

THE ITHACAN

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Students oppose county jail expansion

From right, senior Dubian Ade addresses the Tompkins County Legislature as Professor Paula Ioanide and five Ithaca College students protest expansion of the county jail.

AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN



BY ELMA GONZALEZ
SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

A few minutes before the Tompkins County Legislature voted 11–3 against a proposed moratorium postponing the planned expansion of the county jail the evening of Feb. 18, Ithaca College junior Kayla Young got off her seat and admired her large, yellow poster, hanging behind her.

“We are all affected, we are all connected,” it declared, alluding to the mass effects of a jail expansion.

As one legislator gave a final explanation for her nay on the moratorium, Young began removing the tape that held the sign in place to roll it up. She said knew it was over; the moratorium would not pass.

“I didn’t want to wait until they voted ‘no,’ which I already knew, and then take the sign down and have [one of the legislators] help me,” she said. “Don’t help, you don’t believe in this sign, don’t touch my sign.”

See **PRISON**, page 4

ONLINE

To see video of the public meeting, visit theithacan.org/news/college-community-members-protest-against-jail-expansion.



From left, sophomore Richard Gaunt, sophomore Jessie Braverman and freshman Cassie Moore support the Stop the Tompkins County Jail Expansion Coalition.

AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

College sees record growth in alumni gifts

BY KAYLA DWYER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Total charitable donations to Ithaca College have outpaced the national average for the year 2013, which saw a 9 percent growth in total giving to institutions across the country, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The college received an increase of 20.4 percent in total giving — including alumni, foundations and corporations — which is more than double the national average, Ann Kaplan, director of the Voluntary Support of Education survey, said.

The survey, administered by the Council for Aid to Education, evaluated the total and alumni gifts donated to 1,048 participating institutions, including the college, and released the results Feb. 12. Kaplan said the college saw a 93.4 percent increase in alumni giving for the calendar year 2013.

Stephen Savage, associate vice president in the Office of Institutional Advancement, said the college’s alumni giving increased from \$2,263,169 in 2012 to \$4,376,870 in 2013, which accounts for the high percentage. Kaplan said the near doubling could be explained by two large personal gifts, \$1.72 million and \$1.13 million, that were donated anonymously in 2013. The latter gift was designated to the investment curriculum in the School of Business, Rob de la Fuente, director of the Ithaca College Annual Fund, said.

He said the annual fund staff had been working closely with these donors to determine how their contributions would align with their interests.

Savage said the college has become more sophisticated with its soliciting techniques. In overall gifts, the college received \$10.1 million in the fiscal year June 2012 to May 2013. Of this amount, he said, \$1.16 million was donated to the annual fund, which is a record.

De la Fuente said alumni made up more than half of the donor pool for the \$1.16 million. He said 38.8 percent of the 2013 Senior Class contributed to the fund, a record for any senior class. The Alumni Association Board of Directors matched these gifts by donating \$65 per gift to the annual fund.

The 2014 Senior Class Gift Campaign has set its goal for participation rate at 40 percent of the senior class, which is 640 seniors, co-chair senior Zachary Woelfel said. He said the monetary goal is to raise \$12,150 by May 1 to go toward the annual fund or various designations by school or program, depending on the seniors’ choice.

“What’s nice is seniors have the option of giving where they really enjoyed their Ithaca College experience,” he said.

See **ALUMNI**, page 4

Student Government Association fills three positions

BY FAITH MECKLEY
STAFF WRITER

Three of the Student Government Association’s six open senate positions — Class of 2017 senator, Class of 2014 senator and senator-at-large — were filled at the Feb. 17 meeting.

Since the beginning of the semester, the SGA has had seven senator resignations, two of which came from senators who are currently studying abroad.

One of the Class of 2017 seats opened after the SGA executive board relieved sophomore Drew Olkowski of his position Feb. 7. Olkowski recently decided to

apply incoming credits toward his degree to transition into the Class of 2016, and according to the SGA constitution, could no longer serve for the Class of 2017. Olkowski said he decided to change classes to be eligible for internships and for fiscal reasons.

In response to Olkowski’s dismissal, senior Gillian DeRario resigned from her position as senator-at-large

and ran for Class of 2014 senator. The Class of 2014 position has been open since Marissa Osowsky

’13 resigned last semester after graduating in December. DeRario said she resigned from her original position so Olkowski could have the opportunity to secure a new seat in the SGA as senator-at-large.

“Drew has earned his place in this organization,” she said during

“Drew has earned his place in this organization. I think it would be a really big detriment to the organization if we lose him.”

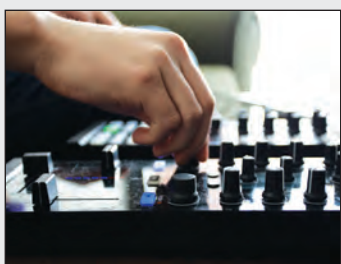
—GILLIAN DERARIO

the discussion period for the senator-at-large candidates. “I think it would be a really big detriment to the organization if we lose him.”

At the beginning of each fall semester, the student body elects its representatives, which include two senators for each class, one senator for each school, five senators-at-large, a transfer student senator, a varsity athlete senator, a club sports senator, an international student senator, an off-campus senator and a graduate student liaison.

When these positions remain

See **SGA**, page 4



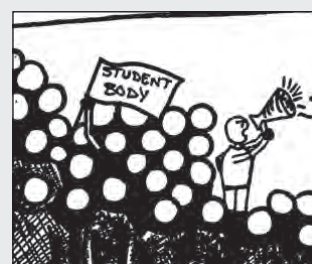
MIXING UP MUSIC

Student DJs perform original mixes at local venues, page 13.



HORSE PLAY

Club equestrian team appeals for varsity status, page 23.



ALL TOGETHER

Inclusivity problems must begin dialogue, page 10.

Nation&World

Former congressman arrested

Former U.S. Rep. Mel Reynolds is under arrest for allegedly possessing pornography and violating immigration laws in Zimbabwe.

Reynolds, who had won some prominence in Zimbabwe for helping draw investment to hotel and office projects, was being held in custody and was expected to appear in court soon, immigration official Ario Mabika said Feb. 18.

The ex-politician, who lost his seat in Congress almost two decades ago because of a statutory rape conviction, was arrested Feb. 17 by police and immigration officials at a Harare hotel, according to the state-controlled newspaper, The Herald. He allegedly brought several Zimbabwean models and other women to his hotel room where he took photographs and videos of them.

Officials did not say where Reynolds was being held, but ordinarily such detainees would be kept at Harare Central Charge Office, a concrete complex downtown where people are held a dozen to a cell and where a hole in the center serves as a toilet.

U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Karen Kelley refused to comment on the case, saying it was a matter involving a private citizen and that the embassy did not have a privacy waiver to divulge information.

Reynolds could face up to two years' imprisonment or a hefty fine if found guilty of possessing pornographic material and deportation for breaching Zimbabwean immigration laws. It is illegal in Zimbabwe to possess any material of a sexual nature.

Fallen London theater to reopen

The owner of a London theater whose ceiling partially collapsed in the middle of a performance said the venue will reopen next month.

Almost 80 people were injured, seven seriously, when chunks of plaster and wood fell from the ceiling of the century-old Apollo Theatre on Dec. 19.

Apollo owner Nica Burns said Feb. 18 that the venue will re-open March 26 with the upper gallery roofed in so experts can continue to examine the ceiling. The cause of the accident is still being investigated.

Burns told London's Evening Standard newspaper that she hoped to open with a stage adaptation of vampire movie "Let the Right One In."

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," which was on at the Apollo when the ceiling fell, is moving to a new venue.

Nun sentenced for illegal entry

An 84-year-old nun and two other activists who broke into a nuclear weapons complex in Tennessee have been sentenced to nearly three years in prison.

U.S. District Judge Amul Thapar sentenced Megan Rice, Greg Boertje-Obed and Michael Walli on the afternoon of Feb. 18. In her closing statement, Rice asked the judge to sentence her to life in prison. Their attorneys said they should have been sentenced to time-served, or about nine months, because of their record of goodwill throughout their lives.

