

# The GW Hatchet

## Opinions

The editorial board condemns the racist abuse that former tennis player Jabari Stafford faced at GW. Page 4

## Culture

Take a look at the graffiti that covers Gelman Library, ranging from a dancing parrot to spiky skulls. Page 5

## Sports

Meet Mayowa Taiwo, the senior forward leading women's basketball through the winter season. Page 6

## What's inside



RACHEL SCHWARTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

## Men's basketball downs Dayton to claim fourth place in A-10 in pivotal win

**LUKE WIENECKE**  
STAFF WRITER

Men's basketball took down the Atlantic 10-leading Dayton 76-69 in a heated matchup, as GW's interior defense and elite trio of guards kept them in control throughout. The starting trio of guards – senior James Bishop, redshirt freshman Maximus Edwards and senior Brendan Adams – led the way for the Colonials (10-9, 4-2) with a combined 60 points as they attacked the basket and spread the court, forcing Dayton (13-7, 5-2) into a high-paced matchup. Bishop, who leads

the A-10 in scoring with 21.9 points per game, dropped 27 points on 10 out of 19 shots. Edwards got the scoring underway less than a minute in with a two-handed dunk off the dribble that brought a packed Smith Center of 2,380 to its feet. The Colonials were able to slam it home again when Bishop found senior forward Hunter Dean for an easy dunk to go up 5 three minutes in. Bishop continued to find his teammates throughout the afternoon, dishing out seven assists, including six in the first half alone. "You almost take this decision-

making for granted, it's so good," Head Coach Chris Caputo said of Bishop's playmaking in a post-game press conference. "When he makes a mistake or a bad read, I'm like 'Wow, I haven't seen one of those in a long time.'" The Flyers stayed within one possession until the 10-minute mark, when GW went on a mid-half, 10-0 run capped off by another Edwards dunk to extend the lead to 24-12 with seven minutes to play in the first. Edwards trailed only Bishop and Adams in individual scoring during the game, netting 15 points on 3-of-5 shooting from

beyond the arc. Bishop notched his sixth assist of the half with just 1:36 to play in the first when he found senior forward Ricky Lindo Jr. under the basket for an emphatic dunk. The first half closed in dramatic fashion when graduate guard Brendan Adams inbounded the ball to Edwards who, with a quick catch-and-shoot in less than 1.6 seconds, drained a fadeaway three to beat the buzzer, igniting the crowd and giving GW a 36-22 halftime lead. "I'm playing with two of the best guards in the A-10 in my



RACHEL SCHWARTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

opinion," Edwards said in the post-game press conference. "So I know they're going to find me. I just play my part." Dayton came into the matchup with the highest average rebounding differential in the A-10, yet GW controlled the boards throughout, resulting in a 39-35 glass advantage for the Colonials. With just less than 13 to play in the second half, sophomore DaRon Holmes found an open dunk off a GW turnover to cut the lead to 6. Junior center Noel Brown responded with a post hook off the assist from Edwards to push the lead back to 8. Despite trailing by near double digits, Dayton began to foul GW ball handlers to conserve the clock with just less than two minutes to go, leading Adams to make 11 out of 12 free throws, sealing the game in front of a raging crowd. The A-10 matchup, which was nationally televised on the USA Network, had the highest attendance at the Smith Center this year, including a plethora of NBA scouts. In the end, GW's trio of scoring guards, the schematic defensive advantage on the interior and their control of the glass proved too much for the Flyers to handle. On that last point, the Colonials are now 9-1 when they out-rebound their opponents. With the win, GW moves to fourth place in the crowded upper-echelon of the Atlantic 10 Conference, just two games back from leaders VCU and Saint Louis. When asked postgame if Edwards thought the Colonials had a chance of winning the conference, he didn't hesitate. "I don't see why anyone in the locker room shouldn't think that we can. I think it's very possible, very possible," Edwards said. GW will host Saint Joseph at the Smith Center on Wednesday at 7 p.m. as they look to continue their two-game A-10 winning streak.

## Officials to install contraceptive vending machine in student center

**HANNAH MARR**  
REPORTER  
**OLIVIA EMERSON**  
REPORTER

Officials are set to install a contraceptive pill vending machine in the University Student Center Tuesday in an effort to support students' access to reproductive health resources seven months after the Supreme Court struck down the federal right to an abortion. The machine, which SA members said will be ready to use later this week, will offer Plan B and other medical supplies like Tylenol, Advil and tampons for students on the ground floor of the University Student Center near the GWorld Card Office. Assistant Dean of Student Life Brian Joyce said officials "worked directly" with Student Association leaders since the start of the school year to install the machine, performing research and meeting with Northeastern University officials, who already installed similar machines. "In the wake of Roe v. Wade, students advocated to remove multiple barriers they faced in accessing needs for reproductive health," Joyce said in an email. SA President Christian Zidouemba and his executive cabinet approached officials at Northeastern University this summer, which installed Plan B vending machines on their campus in October, for advice on how to do the same at GW. Zidouemba said after he pitched the project to Dean of Student Life Col-

lette Coleman in early September, SA members and officials started meeting to plan the logistics surrounding the machine. "I believe that this is a new initiative that will benefit our University overall," Zidouemba said in an interview. "And those who oftentimes don't have the money or are shy will be able to purchase the product at a lower cost." Zidouemba delegated the project to sophomore Neharika Rao – the SA's executive secretary of diversity, equity and inclusion – in September. Rao then recruited Aiza Saeed, the executive cabinet's communications director, to collaborate with her on the project. The two worked closely with Joyce and other administrators to develop the logistics behind installing the machine and pricing the contraceptives. "With the implementation of an emergency contraceptive machine at GW's campus, students will feel supported and at ease in a time of need," she said in an email. Rao said Plan B from the machine will be sold at \$30 as of this week, but she hopes the price will decrease as the machine gains use. CVS currently sells Plan B at \$49.99 per pill, according to its website. Northeastern University currently offers sexual health supplies, like condoms and Advil, at no cost to students, while emergency contraceptives, including Plan B, cost \$7. Northeastern unveiled its "wellness vending machine" in October, which took about a semester to finalize.

## GW completes dining system revamp as students flood all-you-can eat dining halls

**MAX PORTER**  
STAFF WRITER  
**MOKSHA AKIL**  
REPORTER

Inside the newly opened dining hall in Shenkman Hall, signs of a new dining experience are clear. Students stream down the stairs to the building's basement and move from station to station picking up hot food like chicken wings, burgers and pasta before sitting down at tables or in an armchair. Upstairs, they visit the Shenkman Market and purchase an açai bowl or drink before heading to class. "I do think that it creates a nice environment for people, like the seating," Aaliyah Holland, a sophomore majoring in economics and statistics, said. "It's very nice, so I think that that could have a positive impact." GW completed the overhaul of its dining system last week, launching a series of swipe-based meal plans for students to use at a trio of dining halls, the product of years of students' advocacy



SAGE RUSSELL | PHOTOGRAPHER  
Shenkman and Thurston halls serve breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m., lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 4:30 to 9 p.m. on weekdays.

for officials to respond to food insecurity on campus. The opening of Shenkman's dining hall earlier this month signaled the fulfillment of GW's dining transformation – a plan to provide students with meal swipes at traditional buffet-style dining halls instead of limiting them to funds that local GWorld vendors would accept. Students will purchase food around campus this spring under one of seven meal plans, which include varying levels of meal swipes they can use at all-you-can-eat facilities in West, Thurston and Shenkman. Douglas Frazier, the executive director of GW Dining, said officials required freshmen to register for one of the unlimited dining plans because the University wanted to ensure students can dine whenever they want instead of worrying about a declining number of remaining swipes. He declined to share the number of students registered for each plan or the number of students who requested to change their dining plan. "Our intent is to make the transition as smooth as possible and ensure students have the best experience possible as they assimilate into life away from home," Frazier said in an email.

**\$0 until summer?**  
**We understood the assignment.**

Redeem your 6-month trial

prime student



amazon.com/joinstudent



# News

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

### EMPOWERMENT AND AGENCY: CONTRADICTIONS OF WESTERN SUPPORT TO AFGHAN WOMEN

Wednesday, Jan. 25 | 10 a.m. EDT | Elliott School of International Affairs  
Join a conversation with visiting professor Muqaddesa Yourish, who will talk about Western perceptions of Afghan women.

