday is an event held every first Friday of the month to celebrate and promote the art and retail scene in Spokane. The event is located at various locations that are available in a map featured on Downtown Spokane's website. Participants can hop in a car with their friends and make their First Friday experience as lengthy or brief as desired by personalizing the night's itinerary.

"First Friday is such a great thing because it gets people to go out to the galleries," said artist and former professor of GU's art department, Mary Farrell, in a past article of *The Gonzaga Bulletin*. "People kind of wander around and see a lot of shows, which is excellent."

Beyond local visual artists, First Friday also features musicians, product launches, facilitates activities and offers food and beverages. In its upcoming event, which will be held on Feb. 4 from 5-8 p.m, First Friday will include stops at Bing Crosby Theatre, Express Employment Professionals, Kolva-Sullivan Gallery, Whim Wine Bar and the Wonder Building.

Bing Crosby Theater will host the opening night of the Spokane International Film Festival (SpIFF) that will feature eight short films from creators of the Pacific Northwest, a Q&A with the filmmakers and the documentary "Reclaim Idaho." SpIFF Opening night will be held from 7-10 p.m. and cost of admission is \$17 for adults and \$10 for students.

Express Employment Professionals will host a Valentine's Day show featuring works of Sam White, an artist from Spokane who is known for his artwork which illustrates bright, abstract faces. For this show of White's, each artwork was inspired by love.

Kolva-Sullivan Gallery will exhibit the works of a ceramic artist and former GU professor, Terry Gieber, who passed away this year. The exhibition will feature works of Gieber's that have not yet been exhibited in Spokane.

Whim Wine Bar will host Winescape, a local winery, for a tasting from 4-6 p.m., paired with live music by singer, songwriter, musician and producer Kyle Richard, appetizers and thin crust pizzas. Whim Wine Bar will be open until 10 p.m.

Finally, the Wonder Building will host the Black Business Expo, which will highlight local Black businesses from Eastern Washington. The expo will also include live music by local Black artists, activities and will promote resources provided to the community by local Black organizations.

Natalie Rieth is the managing editor. Follow her on Twitter: @natalierieth.

What's in a recipe: Family Kahlua chili

By AMELIA TRONCONE

Recipes and the food they produce have a unique beauty and power. Through the simple sense of taste, they are able to transcend generations, evoke strong emotions and unite people. When I reflect on the impact recipes and food can have, I think of my grandpa's famous chili recipe.

If there was one thing my grandpa was proud of it was his Kahlua Chili, which he won many-a chili cook-offs with. But what makes this recipe special to me isn't the awards it won. Rather, it is special because of its ability to transport me back to my childhood.

Growing up, my family and I would celebrate Thanksgiving with my grandma and grandpa a few days before Thanksgiving Day. It became tradition for my grandpa to cook his chili for our early "Thanksgiving" dinner.

On the five-hour drive from our home in California to theirs in Lake Havasu, I was always brimming with excitement to see my grandparents. This was because Thanksgiving was one of the few times a year



that I was able to see them.

The excitement I used to feel translated to my grandpa's chili, and it now conjures a sense of nostalgia for the innocent eagerness I had to simply be around them. It reminds me of the simpler times of my childhood — of sitting around the small dining table in their condo soaking up each other's company.

Lastly, this chili represents everything my grandpa was — loving, caring and genuinely joyful. There is absolutely nothing better than eating bowl of his chili because, it is not only a reflection of him, but also genuinely delicious.

The recipe for this chili is special because it is extremely flavorful, yet easy to prepare. It is, essentially, based around dumping all the ingredients into a pot and letting it cook.

This makes the recipe extremely flexible and customizable to suit different people's preferences. Therefore, it will still taste great if you are unable to get your hands on an ingredient or want to add a new one.

Paired with cornbread, this chili is the perfect hearty meal for cooks of all skill levels. This recipe yields 2 1/2 quarts and serves six people.

