

The Gonzaga Bulletin

A student publication of Gonzaga University

JANUARY 19, 2023

www.gonzagabulletin.com

VOL. 134 ISSUE 17

Registration set to change

Admin attempt to address racial and income disparities in the class registration process

By KAELYN NEW

In 2020, a study analyzing 10 years of data conducted by the biology department revealed racial inequity within the Gonzaga University registration process, in which students register in groups based on credits accumulated. According to Nancy Staub, a biology professor at GU and the researcher spearheading the analysis for the study, there is a significant inequity in registration timing between groups such as first-generation students, underrepresented minorities and more. The current registration system operates by dividing students into multiple groups based on credits. For example, first-year students are divided into three groups, with the first group and first time slot allocated to students with higher credits. “We asked one question in our proposal, ‘Is the registration practice that is used at Gonzaga discriminatory for these different groups?’” Staub said. “And the answer was yes.” The biology department study and analysis revealed the inequities this poses, as students from lower-income families and communities are less likely to take or be offered Advanced Placement or Running Start classes. “As long as we have a registration system that is based on earned credit, it has inequities baked in it,” Staub said. “As long as there are some courses that will fill up earlier than others, then it matters to people that have fewer credits.” Through Staub’s analysis, she said she realized the most equitable method of registration is a cohort model, in which entire classes register at once. According to Staub, she proposed this data and her analysis to the academic council in February of 2021. Following the cohort model, students would register at the same time in cohorts (like by class, for example) rather than staggered times based on credits. “Along with the stance on promoting inclusivity, institutions need to do some reflection on their own practices,” Staub said. As a result of these findings, the Policy and Planning Committee of the Academic Council established the Equity in Registration Task Force in the fall of 2021. The task force is headed by Kathleen Jeffs, the associate provost for assessment, accreditation and programs. As a result of a recommendation by Provost Sacha

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BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

GU students and staff participated in march downtown on Monday to celebrate the civil rights holiday.

'Keep on Moving' : GU celebrates MLK Day with teach-in, march

By NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL

Gonzaga University staff, faculty and students gathered together on Monday to celebrate the legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., using the holiday to reflect on understandings of resistance and best practices of fighting hate and living out King’s dream of equality for all. A delegation of GU faculty and students started the holiday by participating in a citywide march downtown organized by Spokane’s

Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, which was followed by a teach-in organized by GU’s Center for Community Engagement (CCE) and the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC) that focused on the symbol of the U.S. flag and notions of patriotism. Both the downtown march and the teach-in events brought together a variety of people, including both members of the Spokane and GU communities, centering the celebrations of the civil rights holiday around developing unity,

an important aspect of thinking about resistance, according to Jessie Mancilla, director of UMEC. “I think that’s the whole part about looking at your community and how the community can come together to help you out,” Mancilla said. “This isn’t just a one person job or a one person advocacy. This is a community that needs to come together in order for us to be active.” The teach-in built on the theme of unity, featuring four panelists

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BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

The ski club offers a series of trips for students hoping to embrace the winter weather.

GU Ski club excited for more snowy weather

By LAUREN O'GRADY

As evident from weather patterns in Spokane and surrounding areas, this winter season is a cold one. Winter phenomenon La Niña is present again and will dump snow and chilly winds for the next several months, according to Hugh Lefcort, professor of biology and moderator of Gonzaga University’s Ski and Snowboard Club. For some, such as avid skiers and snowboarders, this is cause for excitement as it means a long season with more days to ski. The ski club is no exception, taking advantage of the weather patterns for the upcoming season. Sophomore Aubrey Engels is the trips coordinator for the Ski and Snowboard Club. She has worked with other club board members and her weather app to plan trips for the season, coordinating the timing and location of trips based on when the best skiing

conditions should be. There will be five trips this season — three to Canada, one to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and one to Schweitzer, on the border of Washington and Idaho. Ski and Snowboard Club holds trip sign-ups on a first come, first served basis. The first trip was to Revelstoke, British Columbia, a town known for its skiing slopes, according to Engels. “The sign-ups for that were extraordinarily competitive,” Engels said. “Kids spent the night in College Hall for like 20 hours; it was insane.” Junior Noah Hoefer, was one of the students who spent the night to secure his spot. “Sleeping in College Hall with 20 others is as hot and stinky as you think it would be,” Hoefer said. Despite the sleeping conditions, he admits that it was more than worth it since he got to go to Revelstoke,

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Campus Security updates door access policy

By KAELYN NEW

Becky Wilkey, director of Campus Security and Public Safety (CSPS), sent an email to all undergraduate students on behalf of the Risk Management Committee reducing public access to College Hall. According to the Gonzaga University website, “College Hall public access will be reduced to two (2) unlocked entrances between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.” The unlocked entrances will be the ADA door on the south side of the building and the main north-facing entrance. The GU website additionally said that “public access to the John J. Hemmingson Center will be reduced to one door. The northwest door — located close to the welcome desk — will remain unlocked for public access from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday access will be from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.” All doors not immediately accessible to the general public will be accessible via keycard only. The decision was finalized by the Risk Management Committee. Wilkey said in an email statement that the committee meets quarterly to discuss risk to GU. The committee is chaired by Kristen Hunt, the director of Risk Management, and consists of 24 members or departments from across GU. This news comes after a resolution was adopted by Gonzaga Student Body Association (GSBA) advocating for risk management and the mitigation of safety threats by identifying single points of entry to unlocked buildings on campus. The resolution was sponsored by Ben Gonzales, a GU junior and one of the College of Arts & Sciences senators in GSBA and passed on Nov. 28. Wilkey said in an email statement that neither the Risk Management Committee nor herself were aware of the details regarding the GSBA resolution, but she applauds GSBA for taking initiative to ensure safety on campus. “Having partnerships throughout campus, especially students, puts the exclamation mark on safety being a shared responsibility,” Wilkey said in an email statement. “This is one example of how ‘Zags help Zags.’” Gonzales said they were motivated to propose the door access measures to GSBA initially because of incidents such as the Patriot

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Front vandalism last semester and the incident last school year in which a person unaffiliated with GU entered a classroom and displayed violent and threatening behavior.

“In conversation with my constituents, many white male students don’t feel vulnerable, but students that represent intersecting identities don’t feel comfortable with doors being unlocked, especially with the Patriot Front’s breaches to campus, as well as other individuals’ breaches to campus,” Gonzales said.

When Gonzales met with members of CSPS in October, including Wilkey, CSPS expressed similar concerns, as incidents related to stolen property and disruptions increased since more entry points become unlocked this school year.

“The Gonzaga Student Body Association hears students’ concerns about their personal safety and recognizes those concerns as legitimate,” Gonzales said. “We kind of just said ‘look, this needs to be our official position.’”

GSBA President and GU senior Miguel Acosta Loza said that he wants to empathize with students who may not be particularly fond of having to use their keycards every time they want to enter a locked door, but he said he knows that this measure is for the better given the breaches to campus buildings in the past two academic years.

According to Acosta Loza, the new security measures are largely a result of administration’s willingness to collaborate with the student body, listen to the student voices and implement measures necessary to ensure the health and safety of the GU community.

“This is a huge win,” Acosta Loza said. “They did it right. Administration listened to the people that really wanted this, and they compromised.”

Additionally, Acosta Loza credited Gonzales for driving the resolution forward and fighting for their constituents on campus.



MAKOA DEALMEIDA IG: MAKOADEALMEIDA

The front North-facing door of College Hall will be one of the two doors that will be accessible to the public.

For now, Wilkey said that CSPS will continue to strive to ensure the physical, emotional and psychological safety of the community. It is this goal that drives CSPS to consider strategies for improvement.

Acosta Loza said it is important to remember that the inconvenience of swiping a keycard is an act of love — it is a sign that the administration, GSBA and other members of the community care about the safety of each individual student.

