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# THE SPECTATOR

seattlespectator

The official student run newspaper at Seattle University since 1933

April 4, 2024



ZAM ORTEGA

## \$300 Million Art Collection Gifted to Seattle University



It sends a message that Seattle University is a place that is worthy of a gift of this size and this scope. It sends a signal to folks that Seattle University is Seattle's university

Edgar Gonzalez

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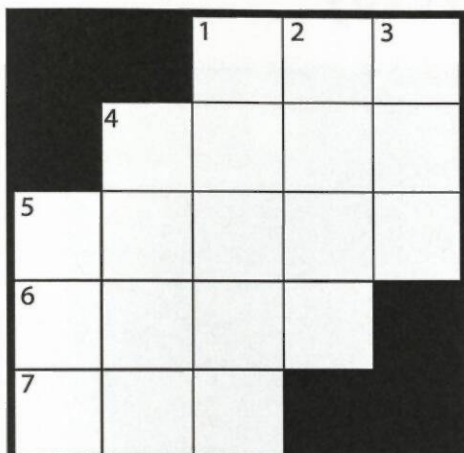
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1. Aid for some travelers
4. Govt. Identifiers
5. Disturbed
6. Hijos, in English
7. Donkey Kong, e.g.

## Down

1. All together
2. Spanish spans of 12 months
3. "Don't even \_\_\_\_\_"
4. Buy or where it's bought
5. Agency that issues numeric ID's

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## Spectator's Picks

### UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

#### APRIL

**8**

12:00 pm

### Spring Wellness Fair

Library Plaza

**9**

5:00 pm

### Disorientation

Wyckoff Auditorium

**10**

2:30 pm

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# Pro-Israel Speaker Sparks Controversy

**Dylan Berman**

*Volunteer Reporter*

The energy was tense in Bannan room 407. Following an introduction from David Powers, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Charlotte Korchak, senior educator and director of international student programs for Stand With Us (SWU), began speaking.

"It is important to note that I am a Zionist. I believe in Israel's right to exist in the land of Israel. And there's no real challenging me on that," Korchak said, prefacing that it is important to know the biases of any speaker, since no speaker is truly unbiased.

SWU is described on Seattle University's ConnectSU page as "a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the public about Israel and combating antisemitism." On their website, the group describes themselves as "inspired by [their] love of Israel."

This event, as well as a Zoom webinar with Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, internationally recognized as a distinguished Palestinian leader, legislator, activist and scholar, are extensions of the College of Arts and Sciences series titled "Confronting Conflict" which has held a sequence of talks on the Israel-Gaza conflict.

Multiple faculty members have worked together to help create this series, including Beatrice Lawrence, associate professor of theology and religious studies specializing in Hebrew Bible and Jewish Hermeneutics.

"I am really moved by our campus community," Lawrence said. "Because there is so much interest in education, in learning and discussing. I see an incredibly engaged community that wants to incorporate intellectual examination with spiritual commitment."

According to Powers, SWU was hosted per student request, and Ashrawi was hosted on faculty request. Lawrence noted that the initial speakers being invited to campus to discuss topics in relation to Israel and Gaza were predominantly professors while the two more recent speakers are advocates for specific causes.

"We were looking specifically at an academic perspective. The events involving advocates or advocacy, I think are different," Lawrence said. "It is necessary to listen, to be present, to think about how that information is connecting with individuals, but we were specifically focused on professors [at first]."

While the presence of SWU on campus was not unanimously appreciated, university



Charlotte Korchak answering questions.

administration believes that shouldn't be the reason to not host the organization.

Powers explained that the College of Arts and Sciences draws the line around any group that they believe promotes violence or hate speech, a bar he didn't see SWU as meeting. He stressed that the goal is not to tell students what to think, but to help guide productive and informed discourse around current events.

"I did not present any group, not one of these speakers, because it was something I personally wanted to promote," Powers said.

“

This was about having speakers for our students to hear so they heard different perspectives.

David Powers

While concerns were raised about SWU being hosted on campus, Powers explained that similar worries have been raised to him about other speakers who have been included in the series. However, this event drew criticism more heavily than others.

Rachel Luft, an associate professor of sociology, was heavily critical of the school's choice to host SWU given the allegations the group has faced.

SWU has faced accusations of attempting to silence a professor for expressing viewpoints in support of Palestine at George Washington University (GWU). The GWU professor has accused SWU of conflating critique of Israel with antisemitism, and unfairly targeting her.

When asked about this story at the event, Korchak claimed that SWU raised complaints of the professor singling out Jewish students multiple times to administration, and only took legal action as a last resort.

SWU has also been accused of pushing universities to crack down on Pro-Palestinian student groups, and pushing colleges to adopt definitions of antisemitism that include critiques of Israel.

This is the issue that Luft sees with hosting SWU on campus.

"I support free speech and believe the university must tolerate a diversity of viewpoints," Luft said. "Instead, it is because Stand With Us is itself repressive, using aggressive and bullying tactics to shut down opposing viewpoints, including steamrolling students and pursuing legal action against faculty who express differing views on Israel."

Korchak denied allegations that SWU silences civic critique, stating that the organization pushes universities to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alli-



ance definition of antisemitism, which does draw a distinction between antisemitism and critique of Israel.

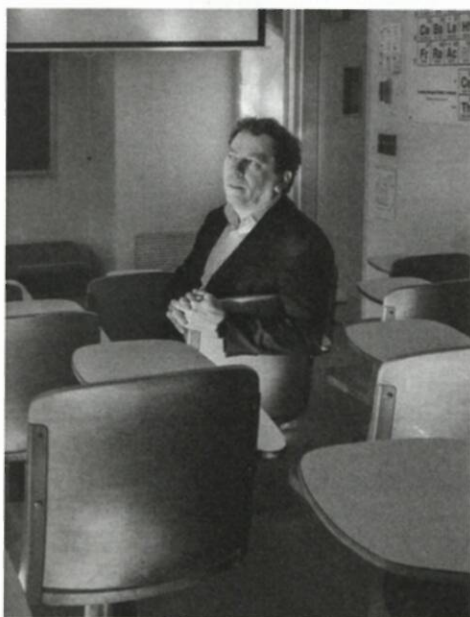
Luft added that she believes that SWU is an organization “rooted more in ideology than in scholarship” and that it is not only a disservice but irresponsible to bring speakers to campus who are known to be intolerant. According to Luft, many faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences feel the same way.

Throughout the talk, Korchak challenged the description of Israel’s history as a colonialist state, challenged the death toll numbers from the Gaza Health Ministry, claiming that they are controlled by Hamas, and said that UN child death tolls need to draw a line between non combatant children and child soldiers. While drawing a distinction between antisemitism and criticism of Israel, Korchak said that criticism of Israel is often a tool to mask antisemitism from the left, points challenged by numerous audience questions.