### WHERE ARE YOU REALLY FROM?: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON BEING AMERICAN

Thursday, Jan. 26 | 6:30 p.m. EDT | Elliott School of International Affairs  
Tune into a conversation about American identity and feeling like an "other" in one's own country.

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Jan. 24, 1972

More than 30 drag queens participated in an event sponsored by the GW Gay People's Alliance in the University Student Center ballroom.

# March for Life returns to D.C. after reversal of federal abortion protections

**FAITH WARDWELL**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

**NIKKI GHAEMI**  
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

In a celebratory jaunt through the National Mall Friday, tens of thousands of anti-abortion protesters called on state legislatures to end abortion protections nationwide during the first March for Life since the 2022 reversal of Roe v. Wade.

Protesters from across the country embarked on a unique route straying from the march's decades-old course down Constitution Avenue and First Street, instead symbolically marching to the Capitol in a nod to the post-Roe calls to shift the battle over abortion from the high court to state legislatures. Protesters said they took to the streets to celebrate the successes of the anti-abortion movement and continue their push for state officials to cease access to abortion.

Merlot Fogarty, a University of Notre Dame junior and the president of Notre Dame's chapter of the anti-abortion group Right to Life, said the club is the biggest anti-abortion student group in the United States and that 500 of the Notre Dame student groups' members attended the March for Life this year. She said there was a new "sense of excitement" compared to last year's march because of Roe v. Wade's reversal.

"In my opinion, I think the reason we're here nation-



SOPHIA MOTEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Protesters said they took to the streets to celebrate the successes of the anti-abortion movement and continue their push for state officials to block access to abortion.

ally this year is to give thanks to the 50 years of activism and hard work that people have given in order for Roe to be overturned," she said.

Fogarty said she supports policy that focuses on maternity leave to allow working women to continue getting paid as they carry out their pregnancies. She said the United States is "divided" at the moment, and she wants people from all political parties to "find common ground" within the issue of abortion.

"It's very clear that everyone needs to have an opinion on abortion just because of the decision that happened," she said.

Bartholomew Calvano, a

priest at St. Dominic Church in D.C., said the route of the march was different this year compared to previous years, with the demonstrators walking all the way to the Capitol instead of the Supreme Court, a deliberate choice to mark a shift in the movement's efforts.

"We're ending with the legislative branch instead of the judicial branch since that's the direction that our efforts are going to need to turn to encourage our legislators to enact just laws that protect human life," he said.

GW freshman Lara Knezevic, a pro-choice counter-protester who met the anti-abortion protesters at the Supreme Court with a sign

reading "Stop Prosecuting Abortion," said she came to represent the "large" amount of pro-choice individuals who are continuing to push against abortion restrictions spreading nationwide.

She said she attempted to engage in conversations with anti-abortion protesters to discuss their differing perspectives but was unable to establish any "productive" discussions with protesters seemingly unwilling to consider the opposite point of view.

"No one wants to engage in a conversation," Knezevic said. "They kind of just want to berate you and tell you that you're wrong without giving much explanation."

## CRIME LOG

### LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION

Potomac House  
1/16/2023 – 1:15 a.m.  
Closed Case  
GW Police Department officers responded to a report of an intoxicated female student. After arriving on the scene with EMeRG officials, the female was evaluated and brought to the GW Hospital for further treatment.  
Referred to the Division for Student Affairs.

### THREATS TO DO BODILY HARM

Dakota Apartments  
1/16/2023 – Multiple  
Closed Case  
A female student reported being harassed by a male student via text messages threatening her about her relationship with the male student.  
Referred to the DSA.

### HARASSMENT: E-MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA, HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS

Off Campus  
1/17/2023 – Multiple  
Closed Case  
A female staff member reported being harassed via phone calls and text messages by an unknown male.  
Referred to the Title IX Office.

### UNLAWFUL ENTRY

Lafayette Hall  
1/18/2023 – 2:30 a.m.  
Closed Case  
During routine patrol, GWPD officers found an unknown female subject in the lobby of Lafayette Hall, who reported feeling unwell. D.C. Fire and Emergency Services and EMeRG officials responded and after assessing the subject, transported her to the Georgetown University Hospital and issued a bar notice.  
Subject barred.

### THEFT II/FROM BUILDING

Shenkman Hall  
1/17/2023 – 3:00-5:30 p.m.  
Closed Case  
A male contractor reported his sunglasses stolen from the kitchen and lower level of Shenkman Hall.  
No subjects or witnesses.

### THEFT I/FROM BUILDING

Thurston Hall  
1/18/2023 – Unknown  
Open Case  
A male contractor reported money stolen from the kitchen area of Thurston Hall.  
Case open.

### BLACKMAIL

Shenkman Hall  
1/18/2023 – 11:45 a.m.  
Closed Case  
GWPD and Metropolitan Police Department officers responded to a male student who reported being blackmailed by an unknown subject via Instagram direct messages after the subject requested explicit pictures from the student. The subject then requested money from the student to prevent the images from being released.  
Referred to MPD.

— Compiled by Peyton Gallant

## SNAPSHOT

FLORENCE SHEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



A group performs a dragon dance at the annual Lunar New Year Parade in Chinatown Sunday, which drew hundreds of people to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit.

# Elliott offers African economics course after campaign to diversify curriculum

**JENNIFER IGBONOBA**  
REPORTER

**SALMONCAIN SMITH-SHOMADE**  
STAFF WRITER

The Elliott School of International Affairs is offering its first-ever Africa-focused economics course this semester, following a student-run initiative to promote the study of the contemporary African continent.

Students in the GW African Development Initiative, an interdisciplinary student organization promoting the study of Africa, said they spearheaded the effort for the Elliott School to establish Africa in the Global Economy, a course exploring Africa's economy and its relationship to the global market, over the past several months. Ayooluwa Akintayo and

Adedasola Adeniyi, seniors majoring in international affairs who are enrolled in the course, co-founded GWADI in 2020 after they noticed a lack of courses on Africa in the school, pushing them to launch a campaign to increase and diversify courses about Africa at GW.

"We're both interested in African development and African issues, and we were looking for courses and resources to connect students who are interested in engaging with African issues and development, which are available for the other regions in Elliott, but we saw that gap for Africa within the Elliott School," Adeniyi said.

There are currently six international affairs courses on the African continent available this semester, compared to 20 international affairs courses on the Eurasian continent, according to the

schedule of classes.

Adeniyi said GWADI worked alongside Jennifer Cooke – the director of the Institute for African Studies, an Elliott School hub for students and faculty interested in the study of Africa – to develop the course and find an instructor. Laird Treiber, a professorial lecturer at the Elliott School, currently teaches the course.

She said a webinar discussion featuring African business and policy leaders on economic production in African countries that GWADI hosted in April 2021 partially inspired the course. "I believe this course is so crucial to anyone interested in economic development in Africa, or even beyond that, interested in learning about African issues," Adeniyi said.

Akintayo said the Elliott School's courses on Africa

are frequently "repetitive" in their curriculum and instructors often assume their students are not informed on the continent. She said professors teaching courses on Africa often use the same academic resources, like award-winning Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's TED Talk on the underrepresentation of various cultures, which has generated millions of views.

"I've taken basically 99 percent of the African courses at GW, and a lot of them have been repetitive," Akintayo said. "We'll start with Chimamanda Ngozi's TED Talk, which we've all seen, but they make sure to show it because they don't think anyone has seen it, and she's the only African author on the continent."

Adeniyi said the launch of the economics course and GWADI's broader course

campaign aims to encourage the University to move away from the primary academic focus on the "doom and gloom" narrative about Africa's history of colonization and focus on the continent's future, like its current economic growth.

"We're also trying to improve the existing courses here at GW, making sure they're not all focused on the past and colonization and history," Adeniyi said.

Akintayo said GWADI and Cooke worked to find an African instructor to teach the course but found no one in the D.C. area who was available. She said through their organization's broader course campaign, they hope to increase the diversity among faculty members involved in African studies at GW going forward.

GWADI's African course campaign aims to push the

Elliott School to create interdisciplinary courses on various regions of the continent, offer co-curricular academic opportunities for students interested in African studies, incorporate domestic African scholars' work into curriculum and increase funding for African studies institutes and organizations in the school, like the Institute for African Studies and GWADI.

Treiber, the adjunct professor who teaches the economics course, said he hopes to emphasize how "dynamic" Africa's economy is by comparing and contrasting the different forms of economic production in the continent's 54 countries.