“It is going to be inconvenient to reach for their card and they might forget their ZagCard at home, there are a

lot of complexities,” Acosta Loza said. “If we are able to do that, we are making Campus Security’s lives easier and we are able to keep our campus safer with just that single move of reaching for your card. So, we think it is a good trade off.”

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



BULLETIN FILE PHOTO

Winter patterns are predicted to be particularly snowy this winter season.

SKI

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which he felt was a super fun trip with great terrain. He is one of many Ski Club members who attest to the fun that comes as a result of the Ski Club’s hard work.

The next trip is around the corner and more local, taking place at Schweitzer Resort in Sandpoint, Idaho from Jan. 20-22. There will be two more trips to Canada in February, one to Fernie Alpine Resort from Feb. 17-20 and one to RED Mountain Resort from Feb. 24-26. The last trip of the semester will take place during spring break, from Mar. 13-17 in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Engels and other Ski Club board members prepare to ensure the trips are as fun and smooth as possible. Trips include transportation, food, lodging and lift tickets in a one-price bundle.

While the snow will add to the fun on Ski Club’s trips, it’s important to consider the reason behind it. Hugh Lefcort, GU professor of biology who is also an expert in behavioral ecology and ecotoxicology, said there is science behind the cold weather.

During La Niña winters, he said, winds

blow across the Pacific Ocean directionally from the U.S. to China. The reason it affects our temperatures is because the Pacific holds immense amounts of heat and the placement of this heat in the ocean affects the weather we feel on land.

“What happens is these winds is they drag up cold water from the bottom of the ocean,” Lefcort says. “So there’s all this cold water sitting off our coast. And so, when that happens, the jet stream moves and we get cold, wet weather.”

La Niña is a natural weather pattern. It is not caused by climate change, although its intensity does change annually and will likely become stronger as the climate crisis progresses. It occurs in cycles every three to eight years, the third consecutive year happening now.

Thanks to La Niña, Engels said there should be good skiing until April, at least. Contact Ski Club for more information on upcoming trips at the following email address: skiansnowboardclub@zagmail.gonzaga.edu.

Lauren O’Grady is a staff writer.

EQUITY

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Kopp in the fall 2022 semester, his first full semester at GU, the task force worked to implement measures to eliminate scarcity among key courses. According to Jeffs, this means that professors began to offer more sections of courses that are often in high-demand, eliminating the scarcity factor that resulted in several students being unable to acquire necessary credits.

Based on the task force’s findings over the past few academic semesters, Jeffs and other members of the task force resolved to change the registration process for first-year students entering GU next fall in 2023. In the spring of 2024, the task force is trying to implement a cohort model for the first-year class of students, wherein the first-year students will collectively register at once rather than during staggered times based on credits.

“From the student perspective, it has to be all on one day, otherwise it is just not fair,” Jeffs said.

As of now, there won’t be any changes to the model of registration for the rising sophomore class, but the task force is continuing to address the issue of scarcity by ensuring that there are enough seats and sections in highly sought-after classes and seeking other ways to eliminate inequity factors.

This year, Jeffs said, the task force is additionally looking to implement advising sessions over the summer for incoming first-year students, in which they can meet with their advisor to look over each student’s schedule before beginning attendance at GU.

“This way, there is more equity and more student say in what happens in that first semester because they’ll be doing that with their academic advisor in the summer,” Jeffs said.

Now, Jeffs said, the task force is looking forward to helping faculty and staff find a balance between receiving student inquiries and technical difficulties once the cohort model is implemented, but administrators are eager to act to make the necessary adjustments.

“We are doing the best we can as we move through to mitigate some of the workload and technology problems, but the university is committed to overcoming those,” Jeffs said.

If the cohort model works successfully, the task force plans to implement the model for all incoming classes of first-year students after the spring of 2024. Therefore, first-year students registering for the spring of 2025 semester would follow the cohort model, as with every incoming class following. With multiple classes of students registering, each class will register on different days and Jeffs says there will be a one-day buffer between the registration of first-year students, sophomore students and so on.

“It gets incrementally fairer as students join the university, so the new student experience henceforth is one of registration equity, registration fairness,” Jeffs said.

According to Jeffs, the task force is continuing to work diligently on fostering equity in registration in other areas as well, one of those areas being advising. Jeffs said that inequity can arise out of students having different advisors who may have various ways of helping students. The task force hopes to iron out these differences in advising experience by training advisors so that the student experience is more equal.

For now, Staub says she is beyond thrilled that new measures are being implemented that reduce inequity among students at GU, as the new registration process will help even the playing field for students from marginalized communities.

“This is fantastic news,” Staub said. “This is addressing the issue head-on. That’s a huge step in the right direction.”

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MLK

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including two GU faculty members Vita Schlimgen and Luke Lavin along with Quanika Bynum, chaplain captain of the U.S. Air Force, and Roberta Wilburn, associate dean emeritus for Whitworth University, who all used discussions around the symbol of the flag to explore questions of inclusion, especially who the flag represents.

Tere Graham, a main organizer for the event and a program manager in UMEC, said the panel conversation was important in reckoning with the divisiveness of politics, which she said was particularly spurred on with the 2016 presidential election and the Jan. 6 riots.

This was echoed by the panelists who said the flag has been a tool for political divisiveness, with Schlimgen using the thin blue line flag as an example of how it has become a symbol of the political right. The panelists called for the broadening of the flag symbol to be more inclusive, further integrating the theme of unity in the holiday reflection on resistance and civil rights.

“We wanted to speak about the flag and the evolution of what it has been lately, not even going back to foundational times,” Graham said. “Significant incidents that came to mind were the 2016 election, the 2017 inauguration of President 45, and how [the flag] now looks with the January 6 insurrection at the Capitol. The American flags were used [in these moments] and in that time the language shifted from us to

only we.”

The teach-in and the march were part of a month-long planning process. Graham said that the topic for the teach-in was a result of many conversation between UMEC and CCE staff about the symbol of the flag and the current political climate.

Andrea Davis, another main organizer for the teach-in and a program manager in CCE, said she wanted to make the events about moving towards hope for a better, more unified future, which she believes the teach-in helped foster.

“I think about MLK day serving often as a call to action in and of itself,” Davis said. “It’s a day where people are really investing around the community. I think everything we heard today from all of our amazing panelists was a moving towards hope and creating that hope. So, in collaboration through this conversation, it’s living into MLK day’s mission as a whole.”

Ultimately, the teach-in and the march, according to Graham and Davis, were full of hope and showcased a growing willingness from the Spokane and GU community to reflect deeply about resistance and civil rights and take on embrative change.

The hopeful attitude was reflected in some of the audience members, who saw the events as being important in continuing to think about King’s legacy and justice work.

“I think a lot of this starts here, or maybe think elsewhere, but it continues on with people taking it back to discussions with peers who weren’t able to be here,” said Kurt Huser, a participant in the teach-in and AmeriCorp volunteer.

Davis and Graham said they hope the teach-in and march can be a starting point for further civil rights efforts, including



COURTESY OF JESSIE MANCILLA

The GU delegation joined wide group of community members downtown for MLK day.

supporting and donating to community organizations and becoming involved in other civil rights opportunities.

“I think creating more spaces for learning and productive discomfort is super important,” Davis said. “I think in that space of discomfort is when people begin to grow and change, which then leads to a call to action. [These conversations] spark something, you begin feeling something. Hopefully having more open conversations can lead people to gain

knowledge and to make that change.”

Noah Appril-Sokol is a news editor. Follow him on Twitter: @noah_sokol03.

HPIC moves to showcase broader Islander culture

Club's leadership pushes to extend 'home away from home' feeling to non-Hawaiian islanders

By DOMINIC PE BENITO

The Hawai'i/Pacific Islanders Club (HPIC) is a club on Gonzaga University's campus that enhances diversity by fostering a community for students who share a common identity.

HPIC president and GU senior Josiah Saifoloi said the club is primarily dedicated to building a community with a strong sense of familiarity.