The three activists cut through fences on July 28, 2012, and reached a storage bunker that holds the nation's primary supply of bomb-grade uranium.

While officials claimed there was never any danger of the protesters reaching materials that could be detonated or used to assemble a dirty bomb, serious questions about security were raised.

Miners trapped in South Africa

While dozens of illegal miners remain underground, refusing to come up for fear of being arrested, three more miners surfaced Feb. 18 from an abandoned mine near Johannesburg after being trapped underground, emergency workers said.

Spokesman David Tshabalala told the South African Press Association that the three miners were arrested for extracating in illegal mines. He said 25 have emerged so far.

Tshabalala could not say how many more were still underground, but emergency workers initially said there were 200 illegal miners trapped in the mine.

Police say the miners, who are all foreigners, were found Feb. 16 when police patrolling the area heard screaming from the abandoned mine. According to rescue workers, the men were apparently trapped underground when



Protests in Ukraine reach a halt

Violence that left at least 26 people dead and more than 400 injured Feb. 18 in Kiev, Ukraine, came to an end when protest leaders and the president they aim to oust called a truce Feb. 19. The truce was reached after the military raised fears of a widespread crackdown.

FILE PHOTO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

a rival group threw boulders down the open mine shaft.

Penalties for illegal mining include fines and prison time in some cases. Illegal mining is common in South Africa, a major producer of gold and platinum.

Venezuelan activist surrenders

Opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez emerged from days of hiding and surrendered to police before thousands of supporters Feb. 18. He said he hopes his arrest awakens Venezuela to the corruption and economic disaster caused by 15 years of socialist rule.

Speaking with a megaphone to more than 5,000 people, Lopez said he doesn't fear going to jail to defend his beliefs and constitutional right to peacefully protest against President Nicolas Maduro. The supporters present were dressed in white to symbolize nonviolence.

Lopez was being sought by authorities for allegedly inciting violence during protests last

week in which three people were killed as government forces clashed with protesters. He faces charges including homicide and vandalism of public property. Maduro accuses Lopez of leading a "fascist" plot to overthrow him.

After the short speech, Lopez descended from a statue of 19th century Cuban independence hero Jose Marti, and waving a flower over his head, walked a few feet to a police line, where he turned himself in to face what supporters said are trumped-up charges.

Opposition politicians urged calm as Lopez, still waving, was pulled into an armored vehicle and driven away. A cordon of heavily armed police blocked supporters from marching downtown as they had originally planned.

Hours after the arrest, Maduro addressed a rival crowd of red-shirted oil workers and said he personally oversaw security forces to make sure the opposition march and Lopez's surrender didn't result in violence.

SOURCE: Associated Press

MULTIMEDIA

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

CORRECTIONS

In last week's article, "SGA task force to address diversity," senior Arit Ntekim's quote was taken out of context, omitting the fact that she downplayed her personality as a result of being stereotyped and experiencing microaggressions. The original quote said she just downplayed her personality to avoid being judged.

COPY EDITORS

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Video
The Office of Student Engagement and Multicultural Affairs, in conjunction with the African-Latino Society, brought Step Afrika! to the Emerson Suites on Feb. 18.



Video
Get to know instructor Kyle Woody in the time it takes to heat up his cup in this week's all new edition of Instant facul-Tea.



Video
Keep an eye out every Sunday for a recap of the week's highlights in the media featuring major events and national and local news.



Video
If you can't wait for the next issue of *The Ithacan*, visit our website every Monday for a preview from the editors in "Eds Up."

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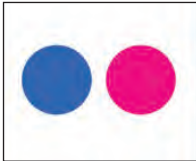
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News

See Step Afrika!'s performance in celebration of Black History Month.



Accent

Watch Ithaca citizens try out local chili during the Chili Festival on The Commons.



Sports

Follow the men's basketball team as it competes against Elmira College.



Office of Civic Engagement receives grant

BY TAYLOR ZAMBRANO
STAFF WRITER

As Ithaca College strives to build ongoing community involvement, a new \$500,000 grant from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation awarded to the Office of Civic Engagement will enable it to establish a permanent endowment, which will accelerate this institutional initiative.

Anthony Hopson, assistant vice president of community and government relations and civic engagement, said the OCE was created as an IC 20/20 initiative with a goal of making sure that student involvements — both on and off campus — also incorporate educational value. He also said the office works closely with the Office of Student Engagement and Multicultural Affairs because it brings in the student perspective to civic engagement.

“We work to talk about community partners, we talk about assessment components, we collaborate on identifying students who have distinguished themselves in the area of service and volunteerism,” Hopson said. “One of the things that we’ve done is to develop deeper collaborations with that area, but [the OCE] has not replaced [OSEMA].”

Patricia Spencer, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, said the OCE serves as a liaison among the faculty, students and greater Ithaca community. She is one of the representatives for faculty and said she sees the office as a bridge for these different conversations.

“So the Office of Civic Engagement, think about it as a physical hub,” Spencer said. “Their job is to make sure that what’s happening in the classroom, which would be more service learning, and what’s happening in community service, which is very different — that’s students volunteering, Service Saturdays, all that stuff — that those two pieces don’t live in completely separate worlds anymore.”

Hopson said civic engagement is the umbrella terminology of which service learning and volunteerism serve as its components. Service learning is different from volunteerism in that it is course-based. He said service learning must include a mentoring component, a reflection component and the community’s voice in order to address



At center, Patricia Spencer, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, involves students in the community by having them write grants for local businesses in her class “Proposal and Grant Writing.”
AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

community-identified needs.

Christopher Biehn, vice president of institutional advancement, said the grant would be used over time to help support the office and develop its programs, but the principle would never be spent, only invested. The goal is for the income of the endowment to grow each year in order to fund new programs as they develop.

“The endowment is like the savings account for the institution, except it’s invested in stocks and bonds and grows at a higher rate than savings accounts do,” Biehn said.

Biehn said the Emerson Foundation has a longstanding relationship with the college. The foundation gives scholarships to students who can’t afford to attend the college along with other charitable contributions like the funding of Emerson Hall.

“We report to them every year from our

office on the scholars,” Biehn said. “We do bios on [the Emerson Scholars] and share with the Emerson Foundation who they are. They love reading about them and hearing about the Emerson scholars.”

Spencer, who specializes in professional writing and proposal and grant writing, engages her students in real-life situations by having them write proposals for businesses in the Ithaca community. She said this is an exemplary form of service learning.

“My job is to give my students the inspiration to say, ‘All right, what skills do I take into the community, and how do I engage my skills there?’” Spencer said. “We value hands-on learning, professional practice and I think we’ve always valued our connection to the community, but I think the office finally puts a face on it.”

International grant funds student work

BY JEREMY LI
STAFF WRITER

Four Ithaca College international alumni have set up a fund to support four individual project ideas submitted by international students. This is a first-year trial for the fund, through which these alumni are demonstrating their support for current students.

The alumni are currently accepting proposals through Feb. 28, after which the chosen four winners will receive a \$500 grant toward their projects. The recipients will be announced about two to three weeks after the deadline.

The series of grants is spearheaded by Kosala Kumara ’05, an alumna who runs Crimso.com, a crowdfunding website launched in late October 2013. Similar to Kickstarter, Crimso is a platform for raising money, which Kumara and her partners used for the international student fund.

The group raised \$2,400, which was \$400 more than the amount necessary to fund four \$500 grants. Kumara said this surplus would be applied toward the additional fees, such as the paypal fees, platform fees and money spent on the rewards for donors who contributed to various stages of the fundraising.

Kumara said the alumni who organized the fund decided not to limit proposal requirements.

“We kept it open and informal: independent project, research, internship, surprise, even if anyone is having an emergency,” Kumara said.

Diana Dimitrova, director of international students services in the Office of International Programs, said she first heard about the idea from Kumara back in August 2013.

Motivation behind the grants, Kumara said, is for alumni to give current international students access to extra financial resources in an effort to give back.