"If you look at what's happening, for instance, on finance and investment, if you look at energy and climate, if you look at agriculture and things like that, that's a different lens," Treiber said.

# GW Law alumnus supporting education, affordable housing in D.C. Council

**GRACE CHINOWSKY**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

While jumping from private practice to hyper-local issues throughout his career, GW Law alumnus Matthew Frumin has had his eyes set on joining the D.C. Council for a decade.

Frumin, a 63-year-old alumnus who graduated from GW Law in 1988, won the Ward 3 seat on the D.C. Council in November with more than three-quarters of the vote. Frumin said he hopes to tackle Ward 3's racially and socio-economically segregative history, support environmentally friendly transportation policies and bolster citywide education during his first term serving the ward.

Frumin will succeed another GW community member with ties to GW Law — law professor Mary Cheh, who served on the Council for 16 years.

He said he applied to the school a few years after graduating from college and considering studying economics at the University of Maryland instead. He said he "thrived" at law school, piquing his interest in international politics, including legal matters over airspace.

"I was literally keeping my options open in the first two weeks of law school," Frumin said. "I found it super interesting, like right out of the box. It's problem solving."

Frumin said he entered the "big firm world" after graduating from GW Law, observing elections in Nicaragua, Morocco, Iraq and Mongolia with the International Human Rights Law Group. When he picked up a seat on his local Advisory Neighborhood Commission, 3E — which spans Tenleytown, Friendship Heights and American University Park — in 2008, his career "turned on a dime," and he

moved toward local politics.

Frumin said he launched a bid for an At-Large seat on the D.C. Council in 2013 after serving on his ANC for more than six years, despite being a partner of law firm Cassidy & Kent at the time. During his term as a commissioner, he said he juggled constituent resistance over the ideal location of American University's law school and negotiated with AU officials to draft an AU Campus Plan in 2012, which outlined preparations for new university facilities in his area.

Frumin said he's "very proud" of his work advocating for light installation at his local baseball field, Chevy Chase Recreation Center, so kids could have the "thrilling" big league experience while protecting the informal dog park on the field from being displaced during the modernization.

Frumin lost the 2014 D.C. Council At-Large race to then-incumbent Anita Bonds, who now holds the position and won 20 percent more of the vote share than Frumin's 11 percent tally.

He said despite the loss, the campaign was a "fabulous" experience that fostered his appreciation for D.C. and buttressed his interest in running for a Council seat.

But Frumin said his future run for the Council had to come at the right time — without a contested bid from Cheh.

But when Cheh dropped her reelection bid last February, Frumin said he immediately knew he would run for her seat. After assuming the position in January and looking ahead to the rest of his four-year term, Frumin said he will push for funding capable of improving schools across the city and work to increase housing density and affordability to "strengthen" communities in business districts.

He said he also plans to incen-



RACHEL SCHWARTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Matthew Frumin said he plans to incentivize affordable housing in Ward 3 to address its "exclusive" and "segregated" history.

tivize affordable housing in Ward 3 to address its "exclusive" and "segregated" history.

After the 1970s, D.C. officials adjusted zoning laws to conserve single-family homes in Ward 3 and push low-income housing to other District areas, which has had lasting effects on the ward's demographics.

Frumin said housing for both low-income and blue-collar residents in his ward is key to tackling the existing division between the area's historically wealthy residents and newcomers.

"I thought, 'What do we need to do to make Ward 3 more attractive to those people who might be able

to afford to live here but choose not to because we haven't crossed the threshold of enough people who look like to make them feel comfortable?'" Frumin said.

Upon joining the Council, Frumin has voted in support of contentious bills in the past month like legislation outlining the District's revised criminal code and the override of Mayor Muriel Bowser's veto of the legislation, which reduces sentences for nonviolent offenses and allows prosecutors to propose harsher rulings for serious offenses, including those involving firearms.

The Council voted 12-1 to override the veto last week, with Ward

8 Council member Trayon White Sr. being the sole opposing vote. Frumin said it didn't make sense for Bowser to veto the legislation because of the 16 years of "enormous" work updating the legislation, which will become effective in October 2025, permitting more revision time on unpopular policies.

Frumin also voiced his support for a bill that would offer rebates for electric bicycles proposed last week by Brooke Pinto, the Ward 2 Council member who represents the area encompassing Foggy Bottom. He said he and his wife share an e-bike, which he rides everywhere because it doesn't congest traffic or require gasoline.

## Pandemic could remain as benchmark for GW's long-term enrollment strategy: experts

**KELLEN HOARD**  
REPORTER

Officials said they are "still learning" about the pandemic's long-term impacts on the University and will continue building their plan to financially recover based on enrollment and spending cuts.

The University has increased its acceptance rate, expanded its waitlist, admitted a larger freshman class and raised tuition over the past three years in hopes of mitigating the financial effects of the pandemic. As enrollment levels continue to decline, higher education experts said officials' use of COVID-19 as a benchmark for recruitment strategies could remain indefinitely at GW until another financial crisis, like a recession, takes precedence over the pandemic.

Jay Goff, the vice provost for enrollment and student success, said comparing current enrollment levels and budget spending to those during major world events like the pandemic is "standard or best" practice for University planning. Goff said the University typically makes plans based on data across the past five and 10 years, and officials track disruptions to regular administrative operations like recessions or the pandemic in that data.

"Over the past decades, this has included events such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the great recession in 2008 and the COVID-19 pandemic," Goff said in an email. "Those notations continue throughout the short and long-term planning processes."

States operated without \$283 billion in tax revenue in the five years after the Great Recession began, reducing funds for public higher education institutions.

Goff said officials built planning models during the pandemic that accommodate for enrollment decreases from the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020. After undergraduate student enrollment deposits fell by 18 percent in 2020, officials increased tuition by three percent for the Class of 2024 and eliminated fixed tuition rates for the then-incoming class and all students enrolling in the future.

Officials increased the size of the admissions waitlist in March 2020 to withstand drops in international student enrollment during the pandemic — a strategy they continued into last spring.

"We are still learning about the broader impacts of the pandemic and expect to make adjustments that are appropriate to improving our student's overall GW experience and success rates," Goff said.

Experts in higher education said administrators will continue to use the pandemic as a benchmark for fiscal planning and recruitment strategies until higher education faces a new external threat to enrollment and finances. They said the current economic recession and a demographic decline among college-age students worsened the enrollment drops and revenue loss



RACHEL SCHWARTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Jay Goff, the vice provost for enrollment and student success, said officials built planning models during the pandemic that have accommodated for enrollment decreases from the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020.

during the pandemic, leading officials to continue pandemic-era strategies like remote recruitment events and tuition hikes.

Nate Johnson, the founder and principal consultant at the higher education research firm Postsecondary Analytics, said officials will use the pandemic as a "reference point" for enrollment trends until another economically devastating event that decreases higher education enrollment and budget occurs. He said the pandemic will replace the Great Recession in 2008 as the primary basis for higher education finance planning.

Between the 2008 recession and 2013 academic year, officials raised the financial aid pool to accommodate financially struggling students, using the recession as a basis for GW's budgeting plans.

Johnson said many prospective students have chosen to opt for a college or university with cheaper tuition in the face of pandemic-related financial troubles.

About 56 percent of college students struggled to afford college tuition after the pandemic began in 2020, according to CNBC.

He said higher tuition rates associated with private universities have been exacerbated as universities like GW hike tuition rates to alleviate costs from the pandemic. GW's estimated cost of attendance surpassed \$80,000 for most undergraduates this academic year, ranking above all its 12 peer schools.

"You could see how somebody would be like 'I can pay \$15,000 a year to go to the University of Washington and have my pandemic online experience, or I could pay \$50,000 and go to George Washington,'" Johnson said. "A lot of people chose the previous one."

William Zumeta, a professor emeritus of public

policy, governance and education at the University of Washington, said variables since the onset of the pandemic — like a drop in international student applications, lower graduate student enrollment numbers, a potential economic recession and a demographic decline among college-age students in heavily recruited states — exacerbated the pandemic's limitations on enrollment.

Zumeta said GW's use of the pandemic as a benchmark for planning should encourage universities to enhance the role of virtual recruitment opportunities, which can attract international students and students from historically underrecruited states who are interested in online learning.

"Clearly, previous trend lines were substantially broken, and basic assumptions changed," Zumeta said in an email. "So one has to reset the baseline going forward even.