"The Hawaiian Pacific Islanders Club is dedicated to fostering a community for both students from Hawai'i and students who identify as Pacific Islanders," Saifoloi said. "Being here at Gonzaga — a predominantly white institution, especially coming from Hawai'i — it's a really hard transition and so our main goal in HPIC is to foster this community for incoming students so that they feel like they have a home away from home."

Kylie Kalahiki, senior vice president of HPIC, also said one of the club's goals this year is to project inclusivity to all Pacific Island cultures.

"I think that HPIC has very much become the 'Hawai'i Club' and that is not representative of what our club is supposed to be, even though a majority of the people are from Hawai'i ... We're trying to be more intentional about being more inclusive," said Kalahiki.

For many members, the club holds personal significance in their lives.

"To me, HPIC means second family above anything else," Saifoloi said. "When I was a freshman, it was really hard navigating this space and building community and making friends because there aren't a lot of Pacific Islander kids here to begin with — nor, like, a lot of students from Hawai'i — so HPIC was one of the only spaces where I felt like I could be myself and bond with other people."

Kalahiki said that HPIC was one of the driving forces behind her decision to stay at GU after COVID-19 impacted her first year.

"HPIC means a lot to me, because I feel that especially after my freshman year with COVID and everything, HPIC was one of the biggest reasons why I decided to come back to Gonzaga," Kalahiki said. "After going home for a year, I think a lot of us didn't want to come back. But to me, HPIC was one of the main reasons why I did come back and it helped me adjust a lot easier."

According to Saifoloi, his desire to be president was inspired by Tiana Pereira, the HPIC president during his first year. He credits Pereira for also influencing him to continue her tradition of activism and involving HPIC in social justice work.

He said general meetings revolve around community building activities such as a board game night, collaborations with other cultural clubs and their traditional events, such as a camping trip to Bowl and Pitcher in Riverside State Park and a trip to Green Bluff Growers.

Saifoloi thanked the board for their hard work in helping this semester and assisting him in leading the club. Kalahiki also showed her appreciation toward the sophomore board members for stepping up in their roles.

HPIC looks forward to hosting its 52nd lū'au this spring. Last year's event was the first lū'au for all the HPIC students, however, this year's lū'au will be different according to one of the lū'au chairs, sophomore Zion Kekua Aō Kalani Vaoifi.



The Hawai'i/Pacific Islanders Club leadership board strives to represent all members.

“I think that HPIC has very much become the 'Hawai'i Club' and that is not representative of what our club is supposed to be, even though a majority of the people are from Hawai'i.

“Lū'au is a big party or event that we host back home and it's predominantly like a Hawaiian tradition, but we're trying to diversify it, so this year's theme is Pūpūkahi I Holomua, which means 'Unite in Order to Progress,'" Vaoifi said. "What we had in mind was that we were going to display as many Pacific Island cultures through dance and other forms and summarize it up in the end toward how the unification of the Pacific Islands can lead to progress for everybody and be applicable to the world today."

Vaoifi said that last year's lū'au chair, Lea Cayanay helped push him to participate by performing and

understanding the logistics of putting the event together, which led to his overall decision to become one of the lū'au chairs.

"This event is important to me because it really does display a lot of the cultures that we have back home," Vaoifi said. "I know a lot of people in the states aren't really aware of the different types of Pacific Islanders and a lot of people know about Hawaiian [culture], which is great, but at the same time, there's so many people and issues in the Pacific Ocean that we can really focus on."

Kalahiki shared how impactful lū'au is on the overall community.

"Lū'au, to me, is an opportunity to show our community what our culture is truly about," Kalahiki said. "I'm Hawaiian, so I feel like for my specific culture in lū'au, it's very much the stereotypical idea that a lot of people had about Hawai'i, so I feel like we are straying away from that this year and we're trying to emphasize a history of the Pacific Islands and recreate a different narrative for Gonzaga and the Spokane community to understand."

Vaoifi also credited the board, especially Kalahiki and HPIC treasurer Amanda Muryama for supporting him throughout this preparation process for lū'au.

HPIC looks to create a positive impact through lū'au next semester and by continuing to offer a "home away from home" environment to club members.




For more information on HPIC and its upcoming events, follow HPIC at @gonzaga_hplic on Instagram.

Dominic Pe Benito is a diversity editor.

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Letter to the Editor: 'COG-plainers' are really just misunderstood

When deciding to submit a Letter to the Editor responding to the opinion article “Stop complaining about Gonzaga’s food,” which was published on Oct. 13th but has since vanished from the Gonzaga Bulletin website, the words of my favorite Gonzaga University professor rang true: “If you write it, mean it.” And even with the attempts to remove the article from digital existence, the true beauty of newspapers is their physical existence outside of our hopes and desires to revise their initial words and meanings.

The first issue with the article is its unclear motive. Is it satire? The initial comments of the article, which highlight the financial status of Sodexo and the disparities seen between the financial stability of the company with the below-average wages campus food workers are paid, would seem to suggest that the author believes there are pressing issues when discussing on-campus dining options. However, the author immediately suggests that although there are “highs and lows ... there just simply isn’t any reason to complain.” Well, by my calculations, you just acknowledged one.

Is it simply about providing other alternatives to the COG? If so, the article immediately fails because it does not mention 1887 at Cataldo, which is one of only two cafeterias we have on campus. Perhaps this was simply a mistake made when writing the article, but I fear that Cataldo’s exclusion from



By NOAH SCHABER

the article is due to the legitimate criticism Cataldo receives for the lack of healthy, nutritional food options it provides. I hope it is the former. Is it a cultural critique? I hope so. I believe that there is an actual argument to be made that “complain culture” has grown to become too common at GU; complaining about the COG has become a social norm and an acceptable topic of conversation when people have nothing else to talk about.

But the author does not make that argument. Instead, the article provides

an introduction juxtaposing the wealth of Sodexo with the low wages the majority of campus food workers are paid and then jumps between food and beverage options that do not take meal swipes. Potentially the most disappointing point of the article, however, is the concluding four paragraphs. The author concludes the article by belittling those who complain about the COG, using implicit tones of “holier-than-thou” and explicitly comparing those who complain, or in the author’s own words, “COGplain,” to children, and asks us to “grow up.”

This article not only displays an overall lack of critical thinking on the subject, but also fails to uphold the journalistic integrity that the Gonzaga Bulletin is known for. Although there is validity to the idea that the “complain culture” at GU related to the COG is too widely-accepted, this does not mean there are no justifiable reasons to complain about our current dining situation.

Most frustrations with the COG are not directed at the workers, who we all can acknowledge are not paid as well as they should be for their working environment and job requirements, but at the established dining system at GU. For instance, the system of meal plans at GU lacks flexibility, which is an issue that continues to get worse as GU limits the amounts of swipes per week students can choose from. This issue is only further exacerbated by the requirement of

all underclassmen to have a meal plan unless they are granted an exemption based solely on a financial or medical basis. In fact, the GU website listing the reasons to request a meal plan exemption explicitly states that personal preference is not a reason to earn an exemption.

The system, as currently configured, forces underclassmen to pay for a meal plan, lacks flexibility, makes students choose to either have unlimited swipes or have their swipes vanish at the end of the week, charges them thousands of dollars per semester for limited dining options and does so in the name of Sodexo. But according to the author, students should simply use their own money at other establishments on-campus, many of which are still operated and staffed by Sodexo, or at off-campus restaurants and grocery stores instead of complaining about the current dining system established at GU.

The article, and its author, lack the empathy to understand where many COGplaints truly come from. It is possible, and it should be encouraged, that we are both able to acknowledge our place of privilege as students and people within the Spokane community while simultaneously working to acknowledge the flawed conditions we live in.

Noah Schaber is a student at Gonzaga University.

The NFL drops the ball on player safety, culture — we should do better

Most of us heard about it, some of us watched it live — the gut-wrenching collapse of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin on Jan. 2.

