

THE ITHACAN

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VISION TEST

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FYRE 4

DIVERSITY 5

GLOBAL INITIATIVES 5

DESIGN: RYAN OPILA AND ALISON TEADORE

Editor's Note: On March 5 at an all-college meeting, Ithaca College President Tom Rochon introduced the campus community to a proposal to craft a new vision for the college's residential, academic and overall experience for each of its constituents. Calling it a "blue-sky" reimagination, Rochon described it as an opportunity to create an ideal vision for the college as though beginning from a blank slate.

Rochon was clear in distinguishing his "blue-sky" from the IC 20/20 initiative, which he said was a strategic plan based on the college's state at the time. Though the origins may differ, the rhetoric is similar: determining the all-encompassing vision for the college.

The Ithacan is evaluating some of the central tenets and initiatives of IC 20/20 during a time when the college's overall vision is open to interpretation and reimagination. The IC 20/20 vision includes, among a list of 10 initiatives, rolling out an integrative core curriculum, an enhanced residential learning program, organized diversity programming and global learning opportunities. This package of stories examines these four initiatives' progress, problems and successes, as well as their roles in contributing to the residential college experience.

Integrative Core Curriculum faces second-year challenges

BY AIDAN QUIGLEY
AND NATALIE SHANKLIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITORS

As the second year of the implementation of the Integrative Core Curriculum comes to a close, the program is being evaluated by its directors and has experienced mixed reactions from students and faculty, mainly stemming from its key element: the theme requirements.

Danette Johnson, vice provost in the Department of Educational Affairs and outgoing director of the ICC, said the implementation of the ICC has been successful, but the program is considering some reforms: eliminating themes from Ithaca Seminars, reviewing the number of themes and evaluating the ePortfolio.

The ICC, approved by the Academic Policy Committee on March 30, 2012, is the college's first-ever college-wide general education system and serves as part of the college's IC 20/20 plan, a trustee-approved 10-year vision for the college. The development of the ICC stemmed in part from cross-college collaboration, as well as pressure from The Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the body that has accredited the college since 1955. Robert Sullivan, associate professor of communication studies and former director of the honors program who worked on designing it, said the ICC replaced general education programs that differed by school.

The Class of 2017 was the first to experience the ICC, in the fall of 2013. Students have between 28 and 45 required credits under the new curriculum, depending on their major.

The ICC requires students to choose from six themes, under which they must take four perspective courses: a creative arts, a social science, a natural science and a humanities course. The themes are intended to promote integrative majors and electives to bridge the gap between schools and disciplines, according to the ICC website.

Other requirements include

quantitative literacy and writing intensive credits, at least one diversity course and a four-credit, first-year seminar that freshmen must take during their first semester. Students must also complete a capstone course and 12 complementary liberal arts credits. In addition, students must upload an artifact to their ePortfolio for each ICC-fulfilling course they take. Artifacts can be any sort of paper, project or activity the student completed for that course.

Other colleges and universities across the nation have established core curricula to help bridge the gap between K-12 and higher education. Butler University in Indiana also includes a first-year seminar in its core curriculum, and Syracuse University requires students to take courses in natural sciences, social sciences and humanities, as well as meet standards in intensive writing and quantitative literacy.

However, most other schools with these similar core curricula do not possess the theme aspect, which is integral to the ICC.

Johnson said the committee on college-wide requirements was considering eliminating themes from being attached to Ithaca Seminars. She said this was due to not being able to accurately predict how many seminars in each theme would be necessary to meet student demand since themes are selected at orientation. If the committee decides to make this change, she said, it will likely be done for Fall 2016.

Currently, for the Class of 2018, the first-year seminars did not have to be chosen according to the students' themes, but themes are still attached to the seminars.

Sophomore Griffin Haas said he only picked his Power and Justice theme because the seminar he wanted to take was in the theme, but he was unaware of the other classes offered for Power and Justice.

"By me picking that because of the seminar, I missed out on taking classes I otherwise would have liked

See ICC, page 4



FOUL PLAY

Junior finds passion for refereeing and qualifies for national tournament, page 23.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Students toil together to bring "You Can't Take it With You" to life, page 13.



FRESH LOOK

The IC 20/20 must be critically examined and adjusted, page 10.

Nation&World



Long live the queen

Members of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery fire a salvo during a 41-gun Royal Salute to celebrate the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II on April 21 in Hyde Park in London. Some 71 horses pulled six 13-pound field guns for the salute.

ASSOCIATED PRESS/ALASTAIR GRANT

of heavy airstrikes would be scaled down, but did not confirm whether they would stop altogether.

He said the goals of the coalition's new phase, called "Renewal of Hope," are to prevent Houthi rebels from "targeting civilians or changing realities on the ground."

Egypt's ousted leader convicted

Egypt's ousted Islamist president, Mohammed Morsi, was convicted of using force against protesters and sentenced to 20 years in prison April 21, the first verdict against him since he was removed by the military nearly two years ago.

The case was the latest in a series of mass trials on a range of charges against Morsi and other members of his Muslim Brotherhood.

The Brotherhood spent decades as an underground organization and came to power after Egypt's 2011 popular uprising toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. The Brotherhood was the biggest winner in subsequent parliament elections, and Morsi — running as its candidate — became Egypt's first freely elected president in 2012.

But a year later, millions protested against Morsi's divisive rule, and then-Army Chief Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi led the military's July 2013 removal of Morsi. Since then, a fierce crackdown has shattered the Brotherhood, killing hundreds of its supporters protesting for Morsi's return and arresting thousands more.

NATO to host cybersecurity drill

About 400 computer experts will participate in a major cybersecurity drill in Estonia this week as part of NATO's efforts to

upgrade its capability to counter potentially debilitating hacker attacks.

Teams from 16 nations will take part in the Locked Shields 2015 exercise at NATO's cyberdefense center in Tallinn. The annual drill is one of the largest of its kind.

The drill comes at a time of heightened tensions in Eastern Europe, where NATO military forces are exercising almost continuously to deter any Russian aggression that may occur following Moscow's intervention in Ukraine.

Blue Bell exploring listeria cases

A massive recall has brought more attention and put more pressure on a century-old Texas ice cream company that has been searching to discover how its products became linked to a deadly string of listeria cases.

Blue Bell Creameries said April 21, a day after recalling all its products, that it is getting closer to pinpointing the cause of the contamination. Amid those efforts, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said April 21 that the number of illnesses linked to the company's products has increased to 10.

The company said a team of microbiologists it hired is working with federal officials at its four facilities in Texas, Oklahoma and Alabama to identify the cause of the listeria. Blue Bell is also expanding its cleaning and sanitization system, beefing up its employee training, expanding its swabbing system by 800 percent to include more surfaces and is sending daily samples to a microbiology laboratory for testing.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

College

Students receive award for campus involvement

Ten graduating seniors have received the Campus Life Award, which is given each year to a select group of graduating seniors to recognize their outstanding contributions to Ithaca College. In order to be nominated for this award, students must have been extensively involved in campus life and have demonstrated significant leadership abilities and accomplishments.

The Campus Life Awards Committee selected the recipients of the 2014–15 Campus Life Awards, which were announced April 19. The awards reception for the winners will be held May 16. This year's recipients are: Morgan Allen, Samantha Gible, Mary Claire Hartford, Gregory Johnson, Crystal Kayiza, Aaron Lipford, Mia O'Brien, Hannah Oppenheim, Ayesha Patel and Leonard Slutsky.

Book talk to recognize professor's new release

The Center for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity will host a book talk and discussion for the upcoming release of Paula Ioanide's book, "The Emotional Politics of Racism: How Feelings Trump Facts in an Era of Colorblindness." Ioanide is an associate professor in the CSCRE. Flavorwire Magazine named the book one of the "10 Must-Read Academic Books for 2015." The book is now available for pre-order

through Stanford University Press and Amazon.com.

The talk will be held from 7–9 p.m. April 28 in the Handwerker Gallery and will examine the emotional dimensions of racism, particularly as they relate to contemporary public views on crime, terrorism, immigration and welfare. The talk is free and open to the public and will feature artist performances.

Ioanide's teaching and work focuses on the negative effects of present-day inequalities and injustices, with examination of issues including mass incarceration, militarized policing, anti-immigrant discrimination and increased poverty.

End-of-year celebration to be held in A&E Center

An end-of-the-year celebration, IC Kicks Back, hosted by the Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life, will run from 2–6 p.m. May 1 in the Athletics and Events Center. The event will have a rock-climbing wall, an inflatable gladiator joust and a photo booth. Dining services will provide a barbeque, and the Student Activities Board will provide snacks.

The event will feature performances by Grammy-nominated band Hiatus Kaiyote with IC Beatbox, junior Tyler Dance as disk jockey and sophomore San Williams. The performances are sponsored by the Bureau of Concerts.

The event is only open to the

college community, and attendees must bring their Ithaca College ID card to get in.

Business school to hold farewell for interim dean

A farewell reception for Jim Simpson, the interim dean for the School of Business, as well as Athena Zhang, assistant professor in the Department of Finance and International Business, will be held from 4–5 p.m. April 29 in the second-floor atrium of the business school.

Simpson was named interim dean in June of last year after retiring from teaching at the University of Alabama at Huntsville. He replaced Mary Ellen Zuckerman, who became provost and vice president of academic affairs at SUNY Brockport. Simpson will return to Alabama at the end of May. Zhang will leave for a position at California State University at Chico. Zhang holds a doctorate degree in finance from Washington State University and has been at the college since 2009.

The college is in the process of selecting a permanent dean. Three candidates for the permanent position have visited the college to give presentations to an open meeting of students, faculty and staff. The three candidates for the position are: Sean Reid, associate dean of the School of Business at Quinnipiac University; Pat Dickson, associate dean of undergraduate programs and associate professor at Wake Forest University's School of Business and former president of the United States

Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Jeff Weiss, adjunct professor of business administration in the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

IC Progressives to host events for Earth Week

In celebration of Earth Day, IC Progressives will host a bonfire at 7:30 p.m. April 23 on the Campus Center Quad. Electronics are discouraged, and students are encouraged to bring musical instruments, games and food. This event is a part of the Earth Week celebrations from April 19–26.

Upcoming events include a tour of the Permaculture Garden on April 24 outside of

Phillips Hall and a nature walk on April 25. Also on April 25, there will be a benefit concert in IC Square advocating the end of the elephant ivory trade. Admission is \$5, and proceeds will be donated to a charity dedicated to stopping elephant poaching. IC Progressives will co-host a dog wash with IC Animal Rights on April 26.

Between April 19 and 23, IC Progressives hosted a presentation on clean energy, a screening of a documentary about hemp production called "Bringing it Home," a mushroom workshop and a climate change discussion.

IC Progressives is promoting the events using the hashtag #ICEarthWeek.



Celebrating African music

Aloja Airewele, an Ithaca resident and Nigeria native, performed Afrobeats at the Sankofa Banquet, the final event of IC African Students Association's Africa Week on April 18 in Emerson Suites.

KELLIE HODSON / THE ITHACAN

CORRECTIONS

It is *The Ithacan's* policy to correct all errors of fact. Please contact the Editor at 274-3207.

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Students hold Diversity Town Hall Meeting

BY SHAKIRAH RAY
STAFF WRITER

About 30 Ithaca College students came together to discuss ways to enhance the college experience for students of color April 18 at the college's first Diversity Town Hall Meeting.

The event was hosted by Cornell Woodson '09, associate director for diversity and inclusion at the Cornell University School of Industrial Labor Relations; and seniors Sierra Council; Candace King; and Crystal Kayiza, president of the Student Government Association.

The point of the discussion was to help bridge the gap in communication between students of color and the administration and to come up with solutions that work for both sides, Council said.

"We have been talking about diversity ever since I came to IC, whether it's within communities of color or from the administration claiming to address the need for diversity on campus," Council said.

Present at the meeting were Nancy Law, director of alumni engagement; John Braddock, director of Career Services; and Lynne Pierce, associate director of alumni relations.

As students walked in, they received a red and a green index card and a worksheet. On the red index card students were asked to write down their own personal fears of what would happen at the meeting. On the green card the students were asked to write down what they hoped to get out of the meeting.

Freshman Luis Torres said he attended the meeting because diversity is an important issue on campus, and there is not much dialogue about it outside of the minority groups.

"[My hope is that] we will be able to actually accomplish the goals that we set and not forget about it when we leave this room. [My fear is that] the conversations we start will not be taken seriously," Torres said.

On the worksheet students were asked to fill in the five bubbles with their top-five most salient identities.

Woodson's expectations were that people would share their experiences and that people would be validated, he said via email. His next expectation was that people would identify spaces on campus where they felt unsafe in their identities as people of color; members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender



From left, sophomores Melanie De Lima, Cecilia Morales, Ndella Seck and freshman Angela Pradhan engage in conversation about identities at the college's first Diversity Town Hall Meeting on April 18.

AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

community; women; or other marginalized groups. Lastly, he said he hoped the students would develop tangible initiatives that they felt needed to be implemented.

"As an administrator myself and even as a student leader at IC, I often feel that students have no problem voicing their feelings," Woodson said via email. "However, they don't always offer up an answer to how to make IC more inclusive. I think offering up tangible ideas to administration makes it harder to place these issues on the back burner."

One way to make the campus more inclusive would be to establish more diversity requirements, freshman Brittany Gardner said.

She said another way would be to develop more collaboration between the African, Latino, Asian, Native American community and the administration.

"The administration should be more involved in ALANA events and have more representation of minorities in administration," Gardner said.

Sophomore Cecilia Morales said college

diversity initiatives are not implemented in a large-scale way.

In the next activity they discussed the spaces on campus where they felt unsafe or where their identities were threatened.

Junior Lashanda Anakwah said she feels unsafe in the classroom.

"I take a lot of politics classes because it's my minor, and whenever a race issue comes up it's very obvious that people feel uncomfortable because I am in the classroom," Anakwah said.

Since some administrative leaders were present from Career Services and the Office of Alumni Relations, freshman Ngan Tran said she wants to look out to see if some of the ideas discussed at the meeting get implemented. She also said she hopes to see more students joining in on the conversation about diversity.

"From this town meeting, I understand that student activism is very important even though it is something difficult to sustain," Tran said. "I hope that more students will join the town meeting and express their experience at IC so far."

College letter to adjuncts disappoints supporters

BY MAX DENNING
ONLINE NEWS EDITOR

The National Labor Relations Board has finalized the date for Ithaca College's part-time faculty unionization election, which Linda Petrosino, interim provost for educational affairs, detailed in a letter to part-time faculty April 22.

On April 15, the Ithaca College part-time faculty filed a petition to unionize with the National Labor Relations Board. Part-time faculty members met with President Tom Rochon; Nancy Pringle, vice president and counsel for the division of human and legal resources; and Linda Petrosino, interim provost and vice president for educational affairs, and presented a petition of 660 signatures from students and alumni collected by Students for Labor Action, a group of students who support the unionization efforts.

According to the letter, the NLRB's office in Buffalo will mail a ballot to each eligible voter's home address on May 11. The deadline for the receipt of the completed ballots by the NLRB is May 27. On May 28, the NLRB will count the ballots and announce the results. In the letter, Petrosino said the college hopes to maintain its current direct working relationship with the part-time and adjunct faculty without the influence of a third party.

"We hope most of you will

choose to vote no, but above all else we hope everyone will vote so that the final decision, either way, will reflect the wishes a true majority," Petrosino said in the letter.

On April 17, Rochon and Petrosino released a statement on Intercom in response to part-time faculty filing for unionization, and organizers and supporters of the unionization effort said they are disappointed with the response.

The statement said the college is "neither 'anti-union' nor 'pro-union.'" In the following paragraph, the statement says the college wants to keep a direct relationship with the part-time faculty.

"Although it is not our decision, from the College's perspective as an employer, we would prefer to maintain a direct working relationship with each member of the part-time and adjunct faculty," it said.

The statement also introduces a Web page the college created titled "Union Choice." The Web page includes the college's statement, frequently asked questions, additional resources and a section titled "Part-Time Faculty Compensation."

Rachel Kaufman, a lecturer in the Department of Writing and a member of the Adjunct Organizing Committee, said she was not happy with the administration's response.

"After our discussion with the president, we were disappointed to see that they put this website up and



Members of the Adjunct Organizing Committee and Students for Labor Action brought a petition to President Tom Rochon's office April 15.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN

responded by not staying neutral," she said.

Brody Burroughs, part-time professor in the Department of Art and member of the committee, echoed Kaufman's sentiments.

"For me, it does little more than illustrate the difference between their perception of our working conditions and the reality I have experienced for years," he said.

Under the "Part-Time Faculty Compensation" section of the website, two subsections are titled "Competitive Salaries" and "Excellent Working Environment."

The college has also hired Bond, Schoeneck & King as legal counsel during the unionization process.

David Maley, senior associate director for media and community

relations, said the college has retained outside legal counsel on an "as-needed basis," and BS&K has provided services to the college for about 40 years. Maley said the college will utilize the law firm to help the college conform to the National Labor Relations Act.

"Just as SEIU Local 200United has legal assistance in ensuring compliance with the National Labor Relations Act, BS&K is assisting the college," he said.

BS&K was hired by Marist College during its part-time faculty's unionization efforts, which resulted in a vote against unionization in July 2014.

Burroughs said he believes part-time faculty and administration will still be able to cooperate.

Residence halls reduce energy in competition

BY EDDIE DOWD
STAFF WRITER

Following the success of last year's Ithaca College Energy Challenge, a competition among the residence halls to reduce energy consumption, this year's challenge was extended two weeks and recognized two winners: Rowland Hall for lowest energy use and Terrace 6 for most reduced energy consumption.

Rowland Hall had the lowest energy used out of all residential housing, not including the Circle Apartments, totaling 20.9 kilowatt-hours per capita. Terrace 6, winning the award for most reduced energy consumption since December, began at 69.55 kwh per capita and reduced its consumption to 30.3 kwh per capita, which resulted in a total reduction of 39.25 kwh per capita. The IC Residence Hall Association, the Office of Energy Management and Sustainability, and the Resource and Environmental Management Program sponsored the challenge and awarded ice cream parties to the winners.

Sophomore Jen Francisco, a resident assistant in Rowland Hall, said she made an effort to teach residents on her floor the simple ways to save energy.

"My floor definitely made an effort to cut back," she said. "I encouraged my residents to turn off the lights when they left the room, unplug chargers and shut the bathroom lights off when nobody was in there."

Sophomore Ella Sciocchetti, a co-planner of the event, said this year's challenge added a category for most-reduced consumption in order to account for the varying power use in different areas.

"Last year we discovered that the Garden Apartments just generally have lower energy consumption," she said. "We figure more people are out of their rooms, things like that. So to make it more fair we added two kinds of winners."

Sciocchetti's community in Lyon Hall, which saw the greatest overall reduction of energy use in last year's challenge, wrote energy-saving reminders on the bathroom mirrors and turned off the LCD screens in the residence hall in order to save energy.

Lew Durland, director of energy management and sustainability, said conserving energy is especially important on a college campus.

"Ithaca College consumes a large amount of energy to maintain a quality living and learning environment," he said. "Efficient use of energy conserves valuable resources, is sensitive to the environment and reduces our operating costs."

Sciocchetti said the first two weeks of this year's challenge, which began March 23 and ended April 20, saved approximately \$1,400 in energy costs. Though this dwarfs in comparison to the college's expenses, it still matters, Durland said.

"Everything, regardless of amount of money saved, makes a difference," he said. "It's good for the planet and its life support systems, good for our community and good for Ithaca College."

ICC

FROM PAGE 1

to take,” he said.

Johnson also said discussions have occurred about reducing the number of themes to increase the number of options in each theme.

“I think a reduction would be more likely than an increase, simply because each theme should have a robust number of courses so that there are some options,” she said.

Sophomore Maddy Feiner, whose theme is Identities, said she thought most people pick themes based on the classes that are offered in that theme, instead of picking the theme they are most interested in.

“My ICC theme has nothing to do with who I am, what I am interested in or my ideal career path,” she said.

Currently, the Quest for a Sustainable Future theme has the smallest number of classes and students enrolled: 187 students between the classes of 2017 and 2018. Identities has about 1,100 students enrolled, the highest number, but saw a decline from the sophomore to the freshman class, enrolling 680 students in Fall 2013 and then 461 students this fall.

When students get on campus, there is a mixed reaction to the ICC and the themes, Johnson said.

“There are a number of students who really like the idea of the themes and the connections between them,” she said. “There are other students who find the themes constraining.”

Course availability has been a concern of some students, Johnson said. For example, sophomore Tal Aizen, an exercise science major, said he has been frustrated by the perspectives portion of the ICC.

“It’s been difficult to find classes,” he said. “I’m taking eight semesters of natural sciences, but none of them fill the natural science requirement.”

Sullivan said when the ICC was being designed, the themes made the ICC different from integrative gen-ed programs at other schools. He said ICC classes were intended to be classes designed to specifically fit into each theme, rather than attaching a theme to an existing class. These purpose-built classes, he said, make students see the connections between different courses in their themes.

“It was supposed to be built almost entirely on built-to-purpose courses in which faculty would say, ‘I’m interested in building a course in this theme,’ and it would be populated by students in that theme,” he said.

Another aspect of the ICC which is being reviewed is the ePortfolio, Vincent DeTuri, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and the recently hired director of the ICC, said.

“Right now, it’s a portfolio where you put stuff on there ... and then you stop,” he said. “Why not make it available to potential employers as a way to showcase what you’ve done at Ithaca College, and something that you would take with you.”

As a television-radio major, Haas said he does not plan on using his portfolio, as he thinks the artifacts from his theme would not be something employers would be looking at.