“The main idea is that we want people to go out there and do things; money should be the last thing holding you back,” Kumara said.

Junior Brando Benetton, though not applying for this grant, said he thinks these grants make it easier for people to fundraise big-budget projects, like student films.

“\$500 is a commodity, and there’s so much we can do with this,” he said.

Marcell Fischler, international student senator, said he would consider using such a grant for event planning for international students, such as a skiing or go-karting outing.

“It would at least be cheaper for the participating students with the funding than without it,” he said.

Previous projects students have asked the international programs office to help fund include making a film or conducting research. However, the office did not have substantial resources to help, Dimitrova said.

“Now these alumni have this idea to see if they can contribute, even if it’s not a ton of money, but still, that is a wonderful difference,” she said.

Ithaca hotels and residents cash in on Commencement

BY KATRINA FEDCZUK AND AYLSSA FREY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER AND STAFF WRITER

With fewer than three months until Commencement, hotels and residents in the Ithaca area are cashing in on the increased demand for housing.

Housing in the City of Ithaca during Ithaca College’s and Cornell University’s Commencement weekends is booked as far as four years in advance, with some families booking rooms during their child’s freshman year. The city does not have the hotel capacity to accommodate the families of either school’s graduating class.

In addition to hotels, families have the option of booking rooms on-campus for the college’s Commencement weekend. The college offers single rooms for \$150 and double rooms for \$170 for a two-night stay. Rooms can be booked online until May 1, according to the college’s website.

This year, the Hilton Garden Inn is charging \$309 per night with a minimum two-night stay during the college’s Commencement weekend, and \$419 per night with a minimum three-night stay during Cornell’s Commencement weekend. By contrast, a room on the weekend of May 9–11, one week before Ithaca College’s Commencement, would cost \$239 per night, while a

weekend stay a month later would cost \$259 per night, according to the hotel’s website.

The Country Inns & Suites’ rate is the same for both Commencement weekends, \$400 with a three-night minimum. A May 9–11 or a mid-June stay would each cost \$254 per night, according to the hotel’s website. Both hotels are sold out for 2014 Commencements, and the Country Inns & Suites is already sold out for 2015.

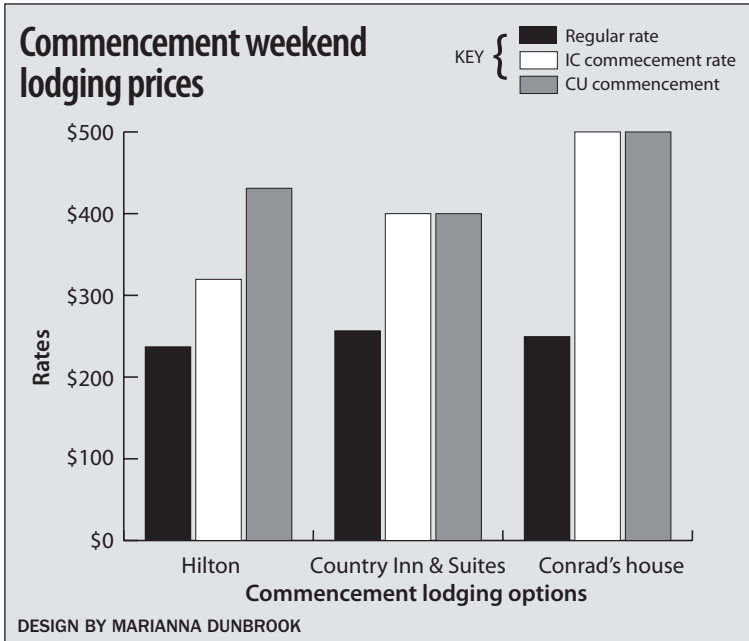
Sybil Conrad, assistant director of Campus Center and Event Services, began renting out her house last year after she realized people were in need of housing in the area for the two weekends.

“There’s such a crunch for housing, and you can make a lot of money renting your house during IC and Cornell graduation,” she said.

Conrad’s house on Grandview Avenue costs \$500 per night with a three-night minimum during graduation, but the house can sleep eight. Her normal rate is \$250 per night with a two-night minimum. She is already booked for both 2014 Commencements as well.

Houses like Conrad’s can still be rented from websites, such as ithaca.craigslist.org and commencementweekendrentals.com, for hundreds of dollars per night.

Because of the demand for Commencement weekend housing, the



Hilton Garden Inn began a lottery system last year for potential commencement weekend guests. Eleven months before ceremonies begin, the Hilton accepts phone calls entering people into the lottery for rooms. It contacts people at the beginning of July, letting them know if they’ve received a room or not.

The Hilton began this system after multiple technical problems and families trying to cheat the system, Kelly Cartmill, director of sales at the Ithaca Hilton, said.

“You’re not supposed to book more than three rooms under one name, and clearly, that’s not what was happening,” Cartmill said. “People were booking eight, nine, 10 rooms, and then they were not utilizing them all. So all of the rooms for graduation are contracted. It’s

easier to control.”

The Country Inns & Suites does not operate under a lottery system, but instead books both the college’s and Cornell’s commencement weekends up to four years in advance, Amy Cusimano, the hotel’s sales manager, said.

“A lot of Ithaca hotels run a lottery system, where we don’t,” she said. “[The lottery system] is too confusing for people, and people don’t want to wait.”

Conrad’s said she enjoys renting her house, during both Commencement season and year-round, because she feels like she’s helping people who would otherwise have no place to stay.

This article was produced for the Multimedia Journalism class.

New 2014 senator fills

SGA
FROM PAGE 1

unfilled after elections or become open during the semester, the senate, rather than the student body, votes on new candidates during the weekly public meetings to fill the openings. Candidates have two minutes to present why they are interested, followed by a Q-and-A session. Then, they are asked to leave the room while the senate discusses and votes.

DeRario was the only candidate who ran for the open Class of 2014 position, and she was the first candidate to be voted on at the meeting.

For the first time in this academic year, multiple students appeared at the meeting to compete for one position. Three freshmen contested for the Class of 2017 seat: Kaitlin Logsdon, Alexander McKeen and Nicole Ang. Logsdon, who ran unsuccessfully for the position during Fall 2013 elections, won the vote.

Following Logsdon’s successful bid, McKeen and Ang both vied for Olkowski’s intended position as senator-at-large. Olkowski won the vote.

Despite his experience in the SGA as former Class of 2017 senator, Olkowski said he was not confident that he would win going into the meeting.

“I think that the other people running were just as qualified as I was,” Olkowski said.

Olkowski said he still plans to focus on a freshman constituency in his new position while tackling campus-wide issues. Additionally, Olkowski wants to amend the SGA constitution so senators who encounter a situation like his will be allowed to finish out their terms in the position they were voted into, he said.

Logsdon, who served on her high school’s board of education, said during her two-minute presentation she was interested in tackling the confusion surrounding the new Integrative Core Curriculum.

During the discussion session about the Class of 2017 candidates, sophomore Dominick Recckio, vice president of communications, said Logsdon was a strong option because she remained involved in the SGA after losing her bid for the Fall 2013 elections. Logsdon, a communications management and design major, has served on Recckio’s communications committee since last semester’s elections.

Logsdon said by the end of the semester, she hopes to create a better understanding of the ICC and change how it’s presented to incoming freshmen at orientation so there is more clarity.

The three positions that remain unfilled in the SGA are music school senator, off-campus senator and graduate student liaison. The music school and off-campus senator positions are open because of resignations from freshman Claire Noonon and senior Austin Douillard, respectively. The graduate student liaison has been left unfilled since fall elections.

Legislature votes against moratorium

PRISON
FROM PAGE 1

That night, she, along with about 70 other community members, crammed in the Legislature Chambers. Most stood the entire meeting, holding 10-foot-long posters with creative rhymes urging legislators to reconsider the jail expansion.

Last fall, the Tompkins County Legislature unanimously approved a more than \$900,000 county jail expansion project that includes the addition of seven beds and other renovations. Total projected costs for the expansion, however, are still being computed. The jail currently holds more than 90 inmates, exceeding the 75 capacity. The project was triggered by state pressure to take steps for increasing the capacity, County Administrator Joe Mareane said at the meeting.