In the last six minutes of the first quarter, Hamlin tackled Bengals wide receiver Tee Higgins, delivering a blow to Hamlin’s chest, causing him to go into sudden cardiac arrest.

If you’re like me, you looked away from the screen as sports stations aired visuals of a crowd of players standing around an unconscious Hamlin while medics delivered chest compressions for nine minutes. It was horrible to watch and surely worse to experience.

I typically don’t watch men’s sports often, specifically the NFL, for a plethora of reasons including the NFL’s historic trend of perpetuating racism, the misogynist environment fostered by male sports spaces and the long history of disregarded safety measures on the field. The



By KAELYN NEW

Hamlin incident reminded me of why I tend to stray away from this kind of entertainment.

While the NFL community rallied around Hamlin, as coaches, trainers, players and fans expressed support through social media and monetarily

by contributing donations to Hamlin’s GoFundMe that raises funds to deliver toys to children from low-income families, the league itself deserves criticism for its perpetual role in facilitating an environment that prioritizes revenue over health and safety.

Although the NFL adamantly denies the claim, ESPN has stood by its initial report the night of Hamlin’s injury that the league did not immediately decide to cancel the game between the Bills and Bengals but instead considered giving the athletes five minutes before resuming the game. Regardless of whether the ESPN claim is true, which I am not here to debate, it is reflective of a broader culture fostered by the NFL.

It has long been known that the gear donned by the NFL players isn’t adequate to protect players from the impact of others or the ground, and this is only further solidified by the Hamlin incident. Not only are players at risk for sudden cardiac arrest, but they are also majorly at risk for developing chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

A Boston University study in the Journal of the American Medical Association reported in 2017 that CTE was found in 99% of the brains of players obtained from the NFL. The degenerative disease is known to cause violent outbursts, depression, dementia, impaired

judgement and more. Despite these statistics, there have been no major or groundbreaking reforms in the gear or rules of the sport.

Additionally, there has long been a tie between domestic violence and CTE. According to USA Today, 134 players have been arrested for domestic violence since 2000 and 15 players have been arrested for crimes relating to sexual assault, battery or solicitation. This type of violence isn’t exclusive to players, though, as reports of domestic abuse exponentially increase after sports matches, regardless of whether one’s team of choice wins according to a National Library of Medicine review.

Sports culture, specifically surrounding the NFL, is intrinsically tied to misogyny, racism and drive for money by large corporations — corporations (like the NFL) that inherently generate profit off contact sports, and therefore, the culture and injuries that come with it.

Racism in the league is pervasive. Colin Kapernick was ostracized from the sport for taking a knee during the National Anthem to protest unjust police brutality and his outward support for the Black Lives Matter movement; he was widely regarded by the public as acting out of line. Meanwhile, NFL fans are no strangers to rioting in the

streets after major wins or losses.

Racial bias is further perpetuated through the coaches, as only five out of the 36 hired head coach positions went to Black men in 2022, according to the NFL.

Thus, the league is riddled with problems that are deeply rooted in its practices and we — the viewers — must acknowledge that our actions have consumer power. In many ways we choose to endorse, or overlook, the negatives to find some positive in Sunday night entertainment. Conversely, you can choose to not participate in a culture that monetizes violence, profits off disease and perpetuates misogyny and racism.

It’s easier said than done, and I would be lying if I said I am never going to watch a football game again. I get it, they are entertaining. Yet, at some point we need to do an introspective reflection about the values each of us hold and whether the content we consume upholds said values. It is equally important that we hold one another accountable for the adoption of harmful viewpoints upheld by this type of culture.

I am not asking you to stop watching football, I am asking you to pay closer attention.

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

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Resolution ridiculousness: New year, same you

Fireworks, glitter, fancy drinks and house parties — all to toast a new beginning.

New Year’s has become a global holiday marking a fresh start for billions of people. Jan. 1 has become the day on which many carefully thought about “New Year’s resolutions” experience their first flop and people find the cycle repeating itself yet again.

Personally, I’ve never understood the appeal of the holiday or the tradition of starting over that comes with that.

Resolutions with the start of the new year is a wholesome concept at its core but in all reality, a small few actually make it into early February remembering what their sights were set on going into January.

A lot of what these resolutions entail is typically to do with self improvement — working out more consistently, choosing to cook rather than eat out, quitting unhealthy habits. The list goes on.

What’s most frustrating about the idea is 9 times out of 10, people will admit to giving up within the first couple of weeks and have a good laugh about what they wish they could do. It’s that as a collective, people wait until the new year to begin on these journeys as if the other 364 days of the year aren’t worth the effort it might take to start again.

That is why I feel the “new year, new me” model fails.

I understand the metaphor can give a sense of empowerment to many people, but at the same time we could be creating a narrative that tells people they owe it to themselves to make these resolutions when we decide, not when the collective has decided that the first of the year is the most convenient and most sensible time to make a change.

Starting a new journey at the same time as half the world adds an unnecessary aspect of competition to something that is already tough to do.

Change is never an easy beast to conquer, so



By KAYLA FRIEDERICH

maybe at some point this year, change the narrative.

Maybe your “New Year” starts in the middle of March, or the end of October.

Maybe your resolution isn’t something as daunting as taking your world, flipping it upside down and telling yourself that this new version of you has to start tomorrow.

Again, the concept is truly wholesome and that’s why there may be alternative narratives that could encourage real follow through and thought with these intentions.

Kayla Friedrich is an A&E editor. Follow her on Twitter: @friedrich_kayla.

Student-led musical theater dance revue takes center stage

By MARY SHERDEN

Next weekend, the Magnuson Theatre will host a Musical Theater Dance Revue, featuring 12 dance numbers from iconic musicals. The student-run production has been brought to life by Gonzaga University seniors Lily and Avani Desai. The twin sisters had the idea to collaborate on this project ever since participating in a similar musical theater-style dance show their first year.

“The show was pretty small — it was only like six choreographers, six pieces at the time, but we just had a lot of fun doing it and it got us into the dance program,” Lily said.

Both she and Avani, the show’s producer, recalled how much they enjoyed participating in their first Musical Theater Dance Revue — a compilation of student-choreographed dance numbers from different musicals.

Since then, the sisters, who double-major in dance and biology, have been inspired to recreate the experience that welcomed them into the dance program.

“Dance has always been something that has brought me so much joy and has been such a nice outlet for biology classes, for example,” Avani said. “Having that balance is just so nice.”

Starting at the end of their junior year, the sisters met with the directors of the dance and theater departments to submit proposals for the dance revue. Beginning in August, Lily and Avani worked closely with the show’s faculty advisor, Joseph Lyons-Wolf, to organize a workshop.

“There’s a lot of things in this process that have really mimicked a professional musical theater setting,” Lyons-Wolf said. “It’s been a quick rehearsal process, which is very normal for musical theater — typically you only get a few rehearsals per number ... And also the professional experience for navigating scheduling not just for themselves but for all of their dancers.”

The dance revue features performers with a wide range of majors, both inside and outside the dance program.

“We have students that are dance majors, music majors, other majors who just love musical theater and came to be a part of the process [and] when we put together the groups for the show, we really did it all based on availability,” Lyons-Wolf said. “It’s really mixed, which I think is an awesome experience for the people in the number and the choreographers as well, because that does really reflect the process of a musical because everyone has different strengths.”

Avani said she was pleasantly surprised with the turnout of performers.

“It was really cool to see the amount of people that were excited to join,” Avani said. “I think it’s definitely attracted a wider range of people than maybe just a normal dance show would because of the extra musical theater aspect.”

Lyons-Wolf said the genre of musical theater dance relies heavily on music for the show, whereas the genre of musical theatre has a more character driven core.

The upcoming revue will offer a wide variety of dance — from soft, lyrical pieces to more upbeat group numbers. Songs from Hamilton, Chicago, Hairspray and many more are to be featured in group numbers or solos and duet pieces.