Reign Riley, a third-year double major in film and sociology, had a contentious back and forth with Korchak at the event, over whether Israel is impeding aid into Gaza, during which he accused SWU of lying on its website.

“They seem to pretty openly just be a group that’s very focused on defending Israel and justifying its existence and its actions, and that essentially just renders them as a propaganda group,” Riley said.

Luft characterized the group similarly to



College of Arts and Sciences Dean David Powers

Riley while also stating that Korchak was “disrespectful and evasive” in her engagement with student questions.

Assistant Professor in Film and Media Alexander Johnson echoed the sentiments of Riley and Luft.

“In my opinion, Stand With Us’ attempts to silence those who they disagree with is anathema to the fundamental values of Seattle University, and of institutions of higher learning in general,” Johnson said.

“

I’m not sure how this kind of dogmatic and propagandistic presentation is meant to foster dialogue or understanding of this urgent and complex issue.

Alexander Johnson

Powers did not see concerns around SWU’s previous actions as justification to prevent them from speaking on campus.

“I knew there was conversation and concern, but based on what I heard from multiple folks, it was not at a level of concern that meant we shouldn’t have the group here,” Powers said. “It is not something that had happened here, and it’s something that happened as a function of them being on campus.”

He added that refusing a group the ability to speak because of allegations that they were suppressing speech is a difficult decision to make. Powers explained that the role of a university should not be to tell students what to think about a specific issue, but instead to teach students how to intelligently think about and engage with issues and come to their own conclusions.

Prior to any speaker series, Riley believes that the university needs to have an open forum to directly hear student concerns. Riley isn’t necessarily opposed to the university hosting groups like SWU, seeing value in confronting ideas many haven’t been exposed



Charlotte Korchak representing Stand With Us

to before, but he sees hypocrisy in the fact that Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) was denied the ability to speak on campus earlier this year at a rally and teach-in for Palestine.

“I think learning to confront [new ideas] and learning to engage with that is helpful, but if Stand With Us is going to come, then people like Jewish Voice for Peace should definitely be welcome on campus,” Riley said.

Powers was not involved in the decision regarding JVP, but he explained from second hand knowledge that they were denied the ability to protest on campus because they were an outside group, drawing a difference between protesting as a group vs. being hosted as a speaking group. However, this distinction is ambiguous in the speaker policy.

College campus speakers can be a flashpoint for divided political issues in the country, sparking discussion around the virtues and limits of free speech, and the role of educational institutions in controlling discourse. Though maintaining nuanced discussions and including a variety of perspectives is a priority for some, others are concerned about what the boundaries or lack thereof of acceptable discourse can mean for younger people and the development of their beliefs.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY FERN CRESON





# Navigating Ramadan in Seattle

**Abdullah El-Sherbeeney**

Staff Reporter

Children running in the living room, mom in the kitchen cooking up a storm, dad hanging up the star-shaped lights and the Quran playing in the background—this is a typical experience of many Muslim households who observe the holy month of Ramadan.

In commemoration of the Quran being revealed to the Prophet Muhammad, Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is a time when Muslims dedicate their time to praying and fasting from sunrise to sunset.

Being that Ramadan is a major event celebrated in the Middle East and Asia, some countries have rules and laws that accommodate Muslims so that they can celebrate with their families without being concerned about normal commitments. However, in places where a majority of the population isn't Muslim, standards for accommodations may vary.

Celebration in the U.S. and other Western countries may come with additional struggles as one observing Ramadan still has to tend to their day-to-day responsibilities. It may be more difficult to break fast on time or have the desired period of prayer. The fatigue may also impact one's ability to carry out their everyday agenda.

Yet, to Haashim Ameer, the president of the

Muslim Student Association, these difficulties are not necessarily the defining aspect of Ramadan. Rather, the spiritual growth during Ramadan is what unifies Muslims.

"They are collective assets of normal Ramadan experiences. You won't hear too many people talk about 'Oh it was horrible. The entire month I was struggling to find food,' because I think in our religion we believe that God blesses us with a special sort of patience," Ameer said. "On certain days it's more difficult than others [but] most people leave Ramadan with a sense of contentment."

This year, Ramadan began March 10 and is expected to conclude on April 9. The exact day is determined by whether the moon is sighted the night before the expected end date. After the final day is another Muslim event—Eid al-Fitr, a celebration to signify the end of Ramadan.

Both Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr are intimate events often shared with close loved ones and relatives, but sometimes circumstances can prevent celebrations with family.

For Muslims who don't have immediate family in the Seattle area, one may have to find a community away from those who feel at home.

Yasser Babaier, a second-year business management major, is an international Muslim student from Saudi Arabia. He highlighted how his experience celebrating Ramadan in the U.S. compared to back home has differed. Babaier is used to observing Ramadan with his family and noted that they have a tradition of visiting different extended family members for breakfast.

Yet, despite being away from his family during Ramadan, Babaier stated that a Muslim community in Seattle feels particularly close-knit and has something special about it. He has been going to several different mosques to meet people.

"It's kind of a very good experience, and it's unique when you experience it abroad. [Especially] as a minority in the country, you have this community vibe that is very unique and you don't find it in Saudi because everyone is the same. It's really nice," Babaier said.

The Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS), the largest Islamic center in Washington, is committed to creating a welcoming atmosphere that unites Muslims in the Pacific Northwest and helps guide other Muslims interested in diving into their faith.

Alongside local mosques, MAPS is an organization for individuals like Babaier,

facilitating spaces for Muslim community engagement by hosting vibrant gatherings.

Imam Akram Baioumy, the spiritual leader at MAPS' Seattle location, discussed the opening of a branch of MAPS downtown in response to the number of transplants in the Seattle area. Only having a Redmond location was likely difficult for those commuting on public transit from the heart of the city.

Building a community close to one's home is important to many, which made MAPS want to expand.

"Those who did not have a home are now having a home. Those who did not have friends and community before are finding their community now," Baioumy said.