“They don’t care what I did in Sustainability Principles and Practices. They don’t care what I did in Art Across Cultures. What matters is what I did in TV-R,” he said. “I’m not going to hand them my portfolio and show them a bunch of essays that I wrote in classes that have no pertinence or relevance to the job at all.”

Some students, such as sophomore Rosalyn Moisan, say they understand the aims of the ICC but think it needs time to develop.

“I think the ICC has a lot of great potential even though it’s been confusing,” she said. “We’re in the midst of working out the details, and that’s just the reality we have to face. But I think five years down the road, it’ll be better.”

Sophomore Remy Litvin said he has had a positive experience with the ICC.

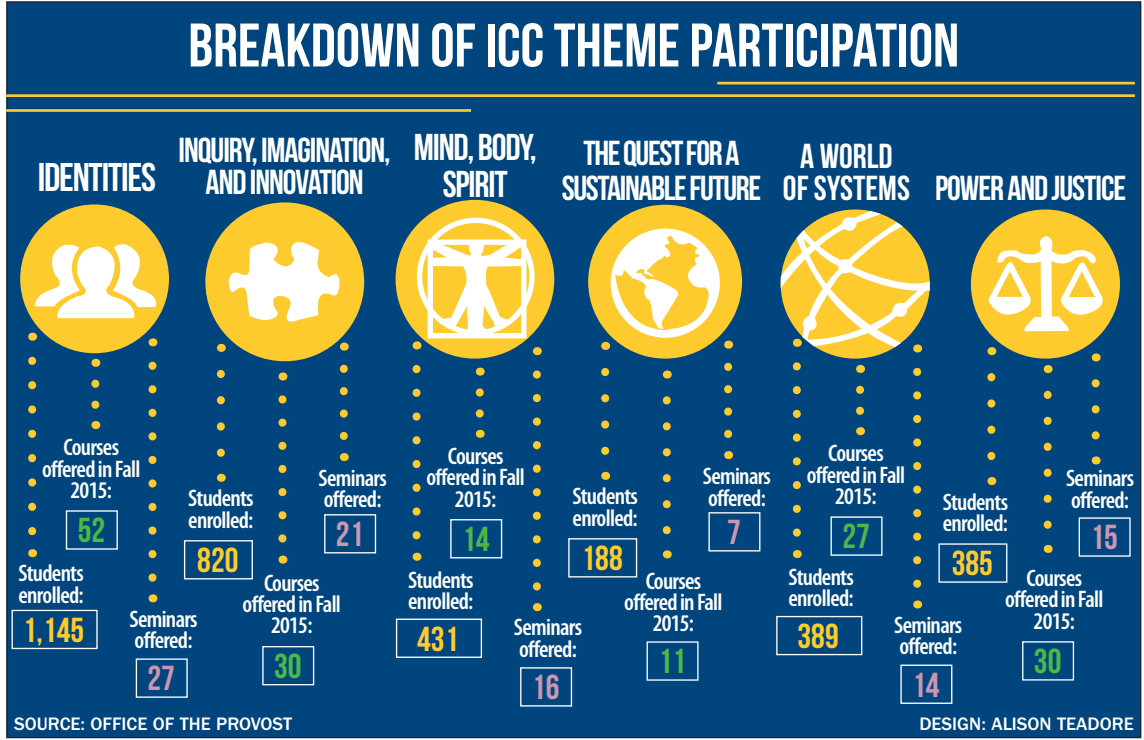
“I appreciate the program’s goals,” he said. “I’ve been exposed to a lot of classes I would have probably not taken otherwise.”

While professors also appreciate the goals, some say they wish the ICC was simpler and easier to get classes approved. Paula Turkon, an assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences said she had some difficulties understanding the program and advising students, which would be



President Tom Rochon introduces the ICC and IC 20/20 in his address to prospective students and their parents at Ithaca Today on April 11.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN



impossible without the help of the advising center.

Turkon is part of a committee which reviews applications from professors who are trying to designate courses as ICC credits. This committee helps review applications from the professors and make recommendations. Turkon said professors need to provide a syllabus and fill out a form explaining how their classes are integrative, how they meet the learning objectives of different themes and what artifacts may come from the class.

Sullivan said implementing a core curriculum is difficult, and the people currently involved in the implementation are not those who initially were responsible: Sullivan’s committee. He said confusion is common in his discussions with faculty.

“There’s been a widespread feeling that we’ve been bogged down in bureaucracy,” he said. “There’s widespread wondering about when we’re going to see the ICC we actually approved.”

At Ithaca Today, the annual event for accepted students, President Tom Rochon pitched the ICC to admitted students who were considering attending the college. Rochon said general education requirements should not just be something to check off a list: They should relate to subjects students are passionate about.

“By taking some of your general education courses connected to a shared theme, you get to see how scientific thinking, humanistic thinking and artistic thinking all fit together to create insight and knowledge you can use in the world, insight that is greater than you would have from any one disciplinary perspective,” he said.

Also a parent of a prospective student, Turkon said the ICC was an appealing curriculum for her daughter Bretana, because she is entering a specialized program.

“For me, the ICC is a strong draw for her, because I think she is going to have a more deliberate basic liberal arts education that I don’t think she would have in the general education curriculum,” she said.

Multiple admitted students who attended Ithaca Today said they were intrigued by the ICC.

Alison Thomson, an admitted student who attended Ithaca Today, said the ICC played a part in her decision to attend the college.

“I liked that I could gear it more towards what I’m interested in, unlike other schools where you have to take this class, this class and that class,” she said.

DeTuri said he has worked at orientations, and the incoming students he has talked to seemed excited to take courses in themes with different perspectives. He said he was eager to address some of the “growing pains” of the ICC, which occur with any major change.

“Overall, it’s a great way to do a general education program, focusing on liberal arts,” he said. “Tying together various courses under a theme is really unique — it’s not a distribution system.”

VISION TEST

Infusion of ICC into residence halls generates mixed reactions

BY KAYLA DWYER
NEWS EDITOR

Even with new policies this year incentivizing students in First-Year Residential Experience housing to attend FYRE theme events, low attendance and critical feedback from resident assistants have prompted the Office of Residential Life to make some fundamental changes.

Over the course of the Fall 2014 semester, under the current FYRE structure, a total of about 500 students have attended a theme program, of about 1,550 students in the freshman class on campus, Jacqueline Robilotta, assistant director of residential life, said. In practice, there are many FYRE events that receive zero resident attendees, despite the FYRE Incentive, which enters students who attend theme programs into a raffle to win \$2,000 toward their housing for the following year.

French professor Anne Theobald is in her third year as a faculty associate, a faculty member who collaborates with RAs on programming, in the Boothroyd-Rowland-Talcott cluster. Though she was excited about the theme programs to be introduced to the FYRE last year, her first attempt at helping organize one for the World of Systems theme — a game of jeopardy containing facts about the college, Ithaca and BRT — resulted in a party of three: the two RAs and her.

“It’s frustrating because there’s a lot of effort that goes into it,” Theobald said. “I really just want to have connections with

students who aren’t necessarily in my classes.”

The ICC theme programs are currently organized to draw from students within a particular theme and housing cluster, or group of two to three residence halls. In response to the low-attendance records, Residential Life is transitioning the ICC theme programs from one theme-based model to two different floor-based models, inviting students from a particular floor to the programs regardless of theme, Robilotta said.

“People get more involved organically with their floor than with their theme,” she said.

Junior Sean Themea, an RA in BRT, said he has not had a single event where students from World of Systems came to a World of Systems cross-cluster event. But he said the problem isn’t the subject of the events but the fact that they are supposed to draw from students across clusters, rather than from the floor communities.

“It’s hard to outreach to people I’m not seeing on a daily basis,” he said.

That’s why sophomore RA Jennifer Francisco said the floor-based model would be more effective at drawing a crowd, as she said it currently does in her floor programs.

“It’s a lot easier to get information out in the floor community,” she said. “People like to go to things with their friends.”

Beginning in Fall 2015, the college will be implementing two different versions of FYRE throughout the housing clusters: the Engaging Perspectives model and the Community

Connections model. The Engaging Perspectives model will look at all six themes, implementing floor programs that ask students to showcase and share different elements of their respective themes. The Community Connections model is a departure from the ICC and will include floor events focused on community values and the importance of supporting floor community members and student organizations.

Engaging Perspectives will be implemented in West Tower, the BRT cluster and the Landon-Bogart-Clarke cluster. Community Connections will be in place in East Tower, the Hilliard-Holmes-Hood cluster and the Eastman-Lyon cluster.

Since the launch of the FYRE in 2013, it has seen other systemic changes, including an expansion of exclusively first-year housing to all of the upper- and lower-quadrant residence halls and towers residence halls in the fall of 2014, and with the floor program remodeling planned for the fall of 2015.

Bonnie Prunty, director of Residential Life, said the two models will be tested out next year to determine whether utilizing the ICC is the most effective academic strategy in the residence halls. This will be the second in a three-year pilot of the FYRE. The first year of the launch, 2013–14, was a developmental year, testing the model on a smaller scale until Residential Life received special funding to fully implement the FYRE for all first-years in 2014–15. Following next year,

See RES LIFE, page 6

VISION TEST

Diversity initiatives perceived to fall short of expectations

BY NATALIE SHANKLIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Just two years into the implementation of Ithaca College's Integrative Core Curriculum, the School of Humanities and Sciences has cut its diversity requirement in half.

More than a hundred faculty members from H&S voted on whether to drop one of the school's two ICC diversity requirements in late March, with 75 percent of the faculty voting in support of the cut.

Diversity programming is one of the 10 key initiatives of IC 20/20, including goals to launch educational and professional programming that draws diverse individuals and groups to the college.

H&S originally had two diversity requirements, while each of the other four schools on campus had only one. This is because before the ICC, H&S had two cultural studies requirements — a global perspective and a historical perspective — which were translated into the diversity requirements of the ICC when it was implemented in Fall 2013.

Danette Johnson, vice provost at the college, said the school's decision to eliminate one of the requirements does not hinder the diversity initiatives of IC 20/20 but rather puts H&S in line with the rest of the campus.

However, Gustavo Licon, an assistant professor in the Center for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity, said he was disappointed by the H&S faculty's vote.

"The fact that when folks received the feedback that students were tight on their schedule, they would identify that eliminating one of the diversity requirements is a remedy to loosening up the requirement on the students, is disappointing and, to a certain degree, expected," he said.

The diversity requirement of the ICC is part of the administration's strategic plan for diversity, requiring students to take at least one diversity course in order to graduate.

These courses are designed to reflect the diversity focus of the college's mission statement, which states the college values diversity, is committed to promoting equality

and aims to teach students about the position of minority groups in society.

Another goal of the diversity requirement is to have students change their perspectives on what diversity means by the time they graduate, Paul Geisler, associate professor and director of the exercise and sport sciences department, said. Geisler is also a member of the Committee on College Requirements, where he has been serving for a year as a liaison on a diversity subcommittee and is responsible for reviewing proposals for diversity courses that are submitted by faculty.

"It was designed to be much more than the

mixing bowl metaphor of diversity," he said.

In addition to having the ICC work to engage students in diversity topics in their classes, the administration has prioritized increasing and retaining the number of African, Latino, Asian and Native American students and faculty at the college, Johnson said.

She said one way the college tries to do this is by maintaining diversity programs such as the Martin Luther King Scholar Program and the Housing Offering a Multicultural Experience residential learning community.

To promote the hiring and retention of ALANA faculty, Johnson said she has worked

with Michelle Rios-Dominguez, manager of diversity and inclusion of the Department of Human Resources, and Belisa Gonzalez, sociology professor and director of the CSCRE, to develop programming for faculty about inclusivity in the hiring process.

In the 2009–10 academic year, when IC 20/20 was first implemented, approximately 8.12 percent of faculty were of a minority ethnic background, according to the Common Data Set from the Office of Institutional Research. This percentage has grown 2.16 percent in the last five years.

Johnson said she believes this promotion and retention of an ALANA community on campus is one of the top priorities when it comes to furthering diversity at the college.

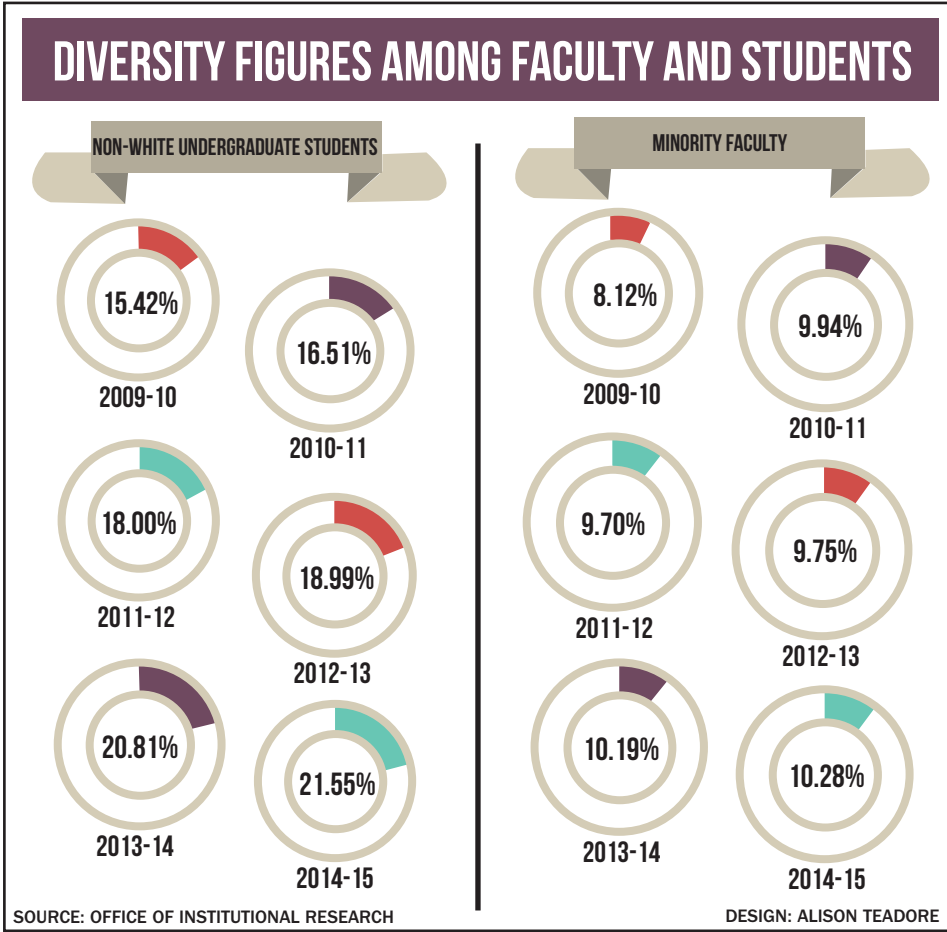
"Genuinely diversifying the people we interact with on a daily basis is, in my view, the most important thing," she said.

However, she said there are challenges in reaching this diversity because other institutions are striving for similar goals, making achieving them more competitive.

Johnson said there had been a group working with Traevana Byrd, former associate counsel and director of equal opportunity compliance in legal affairs, and Leslie Kelly, manager of Student Accessibility Services, to address ongoing concerns about accommodations for people with physical disabilities. After Byrd left the college for a position at the University of Maryland, the group continued to collaborate with Kelly on the issue.

Other initiatives under the diversity goals include addressing issues of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender inclusion. Johnson said the main focus of this has been on inclusivity in residential life, as well as maintaining the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach, and Services as a resource for students.

Luca Maurer, LGBT education and outreach and services director, said he provides training for Residential Life staff and other groups on campus, as well as specialized consultation for Residential Life staff.



See DIVERSITY, page 6

VISION TEST

International expansion placed on back burner

BY AIDAN QUIGLEY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

As part of Ithaca College's IC 20/20 global learning opportunity initiative, the college made plans to establish a New York City program as well as a center in Shanghai, China. Although the New York City program has been established and is seeing increased participation, the status for the planned center in Shanghai has returned to its early stages.

Along with the campus in Ithaca, the college has designated Ithaca College programs in London, Los Angeles and New York City. Although New York and LA are located in the United States, they are still considered part of the global learning opportunity initiative in the IC 20/20 plan. The college has been looking toward forming a center in Shanghai, but the development of a Shanghai center has fallen below other priorities.

In 2013, President Tom Rochon traveled to Shanghai Normal University in Shanghai, signing a "Memorandum of Understanding" with the leadership of Shanghai Normal. This agreement signified both institutions' shared interest in developing Ithaca College's Shanghai center at Shanghai Normal.

Tanya Saunders, assistant provost of international studies and special projects, said the Shanghai program is "back to square

one." After a change in leadership at Shanghai Normal, Saunders said Rochon needs to return to Shanghai to revalidate the Memorandum of Understanding with the new leadership, but he is currently focused on the college's comprehensive campaign.

Rochon added though Shanghai Normal is a prominent contender for a partnership, it is not the only university in Shanghai the college is considering. He said the planning is still in the early stages and that he could not comment on the other potential partners.

"Although we hope to create such a collaboration in the future, in the form of a center modeled on our existing centers in Los Angeles, New York and London, at this moment even the outlines of a China center do not exist," he said.

Rochon said the IC 20/20 program has many initiatives other than the China center, and the college has five more years to complete them.

"Our focus has been elsewhere during this academic year, meaning, for example, that I did not visit China to continue our dialogue," he said via email. "With respect to the China program, the gains this year were in making additional connections that will be of help when we renew the direct diplomacy efforts."

Saunders said establishing the Shanghai center by 2020 is still

the goal. She said the college was making good progress before the change in leadership set the plans about one year behind.

"I don't think we'll move as fast as we thought we would," she said. "We're not doing too badly. We're learning as we go."

As for ICNYC, director Hersey Egginton said enrollment is trending upward. This semester's attendance of 44 students is the second-highest since the program began in 2012 as part of IC 20/20. The IC 20/20 website lists turning the ICNYC program from a pilot into "full swing" as a success for the 2012–13 school year. The 30 students who intend on studying in New York City in the fall will be the highest fall semester enrollment.

Brianna Ryan, a senior who participated in the New York City program during the Fall 2013 semester, said the program was the best semester of her college career and that she would definitely recommend students go to one of the college's global centers.

"You get internship experience, you get to explore somewhere new and get to immerse yourself in the culture of the new city," she said. "It's a completely different experience."

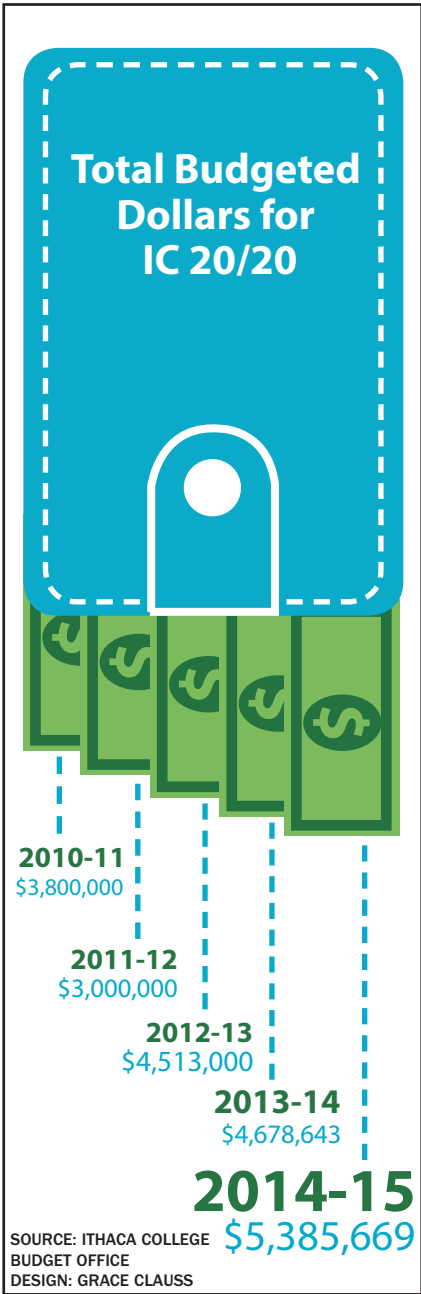
Saunders said the college has done various things as part of the IC 20/20 initiative to bolster study-abroad opportunities. The college has provided funds for the purchase of Studio Abroad, a

software program that allows students to apply for study-abroad opportunities online, she said. Also, the Office of International Programs and Studies has been moved to a more central location on campus, in Job Hall, from the Center of Health Sciences. She said the promotion of experiential learning by the college has helped raise the profiles of the off-campus centers, including the London Center and other study-abroad opportunities.

According to the London Center website, the program addresses the experiential learning goals of the IC 20/20 plan. Although the London program has been in operation since 1972, it has been growing steadily since 2010, the roll-out of the IC 20/20. During the 2010–11 school year, 169 students attended London, while 184 students attended during the 2014–15 school year. This semester, the 127 students currently studying in London is the highest number for a semester since 2010, and Thorunn Lonsdale, associate director of the London Center, said 123 students have signed up for next fall, compared to only 57 in Fall 2014.

As for Los Angeles, a program for only students in the Roy H. Park School of Communications, which has been in operation since 1992, this year, 149 students have participated,

See ABROAD, page 6



ABROAD FROM PAGE 5

up from 131 students in 2010. During the 2012–13 school year, 206 students attended, the highest amount during the period between 2010 and 2015. On average, 83 students attended each spring, about 63 students attended in the fall and about 27 students attended during the summer.

Stephen Tro-piano, director of the Los Angeles Program, said the global learning opportunities offer students experiences they cannot receive on campus.



SAUNDERS

“What we’re doing is giving students the opportunity to broaden their horizons a little bit to sort of go beyond doing everything on the college campus,” he said.

The other satellite campuses focus on providing internships and a traditional scholarly environment, Saunders said. Egginton, Lonsdale and Tropiano all said their programs offer students immersive internship experiences.