Besides directing and producing, Lily and Avani are also choreographing and dancing in the revue. At times, they said it can get busy coordinating multiple aspects of the show, but it’s worth it at the end of the day.

“It’s super fun to have different show opportunities,



The dance program puts on several performances throughout the year, with its upcoming showcase featuring routines from many notable musicals.

“

Dance has always been something that has brought me so much joy and has been such a nice outlet for biology classes, for example. Having that balance is just so nice.
Avani Desai, dance and biology major

especially led by students because I feel like it's more approachable than a show that's built into academic dance classes,” Lily said.

Extracurricular dance activities are appreciated by dancers like junior music education major, Mary Browne.

“With a busy schedule, you have to fight to do the things you want to do,” Browne said. “I’ve wanted to dance for a long time but I couldn’t fit it in. Participating in this show reminded me that I am a dancer.”

The growing interest and participation in this program has increased collaboration between the GU’s dance and theater programs — something Lyons-Wolf said is special about musical theater.

“We have a lot of interest in musical theater from our students,” Lyons-Wolf said. “I would love to see more musicals happen at Gonzaga. I know that they’re a big undertaking but I think that they have a huge reward for our students pedagogically and professionally.”

The Musical Theater Dance Revue will be performing Friday Jan. 27th and Saturday Jan. 28th at 7:30 p.m. in the Magnuson Theatre. Tickets are \$7 for students and can be purchased online.

Mary Sherden is a staff writer.

“SOS”: Signal of Success for R&B songstress SZA

The highly anticipated sophomore album has spent five weeks at No. 1 on Billboard 200

REVIEW
By SOFIA BELTRAN

SZA is one of the most popular female voices in the music industry. Her second album, “SOS”, was released five years after her beloved first studio album “Ctrl.” The five-year period made anticipation boil for fans and the media. This created a powerful pressure around SZA, as an artist, to produce something just as successful and powerful as “Ctrl.”

The duration of SZA’s relationship with her label has also created a restrictive lens on her music. She has hundreds of unreleased and completed songs that didn’t receive approval from her label. It seemed possible “SOS” was crafted somewhat out of SZA’s control.

SZA responded to these pressures through her album with power. In the first song on the album SZA opens with a gospel choir and strength in her voice. She tells her audience “SOS” isn’t a cry for help. She rejects her haters and the pressures placed on her. She knows who she is and that the power in her voice has taken her to where she is.

“Open Arms” (feat. Travis Scott)

In “Ctrl” the lyrical quality and complexity set the album apart from many others. It gave her first album the uniqueness it needed for the kind of fame it achieved. This song mirrors that lyrical beauty from “Ctrl.” The honesty poured into the lyrics makes it relatable to a wide range of listeners. By putting Travis Scott on this song, SZA maintains her rap influence and carries it successfully throughout this album.

“Kill Bill”

The bubblegum pop anthem that no one expected. Dark and almost comedic, this song is an example of a foolproof success. Using the iconic movie reference to her advantage, this song’s catchy and relatable melody is unforgettable. SZA is generally considered to be a modern R&B artist, but this pop song showed SZA’s audience her talent in all genres she sings.

“Smoking on my Ex-Pack”

SZA’s rap influences in her discography culminate in this instant classic. Her flow is unstoppable and passionate. Rapping strips SZA of her iconic voice and leads the listener back to her words, and the message she is communicating with this album. She is sharing to her fans that she is versatile and never to be underestimated.

“Snooze”

The R&B song “OG” fans needed. This song is similar to her usual, silky vocals in a sweet love song with a good beat. With “Snooze” SZA proved she’s still the artist she was when her rise to fame started.



Featuring viral sensations like "Kill Bill" and "Low," "SOS" is full of unforgettable songs ranging from hip hop to pop.

“Used” (feat. Don Toliver)

Don Toliver’s feature on this song plants SZA perfectly into the modern music scene. Toliver has been making hits back-to-back with dozens of popular artists. This song appeals to what the modern listener wants to hear. While it is very different to the style in “Ctrl,” the style and sound of popular music in 2017 was different.

“SOS” had to at minimum, meet the caliber of “Ctrl.” SZA surpassed the question of caliber by displaying her versatility and unshakable talent. She is not an artist that is going to be losing popularity or critical acclaim anytime soon. To create a second album that met the same success as her first is an incredible achievement.

Celebrating Black voices is very important, and SZA’s achievements in the musical industry deserve to be celebrated. While popularity is ever-changing and trends shift quickly, SZA stays in tune. She knows her audience well, and that is how she creates her unique sound that captivates her listeners.

“SOS” responded to and squashed all the pressures placed around SZA’s second album. Her strength as an artist should go unquestioned after her sophomore success. “SOS” is not a cry for help, but a signal of success.

Favorite songs: Blind, Open Arms, Gone Girl
Rating: 9/10

Sofia Beltran is a staff writer.

Bo Ssam: Simple but classic Korean cuisine

COMMENTARY
By ANDERS SVENNINGSSEN

Some of the best recipes are handed down generation upon generation, traditional dishes solidified into family staples by time, love and a sprinkle of nostalgia. It's the rare but exciting occasion when an untested, unexpected recipe carves a permanent space in the family cookbook.

Bo Ssam, a simple pork butt slow-roasted and served with delectable condiments drawn from Korean cuisine, is one of those rare, instantaneous family classics.

Deceptively simple, Bo Ssam requires minimal involvement, but draws from a foundation of approachability an out of this world taste. The pork butt is given an overnight rub of salt and sugar, which draws moisture from the meat, priming a "light-cure" that will enhance the incredibly tender final product. The meat is cooked until it is "fall off the bone tender" and then finished with a brown sugar glaze that creates a flavorful outer crust.

Originally a product of Chef David Chang's renowned restaurant 'Momofuku' in New York, the dish has an ingenious build-it-yourself aspect sure to please the palate of any picky eater. My family cannot get enough of it; we've done the dish several times since stumbling upon it last year and it's quickly become a tradition, one that we're certainly eager to keep.

The warm oven in our house always becomes a source of the tantalizing fragrance of cooking meat as the pork butt receives the periodical baste. The long stretch of time in the oven provides a wonderful opportunity to prepare the hidden gems of the dish — ginger scallion and ssam sauce that bring the pork to another level.

Our family never skips the sauces, and since Bo Ssam is a recent smash hit it seems every time we've found new ways the condiments can enhance the dish. The ginger scallion sauce offers a crisp zing of ginger alongside fresh notes of green onion, and the ssam sauce brings the spice, playing nicely with the caramelized sweetness of outer crusted pork.

Kimchi is a must-have in my opinion — my family isn't big on kimchi, but I love the refreshing acidity it tucks into each unique lettuce wrap. And that's the most exciting prospect of Bo Ssam — the creative way you can approach the meal and really make it your own.

Lettuce and white rice are the plain vehicles for juicy pork and delicious sauces — each plate is truly unique, and you can find your groove with whatever combination you like best. My mother truly enjoys the scallion sauce, and occasionally she'd add a little kimchi, but her plate looks completely different from my sister, who is always on the ssam sauce train.

Both of their choices contrast completely with mine — kimchi makes a great add-in, but for my first lettuce wrapped creation, I can't neglect the star of the dish — my plate will always be filled chock full of the pork. I have a hard time not assaulting the delicious glazed behemoth with a fork as soon as it departs from the oven.