With the expansion approval last fall, local groups began to challenge the legislature’s decision. Young is one of about 10 students from the college who are part of the Stop the Tompkins County Jail Expansion Coalition, a diverse group of Ithaca residents that stemmed from the Shawn Greenwood Working Group last fall, Paula Ioanide, assistant professor for the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity and a leader in the coalition, said. The coalition aims to end the perpetuation of the “New Jim Crow,” or the systematic oppression of poor people and people of color through mass incarceration.

Young, who is originally from New York City, said she is invested in the coalition’s movement because it is personal to her. She has family members who have had negative experiences in the justice system, both as inmates and as part of the law enforcement, she said.

“It has had a major impact on my psyche, which is one of the reasons why I have trouble sleeping at night, because it’s close to home,” she said.

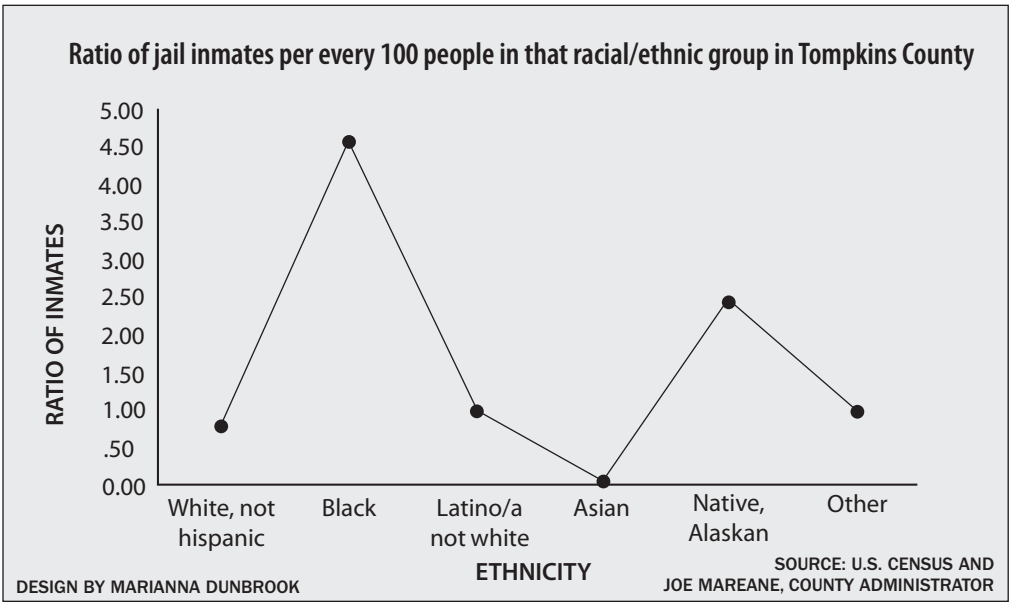
County leaders have argued the project is cost-saving because it reduces the number of “board outs,” or inmates sent to other jails because of limited space. In the last two years, board outs have cost the county about \$245,000 each year.

Several legislators including Legislator Brian Robison, who voted against passing the moratorium, expressed concerns with board outs, which often place inmates far from their families, and those who stay sometimes have to sleep in bunk beds in rooms originally built for one person.

What the coalition argues, Ioanide said, is that no one knows for a fact that there will actually be a need for the additional beds, but if more beds are added, research shows they tend to be filled.

“One of the logics that we’ve seen over and over again is that if you build it, they will fill it, and this is one of the logics that the coalition is trying to disrupt,” she said.

According to 2013 county jail statistics, white non-Hispanics make up 68 percent of the inmate



population, blacks make up 22 percent, Latino/as make up 5 percent, Asians make up 0.5 percent, Native and Alaskan people make up 10 percent and 3.4 percent identified as other.

When the numbers were proportionately compared to the Tompkins County census data, it showed that less than 1 percent of white people were inmates in 2013, whereas, 5 percent of black people, 1 percent of Latino/as, 0.05 percent Asians, 2 percent of Natives or Alaskans and about 1 percent other were inmates that year.

The moratorium, which was submitted by Leslyn McBean-Clairborne, a legislator and the deputy director of the Greater Ithaca Activities Center, was meant to give the expansion project a one-year delay to allow a task force formed by the Public Safety Committee to present findings and alternatives to incarceration before the legislature made a decision on the jail expansion. McBean-Clairborne also reminded the public that the county has been “at the cutting edge of counties” finding incarceration alternatives and continues to support those types of programs. The dismissal of the moratorium means the county will bond the project some time this year, she said.

For about two hours, locals and students from both the college and Cornell University took the microphone to express their concerns about the expansion. They pleaded with the legislature to “think outside the box” and find creative alternatives to incarceration rather than expanding the jail. Emotional speeches brought tears to some, and a spoken-word-like performance by a group of Ithaca College students and Ioanide sparked spirited applause.

“Students always, always have been at the forefront of movements, and in part the reason for that is that they are always better at being youthful and not going through the same, old tactics,” Ioanide said. “Creativity is involved in organizing,

coming up with different ways of saying the same thing, reaching people’s hearts. Youth have a kind of innovation spirit that is a beautiful thing to watch.”

But the air was thick with tension at the Legislature Chambers, and several times, Michael Lane, chair of the legislature, interrupted community speakers to remind them of their three-minute limit and demand they tone down their comments. The public retaliated with a few interruptions during the legislators discussion.

Senior Allison Currier, who participated in the group presentation, said students, as temporary residents, benefit from the Tompkins County community and therefore have a responsibility get involved in community issues. Speaking in front of the legislature was an opportunity for her to exercise her influence and participate, she said.

“I felt at home,” she said. “I felt really empowered when I was there, and I felt like I was standing and holding signs with people that I’m really excited to continue working with.”

Ioanide said the significance of student involvement cannot be underestimated.

“It’s where everything that people learn in the classroom abstractly becomes real,” she said. “[Students] find themselves, and they find an enormous level of empowerment to understand how much they can contribute if they want to.”

Young is one of those students.

“I always had a stutter as a little kid, and I learned how to talk in the community in front of common councils, in front of county legislators,” she said. “That is were I really found my voice.”

Despite the dismissal of the moratorium, Ioanide said the coalition will continue to fight the expansion.

“The struggle is long,” she said. “The bigger thing we are fighting is people’s understandings of crime and punishment.”

College's overall donations exceed national trend

ALUMNI
FROM PAGE 1

Savage said the Ithaca College Annual Fund contains money raised to benefit the entire college by helping offset the gap between tuition and awarded financial aid and supporting faculty and services.

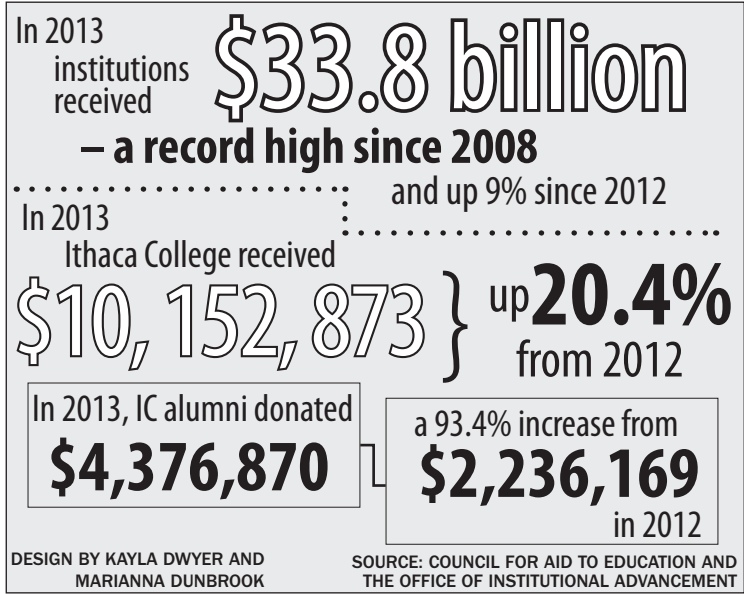
“By 2020, our goal is to double that so that we’re raising \$2.4 million annually for the annual fund,” he said.