The London and Los Angeles centers both have a dedicated space for students to take classes and collaborate. On the other hand, the New York City program leases classroom space from the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations Conference Center.

The college also has a collaboration with Cornell in Washington, D.C., in which there are five spots reserved in the Cornell-affiliated program in D.C. for Ithaca College students. The college used to have its own program, but the program was suspended in 2011 due to decreasing interest.

Egginton said with the agreement with Cornell in New York City, they are limited in the time they can spend in the building. He said not having an Ithaca College center there is a big disadvantage for the program, but he hopes this will change by 2020.

“I would see it having a space that has the college’s name on the directory — I would have an office as opposed to having to work out of my home — that students could go there at the end of the day and see one another there,” he said.

Students in the New York program and the London program both have to find their own housing.

As the first wave of students under the Integrative Core Curriculum begins to study abroad, an aspect of the IC 20/20 plan that has not yet been fully established and integrated into the workings of these abroad centers is the ICC. Saunders said she did not think the ICC would discourage students from studying abroad, as with the current sophomore class she has seen no decrease in the number of students studying abroad. Also, the ICC committee created a method for students to petition for a class they are going to take abroad to qualify as part of the ICC.

Egginton said the New York City program offers one ICC course, but it is planning on adding more in the future.

“That’s an anticipated next step,” he said. “The whole process is to get students so they can apply their learning from the classroom into the real world. So where would be better for that than New York or one of the other centers?”

Lonsdale said the London program offers six ICC courses under themes and one writing intensive course, and that well-rounded opportunities are what make the global learning opportunities such a valuable resource to students.

“If your credits transfer as normal and your tuition fees are no more, why would you not choose to have a foreign or a global experience in terms of understanding the worlds you live in?” she said.

DIVERSITY FROM PAGE 5

“When my office sponsors visiting guest lecturers or other learning opportunities, I also work with Residential Life to identify which may be of particular benefit to the learning goals and needs of their staff,” Maurer said via email.

Johnson also said there has been progress in dealing with issues brought up in protests about structural violence at the end of the Fall 2014 semester. She said Linda Petrosino, interim provost and vice president in the Department of Educational Affairs, has been meeting with a group of students, faculty and administrators to address issues such as microaggressions, as well as student demands for a structured Native American studies minor.

As a result of these efforts, the administration has been able to hire a full-time faculty member for the Native American studies minor, Michael Taylor, who taught in the anthropology department in the fall of 2014. Johnson said Taylor will be able to supplement the CSCRE course offerings in Native American studies, but only for one year as a sabbatical replacement, which Licon said is not enough. Licon said the minor needs someone on a tenure track.

“The full-time faculty member is a great help, or supplement, but I think what we really need is someone to be hired in Native American studies, so that we can provide a core or base for the minor,” Licon said.

Licon said while he believes the administration genuinely wants to achieve diversity within the college, economic obstacles often push diversity concerns to the background.

“I know, from what I



Vice Provost Danette Johnson said the administration is working to develop programming to help further the diversity initiatives of IC 20/20.

ERICA DISCHINO/THE ITHACAN

understand in terms of history of diversity program in universities, folks like the idea of diversity, and institutions like to promote how diverse they are, but when there are any economic issues, it’s usually the diversity initiatives that need to go first,” he said.

Senior Sierra Council, co-executive producer of ICTV’s “The Roundtable,” a new social justice newscast, said she feels the administration has made progress in beginning conversations about diversity issues, but she said there should be more action taking place on campus.

“There’s more conversation and more use of the word ‘diversity’ in class and at events,” she said. “But what I haven’t seen is a lot of action that goes behind the words.”

She said to try to motivate this action, the administration should be implementing cultural competency training programs as they

relate to specific departments and career fields, as opposed to general diversity instruction. She also said the administration should do more to validate the negative experiences of students, especially those of marginalized groups.

“When people speak up about what they’re experiencing, they get disregarded,” she said. “I think it could lead to some more change if the administration were to say to students, ‘Oh, I get your experience. I hear you.’”

Institutional Research measured in 2009 that 15.42 percent of all undergraduates were of a

“There’s more conversation and more use of the word ‘diversity’ in class and at events.”

But what I have seen is a lot of action that goes behind the words.

— Sierra Council

However, Council said conversation about and examination of diversity issues on campus can only go so far. “I think Ithaca College as a whole needs to do less talking and more acting,” she said. “If you’re not actually listening to my experience, validating my experience and putting some action behind it, all your words are void.”

RES LIFE FROM PAGE 4

she said, the FYRE has another year to establish a permanent system before an evaluation of the program will take place.

This is all in an effort to fulfill the vision within the IC 20/20 initiative to implement an “enhanced first-year housing and learning program,” one that would infuse elements of the Integrative Core Curriculum and faculty cooperation into the residential experience.

Whether theme events are cluster- or floor-based, there is one constant: the fusion of the ICC into residential life. Senior Jonathon Cummings, a former RA in the FYRE, said he thinks combining the two — the ICC and the FYRE — simply doesn’t work because students do not have requirements to participate, unlike in other residential learning communities like the Housing Offering a Multicultural Experience community, which hosts the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholars, the Park Scholars and other interested students.

Senior Justine Gray, also a former RA in the FYRE, said she saw how combining the two

“It’s not perfect right now, but hopefully we can move closer to what students would enjoy in a program.”

—Jacqueline Robilotta

could have helped provide academic learning opportunities, especially for students who were looking for new majors or areas of study. However, she said, the reality is students were in class all day and were not interested in more lectures.

“I thought at the time it would give them more opportunities academically, but instead it just burned them out,” she said. “How are you going to connect with anyone when there are only two people at a program, and one of them’s an RA?”

This is a departure from Gray’s experience in her first year as an RA during her sophomore year, prior to the ICC implementation, when she felt there was more of a focus on community.

“I feel like that was my purpose as an RA: to help you adjust, not to stuff some more lectures down your throat and overwhelm you

even more your first year away from home,” she said.

Prunty said she doesn’t believe it is the content of the programs that drives students away, but the label. It has been a goal of Residential Life to rethink how the theme events are advertised, particularly in the Engaging Perspectives model next year, where the focus in advertising events will be more on the content and less on one academic theme.

The reasoning behind initially bringing the ICC into the FYRE is based on research showing that students who have connections with faculty outside of the classroom are more likely to connect to the institution and decide to stay, Prunty said.

“We’re not looking to create an academic class experience in the residence halls,” she said. “But how do we support and build on the learning that’s happened in the class and now help it come into the residence halls and allow students to engage with faculty and staff around those learning discussions?”

She said her office has looked to the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition at the

University of South Carolina for direction toward other institutions that make the link between academics and residential life. Though the college has drawn inspiration from other schools, she said most other schools have similar struggles with integrating the academic piece in a meaningful and attractive way for students.

But the most fundamental of the issues felt by RAs, Cummings said, was a lack of understanding about the new policies that resulted from bringing the ICC into the FYRE. For Gray, this caused a degree of tension in her staff meetings with FYRE leaders.

“They seemed very defensive of criticisms, which I get,” she said. “It’s a new program, and it’s hard, but it’s also hard for us to implement it when we don’t feel supported in it, and we don’t understand it.”



Residential Life Director Bonnie Prunty said FYRE was inspired by programs at other schools.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

Themea, on the other hand, said Residential Life leaders have been very receptive to their complaints about attendance and other issues during open forum sessions. He said Residential Life has shown its commitment to listening to students by adjusting the program for next year.

Not only is the process stressful for RAs and associates who put considerable thought and energy into programs, Robilotta said, but the learning curve for the FYRE as a whole needs to be considered. She said the FYRE will continue to assess its changes, including a large assessment around this time next year to determine whether it will choose one of the models, or keep or discard both.

“As we’re seeing it at a full scale, we realize that the spirit of it, in my opinion, is still good,” Robilotta said. “We’re helping students transition, we’re helping students build community, we’re helping connect them with faculty and staff, but we just want to make it even better. It’s not perfect right now, but hopefully we can move closer to what students would enjoy in a program.”

Senior leads in ICTV and theater groups

BY ALIZA SESSLER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The arts have always been a significant part of Ithaca College senior Ben Poppleton's life. He has always loved theater, having been involved in the theater department throughout his high school years. Upon entering college, Poppleton knew he wanted to channel his creativity into a career in communications. He discovered he could pursue his passion for the performing arts as well.

"When I got here and realized how good both of those communities were ... [I realized] I can do both of those things," Poppleton said.

Poppleton decided to double major in both cinema and photography and theater studies with a focus in producing and directing.

"The goal would be to go back and forth between both in the future because I love both so much," he said. "I have done various internships with both areas. They go hand in hand."

During his semester in the Los Angeles Program in Spring 2014, Poppleton interned for Imagine TV, working on the base script for the TV show "Empire" on Fox. During that same time, Poppleton interned with the creative team at Heroes and Villains Entertainment, a developing company that is credited for producing several comic books, novels and movies such as "Horrible Bosses" and "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children." This past summer, Poppleton interned at ACM Talent Agency in New York, a company that specializes in voice-over talent.

During his time at the college, Poppleton has been involved with ICTV. Chris Wheatley, manager of TV and radio operations, praised Poppleton for his producing and writing skills. Wheatley said he met Poppleton when he was pitching the series "Boys of 213" in the spring of 2013.

"As one of the producers, Ben took his role very seriously," Wheatley said. "As the production of the show progressed, Ben was like an expectant parent. The final product was a terrific example of how good a scripted comedy can be, even with a small budget."

This semester, Poppleton co-wrote, co-produced and directed the show "The Ivies," a project that he had been working on for a year and a half prior to its production. It premiered



Senior Ben Poppleton stands on the red carpet at the premiere of "The Ivies," an ICTV show he co-wrote, co-produced and directed. Poppleton is involved with both ICTV and IC Players.
MATT GURBAG/THE ITHACAN

April 18 to a full auditorium in the Roy H. Park Hall.

Senior Hannah Berg, who worked as the director of photography on "The Ivies," commended Poppleton for his directorial skills.

"He brought his knowledge of acting and directing from studying in Dillingham together with his knowledge of filmmaking from the Park School in a way that highlighted both cast and crew performances," she said. "On set, Ben always knows what is happening at the moment and 10 steps ahead — a difficult task."

Additionally, Poppleton currently serves as the artistic director for IC Players. Last semester Poppleton showcased his artistic directing abilities when he co-directed "Anna and the Tropics." He also said he changed IC Players from being an organization funded by ticket sales to one funded solely by donations. Poppleton said the money is donated to centers for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities such as Out for Health, the Advocacy Center for Tompkins County and Planned Parenthood.

"All the money we get from people

buying tickets goes to a group in the community. Hopefully that is something they'll continue when I leave," Poppleton said.

Poppleton is recognized by the Leadership Scholars Program, which awards students who demonstrate exemplary leadership skills and academics. He has also been a Lead-In leader, helping to lead a program designed to prepare first-year students to become involved and take on leadership roles on campus held prior to the start of classes. He was also an orientation leader. Michele Lenhart, director of student leadership and involvement, said Poppleton was an exemplary leader on campus.

"His active involvement in numerous student organizations, volunteer events and leadership workshops is impressive," she said.

Looking back on his college career, Poppleton said his best advice for incoming students and current students is to step outside of their comfort zones.

"All the things I ended up doing and loving here at IC were because I took risks," he said. "Try everything, and don't be afraid that it might fail."

SGA votes 'yes' to diversity committee

BY EVAN POPP
STAFF WRITER

The Ithaca College Student Government Association amended Article VII of its constitution to establish a diversity and inclusion committee.

The amendment, sponsored by junior Elijah Breton, senator for the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance; senior Meredith Knowles, senator-at-large; and junior Kyle James, vice president of communications, passed through the SGA unanimously at its April 20 meeting.

The SGA diversity and inclusion committee will "create new legislation that creates diversity and inclusion at Ithaca College" as well as look at and propose changes to the administration regarding current institutional policies. It will also work with students, faculty, staff and the administration on designing methods to improve diversity and inclusion at the college.

Breton said the committee will be implemented for next semester and will function as a place for students to bring concerns they want conveyed to the administration about diversity and inclusion on campus. Breton added that the committee will continue efforts made by the SGA this academic year regarding these issues.

"It allows us to build off of the work that's been done this year and looking into how we can create areas and spaces for students to bring their concerns with diversity and inclusion," Breton said.

The committee will be co-chaired by the SGA president and the vice president of campus affairs. The amendment also calls for the committee to be made up of at least two SGA senators and at least two students-at-large.

Students take independent research projects across the country

BY TAYLOR ZAMBRANO
STAFF WRITER

"It was absolutely crazy," senior Curt McConnell said. "It was like a nerd paradise."

McConnell was one of 11 students from Ithaca College to attend and present at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research from April 16–18 in Cheney, Washington.

Robert Sullivan, associate professor and chair of the communication studies department, said the purpose of the conference, held this year at Eastern Washington University, is to give the student attendees an experience in publicizing the independent research they're doing on campus. He said the students who go don't just present a good paper they've written, but an on-going project they've been pursuing on their own. Often the college sends students from five or six different majors, he said.

This year's group included seniors Jonathon Cummings, a culture and communication major; Sarah Casola, a biology major; Holly Garbacz, a biology major; Reyah Hoxie, a biochemistry major; Ellen Jackson, a voice performance major; Kathyann Lee, a biology major; and McConnell, an environmental science major; juniors Samuel Kuperman, a journalism major; Sean Themea, a communication studies major; and Erika Bucior, an environmental studies major; and sophomore Sarah Pearson, a politics major. Sullivan said there were

about 3,000 students from all over the country at the conference.

When students present their work during the Whalen Symposium, he said, they're performing in a familiar environment. However, he said presenting at the NCUR is a different experience entirely.

"For many [students], this will be their first experience in a conference outside of the comfort zone of Ithaca College," Sullivan said.

McConnell worked with professor Susan Allen-Gil on his presentation, "Testing the Efficacy of Swistrack for Detecting Alterations in Fish Behavior from Psychoactive Pharmaceuticals," which discusses the effects psychoactive substances have on the behaviors of fish. He said everyone in his field with similar 15-minute presentations involving fish behavior presented around the same time.

"I've noticed that a lot of other people in behavioral toxicology are doing such novel stuff that they haven't shown to anyone else," he said. "So it's really inspiring, and you can really build off your own research on what other people's ideas [are]."

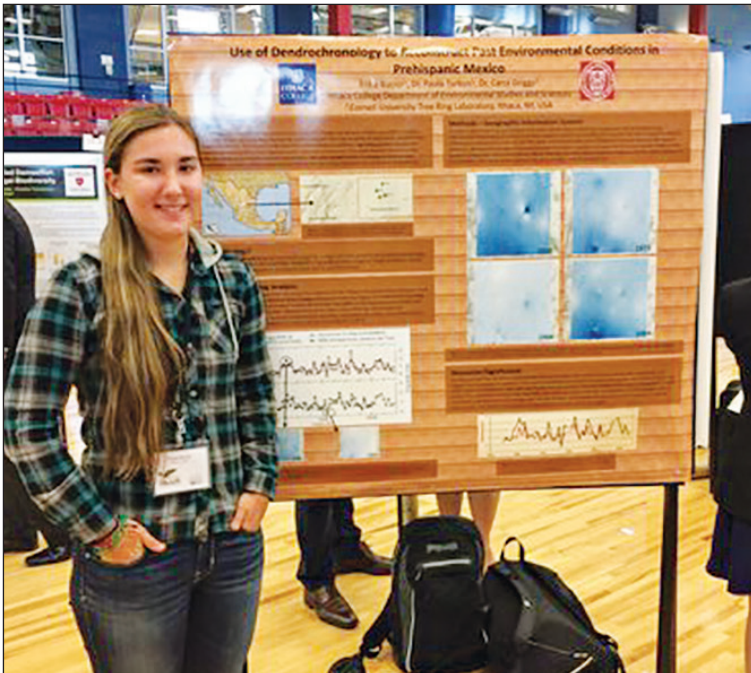
Both of Cummings' presentations were sponsored by Christopher House, associate professor of communication studies. The first one he gave, "One Love: A Rhetorical Analysis of Bob Marley's Music," analyzed Bob Marley's album "Legend" using three different theories: the rhetoric of love, Afrocentrism and power relations.

Cummings' second presentation, "Out of Many One People," built on the notion that it doesn't matter who a person is, everyone is connected. In this presentation, he specifically spoke about cultural expression in the form of resistance, especially through music and the arts.

This is Cummings' second NCUR conference.

Themea presented two projects April 17: "The Race Question: A Case Study on Ideological Rhetoric," under Ozge Heck, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies, and "Time to Get Off Track," under Elizabeth Bleicher, associate professor of English and exploratory program director. His first presentation involved the analysis of the types of arguments that conservative and progressive political figures use during debates and whether these are the best ways to discuss race or not. The second presentation was about the tracks that children are put on at a young age in their educational system and the implications that might come out of it in the future, such as wanting to drop out.

Kuperman, whose presentation involved ethics in fantasy sports journalism, worked under Mead Loop, associate professor and documentary studies program coordinator. Kuperman said Loop asked him to attend the conference after he became involved in his research last spring. He said it was an incredible experience because he was able to see presentations from students



Junior Erika Bucior presents her research on past environmental conditions in Mexico at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research.
COURTESY OF ERIKA BUCIOR

all over the country.

The main idea, Kuperman said, is not just going to the conference to show off your own work but to see what everyone else has to offer as well.

Sullivan said the conference, of which he has been a part for five of the last six years, embodies the ideas that the college pushes for students: undergraduate research, internships and opportunities for independent research. He said he believes the conference has the

potential to be a "high-impact educational experience" for students.

Themea said after reflecting on his work and receiving feedback, he found validation in his research.

"I was really nervous going up there, because come on, I'm a white straight man talking about race, what could go wrong?" Themea said. "But the audience was very receptive ... and I feel very confident in moving forward and developing this forward and maybe presenting this again next year."



ITHACA COLLEGE

Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life

April 23, 2015

To All Ithaca College Students:

We would like to invite you to our traditional celebration for the last Friday of classes – IC Kicks Back. As always, this will be a fun and relaxing experience where you and your friends can create great memories. Besides the free food, and a concert presented by the Bureau of Concerts, you can expect a variety of entertaining activities courtesy of several IC student organizations. IC Kicks Back will be held on **Friday, May 1st from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** in the Campus Center Quad. Look for advertisements about the event. Don't miss out on this fabulous tradition!

We also wanted to remind all Ithaca College students to act responsibly and be safe during these last days of classes. In particular, for those students who live off-campus in the Ithaca community or attend gatherings off-campus, we ask for your cooperation in insuring that a respectful and civil atmosphere is maintained and that the rights of our neighbors are not violated. In addition, please be aware that the New York State Medical Amnesty Law protects people (those who witness an overdose, those who suffer one, and those who call 911 related to the overdose) from being charged or prosecuted. This law was designed to encourage individuals to call 911 for help in an alcohol or drug related emergency, and we sincerely hope that you will not hesitate to do so.

As in years past, the Ithaca Police Department and the Sheriff's Office will have a "zero tolerance" policy in effect and will be arresting those who violate the law. In order to avoid legal problems and fines for yourself or student residents of the South Hill neighborhood, we urge you not to participate in non-sanctioned events. Local law enforcement agencies plan to vigorously enforce all local laws, particularly all alcohol laws including those related to underage drinking and open containers on and around the last day of classes and finals week.

Representatives from the South Hill neighborhood, Ithaca College faculty and administration, and the Student Government Association, encourage you to be safe and make good decisions.

Best wishes for a safe and productive end of the semester.

Sincerely,

Rory Rothman, Senior Associate Vice President, Student Affairs and Campus Life

Crystal Kayiza
President, Student Government Association

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact the Student Affairs and Campus Life Office at (607) 274-3374. We ask that requests for accommodations be made as soon as possible.

MULTIMEDIA

THERE'S EVEN MORE MULTIMEDIA ONLINE.
VISIT THEITHACAN.ORG/MULTIMEDIA.

VIDEO



Video
Members of the baseball team talk about the recent change in baseball seams and how it affects their game play.



Video
Ithaca College students help to produce an intergenerational talent show with members of the Longview community.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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'GRAM OF THE WEEK
[@ithacanonline](https://www.instagram.com/ithacanonline)



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FLICKR



Life & Culture
See photos from the Chamber Orchestra's concert, April 21.



News
Check out pictures of the Sankofa Banquet on April 19.



Sports
View photographs of the men's and women's track meet, April 21.

Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM
APRIL 6 TO APRIL 12

APRIL 6

MAKING GRAFFITI
LOCATION: Gannett Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-hand information that unknown person wrote graffiti. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

LARCENY
LOCATION: Fitness Center
SUMMARY: Person reported an unknown person stole money. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

MEDICAL ASSIST
LOCATION: Campus Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having feelings of weakness and shortness of breath. Person transported to hospital by ambulance staff. Master Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

APRIL 7

FOUND PROPERTY
LOCATION: Friends Hall
SUMMARY: Person found a cellphone and turned it over to public safety. Unknown owner.

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
LOCATION: Rowland Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer judicially referred five persons for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

MEDICAL ASSIST
LOCATION: Whalen Center for Music
SUMMARY: Caller reported person fell and injured head. Person transported to hospital by ambulance staff. Master Patrol Officer Don Lyke.

APRIL 8

LARCENY
LOCATION: Holmes Hall
SUMMARY: Complainant reported unknown person used account without authorization. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Chris Teribury.

V&T VIOLATION
LOCATION: I-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown vehicle damaged parked vehicle and left the scene. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Chris Teribury.

MEDICAL ASSIST
LOCATION: S-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-hand information that person may have been thinking about harming themselves. Officers located individual and determined the person was not in distress. Master Patrol Officer Don Lyke.