## Tigerella's cafe closes after five months of business

**GRACE CHINOWSKY**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Tigerella, the Italian-style restaurant in the Western Market food hall, is transforming its operations as the business closes its cafe section but expands the restaurant's menu five months after its opening.

Tigerella General Manager Adam Tiehen said a lack of patrons and competition from nearby cafes forced officials to close the cafe side of the two-sided Tigerella property, but heavier traffic in the Western Market Italian restaurant side is a "bright point." He said the restaurant plans to start offering to-go pizza slices during lunch and offer whole pies via UberEats in the second week of February.

Tiehen said Tigerella's cafe, which opened alongside the restaurant last July, struggled to stay afloat when students left campus for breaks, with a lack of in-person office workers contributing to the decrease in foot

traffic.

He said the cafe lacked the volume of customers necessary to be profitable because customers' average check is four or five dollars, compared to the restaurant, which seats between 40 and 50 diners and averages a \$50 check.

"Our clientele was being spread out too thinly," Tiehen said in an interview. "For us to have a stand-alone bakery and cafe, we just did not have enough business in order to make that work."

Tiehen said a lack of popular pizza spots in the neighborhood and the need for convenient grab-and-go options during

lunch for students inspired the addition of slices to the Tigerella menu. Tiehen said the lunchtime slices will cost less than \$10 and the menu may offer GW student specials for drink and meal combos.

He said Tigerella has also focused on hosting large groups and "privatized" their atrium bar area for private events.

"We hope that people realize the importance of supporting small businesses in the area," Tiehen said. "We are one of them."

Bullfrog Bagels, a D.C.-based bagel chain expanding to Western Market, will replace the cafe in Western Market.



RACHEL SCHWARTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Tigerella General Manager Adam Tiehen said the restaurant plans to start offering to-go pizza slices during lunch and offer whole pies via UberEats in the second week of February.

## IN BRIEF

### Metro adds mobile U-Pass for iPhone, Apple Watch

Students can ditch their physical U-Pass cards and instead use an electronic U-Pass for Metro rides, officials announced in a Thursday release.

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority officials said students with iPhones or Apple Watches can now add their SmarTrip U-Pass cards to their Apple Wallet and scan their phones or smart watches at fare gates to access Metro stations. The release states the card will be removed from the app when U-Pass expires at the end of the spring semester, and new U-Passes issued by partnering universities at the beginning of the academic year will need to be reuploaded to the app.

"It's quick and easy to do," the release states. "Just add the U-Pass card to Apple Wallet, and there's no more plastic to carry around."

The release states students' physical U-Pass cards will no longer be functional after being uploaded to the Apple Wallet app. The cards are not currently supported through Google Play or other non-iPhone mobile payment apps.

"Metro will provide updates as we plan support for Android users," the release states.

WMATA officials added a mobile payment option for those with regular SmarTrip cards in 2020. As part of their Metrorail Faregate Replacement Project, which they hoped to complete at the end of 2022, officials also planned the expansion of hands-free service options like mobile payment through Apple and Google Pay.

In 2021, Metro officials announced the U-Pass partnership with GW, which offers full-time students unlimited Metrobus and Metrorail rides for a \$100 semesterly fee.

Students who did not receive a U-Pass card during the fall semester may pick up a new card for the spring semester at the GWorld Card Office starting Monday.

—Grace Chinowsky

WHAT THE UNIVERSITY WON'T TALK ABOUT THIS WEEK

How many students requested to remain on the legacy dining plan p. 1

FROM GWHATCHET.COM/OPINIONS

"GW must ensure that all students, regardless of their family's tax brackets, receive equitable access to their basic needs while attending GW."

JESSICA RICH on 1/19/2023

# Opinions

## Student advocacy can turn plans to light the Vern's athletic field into reality

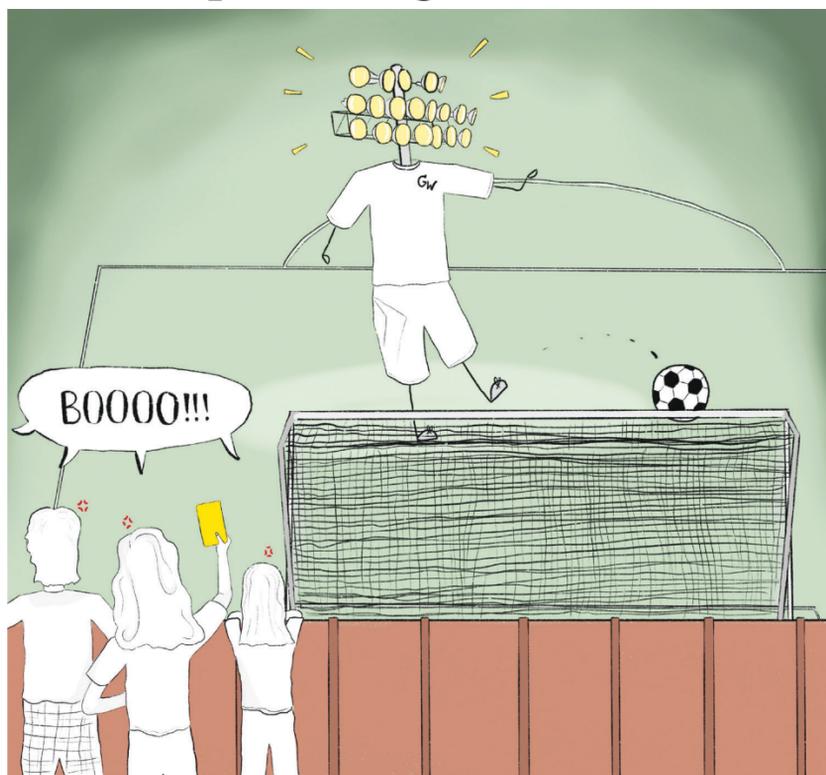
As twilight turns to dusk on the Mount Vernon Campus, students continue on to class while tennis balls soar from court to court. The night is young but, suddenly, all over for most outdoor student-athletes – it's 5 p.m., and the turf is dark.

Matthew Donnell  
Opinions Writer

Though massive stadium lights illuminate the Vern's tennis courts at night, I found that GW is the only institution in the Atlantic 10 without lights at its varsity lacrosse or soccer field, according to the websites of the athletic programs for the conference's 15 colleges and universities. GW's varsity women's lacrosse, men's soccer and women's soccer teams must practice and play home games during daytime hours only, competing for time on the turf alongside 18 club sports teams. With classes during the day and no lights at night, club teams have no way to make safe use of the University's only outdoor practice space.

The Vern's neighbors have long stood in the way of stadium lighting for the synthetic turf soccer and lacrosse field due to fears of noisy night games and bright lights in their windows. The Foxhall-Palisades Advisory Neighborhood Commission threatened to delay D.C. Zoning Commission hearings during GW's proposed Vern renovations in 2010, and neighbors successfully spoke out against turf light installation at community meetings that GW officials co-led in 2021. But varsity and club student-athletes can help change neighbors' minds. As leaders of a lights-focused advocacy campaign, students should share their perspective as athletes seeking adequate opportunities for competitive success.

Varsity teams take priority over their club counterparts for turf reservations, so when the field's strained schedule fills up, there often aren't enough hours in a day to accom-



MAURA KELLY-YUOH | STAFF CARTOONIST

modate every club team's practices. Instead, these teams can choose from dog parks or elementary school fields to practice for their games with some local vicinity to campus. And as students continue to endure another dark winter in the District, club teams have fewer outdoor practice options that sponsor visible field conditions – a predicament that could become dangerous rather quickly.

Despite its plans to vastly improve the Vern's campus over the next decade, GW's administration wrongly conceded to continue not lighting the turf during talks with the campus' neighbors in 2021. D.C. requires colleges and universities like GW to submit development plans to the Zoning Commission for approval, and GW's 2022 Campus Plan for the Vern included the installation of lights

at the school's softball field and a proposal to convert the tennis courts – already equipped with LED lighting – to a running track with a multipurpose infield for student use. These projects will improve field availability in the distant future but leave students who use the soccer and lacrosse field in the dark.

And though the University cited club sports' struggles to find practice space in its most recent push for lighting, community members boasted that a majority of the Vern's neighbors – roughly 20 people – had signed a petition against lights.

A dedicated group of varsity and club student-athletes should reinvigorate discussions with the Vern's neighbors and illustrate how a lack of stadium lighting negatively impacts their athletic experiences at GW. Though the Zoning Commission would have to approve text amendments to the current campus plan at a second hearing, students and officials must first work together to swing the Vern's neighbors toward turf lighting in the meantime.