“

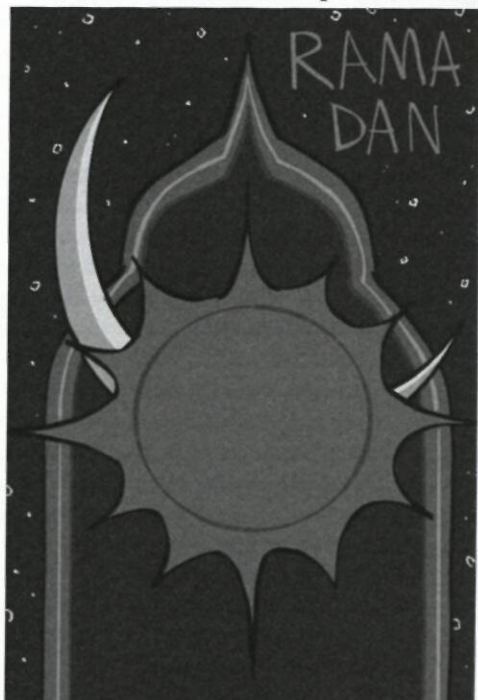
Downtown Seattle, especially for Muslims, the nightlife and the lifestyle doesn't cater to a Muslim. Being able to have refuge and connect with God and the way they want in the middle of downtown Seattle is a really beautiful thing.

Imam Akram Baioumy

For Baioumy, MAPS has been essential during Ramadan in fostering the aspect of community.

"After a long day taking control of your desires for food and water, controlling your tongue, trying to be more generous, and a full day of just worshiping God to then afterwards break your fast together and continue into a full night of worship. It's a very beautiful thing," Baioumy said.

Navigating Ramadan in Seattle can be difficult for some Muslims unfamiliar with the U.S. lifestyle. However, the strong support of the greater Muslim community provides resources and companionship for those adapting to the new environment.



KAY MCHUGH





# TikTok Fights for its Future

**Bridget Lawrence**

Staff Reporter

A bill was passed in the House in a vote of 352-65 to ban TikTok in the U.S. if it is not sold in six months. Currently, the company is owned by ByteDance, a Beijing-based technology company. Lawmakers have expressed concern that the company's current ownership structure puts national security at risk because of ByteDance's connection to China.

In the event that TikTok did become available for purchase, the only companies that could buy it are U.S. based tech companies, such as Meta, which currently owns Instagram and Facebook.

The Senate has yet to vote on this ban, though President Biden has stated that if passed in the Senate, he announced plans to sign it.

For TikTok users in the United States, if it is banned, if the app is already downloaded, it will still be able to be used on devices. No new downloads or updates will be able to happen, so instead of an instant deletion of TikTok, it will slowly become glitchy and gradually die out.

Isabella Bass, a second-year nursing major, spends between three to four hours on TikTok a day. She uses the app for a variety of things but mostly to keep up with current trends. These range from cooking ideas, to beauty and skin care.

"I also like watching clothing hauls on TikTok because they're shorter than YouTube and vlogs are just too long for me to watch. I like the more condensed videos on TikTok," Bass said.

"If they do actually go through the ban with TikTok I think a new app will just replace it or they'll just bring back Musical.ly."

Hannah Martin, a fourth-year psychology major, tends to spend an hour a day on TikTok. She uses the app mostly for entertainment and thinks it's a good app for getting reviews of products like makeup.

She thinks that Instagram and TikTok are different and have varying strengths between them.

"I use Instagram to keep up with people but for TikTok, I don't really follow people I know or use it to see what's going on in their lives. It's mostly just random videos I watch for entertainment," Martin said.

Regarding the ban, Martin thinks that it really shouldn't be a priority.

“

I think it's stupid and there are bigger things our government should be focused on. I also think that there is more personal information in general being shared on other apps like Instagram, not TikTok, that foreign nations could still be getting.

Hannah Martin

Martin also thinks that they are not putting the same concern for the security of data privacy on all platforms, they are only targeting TikTok.

"If they are worried about TikTok and our security, they should be worried about all of the apps, even if they are U.S.-based," Martin said.

If TikTok is banned, Martin will be sad because she feels that the app has allowed her to learn a lot about different things that others haven't provided a platform for. If it comes to this conclusion she will probably start using X, formerly known as Twitter, in hopes of receiving similar exposure to current events that TikTok provides.

Collin Rogers-Peckham, a second-year biology major, believes that this ban is a distraction from other affairs that the U.S. government is dealing with.

“

I think the U.S. is projecting and trying to distract from ongoing issues, and I worry that their focus on the bill is to distract us from other bills being passed

Collin Rogers-Peckham


us from that," Rogers-Peckham said.

They think that a lot of young people especially are reacting in a more emotional than logical statement about this ban. They understand that students are upset with the idea that tiktok could be gone sooner than later.

"It's frustrating but understandable. It's hard to always be the bigger person when it comes to a government that repeatedly ignores our interests. I wish we could take a more logical approach but look where that's gotten us," Rogers-Peckham said.

The Seattle U community will wait while the senate decides the future of TikTok, though students debate whether TikTok's ownership is a priority in terms of what our government should be focusing on.



KAY MCHUGH 

They brought attention to discrepancies between how the U.S.-based apps are viewed in retrospect to foreign apps.

"American-owned companies like Google, Meta and Amazon have already admitted to taking and selling information from their users, but Congress does nothing to protect



# \$300 Million Art Collection Gifted to Seattle University

George Burquest *Staff Reporter*

The product of a decades long relationship with Dick and Seattle University alumna Betty Hedreen (class of '57), it was recently announced that Seattle University will be receiving the Hedreens' collection of 200+ works of art, valued at over \$300 million, along with \$25 million in seed money to create the Seattle University Museum of Art.

"This transformational gift is the largest gift of art ever made to a U.S. university and largest single gift of any kind to a university in our state," wrote President Peñalver, in a letter on March 13, sharing news of the donation.

Edgar Gonzalez, vice president of university advancement, noted that the hope is to build the museum as quickly as possible, within the next three to five years, but that additional fundraising will be required. In terms of location, the plans are not set in stone, though the most likely place for the new construction is on 12th Ave., where the Pigott parking lot currently exists.

When asked about the university's relationship with the Hedreens, Gonzalez shared that it has been long-standing and meaningful. There are several pieces of art donated to the university by the Hedreens that are already part of campus—students may recall the humanoid statue on the hill outside of the Pigott Pavilion, for example.

While the art is not yet on campus and plans for the museum are yet to be determined, news covering the announcement of the gift was featured above the fold in *The Seattle Times*.

Stories of Seattle U have been scattered in different publishing throughout the years. According to Gonzalez, this is one of, if not the only time, Seattle U has garnered front page media attention at the *Times*.

"It sends a message that Seattle University is a place that is worthy of a gift of this size and this scope. It sends a signal to folks that Seattle University is Seattle's university," Gonzalez said.

In response to *The Spectator's* inquiries about how this donation might serve to set Seattle U apart and further its educational mission, President Peñalver wrote about the transformative nature of this gift.

"Prominent universities with notable art collections include smaller, liberal arts institutions like Williams College, and large research universities like Yale. A museum with a great collection enhances a university's academic reputation by attracting and retaining great faculty, enriching the educational experience for students, expanding and deepening interest from prospective students and increasing visibility, awareness and familiarity of a university as a whole."