APRIL 9

FIRE ALARM
LOCATION: Hill P.E. Center
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Activation caused by contractor. Zones shut down until work is completed. System reset. Fire Protection Specialist Enoch Perkins.

MEDICAL ASSIST
LOCATION: Rowland Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having a seizure. Person transported to hospital by ambulance. Master Patrol Officer Dan Austic.

APRIL 10

CONDUCT CODE VIOLATION
LOCATION: Conservatory Drive
SUMMARY: Caller reported passenger is being unruly and refuses to get off bus. One person judicially referred for failure to comply and excessive noise. Patrol Officer Steve Ward.

CONDUCT CODE VIOLATION
LOCATION: Whalen Center for Music
SUMMARY: Officer reported person sleeping in closed building. One person judicially referred for violating college regulations. Master Security Officer Chris Lemore.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
LOCATION: U-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person damaged light post and knocked it over. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Steve Ward.

ASSIST OTHER AGENCY
LOCATION: Office of Public Safety
SUMMARY: Park police reported one person arrested for DWI and requested assistance with conducting a chemical test. Assistance was provided. Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

APRIL 11

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
LOCATION: Substation Road
SUMMARY: Officer reported people smoking marijuana. Five people judicially referred for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

CONDUCT CODE VIOLATION
LOCATION: Lower Quad
SUMMARY: Caller reported unresponsive person with unknown cause. Person declined medical assistance with ambulance staff and judicially referred for irresponsible use of alcohol. Patrol Officer Steve Ward.

V&T VIOLATION
LOCATION: R-Lot
SUMMARY: During vehicle stop, officer determined operator intoxicated. Officer issued uniform traffic ticket for Ithaca Town Court for DWI, BAC greater than .08 percent and campus summons for speed in zone and for stopping in the roadway. Person also judicially referred for having a fictitious license. Master Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
LOCATION: Landon Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person damaged table. Investigation pending. Sergeant Terry O'Pray.

FIRE ALARM
LOCATION: Garden Apartment 28
SUMMARY: Caller reported fire in

APRIL 12

located extinguisher. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon.

MEDICAL ASSIST
LOCATION: Terrace 1
SUMMARY: Caller reported having chest pains. Person declined medical assistance from ambulance staff. Sergeant Terry O'Pray.

SAFETY HAZARD
LOCATION: Alumni Hall
SUMMARY: Officer reported coffee pot found left on. Report taken. Patrol Officer Jon Elmore.

WELFARE CHECK
LOCATION: Hood Hall
SUMMARY: 911 Center reported person on the phone with suicide prevention. Officer located person and the person agreed to go to hospital voluntarily. Person transported to hospital, but the person could not be seen until next day so the person returned to campus. Patrol Officer Jon Elmore.

FOR THE COMPLETE SAFETY LOG,
go to www.theithacan.org/news.

KEY

CMC - Cayuga Medical Center
V&T - Vehicle and Transportation
DWI - Driving While Impaired
SASP - Student Auxillary Safety Patrol
IPD - Ithaca Police Department
BAC - Blood Alcohol Concentration

EDITORIALS

TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT ITHACA COLLEGE AND ICC

The Fresh Look Initiative, with its provisions for the Ithaca College community to contribute and ask questions, is a good opportunity for the administration to make changes to IC 20/20

IC 20/20 began its implementation in the 2012–13 academic year. Since then, several of its components have failed to accomplish many of their original goals.

The diversity component has not been prioritized as evidenced by the School of Humanities and Sciences voting to decrease the number of diversity classes required to graduate. Establishing the diversity requirements was a step in the right direction, but backtracking in this manner is not going to benefit the college or its students.

Another component that has failed to deliver is the First-Year Residential Experience. There is much more to the college experience than academics, and academics do not have to be incorporated into every aspect of a student's life. Bringing academic programming to the residence halls is too much, as proven by the lack of interest and poor attendance at these programs. Due to classes, extracurriculars, social events and other obligations, one cannot expect students to attend many additional programs or events. Resident assistants and associated faculty end up putting time and effort into throwing events that nobody attends.

The Integrative Core Curriculum was created to fix the college's need for better general education requirements, but this attempt resulted in an overly complex system, and now the college must find a simpler solution. The ePortfolio is one shortcoming of the ICC. For many students who are looking to find a job after college, the ePortfolio will not help them, especially if the essays and works contained in the portfolio have nothing to do with their field of interest. The ePortfolio should be something that helps students by only having requirements that pertain to their area of study, rather than making them do extra work to create something they can never use or share.

Another area that needs improvement is the themes. Students end up missing out on classes of interest because they are restricted to their theme or because they pick a theme based on their freshman seminar that does not further reflect their interests. Some themes also lack a variety of options within the various sections. For example, the Power and Justice theme only has one option under the Natural Sciences category, as of Fall 2014. A new class is being added, the change effective summer of 2015, but students still need more options. This is restrictive and is not fair to students, who should at least have a range of options to choose from, regardless of their theme.

President Tom Rochon's Fresh Look Initiative, a ground-up revisioning of the institution that also has a Netpass-protected portal for the college community to share ideas and ask questions, is a good chance for the administration to re-evaluate and seriously consider whether to continue with programs like the ICC or FYRE or to move away from them and start over with a better plan. Rochon has acknowledged that parts of IC 20/20 that were only recently implemented could very well be eliminated if the feedback calls for it. It is important to recognize the need to move on from a failed or failing project and find something better. Perhaps the Fresh Look Initiative will result in a better solution.

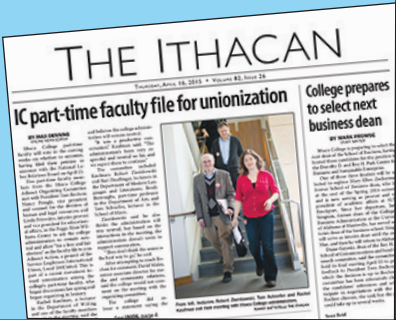


COMMENT ONLINE.

Be heard in print or on the Web.

Write a letter to the editor at ithacan@ithaca.edu or comment on any story at theithacan.org

Letters must be 250 words or fewer, emailed or dropped off by 5 p.m. Monday in Park 220.



SNAP JUDGMENT

Are you satisfied with the ICC?



"I THINK IT'S A WASTE OF TIME BECAUSE I HAVE A LOT OF OTHER CLASSES I NEED TO FOCUS ON FOR BIOLOGY."
SOLIMAR FELICIANO
BIOLOGY '18



"IT RESTRICTS YOU TO CERTAIN THINGS, AND ONCE THEY PUT IN MORE COURSES THEN IT WILL WORK OUT MORE."
AJ FELDMAN
TELEVISION-RADIO '18



"IT'S AN UNNECESSARY STRESS ON STUDENTS WITH HEAVY WORKLOADS."
SABRINA RABINOWITZ
HEALTH SCIENCE '17



"I HAD TO DROP OUT OF THE HONORS PROGRAM BECAUSE NONE OF THE CLASSES OVERLAP."
RHIANNON DOHERTY
HEALTH SCIENCE '17



"IT TAKES AWAY FROM CLASSES THAT ARE MORE IMPORTANT FOR MY MAJOR."
LIAM KORBUL
HSHP PREPROFESSIONAL PROGRAM '17

KELLIE HODSON/THE ITHACAN

THE ITHACAN

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Focus should be on inclusivity in student spaces

Amid the debate over legalities and freedom of speech, in the controversy surrounding the Ithaca College Student Government Association Microaggressions Reporting System bill, two important structures have to be recognized, understood and brought to center stage.

The way the first structure, the college's SGA, currently works, the proposal for a microaggression reporting method was approved by the senate as an initiative to develop, not a full-fledged method already constructed and not by any means executed immediately. In the seven points of the bill, not one line states nor hints that legal action and punishment will be taken, evident to anyone who reads the bill. Legalities was just a point of discussion during the senate meeting but has been incorrectly spun as the central purpose of this bill.

The second much larger and more complex system impacts bills and policies that are written at the collegiate level and beyond. Our current patriarchal, predominantly white and able-bodied academic structure uplifts members of these very groups to the detriment of women; African, Latino, Asian and Native American; disabled; and LGBTQ+ students. People who fit into the latter groups are lumped together and classified as "minorities."

While already trying to work within an inequitable system, members of minority groups must also educate those around them about inclusivity in order to go about their daily lives. This is unjust to the livelihoods and mental health of students from these marginalized communities. This also poorly prepares the next generation of students for a world where insensitivity and intolerance will become barriers for personal and professional growth.

Although many people do not see these inequities, they exist inside and outside of the college setting. Academic institutions mirror the United States' hierarchical political, social and economic systems that work to maintain power dynamics while relying on the public to stay in the dark about issues of systemic inequality.



Class of 2018 Senator Angela Pradhan sponsored the bill the SGA passed. The bill called for the implementation of a campus-wide online system to report microaggressions at the college.

KAITLYN KELLY/THE ITHACAN

Education will combat ignorance, but only in conjunction with action. The only way that others can be educated on these issues is if we know where to target educational resources, be it inclusivity training for faculty or adjusting the residential life experience.

Currently, there is no institutional proof that such marginalizing incidents even exist at the college. Documentation will allow the college to gauge how frequently such instances occur, where resources should be allocated in order to move toward an inclusive education and make sure student voices are heard and accounted for.

Individuals who are attacking the bill's proposed initiative by rallying for free speech are actually implying they value the voices of advantaged groups more than the voices of individuals who have been systematically silenced and who

may finally be recognized. By saying freedom of speech is being limited by collecting data, you're ironically silencing voices that are trying to state their concerns with instances that have occurred on this campus.

Since the bill's controversy, small steps have already been made toward more inclusive education. If a documentation method is implemented along with other initiatives, Ithaca College students will graduate with more awareness as they enter a competitive workplace where students must interact and connect with a multitude of cultures other than their own and people from all walks of life. That's worth reporting.

ANGELA PRADHAN is a freshman journalism major and Class of 2018 senator for the Student Government Association. Email her at apradhan@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Religious freedom law would have legalized discrimination

Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act 2015 (Senate Enrolled Act 101), recently signed March 16 and then amended April 2, illustrates a quick and somewhat humorous turn of events in a long history of legislation, penned and promoted by the religious right, that aims to ban the equal treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals. The right's "religious freedom" argument, now in circulation for over a decade, contends that same-sex marriage and civil protection for sexual orientation and gender identity constitute violations of the religious freedom of conservative Americans. Indiana's RFRA would therefore have allowed conservatives to refuse service to any LGBT person, based upon their religious objections to homosexuality. Yet, within a week of its passage, the bill was amended due to large-scale opposition from business and government entities across the country. The revised bill now states that it may not be used to discriminate against anyone, including LGBT individuals. The religious right's effort to legalize discrimination decisively backfired.

Although the Indiana situation turned out to be a comedy of errors, the right is deadly serious about its "religious freedom." On the heels of opposition to the RFRA, Sen. Ted Cruz implored an audience in Iowa to band together in the coming election against the "rainbow jihad" as protectors of "religious liberty



Professor Tahlia Fischer, lecturer in the Women's and Gender Studies program, stands in front of her class at 2:30 p.m. April 21 in Friends 207.

AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

values." Cruz warned, "Look at the jihad that is being waged now in Indiana and Arkansas ... going after people of faith who respect the biblical teaching that marriage is between one man and one woman." Likewise, Mike Huckabee piped in to complain that gay people "won't stop until there are no more churches" and the Gospel has been silenced. World-netdaily, a popular religious right publication, railed against the opposition to Indiana's bill, beseeching lawmakers across the country to "ensure that religious freedom in America is not crushed by rigid impositions of 'non-discrimination' laws based on

sexual behavior and sexual identification." Framed as a false dilemma, these arguments pit LGBT rights against First Amendment rights, as if they are mutually exclusive.

If one traces anti-LGBT state and federal legislation back 40 years, she or he will find a voluminous collection of bills and referenda dating back to Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" campaign (1977), The Briggs Initiative (1978) and the formation of the Moral Majority (1979). More recently, as Democratic Sen. Tim Lanane of Indiana observes, the proponents of the RFRA are the same people who failed to amend

Indiana's constitution to ban same-sex marriage last year. But if one searches for anti-conservative Christian legislative efforts, she or he will find no record at all. There is no covert LGBT plot to eradicate churches or the right's religious freedoms.

There is, however, a concerted plan by the right to foreclose the liberties of their political enemies, as evident in Indiana's RFRA. Indiana's bill deviated from the language and framing of the 1993 federal RFRA in two key ways. First, it broadly defines "personhood" to include corporate entities. Second, it defines the "exercise of religion" as "any exercise, whether or not compelled by, or central to, a system of religion." This ambiguous language could allow virtually any "deeply held religious convictions" — even those of a corporation — to stand as a basis for discrimination against LGBT citizens.

While we can acknowledge that some people sincerely believe it violates their religious beliefs to treat LGBT individuals equally under the law, it is equally true that we live in a constitutional republic of heterogeneous citizens. While the religious right may not wish LGBT people to be protected under the law, this desire, in and of itself, is neither a reasonable religious practice nor a protected constitutional right.

TAHLIA FISCHER is a lecturer for the Women's and Gender Studies program. Email her at tfischer@ithaca.edu.

The Ithacan blog ONLINE preview

www.theithacan.org/blogs

Angel's Advocate



YouTube Boyfriends

Now, when one thinks of dating websites, one might think of ChristianMingle.com or eHarmony or even popular dating apps like Tinder and Grindr (Lord, help you all ...). However, for two of my idols, and possibly one of the most adorable couples on Earth, YouTube was their means of finding love. Matthew Schueller and Michael Lindsay are two YouTubers with nearly 75,000 subscribers combined. They met by watching each other's "Coming Out" video and are now one of the cutest couples on YouTube.

Recently, I had the wonderful opportunity to interview the two of them via email. The reason I chose to contact ...

— ANGEL ZAYAS

ACTIVISM 101



Relationship Responsibilities

I mentioned a few posts back that I've been helping with a program called SPEAK as a part of my internship with The Advocacy Center. SPEAK stands for Supporting People's Empowerment and Knowledge, and it's a prevention program focused on healthy relationships for adults with developmental disabilities.

SPEAK is one of the first spaces that I've been in that acknowledges that people with disabilities, like, actually want relationships and have sexual desires, too. For some reason it is so hard for people ...

— CHRISTINA TUDOR

ONE STEP AT A TIME



An Uncertain Future

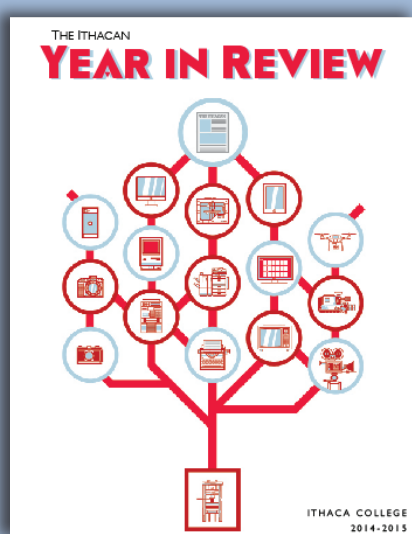
This blog post is about reproduction, overpopulation and climate change. All three are topics our society needs to become more comfortable with talking about. In the spirit of being more comfortable, I'm going to discuss a personal decision I made, openly, for everyone to read.

I grew up an only child, and I remember sporadically wishing out loud for a little brother. My parents never granted my wish — they ended up divorcing when I was 12 — but they did an awesome job with raising the one kid they did have, even after they split up ...

— FAITH MECKLEY

Interested in Magazine Work?

The Ithacan is looking for an editorial team to produce next year's edition of Year in Review, our annual 150-page glossy magazine summary of the most important news, culture, entertainment and sports events of the year. Work on the magazine will begin in late fall and continues throughout the Spring 2016 semester. The paid positions available include:



Editor
Design Editor
Photo Editor
Proofreader



To check out previous editions of Year in Review, stop by *The Ithacan* office (Park 220) or view PDF versions online at theithacan.org/yearinreview.

This is an excellent portfolio piece for talented editors and designers. Applications are available at the front desk of the Park School dean's office and are due by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28. For more information contact Michael Serino, *Ithacan* adviser, at serino@ithaca.edu or 274-1036.

Commit to something sustainable for Earth Week.

Ways you can commit:

Only use one plate, cup, fork, spoon, knife, and napkin for each visit in the dining hall

Cut down on shower time

Use public transportation instead of a car

Skip meat on Monday's

Turn off water when brushing your teeth and washing dishes

Use the Compost, Recycle, Trash stations on campus

Electronically download readings and PowerPoint's for class instead of printing



CALL
AIN
CURTAIN
THE



The small black box, created by senior scenic designer Sami Adamson, is a miniature version of the entire set of the show.
TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN

BY KRISTEN GOWDY
SPORTS EDITOR

OPENING NIGHT

The house is just as eccentric as the family that lives there. Enormous yellow walls, detailed with flowing pink flowers, surround the contents of its quirky living area. They are cluttered with just about anything that can fit on them — paintings, clocks and photographs leave the yellow paint just barely visible.

The wall dressings depict a wide variety of subjects — there's even one smaller painting of a cat in a bowler hat — that represent the house's residents: the Sycamore family. The house is almost an additional member to this bizarre group. It is the centerpiece of "You Can't Take it With You," Ithaca College's final Main Stage production of the year, which opened April 16.

The house is designed to accommodate the ebb and flow of the family's odd interests. The green sofa in the middle of the room is where Grandpa Sycamore will read his newspapers, accompanied by his pet snakes, which reside in a glass tank just behind it. There is plenty of space at the front of the room for the ever-determined Essie to practice her developing ballet routine. The dining room table stage left is where the family will gather for a dinner of Corn Flakes and watermelon. Frequent banging noises and flashes of light escape from the door leading to the basement, where Paul Sycamore and Mr. De Pinna — the ice man who showed up at the Sycamores' front door years before and never left — tinker with pyrotechnics.

"Each person kind of has one or two set pieces that are very unique to them as characters," senior Kelly Fairbrother, who plays Penelope Sycamore, the mother of the family, said. "The set is so incredibly detailed that it just helps us, as actors, drop into the time period and the characters."

For now though, the set is dark, veiled by the massive red curtain that hides it from the audience. Penelope's typewriter rests, unused for the time being, on her desk stage right. Ed's xylophone — one of two sound-oriented set pieces — is silent. Over the next two hours, the house will be filled with the noise and laughter and awkward silences of the Sycamore family. But for just a few more moments, it is completely dark, completely silent.

And then, the curtain begins to rise ...

TWO WEEKS EARLIER

The Production Conference Room in The Dillingham Center, home to the college's theater arts department, is a seemingly mundane space. A manila folder sits on a long, wooden table in the middle of the room, under the harsh, white glow of the fluorescent lighting. Red swivel chairs line the table, and paintings cover the walls. But in this room, the stack of cluttered papers in a manila folder will soon become a full-fledged theater production.

The folder rests on the table, stuffed to its brim with mismatched papers that spill from its mouth and hang loosely over its tan corners. Its cluttered nature is an anomaly on the otherwise tidy surface.

"This is what a show looks like before we put the lights in," senior Zac Blitz jokes, touching the top of the folder lightly with the tips of his fingers. The lighting designer for the show, Blitz has been responsible for gradually filling the folder with wax paper lighting grid sketches during the months leading

up to "You Can't Take it With You," which will premiere in two weeks.

For Blitz, the show began as a challenge — a challenge that presented itself in November 2014 in the form of 16-foot high walls that would serve as the perimeter of the set. The walls, along with the long, wooden beams that replicate a high ceiling, test Blitz's ability to light the stage just the way he wants it, creating blockades for him to rearrange his lighting plan around.

"Considering it's a comedy, you want a lot of lower angles," he says. "If you start getting a lot of shadows over people's eyes, you get this dark, demonic thing."

To get to a point where Blitz could arrange his lights, the scenic designer, senior Sami Adamson, had to design these walls, which recreate a late-1930s New York City house. But before the Sycamore family can even exist, it is Adamson and Blitz's job to bring the family's environment to life.

"It's like creating your own little world," Adamson says.

The world Adamson is referring to — that of the Sycamores — is typical of an unconventional family, which follows its bliss, no matter how whimsical and sporadic. It is a set design Adamson is not used to working with, since her previous experience only consists of "Mere Mortals," which showed in Fall 2013. The Sycamore household, Adamson said, is the polar opposite of the abstract setting she designed for "Mere Mortals."

"With something like this, at first I thought it was going to be easier than an abstract show because it's like, 'Oh, everyone knows what a house looks like,'" she said. "Well, that's the problem. Because if an audience is sitting there looking at the set, and they see something that's kind of off, it's going to bother them because they know what a house looks like."

To portray the family's nature, Adamson and Blitz need to emphasize the comedic atmosphere and wacky nature of the family.

That's where the paper sketches and manila folder come in.

Everything in the show that Adamson and Blitz have designed up to this point — months of research, drawing, throwing it all away and drawing again — can be condensed into several complex-looking grids that display lighting designs and floor plans for Adamson's set.

From her designs, Adamson has produced a hollowed-out black box that is just larger than a shoebox. It's her own personal mini-stage — almost an exact model of George R. Hoerner Theatre, where the show will be performed — that she uses to model her vision for the set. For now, this box is her visual representation of the scene that she has worked for months to design. Like Blitz's lighting grids, for the time being, this black box is what Adamson has to show for her months of research and creativity.

She treats it as such, too, carrying it lightly so as not to jostle any of the miniature props, holding it to her chest during transportation. She sets it carefully on the table near Blitz's lighting grids.

The inside of the box — viewable from the opening in the front in the same way an audience would look at the stage — looks like a dollhouse, down to the tiny, green couch and the scaled-down paintings that clutter the yellow, flowered walls. There's even a plastic person situated in the middle of the living room area, behind the couches, to simulate an actor.