Savage said he attributes much of the gains in donations to the strategic vision in IC 20/20.

“[IC 20/20] provides donors with a tangible framework for philanthropic opportunities so they can see where making a major investment in the college is going to make an impact,” he said.

Woelfel said he donates because he wants to make sure future students can have the same great experience he has had at the college.

“We want to make sure that Ithaca College stays the special place it



is, and by supporting the annual fund, no matter how much you’re able to give, it’s making sure that that is still the reality,” he said.

De la Fuente said the annual fund has existed for more than 50 years. From May 2012 to June

2013, Savage said, there was a 14.9 percent increase in donors to the college’s annual fund.

“Our alumni participation rate as of this past year was 8.8 percent,” Savage said. “We really expect to see that increase.”

Cornell University saw a 43.5 percent increase in total giving — from \$330.9 million in 2012 to \$475 million in 2013 — and a 42.9 percent increase in alumni giving — from \$175.6 million in 2012 to \$250.9 million in 2013 — according to VSE data.

Richard Banks, associate vice president of alumni affairs at Cornell, said these increases result from a long period of significant capital campaign fundraising that has collected \$4.6 billion in the past eight years.

Michael Kaplan, chair of the Annual Fund, graduated from the college in 1985 and currently serves as the alumni trustee to the Ithaca College Board of Trustees. Kaplan said the college continues to expand its efforts to encourage the participation of upwards of 55,000 alumni.

“The goal is to try and get more people to participate on a regular basis and give what they can give, and try and make Ithaca one of their top choices,” he said.

Running for good causes

Students create club to help raise money for charities with athletics

BY SARA KIM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While scrolling through her smartphone, avid runner and junior occupational therapy major Kelly Pettigrew came across an app called Charity Miles, which allows users to donate money while exercising.

Pettigrew said she shared the app with her friend junior Rachel Gray, a clinical health studies major whose hobby is running.

"I just really want to motivate people to get out there and not only help yourself, but help others," Pettigrew said.

The two got together and discussed the possibilities for incorporating the app into campus life by talking to Charity Miles representatives and the Office of Student Engagement and Multicultural Affairs, Pettigrew said. Now, Gray and Pettigrew are working to spread the word, and the generosity, through IC Charity Miles, their new club at Ithaca College.

"I love donating money and I love running, so it was a perfect thing for me to do," Gray said.

Gray said IC Charity Miles is not an "exercise club group," but an organization focused on spreading the word about the application. Organized in the fall of 2013, Pettigrew said they wanted to wait until the spring organization fair before becoming officially registered with OSEMA.

An Android and iPhone application, Charity Miles allows users

to track each mile of walking, running and biking activity through the phone's GPS system. However, the app does not yet have capabilities for tracking indoor exercises that do not require moving a physical distance, such as pedaling on a stationary bike.

Users raise 10 cents for every mile biked and 25 cents for each mile ran or walked, according to the Charity Miles website. Corporate sponsors of the app have funded the first \$1 million raised by participants to be donated to charities such as Autism Speaks and the Michael J. Fox Foundation.

Bryan Roberts, associate dean to the Roy H. Park School of Communications and affiliate to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, said the app promotes both exercise and charitable giving.

"I just know through the Fox Foundation that exercise is key," he said. "Exercise is the only thing that's shown to slow Parkinson's Disease, so [the app] makes perfect sense."

Gene Gurkoff, founder of Charity Miles, said the application is largely self-sponsored because it wants to grow its audience and attract sponsors.

"We're still self-sponsoring the app a bit, but we now have great sponsors like Timex, Humana and Lifeway Foods who are generously supporting us," he said.

Gray said as a club, IC Charity Miles works to utilize the app through word of mouth and



From left, juniors Rachel Gray and Kelly Pettigrew lead the weekly meeting of IC Charity Miles in Friends Hall, room 301. Gray and Pettigrew founded the club after discovering the smartphone application Charity Miles.

OLIVIA CROSS/THE ITHACAN

fundraisers that allow people to get together and have weekly runs, which will begin later this spring. She said the group works toward a 5,000-meter run each semester.

"Through the 5k events, each member picks his or her own personal charity to donate to because not everyone will have the same charity," she said. "Deciding which charity to donate to will depend on personal experiences and reasons."

Gurkoff said he expects to expand the number of charities within the coming months.

"We currently have 26 high-impact charity partners," Gurkoff said. "We're adding slowly as we grow. And we have several amazing charities that we'll be adding in the coming months."

National organizations offered

to users include Stand Up to Cancer, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Feeding America and Habitat for Humanity, according to the Charity Miles website.

Meredith Sager, co-president and founder of IC Autism Awareness, said Charity Miles is a great way to raise funds and awareness for causes that need money for research and family support.

"It's also a great way to get people thinking about autism and realizing that it's a cause that needs support," she said.

Junior Natalie Lang, who is a member of IC Charity Miles, said she looks forward to working with other groups that are interested in the charities that are listed on the app. She said getting more students

involved would be really great.

"It's so easy to use, so it's a really great way to help someone out just when you are doing something like running," Lang said.

Lang said the club meets at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in Friends Hall, and its meetings are open to all students and the races are not exclusive to group members.

"Our meetings are open to anyone interested," Gray said. "One can use the Charity Miles app simply by downloading it on their phone."

Gurkoff said he is excited to see how Gray and Pettigrew take Charity Miles to the next level in Ithaca.

"I love what Rachel and Kelly are doing," he said. "This is really what Charity Miles is all about — empowering people to step up and make a difference."

Ithaca College Gerontology Institute Distinguished Speaker Series

Mindfulness-Based Elder Care: A Model for Health Care Workers and Caregivers

Lucia McBee, M.P.H., LCSW, CYI

Monday, February 24, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Emerson Suites, Phillips Hall
Ithaca College



Lucia McBee is a licensed clinical geriatric social worker who has worked with elders and their caregivers for 30 years. She has integrated mindfulness, gentle movement, aromatherapy, hand massage, and other complementary therapies into her practice with frail elders in nursing homes, with homebound elders, and with their caregivers. Mindfulness-Based Elder Care, her book for health care workers, was published in 2008.

Free and open to the public
Reception and book signing to follow

Presented in partnership with the Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center and Ithaca College's Departments of Health Promotion and Physical Education, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Recreation and Leisure Studies.

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodation should contact the Gerontology Institute at 607-274-1607 or treinemann@ithaca.edu as much in advance of the event as possible.

 ITHACA COLLEGE
Gerontology Institute

DISTINGUISHED VISITING WRITERS SERIES



ELIZABETH
WILLIS

PUBLIC READING

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

6:00 PM

Handwerker Gallery

Caroline Werner Gannett Center

Elizabeth Willis' most recent book of poetry, *Address*, won the PEN New England Prize for poetry. Her other books of poetry include *Meteoric Flowers*, *Turneresque*, *The Human Abstract*, and *Second Law*. Recent poems have appeared in many publications including *BOMB*, *Chicago Review*, *Colorado Review*, and *The Nation*. She was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship in poetry, and *The Human Abstract* was selected for the National Poetry Series.

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodation should contact Catherine Taylor at ctaylor@ithaca.edu as much in advance of the event as possible.

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Facilities worker creates charity

For the past seven years, Emmanuel McBean, facilities attendant in the Dillingham Center at Ithaca College, has collected items, in particular computers and laptops, to donate to schools in under-resourced areas of Region 10 in Linden, Guyana.

Along with help from his family; Alan Heiman, instructional technology specialist at Cornell University; and the Cornell Computer Reuse Association, McBean has been able to donate laptops, computers and televisions, among other items, to the Region 10 area as well as parts of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Ithaca.

Contributing Writer Haley Doran spoke with McBean about his initiative and how it has impacted the lives of those he has helped.