As to why the collection is being donated to Seattle U, and not one of the major art museums in Seattle such as the Seattle Art Museum (SAM) or the Frye, Richard Hedreen told *The Seattle Times* that, beyond wanting to honor his late wife's alma mater, "I like having the collection stay together. Because it says something about the collector." And, he added, "I don't like the idea of the art being in storage."

Ken Allan, an associate professor of art history at Seattle U, is excited by the educational and reputational opportunities offered by the donation. "We are going to



A gift of the Hedreens, *Fab Five Fred* by Francesco Clemente, hung on the second floor of the Lemieux Library.

have a museum with the starting collection of a great city museum," Allan said, who has had the privilege to view the collection at the Hedreens' home in years past, even taking a few of his classes there.

"We have a collector who has been thinking about these pieces for decades, asking 'what do we want to collect?'" Allan said, whilst also noting how many of the pieces can be put in conversation with each other.

“

The collection being a unified thing will give it a particular character that will allow curators and faculty to use it in productive ways.

Ken Allan

Notable artists whose works are part of the collection include Jacopo da Pontormo, Willem de Kooning, Roy Lichtenstein, Berenice Abbott, Andy Warhol, Cecily Brown and Rashid Johnson among many others. Spanning from the 15th century to 2022, the works also vary in form as paintings, prints,





sculptures and photography all make up the collection.

While Seattle U already possesses several great works of art donated by the Hedreens, many of them are in the library, a space that is great for casual viewing, though not particularly suited for teaching.

Different from your typical art museum, a teaching museum is often at a university campus and has an educational department or staff who liaise with the faculty and university programs to utilize the collection in a variety of ways, not just for art history classes.

"Teaching a UCOR about climate change, a lesson might include looking at Rasheed Johnson's seascape works," Allan said, emphasizing the multifaceted opportunities presented by a teaching museum. "What a teaching museum and its curators do is think about ways in which math, chemistry, or history classes can use the experience of going to this museum as a way to access content differently."

Trung Pham, the chair of Visual Arts at Seattle U, hopes that the museum will draw more attention to the school and the visual arts program. Part of Seattle U's draw has always been its prime location, and Pham hopes that the addition of an on-campus art museum will only add to that appeal, breaking down the potential benefits of the teaching museum into three parts.

"One: Students can see the works firsthand, learning art history or cultural studies through physical interaction. Two: Scholars will come and study, write, discuss and research this collection, hopefully allowing for public lectures, both for students and the larger community. Three: The space will not only show the entire Hedreen collection, it will also have the potential for other art and artists to be exhibited, including the work of students," Pham outlined.

Pham was sure to mention that the announcement of the museum coincides with plans to offer a revamped visual arts program in the fall of 2024, titled, Art and Visual Culture Studies.

This new program will merge art history and studio art into a single major, offering specific tracks within. For Pham, the hope is that this new program will create a community among students, giving them a strong cohort to work with.

Jenikka Cruz, a second-year design major, plans on switching her major to the new program next year, and sees it going hand in hand with the Hedreen donation, furthering Seattle U's growth.



It helps the program and school evolve, and offers both future students and alumni a very important ability to network and be part of a larger community of art

**Jenikka Cruz**

referencing the gift and future museum.

Nevertheless, she was still shocked when she heard the news that such a large donation was being gifted to the university. The announcement of this monumentally valuable donation comes in the wake of recent announcements by the university that the amount of full time credits students will be able to take is being reduced and tuition is increasing.

Addressing this dichotomy, Gonzalez highlighted that, while the donation would be beneficial if it were accessible cash, the donation exists separately from fundraising.

"It's important to note that it's not a \$300 million donation in cash, it's art. We don't have the ability to sell it to go buy books or fund scholarships. It isn't as simple as selling the art to pay for scholarships."

Viewing the gift as a net positive, Gonzalez mentioned how the reputation and momentum boost will help in conversations with other alumni.

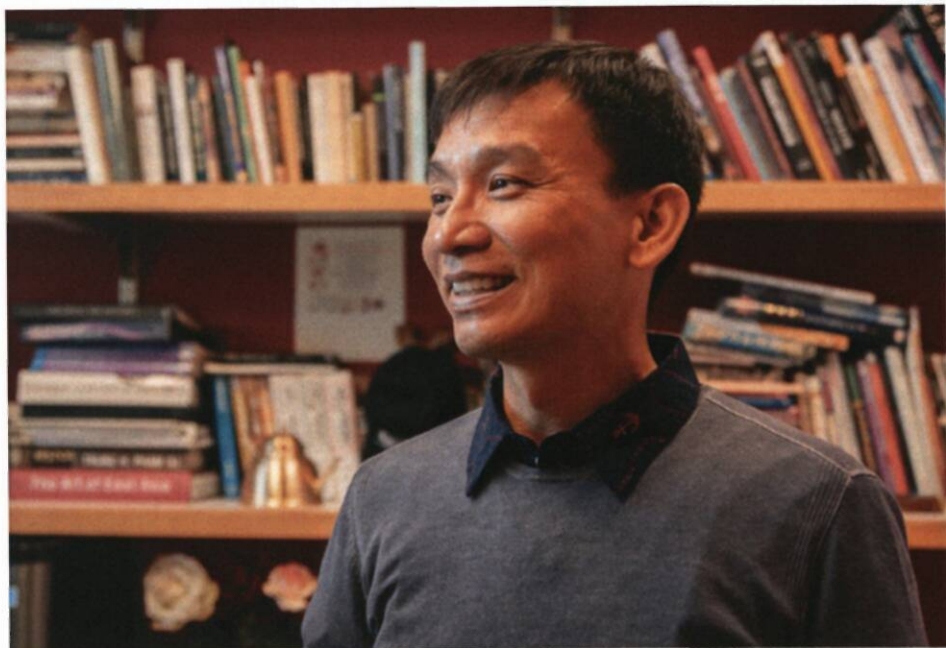
"Seattle University is going to look different,



Edgar Gonzalez, Vice President of Advancement, pictured in front of THE CHESS PLAYERS painting by Bill Jacklin, a donation from the Hedreens.

and in that regard, people see it as a catalyst rather than an instance of 'they have enough,' Gonzalez argued.

Many current students will no longer be on campus for the opening of the Seattle University Art Museum, though the prospect serves to both enhance the credibility of their alma mater, and provide an important space for people both inside and outside of the Seattle U community in years to come.