"This is probably version four or five," she says. "I started with a white model, what the walls would look like, where the doors would be. Then I did



Perfect harmony

The Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra hosted a concert April 21 in Ford Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music. Featuring guest conductor Andreas Delfs, the event presented different pieces that added a visual twist on classical music.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

Video of the week

Actor and singer David Hasselhoff released his latest single, "True Survivor," on April 16, and its music video has been gaining widespread attention for its bizarre, '80s-themed style. The song was written for a Swedish movie called "Kung Fury," an over-the-top action comedy in which a super cop from Miami travels back in time to kill Adolf Hitler. The film was funded by a Kickstarter that raised over \$200,000 to cover production costs. The video features many preview clips from the film in addition to Hasselhoff himself, who battles a Nazi army and its dinosaurs. The strange style of the music video and song reflects the style of the movie, which is to be released in May.



MUNCHIE MADNESS

The Ithacan hunts down the latest in zany consumer products for its readers to get their hands on

On April 20, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream shops unveiled their latest dessert creation: the BRRR-ito. The sweet treat features two scoops of ice cream drizzled with hot fudge and topped with Oreo cookie crumbles, all wrapped in a fresh-pressed waffle. According to the Ben & Jerry's website, the brand purposefully released the snack April 20 to celebrate the unofficial holiday known as "Weed Day."

Ben & Jerry's also created a commercial for the snack that suggested the snack's connection with marijuana. David Horowitz, creative director for Mechanism, the company that created the video, told Advertising Age Magazine, "What are two better snack-munchy type foods than ice cream and a burrito? 4/20 is a day when people are maybe thinking about munchies a little bit more."



TREE NINJA TREES DESTROYED BY STEALTHY MAN

A man in Brighton, Massachusetts, formerly known as the "tree ninja," was arrested April 15 after a monthlong investigation. Now known to authorities as Joseph Rizza, the "tree ninja" was arrested after attacking a newly planted tree with a hammer and being caught on a surveillance camera. The police are now investigating his connection to other similar incidents from the past several years in which young trees were chopped down or damaged. Rizza is currently serving 60 days in jail for his crimes and is set to appear in court in May. Jake Wark, spokesman for Daniel Conley, the District Attorney of Suffolk, Massachusetts, told The Boston Globe the community-led investigation "resulted in charges that could otherwise have been very challenging to prove."



HOME ON THE RANGE BUFFALO ROAM ARKANSAS TOWN

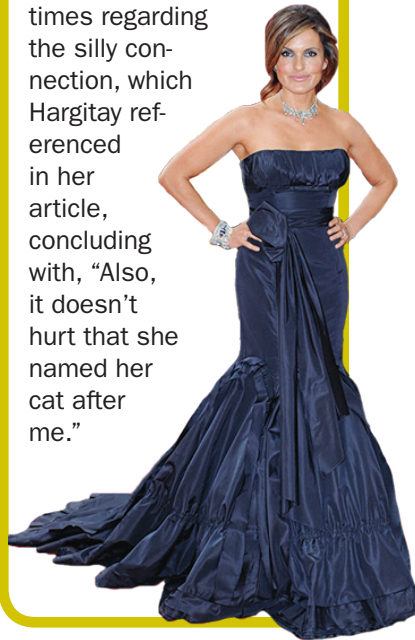
Six buffalo escaped from a farm near Hot Springs, Arkansas, and spent all of April 16 and 17 roaming the town, unable to be captured. No sightings were initially reported of out-of-place animals, but as the search went on the little herd was spotted running through people's backyards. Four of them were eventually captured and kept in a pen to attract the other two. Corporal Sonia Luzader with the Hot Springs Police Department told local news station THV11, "It's not every day in central Arkansas you see buffalo, let alone roaming your own street up here. It's just kind of odd."



celebrity scoops!

Hargitay praises Swift

In Time Magazine's list of the Top 100 Most Influential People of 2015, which was released April 16, many stars were honored with small articles acknowledging their influence in their field, written by other significant figures who were connected to the honorees. For pop-icon Taylor Swift's article, the connection was more quirky and personal than most: It was written by Mariska Hargitay, best known for her role as Olivia Benson on "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit," the character after which Swift named her cat, Benson. The stars have interacted via social media several times regarding the silly connection, which Hargitay referenced in her article, concluding with, "Also, it doesn't hurt that she named her cat after me."



COMPILED BY MARY FORD



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"He's right. It's SO hard being famous. So very, very, VERY HARD. Goodbye everyone, I retire as well."

— Rob Lowe reacted to Shia LaBeouf's April 16 interview with Variety, referencing LaBeouf's retirement announcement last year that he didn't follow through on.



Senior Kelly Frisch, the show's stage manager, calls the entire show from a small booth above Hoerner Theatre.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN



Senior Zac Blitz, the show's lighting designer, is in charge of controlling the way the stage is lit during the show.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN



Senior Sami Adamson, the show's scenic designer, works to fix rugs on the stage that were creating problems for the actors.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN

PRODUCTION FROM PAGE 13

a second white model and started adding color here and there, and then it got to this."

As complex as the design of the box is, Adamson, as well as the props, carpentry and paint teams, will face an even greater challenge when they begin to make it a reality on the stage. They've already run into problems with the walls, which they had to paint by hand, because they couldn't find a big enough fabric for the massive structures.

At this point, the stage is a huge, black, blank canvas. Adamson's canvas. Crew members are working on the walls, which lie flat on the stage. Nothing has been constructed. This is not yet a three-dimensional space. But that's what Adamson's box is for. She knows what she wants out of the set. And though Blitz is quick to cite the fact that his lighting plans constantly change with the production, he knows what he wants out of the lighting design as well.

The production elements of the play are finally ready to start coming together.

FROM THE GROUND UP

One week later, the stage in Hoerner is no longer a blank canvas. With one week until opening night, the Sycamores' world is coming to life, albeit slowly.

The stage has been transformed. The great, yellow, flowered walls have been erected, and a fake wooden floor covers the majority of it. Vintage paintings and photographs — both framed and empty — lie scattered on the floor, some leaning against the staircase at the far corner of the set.

Today, members of the crew are working to hang some of the paintings, which will eventually cover nearly every inch of every wall. But for now, the walls are mostly bare, the pink flowers contrasting against the pale yellow paint. A ladder has been placed near one of the walls, and Adamson is directing the props master, junior Chloe Kirkwood, along with several other crew members, on placement.

"A tad higher ..." Adamson says as Kirkwood, now on top of the ladder, holds a painting against the wall. "No, too high, sorry. A little lower and a little offstage ..." No, the other off-stage. Now it's tilted. Sorry, can you tilt it back toward you a bit more?"

Adamson apologizes after nearly every instruction. She is well aware of her self-conscious leadership style, which stems from her having been the one on top of the ladder.

"A couple of years ago I was the props master for a show that had a lot of paintings on the wall and a lot of set dressing, so I kind of had to go through the same thing," she said. "I was just like, 'Oh my gosh, I'm putting you through the same thing I had to go through,' and I felt so bad."

Growing up in a family that centered around sports — with a father that wanted her to get a softball scholarship after she started switch-hitting at age 7 — Adamson is no stranger to performing under pressure, and that's what she does now. The paintings slowly, but surely, go up on the walls.

Adamson controls it all from a small table at center stage, her MacBook laptop, displaying her set design layouts, resting on the table. She half sits on the plastic chair, leaning sideways because she knows she will have to jump up again at a moment's notice. Always high-energy, she is constantly

moving — even bouncing nervously when she is sitting on the chair — constantly thinking, fluctuating between the table and helping her crew with painting placement. She often plays with the long, black shawl that is wrapped around her shoulders. When she's not doing that, she'll run her hands through her blond, pixie-cut hair. Anything to stay moving.

Tech rehearsals — the last step in the production process of "You Can't Take it With You," before opening night — are just hours away. They are when all of Blitz's lighting, all of the costumes, all of Adamson's set, will finally come together to create a cohesive production. Adamson watches with pride as her little black box, her vision for the set, slowly becomes a reality.

"I'm constantly thinking, 'What goes next?'" she says. "I kind of have a half plan, but at this point, I'm just going with the flow."

CREATING FLUIDITY

There is a nervous energy, almost an electricity, that surrounds the first night of tech rehearsal. There is just one week left until opening night. Months of work, planning and practicing have come down to these final seven days.

Crew members are spread among the rows of maroon, plush chairs in Hoerner and are talking among one another,

nitty-gritty, or if we are running it so much, we're so exhausted. It's just our job to make sure energy's up."

Sitting in the darkened theater — the only lighting is that on the stage, Blitz's work coming to life — Frisch controls the entire production. A soft "go" into her headset can cue a lighting change, an actor's entrance, the curtain falling.

As she directs, Frisch is wracked with nerves. It is a learn-by-doing process, and she knows any mistake she makes will be obvious to the audience. Though it is not her first time stage managing at the college — she was also stage manager for "The Good Person of Setzuan" in Fall 2014 — she can't shake the nerves that come with a new production.

She jokingly dances in her seat, making eye contact and smiling with several other crew members. Keeping the energy high is her way of masking exhaustion, which lies folded in her more subtle movements. Everyone is tired today, though it is just the first day in a weeklong series of tech rehearsals.

Frisch often pauses the play to make corrections, her voice amplified throughout the theater as she directs the cast and crew:

"We're going to start with Grandpa's line. Whenever you're ready."

And so it goes. Every stoppage, every start, is under Frisch's direction. The four-hour tech rehearsal is long for the crew

members, who all jot notes down as they go, improvements they need to make before opening night, which is just a short week away. It's a game of perfection for them, trying to fit each piece of the puzzle together.

Some pieces don't quite fit just yet, though. Actors occasionally trip over the layered rugs on the stage, and some of the lighting cues are off. The crew works tirelessly to fix these mishaps, but it's not without

struggle, as it often takes five or six run-throughs of the exact same act, scene, moment to make any improvements at all.

While Frisch is controlling the onstage action, Blitz is seated off to her left, two large monitors showing lighting grids — similar to those he sketched on wax paper just weeks before — in front of him. He and Frisch are in constant communication, trading notes about lighting cues. But then again, Frisch is in communication with just about everyone, and when she's talking to others, Blitz keeps quietly to himself, idly sketching on a gridded notebook, gray beanie pulled over his cropped hair and red-checkered flannel shirt stretching over his shoulders.

Blitz comes from an artistic background — his father graduated from the Pratt Institute and his mother is a high school art teacher. When he entered the college in Fall 2010 as a business major, he quickly realized that he needed to return to the creative side of the entertainment industry.

"I was more in the paperwork side of it," he later said. "I definitely wanted something more artistically focused, something more hands-on with the design process."

It was his freelance photography work that sparked his fascination with lighting design.

"Lighting seemed to be the most logical jump as far as taking what skills I had to a different set of circumstances," he said.

After taking the 2013–14 academic year off, Blitz is set to graduate with the Class of 2015. But not before "You Can't Take it With You" is complete. It is his first main stage lighting design at the college, and Blitz takes it incredibly seriously, watching intensely as tech rehearsal continues.

What I really like about it is it's sort of free space ... it's the one thing that you can get away with whatever idea you want.

— Zac Blitz

trying to keep the mood light, but the exhaustion and stress that lingers in the air is almost palpable. It is 10 p.m., and the crew has already been at it for three hours, running through the same scenes over and over, perfecting lighting, cues and props.

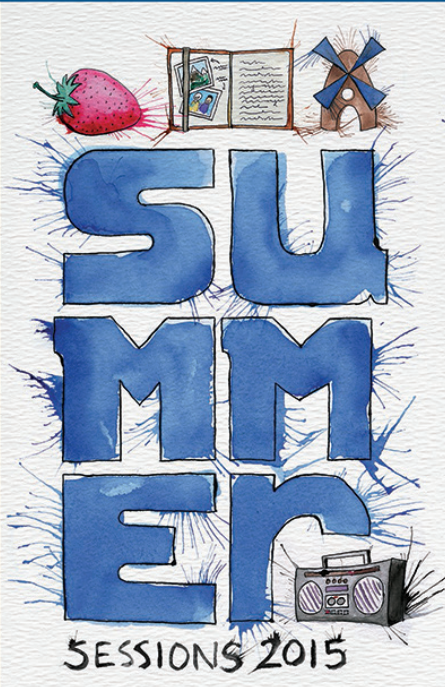
Senior Kelly Frisch sits in the center of the theater, about 10 rows back from the stage. As the show's stage manager, tech rehearsals are the beginning of what will be her busiest time during the production process. Later, when the show opens, she will move up to the tiny, cramped booth above the audience in the back of the theater, but for now, she's at the center of the action. Her short, brown hair is pulled back loosely into a ponytail, and a headset, which she uses to communicate with the rest of the production crew, frames her face.

Her entire life, Frisch has been told she is too small. Too small for her school's volleyball team. Too small even to be part of the set team in her middle school play because she wasn't big enough to move any of the pieces. So they made her assistant stage manager, and it made her feel big.

A decade later, Frisch has pursued her passion for entertainment management — recently signing a contract with Disney World to work in its theaters, festivals and parades upon graduation in May. It is her job to call the entire play. As the stage manager, she is the self-described "mom" of the production. Not only does she make sure each person in the cast and crew is in the right place at the right time, but she also works to keep morale high, especially on long nights like this one.

"I make it happen, and I make everyone feel positive and happy about what they're doing," she said. "We all get stressed out. And it starts to get hard once it gets down to the

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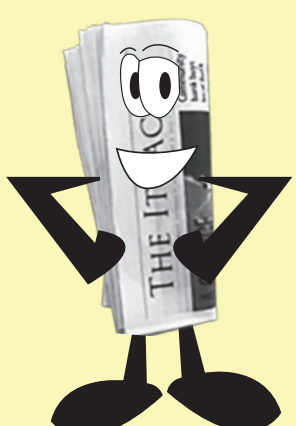
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The Ithacan - 2 col. x 8

Lifelong passion for music fuels student DJ and producer

BY CELISA CALACAL
STAFF WRITER

A laptop, two speakers and a blank page — the only things senior music producer and Disc Jockey Dylan Scott needs. Armed with these, and in combination with a strong passion for music, Scott can create any piece of music he wishes, the opportunity to explore endless musical possibilities at his fingertips.

An exercise science major, Scott produces under the stage name Latimer, stylized LTMR. Scott was first exposed to music composition when he entered the Hartt School of Music of the University of Hartford in Connecticut in Fall 2011 and was provided with a software package for music production. Released in March 2015, Scott’s “Crazy in Love” remix is a product of his passion for creating music, attracting over 2,000 plays on SoundCloud and placing No. 14 on Hype Machine charts, an internationally known online music site.

What is evident in Scott’s remixes, ultimately setting him apart from house music and the greater electronic-dance music genre, is the prevalence of a softer, calmer vibe with the steady and soothing buildup of background instruments.

Influenced by his jazz styling and music theory background, Scott said he often looks at music through a more technical perspective. When creating mashups, Scott said he often looks for songs with structured and compelling chord progressions.

“I like songs that are more structured like a pop song, I guess, or I think of old [rhythm and blues] standards like Marvin Gaye and stuff like that, like those people who just really mastered how to structure a song,” he said. “I try to make things that people of different generations could appreciate and could kind of stand the test of time.”

A native of Philadelphia, Scott names electronic music artists such as Darius, Bondax and Disclosure as some of his musical inspirations and also credits genres such as ’90s hip-hop, R&B and old soul for influencing his

music. Prior to delving into music production and the house music scene, Scott traced his musical roots to his childhood and teenage years, in which he learned to play several instruments and participated in his high school jazz band. Scott also said his parents took him to jazz and rock concerts as he was growing up, fostering his love for music.

“I can’t really remember a time where I wasn’t infatuated with or had music all around me,” he said. “I don’t think I would’ve been interested or gotten as far with it if they hadn’t supported me, so I probably have them to thank more than anybody.”

Echoing this sentiment, Roy Scott, Scott’s father, said Scott developed a propensity for music due to the constant exposure to music from him and his wife, Laura Morris.

“I think that all of that kind of coalesced in a way that he was able to kind of develop his own sensibilities,” Roy said. “Where he’s at now is a direct result of being exposed to a lot of different types of music.”

Although the Hartt School provided exposure to the nuances of music production, a distaste for the school’s competitive nature spurred Scott to transfer to Ithaca College in 2013 as an exercise science major. He said the move ultimately gave him the freedom to grow as a music producer. The transfer also facilitated his rise in popularity, as he is often found on weekends deejaying for Cornell University sororities and fraternities and several on-campus events.

Despite the inherent differences between sports and music, Scott said the sports psychology focus on stress management and anxiety relief has become intertwined with his musical career.

“We’ve learned so much about muscle relaxation techniques and all these different scripts and ways to stress manage and relieve anxiety and things like that,” he said. “A lot of my music is not really hype, or crazy or anything like that. It’s pretty, hopefully, relaxing and nice to listen to but also, at the same time, danceable.”

As a DJ, Scott said he has always loved



Senior Dylan Scott, known by his stage name Latimer or LTMR, works on a set April 6. His "Crazy in Love" remix has gained popularity on the Web, reaching publications including Hype Machine.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS/THE ITHACAN

playing music for his friends and enjoys the challenge in consistently finding the right genre to appeal to his audience.

“A lot of the time I have to kind of gauge their reaction to things and kind of figure out what will make them dance or have a good time,” he said. “I think that’s always a challenge, but that’s one of the reasons why I like it too.”

Senior Eric Gottschalk, Scott’s booking manager, transferred to Ithaca at the same time as Scott and, upon hearing his music and noticing his generally low popularity, offered to help with his publicity and exposure with his background in business administration and marketing. Gottschalk also said he

often spends time with Scott while he works on projects, giving him feedback and insight.

“I just thought, ‘He has a really interesting sound.’ It’s a unique sound,” he said. “You don’t really hear it around too much.”

With his post-college future right around the corner, Scott said he wishes to continue pursuing music and hopes that his professional endeavors can share the same positive impact music has had on him with others.

“Listening to music is the one thing, no matter what, that will always make me feel better, less stressed out or anxious,” he said. “That’s my biggest wish — that my music could kind of help people with that kind of stuff.”

PRODUCTION

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He is looking for two main lighting issues: color and timing. Some of the lighting cues he drew up while reading the script and watching rehearsals are slightly off, and he notes these to fix later. As for the lights’ color, he controls the hue and intensity of each lighting change, and has labored for months to pick exactly the right shades.

“What I really like about it is that it’s sort of free space,” he says. “Obviously, you still have to fit it into the framework of a show, but for the most part it’s the one thing that you can get away with whatever idea you want, really drive movement. You can play with mood, you can play with emotion. Sure, you can build a set that has life, and this certainly has character and has something to it that says what it is about the family that lives here, but it’s not something that changes with every mood that the performers are feeling.”

The tech rehearsal wraps up at 11 p.m. sharp. After a brief meeting in which the production team shares notes and suggests improvements — everyone has notes for not only themselves, but also the rest of the crew — they are finally done for the night. They will meet again as a group tomorrow night, then will partake in what they call a “10 out of 12” on Sunday, which means they work, beginning at 11 a.m., for 10 of 12 hours. Monday will be the group’s dress rehearsal before preview on Tuesday.

“It’s a really cool process,” Frisch said afterward. “It’s also really long and tedious but a lot of fun. It’s when you start seeing it come to life. You’re very tired at the end.”

DRESSING IT UP

The dress rehearsal, the team’s final practice run before preview, arrives quicker than anyone thought it would. There isn’t much — if any — time left to tinker with the set, the lighting or the cues. This rehearsal has to go smoothly. Frisch, in particular, feels pressured as around 30 audience members file into the theater and scatter among the seats up front, close to the stage, to watch this final practice run.

“I thought this show was going to be a lot easier than it was,” Frisch said. “It was a really exciting process, but it was really nerve-wracking for me, just making sure that I’m giving the life that the show needs. I was so nervous [on Monday night].”

Finally in her booth above the theater, Frisch’s equipment has been relocated with her. She calls the play through a small window that overlooks the stage. She no longer has the cushion of being able to stop and start the play at her leisure. Everything must be fluid tonight. To her immense relief, the first half of the show runs smoothly.

At intermission, Frisch heads nervously down to the



Senior Sami Adamson shows off one of the props from her black model box that replicates the set.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN

bathroom to listen to the audience’s reactions — a tradition she undertakes during every show in which she is involved.

“We heard very good things in the bathroom on Monday,” she said later, laughing. “It’s a good feeling.”

Meanwhile, Adamson is watching the play from her normal spot, off to the right of the theater. Where her set still needed tinkering during tech rehearsals, it is now finally complete, and she looks on it with pride. Though she still types notes throughout the show, they are smaller fixes rather than large problems: “close the basement door!!!” “fix chandelier plate things,” “make snakes more visible?”

Her excitement is evident throughout the opening scenes. When the audience laughs, she laughs, but it is a satisfied laughter. She has seen the scenes too many times to be surprised by any of the jokes. Nevertheless, she’s proud of them. She’s laughing more at the audience’s reactions. They bring her joy. It’s her favorite moment, this accumulation of her hard work.

“When the curtain goes up, and you’re just looking at it, and you start to see the audience reacting to things ... ” she says, trailing off. “Having people who may not be involved as much and seeing it for the first time — it’s really nice to hear their reactions.”

The show ends, and the curtains close for the final time that night. The next time they open, it will be for preview, the first show in front of a full audience. Most of their work done, Blitz and Adamson can finally relax a bit, their process slowing down considerably after dress rehearsal — though not too much, as they will continue to monitor their respective designs throughout the performances.