The move would benefit GW students with a well-lit field and would serve as the ideal venue for a Sunday night football league or youth lacrosse practice. And advancements in lighting technology have lessened the impact of installing light fixtures near private residences, a fact that should assuage concerns about unwanted glare and light intrusion.

A student voice on the need for adequate athletic opportunities might finally shift the tide in a neighborhood that has historically opposed stadium lighting. By sparking discussions with the campus' neighbors through an organized forum, students can advocate for the installation of stadium lighting with the passion and vigor required for such a momentous decision. The Vern can't spend another decade in the dark.

—Matthew Donnell, a junior majoring in political communication and English, is an opinions writer.

## A renewed lawsuit exposes GW's tolerance of racism

STAFF EDITORIAL

GW officials claim they recognize the value of diversity, equity and inclusion. But a recently revived, five-year-old lawsuit accusing the University of discrimination shows the extent to which GW as an institution – and its students – have perpetuated a persistent culture of racism on campus, most recently in a rash of racist incidents in the classroom last year.

Former GW student Jabari Stafford is asking the University for \$1 million in damages for its failure to properly address the discriminatory conduct and subsequent mental and emotional distress he faced while playing on GW's men's tennis team from 2014 to 2017. Last month, D.C.'s Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Stafford after he appealed a January 2022 District Court ruling that dismissed his lawsuit over the statute of limitations to evaluate discrimination claims.

While the Staffords are bringing the University to court, the culture that students of color face at GW remains very much intact. The free-flowing racist abuse on the men's tennis team reflects the actions of students as much as it does the incompetence, strategic or otherwise, of the University's administration in dealing with it.

According to the lawsuit, members of the men's tennis team called Stafford "monkey" and other racial slurs, asked him if his ancestors were slaves and posted memes including the N-word. The lawsuit also alleges that teammates sexually harassed and assaulted another player who is a person of color. Stafford's

coaches only furthered this persistent abuse, allegedly downplaying the nature of his teammates' racist remarks and disproportionately targeting Stafford and other nonwhite players with disciplinary procedures, including suspension from the team in 2015.

At the beginning of his junior year in 2016, Stafford and his father told Ed Scott, the former senior associate director of athletics, and Helen Cannaday Saulny, the former associate provost for diversity, equity and community engagement, about the racist incidents on the tennis team. Scott and Cannaday first responded with "mortification" but proceeded to direct Stafford to GW's grievance filing website, which enables students to register complaints against faculty and staff members for discrimination. After suffering years of racist abuse, officials effectively advised Stafford to sift through legalese and draft an email.

GW's institutions – like the Office for Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement and GW Athletics – offered little to no recourse to Stafford and other nonwhite athletes on the tennis team, allowing a culture of hate to flourish essentially unchecked. How was this allowed to go on for so long?

It does not take a legal degree to note that no matter how much the University says it values diversity, equity and inclusion, it has failed to put those values into practice.

These terms are not boilerplate rhetoric to us. Nor, as Stafford's very lawsuit shows, are they a simple way to avoid legal

action. They are a set of principles, and failing to adhere to them has real consequences. The horrific, racist abuse Stafford faced drove him off the tennis team and out of GW at the end of 2017 – it deprived a student-athlete of his chance to learn and his chance to compete.

But what happened to Stafford began with fellow and now-former members of the student body. The success of student-athletes – or any student – cannot overpower the need to hold them accountable if, or when, they discriminate against their peers. The camaraderie of the tennis team and the experience of a college education should have been a place for these student-athletes to unlearn their biases and confront their racism with the lived experience of their teammates. Instead, the abhorrent behavior of the team's players against Stafford, just one of roughly 800 Black men at GW during the four years he was enrolled here, only intensified.

GW students don't shy away from making our voices heard or demanding justice. But it seems that few of us have heard or spoken about Stafford's case during its long and ongoing journey through the legal system.

So, we have something to say. We are sorry, Jabari, as a student body that we let this happen. It shouldn't have, and we're sorry. For you, for us and for everyone who comes here after, this has to change. We need it to.

We will all be lucky if the court rules in Stafford's favor – it's a small price for GW to pay to learn that diversity, equity and inclusion is a commitment, not just three words.

## Walking may seem pedestrian, but there's power in every step you take

That old staccato rhythm is ringing out across Foggy Bottom again. In the rush out of residence halls, up and down flights of stairs and on the way to class, sneakers, loafers, flats and boots click and clack, squelch and squish. School is back and in session, and it's time to pound pavement from E Street to Washington Circle.

Ethan Benn  
Opinions Editor

Walking isn't as fast or flashy as a scooter or bicycle, nor does it come with air conditioning or a trunk – hope for a gentle breeze and pack lightly. In fact, walking is such a dull exercise that it's pedestrian in every sense of the word.

But head a few blocks south to the National Mall, as I have these past few weeks, and the simple act of walking becomes inseparable from politics. While the naked trees and yellowed grass of the Mall in winter don't inspire awe, there's something powerful about methodically meandering past the familiar landmarks.

On the Friday before the start of spring semester, I paced along the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, watching in the quiet of dusk as the setting sun bounced off the black stone and a sea of names caught glints of fading gold. The fountains of remembrance run dry this time of year, but I still went round and round the World War II Memorial's sloping basin, past 50 states and U.S. territories bound together in sacrifice.

It's impossible to rush through the Mall when you can only go as fast as your feet can carry you, a generous 3 miles per hour. But why go any faster? I'm

tracing the footsteps of hundreds of thousands of people who have roamed the Mall before me. Bound up the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, turn around and imagine the March on Washington 60 years ago.

But whether you walk to stroll past Americana or simply get from point A to point B, walking is political. Public officials determine which streets to close for demonstrations, like last week's anti-abortion March for Life – again, another walk. They set the length of crossing signals, build and repair sidewalks and turn streets, however briefly, into public plazas.

And as of Friday, 75 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, including Foggy Bottom and West End ANCs Yannik Omicini, Trupti Patel and Jordan Nassar, have signed a letter calling on the D.C. government "to meaningfully prioritize equity in public transportation and traffic safety infrastructure." The letter's signatories are refusing their government-issued parking passes, a move meant to encourage the city to reinvest the thousands of dollars it takes to build and maintain on-street parking spaces into pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

When it comes to walkability – marked by the state of sidewalks and the proximity of resources like jobs, schools and parks to people's homes – the predominantly Black and historically underserved Wards 5, 7 and 8 are falling behind the rest of D.C. More than one-third of Washingtonians lived car-free in 2019 but not necessarily by choice given the cost of owning, operating and storing a private vehicle. So faced with less-than-reliable service from

Metrobus and Metrorail and a hodgepodge of bikes, scooters and rideshares, walking – at least for the physically able – can become a method of last resort.

My walks to the Mall are about 5 miles roundtrip. But Ken Woodward has walked some 2,085 miles around the District, traveling to every street and alley in D.C. while wearing a sign reading "Black and Brown lives matter" between May 2020 and May 2022. At its best, walking allows us to reflect, to connect and to listen to one another as we strive to better ourselves – a journey for Woodward that meant "riding" himself of white supremacy.

But the echoing of rubber soles on pavement can also reveal deep-seated prejudices. In September 2022, three U.S. Park Police officers tased Jonathan McKinney, who is Black, three times after he asked a plainclothes officer not to speak to him when the officer allegedly grimaced before asking how he was doing. McKinney, a professional dogwalker, had been walking home through the Palisades neighborhood after walking a dog. The phenomenon of "Walking While Black," as Don Temple described his client's experience, invites serious questions – who gets to walk? Where? How?

I don't have all the answers. But I do know that a better future runs through creating a world, or at least a District, in which anyone can walk on any street or stroll through any neighborhood and feel safe doing so. There may not be a monument to it on the Mall, but remember the power of a walk the next time you hear that old staccato rhythm.

—Ethan Benn, a junior majoring in journalism and mass communication, is the opinions editor.