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 lbs. ground beef
- 1 28-oz. can tomatoes, semi-drained
- 1 27-oz. can kidney beans, semi-drained
- 1 28-oz. can chili beans, semi-drained
- ½ cup green peppers, chunked
- ½ cup Kahlua (Those who cannot buy Kahlua can simply omit it from the recipe.)
- ¼ cup chopped parsley
- 3 tbsp. chili powder
- 1 tbsp. tomato past
- 2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cayenne powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. marjoram leaves
- 1 tsp. oregano
- Grated cheddar cheese

Directions:

- In a large 4-quart pot, heat oil.
- Add one chopped onion and garlic, sauté until translucent.
- Add meat and brown.
- Add remaining ingredients except other chopped onion and cheese, mix well.
- Bring to a boil.
- Reduce heat and simmer, partially covered, for 45 minutes.
- To serve, top with cheese and onions.

Amelia Troncone is a staff writer.

GU music artists take the stage at GSBA's Coffeehouse

By SAM FEDOR

Coffeehouse, the Gonzaga Student Body Association's (GSBA) weekly concert series, is one of the university's true hidden gems. Every Wednesday from 8-9 a.m., the Hemm Den in the basement of the John J. Hemmingson Center lights up with student musical performances.

The performers and the students alike that attend see it as a great artistic outlet and as a chance to take a break from the hectic school week.

Last Wednesday saw a performance from two Coffeehouse staples, GU seniors Grace Cooper and Kaitlyn Wiens. Both are independent singer-songwriters and have contributed to the music community at GU throughout their time at the university.

"I've really enjoyed playing at Coffeehouse," Cooper said. "Sharing my music with the community is a privilege."

Wiens released an original EP, titled "In My Head," in 2021 that can be found on a number of streaming platforms including Spotify.

Cooper, for her part, is working on releasing music of her own. Though talented artists alone, they come together to form a truly dynamic duo; the night saw them perform several duets, wherein their individual styles and musical prowess complemented one another

brilliantly.

The performance began with a duet; Cooper on piano and Wiens on guitar. Both sang and began a night of original music with a song Wiens had written. They traded the stage back and forth for a few songs before sharing it for a duet.

On some songs, Wiens would accompany Cooper on guitar and harmonize, their voices intertwining. The emotion was palpable; as with all independent singer-songwriters, it was clear that their stories were written from the heart. Some songs were old, some were new. One of Wiens' songs was recently discovered from the Voice Memos app on her phone.

"I love Coffeehouse," Wiens said. "It's a space where I can try new things creatively."

For those who come to listen, it's the perfect way to keep up with some of their favorite on-campus artists.

Last Wednesday's Coffeehouse was exactly what the concert series set out for, according to Wiens. The goal for Coffeehouse is to create a space where artists can share their art with their community; and a space where that art can be enjoyed by their friends and strangers alike. GU strives for a strong community, and Coffeehouse follows that mission.

"Collaborating is a joy," Cooper said. "And it inspires me as an independent artist."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM FEDOR

Grace Cooper (left) and Kaitlyn Wiens (right) perform on stage at GSBA's Coffeehouse.

Some of the songs were about love; others were about loss. But they all sounded as if they were written to be performed in the company of friends.

If you want to attend a GSBA Coffeehouse event, stay on the lookout and follow them on Instagram @gsbacoffeehouse.

Sam Fedor is a staff writer.

Los Angeles Times

Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19					20					21				22				
23					24					25				26				
27							28		29			30						
				31			32				33							
34	35	36				37	38			39			40					
41					42				43	44		45	46			47	48	49
50				51							52			53				
54								55		56	57		58					
				59	60	61		62			63			64				
65	66	67	68				69	70		71			72	73				
74						75			76			77						
78				79	80			81		82	83		84	85	86	87	88	
89							90		91		92	93						
94				95			96		97						98			
				99				100	101		102			103				
104	105	106					107			108	109			110				
111								112				113	114		115	116	117	
118							119			120		121						
122										124				125				
126							127				128				129			

©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.
All rights reserved.