Frisch, on the other hand, still has work to do. The second preview begins, the show is essentially handed from the director, who is more involved during the tech rehearsal process, down to her. But she doesn’t see it as more work. For her, it’s a time to shine, a time to proudly display her team’s work to the world.

“I think my favorite part is the moment that the show gets handed over to me, and I get to show off everything that everyone has been working for, because my team is the only one besides the actors that go through the process together,” she said. “So it’s really exciting to see people see the art that we have made.”

AFTER THE SHOW ENDS

As with every other show he has been a part of, Blitz’s favorite part of the show is after the curtain has fallen. It is then that the cast and crew return to the stage to recreate moments — if only briefly — and photograph them for the show’s photo-call.

It is this moment that Blitz cherishes most. Later, once the set is taken down, the chaos of the production process complete, the stage once again becoming a giant, black, blank canvas, Blitz will still have his photos: 8 1/2 x 11 sheets that are his evidence of what he and the rest of the team created. They are tangible proof that the shows — something so temporary — existed in his life.

This reflection is something Blitz never has a chance to do throughout the process — the long nights spent staring at color swatches, which, in the blink of an eye, transitioned to the long nights taking notes during technical rehearsals that transitioned, just as quickly, to the long nights making sure everything ran just so during the show — it is this that will cause his nostalgia. Because by the time Blitz holds the glossy, still photograph in his hands, the show will have already ended.

Blitz has shown these photos to people who later ask about his plays: those who do not get to see the production live. It is his way of holding onto something that was such a momentous part of his life. His own keepsake.

“You take a photo of a moment, and you just think of all of the good things about the show,” he said. “You can bring that photo to everybody and say, ‘This is what I did.’ If you have the whole set and you have the lighting work and you have everybody in their costumes, you can just look at that 8 1/2 x 11 picture, that full page and just say, ‘Man, it’s been a great show.’”

Social media page connects community

BY CELISA CALACAL
STAFF WRITER

Senior Orlando Leon walks around Ithaca College, a black Canon Rebel camera hanging by a thick, black strap around his neck. He walks at a leisurely pace as his eyes scour the campus grounds in search of a new person to meet with an unheard story. Leon continues walking down the paved walkways, stopping to wave hello to a student relaxing comfortably on a bench a little ways away, the friendly gesture an invitation to initiate a conversation.

He approaches senior Kamara Williams with a cheery hello, followed by, “May I take your picture? It’s for Humans of IC.” She responds with a shy smile and timid head nod, then Leon asks her a series of questions before taking several photographs of her.

Leon has grown accustomed to encounters such as these, as they are part of his daily job as the photographer and content producer for Humans of IC. A newly launched Facebook page inspired by the famous Humans of New York page, the photographs and stories showcased on Humans of IC provide a closer, more personalized snapshot of the members of the college’s diverse student body.

A fan of HONY himself, Leon said the idea for Humans of IC grew out of a group project he worked on this semester for the class Designing Social Media. Leon’s interest in photography motivated him to continue the project and bring it out of its academic setting.

“As we were creating the content, I felt that it should be bigger than just a class project and I actually enjoyed talking to people and photographing people, and so I just decided to keep it going,” he said. “I’m still doing it because I like it and I’m just a social person, so I have general interest in just talking to random people. It’s easy for me.”

Leon said he often looks for all types of students when searching for potential subjects to photograph, a sentiment reflected in the diversity of people and stories presented through the Facebook page.

“The whole goal is to learn about other students you may not know,” he said. “Even though it is a small school, I feel like we don’t



From right, senior Orlando Leon interviews senior Kamara Williams on April 15 after taking her photo for his project, Humans of IC. Leon’s project was inspired by the popular Humans of New York.
AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

know each other. So by this, Humans of IC, I feel like it’s providing a little insight.”

Freshman Hannah Morris, who was featured on Humans of IC at the beginning of April, said she enjoys the page for its positivity in sharing the different perspectives of the college’s campus and students.

“I thought it was interesting to get a little Snapchat of somebody’s story,” she said. “And you don’t really get that very often, especially when you’re so stressed and overworked, you don’t really take time to get to know people and to hear their stories, and I think that’s one of the most interesting parts of college ... I thought that it was cool to see the honesty in people and how genuine people are.”

Although Leon is often a stranger to the students he meets for the first time, they remain open to conversing and sharing their stories with him. Williams said she knew about the page before Leon approached her and sees

it as an avenue to increase student relations.

“I think it’s great because I think it humanizes IC,” she said. “It makes the campus seem more connected, and you get bits of someone’s personal life or personal thoughts you never had access to before.”

Officially launched at the beginning of the month, Humans of IC has seen a significant increase in its supporters. As Leon continues to walk around campus, he remains open to meeting new people and hearing new stories, hoping Humans of IC can cultivate a more interactive and connected campus environment.

“People are very open to conversing, so I feel like people should just go out there and talk to anyone,” he said. “And that’s what we’re hoping to do with this project: Get people to start talking to one another rather than just like saying the basic ‘hi’ and ‘bye’ or ‘hey’ — it should go beyond that and people should get to know each other.”

Magazine spreads environmental consciousness

Fresh Dirt is an Ithaca-based, green-living magazine that informs its readers of ways they can live sustainably. Tommy Dunne, the editor-in-chief and publisher of the magazine, previously taught the course Social Entrepreneurship in Action at Ithaca College from 2010–11 in order to kick off the magazine. Since then, Dunne has produced four issues of the magazine. The latest issue, released at the end of 2014, was dubbed “The Creativity Issue” and can be found at GreenStar, Home Green Home, the Piggery and Barnes & Noble.

Staff Writer Ashley Wolf spoke to Dunne about his goals when starting the magazine, its publishing process and his hopes of incorporating the college’s students into the magazine.

Ashley Wolf: What was your main goal for the magazine?

Tommy Dunne: My original goal was to make a national magazine so that green living would be more mainstream and less fringe, and of course in Ithaca it is more mainstream than fringe, but the rest of the country hasn’t really gotten close to that. I’ve had that idea for a long time, to start a green living magazine, and I put a business plan together for a national version of it, but I finished that right as the economy tanked and magazines are folding left and right. There was no way I was going to try and raise millions of dollars to start a magazine in that climate. So, I put it aside and



Tommy Dunne is the editor-in-chief and publisher of Fresh Dirt Magazine, an Ithaca-based, quarterly publication dedicated to green-living initiatives.
TOMMY BATTISTELLI / THE ITHACAN

then I started working in [marketing and communications] at Ithaca College.

AW: How did Ithaca College play a role in creating Fresh Dirt?

TD: [Ithaca College] put out a call for ideas for courses that would integrate students from the different schools there ... [The administration] felt that students were getting to Ithaca College, and they would mostly have students from that college in their classes, and there wasn’t a lot of differentiation between students from the business school, students from Park, students from [Health Sciences and Human Performance]. And so they were looking for courses that would integrate students, and I

proposed something like Entrepreneurship in Action, Starting a Green Living Magazine for Tompkins County.

AW: Do you still have students from the college working on your magazine?

TD: We have always had some Ithaca College students involved in each magazine issue ... I would like to get students more involved. I really enjoyed teaching the class, but I don’t know if a class was the right way to continue student involvement. I had some conversations with Dean Diane Gayeski early on about how we could do it, and she thought it could be a good extramural, but we haven’t figured out how exactly we should go forward with it.

AW: How do you find stories to cover in Fresh Dirt?

TD: We do have people who email us on our website, that contact us for story ideas, but we’re so involved and know other people who are so involved that we can see what’s new and what’s going on and do it that way.

AW: Why do you think green-living is important to cover in a magazine?

TD: We all know the problems associated with climate change, and there’s a lot of stuff that people can be doing that isn’t that difficult. I know there are people pouring money into trying to get elected officials who care about climate change, and I’m going from the opposite end and trying to get it so people think it’s a no-brainer to elect people who believe in climate change and trying to slow it down or stop it.

AW: Where do you think this magazine will go in the future?

TD: We were hoping to be a quarterly, but we’re not a money-maker at this point ... Lately, it’s been a year from the past issue to this current issue. We’re hoping right now to do two a year, and I’m also looking to revisit the national model because I think the economy has improved enough and people are aware enough. I think it’s a better climate to start asking for investment for it.



THE
JETSETTERS

FRANCES JOHNSON, GERMANY

A stroll through Freiburg, Germany

With fewer than two weeks left of my study-abroad program, I think I should dedicate this entry to the lovely city of Freiburg. I realize I haven’t written much about Freiburg because I spend so much time traveling, and I don’t want to lead my readers to believe that I don’t like Freiburg, because that isn’t true.

Let me take you on a tour of this quaint little city nestled in the heart of the Black Forest. When you’re walking toward the city center from my apartment, you’ll pass by a few local bakeries and grocery stores in the first five minutes of the trek.

You’ll walk over what we call the Blue Bridge, which is directly above the central station. Once the temperature is above 15 degrees Celsius — or 59 degrees Fahrenheit — you’ll see teenagers and college students perched up on top of the bridge, eating their lunches or blasting music from their smartphones and iPods.

As you approach the outskirts of the city center you’ll see the Stadttheater: the city performing arts theater. Next to it you’ll see a row of cafes and small restaurants. At the end of the row, closest to the Stadttheater, you’ll find one of my favorite places in town, called Portofino. It’s a cafe and, most importantly, an incredible gelato shop.

Portofino has more than 25 house made flavors. Some of my favorites are passion fruit, mango, dark chocolate and baccio, which tastes like Nutella with tree nuts mixed in. The best part about Portofino is that each scoop of gelato is only 1 euro, which is about \$1.08. You’ll see lines out the door when the weather is warm.

The closer you get to the city center, you’ll notice the sidewalks are made of cobblestone. Although my shin splints have flared up a few times and my hips are probably unaligned from having to walk on the uneven surfaces, it is the quintessential feature to any old European city.

When you reach downtown, you’ll hear the dingling of the trams as the main lines intersect one another and warn pedestrians to get out of the way. On either side of the street between the road and the sidewalk, you’ll see shallow streams that look like miniature canals. They’re called Bachle and were built to cool off the city during warmer months of the year. Local legend has it that if someone accidentally falls into a Bachle, they’ll marry a Freiburger. Despite how clumsy I am, I haven’t happened to fall into a Bachle yet, so I guess I won’t be marrying a Freiburger anytime too soon.

The true spectacle in the city center is the Munsterplatz, which translates to Cathedral Plaza. Six days a week there is a farmers market in the Munsterplatz filled with fresh vegetable and fruit stands, handmade utensils, beautiful flowers and, most importantly, bratwurst stands. You can get an absolutely delicious bratwurst sandwich with caramelized onions and curry ketchup for 2.50 euros, which is something I’ll miss dearly.

In a few weeks’ time I’ll leave Freiburg and will have to say goodbye to its charm. I have loved almost every minute of my stay here, and I am happy to say that I’m not done in Europe quite yet. I have accepted an internship with the European Union Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, for the summer. My European adventures will continue in the so-called European capital, but I will never forget Freiburg and the many experiences I have had here.

True crime thriller fails to contribute to genre

BY NOAH ORENT
STAFF WRITER

A mysterious figure watches as a teddy bear falls in slow-motion and lands next to a little girl's lifeless body. A journalist feverishly works to piece together the day-to-day lives of laborers on an African cocoa plantation. A stranger flirts with a pretty German tourist and invites her to his hotel room only to be arrested for a heinous series of murders. So begins "True Story," a true crime-drama that struggles to present itself and ultimately falls flat.

MOVIE REVIEW

"True Story"
Fox Searchlight Pictures
Our rating:
★★★★☆

Based on the 2005 mea culpa memoir of the same name written by Michael Finkel, the film stars two-time Academy Award nominee Jonah Hill as Finkel, a rising freelance journalist who is fired from The New York Times Magazine after he is caught fabricating details for an article highlighting child slaves in the Ivory Coast. With his reputation in tatters, Finkel moves back to rural Montana only to learn that Christian Longo (James Franco), a fugitive about to stand trial for killing his wife and three children, was using Finkel's name as an alias when he was arrested in Cancun, Mexico, by federal authorities. Determined to learn the truth, Finkel travels to Oregon, where Longo is being imprisoned, and meets Longo face-to-face, only to find himself playing a twisted game of cat-and-mouse.

Although the setup is similar to the archetypal platform for a typical psychological thriller, such as the 1996 Gregory Hoblit courtroom drama "Primal Fear" and the film adaptation of Thomas Harris' best-seller "The Silence of the Lambs," "True Story" is a cumbersome film that strongly lacks the tension

of the aforementioned films, due to the fact that it relies on a plotline viewers have seen time and time again. The incoherent writing and shoddy directing leave the task of augmenting the plot to the film's co-stars, both of whom deliver performances that are robotic and one-dimensional. Even though they both have their respective moments, with Hill hinting at the existential crisis his character is going through and Franco delivering subtle yet chilling flashes of manipulation, neither star manages to convince viewers. It seems as if director Rupert Goold, who is mainly known for his career as the artistic director of the Almeida Theatre in London's West End, was too preoccupied with filming a melodrama instead of a thriller.

Standing between the co-stars is Academy Award-nominated actress Felicity Jones, whose performance as Finkel's partner, Jill, is one-note. Best known for her role as Jane Hawking in "The Theory of Everything," Jones comes across as a mousy librarian who does not stand up for herself or for anyone else. This comes with the exception of a scene that occurs near the climax of the film, when she confronts Longo in prison and tells him off while comparing his actions to those of Renaissance composer Carlo Gesualdo, who killed his wife, her lover and their son. While it may appear as though Jones is attempting to build up her character as a force to be reckoned with, her speech is ultimately inconsistent and overly theatrical.

The overabundance of multiple exposure montages and slow-motion shots make it appear as though Goold has lost control of the story. The fleeting, sunlit glimpses of Longo running through a park with his kids, holding his youngest child and kissing his wife detract from the plot in such a way that viewers quickly grow tired of the portentous technique.



From left, Jonah Hill and James Franco star as journalist Michael Finkel and criminal Christian Longo, respectively, in "True Story," a true crime thriller in which Longo steals Finkel's identity. COURTESY OF FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Perhaps the most mentally taxing part of watching this movie is figuring out which character to sympathize with. Despite Goold's attempts to portray Finkel as the "good guy," Hill's character fails to evoke even the smallest ounce of remorse from viewers. The same can be said for the other two members of the main cast, as both Longo and Jill stick to just one emotion and fail to undergo any substantial growth. This could have been easily remedied if Goold took his time in fleshing out each individual character.

In all, "True Story" is a classic example of when horror becomes repetitive and tired. Both the inane plot and the severe lack of characterization make it extremely difficult to enjoy watching this film. The execution of this cliché look into finding the truth within a complex web of lies is not one worth seeing and will only garner disappointment.

"True Story" was written by David Kajganich and Rupert Goold and directed by Rupert Goold.

English indie group explores effects of long-distance love

BY ANGELA WELDON
STAFF WRITER

The Wombats, an indie-rock trio based out of Liverpool, England, released their third album, "Glitterbug," on April 3. The romantic-comedy vibe of the album highlights lead singer and guitarist Matthew Murphy's long-distance relationship with a girl from Los Angeles while he was in England, which began after the band's second album was released in 2011. "Glitterbug" strays away from the previous album's optimistic party lyrics with this pleasing, yet unremarkable album, using the long-distance metaphor as a lament of their lack of American fans.

ALBUM REVIEW

The Wombats
"Glitterbug"
14th Floor Records
Our rating:
★★★★☆

The band takes a more serious tone in this album, which differs greatly from the whimsical melodies of The Wombats' two previous

releases. This style change plays against The Wombats, as they fall into the stereotypical rut of a broken-hearted, indie-rock band. The trio is seemingly done with the party scene and is ready to settle down with weepy tunes like "This is Not a Party" and "Pink Lemonade," but this moody shift has caused the band to lose some of the vigor of its former songs.

As well as portraying his romantic saga, Murphy is also issuing a desperate call to American fans, as the band has yet to make it big stateside. This is shown when Murphy plaintively sings, "We could be gigantic" at the chorus of "Give Me a Try" and in "Your Body is a Weapon," when Murphy questions how Los Angeles could ever love "a creep like me." Though it's been producing music since 2003, the group has yet to be as successful in America as many of its numerous indie-rock counterparts, and its forlorn longing is starting to show.

The high point of "Glitterbug" is "Your Body is a Weapon," an upbeat



COURTESY OF 14TH FLOOR RECORDS

song that shows how Murphy pined over a girl who never returned his feelings for her. This track really gives insight into the group's experiences with LA and its love/hate relationship with the city and its people. "Give Me a Try" is another gem on this album, as the band tries to persuade both the girl and American fans to literally give it a try. The bubbly beat of this song complements the catchy lyrics, making this one of "Glitterbug's" hits.

While this is just another English indie-rock band using love songs to lure the American audience in, The Wombats deliver a somewhat enjoyable though underwhelming album with "Glitterbug."

Complexities of love fuel album

BY ASHLEY WOLF
STAFF WRITER

Passionately loving someone else while respecting and loving oneself is a fundamental difficulty that drives indie group Villagers' third and most recent studio album, "Darling Arithmetic." Villagers have nicely changed their tone from upbeat to angsty and slow. The album's main theme is love, both love for oneself and love for others. Though the album is only nine songs long, each track has a different aspect to it that listeners will be able to understand.

The most powerful song on the album, "No One To Blame," starts off with a fun, slow piano melody, and then low, solemn vocals are introduced with messages of broken promises, heartbreak and the song's main message: It's important not to change so much for a lover that

a person becomes an "empty broken shell." The lead singer, Conor O'Brien, used this album to come out as gay, making this song one of the most important.

The best part of the album is the way O'Brien shows his emotion through his vocals. Whether singing with a high, drawn-out tone or slow and low vocals, the variety of his voice does a great job of showing each track's emotions and his pure talent. "Darling Arithmetic" brings Villagers into a new realm and genre but was a risk worth taking as the album is by far one of the best of the year.



COURTESY OF DOMINO RECORDING COMPANY

QUICKIES



COURTESY OF INTERSCOPE RECORDS

"ADDICTED TO A MEMORY"

Zedd ft. Bahari
Interscope Records
Music producer Zedd teams up with girl-group Bahari in his latest single, "Addicted To A Memory," released April 14. The track features Bahari's smooth vocals complementing Zedd's signature sound.



COURTESY OF MEXICAN SUMMER

"FEELING OK"

Best Coast
Mexican Summer
On April 14, American-rock duo Best Coast released its latest single, "Feeling Ok." The confluence of instruments complements Bethany Cosentino's soothing vocals and offers a positive outlook on the impact of love.



COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS

"CATCH US IF YOU CAN"

Elle King
RCA Records
Elle King's latest single was released April 12, "Catch Us If You Can," as a track from the upcoming movie "Hot Pursuit." The track offers a mix of pop and rock with a hint of country, evident in the combination of drums and twangy guitar.

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Studying abroad?



STUDENTS PLANNING TO STUDY ABROAD IN SUMMER / FALL of 2015:

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Fall 2015 study abroad students need to come to one of each of the below sessions. Summer 2015 students need to attend only the "Traveling Abroad" orientation.