Trung Pham, Department Chair and Art professor, pictured in his office.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JORDIE SIMPSON & ILLUSTRATION BY ZAM ORTEGA



# Is Unionization the Future of College Athletics?

**Qasim Ali**

*Sports & Opinion Editor*

The collegiate sports world has been in constant flux for the past few years. From name, image and likeness (NIL) rules changing completely, to the transfer portal controlling the power dynamics across numerous sports, there has seldom been a moment of calm for fans, players and administrators alike as the NCAA's model of amateurism continues to be challenged.

The latest development in that saga came from Dartmouth College, which saw its men's basketball program vote 13-2 in favor of joining their campus worker's union March 5 after planning the move for months. The vote marked the first time an NCAA team has ever joined a union.

Dartmouth, a private institution, does not offer athletic scholarships to student-athletes—as a member of the Ivy League, they aren't allowed to. However, the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) Region 1 Director Laura Sacks ruled Feb. 5 that student-athletes at Dartmouth are still compensated with things like apparel, academic support, etc., and are thus employees. After the ruling, the team was free to unionize if they chose to.

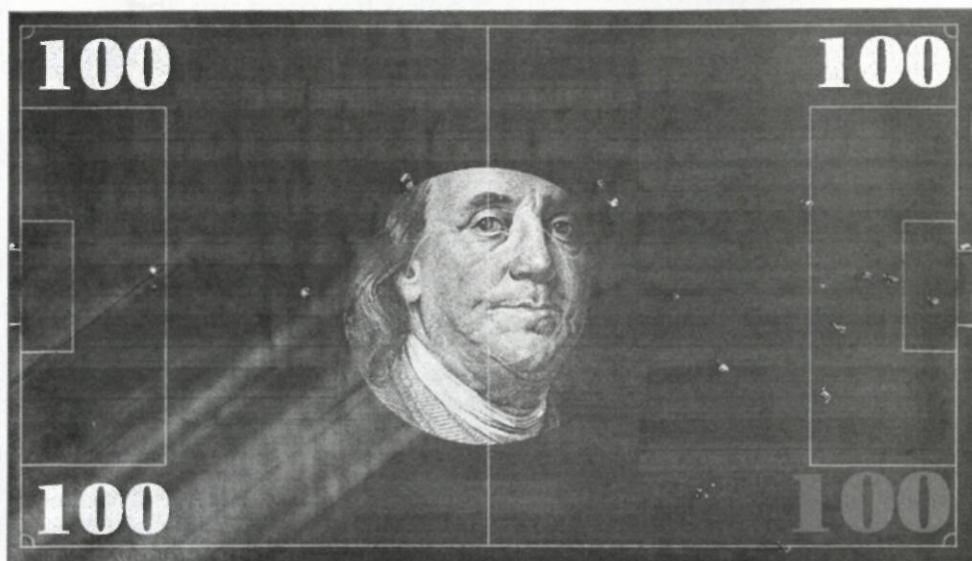
Dartmouth Junior players Cade Haskins and Romeo Myrthil are representatives for Dartmouth Men's Basketball and have been involved with the unionization efforts. They released a statement explaining the significance of the move.

"It's time for the age of amateurism to end," the statement read. "Let's work together to create a less exploitative business model for college sports. Over the next few months, we will continue to talk to other athletes at Dartmouth and throughout the Ivy League about forming unions and working together to advocate for athletes' rights and well-being."

The college responded with a statement of their own, refusing to recognize the team's decision to unionize. As such, Dartmouth is currently in the process of appealing the decision, as a lengthy legal process gets underway.

Kelli Rodriguez is the director of the master of legal studies in sports law program at Seattle University's School of Law. Rodriguez suggested that due to the novel nature of the situation, neither side has established a legal foothold.

"This isn't a legal question so much," Rodriguez said. "We as a culture are asking where we want to go. Student-athletes are very much staking their claim in where they want us to



go... this is a policy question."

Eric Guerra, the senior associate athletic director for compliance and student-athlete services at Seattle U, suggested that unionization would be a non-starter if athletes were heard more often. Guerra emphasized that the point of collegiate athletics has historically been rooted in the "transformation" of student-athletes into professionals, thanks to the structure and aid provided by athletics.

But with the transfer portal and NIL opportunities running free in a largely unregulated space, he warned that the NCAA is becoming increasingly "transactional," which is the antithesis of amateurism. And when an amateur sport becomes a business first, the idea of unionization arises.

"If we turn it into this transactional free agency that's based on 'what can you produce for me right now...' that's a very concerning place for college sport to be because we've lost our purpose," Guerra said. "We're sometimes so quick to create this new transactional business model, that we're not giving enough time and thought to 'what are the tradeoffs, what are the implications?'"

Some of those implications could include teams dropping sports, academic advising and aid, etc. to make budgetary space for paying players by the hour. Also, student-athletes could have their practice hours capped in the same manner employees have working hour limits. Rodriguez clarified if student-athletes were to unionize, they would be required to negotiate their working hours with their institution as a part of their collective bargaining agreement.

Jennifer Hoffman, an associate professor in

the Center for Leadership in Athletics at the University of Washington, suggested there is already a clear professionalization of collegiate athletics as currently constructed. Hoffman pointed out the reliance that professional sports leagues and the Olympics alike have on collegiate sports as an incubator of sorts for their talent as a factor.

Hoffman argued that a large reason for the uptick in legal cases around the employment status of student-athletes is largely due to the few sports that provide a majority of the revenue in the NCAA, namely football and basketball, not receiving compensation for their contributions. Instead, those proceeds are largely distributed to other sports and programs.

It's a system Hoffman suggests needs changing.

"We have had a highly professionalized model for a really long time," Hoffman said. "What we are moving toward is a reckoning over an economic model that is really inconsistent with a lot of our campus values... I'm not one hundred percent convinced that these legal solutions are going to actually solve the problems of our economic model."

At any rate, these recent developments indicate a clear disconnect in how student-athletes are treated, and how varying viewpoints believe they should be treated going forward. But for now, it seems the student-athletes themselves may have a stronger voice in the conversation.



# Seattle U Basketball Teams Face Roster Turnover After Electric Season Finales

**Riley Zalbert**

Volunteer Reporter

The Seattle University men's and women's basketball teams came into the 2023-2024 season with differing expectations. The women's team underwent a complete coaching makeover while adding one new player, while the men's team chased their first NCAA Tournament berth since 1969 with key senior players graduating at the end of the season.

## Women's Basketball

Heading into the season, there were high hopes with the program trying to break a five-year losing season streak as the new overhauled coaching staff was ready to lead the team to a winning record. But the team, which won just six games in the 2022-2023 season, got off to a tough start, winning one game in 21 contests. As they headed into the back half of the season, there was a noticeable turnaround as the program went 5-2 from Feb. 10 to March 7.