Ingredients

Pork Butt
1 whole bone-in pork butt or picnic ham (8 to 10 pounds)

Ginger-scallion Sauce
2½ cups thinly sliced scallions, both green and white parts
½ cup peeled, minced fresh ginger
¼ cup neutral oil (like grape-seed)
1½ teaspoons light soy sauce
1 scant teaspoon sherry vinegar
½ teaspoon kosher salt, or to taste

Ssam Sauce
2 tablespoons fermented bean-and-chili paste (ssamjang, available in many Asian markets, and online)
1 tablespoon chili paste (kochujang, available in many Asian markets and online)
½ cup sherry vinegar
½ cup neutral oil (like grape-seed)

Accompaniments
2 cups plain white rice, cooked
3 heads bibb lettuce, leaves separated, washed and dried
1 dozen or more fresh oysters (optional)
Kimchi (available in many Asian markets, and online)

Preparation

Step 1

Place the pork in a large, shallow bowl. Mix the white sugar and 1 cup of the salt together in another bowl, then rub the mixture all over the meat. Cover it with plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator for at least 6 hours or overnight.



The dish has an ingenious build-it-yourself aspect sure to please the palate of any picky eater.

Step 2

When you're ready to cook, heat oven to 300 degrees. Remove pork from refrigerator, brush any excess sugar mixture off the fat cap and discard any juices. Place the pork in a roasting pan, set in the oven and cook for approximately 6 hours or until it collapses, yielding easily to the tines of a fork. After the first hour, baste hourly with pan juices. At this point, you may remove the meat from the oven and allow it to rest for up to an hour.

Step 3

Meanwhile, make the ginger-scallion sauce. In a large bowl, combine the scallions with the rest of the ingredients. Mix well and taste, adding salt if needed.

Step 4

Make the ssam sauce. In a medium bowl, combine the chili pastes with the vinegar and oil, and mix well.

Step 5

Prepare rice, wash lettuce and, if using, shuck the oysters. Put kimchi and sauces into serving bowls.

Step 6

When your accompaniments are prepared and you are ready to serve the food, turn oven to 500 degrees. In a small bowl, stir together the remaining tablespoon of salt with the brown sugar. Rub this mixture all over the cooked pork. Place in oven for approximately 10 to 15 minutes, or until a dark caramel crust has developed on the meat. Serve hot with the accompaniments.

Anders Svenningsen is the opinion editor. Follow him on Twitter: @torvauld.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

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Solution to Last Week's puzzle 2/5/23

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

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

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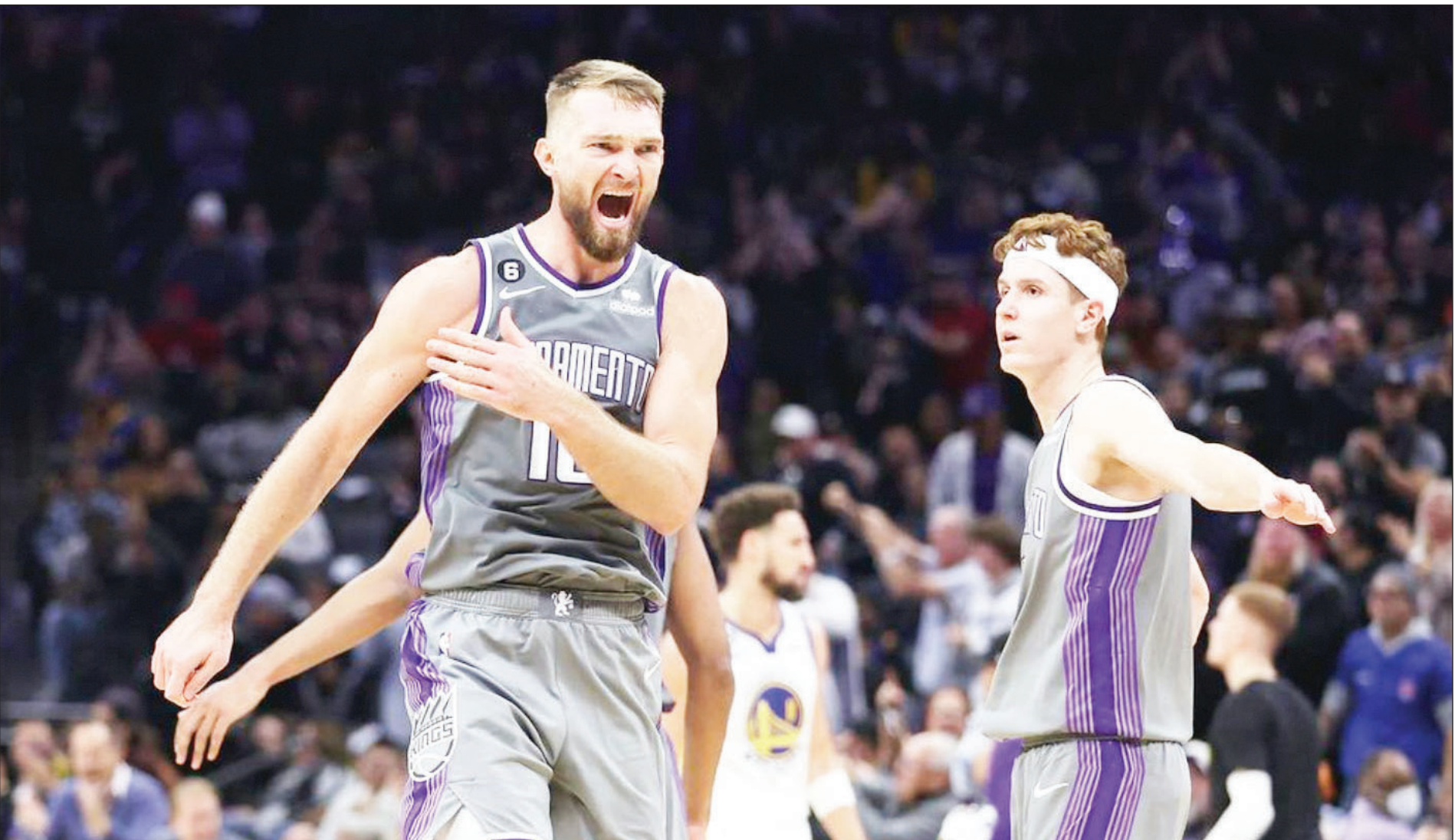
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TEN MINUTES TO WIN IT

By Amie Walker

ACROSS 1 Printer supply 4 Stretch often named for a leader 7 Fresh: fast-casual Tex-Mex chain 11 Overthinks things, say 19 Like many bathmats 21 Legend 22 Cheap digs 23 Rip-roarin' 25 Selected during Duck, Duck, Goose, say 26 Create an outstanding design? 27 Foreboding 29 Lacking 30 Knitting 32 Actor Carell 36 Designer initials 39 PBS painter Bob 41 Kiosk at some wedding receptions 46 "I'll take that as ..." 47 Vellani who plays Kamala Khan on "Ms. Marvel" 49 Great Plains people 51 Drops in 52 "Changing the subject ..." 56 Spot for primer and shadow, maybe 57 March family creator 58 Theater backdrop 59 Forum admin 61 River near the Great Pyramid 62 "Ouch!" 64 "Ben- ..." 65 Bro kin 66 Kenan Thompson's show, for short 67 More than a little mentally fatigued 72 Tuba sound 74 Function	75 Appear in print 76 Took away from, as profits 80 Painter Magritte 81 "Barry" network 82 "The Naked Chef" chef Oliver 84 Pop singer Britney 85 Golden years 87 Staley Da Bear, for one 90 Mosaic piece 92 Writer Silverstein 93 Banana skin 94 Palette choice 95 Blank expression? 97 Hard to find 99 Tolkien series, to fans 100 Lauder of cosmetics 101 Standing Rock people 104 Goes back out 108 Slept soundly after a big day 112 Gilda who won an Emmy for 66-Across 116 Documentary photographer Lange 120 Slow-moving tree-dweller 122 High-stakes gridiron situation, and a feature of eight long puzzle answers 123 Playpen cry 124 Effectiveness 125 Cultural sphere 126 Fitbit unit 127 Whiz 128 Sounds of understanding	4 Renée _____ Goldsberry of "Girls5eva" 5 Wash out 6 On point 7 Ecological communities 8 Play opener 9 Become a member 10 _____ Domini 11 Decides one will 12 Feathery neckwear 13 Longtime NASCAR sponsor 14 Super vision? 15 Women 16 Pop 17 School near Windsor 18 Fed. IDs 20 Emotionless 24 Semi-oxidized teas 28 Arena attendant 31 "Aw, nuts" 33 "Arrival" arrivals 34 Cast a ballot 35 Member of a TikTok subculture 36 _____ Lama 37 Genuflected 38 Top- 40 "Couldn't agree more" 41 Audre Lorde creation 42 Like a liberal commercial aviation agreement 43 K.T. of country music 44 Govt. security 45 Jekyll's counterpart 47 Preface, briefly 48 Words to live by 50 Not great, quality-wise 53 Gulf Coast region 54 Earthy colour 55 Radiate 60 Dept. of Labor div.	63 Ticket leftover 65 Justice Sotomayor 68 "That _____ no concern to you" 69 Short-form blog platform 70 Homecoming cry 71 Mountinous Asian republic 72 Co-owner of the Peguod 73 "Consequently ..." 77 Chip to dip 78 Brook swimmer 79 Blender brand 80 Flatbread made with atta flour 81 Deli subs 82 Civil rights leader Lewis 83 Madrid museum 86 _____ pool 88 Willow variety 89 Onion kin 91 NFL passing stat 96 Three-faced Greek goddess 98 Pub device 99 Soup scoop 102 Surgeon, informally 103 Sample 104 Classic Icelandic saga 105 Unrefined one 106 Champagne choice 107 Breaks down 109 Spots for checks and balances? 110 Whack 111 Browser button 113 "Strega _____"; Tomie dePaola Caldecott Honor book 114 Set in stone, say 115 Matthew of "The Americans" 117 Coddling, for short 118 Giggly syllable 119 Seemingly forever 121 Clean Air Act org.
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Courtesy of Domantas Sabonis' Instagram Page