Haley Doran: Tell me about your initiative.

Emmanuel McBean: My family and I have been doing this donation for years. We started small, and then, as we started to do things, ended up getting help in other fields like technology. Alan Heiman and his computer club at Cornell University have been a great help to us ... If it wasn't for him, I would not have been able to donate as many things.

HD: Why did you begin this initiative?

EM: I realized what education was all about now that I am older. I had the opportunity to go to community college, but I left that because I got into a trade as a machinist, which was big money at the time. Now that field is dwindling down, so it is important to know about schooling. At first, I started small, donating pens, pencils and any other things that were given by other families.



MCBEAN said he has been bringing computers to Guyana for the last seven years.

HD: What was your inspiration for beginning this initiative?

EM: I was inspired to do this because of the way I was brought up. I was very poor, my father died when I was seven years old, and I had to live with my mom and stepdad. There were a lot of things that did not come my way very easily until I was an older person.

HD: Why did you choose to donate to the area of Linden, Guyana?

EM: This is the area where I was born. I know what the area is like. I target the people that are extremely poor, to help them.

HD: How do you get these donated items?

EM: I get most of them from Heiman and his computer club. There are a few people [at the college] that have been very supportive. We also donate to many centers in the Ithaca area.

HD: How do you transport the donated items to Guyana?

EM: I get the items here and drive them down to Brooklyn. From Brooklyn, I post them to Guyana. I use my funds to mail them, and, when I get there, the schools refund me for the postage.

HD: What are the ages of students who receive these donations?

EM: They range from young kids through high school. The ones in high school benefit more because they are moving on to college and can now learn more about colleges in America. Because of me, they get to know a little bit more about what Ithaca College is about and what Cornell is doing. This information is also spread through the Brooklyn ... and Queens area.




Step to the beat

Step Afrika! an African-American dance company, performed Feb. 18 in Emerson Suites as part of the college's Black History Month celebrations. Step Afrika! is dedicated to stepping, a traditional dance form that originated in African communities in the early 1900s.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS/THE ITHACAN

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Interviewers will be on campus at Ithaca College in the Career Services - Muller Faculty Center on Thursday, February 27th at 6:00 pm for an information session and on Friday, February 28th from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

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College & City

Cornell professors to give talks about Israel boycott

Ithaca College will host two speakers Feb. 25 to represent each side of the debate on the academic boycott of Israeli higher education institutions.

Eric Cheyfitz, Ernest I. White professor of American studies and humane letters at Cornell University, will give a presentation titled “Academic Freedom and the American Studies Association Academic Boycott of Israel” at 7 p.m. in Klingenstein Lounge in the Campus Center.

William A. Jacobson, a clinical professor of law and director of the Securities Law Clinic at the Cornell University Law School, will give a presentation called “The Case for Israel and Academic Freedom” directly after at 8 p.m. in Clark Lounge. Both discussion forums are free and open to the public.

Cheyfitz is a national member of the American Studies Association, which voted last December to endorse a resolution supporting an academic and cultural boycott of Israel.

Jacobson is the founder and publisher of two websites, Legal Insurrection and College Insurrection. Legal Insurrection is at the forefront of opposing the academic boycott of Israel and has filed a challenge to the tax-exempt status of the American Studies Association in response to the boycott.

The Ithaca College Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity; the Departments of English and Politics; and the Park Center for

Independent Media will be sponsoring Cheyfitz’s talk, and Hillel will be sponsoring Jacobson’s discussion.

Faculty paper accepted for publication in journal

Research by Ithaca College physics and astronomy professors Matt Price, Michael Rogers, Luke Keller and Andrew Crouse was accepted for publication Feb. 13 in the Journal of College Science Teaching. The paper, titled “Implementing Comprehensive Reform of Introductory Physics at a Primarily Undergraduate Institution: A Longitudinal Case Study,” discusses the repercussions of moving all 100-level courses out of lecture halls and into Student-Centered Active Learning Environment with Upside-Down Pedagogies classrooms. This model turns lectures into class-wide discussions wherein students work in teams on short, interactive tasks.

Though initial results were negative, the professors eventually found success as they adjusted their curriculum with a modified teaching of tutorials in Introductory Physics. The seven-year study began in 2006 and has concluded in improved student outcomes.

Cornell signs agreement for factory worker safety

Cornell University has announced it is requiring licensees of



PRICE

Cornell apparel that manufacture clothing in factories in Bangladesh to sign the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh.

The accord is a legally binding, five-year agreement between apparel manufacturers and global and Bangladeshi trade unions. It was created in light of the industrial disaster that occurred outside Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, where the collapse of an eight-story commercial building on April 24, 2013, killed 1,129 workers and injured more than 2,500 workers.

The agreement would ensure that workers in Bangladesh who make Cornell apparel do not work in life-threatening situations that lack proper safety measures.

Prior to this decision, Cornell has dealt with companies that did not comply with the university’s codes of conduct by terminating or threatening to terminate their licenses.

Cornell joins Duke University, New York University, the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, Pennsylvania State University and Georgetown University in adding the accord to their licensing requirements.

New app organizes events around college campus

The Office of Campus Center and Event Services has announced the launching of 25Live, Ithaca College’s new web-based event scheduling application, which will go public Feb. 24.

The first user training session will be held from 12:10–1 p.m.

Feb. 25 in Smiddy Hall, Room 115. The capacity is 20 people, and those interested should RSVP at cesreservations@ithaca.edu.

A series of public demonstrations of the new app will begin with a session held from 12:10–1 p.m. Feb. 27 in Williams Hall, Room 323, which will highlight the basics of the program. This event does not have a cap and is open for all interested participants.

The app serves as a forum for room and services requests made by organizations and professors on campus for holding events. Organizers can use the app to check availability of rooms, create a calendar of events and check the status of events they created.

Interested parties can access the 25Live User Support web page for the latest demonstration and training times.

College to host workshop about financial decisions

Career Services, the Ithaca College Library, Student Financial Services and the Office of Student Engagement and Multicultural Affairs will hold an interactive workshop for students to learn, in small groups, about financial decision-making and budgeting skills in preparation for life beyond college.

The session will be held from 1–3 p.m. March 22 in Clark Lounge in the Campus Center, featuring life topics such as paying off student loans, buying new tires, managing monthly bills and credit cards and planning for a future with

financial security.

Students will work in teams to test their knowledge of these subjects, and the winning team will win a gift card to Viva Taqueria. Snacks and other prizes will also be provided at the workshop.

Participation in the session will be limited to 50 students. Students should register by logging into OrgSync with their Ithaca College usernames and passwords.

County forms committee for Ithaca beautification

The Tompkins County Community Beautification Program in the City of Ithaca is forming a Beautification Brigade, a group of volunteers who will work at various flower planting sites around the city. The goal of the brigade is to further the beautification of Ithaca through flower gardening and volunteerism.

The deadline to apply for the 2014 Beautification Brigade is Feb. 28, and training will be held from 6–8:30 p.m. March 3 and March 18 at Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, 615 Willow Ave., Ithaca. No prior experience is necessary to join the effort

To access a volunteer application, contact Martha Gioumousis at 607–272–2292 extension 123 or ormg10@cornell.edu, or visit www.ccetompkins.org/beautification for more information.



GIOUMOUSIS

Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM
FEBRUARY 3 TO FEBRUARY 7

FEBRUARY 3

NOISE COMPLAINT

LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Third-party caller reported noise complaint. Officer reported no noise. Sergeant Dirk Hightchew.

MAKING GRAFFITI

LOCATION: Center for Health Sciences
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person wrote graffiti on whiteboard. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

CRIMINAL TAMPERING

LOCATION: Center for Health Sciences
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person went through lockers in the men’s and women’s locker rooms. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person having an asthma attack. One person transported to CMC by ambulance. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT

LOCATION: Lower Quads
SUMMARY: Caller reported vehicle backed into light post and caused damage. Report was taken. Sergeant Ron Hart.

MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Facilities Building
SUMMARY: Caller reported person with hydraulic fluid in their eye. Person used the eye wash station to clear fluid from eye. Person declined medi-

cal assistance. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Facilities Parking Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported person fell on ice and injured head. Person transported to hospital by ambulance. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

CRIMINAL SEXUAL ACT

LOCATION: East Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported sexual assault of the third degree occurred Feb. 3. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

FEBRUARY 4

MEDICAL ASSIST/PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: Landon Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having thoughts of wanting to cause harm to themselves. Person was taken into custody under mental hygiene law and transported to CMC by ambulance. Sergeant investigator Tom Dunn.

CONDUCT CODE VIOLATION

LOCATION: Clarke Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. One person judicially referred for burning a candle. Master Patrol Officer Don Lyke.

ASSIST NEW YORK STATE POLICE

LOCATION: Danby Road
SUMMARY: Officer reported vehicle and pedestrian motor vehicle accident with injuries. Officer assisted with traffic control. Pending New York State Police investigation. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

SAFETY/ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD

LOCATION: Facilities Building
SUMMARY: Caller reported container of seeping acid. Assistance provided. Environmental Health and Safety Officer Mark Ross.

HARASSMENT

LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Complainant reported a person entered room without permission and yelled at the complainant. One person judicially referred for harassment and trespass. Patrol Officer Robert Jones.

FEBRUARY 5

FIRE ALARM UNDETERMINED CAUSE FOR ALARM

LOCATION: Towers Concourse
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Cause of activation undetermined. System reset. Fire and Building Safety Coordinator Charles Sherman.

CASE STATUS CHANGE

LOCATION: Office of Public Safety
SUMMARY: Officer identified person responsible for violating drug policy Feb. 1 in Boothroyd Hall. One person judicially referred for violation of drug policy and violation of college regulation. Master Patrol Officer Brad Bates.

FEBRUARY 6

V&T FAIL TO YIELD OFFENSES

LOCATION: Farm Pond Road
SUMMARY: Caller reported two-vehicle property damage caused by a motor vehicle accident. Officer issued the driver one uniform traffic ticket for

Ithaca Town Court for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign. Patrol Officer Robert Jones.

MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Ben Light Gymnasium
SUMMARY: Caller reported person injured chin while playing basketball. Person declined medical assistance with Ithaca Fire Department. Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

FEBRUARY 7

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Garden Apartments
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. One person judicially referred for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Chris Teribury.

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person accidentally cut thumb with a knife. Report taken. Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

LARCENY

LOCATION: Fitness Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole credit card and placed unauthorized charges. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

CASE STATUS CHANGE

LOCATION: Office of Public Safety
SUMMARY: Officer reported person interviewed regarding stolen property from the Fitness Center that was originally reported Jan. 30. Officer determined the property was not stolen

and the case was unfounded. Patrol Officer Catherine Cardinal.

LARCENY

LOCATION: Whalen Center for Music
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole laptop computer. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Steve Rounds.

DRUG VIOLATIONS

LOCATION: Terraces
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Two people judicially referred for violation of drug policy, and three people judicially referred for underage possession of alcohol. Patrol Officer Catherine Cardinal.

MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Fitness Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported person injured ankle while playing basketball. Person declined medical assistance. Patrol Officer Robert Jones.

FOR THE COMPLETE SAFETY LOG,

For the complete safety log, go to www.theithacan.org/news.

KEY

- CMC - Cayuga Medical Center
- MVA - Motor Vehicle Accident
- V&T - Vehicle and Transportation
- IPD - Ithaca Police Department
- TCSO - Tompkins County Sheriff’s Office
- SASP - Student Auxiliary Safety Patrol
- DWI - Driving While Intoxicated
- IFD - Ithaca Fire Department

EDITORIALS

THE SOLUTION IS MORE INCLUSION

The creation of an SGA task force and the prevalence of microaggressions indicate a need to address campus inclusivity

The Student Government Association has demanded the results of the Campus Acceptance, Inclusion and Fairness Survey, which Ithaca College administered to measure inclusivity on campus. But with the administration failing to release the data, the SGA is forming a task force to tackle microaggressions, or behaviors that create feelings of exclusion, and foster a larger dialogue around issues of identity. The time to address identity inclusivity is now.

The campus-climate survey is part of the college’s diversity strategic plan for IC 20/20. Other goals include improving the student life experience for African, Latino, Asian and Native American and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students, as well as creating a physical environment that celebrates and recognizes diversity. By not releasing the results, the college pushes the task of acknowledging exclusivity onto affected students. But students who experience microaggressions should neither have to demand the college implement structures to educate the campus community, nor take on diversity educator roles alone.

Testimonies to the SGA have indicated that students who identify with minority ethnic, racial or sexual groups suggest they feel marginalized by classmates and faculty. The microaggressions they experience affect their behavior in the classroom and around campus. Students who identify with conservatism or less prominent religions, like Buddhism or Wicca, and students with disabilities have also found it difficult to express themselves fully.

With the SGA’s recognition of the problems with exclusivity, the college community must begin a dialogue surrounding inclusivity by recognizing our problems and discussing them candidly, or risk further alienating students.

MAKE A MOVE

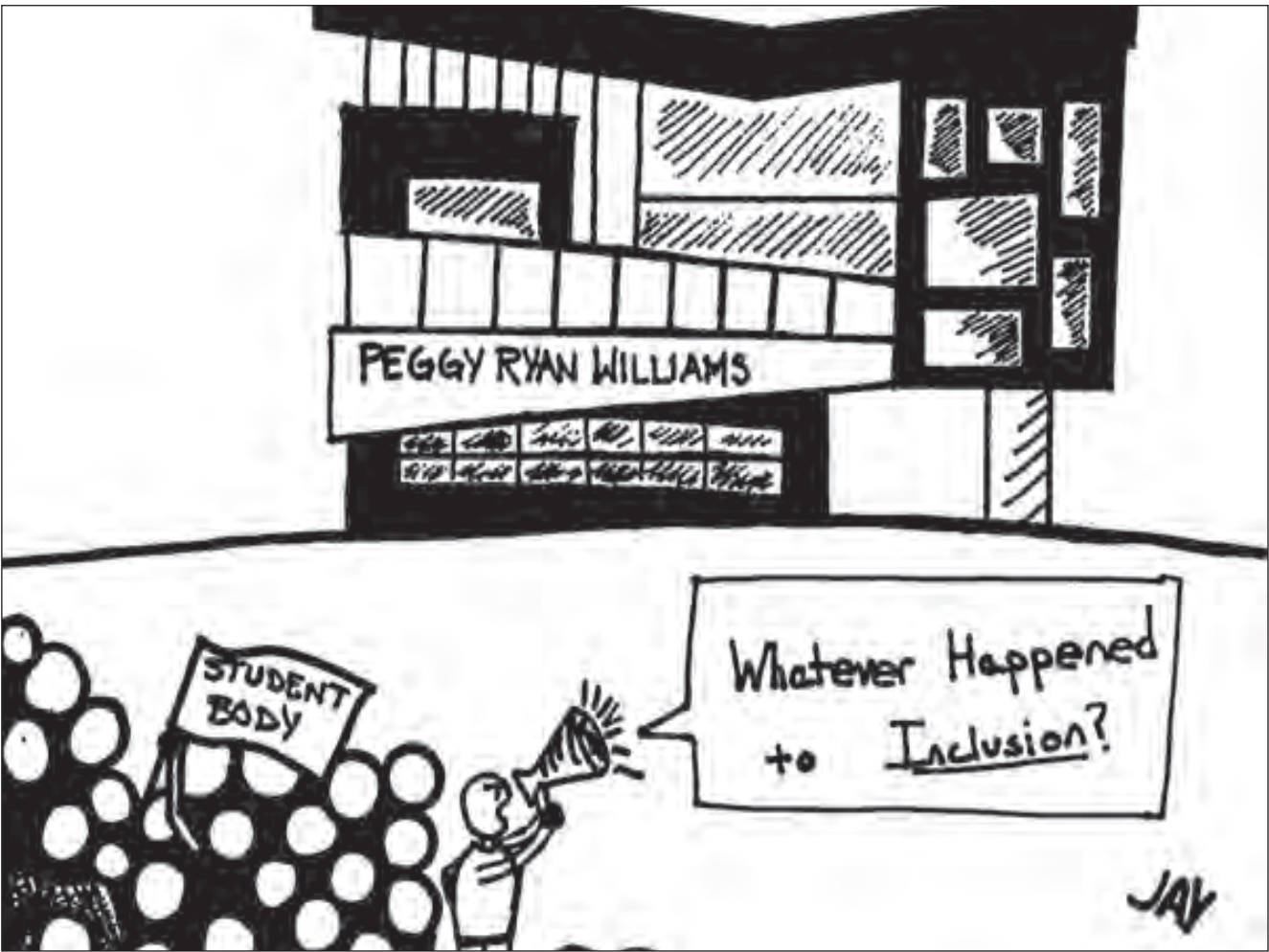
A petition to move the Office of Student Disability Services recognizes the need for more easily accessible resources

A group of students have created a petition asking Ithaca College to move the Office of Student Disability Services to a central location on campus. The petition is a smart move toward making the office more accessible.