### The GW Hatchet

609 21st St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20052  
gwhatchet.com | @gwhatchet

news@gwhatchet.com  
opinions@gwhatchet.com  
photo@gwhatchet.com  
sports@gwhatchet.com  
culture@gwhatchet.com  
copy@gwhatchet.com  
multimedia@gwhatchet.com

Jarrod Wardwell, editor in chief

Jaden DiMauro, managing editor\*  
Abby Kennedy, managing director  
Abrigail Williams, community relations director  
Nick Pasion, senior news editor  
Zach Blackburn, senior news editor  
Caitlin Kitson, assistant news editor  
Erika Filter, assistant news editor  
Faith Wardwell, assistant news editor  
Grace Chinowsky, assistant news editor  
Sophia Goedert, assistant news editor  
Eoighan Noonan, contributing news editor  
Lanie Salvosa, contributing news editor  
Nikki Ghaemi, contributing news editor  
Tara Suter, events editor  
Ethan Benn, opinions editor\*  
Julia Koscelnik, contributing opinions editor\*  
Auden Yurman, senior photo editor  
Danielle Towers, assistant photo editor

Jordyn Bailer, assistant photo editor  
Lily Sperdelozzi, assistant photo editor  
Rachel Schwartz, assistant photo editor  
Nuria Diaz, sports editor\*  
Gabe Lopez, contributing sports editor  
Clara Duhan, culture editor\*  
Julia Koscelnik, contributing culture editor - entertainment\*  
Nora Fitzgerald, contributing culture editor  
Amanda Plocharski, video editor  
Cristina Stassis, copy chief  
Shea Carlberg, senior copy editor  
Salmoncain Smith-Shomade, assistant copy editor  
Annie O'Brien, research assistant  
Luke Wienecke, research assistant  
Zac Bestwick, research assistant\*  
Sarah Sachs, podcast host  
Sejal Govindarao, podcast host

Max Porter, podcast host  
Grace Miller, design editor\*  
Isabella MacKinnon, design editor  
Maura Kelly-Yuoh, contributing design editor  
Nicholas Anastacio, graphics editor  
Ishani Chettri, web developer  
Ethan Valliath, contributing social media director\*  
Max Gaffin, contributing social media director  
\* denotes member of editorial board

Business Office  
Eddie Herzig, business manager

Submissions — Deadlines for submissions are Friday 5 p.m. for Monday issues. They must include the author's name, title, year in school and phone number. The GW Hatchet does not guarantee publication and reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, grammar and clarity. Submit to opinions@gwhatchet.com

Policy Statement — The GW Hatchet is produced by Hatchet Publications Inc., an independent, non-profit corporation. All comments should be addressed to the Board of Directors, which has sole authority for the content of this publication. Opinions expressed in signed columns are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the view of The GW Hatchet. All content of The GW Hatchet is copyrighted and may not be reproduced without written authorization from the editor in chief.

Cost — Single copies free. Additional copies available for purchase upon request.

# Culture

## THE SCENE

**LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**  
Saturday, Jan. 28 | Smithsonian American Art Museum | Free  
Celebrate cultural traditions with crafts and performances to ring in the Lunar New Year.

**RIDE THE CYCLONE**  
Daily through Sunday, Feb. 19 | Kreeger Theater | \$96  
See a musical about young singers who die in a roller-coaster accident and are stuck in the afterlife together.

## RELEASED THIS WEEK:

NEW SINGLE: "EMILY I'M SORRY" BY BOYGENIUS

## Gelman's graffiti: Illustrations of hope from the bowels of despair

**NICK PASION**  
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Dozens of drawings, adages and advice engulfed in manic, stress-ridden energy sit between bookshelves, scribbled into the desks of Gelman Library.

Graffiti from the minds of sleep-deprived students from various class years line the desks, walls and chairs, ranging from overtly sexual drawings to partisan political messaging all the way up to the "S" the cool kids drew in elementary school. The growing collection is a collaborative experience – graffiti artists engage in conversations with each other, adding new responses to prior scribbles or expanding on drawings with new features, accessories and appendages.

The Hatchet set out across the library's eight floors to explore and record these bits of art and knowledge. Here are some of our Gelman graffiti favorites:

### "Stop Being Mentally Ill" – Batman

Fourth floor – Undergraduate Student Reading Room

As a bastion for overly toxic masculinity, it makes sense that Batman would lean into mental health denialism with a simple solution – "stop being mentally ill." I'm not sure if this is a hateful piece, but in the library, where I am at my lowest, I like the funny messaging.

The graffiti gets even better with the additional context of the small, large-schnozed head drawn beside it, who offers a simple and sweet "no" in response. Small heads like these scattered around the desk alongside the Batman art were most likely added on by a different artist. The cute and haunting look of the small head refusing to make the

180-degree change to neurotypical is an especially silly, and just as absurd, addition.

The piece is a heartwarming interaction that shows not only the understated humor you'll find between the stacks of Gelman, but also how the art styles interact with each other to make a story on the library desk.

### Person kneeling on a rainbow

Fourth-floor stacks

This melancholic work of a person kneeling on a rainbow should be applauded – not just for its large size, nearly eight inches in height – but also for its complexity.

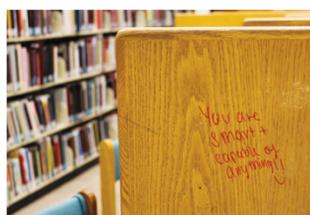
A person with a green jacket and bun attached to a parachute is kneeling on the top layer of color while sunken into the rainbow. It's hard to tell if the person is surrendering, praying or meditating – they could honestly be doing a combination of the three. Or they could just be getting back from the Call of Duty Warzone Gulag.

The work is arguably the most layered, colorful and intricate in the entire library.

### Spiky skull and mermaid

Fifth-floor desks

This drawing is probably the most similar to the type of graffiti I would expect to see on the street. Historically, the best graffiti is rebellious and layered, with artists publicly interacting with each other through the canvas, possibly never even meeting in person. The hemorrhaged-together body parts of the mermaid with the adjacent skull are goth-esque and reminiscent of Y2K grunge culture. The only way for this piece to improve is if more people drew on their own takes to



LILY SPEREDELOZZI | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR  
"stop being mentally ill."

It makes sense that Batman would lean into mental health denialism with a simple solution – "stop being mentally ill."

expand the desk's graffiti.

### Dancing parrot

Fourth floor – Undergraduate Student Reading Room

The dancing parrot offers another notable example of Gelman's

stress-induced goofiness and the fruitful result when new artists layer their creations on top of old drawings. Originally, it appears there was a pencil dinosaur drawing, which was later colored over with pen to turn into a beaked parrot. A potential third person later

used a pencil to add small, stick arms with tiny circles for hands, transforming the illustration into a dancing parrot. The parrot is a magnificent encapsulation of art built upon by multiple artists, all of whom provide different visions for what the piece should be.

## Shenkman dining hall offers community space, lackluster food

GW HATCHET STAFF

As the new semester kicks off, Shenkman Hall's new dining venue is up and running as a new hub for students to enjoy a communal dining experience.

The all-you-care-to-eat dining hall, which is the final installment of GW's transition to a swipe-based dining system, provides a conglomerate of food stations – like the "Teaching Kitchen" where students can learn cooking skills from trained chefs. But while GW describes the dining experience as one targeted toward those of ranging identities and dietary restrictions, Shenkman's ambitious endeavors didn't fully live up to expectations.

The Hatchet's staff set out to review the dining hall's new offerings, resulting in mixed reviews.

Clara Duhon | Culture Editor

Shenkman drops off the hardest in its limited labeling of dishes and the ingredients within. Diners must search for the ingredients in the dishes online, but for those with food allergies, restrictions and other requirements, detailed, upfront labeling is crucial to their dining experience.

I loaded my plate with sides like broccoli and beans, which surrounded a rice patty and a hefty serving of warm noodles with a nutty-like sauce. But the food itself was not quite up to par. The broccoli was boiled with little-to-no seasoning, while the kidney beans offered a slightly more hearty bite. Their rice pilaf was a bare-bones affair, lacking any semblance of flavor. What was shaping up to be an evening of diminished expectations took a turn with a rice patty cooked with cheese and other grains, making for a savory dish.

Shenkman's wide variety of options make the hall a solid choice if you're looking for a night to skip



SAGE RUSSELL | PHOTOGRAPHER  
Students, like officials hoped, are "building community" and once again finding new and old friends in the Shenkman basement, which is what the student body needs.

cooking, but for a \$16.50 dinner, if you include tax, for students on the legacy plan, I didn't find the best bang for my buck.

Ethan Bem | Opinions Editor

Though the atmosphere, convenience and warm welcome from the staff might lure me back to Shenkman in the future, I'll stick with home-cooked meals for now.