Sabonis played two seasons at Gonzaga where he averaged 13.5 points, 9.4 rebounds, 1.3 assists in 26.6 minutes per game.

Former Zag Domantas Sabonis leads Kings to No. 4 in Western Conference

By HENRY KRUEGER

With hopes of ending the longest playoff drought in professional sports, the Sacramento Kings may have finally found the right formula to break their 16-year curse.

The team hired a new coach, drafted a highly-touted rookie and made several signings this offseason, but no transaction has paid off more than trading for center Domantas Sabonis at last year's trade deadline.

The former Zag is averaging 18.9 points, 12.6 rebounds and 7.1 assists per game while leading the Kings to a 24-18 record and the No. 4 spot in the Western Conference standings.

A few weeks ago, Sacramento's playoff chances appeared in jeopardy after Sabonis injured his hand near the end of his team's loss to the Washington Wizards on Dec. 23. It was diagnosed as a fractured right thumb and undergoing surgery to fix it would've required a four-to-six-week recovery.

However, with the injury being to Sabonis' non-shooting hand, he was told he could play through it. He missed one game, a loss to the Nuggets on Dec. 27, while the Kings' medical staff worked to decrease the swelling.

Sabonis was deemed healthy enough to return for a rematch against Denver on Dec. 28. He finished with 31 points, 10 rebounds, and five assists, matched up against two-time MVP Nikola Jokic and led the Kings to a 127-126 victory.

That level of production has continued for Sabonis, who had 19 points, 16 assists, 15 rebounds, two blocks and two steals in Sacramento's 139-114 win over the Houston Rockets last Friday. The most recent time a Kings player finished a game with at least 15 points, 15 rebounds and 15 assists was NBA Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson on Jan. 6, 1965.

"Pretty cool. Pretty cool," Sabonis said to reporters postgame when told that his performance had achieved

a franchise milestone. "Most important thing is that we ended up getting a win. It was two games back-to-back, tough ones, and happy we left with both victories."

Sabonis has 19 consecutive double-doubles after putting up 18 points and 14 rebounds in a 132-119 victory against the San Antonio Spurs on Sunday.

"I think sometimes ... when you just look up and you see a guy with 10, 15, 20 rebounds every single night, you almost just take that as a given and you forget how difficult that is to do every single night, especially carrying the offensive load that he does," said Kings forward Harrison Barnes.

When Sacramento head coach Mike Brown addressed reporters last Friday, he advocated for Sabonis and Kings guard De'Aaron Fox, who is also having a career year, to participate in the Feb. 19 All-Star Game in Salt Lake City.

"If he and Foxy aren't an All-Star, shame on the whole process," Brown said.

The latest All-Star fan voting results that came out last Thursday didn't list Sabonis in the top 10 for frontcourt players in the Western Conference. Fox was 10th among guards.

Sabonis' absence from the fan voting results is noteworthy, considering he was an honorable mention in the MVP ladder released by NBA.com the same day. Jokic was No. 1 on the list, followed by Luka Doncic of the Dallas Mavericks and Jayson Tatum of the Boston Celtics.

While an MVP award may be out of reach for Sabonis, an All-NBA selection is realistic, according to Fox.

"For me, it's Jokic, (Joel) Embiid and him," Fox said after Sacramento's Dec. 30 win over the Jazz. "Those are the top three centers in the league. He's an All-Star, no question, but I think he has a chance to be an All-NBA player this year. So with him playing the way he plays, with him doing everything that he does for us, both offensively and defensively, he's definitely in that conversation."

Out of the many factors that have led to Sabonis' remarkable season is his improved outside shooting. Sabonis has 19 made 3-pointers on a 38% clip, dwarfing his 31.2% mark from last season. It's also the best percentage for a Kings center with at least one attempt per game since Brad Miller shot 46.5% in 2008-09.

Sabonis becoming a threat from beyond the arc has spaced out the floor and opened up more scoring opportunities for Sacramento, the NBA's third-best team in offensive efficiency (117.3). As an individual, he's second in the league with a 134.0 offensive efficiency.

Defense, specifically rim protection, is still in question for Sabonis and Kings. The team is 24th in the NBA defensive efficiency (114.6), and they've allowed the 27th most points in the paint per game (54.9).

Brown expressed confidence in his current roster when asked last week if he thought they could adequately defend the paint without a traditional rim protector.

"One hundred percent, I believe we can do it," Brown said last Friday. "No doubt in my mind because we've done it in spurts. At this point in the year, it's about trying to be consistent when we do."

The success of the Kings has made Golden 1 Center the place to be in Sacramento, as the arena is averaging 2,549 more fans in attendance per game than last season.

"You don't just feel it at the arena, you feel it out and about in Sacramento," Brown said about the fans. "It's genuine. You genuinely feel their joy when you talk to them ... We love them to death, and we are happy that we can bring some joy to them."

Simply put, Sabonis has not only made an impact upon his new team, but on their city and fans as well.

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

Volleyball adds graduate transfer Parker Austin

By HENRY KRUEGER

The Gonzaga volleyball team has added graduate transfer Parker Austin, according to an announcement from head coach Katie Wilson on Tuesday.

After a four-year career at North Carolina, Austin will enroll as a GU student this semester before making her Zag debut next fall.

The 6-foot-2 outside hitter started 15 of the 28 matches she played for the Tar Heels last season, while registering a team-high 42 aces and .43 aces per set. She also posted 63 kills, 29 total blocks, 27 block assists, 103 digs and nine assists for a North Carolina squad that went 17-2 overall in 2022.

As a freshman, Austin received an Atlantic Coast Conference Freshman of the Week honor and was named to the All-ACC Freshman Team after tallying 256 kills and 136 digs that season, the second- and third-best marks on the team, respectively.

Hailing from Edmonton, Alberta, she attended Harry Ainlay High School where she was a three-time metro Edmonton All-Star and MVP. She also competed for and served as captain of the U16 Canadian national team.

Austin joins a recruiting class that also features setter Nia Damuni, a setter from Ridgeline High School in Providence, Utah.

Damuni helped the Riverhawks win a second consecutive regional and Utah 4A State Championship after leading her team with 284 assists.

