

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

BRANDON CLARKE

1996 ~ 2026

'HE WAS A TRUE LEGEND'

FORMER GONZAGA STAR DIES AT 29 IN LOS ANGELES

By Theo Lawson
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Brandon Clarke, who wowed basketball fans with gravity-defying dunks and blocks during one electric season with Gonzaga, died Monday. He was 29.

Clarke burst into Gonzaga's starting lineup in the fall of 2018 and paired with Rui Hachimura to lead the team into the Elite Eight during the 2019 NCAA Tournament.

The two were drafted into the NBA after the season. Clarke went on to play seven seasons with the Memphis Grizzlies.

See **CLARKE, 11**

“

Brandon was a spectacular player and competitor, and a phenomenal teammate to all.”

Mark Few,
Gonzaga basketball
head coach

Gonzaga forward Brandon Clarke slams down a dunk in 2018.

S-R PHOTO ARCHIVES

MORE INSIDE

CLARKE WAS 'ONE OF THE GREATEST'

Former college teammates remember the late basketball star as “incredible Zag and person.”

SPORTS, 1

County bans nuisance camping with new rules

Violators could face daily fines, cleanup costs

By Nick Gibson

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Spokane County's leaders have set new parameters for pitching a tent on privately owned land.

On Tuesday, the Spokane County Commission became the latest local legislative body to enact restrictions intended to cut down on unwanted camping. The changes are in line with regional efforts to respond to homelessness and follow similar decisions in the cities of Spokane and Spokane Valley regarding camping on private land.

The commissioners approved an ordinance that determined the conditions under which camping on private properties in unincorporated Spokane County is to be considered a nuisance, and can be responded to with violation notices, court-ordered clean-ups and hefty fines. Camping on public lands was already prohibited under county code.

See **CAMPING, 11**

COUPLE TRAVELS TO SAIPAN FOR TYPHOON AID

Retired former Spokane Valley residents were called overseas by the Red Cross. **NEWS, 5**

IDAHO RESTAURANT TAPS CENTURIES-OLD TRADITION

Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel introduces dry-aged beef in nod to local tribe. **FOOD, 1**

FROM COWLES TO COMMA

With initial fundraising goal met, The Spokesman-Review begins transition from family ownership into new nonprofit model



COLIN MULVANY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Before the Northwest Passages event Tuesday at Gonzaga's Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center with author Shelby Van Pelt, Spokesman-Review Executive Editor Rob Curley announces that Comma's initial \$1 million in cash philanthropic donation goal has been met along with more than \$1 million in future founding collaborator commitments having been inked.

From staff reports

The nonprofit slated to take ownership of The Spokesman-Review announced Wednesday it met its initial fundraising goal, triggering a monthslong transition period that will move the paper's nearly 140-year ownership by the Cowles family to a community-operated news organization.

Rob Curley, founder of the Comma Community Journalism Lab, announced the organization has raised \$1 million cash and more than \$1 million in committed donations. Curley is also the paper's executive editor, a role he's held for 10 years.

The fundraising benchmark is enough to trigger a transition period, at the end of which the Cowles family will pass along ownership of the 143-year-old newspaper to Comma and match community donations with their own \$2 million check. Newspaper

See **NONPROFIT, 11**

Shelby Van Pelt strikes gold

Washington-born author's book now a Netflix movie starring Sally Field

By Garrett Cabeza
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Shelby Van Pelt wrote a lot of “Little House on the Prairie fan fiction” as a child, filling up notebooks of stories of traveling west in a wagon with her cats.

But, she grew up in Tacoma. “You can't really go west in Washington state,” she said.

She fell away from creative writing as a teen and did not try writing fiction again until her 30s when she was trying to fig-

ure out what she wanted to do in life.

She struck gold in 2022 with the publication of her first novel, “Remarkably Bright Creatures,” spending more than 64 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list and selling more than two million copies. The book's film adaptation premiered last week on Netflix and is a top-10 movie on the streaming platform.

Van Pelt spoke to a sold-out

See **VAN PELT, 11**



COLIN MULVANY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Author Shelby Van Pelt, left, has a conversation Tuesday with Spokesman-Review Managing Editor Lindsey Treffry about Van Pelt's book “Remarkably Bright Creatures.”