1/23/22

NUTS!

By Michael Schlossberg

ACROSS	84 Breakfast cereal	7 "LOTR" menaces	65 Prefix with belt, in
1 Spanish for "prairie"	magnate	8 Delt neighbor	slacks
6 wind	89 Zigzagged, in a	9 Tangy Mexican	66 What a wavy line
11 "Carmine Burana"	sport	sauce	may mean in music
composer	91 Doughnut?	10 More desirable to	67 Long bones
15 Breaks down	94 Drink with a painful	collectors	68 Advent air
19 Verdi creations	homophone	11 Massage parlor	69 Eggs in a lab
20 Milan fashion	95 Packed (with)	services	70 "Chopped" host
house	97 "Phoey!"	12 Triple Crown stat	Allen
21 Letter-shaped	98 Family figure?	13 Packers QB before	72 Costa
support	99 Kind of blanket or	Rodgers	73 Sign of boredom
22 Hose color	paint	14 Streaming service	76 Western wolf
23 Hex nut?	100 Bubbly prefix	offer	79 Skunk cousin
25 Paints the town red	102 New Haven	15 "Match Game"	80 "Haven't the
27 Sinus-clearing aids	collegian	regular Charles	foggiest"
28 Boilermaker	103 FDR had three of	Nelson	82 "Phoey!"
ingredient	them	16 In base eight	83 Week add-on
30 Go in for	104 Wheel nut?	17 Fighters' pact	85 Inventor's
31 Cool, in a way	110 Card game cry	18 Word that's its own	protection
32 Palm nut?	111 "C'est magnifique!"	synonym when a	86 Nasty sort
34 Encircle	112 "How ya ___?"	"o" is added to the	87 Ooze
37 "___ Bop"; Cyndi	113 Punter's metric	end	88 A fourth of doze
Lauper song	118 Reggie Jackson	24 Family title?	90 Out of juice
39 Fiver	nickname based	25 Fly past	92 Penn of the Harold
40 "Curious George"	on his postseason	29 Due-in hr.	& Kumar films
co-author Margret	success	32 Former embryo	93 Hosp. test in a tube
41 City on the Skunk	120 Chestnut?	33 Bourbon order	96 MC Chris genre
42 Audrey of "The Da	122 Impress	34 "Funny not funny"	99 Big name in jam
Vinci Code"	123 "Game of	35 Pianist Gilels	101 Maracanã Stadium
45 Flavorful	Thrones," for one	36 Arizona. College of	city
47 It's almost always	124 Dodge	Nursing city	103 Watches
fisty	125 Hawaiian veranda	37 "Here's a thought	104 "Did my heart love
50 Date nut?	126 Squirrels' haunts	"	till now?" speaker
52 Brewers' gadgets	127 Train station, e.g.	38 Center of activity	105 Main artery
54 "Sorry, can't do it"	128 Bob who was the	42 Move en masse	106 As much as
55 Customary	voice of Future Ted	43 Many times o'er	possible
58 Mischievous glance	Mosby in "How I	44 Aerial enigmas	107 Capital near
59 Bit	Met Your Mother"	46 Old Spanish dough	Casablanca
62 "Sorry not sorry"	129 Muscular, in	Splash (through)	108 Empaths pick them
Old Bruins	modern lingo	47 Split to come	up
nickname		together	109 ___ Gay
65 Wing nut?	DOWN	48 Request from	110 Serengeti bovine
71 Butternut?	1 First to move,	51 "Will do"	113 London's Park
74 Folksy Guthrie	usually	53 Novelist Waugh	114 Help in a risky way
75 Abdominal scar,	2 Indy champ	56 Golf green insert	115 Passport fig.
actually	Luyendyk	57 Mauna ___	several courses
77 Earth goddess	3 Glove	60 Preserved, as	117 One in a wet
78 One in the alley's	4 Protest group,	sardines	quintet
back row	perhaps	61 Like	119 ___ trip
81 Pueblo building	5 Sooty receptacle	63 Chinese sauce	121 Exposed, with "up"
material	6 Allow as a handicap	additive	

Sudoku

By The Mepham Group

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

Solution to last Sunday's puzzle

1/23/22

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

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](https://www.sudoku.org.uk).