The last game of the season, Senior Night, was a fight between Tarleton State and Seattle U, both of whom were vying for a spot in the WAC Tournament. After a back-and-forth affair, Seattle U ultimately lost 62-57, ending their postseason hopes. The team finished 6-23 for consecutive seasons and 6-14 in WAC play.

Next season is a distant reality though, as there has already been a flurry of moves. Seven Redhawks are in the transfer portal and there have been two new signings of former Big Ten Champion, Taisiya Kozlova, a guard from Dayton, and former Fresno State forward Tamia Stricklin.

Here is who is already listed in the transfer portal: Senior guard Peyton Howard, Sophomore guards Noemie Bariteau, Asta Blauenfeldt, and Makayla Moore, Senior forwards Irena Korolenko and Mya Moore and Sophomore forward Lisa Michaelson.

Head coach Skyler Young could not be reached for comment as the team continues to navigate the roster-building process.

## Men's Basketball

There were numerous record-breaking moments throughout the season for Seattle University Men's Basketball, including Redshirt Senior guard Cameron Tyson's record-breaking 3-point night, and a third consecutive 20+ win season (23-14, 11-9

WAC), the first time since 1957-59.

Although the Redhawks didn't win the WAC Tournament, falling to Grand Canyon in the semi-final, they competed in the Ro College Basketball Invitational (CBI) in Daytona, Fla. against other mid-major schools in late March. They went 4-0 and won the tournament.

One key addition this year was Redshirt Sophomore guard John Christofilis at the beginning of the season. Christofilis added a needed shooter to the team to complement the backcourt of Tyson, Senior guard Alex Schumacher and Junior guard Paris Dawson.

Two players who contributed massively and appeared in all 37 games were Junior forwards Brandon Chatfield and Kobe Williamson.

They each had stellar moments throughout the season including Williamson's two game-winners. Chatfield has been skying for alley-oops all season, with his best highlight arguably being a momentum-changing 3-pointer late against High Point in the CBI final.

Next season they will be the leading senior frontcourt as they still search for that elusive tournament berth.

"I'm trying to be louder on the court, in some games I've definitely done that, I'm the one at the back of the defense so I have to talk a lot to try and help everybody else on the court. Especially with the freshman teaching them from our life experiences, and with [Freshman forward] Malek [Gomma] trying to teach him everything I know and everything I've learned so he can be the better player for it," Chatfield said.

Williamson felt the same sentiment in being a role model, but from a more off-the-court stance.

"I'm not a very loud character in the beginning, my impact may be a little more off-court behind the scenes, teaching them from my life experiences and what they can do, instead of being super loud—that's something I'm going to have to work on," he said.

Head coach Chris Victor has been at the helm for the past three seasons. He has led the Redhawks to their most prominent status since reentering Division I sports in the 2008-09 season, with an overall record of 66-35 over these past seasons. He is ready for next season but thankful for what his players accomplished through this season.

"The main goal as always every year is



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to compete for a WAC championship and go to the NCAA tournament. Even though we didn't meet that goal, I thought we had a heck of a year overall," Victor said. "To have 23 wins and finish it out with a tournament championship was pretty special."

Victor and his staff will now turn toward bringing new recruits and transfers into the program, as the latter have been crucial in establishing this team's identity over the past three seasons. It's a process he navigates with a clear goal in mind.

"We're always recruiting and always looking for, one, who do we bring into our program has to be a fit for what we need as a player... it's also important to find the right fit for SU and for who we are as a program" Victor said. "When we have the whole locker room and staff full of those people then with a shared vision and all rowing the boat in the same direction you have a chance to do some big things."

Both programs may look very different this fall, but if their late-season play is any indicator, more winning years may be on the horizon.



# Week in Review: March 25-31

**Hannah Mwangi**

Staff Reporter

## Men's Basketball: 2024 Ro CBI Champions

Seattle University Men's Basketball won it all last week at the 2024 Ro College Basketball Invitational (CBI) Tournament at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Fla. Playing Evansville March 25, the Redhawks dominated the second half of play, finishing with a 71-57 win in the quarterfinals.

Strong second half play from Senior forward Seyi Reiley and Redshirt Senior guard Cameron Tyson gave the Redhawks their first lead since early in the first, as they led 37-36 with just under 15 minutes to play. Tyson and Junior forward Kobe Williamson each added 11 points to the board and Senior guard Alex Schumacher finished the contest with a game-high 22 points.

The Redhawks racked in another win, 75-58, March 26 against Fairfield in the semifinals.

Redshirt Sophomore guard John Christofilis and Tyson both racked in a game-high 21 points, while Junior guard Paris Dawson added 7 points. With this victory, the Redhawks advanced to the Ro CBI title game.

In the March 27 championship game, they would defeat High Point, 77-67. The team's defense gave Seattle U a 30-22 lead into the break while clutch plays from Schumacher and Tyson closed out the back-and-forth game.

The Redhawks' four-game win streak ends their season with a 23-14 overall record and as 2024 Ro CBI Champions.

## Softball Bounces Back with Sweep Against Stephen F. Austin

Seattle U Softball fell to Oregon State, 5-3 March 27 in a non-conference contest at Logan Field on campus.

Sitting at 11-19 on the season, the Redhawks headed into a three-game conference series with Stephen F. Austin March 29. The Redhawks took both games of the initial doubleheader, 4-1 and 10-0. Senior pitcher Stefanie Madrigal had six strikeouts in game one while Freshman pitcher Avari Morris, posted a career-high nine strikeouts in game two.

In the opener, the Redhawks led the game 1-0 until the sixth inning. It was there they



Seattle University softball team celebrating together.

pulled away, scoring three runs on three hits. Sophomore infielder Taylor Fitch used a sacrifice fly to bring in Freshman infielder Mikee Morris to double the lead 2-0 late.

Freshman catcher Karen Spadafora hit the ball into center field to bring home pinch-runner and Sophomore infielder KJ Hopfer from second and Senior infielder Lily Garcia ran the base making it 4-0.

In game two, Senior infielder Jasmine Wehn opened the game with a home run into right field which put the Redhawks in front. In the third inning, Mikee Morris put the team in scoring position with a sacrifice bunt.

Seattle U grabbed another win March 30, 6-2, completing a three-game sweep against Stephen F. Austin. In all three contests, the Redhawks scored in the first inning, opening their Saturday play with three runs on four hits.

## Track and Field: Franklin Sets School Record

Seattle U Track and Field participated in both the Mike Fanelli Track Classic and the Stanford Invitational this weekend. Outstanding performances were exhibited by the Redhawks, most notably Redshirt Senior Alex Franklin, who set a new school record in the men's outdoor 800 meter with a time of 1:52:51. Franklin advanced from his all-time fifth place spot, beating his previous best time by over a second.