The buzz of students and attentive staff made Shenkman instantly welcoming, especially on a cold and rainy night. I loaded up my plate with a tasty combination of quinoa, roasted sweet potatoes, chicken and pasta salad, then went back for dessert. Shenkman is a choose-your-own culinary adventure, but the warm sweet potatoes contrasted wonderfully with the slightly acidic crunch of the pasta salad.

Unfortunately, finding what to eat at Shenkman felt like a scavenger hunt. The station model sounds efficient in theory, but a lack of clear signage both at each station and next to each food item had me running back and forth to fill my plate. For diners with dietary needs, or just those curious about what they're consuming, meal time shouldn't be a mystery.

The staff who keep Shenkman running through wave after wave of hungry students deserve praise as they – and we – adjust to a new dining plan. Go to Shenkman for the experience. But at \$16.50 for dinner, look elsewhere if value is your bottom line.

Zach Blackburn | Senior News Editor

While I wish my visit to Shenkman were enjoyable, it fails to meet the standards of a good meal, falling short of its older sister at Thurston Hall.

The Coke Freestyle machines – where you can try dozens of flavors of soda – stood almost completely empty. The dining hall also starts a leg below Thurston's – while Thurston has a tasty soft-serve ice cream machine, Shenkman has no such contraption.

I grabbed food from nearly every station – a total of 11 items – and it mostly tasted mediocre, oftentimes not tasty enough to warrant eating.

The meal wasn't a complete failure – the pork loin filled me up with limited flavor, though dry. A cheesesteak with cheese goop hit the spot, complete with a soft bun and well-seasoned beef. The \$16.50 isn't worth

the absence of some of the most important features of the meal.

Nick Pasion | Senior News Editor

On Sunday night, during the advertised Lunar New Year celebration, I hoped to get Chinese food to celebrate my heritage, but the options were palatably disappointing. Shenkman's food had none of the garlicky, five spice and szechuan flavors I grew up with. While I understand GW may not produce the Chinese food I am accustomed to, I expected a stronger attempt.

That being said, each time I've visited Shenkman, the dining hall has offered a variety of options like pastrami sandwiches, jerk chicken, plantains and pasta. The unlimited food also allowed me to camp out to do hours of work with free coffee and snacks. I appreciated the calm side room, where I got to chat with workers on break and other students chipping away at their first week of assignments.

The atmosphere at Shenkman has also been refreshing. Students, like officials hoped, are building community in the dining hall, which is what the student body needs.

## Netflix original movies to pick and skip during your binging sprees in 2023

JENNA BAER  
REPORTER

Netflix announced the release of a whopping 49 original movies for 2023 last week, packed to the brim with star-studded casts, elaborate action and even a few rom-coms thrown into the ring.

Netflix original movies from last year, like the exploitative Marilyn Monroe biopic "Blonde" have received mixed reviews from audiences, while hits like the gripping mystery "Glass Onion" have earned high acclaim. But with a new year comes many new options to review, so here are my predictions for the films you should add to your watch list for your next movie night and others you can scroll past.

### Must-watch picks

"You People" – Premieres Jan. 27

Starring Jonah Hill and powerhouse comedians like Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Edie Murphy, this movie traverses deep topics, including interracial and interfaith relationships but still packs a humorous punch for its viewers. The film follows the whirlwind romance between Ezra (Hill) and Amira (Lauren London) that hits a bump in the road once their meddling parents are introduced to one another. Hill and London's chemistry leaps off of the screen, but will their love for one another prevail?

"Murder Mystery 2" – Premieres March 31

For viewers who were captivated by "Knives Out" and "Glass Onion," I present to you a franchise that has a comparable level of plot twists but more hijinks. Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston reprise their roles as Nick and Audrey Spitz, putting their investigative skills to the test to find their friend after he is kidnapped from his own wedding. The first installment of the franchise poked fun at the crime thrill-

er genre as the Spitzs started off as amateur sleuths, running around Europe desperate to prove they have not committed a murder. If you have not watched the first movie, be sure to check it out before its sequel premieres.

"They Cloned Tyrone" – Premieres July 21

Netflix has been tight-lipped about the details of this sci-fi comedy, but from the trailer, I've been able to glean that stars John Boyega, Jamie Foxx and Teyonah Parris team up to thwart a government conspiracy. From the short teaser, I can tell this film weaves humor into a true thriller as two-thirds of the trio break into song before infiltrating a top-secret lab. The trailer sets a creepy, captivating tone for the film, and I look forward to seeing what this movie has in store.

### Skip-worthy flicks

"Your Place or Mine" – Premieres Feb. 10

In this romantic comedy, long-time friends Debbie (Reese Witherspoon) and Peter (Ashton Kutcher) trade lives for a week to give Debbie a break from the pressures of being a single-mother. I'm a big fan of the slow burn, friends-to-lovers romance like "Love, Rosie" and "The Holiday." But the setup of this film does not allow for a true romance to come alive. If you're looking for a romantic comedy to add to a Valentine's Day movie marathon, I do not think this one deserves to make the cut.

"Heart of Stone" – Premieres Aug. 11

This action film follows Rachel Stone (Gal Gadot), an intelligence operative in charge of protecting an agency asset. Although I was excited to see a female-led adventure film, I suspect Stone's character development will take a backseat to empty action set pieces, like fiery explosions and cars flipping over in slow motion.

# Sports

## GAMES OF THE WEEK



**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
vs. St. Joseph's  
Wednesday | 7 p.m. EDT  
GW looks for their third consecutive victory as they welcome the Hawks to the Smith Center for a weeknight matchup.



**WOMEN'S TENNIS**  
vs. Delaware State  
Saturday | 1 p.m. EDT  
The Colonials welcome the Hornets to the Mount Vernon Campus courts looking to notch their first winter win.

## NUMBER CRUNCH 73

The number of points women's track and field scored at the Cardinal Track and Field Classic, good for third out of 14 at their debut meet of the indoor season.

# Swimming and diving sinks Georgetown in sixth straight win against Hoyas

**NURIA DIAZ**  
SPORTS EDITOR

GW swimming and diving trounced Georgetown Saturday afternoon at Albert G. McCarthy pool, extending their winning streak against the Hoyas to six dating back to the 2015-16 season with 133 points for the men's team and 143 points for the women's team compared to Georgetown's 108 for the men's team and 92 points for the women's.

The Colonials won the first seven straight of the 26-event meet, outperforming the Hoyas in 20 total, led by a perfect 13-for-13 record for the women's team. GW continued its record-breaking crusade with five Georgetown pool records in their second dual-meet victory of 2023 as they look to continue their success after losing four meets last year.

Here's a recap of the meet for both programs:

### Men's team:

The men's team broke a pair of records in the 400-yard medley relay and the 100-yard backstroke in the first leg of the 400-yard relay to kickstart the meet. Junior Karol Mlynarczyk set the 100-yard backstroke record with a 48.12 time and later joined sophomore Bode Ringenbach, redshirt junior Djurdje Matic and junior Dylan Koo to secure a first-place finish in the 400-yard medley relay with a 3:20.68 time.

The Colonials locked down the top three 100-yard freestyle times, where sophomore Philip Moldovanu won the race in 9:32.66, senior Brendan Conley took second place with 9:46.96 and senior Zach Hu took third with 9:47.33.

In the 200-yard freestyle, graduate student Marek Osina led the way for GW to sweep the podium in its second-straight event with a 1:42.97 time, followed by

freshman Daniel Nagy in second place with 1:43.24 and senior Oscar Madsen taking third place with 1:45.19.

Nagy notched consecutive first-place finishes with a 1:51.07 time in the 200-yard butterfly.

Graduate student Ryan Patterson, freshman Ganesh Sivaramakrishnan and Mlynarczyk achieved a third completed podium sweep in the 200-yard backstroke event. Patterson led the group with a 1:50.82 time, cutting two seconds from his time last weekend, marking a season-best. Mlynarczyk recorded a second-place finish in 1:52.43, and Sivaramakrishnan secured third with a 1:54.23 finish.

Graduate students Mikhail Lyubavskiy and Moldovanu took second and first place in the 500-yard freestyle, respectively.

Senior Tyler Kawakami, Koo, Matic and Sivaramakrishnan won in the 400-yard freestyle at the final event of the meet with a 3:06.37 time.

### Women's team:

Graduate student Grace Olivardia, sophomore Barbara Schaal, sophomore Ava DeAngelis and junior Marlee Rickert kicked off the meet with a first-place finish in the 400-yard medley relay with a 3:52.30 gaining an event victory to start the meet.