© 2022 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

Riley Stockton's basketball career comes full circle at Hoopfest

After taking over in January, the Spokane native gets to live out his lifelong dream as executive director of the world's largest 3-on-3 basketball tournament

By TOMMY CONMY

Less than a year until the first Hoopfest since 2019, the world's largest 3-on-3 tournament named its new acting executive director.

Riley Stockton will take over for Matt Santangelo in the role after Santangelo left Hoopfest to pursue a role in the medical device selling industry.

Stockton, who is the nephew of John Stockton, has been in the role since early January.

"To tell you the truth, it's kind of a dream job for me," Stockton said. "When I was 15 in high school, I actually wrote this down as my dream job in my freshman year health class. It was to be the executive director of Hoopfest."

A Spokane native, Stockton enjoyed a decorated prep basketball career while attending Ferris High School before attending Seattle Pacific University, where he earned first team All-Greater Northwest Athletic Conference recognition as a senior.

Following two years of playing professional basketball in Italy for CD Estela, Stockton moved back to Seattle to work with the Special Olympics Games that took place in 2018.

Eschewing a company move to Orlando, Stockton stayed on in a new capacity to work with the Special Olympics Washington for three and a half years to coordinate operations and organize volunteer support.

"I think one of the biggest skill sets that the executive director needs for our organization is a problem solving skill set," said Connor Walsh, program and events manager at Hoopfest. "With such a large event, things are bound to come up. And I think Riley has that skill set, so I think he's a great fit."

Following a two-year hiatus, Stockton and the Hoopfest team are aiming for the event to look and feel the same as years past with special care paid towards precautionary measures to make sure the event can take place amid a pandemic.

"There's definitely some people that are a little hesitant, but the overwhelming majority is excited about returning," Stockton said. "Our sponsors have been great with us, they're excited for us to return. So I think anywhere in that 4,500 to 6,000 team range would be a success for us."



COURTESY OF RILEY STOCKTON

Riley Stockton competed in 14 Hoopfest tournaments while growing up in Spokane, with his first coming as a six-year-old in which he lied about his age in order to compete.

In the month that he's been with Hoopfest, Stockton has spent much of his time becoming acquainted with his peers while mulling new ideas for the classic tournament. Some of Stockton's ideas for the tournament include an Olympic style 3-on-3 division while preserving the traditional Hoopfest rules in other divisions.

Although Stockton doesn't have the seniority or the time to field a team in the tournament, he's played in 14 Hoopfest tournaments to date, with his first

coming as a 6-year-old with cousin and former Gonzaga University starter David Stockton.

"I will never forget [David Stockton] as a second grader and he block a guys shot and give him the Dikembe Mutumbo finger wag," Stockton said. "The reaction of all the fans nearby and everything that went around that, that's a memory that will live in me forever."

Last year marked the induction of the first "Hooptown USA" Hall of Fame class that included Hoopfest legends Rick Betts

“

To tell you the truth, it's kind of a dream come true. When I was 15 in high school, I actually wrote this down as my dream job.

Riley Stockton, Executive Director of Hoopfest

and Jerry Schmidt among others like John Stockton and the 1999 GU men's basketball team.

Although Hooptown USA and the Spokane Hoopfest Association aren't directly affiliated, the link between the two is unmistakable.

"I think that this really kind of shows that not only are we focused on the future and youth basketball in the city, but also we're honoring the people of the past," Stockton said. "Spokane and Eastern Washington as a whole has a great basketball history."