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Traveling Abroad	Ithaca College Details
Thursday, April 23 12:10-1:00 p.m. Textor 103	Tuesday, April 28 12:10-1:00 p.m. Textor 103
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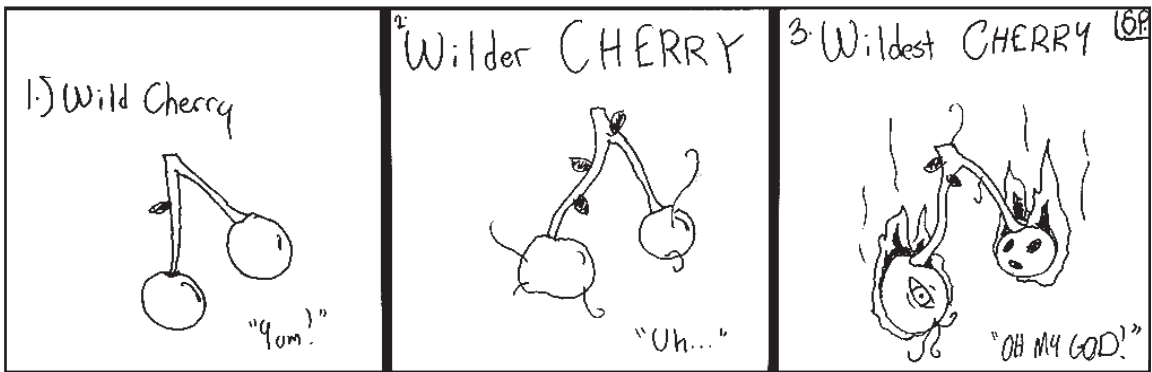


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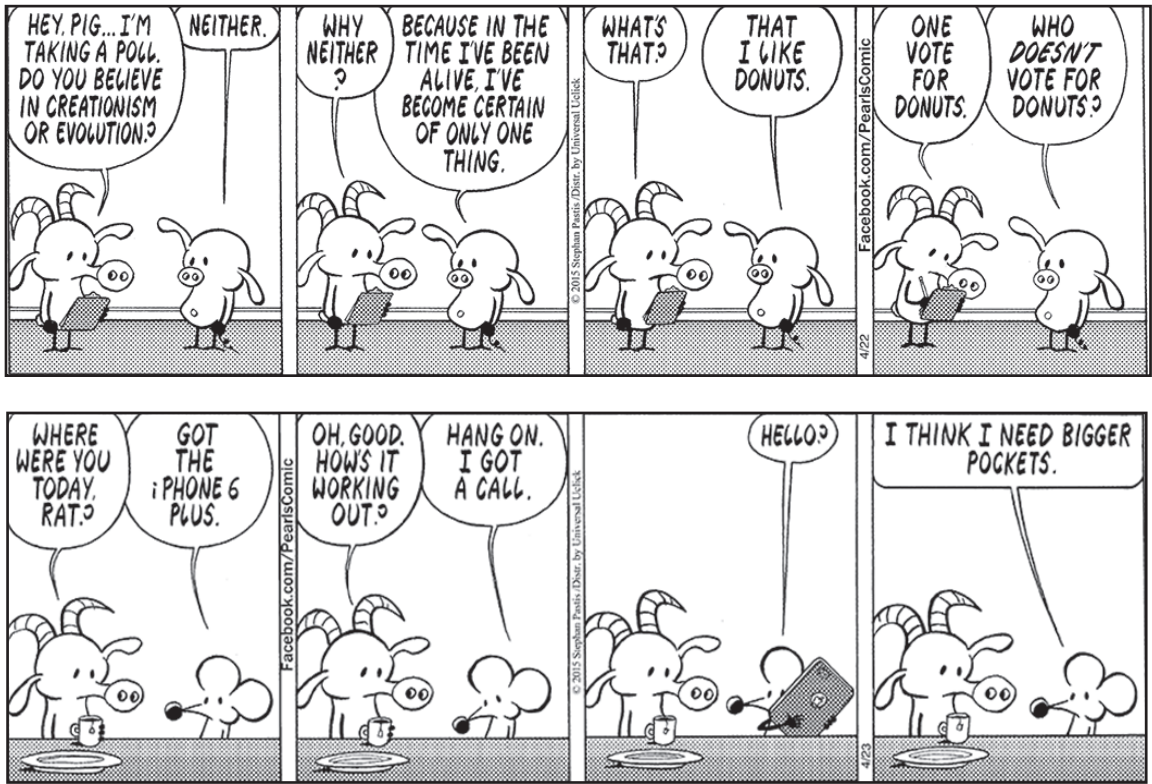
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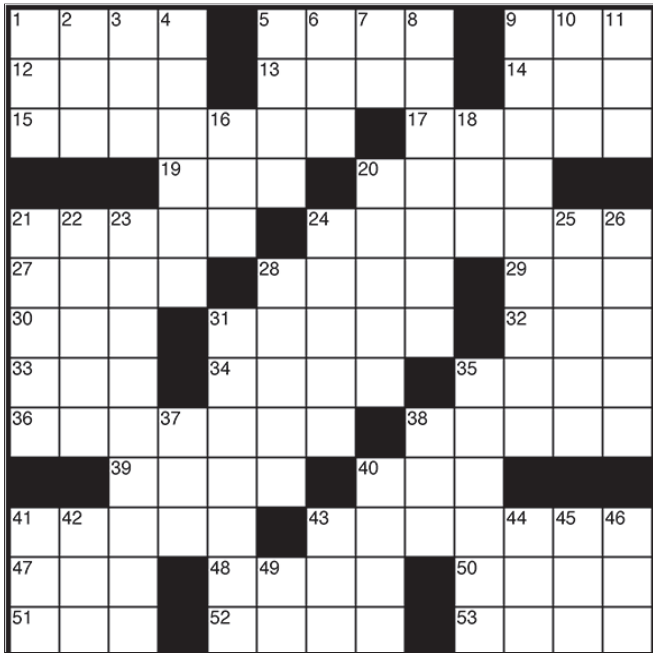
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crossword

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- ACROSS

1

Pyramid builder of Yucatan

5

Overhead

9

Steal by force

12

Cheers for toreros

13

Joke response (hyph.)

14

- de cologne

15

Van

17

Morning -

19

Big coffee cup

20

Culture medium

21

Hurry off

24

Play with idly

27

Game show name

28

Penn or Connery

29

Pipe joint

30

Not even

31

New growth

32

Squeal on

33

Green parrot

34

"The Day of the Locust" author

35

Floor model

36

Tall building

38

Family car

39

Broken-down horses

40

A Gershwin

41

Recumbent

43

Added ribbons and bows

47

Comic-strip prince

48

Ireland

50

Monsieur's pate

51

Chow mein additive

52

"Star Trek" android

53

Foot part
- DOWN

1

May honoree

2

- Baba

3

Craving

4

Sci-fi writer Isaac -

5

Puff along

6

NATO cousin

7

Library warning

8

Following closely

9

Added to inventory

10

Paddle cousin

11

Charge it

16

However

18

Young chap

20

Hold off for

21

Cure salmon

22

Yielded territory

23

Priest-making

24

Succinct

25

Altiplano ruminant

26

"Crocodile Rock" singer - John

28

Glasses, slangily

31

Gulped down

35

Shortage

37

Low-tech cooler

38

B'way sign of yore

40

Inkling

41

Take it on the -

42

Cent. fractions

43

Gallery display

44

Bridal notice word

45

Riviera summer

46

PC key

49

III. neighbor

sudoku

easy

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

medium

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

answers to last week's sudoku

Medium	Very Hard
7 2 6 3 1 4 5 9 8	4 9 3 5 2 1 7 6 8
5 1 8 6 7 9 3 4 2	1 5 8 3 7 6 2 9 4
9 4 3 5 8 2 1 7 6	7 2 6 8 9 4 1 3 5
2 3 9 7 5 6 8 1 4	8 1 9 6 5 3 4 2 7
1 6 4 9 2 8 7 5 3	3 7 2 9 4 8 6 5 1
8 7 5 1 4 3 6 2 9	6 4 5 2 1 7 3 8 9
6 8 7 2 9 1 4 3 5	2 8 4 1 6 5 9 7 3
3 5 2 4 6 7 9 8 1	9 3 7 4 8 2 5 1 6
4 9 1 8 3 5 2 6 7	5 6 1 7 3 9 8 4 2

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last week's crossword answers

LACK	FRAY	ETC
OBIE	AIDA	CRO
REAP	CLENCHED	
ISOLATE	KOOKS	
	ECO	TEA
HEART	BEDLAMP	
EEK	PAD	CHI
MOANERS	FREON	
	AXE	RBI
TEMPT	DEIGNED	
WIDEEYED	GALA	
IRS	NOSY	EMIR
NEE	DUKE	DEET

CALLING THE SHOTS

Junior becomes second Bomber to qualify for national refereeing tournament

BY VINICA WEISS
STAFF WRITER

Making sure to keep up with the hustle of the players, junior Clark Stridsberg's lanky 6-foot 2-inch frame quickly moves up and down the basketball court. With intense concentration and confidence, his eyes are locked on the ball and the competitors' every move. The sound of the rapid movement of feet resonates across the court, but a whistle blows, and the high-pitched squeaks of shuffling feet pause for a moment.

While Stridsberg may be running across the court, he is not one of the 10 players competing. He is an official. When he's donning the black-and-white striped shirt, black pants, black shoes and whistle around his neck — the attire that has come to define a basketball referee — his job isn't to score 3-pointers or block an opposing player's shot. Instead, he is one part of the triangle of officials maintaining the rules, order and flow of the game.

Stridsberg said he has played basketball since he was a kid, and having an abundance of experience playing the game helped ease the transition from player to official.

"I've played basketball every year for as long as I can remember ... so that's the one [sport] I definitely feel the most comfortable refing, too, because I feel like I have the best understanding of it," Stridsberg said.

As an official in the Office of Recreational Sports at the college since he was a freshman, Stridsberg has had the opportunity to learn and fine-tune his skills over his college career.

But recently, Stridsberg was able to take his abilities to a higher level of play when he received the opportunity to be an official at the 2015 National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association National Basketball Championships held at North Carolina State University from April 17–19 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The tournament is made up of 96 club and intramural basketball teams from all over the nation, and Stridsberg is the second Ithaca College student to get the opportunity to officiate at the competition after Becca Lewis '14 went two years ago. Stridsberg said being an official at the tournament was a tremendous experience because he was able to attend various workshops at the competition, which in turn helped him develop his own skills on the court.

"It's definitely another level, not only for the participants competing, but for the officials because it's usually just the top couple officials from the regional tournaments plus some at-large bids," Stridsberg said. "So, as an official, it was a really good experience because you're working with a lot of people that really know what they're doing."

A sport management major from Berlin Corners, Vermont, Stridsberg came to the college knowing he wanted to work in the sports industry, and he applied to be a referee for intramurals at the beginning of his freshman year. Recently, however, he has taken on multiple roles. In addition to being an official, he is a field supervisor and an office assistant for intramurals. Through the program, he has also received the opportunity to be a high school basketball official at nine schools in Tompkins County.

Scott Flickinger, former program coordinator of intramurals at the college who is now the assistant manager of Intramural

and Club Sports at Boston University, said as a basketball player, Stridsberg came in with prior knowledge of the game, but while that knowledge base is valuable, it did not necessarily help him become a talented official. Rather, he said it was Stridsberg's commitment to his craft.

"Clark has just worked extremely hard in taking a look at plays, analyzing plays as they come to him and then making the right decision with each play, and that comes with experience," Flickinger said. "With every play he sees, he gets better because he is consistently exposed to those plays. And when that happens, Clark's intelligence and his hard work really shine because as he sees that, he catalogs that so he has that knowledge to fall back on when he sees that again."

Before qualifying for the national competition, Stridsberg went to three regional tournaments. He qualified to be an official at Boston University, the University of Dayton and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

It was at the UMass Amherst tournament that Stridsberg was recognized, as he was ranked as one of the top-two officials at the tournament. At each regional tournament, there is an official's committee of about a dozen people, made up of mostly graduate assistants and intramural coordinators.

Stridsberg said similar to the elimination style tournament for the teams, referees are also competing to go further, and as an all-tournament official, he received an automatic bid to referee at the national tournament in North Carolina. Stridsberg was one of 50 officials from all over the nation to receive the opportunity.

The NIRSA basketball tournaments are geared toward helping officials, as there is a big commitment to professional development. Flickinger said the tournament serves as an officiating camp and is an opportunity for Stridsberg to continue refining his skills.

"It's always nice that he got this opportunity to go to nationals, but the one thing I do want to emphasize is that it's not about that, and Clark knows that," Flickinger said. "Clark knows that it is about getting better as an official and doing the game justice by improving his officiating."

At both the regional and national tournaments, each official has games videotaped with a voice-over from one of the clinicians. When this is done, Stridsberg is able to break down the film with the official's committee clinicians, and the videos are also posted online so he can review them himself.

Similar to how players watch game film, Stridsberg said watching film of himself during the game helps him make adjustments because he is able to take the feedback and incorporate it into his officiating.

Stridsberg said the career development component has been his favorite aspect of participating in the tournaments because it gives him the opportunity to learn and to help other students. He said he enjoys passing on what he's learned from the tournaments.



Top: Junior Clark Stridsberg referees a middle school basketball game during winter break.

Left: Tossing the ball for the opening tip, junior Clark Stridsberg officiates middle school basketball in January. COURTESY OF CLARK STRIDSBURG

As seen at all levels of play, referees are often remembered for the calls that they miss, but Stridsberg said he cannot focus on this.

"Even when you do get it right, there's a lot of players and coaches who will still disagree with you," Stridsberg said. "When I'm telling the current intramural referees, I'm always just like, 'Don't get discouraged from that, just do what you're doing because people always get upset, but you just have to take it in stride.'"

Stridsberg also said being an official for intramurals has actually helped when it comes to avoiding impartiality because many of the players who he officiates are his friends. Additionally, Stridsberg has had to officiate multiple games for the women's club basketball team this past year, including a regional tournament game, and he said because of his intramurals experience, he has not had to face any problems regarding impartiality.

"Some people might have a problem calling a foul on a friend of theirs, but I think honestly officiating intramurals helped with that because that's a lot of my friends doing intramurals, and I still have to officiate those games," Stridsberg said. "In a way, it actually helps because if there is a disagreement, you can talk to them better, you already kind of have a relationship there, so you can explain it to them and they're usually very understanding whether or not it's in their favor."

Chris Thomas, intramurals program coordinator at the college, said it is evident Stridsberg is committed to helping other officials and enjoys taking on a sort of teaching role. Thomas also said now that Stridsberg has progressed to this national tournament, he thinks other intramural officials will try to take that next step as well.

"He's gone through a lot of the clinics for the national tournaments and through his high school certification, so he knows how to train refs, how to relate to them, give them examples on how to improve their skills as well," Thomas said.

Stridsberg said he is planning on officiating at the NIRSA tournament next year, and he hopes other officials at the college will consider it as well. When it comes to his future, Stridsberg said he certainly wants to continue officiating after college.

"Of course, the higher level, the better when it comes to officiating as far as currently doing high school," Stridsberg said. "Eventually I'd like to move on, hopefully do college games at some point, whether that's DI or DIII here at Ithaca. But there's always a higher level to strive for in the field."

THE BOMBER ROUNDUP

The Ithacan’s sports staff provides updates on the spring squads

BASEBALL

BY TOM GARRIS

The baseball team played a total of five games in the past week, including two double-headers over the weekend.

The Bombers suited up against the University of Rochester on April 16. They lost by a score of 5–4 as the opposing Yellowjackets scored four runs in the eighth inning. The Blue and Gold amassed 15 total strikeouts.

On April 18, the South Hill squad hit the road to take on Utica College. The team won both games 9–5 and 10–8, respectively.

The Bombers went 1–1 April 19, taking the first game 11–0, then losing the second game 3–0. Freshman Jim Sinopoli made his first

collegiate start in the second game, allowing two runs on three hits in six innings of work.

The South Hill squad bounced back April 21 with a 9–4 home win against Elmira College.

Head coach George Valesente said the team must continue to win games down the stretch.

“We’ve got to go on a streak,” he said. “We’ve got to put together an eight-, 10-, 12-game winning streak here if we can. We need to continue to build on what we’ve done since we’ve been back home.”

The Bombers were back in action April 22, travelling to SUNY Oneonta. Score was not available at press time.

Box Score: April 21 Freeman Field	Ithaca College (12–10)	9–4	Elmira College (2–21)
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CREW

BY ADAM BROBST

Both rowing teams traveled to compete April 18 in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Bombers competed against six schools.

The men’s first varsity boat crewed a time of 6:20.47 to finish fourth overall in the final heat. The second and third varsity boats took second place each in their heats with times of 6:26.65 and 6:42.91, respectively.

The women’s first varsity boat came in second in its race finishing with a time of 6:54.79. The second varsity boat also came in second with a time of 7:17.57, while the third varsity

boat finished in sixth with a time of 7:50.83. Head coach Becky Robinson said her team managed success over the weekend due to its training for the middle of the race.

“The race in Worcester is always a test for us in terms of where we are with boat speed,” she said. “It was also great to beat rival William Smith [College], it has been a few years since we had the speed to be able to do that.”

The Bombers return to their home waters to host Marist College, Hamilton College and Colgate University on April 25 at the Cayuga Inlet.

MEN’S LACROSSE

BY JOELLE GOLDSTEIN

The men’s lacrosse team overpowered Hartwick College on April 18 in a dominant 23–8 victory over the Hawks on Senior Day. The Bombers are now 10–4 on the season and 5–1 in the Empire 8 conference.

The team made sure to give itself a lead early on, running up the score to 6–0 with only 3 minutes remaining in the first quarter. From there, it never looked back, dominating in face-offs, ground balls and shots on goal.

By halftime, the Bombers led 15–2. The victory was a collective team effort, with 11 different players contributing goals and nine players adding assists for the Bombers. Sophomore attacker Jack Shumway led the way with four goals, and

senior attacker James Manilla added five assists for the day.

Sophomore attacker John Januszkiewicz said the Bombers’ success this year has come from the offense drawing more attention from defenses.

“I like the challenge and take it head on,” he said. “Other players have stepped up big as well. Jack Shumway, obviously, is having a great year, and James Manilla. It’s hard to guard us three.”

Next up for the Blue and Gold is their matchup against Alfred University at 4 p.m. April 22 at Higgins Stadium. The South Hill squad will finish out the regular season in Hoboken, New Jersey, against Stevens Institute of Technology at 11 a.m. April 25.

Box Score: April 18 Higgins Stadium	Ithaca College (10–8)	23–8	Hartwick College (3–8)
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WOMEN’S LACROSSE

BY COREY FULLER

The women’s lacrosse team went 2–1 this past week, earning victories against Empire 8 foe Houghton College and No. 7 Hamilton College, while losing to SUNY Geneseo.

The Bombers fell to Geneseo on April 17, however, they quickly responded April 18 with an offensive explosion against Houghton, winning by a score of 17–3.

Junior attacker Ally Runyon and junior midfielder Riley Marion led the South Hill squad with three goals apiece.

The whole team contributed, with 12 different players scoring at least once.

On April 21, the Bombers took down a ranked opponent in Hamilton College. They won the game by a score of 9–8 in a thrilling

game at Higgins Stadium. Runyon and Marion each recorded three goals.

Senior midfielder Natalie Lang also contributed two goals, and sophomore midfielder Morgan Cadwell recorded one goal.

Cadwell and Marion each had two assists. Head coach Shannon McHale said the key to beating Hamilton was sticking to the game plan and playing as a team.

“We stuck to our game plan, which we’ve been struggling with,” she said. “We came out with what our identity is and who we want to be, what kind of game we want to play. We came together offensively and defensively.”

The Bombers will wrap up their season April 22 at Utica College.

Box Score: April 21 Higgins Stadium	Ithaca College (9–7)	9–8	Hamilton College (11–4)
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Freshman Ericsson Bissell serves during the men’s tennis team’s 7–2 victory over the Nazareth College Golden Flyers on April 19 at Wheeler Tennis Courts. The Bombers own a 7–7–1 record. CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

SOFTBALL

BY VINICA WEISS

The softball team picked up five wins in six games this past week, sweeping doubleheaders against Nazareth College and the University of Rochester, and splitting a pair of games with St. John Fisher College. The five-game winning streak improves the Bombers’ overall record to 17–11 and 9–3 in the Empire 8 conference.

On April 18, the Bombers started off play against St. John Fisher, taking one of the two games. In the first game, the Blue and Gold were not able to muster any runs, losing 2–0. However, the team bounced back in its second game, picking up a 5–4 victory in 11 innings.

The team carried its momentum into its

match April 19 to sweep a pair of games against Nazareth, winning the conference games by scores of 9–2 and 11–0. In the first game, the Bombers’ bats came alive to secure a 9–2 victory. The team won the next contest 11–0.

On April 21, the Bombers went on to play Rochester where they added another pair of victories to their record. They won the second contest 6–4, which marked head coach Deb Pallozzi’s 750th win at the college.

The Bombers return to action April 22 with a pair of games against SUNY Oneonta, which will mark one of the last four home double-headers of the regular season.

Box Score: April 21 Rochester, New York	Ithaca College (17–11)	6–4	University of Rochester (21–10)
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MEN’S TENNIS

BY CAITIE IHRIG

The men’s tennis team won both matches it played this week.

On April 19, the Blue and Gold won their match against Nazareth College with a score of 7–2 at the Wheeler Tennis Courts.

The Bombers won five out of the six singles matches on the day and two out of the three doubles matches.

On April 21, the South Hill squad defeated the Elmira College Soaring Eagles by a score of 8–1 in Elmira, New York.

The team won five out of the six singles matches and all three of the doubles matches.

The win helped the team secure a spot in the Empire 8 playoffs.

Junior Chris Hayes said he was proud of his team for making the tournament and looks forward to the next match.

“It was good to clinch [a] spot in the conference tournament again,” he said. “The guys are very excited for the opportunity. We have two more matches this weekend though, so hopefully we can lick up the [No. 2] seed as well.”

The Blue and Gold will compete next April 25 in Oneonta, New York, against the Hartwick College Hawks.

Box Score: April 21 Elmira, New York	Ithaca College (7–7–1)	8–1	Elmira College (6–4)
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TRACK AND FIELD

BY JONATHAN BECK

The men’s and women’s track and field teams competed April 19 at the Empire 8 Outdoor Championships hosted by St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York.

The men’s team placed second overall as a team, finishing behind the host Cardinals.

Junior Stephen Gomez paved the way for the Bombers with a first-place finish in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:38.63, qualifying for the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference along the way.

Meanwhile, the women’s squad ran away with the championship, compiling 245 points,

which was 148 more than the second-place team, Nazareth College.

It was the program’s eighth consecutive title as seven Bombers placed first in their respective events that day.

On April 21, the squad hosted the Ithaca Tuesday Meet at Butterfield Stadium.

The men’s squad won nine of 19 total events, while the women’s team won 12 of 18.

The Blue and Gold will compete next in the Penn Relays on April 23 and 24, before competing in the Big Red Invitational at Cornell University on April 26.

California native brings steady batting approach to plate

BY MATT ROTTLER
STAFF WRITER

Freshman outfielder Emily Bloom may not be enjoying the hot sun of California anymore, but the cold Ithaca weather hasn't cooled off her bat as she is leading the softball team in batting average this season.

The Mission Viejo, California, native said she originally began playing softball without even making the decision to play herself.

"My dad just signed me up for softball," she said. "He didn't even tell me, he just wanted me to play."

Her father's decision paid off, as Bloom attended Capistrano Valley High School and played on the varsity softball team for four years. In her senior season, she was named the team's MVP. However, she said in high school, hitting was not one of her strengths. She calls hitting a mental game and something she began working on more when she came to Ithaca College. A large part of her sudden improvement at the plate, she said, stems from the talented coaching staff at the college.

"I was never known as a good hitter," she said. "But when I came here, something clicked and I just started hitting better."

Bloom, wanting a change of scenery, decided she wanted to come to the East Coast for college. Recruited by head coach Deb Pallozzi and the rest of the team's coaching staff, Bloom came and said she fell in love with the school.

However, there are several major differences between playing in upstate New York and in Southern California. She said she wanted to come to the East Coast to get away, but the softball atmosphere has proven to be much different than she thought it would be.