The addition of Austin and Damuni could prove beneficial to the Zags, who finished 6-23 overall and 2-16



Courtesy of Gonzaga Athletics

Austin played four seasons at UNC where she tallied 485 kills, 467 digs, 110 total blocks and 76 aces.

against West Coast Conference opponents under a first-year head coach.

The program hasn't experienced a winning season since 2016.

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

Lyza Bosselmann selected 28th in NWSL Draft

By TOMMY CONMY

Former Gonzaga University women's soccer goalkeeper Lyza Bosselmann was selected 28th overall by the Washington Spirit in the third round of the National Women's Soccer League draft on Thursday.

Bosselmann was the second Zag selected to the NWSL, joining Jordan Thompson who was selected 50th

overall in the fourth round of last year's draft.

The Flagstaff, Arizona, native was named All-West Region and First Team All-WCC this past season and was also named Academic All-District and Academic All-WCC.

Bosselmann holds the program record for fewest goals allowed in a season and a career with 13 goals surrendered in 2022 and 47 since 2019. She is second all-

time in shutouts at GU with 20 and has the eighth most career saves with 182.

High schooler Alyssa Thompson was selected first overall by Angel City FC, becoming the first prep player to be selected with the first pick.

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

Patterson Baseball Complex gets facelift with upgrades

By TOMMY CONNOLLY

Fresh off one of the best seasons in program history that saw 37 wins and 20 conference victories, the Gonzaga Bulldogs men's baseball team will see reinforcements on the fence and in the field with multiple updates to the Patterson Baseball Complex.

The program has invested in a new turf playing surface for the upcoming season. The Zags have utilized a natural grass playing surface in past years but have upgraded to turf to help battle early season elements that can hinder outdoor practice for GU in January and February, according to head coach Mark Machtolf.

"It gives us an opportunity to get outside maybe when the weather is bad," said GU assistant head coach Sean Winston. "When we come back middle of January, having the turf and being able to remove any weather conditions is going to allow us to play the speed of the game before we actually start playing in the middle of February."

The early winter months are notorious for being damp and wet in the Pacific Northwest, limiting the Zags to many indoor practices to begin the season. With the new playing surface, the team can bounce back from bad weather and get back up to speed faster than before.

"We don't have to worry about flooding on the turf, the dirt getting soggy or the grass getting all wet," said outfielder Enzo Apodaca. "With turf, we can bounce back the next day and continue right where we left off."

With snow and cold weather being a factor in Spokane, the switch to turf should help the Zags get on the field earlier and have the chance to host more early season matchups.

Over the past seasons, GU has played a road heavy nonconference schedule, including 42 of 57 games last season, due to inclement weather and the hard playing surface on Hertz Field. The turf is expected to be an asset in multiple facets for the Zags.

To prepare for the change to an artificial playing surface on campus, the team has been practicing at nearby Whitworth University, which has a turf field, to help acclimate to the turf and continue to



JOE O'HAGAN IG: ohagandaz

Both the playing surface and left field fence will receive upgrades ahead of the 2023 season.

practice during the offseason. The Zags have experience playing on artificial turf diamonds in past seasons against Oregon, Oregon State, Oklahoma State and at last season's NCAA Regional at Virginia Tech. The turf playing surface is becoming more common among college baseball programs, with most schools having turf fields or making the change like GU.

Along with the upgrades to the playing surface at the Patterson Baseball Complex, the field is also getting upgrades to the outfield fence, with the left field fence being raised from its current height.

The left field wall being raised will let the Zags showcase the program and have a place to display their accomplishments and acumen over the last 15-20 seasons.

"It's also going to give us an opportunity as a program to celebrate some players from

years past, celebrate some championships and retired numbers," Winston said. "It's going to give us a little bit more room to showcase what our programs been about."

The raised fence is not expected to change the number of home runs over the left field fence, with the wind blowing right to left and carrying well out of Patterson Baseball Complex according to the coaching staff. The upgrades and changes to the complex are welcomed by the Zags, who are looking to continue build off last season's success.

GU will open the 2023 season on the road with weekend series against national powers Texas Tech and Tennessee, before the team plays its first home series on the new turf surface on March 10-12 against UC Irvine.

Tommy Connolly is a staff writer.

GU SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 19

- Women's basketball at Pacific, Stockton, CA, 11 a.m.
- Men's basketball vs. Loyola Marymount, 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 20

- Track at Lauren McCluskey Memorial Open, Moscow, ID, all day

Saturday, Jan. 21

- Men's tennis vs. UT Arlington, Albuquerque, NM, noon
- Women's basketball at Saint Mary's, Moraga, CA, 1 p.m.
- Men's basketball at Pacific, Stockton, CA, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 22

- Men's tennis vs. New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 11 a.m.
- Women's tennis vs. Washington State, Pullman, WA, noon

Home games in bold

Korean Jun Seok Yeo joins men's basketball roster, eligible to play in 2023-24 season

By TOMMY CONNOLLY

Korean forward Jun Seok Yeo has joined the Gonzaga University men's basketball and will practice with the team for the remainder of the season.

The 20-year-old is a transfer from Korea University in Seoul and is enrolled in classes at GU, but won't be eligible to play in games until his sophomore season in 2023-24. At that point, he will have three years of eligibility remaining.

"This is a really big opportunity for me," Yeo said via a news release from Gonzaga Athletics. "I'm really happy to be a part of this program and family at Gonzaga."

Yeo becomes the only international player on GU's roster. After former assistant Tommy Lloyd established international players as cornerstones of the program, the Zags have not had an international player since Martynas Arlauskas turned professional last season. Next season, the Zags will have two in Yeo and Australian forward Alex Toohey. Yeo graduated from Yongsan High School in Korea before joining the NBA's Global Academy where Toohey currently trains.

Yeo averaged a tournament-high 25.6 points per game and grabbed 10.6 rebounds per game at the 2021 FIBA U-19 World Cup. He outscored players like projected 2023 No. 1 pick Victor Wembanyama and former Zag Chet Holmgren, scoring 21 points against the U.S. and Holmgren in the tournament.

Yeo outscored current NBA players Nikola Jovic (Miami Heat), Benedict Mathurin (Indiana Pacers) and Dyson Daniels (New Orleans Pelicans). He also outscored collegiate standouts like Purdue's Zach Edey, Creighton's Ryan Nembhard and Arizona's Alounzo Tubelis.

Yeo also led the tournament in minutes per game and took 21.6 field goals per game,



COURTESY OF BPINKLATINO TWITTER

Yeo averaged 25.6 points per game at the 2021 FIBA U19 World Cup, outscoring current collegiate standouts and future NBA players.

shooting 44.4% from the floor and 29.1% from 3-point land.

Yeo debuted for the Korean national team at the age of 19, averaging 12.3 points and 4.0 rebounds over three games to help Korea qualify for the FIBA Asian Cup in 2021.

Reports stated that Yeo arrived in Spokane on Sunday after an Instagram story shared by five-star recruit Zoom Diallo on Saturday showed what appeared to be Yeo present for Diallo's official visit to GU. Diallo listed GU in his top six remaining schools.

Yeo is the most recent player to be added

to the roster midseason, joining Ben Gregg, who enrolled at GU in the spring of 2021 and played immediately for a squad that finished 31-1.

Based on video available of Yeo, he is an athletic, three-level scorer with a quick first step. Yeo is 6-foot-8 and 220 pounds, possessing prototypical size for a college or NBA wing. He is likely to have every opportunity to play next season if Julian Strawther and Drew Timme forgo their eligibility and head to the NBA Draft, leaving the frontcourt thin on depth and experience.

Many draft experts believe Yeo possesses the most potential to become the first Korean-born NBA player. Yeo is the second Asian-born player to play for GU, joining current NBA forward Rui Hachimura, who is from Japan. Fanbo Zheng committed to the Zags in 2020 before joining G-League Ignite.

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

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