In his free time, Stockton may be found at The Warehouse Athletic Facility playing in his uncle John's pickup games with former Zags like Santangelo or David Stockton.

"[John Stockton] is definitely a great resource to go to because he's so knowledgeable about the sport and development," Stockton said. "He's definitely a resource I will continuously be reaching out to during my time at Hoopfest."

Hoopfest is scheduled to take place on June 25-26 in downtown Spokane, with much of the event taking place downtown and in the newly renovated Riverside Park.

Tommy Conmy is a copy editor.

Spokane's case for being called 'Sports County USA'

Spokane County commissioners approved of the moniker last month, but is it a fitting title for the region?

COMMENTARY
by TOMMY CONMY

In addition to "Hooptown, USA," the greater Spokane area will be known as "Sports County USA," thanks to a vote by county commissioners that approved the moniker last Wednesday.

"This is an opportunity for our County to embrace a moniker and title we deserve," said Spokane County Commissioner Al French in an interview with KHQ News. "Spokane County is one of the few places in the nation where you can snow ski in the morning, water ski in the afternoon and cap it all off with a Broadway show or Gonzaga game in the evening."

The title is primarily a measure to assist in regional marketing to attract tourists to the greater Spokane area.

But is it true?

Spokane does not possess a single professional sports team and the closest professional franchise sits over 250 miles away in Seattle.

Despite its professional shortcomings, the Spokane area is home to a litany of college and semi-pro teams with plans to add more.

The investment by the United Soccer League (USL) in a new multi-use professional and high school sports stadium will likely bring a professional soccer team to Spokane for the first time as early as 2023.

Investment in sporting infrastructure is a large part of why "Sports County USA," may live up to the lofty adopted name. The Podium — a state of the art indoor track and field facility — opened months ago and is the premiere indoor facility in the region and is capable of hosting collegiate and high school events.

Spokane is also home to the Spokane Arena, which was the site of the opening round of the NCAA Tournament in 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic put a stop to the event.

Gonzaga University men's basketball is still the hottest ticket in town (and the region) and the program can be thanked for bringing national attention to a decidedly regional city. Outside of men's basketball, the women's program has a right to national attention with their perennial place atop the WCC.

Rising ships lift all tides, and athletics at GU is no exception. Baseball, cross-country, golf, tennis and rowing have not only experienced success, but have brought elite athletes to Spokane to compete in front of locals.

As for minor-league franchises, look no further than the Spokane Indians. The Indians are a High-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies and were rewarded for their success as a franchise with the MiLB Organization of the Year award this season.

The Spokane Chiefs are perennial contenders in one of the top junior leagues in the country, the WHL, and routinely pack the Spokane Arena with hordes of



DYLAN SMITH IG: @dylansmit.t

Downtown Spokane has become a hub for activities, including the renovated basketball courts near Riverfront Park and The Podium athletic facility that opened in December.

raucous fans.

Spokane boasts semi-pro or minor-league teams in each of the four major sports except basketball. Many other cities may offer similar attractions but have a hard time standing up to the collegiate athletic prowess displayed in the Spokane area.

Although GU looms large in the region, Eastern Washington University has experienced its own athletic success as of late.

EWU qualified for March Madness last year before losing in heartbreaking fashion to the Kansas Jayhawks in the first round of the school's third trip to the big dance. Not many other metro areas can claim two NCAA Tournament teams within 20 miles of each other.

Off the hardwood, the Eagles won the FCS National Championship game in 2010 to kickstart a decade of deep playoff runs before losing in the title game in 2018 to North Dakota State.

Looking outside of the city yields greater swaths of evidence that Spokane may indeed be "Sports County USA," thanks to easy access to the outdoors.

There are three ski resorts (excluding Mt. Spokane) within driving distance of the Lilac City that can accommodate skiing, hiking and mountain biking. Add Lake Coeur d'Alene into the fray and the Spokane area

does begin to sound like a sportsman's paradise, with no shortage of activities available year-round.