Sophomore Azalea Groleau continued her impressive season, with a time of 16:52:22 for the women's 5000 meter. The time earned Groleau a second-place spot in the school's record books as she finished 10th out of the 157 competitors in the race.

The meet saw 12 personal best records, giving the Redhawks a total of 51 on the outdoor season.

## Men's Tennis Comes Up Short vs. ACU

Seattle U Men's Tennis played their first conference match of the season March 30, with a loss against Abilene Christian University (ACU) 4-3.

Playing doubles, Redshirt Junior Jun Sasagawa and Junior Filip Stipic lost to ACU's No.1 doubles by a score of 6-2 which mimicked Senior Julian Worn and Junior Michael Frank's defeat to ACU's No. 2 doubles (2-6) and Junior Veselin Kiselkov and Sophomore Yu-Han Hsieh's loss to ACU's No. 3 doubles with the same score.

Sasagawa, playing first singles, won his match 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 while Stipic won in the No. 2 spot after his opponent suffered a match-ending injury (4-3) and Worn (5-7, 6-2, 7-6) won as well, bringing the team to a 3-1 overall lead. However, the lead would be salted away, as defeats from Junior Dario Ristovski (3-6, 1-6), Kiselkov (6-7, 2-6) and Frank (6-7, 7-5, 2-6), resulted in an overall loss of 4-3.

## Baseball Drops Oregon Series

Seattle U Baseball was defeated by Oregon, 5-4 after a 10-inning thriller March 27. The Redhawks had taken their first lead of the night in the top of the 10th, 4-1, before the Ducks rallied back to win on an extra inning walk-off.

In game two of the four-game series with Oregon March 28 at PK Park, the Redhawks took another loss, 10-2. Freshman utility player Sam Kane gave his team the only RBI of the night on a home run. Game three of their series with Oregon March 29 gave the Redhawks another loss, 9-2.

In the final contest of the series against Oregon, Saturday afternoon, the Redhawks dropped the game to the Ducks at PK Park, 14-7.



Seattle University softball team competes against Oregon State.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY AUSTIN HARPER



# The Dark Side of Nickelodeon

**Kevin Rocha**

Volunteer Reporter

*Content warning: This article contains discussion of child sexual abuse.*

There was significant speculation about abuse and the predatory treatment of child stars on the Nickelodeon network in the late 2010s, a conversation recently ignited by TikTok, Instagram and YouTube videos. Ultimately, with increased attention, this triggered an investigation that later resulted in the making of “Quiet On Set: The Dark Side of Kids T.V.” This long awaited docuseries was released March 17 on Max.

Different cast members and screenwriters discuss the treatment and abuse they endured while working for Dan Schneider—the same feeling of discomfort, sexual abuse, and inappropriate behavior.

With allegations and people coming forward to tell their stories and insiders in the network defending abusers, Third-year Business Law Major Ella Chalmers had some thoughts on the matter.

“

The show business industry relies on connections and how so many people abuse those connections to make a profit and continue committing crimes just for fame and money.

Ella Chalmers

Chalmers adds that everyone endured different levels of abuse, “Every single person was put through a different form of sexual abuse and it just reminds us that everybody should be believed. It just shows how many men have not come forward,” Chalmers said.

Lia Collis, a third-year communication and media major, expressed that people sometimes don’t speak up in this situation because they fear they will lose their careers and negatively impact their reputation.

“When you’re in that industry you know that you’re doing that for connections, and the acting gig is the only way to pursue that.



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Speaking up means that it could jeopardize your career and your credibility as a person. Especially when everyone is super replaceable in that industry,” Collis said.

Many people criticize victims for not speaking up but Collis understands that there is trauma involved that paralyzes people from searching for help, and a lack of support when they actually do share their stories.

“There’s a shock effect [when abuse happens] you can’t move mentally and physically. You don’t know what to do. You might feel like you’re crazy and you did something wrong,” Collis said.

Tahina Tomazec, a third-year film major, had some thoughts to share on children being in the entertainment industry.

“[With] allegations or observations of these adults treating children in weird and abusive ways that should already be shut down. There should be no excuse for these adults to continue working with child stars and creating content,” Tomazec said.

According to screenwriters, co-stars and parents on the set of the Nick network, Schneider groomed child stars by “mentoring” them. Katrina Johnson, an actress from “All That,” explained how Schneider would coordinate her image, jokes and likeness. The docuseries shows how she was picked from an audition tape and hand-selected by Schneider because he wanted to mentor her. She liked the support and thought that it was what she needed to excel in Hollywood.

However, she noticed that success had its limits and an expiration date. When she was gaining weight before puberty, Schneider

told her parents she needed to be on a strict diet because she couldn’t be fat. There was already a fat girl on the show. After Johnson had gone through puberty, her expiration date had succumbed and she was replaced. Amanda Bynes would take her place.

Another child star Leon Frierson expressed his concern about his discomfort with the content of “All That.” Costumes, storylines and jokes were all written in a way to hinder sexual undertones that weren’t appropriate for children. As a boy on the show, he felt that the costumes were too tight and showed off parts of his body that made him feel exposed.

The most shocking story in the docu-series is when Drake Bell publicly shared his story of alleged abuse. When Drake was a minor he experienced sexual assault from his dialogue coach, Brian Peck. Most of the people who experienced abuse while acting on Nickelodeon were minors when it happened.

Deprivation of the ability to speak up about their experiences at the time has caused them to live with pain and guilt that has been buried for years. Yet, with the general public now hearing their stories after spending many years in the dark, there has been compassion and encouragement for people to seek support.

What the docuseries has also done is remind the general public that stories of victims matter while showing how valuable safe spaces are. As more people view the docu-series and engage with the stories, a space can be created, and normalized for other people to feel safe as well as share their struggles and pasts.



# Dormiliciouse: Refreshing Pasta Salad

**Fern Creson**

Staff Photographer



## Refreshing Pasta Salad

I ventured into the cave to restock my fridge after its spring break clean-out and saw a stack of artichokes in a jar. In anticipation of spring, I began craving a summer salad. What could I get, here and now, to make such a dish? Browsing around awhile, I landed on a pasta base with artichoke and whatever veggies were available. Luckily, the Cave had just restocked, and the world was my oyster. Maybe the world could be your oyster, too, with a refreshing Pasta Salad that will taste even better in the hot weather soon to come.