The Colonials recorded the top three finishes in the 1000-yard freestyle, where freshman Ava Topolewski led the podium with 10:14.57 in her second victory in the event in two meets. Sophomore Molly Smyers and sophomore Taylor Bernosky followed with second-place (10:22.45) and third-place (10:29.48) finishes, respectively.

Freshman Phoebe Wright won two of her individual meets, setting a pool record in the 200-yard backstroke by more than six seconds with a 2:01.90 time and beating out teammate Siena Senn in



FILE PHOTO BY ALLISON ROBERT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In a meet at the Smith Center this fall, a diver leaps off the diving board and tumbles into the water below.

the 200-yard freestyle in 1:53.16 to take first place.

Sophomore Julia Knox achieved first place in the 400-yard Individual Medley and broke the pool record by eight seconds with a 4:23.88 time.

Freshman Olivia Paquette earned first place in the three-meter dive, setting a pool record with 301.88 points, followed by sophomore Dara Reyblat and senior Jamie Doak finished second 248.03 and third place 244.43. Diving is measured from 1 to 10 by a panel of judges who then multiply the scores.

The Hoyas were only able to hold on to a third-place finish in

the one-meter dive, where senior Emelie Ginovker recorded a third-place finish with a 222.75 points.

Doak went on to win the one-meter dive with 258.30 points, followed by Paquette, who won second place with 256.80 points.

Schaal won two individual races with a first-place, 24.73 timed finish in the 50-yard freestyle and first place in the 100-yard freestyle, followed by senior Becca Brown, who won second place in the 50-yard freestyle with a 24.89 time.

Smyers nabbed a first-place finish in the 200-yard butterfly, and Topolewski took second place with a 2:05.17 time.

Topolewski led the competition

in another first-place time for GW, finishing in the 500-yard freestyle in 4:59.84, just .33 seconds in front of Knox who came in second place with 5:00.17.

DeAngelis recorded a first-place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke with a 2:20.77 time.

The meet ended with a first-place performance by GW in the 400-yard freestyle relay, where Rickert, Wright, Olivardia and Brown recorded a 3:32.57 time.

The Colonials will return on Feb. 3 at the Cavalier Invite in Charlottesville, Virginia, where they hope to continue the winning streak to gain a good position in the NCAA Championships.

# Redshirt senior forward leads women's basketball as hard-hustling, frontcourt cornerstone

**NURIA DIAZ**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Redshirt senior forward Mayowa Taiwo has focused on her leadership skills under Head Coach Caroline McCombs' tutelage by stepping up on the defensive end to set an example for younger players as the "old hat for the team."

Taiwo has become a consistent figure for the women's basketball team, appearing in 26 games and starting in 22 the 2021-22 season with an average of 30.6 minutes per game, 8.5 points per game and a 43.8 shooting percentage and breaking the 500 rebound milestone this season, recording a third-place rank in the Atlantic 10 for rebounds.

Playing her fourth season with GW, Taiwo has built her repertoire with a second-place rank in the field goal percentage category in the A-10 with a .534 shooting percentage. She said her playing style is predicated on hustle and effort that allow her to make quick, in-game decisions, like the quick transitions from defense to offense.

Taiwo always held a notable presence on the team, being named to the Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team in her first season. Taiwo was redshirted after a preseason injury while averaging 6.8 points per game, 6.1 rebounds per game and 1.4 assists per game.

"I definitely think I always lead by example, and I think that shows my place," Taiwo said in an interview. "I think I've definitely had to step that up this year, being that our defensive members aren't as good they were, to just leading in that aspect."

Taiwo said the team's chemistry has translated to success on the court with more

communication fueling a tighter defense that allows them to work on their shots with quick transitions. She said the program is currently experiencing an upward trend due to the team's goal of becoming more dominant and claiming their season to become the best team in the A-10.

"I don't think there's things to improve on," Taiwo said. "Same with the team, we had some really good energy going into A-10. We just have to regroup and keep playing into the energy."

Looking into the program's and her future, Taiwo said she hopes people will remember her effort on the court and see her fans showcase the same energy in the coming years.

"I hope people remember my effort, and I'm not your typical player," Taiwo said. "Most of my things don't end up in the stat sheet, but when I have our loyal fans come up to us and say they love to watch you play: 'We love your energy, effort, we just love your heart. I think that's what I want my legacy to be.'"

Halfway through

her second year as the Colonials' head coach, McCombs said Taiwo has been like a sponge, always looking to grow and evolve on the court to find solutions to score. She said Taiwo always rises to any challenge the coaching staff sets, like guarding any player one through five through the entirety of each game. She said Taiwo has become a staple for the team as a fierce competitor, leading on both offensive and defensive end.

"And so I just think really continuing to come into our own on defensively, she's been so important to just hold down us on the defensive end," McCombs said in an interview. "And then offensively we've tried to do some new things this season, and so I think just continuing to find her way, obviously, we know she does a lot of great things from that perspective, as well."

McCombs said Taiwo is a quiet leader who leads by example by always

giving her full effort in everything she does, which allows her peers to gain respect for her daily effort. She said she hopes to continue seeing her flourish in her senior year of basketball while having fun and smiling with her teammates.

**"If I had a daughter, I'd want her to be Mayowa."**

**CAROLINE MCCOMBS**  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL'S HEAD COACH

Off the court, McCombs said Taiwo is a "class person" that cares a lot about the people around her and seeks to be involved with the community by building a huge community presence in GW. As the team continues its trek to the A-10 Championship, McCombs said she and the team are savoring Taiwo's guiding force as an "amazing example of what a student-athlete encompasses."

"If I had a daughter, I'd want her to be Mayowa," McCombs said.



FILE PHOTO BY MAYA NAIR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Taiwo said her playing style is predicated on hustle and efforts that allow her to make quick in-game decisions, like the quick transitions from defense to offense.

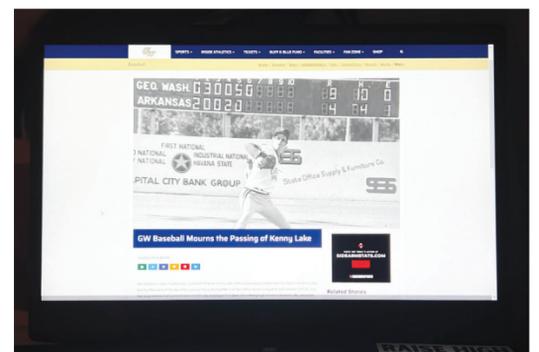


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JORDYN BAILER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

After earning his bachelor's degree at GW, Lake became a civilian analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency and, after his retirement, coached multiple local school and youth baseball leagues.

# GW Hall of Famer Kenny Lake remembered as historic southpaw

**CAMERON MAYS**  
REPORTER

Kenny Lake, a former baseball ace and a member of the GW Athletics Hall of Fame, died late last month. He was 63.

Lake pitched and played first base for the Colonials from 1977 to 1981, helping guide the baseball program to its first NCAA tournament run in 20 years while pitching a single-season GW record of 108.2 innings. After earning his bachelor's degree at GW in 1981, he became a civilian analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency and coached multiple local school and youth baseball leagues following his retirement.

Lake was born in 1959 to Robert Edward Lake and Benita Van Steenburgh Lake and attended Peary High School in Rockville, Maryland. He was selected to the All-Met first team by The Washington Post and was the Montgomery County Player of the Year during his illustrious high school career.

Lake is currently tied for fifth place for the most shutouts in the baseball program with three shutouts in his career and 15 completed games with the Colonials. Lake recorded 13 victories

during his four years with the Colonials at the mound.

Lake's parents influenced his love for baseball, which led him to meet his wife at a baseball game the two attended with friends, according to Lake's obituary. Lake is remembered as a man who found joy in family vacations, fantasy sports, the lottery, sports and local live entertainment.

Lake joined the GW baseball program on a scholarship in 1977. He became an integral member of the roster during his four years with the team, headlined by their 1979 run to the NCAA tournament - a season during which he batted .280 while hitting .444 over three games on the national stage.

Lake, a southpaw, is tied for the fourth-most complete games in GW history with 15, ranks fifth in shutouts with three and sits at 22nd in wins with 13.

Remembered as a legendary starting pitcher in baseball history, Lake was inducted into the GW Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006.

Kenny - who died in Anne Arundel County, Maryland - is survived by his wife, brother and two children.