Although larger metropolitans like New York City or Los Angeles would certainly have a bone to pick with Spokane's new moniker, New York City is one of the only major cities with access to such sporting opportunities year-round.

In these arguments, bigger is often better, and the electricity at a GU game or the community ties to the Indians can't quite stand up to the atmosphere of a Madison Square Garden or the massive amounts of money that exists in pro sports thanks to massive TV deals.

"Sports County PNW," doesn't have quite the same draw to tourists as "Sports County USA," but the efforts of the Spokane county commissioners should be celebrated.

With the name, the region seeks to continue the growth trends seen in recent years and break free of its regional shackles to stand alongside larger metros like Boise and Seattle within the area.

In 20 years, we'll see if the greater Spokane area can live up to their own high bar.

Tommy Conmy is a copy writer.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 27

- ➔ Women's basketball at Pepperdine, Malibu, CA., 6 p.m.
- ➔ **Men's basketball vs. Loyola Marymount, 8 p.m.**

Friday, Jan. 28

- ➔ Track and Field at Washington Invitational (Men) Seattle, Wash., all day

Saturday, Jan. 29

- ➔ Track and Field at Washington Invitational (Men) Seattle, Wash., all day
- ➔ Women's basketball at San Diego, San Diego, CA., 2 p.m.
- ➔ **Men's basketball vs. Portland, 8 p.m.**

Home games in bold

By TOMMY CONMY

Sasha Trkulja walks through the now empty Steven's Center. The Ontario native is in-between matches against the University of Nevada and Seattle University that he will win decisively in both singles and doubles.

A silver chain with two tennis racquets crossed over each other dangles from his neck. The lanky underclassman is quiet as he moves throughout the cavernous facility. Although this year marks his first full season of collegiate tennis, his success to this point fuels an understated confidence and a burning desire to improve each and every day.

As Gonzaga's No. 1 player in singles and doubles, Trkulja attained his first ranking in the International Tennis Association (ITA) Top 25 for doubles with teammate Matthew Hollingworth. The ranking is the highest in school history for the doubles pair.

"Sasha's got a huge serve and a great power stroke while Matthew has great hands and they fit really well together," said DJ Gurule, men's tennis head coach. "For these guys to come in and really put some effort into it, it's a huge deal."

On the junior tennis circuit, doubles takes a backseat to singles as young players chase rankings and individual success on the court. The same can be said for college tennis, where doubles accounts for one point in a team competition while singles accounts for the remaining six points.

"We struggled a lot last year with that doubles point, so coach Gurule decided to mix it up," Hollingworth said. "Sasha and I actually started off a bit slow together but after a week or so we started to get a really good connection on the court."

Since the Englishman and the Canadian have teamed up, the results have spoken for themselves. The pair had sweeping success during the fall season before falling in the championship match of the ITA Northwest Super Regional to Stanford University by a score of 6-1, 6-2.

The tandem's quest for a fall national title fell short in San Diego as they fell to the University of Denver in the opening round before bowing out against the University of Arkansas in the consolation bracket of the ITA Fall Championships.

"We didn't really play anywhere close to our best game, but what I learned was that we're there," Trkulja said. "We can compete with guys like that. We can win tournaments like that."

Although Trkulja has made a name for himself on the doubles circuit, he also takes on the responsibility of competing in the No. 1 singles spot for the Zags,

Trkulja leads men's tennis to undefeated start



EMMA PATENODE IG: emmapatenode

Sasha Trkulja and Matthew Hollingworth are ranked No. 25 in doubles in the country.

routinely facing the stiffest competition that could be offered.

As a freshman, Trkulja played the bulk of the year in the No. 2 spot for singles and doubles, posting an overall record of 16-7 in singles, winning 12 of his first 13 matches.