Freshman outfielder Emily Bloom swings at a pitch during batting practice April 13 at Kostrinsky Field. Bloom has led the Bombers to a 14-11 record this season and has played in 22 games in just her first year on the team.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS/THE ITHACAN

"In California we played all year round," she said. "We would practice on the field every day and instead, here in the fall, we would do weightlifting."

Regardless of weather, the outfielder has made an instant impact with her bat this season. Bloom is batting a team-high .442, going 23-for-52 with 11 RBIs in 22 games so far this season. She has started 17 games in her first year as a

college athlete.

Pallozzi said having youth on the team — which currently has several freshmen, including Bloom, seeing regular time on the field — will be beneficial for the Blue and Gold heading into the next couple of seasons.

"Emily has done well, all the underclassmen have stepped up," she said. "Having youth gives good depth to the program for future years."

Bloom said Pallozzi has had a big impact on her game.

"She helped me a lot," Bloom said. "The way she coaches makes me understand things better and makes me learn more about the game."

Bloom said she misses playing outdoors every day, like she was used to at home. However, she said the weather in Ithaca has caused her to appreciate more and more

the days she gets to play outside.

Since Bloom has gotten to the college, she said the senior captains have had the biggest influence on her as she begins her college career. She said they showed her how to adjust to college life on and off the field.

"They have been helping," she said. "As a freshman you know how to play softball, but it's different the way people do things, showed me how to adapt."

In addition to adjusting to campus life, Bloom is focused on the team's goals. She said the team is in a good position right now to make a postseason run. Keeping the momentum high, she said, has been key in the 8-8 Bombers' victories this season.

"After the loss to [SUNY] Cortland, we have stepped it up," she said. "We just need to finish games more."

Bloom's high school coach, Marc Kendrick, said he is not surprised that Bloom is doing well in college softball. He said injuries hurt her in high school, but she was always someone who battled through the pain. He also said from what he saw from her in high school, she has the potential to become a leader, even as a freshman.

"She's great. You ask her to do something, and she does it," he said. "She leads by example."

Down the road, Bloom said she wants to look back and feel that she not only improved her own skills but also helped her teammates on the field.

"Coach tells a lot of stories about past players, not necessarily people who played a lot but influenced others," she said. "I want to be one of those people who influences other people to win games and help the team."

Former assistant coach appointed to take over men's soccer program

Patrick Ouckama '05 was hired April 15 to take over for Andy Byrne as head coach of the men's soccer team beginning Fall 2015. Ouckama attended the college from 2001-05 and played on the team for all four years as a starter. He moved on after college to play professionally and has gained extensive experience in coaching through several soccer academies. He served as an assistant coach for the 2014 season, the first full-time assistant coach the program has ever had.

Assistant Sports Editor Jonathan Beck spoke with Ouckama about his reactions to being hired, his relationship with Byrne and what he hopes to achieve during his time at the college.

Jonathan Beck: What was your initial reaction when you first found out about the job?

Patrick Ouckama: Initially, just very excited. The interview process was long. It was challenging. There were a lot of good candidates applying for the position — so relieved, excited. I went and told my father right away, and he was the first person I told. He's been watching me play since I was a kid, and he watched me play here for four years, so he was the first one. He was excited, very excited. He still lives in the area, so he's gearing up to come to more Ithaca College Bombers games.

JB: Andy Byrne was here for 31 years. What type of influence did he have on you?

PO: From a young age, he's had an influence on me. I've known him since I was a youth player in the area. I grew up here, and then I ended up coming here and played for him for four years and then was able to work beside him for a year. The biggest thing was just

being true to the program itself and having loyalty to the program ... It's a challenging job at times, of course, but I think the most important thing I learned from him was keeping your eyes on the kids and the program itself, and you can't go too wrong if you are on that track.

JB: How will you try to build the same legacy that he did coming in as a young coach?

PO: The same legacy, those will be big shoes to fill. I think more along the lines of staying true to the program and doing the best job I can and getting these guys on the same page, tactically, and developing them as young players and young men. And I think if I can do that in the way that Andy Byrne did it for 31 years, then I could call myself successful at the end of the day no matter how long I am here.

JB: What type of relationship have you had with the other head coaches here so far?

PO: I've had a lot of handshakes and congratulations the last couple days. It's a fantastic athletic staff, and I'm very lucky to be a younger coach on this staff because there is a lot of experience here from Coach Welch, Coach Val, Bill Austin, Andy Byrne, [who is] taking a step out the door — there's a ton of experience here. Mindy Quigg has been here a long time, so to learn from them, to be able to bounce ideas off of them — Jim Mullins is another one — to be able to go to them and ask them questions, "Hey, here's my situation or here's the situation with this team." And for them to have 10, 20, 30 years of experience to give me that advice, that perspective, is something that I'm looking forward to, and it's something I don't think a lot of coaches in



Patrick Ouckama '05 was hired April 15 to replace Andy Byrne as the head men's soccer coach. Byrne has led the program for the past 31 years, and Ouckama served as his assistant in 2014.

TOMMY BATTISTELLI/THE ITHACAN

the country will have. Not a lot of the coaches will be able to look around at the staff of the athletic department and have that kind of experience to look to and those leaders in the same room.

JB: What philosophy have you developed over the years as a player and an assistant coach that stays true to your perspective about this team?

PO: First, one of competition. It's going to be tough for these guys moving forward. We have a lot of strong recruits coming in, and I like to create a culture of every practice is a competition. We can do a lot as coaches in terms of training and developing players, but there is little that can substitute a guy nipping at your heels trying to take your starting spot,

and I think the guys are going to battle for everything they get, and I think that is going to make us a strong team moving forward.

JB: As a former Bomber, what is the one thing you want to bring back to this program?

PO: I want to create a culture of winning for these guys. I want them to look at everything they do from packing their bag in the morning, to what time they are going to be in at night. And I want them to prioritize their lives as young men, as young college students and make quality productive decisions from start to finish. And I think if I can create that type of culture within the team, we are not only going to have success on the field, but I think we are going to develop some fine young men as well.



THE HOT STOVE

STEVE DERDERIAN

E8 Tournament will aid baseball

The baseball team missed the postseason altogether in 2014, but the squad will have a different end to its season this time around.

With the addition of SUNY Canton's baseball team to the Empire 8 conference, the Blue and Gold will now play in the inaugural Empire 8 conference tournament from May 8–9 at Utica College to determine a conference champion. The goal is to eventually have an automatic qualifier to guarantee at least one team from the Empire 8 goes to the NCAA Tournament each season.

In Division III baseball, a conference needs seven full-time members for an automatic qualifier into the NCAA Tournament.

However, SUNY Canton needs to wait two seasons to become a full-time member of the Empire 8 and earn eligibility into the NCAA Tournament. Therefore, the conference will need to wait for the 2017 season before there is an automatic qualifier for its conference champion.

The South Hill squad has been considered an independent team since the conference began naming a regular-season champion in 2000. In order to make the postseason, the Bombers have to be at the top of Pool B, which consists of other independent teams without automatic qualifiers.

Despite having seven qualified baseball schools in 2010, baseball head coach George Valesente said the Liberty League, a conference with automatic qualifiers, added Bard College and Rochester Institute of Technology to its conference but did not allow the Bombers to join the conference just for baseball.

Valesente said the disadvantage to being an independent team is that every game the South Hill squad plays is weighed when considering a berth into the NCAA Tournament, whereas teams that play conference tournaments with automatic qualifiers have a secondary way to get into the tournament.

Last year, the Bombers and St. John Fisher College were both left out of the NCAA Tournament after posting records of 26–10 and 31–11, respectively.

With a depleted pitching staff and 12 postponements this season, the Bombers could certainly use the automatic qualifier. With only 10 regular season games remaining, the Blue and Gold will not play a full league schedule but are still in the top half of the conference standings.

Mother Nature has not been too friendly to the Bombers, but the conference tournament will give the team a competitive postseason atmosphere regardless of how it plays the rest of the season.

As for the automatic qualifier, it's not better luck next year, it's better luck in two years.

STEVE DERDERIAN is a senior journalism major. Follow him on Twitter @Steve_Derderian.

BY ANDREW SULLIVAN
STAFF WRITER

With baseball's attendance dipping over the years due to a lack of interest in the sport — the average Major League Baseball attendance has dropped by nearly 6 million since 2007, according to Forbes.com — baseball organizations at both professional and college levels continue to search for the answer to this lingering predicament.

The MLB implemented a pitch clock at the beginning of the 2015 season to speed up the pace of the game and keep the fans entertained. Baseball at the collegiate level, however, has decided to take a different approach by introducing a new type of baseball with lowered seams in all three divisions.

Craig Keilitz, executive director of the American Baseball Coaches Association who communicated and worked with several coaches who were experimenting with the new balls during practices and games in Fall 2014, said there were two specific reasons for eventually making the official switch: to make the balls closer to major league balls and to increase offensive production.

This season, the seams on the baseball were lowered from .048 inches to .031 inches. Keilitz said the seams are just like the balls used in the minor leagues but are still higher than the balls in the majors.

NCAA Division I baseball has seen significant strides in offensive production with a 39-percent increase in home runs this season using the flat-seamed ball.

Though there is no data available for Divisions II and III, examining the offensive production over almost a full season of the Empire 8 baseball squads shows the new ball has had mixed results.

In terms of home runs, the Bombers have hit just three through 21 games this season. If they were to continue this trend, the team would end up with about seven by the end of the season, two shy of last year's total of nine in 36 games.

On the other hand, Empire 8 rival St. John Fisher College has mashed 13 long balls through 30 games. At this pace, the Cardinals are well on their way to eclipse their mark of 14 home runs last season through 42 games.

Head baseball coach George Valesente said the



Junior Benji Parkes delivers a pitch with one of the new flat-seamed baseballs, implemented by the NCAA this season, during the team's 5–4 home loss to the University of Rochester on April 16.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

Bombers' power woes can be attributed not only to the new balls, but also to the fact that the majority of Division III teams adopt more contact-speed offenses and aren't as power-heavy.

"At Division III we don't have a lot of home run hitters," Valesente said. "You're not loading up your lineup with five or six big, 220-pound guys who can pound it out."

Keilitz said the new baseball travels an average distance of 20–21 feet more than the high-seamed ball due to the lack of a drag effect, the aerodynamic force that opposes an object's flight through the air.

With lowered seams comes the potential problem of gripping the baseball — the flatter seams are sleeker, which can make it difficult for pitchers to grasp them. However, freshman pitcher Jimmy Sinopoli said he had minimal trouble adjusting to the flat-seamed ball.

"You definitely notice the difference that the seams are lower," Sinopoli said. "But once you start

throwing with it, it's not a huge difference where you are going to see a lot of difference in the spin of your breaking ball or just the spin of the ball in general."

Despite noticing a slight loss of movement off of his off-speed pitches, senior pitcher Jimmy Wagner said his control has, in fact, improved with the new ball.

"It feels more round," Wagner said. "When the seams are higher, it doesn't feel like a round ball. Sometimes you're down in the count and your fast-ball will dive away. Now it's a lot easier. It's easier to throw and easier to locate."

Keilitz said he has no regrets thus far on using the flat-seam baseball and is happy with the NCAA's implementation.

"Change is inevitable," Keilitz said. "Hopefully you are making good decisions on your changes until the changes have a benefit for the game. From all outcomes so far, it looks like we are on the right track with this ball, and the results are happening. I think it was a good decision made to go to the flat seam."

Track preps for postseason by lightening workload

BY MADDISON MURNANE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women's track and field team solidified its eighth consecutive Empire 8 Championship at St. John Fisher College in dominant fashion. The Bombers won by 148 points and finished with 63 student-athletes in the top eight in their respective events in the April 19 meet. The Blue and Gold have emerged victorious in 10 of the last 11 outdoor conference championships, and head coach Jennifer Potter said her team's success can be largely attributed to tapering workouts leading up to the meets.

Tapering is decreasing the distance or intensity in an athlete's practices, lifting routine and workout length in the time leading up to an important meet, according to Marathon-TrainingSchedule.com. This duration depends on how quickly athletes adapt and recover during their workouts. It is aimed at allowing the body to rest while still maintaining all of the progress from training.

However, Potter said her team's tapering system is different than most because there are different taper groups. This is due to the fact that different athletes' seasons will end at different times depending which meets they qualify for. Some athletes will be done in two weeks after the New York State Collegiate Track Conference Championships while others will be competing for five more weeks until NCAA Nationals.

"You have to be very careful about how you taper and when you taper because not everyone is done at the same time," Potter said.

"You have to stay on top of it and be communicating with the event and strength and conditioning coaches as well as the athlete about their goals."

Taper groups are split up by event and when their peak performance needs to be. This is all laid out on workout sheets that are produced by Potter and her coaching staff. The technique is further complicated by the differences in training of event groups.

"Our volume in practice decreases quite a bit, whether it be miles in our distance runners, intervals in our sprinters and hurdlers or touches in our jumpers," Potter said. "It's more quality work."

For senior sprinter Rachel Friedman, tapering means going from intensive workouts on the track to shorter workouts, less weightlifting and utilizing the pool to relax muscles. She said these techniques allow her body to feel lighter and less tired.

In contrast, junior middle distance runner Michaela Cioffredi said her tapering is aimed at keeping her body conditioned and maintaining her strength. Her tapering involves reducing mileage and reps in speed workouts, but never the intensity. Weightlifting is also decreased, and instead yoga or stretching will be implemented into her practice routine.

"I always think of sprinting as really hard on my body because you're going full out on your body for such a short period of time, and compared to distance races, they run at a steady pace," Friedman said. "I think that makes my taper more of a



drastic change."

Both Friedman and Cioffredi said tapering is their favorite part of the season.

"It's great because you're in great shape, but you don't actually have to do that much work," Cioffredi said.

Potter said another complication with tapering is the coaching staff cannot be exactly sure when an athlete's season will end.

"There's athletes that are on the bubble," Potter said. "But we train them like they are going to continue moving forward."

As the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference meet approaches, Potter said she and her coaching staff are looking ahead to create practice schedules that will allow athletes to be at their peak.

"You have to let their systems rest and recover more so that they are fresher, feeling better and can perform at their maximum," she said. "I don't need us at that level right now."

Friedman and Cioffredi are both looking to peak for the ECAC

meet in four weeks in order to redeem themselves after placing second in indoor ECACs. They said they trust their coaching staff to get them to that level.

"Without Coach Potter, I don't think that we would be as successful or have won as many championships as we have," Friedman said.

Although Potter said some athletes will begin tapering within the next few weeks, the Bombers are still very much in the thick of their season. There are still six meets remaining until ECACs.

"Track isn't rocket science," Potter said. "You just have to train the systems enough to prepare them for what they need to do and then slowly take it away when the athlete needs it so that they are able to be in their tip-top shape."



Top Tweets

The best sports commentary via Twitter from this past week



Big Head Sports
@BigHeadSports

I miss the glory days of Erectile Dysfunction drug commercials, when they used artful subtlety like throwing a football thru a tire.



The Fake ESPN
@TheFakeESPN

NFL to reinstate Adrian Peterson after feeling he spent adequate time sitting in time-out thinking about what he did.



SportsPickle
@sportspickle

Alex Rodriguez now has more HR and RBI than Derek Jeter did in his entire Age 39 season. #RESPE13



NOT Baseball Tonight
@NOTMLBTonight

Pete Rose joins Fox Sports as an analyst. It's highly likely he'll be doing baseball coverage, but we won't bet on it.



Straight Shooter

From right, freshman Eric Ghaly dribbles the ball past his opponent, senior Jeremy Leong, during an intramural indoor soccer game April 16 in the Athletics and Events Center. Leong's team prevailed in the end 13-5.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

The number of goals the men's lacrosse team scored in its blow-out win over Hartwick College on April 18 at Higgins Stadium.

23

BY THE NUMBERS

15

The number of strikeouts the baseball team recorded in its 5-4 home opener loss to the University of Rochester on April 16.

the foul line

Weird news from the world of sports

The Jacksonville Jaguars mascot, Jaxson de Ville, won a charity golf event while donning his giant animal costume in 80-degree weather April 15 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, home to The Players Championship.

In the event, each player had two swings at the 17th hole, 117 yards from the tee box. The man behind the costume, identified as Curtis Dvorak, hit his first shot only a few feet from the hole.

His shot was the closest and he went on to win the \$10,000 prize, which was donated to the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund.



DID YOU KNOW?

Little-known facts about professional sports



On April 17, Los Angeles Angels outfielder Mike Trout became the youngest player in the history of Major League Baseball to hit 100 career home runs and steal 100 career bases. At 23 years and 253 days old, Trout accomplished the feat with a two-run homer off of Houston Astros' pitcher Roberto Hernandez in the Angels' 6-3 victory over the Astros.

Trout beat out New York Yankees designated hitter Alex Rodriguez, who was 23 years and 309 days old when he recorded 100 home runs and 100 stolen bases.

Fantasy CORNER

MELKY CABRERA



So far this season, the White Sox have been struggling as a team, and outfielder Melky Cabrera has been a major part of that, only posting six singles, zero runs batted in and zero stolen bases. Cabrera has always been a solid fantasy contributor, hitting .286 with an average of 10 homers, 58 RBIs and 10 stolen bases over the last eight years. However, when a player is struggling, it is hard to keep confidence in him.

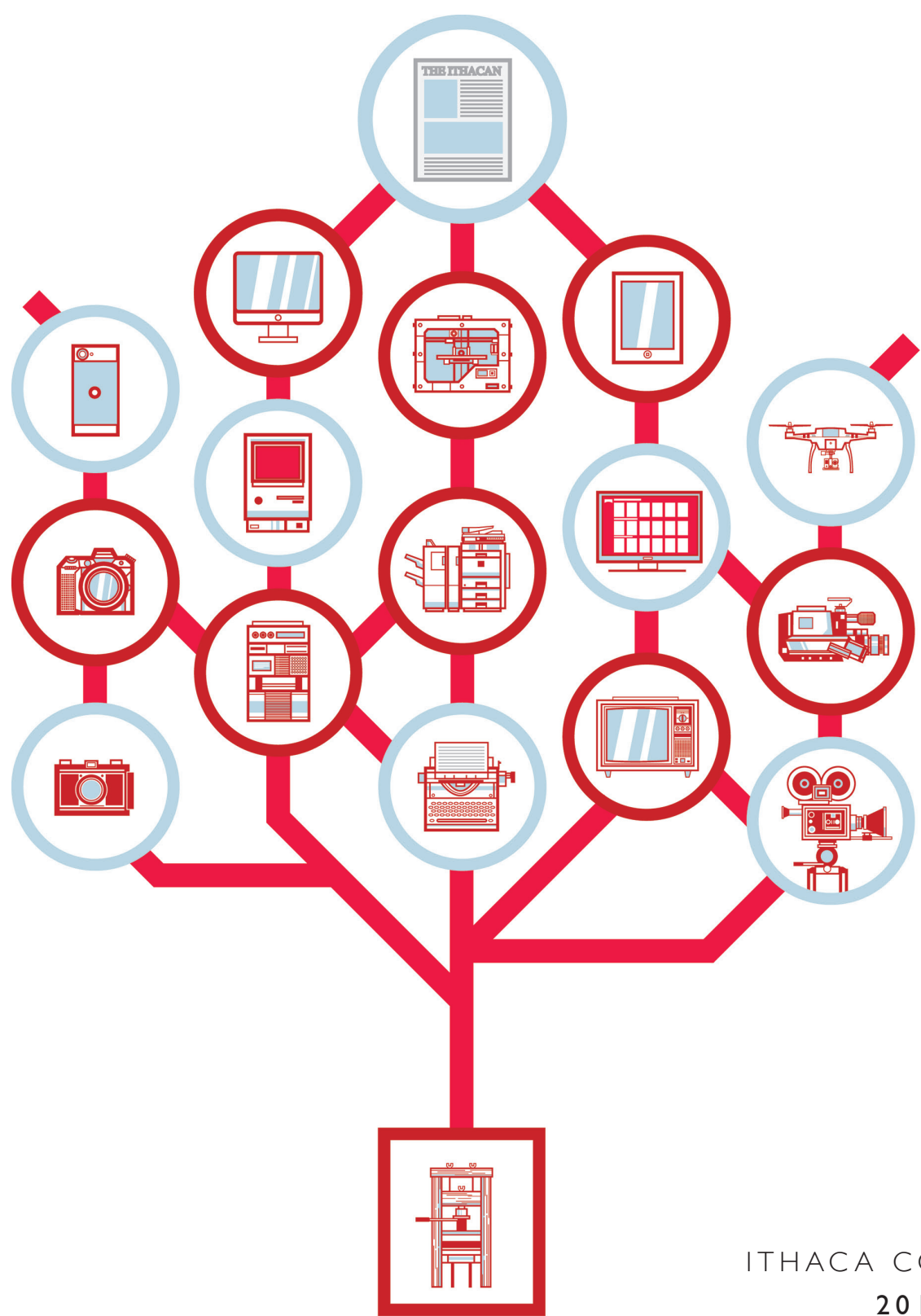
STEVE CISHEK



Miami Marlins closer Steve Cishek is still looking for his first save of the year after three appearances so far in 2015. Although the Marlins have won just three games, Cishek blew his first save opportunity April 10. His earned run average is currently 19.29, down from 108.00 after his first game. Ride him on your bench for now, but if the Marlins do not turn their season around, Cishek's value will drop.

Pick up a copy of
The Ithacan's Year in Review,
on stands April 27.

THE ITHACAN
YEAR IN REVIEW



ITHACA COLLEGE
2014-2015

LOOK BACK ON THE YEAR WHEN STUDENTS FOUGHT AGAINST SYSTEMIC
RACISM, PART-TIME FACULTY MOVED TOWARD UNIONIZATION AND THE
BOMBERS JUST BARELY MISSED A CORTACA WIN.