### Ingredients:

- One box of Pasta
- One Jar of Artichokes
- One Cucumber
- A small container of Cherry Tomatoes
- One Bell Pepper
- Cilantro and Goat Cheese (as toppings)
- Balsamic
- Oregano, Thyme, Salt and Pepper

### Tools:

- Pot
- Cutting Board and Knife

### Directions:

1. Cook your pasta. Once it's done, drain and add it to a large bowl with butter or olive oil. Mix it well. The fat will keep your pasta from sticking together. Leave it to cool.
2. Get your cutting board out and chop all your veggies. In salads like this, the smaller the chop the better, so you can get more variety in each bite.
3. Drain your artichokes over a mason jar, collecting the oil and herbs that pour out. We'll use this to make the dressing. Chop your artichoke.
4. In a mason jar, or any container with a leak-proof lid, add balsamic, a little less than your oil. Next, eyeball the salt, pepper, and herbs to the oil you saved. Shake shake shake your jar, and you've got salad dressing.

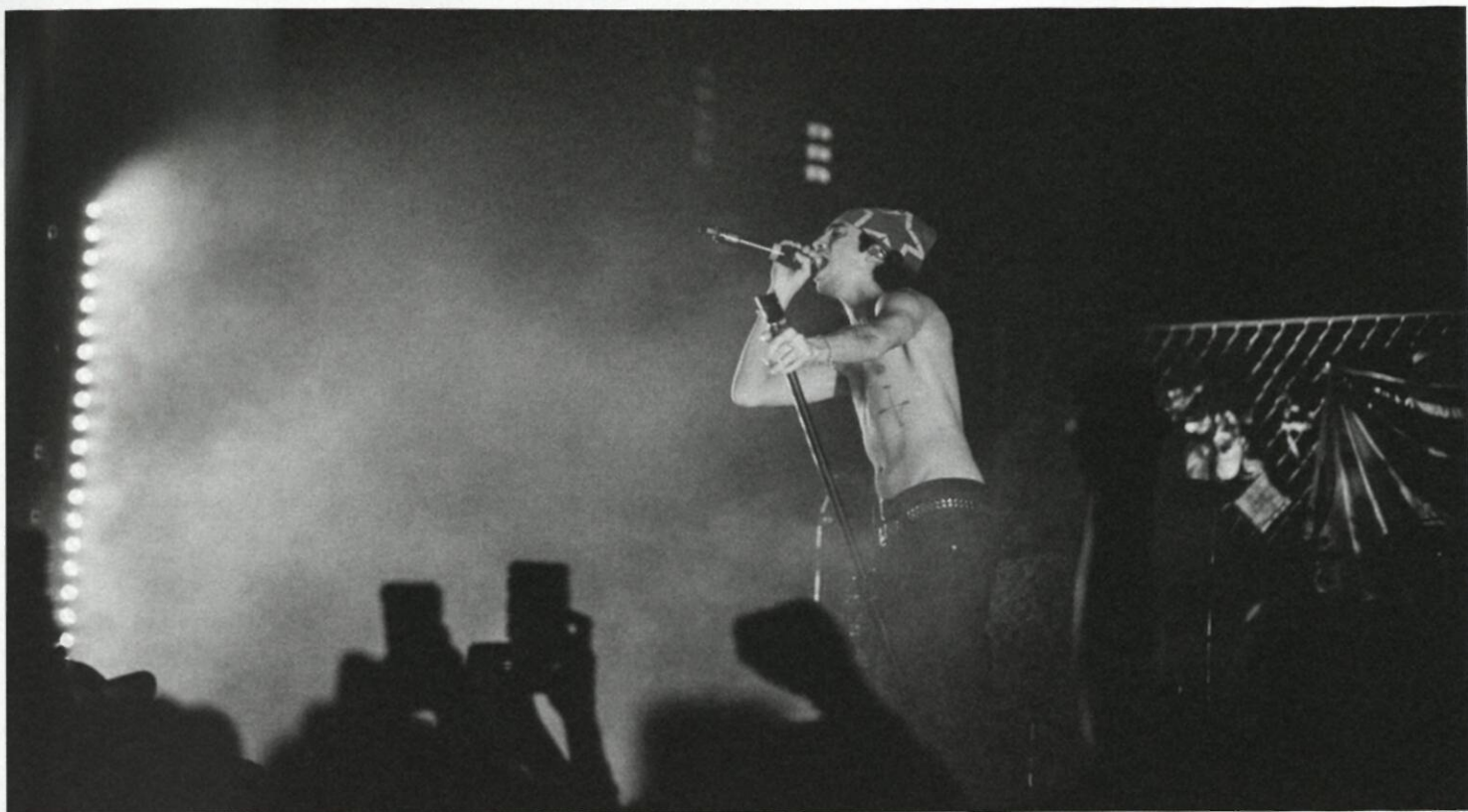
5. Assemble; Toss your veggies and artichoke into the bowl of pasta, drizzle on your dressing, stir, and top with your cheese of choice, in my case, goat. I finished mine up with some chopped cilantro and more pepper. Green olives would take this dish above and beyond, but my friends I shared it with don't like them, so I had to leave them off. Either way, our family of four was left well fed and dreaming of warmer days.

Here's to more yummy, easy and healthy recipes keeping us fueled through our last quarter of the year. Good luck, and meet you back here next week for another installation of Dormiliciouse!





# After the Show: Ericdoa



**Sean Alexander**

*Director of Photography*

**I**t was cloudy and as I walked up to The Crocodile; I could see the line stretching around the block and down the hill. I picked up my ticket and took my place at the back of the line.

As I stood there moving a few feet at a time, it began to rain and I regretted my decision to not bring my bag, now having to shelter my camera under my sweatshirt. Thankfully, this little bout of rain outside allowed for the striking up of a conversation between myself and the person in front of me. I got to hear a little more about the artist Ericdoa. One key aspect being that it is pronounced Eric D.O.A and not as one word.

Listening to a good portion of his music before the show, I found myself struggling to put it into a category and brought this up with my fellow attendee and they expressed to me that he doesn't stick to one genre but that his music is most often categorized as hyperpop.

Hyperpop can be looked at as taking regular pop elements and exaggerating them into something new. With Ericdoa, I thought from listening to his music that it incorporated more elements of hip hop and trap


blended with pop so I didn't immediately make the connection. However, after reading an article in *The Atlantic* that described hyperpop as the counterculture sound of the 2020s, everything fell into place. While at Ericdoa's show I couldn't help but think this is the current generation's equivalent of a 90s Grunge performance.

The energy of the room was addictive—both the energy of the crowd and the energy of the performers. Before he could even take the stage, the crowd was moving up and down and chanting “D.O.A! D.O.A!” in unison, unable to contain the pending excitement for what was to come. Then with every song change the crowd reacted as if he had walked on stage all over again. The energy never waned throughout the entirety of the performance.

Even some parents chaperoning their kids from the side of the room were tapping their feet and bobbing their heads to the beat of the music.

Overall, the concert left me excited to see where Ericdoa's career will take him.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY SEAN ALEXANDER 



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**Crossword**  
on pg. 3