The success that has come so early for Trkulja should come as no surprise. As a high schooler, he was ranked as the No. 1 U18 player in all of Ontario while sneaking into the International Tennis Federation's top 350 players worldwide.

As a child, Trkulja grew up in the shadow of his older brother, Roman. Eight years his elder, Roman won a Canadian National Title in singles and doubles in high school before attending Penn State University.

Now a fully-fledged adult, Roman has served as Sasha's coach for the past four years when he's not under the watchful eye of Gurule at GU. The brothers will regularly call and text after matches to recount what happened and what could be better.

"We would play matches and all that when I was younger and I'd obviously get frustrated because I hate losing," Trkulja said. "But it was more of a learning experience. For me to have the opportunity to train with someone older and better, not many people have that."

Trkulja began being recruited at the age of 16 by Western Michigan University and Middle Tennessee State University before ultimately deciding to attend GU.

"The biggest difference for me was the team. As soon as I got here I noticed the

difference in how well the team got along and how close everybody was," Trkulja said. "That was the culture I wanted to be surrounded by, teammates that always have my back and I always have their back."

Like every freshman that enrolled in college in 2020, Trkulja faced the pains of the pandemic head on. Trkulja strained through a fall season without tournaments before struggling with his own bout of COVID-19 that prevented him from playing tennis for nearly a month over winter break.

"It was just us every single day. We would play against the same guys, pressing against the same guys, playing matches against each other every single day," Hollingworth said. "From a doubles perspective, one of the reasons we've had success is because we know each other's games so well from that time."

Although Hollingworth is a year older than Trkulja, the two have become an inextricable pair on and off the court as the nine-man GU tennis team is rising in accordance with its two best players.

"I think that on our team, everyone is each other's mentor and I really value that," Hollingworth said. "Maybe when Sasha first came in and was new to the whole experience, I was trying taking on the mentor role. I think this year especially we're very much equals and we both listen to each other and both offer each other advice."

When they're not dominating the No. 1 doubles spot and commanding the No. 1 and No. 2 singles spots for GU, the duo does indeed have a life outside of tennis. Hollingworth and Trkulja will wake up

early to watch qualifying for Formula One races. Hollingworth roots for his countryman Lewis Hamilton in Formula One racing while Trkulja pulls for Max Verstappen, Hamilton's biggest rival.

"I love competing, I love going out on the court with my team, but those trips, that meal or that couple hour plane flight, those are the things that really make it special," Hollingsworth said.

The two can often be spotted getting in extra volleys after practice, whacking the ball back and forth while dreams of the NCAA Tennis Tournament loom ever so slightly in the back of their minds.

As Trkulja nears the halfway mark of his collegiate tennis career, he has far more he wants to accomplish besides just achieving a ranking. On the horizon are visions of being Top 25 in the ITA for singles and being the top team in a WCC conference that features the defending national champion in singles from USD.

Professional tennis may be on the horizon, too. For now, Trkulja and his court mate he calls "Holly" will quietly construct their games to return to postseason tennis stronger than before. Trkulja, more than anyone, knows he is capable of more.

With two years left at GU, the deep blue of the tennis courts in the Stevens Center is Trkulja's blank canvas. It may be painted by a yellow, spherical rocket whistling off his racket or the rubber streak of a shoe as he gets into position for his forehand. Perhaps, just maybe, his final brushstroke will be a banner adorning the rafters, immortalizing his time in Spokane.

Tommy Conmy is a copy editor.



WORK THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Join the YMCA team! We offer:

- Flexible work schedules
- Free YMCA membership
- Work with a purpose

Apply online: ymcainw.org/careers

Equal Opportunity Employer



Submit for the Gurian Awards!

The Gurian Awards accept submissions in the three disciplines of fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction.

Each category has a monetary reward of \$250.

All submissions will automatically be considered for publication in the 2022 edition of Reflections.

**Submit at
<https://tinyurl.com/yc8dxbbv> by
January 28th, 2022.**