SDS is in the Towers Concourse, making it difficult for students with physical disabilities to access the office. A wheelchair user would need to go through the James J. Whalen Center for Music and the West Tower Residence Hall to reach SDS.

The location is not very visible, either. With only the Towers Dining Hall and Sub Connection in the building, it’s unlikely that many students with physical limitations would enter the concourse. For students who already have difficulty getting around campus, placing this resource in an inaccessible building sends them an unwelcoming message.

SDS is developing a focus group to study concerns about its current location. While it’s a good idea for SDS to listen to student input, if it decides to relocate its office, it should look for accessible space in a high-traffic area, such as Campus Center or Job Hall. This will better open the office’s services to people with physical disabilities and help students connect with the office.



YOUR LETTERS

Quote misrepresents perspective

In last week’s story, “SGA pushes for campus inclusion and release of survey data,” I was asked to express my feelings about microaggressions on campus. However, I found that my quote did not provide enough context for readers to fully understand my perspective. One of the key pieces missing from this quote was the fact that I had experienced harsh stereotyping that caused me to lose self-confidence. When I would assert myself in class or voice my opinion, I was told I had a “strong” and “feisty” personality. I was constantly being judged for my attitude. It was based

on these experiences that I began to downplay my personality to avoid being the stereotypical “aggressive” black woman that many of my colleagues and professor expressed I was. Being constantly told that you have an “attitude” can be very discouraging and it can break you down.

I am proud, however, to say that there is nothing wrong with being assertive or expressing myself. I am who I am, and it is not me or my “feisty” personality, but rather people’s misconceptions of assertive women of color that is the issue.

ARIT NTEKIM, PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

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SNAP JUDGMENT

Should e-cigarette use be allowed in the buildings on campus?



“I DON’T LIKE E-CIGARETTES. I DON’T WANT TO BE AROUND THEM, AND I DON’T THINK THAT I SHOULD HAVE TO BE SUBJECTED TO IT INDOORS.”
JESSICA GOLDEN
COMMUNICATION STUDIES ’16



“IT SOUNDS TOTALLY FINE ON CAMPUS AND IN DORMS IN PRIVACY, BUT IN CLASSES SEEMS LIKE A RADICALLY DIFFERENT IDEA.”
FRANK CONDE
MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS ’14



“I’VE SEEN PEOPLE INSIDE BUILDINGS SMOKING E-CIGARETTES AROUND ME, AND IT HAS NEVER BEEN AN ISSUE.”
SARAFINA PAYNE
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ’15



“IT SHOULDN’T BE ALLOWED IN GENERAL PUBLIC AREAS BECAUSE IT MIGHT AFFECT THE HEALTH OF PEOPLE NEARBY.”
DANIEL PURCELL
CINEMA AND PHOTOGRAPHY ’16



“IT COULD LOOK BAD TO TEACHERS AND ANY PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS.”
LAURA JACKSON
JOURNALISM ’17

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GUEST COMMENTARY

College must listen to voices and criticism

Currently, the members of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees are meeting in Santa Monica, Calif., and I imagine

they want to know how the campus community views its experience at the college. However, the fact that the opportunity for the student trustee to formally speak about the state of the students to the board has been closed is indicative of a larger pattern of stifling the voices of our community at Ithaca College.



CEDRICK-MICHAEL SIMMONS

For example, the “Campus Fairness, Inclusion and Acceptance” survey was administered in Fall 2012, yet the results are still nowhere to be seen. If executed correctly, this survey could have provided key insights to the experiences of all students on campus — particularly those most historically marginalized. Instead, the process has been an objective mess, with the survey long delayed, disregarded and, at times, devalued.

For members of the community sharing their experiences, it represented a chance to give voice to the often ignored and unheard experiences of marginalized students. What we need now is an honest explanation about what has happened to the results of the survey, as well as a new campus-climate survey administered and analyzed by an independent company.

What has taken place with the campus-climate survey results shows a leadership and decision-making style that places little value on the voices of people who are affected by their decisions. Reaching out for feedback or collaborative decision making is either situational or after negative feedback. Examples of this include the closing of the TC Lounge, the loss of an autonomous seat at President’s Council for the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life and the ultimately very contentious media policy that included regulations for how and when to speak to members of



Members of the Student Government Association discuss issues during a meeting. Simmons believes the administration must take action toward improving campus inclusivity and accepting criticism.
COREY HESS/THE ITHACAN

the college staff, including administrators; some of whom were not informed they were on this list.

It seems to have become part of the culture at the college that critiques of the administration are perceived as mostly invalid or disrespectful, rather than possible points of dialogue for progress. When leaders cannot be questioned, then a college resembles a business model rather than a space for intellectual curiosity and educational development. Many of the students that the Student Government Association brought to our “Office Hours with the President” voiced this concern repeatedly following each meeting. After bringing up issues such as the Integrative Core Curriculum or the underutilization of the Athletic and Events Center, these students felt their views were not taken seriously by President Tom Rochon.

Though I can see that the college has been a

blessing to my personal growth as I head to graduate school, I can also recognize the reality that our current structures need to be reconsidered. When campus voices are disregarded and collaborative decision-making is compromised in the name of “efficiency,” the student experience simply suffers.

Until we demand to have these important conversations, and until the administration becomes an ally in the effort to make our campus more inclusive and equitable, the disconnect between the student body’s interests and the current administration will continue to be just as wide as the distance between the board’s meeting in California and the students here at the college.

CEDRICK-MICHAEL SIMMONS is a senior sociology major and president of the SGA. Email him at csimmon1@ithaca.edu.



DYLAN MALONEY

No recovery seen in jobs report

The Fiscal Times called the January jobs report, released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, “strike two,” as it was the second month in a row with disappointing growth in the labor market. The report said the economy added only 113,000 jobs last month, while the average growth per month in 2013 was 194,000 jobs. Economists are pointing to the lower unemployment rate, now 6.6 percent, as a sign of improvement. The truth of the matter is the unemployment rate shows no improvement, and the economy has gotten worse since the 2008 financial crisis.

The Labor Force Participation Rate, which measures how many people 16 years and older are included in the labor force, is normally ignored. The unemployment rate, which is part of the Labor Force Participation Rate, only counts those who have searched for a job in the past four weeks. Other unemployed citizens, like students, retirees and homemakers, are not part of the labor force. They account for 41.2 percent of the entire population, as of January 2014. This number has increased from 37.1 percent in January 2008, indicating fewer people are participating in the labor force and paying taxes.

The government has no choice but to use the taxes taken from those who work to take care of those who are not employed or are not included in the labor force. Therefore, those who work must be taxed enough to pay for public sector services. This is a drain on resources.

But even those who do have a job are having a hard time getting by. A survey reported by Cable News Network in 2012 showed that 49 percent of Americans do not have enough money saved to cover three months of expenses. In general, all American families are becoming poorer because of an astounding decline of wealth. According to the Federal Reserve, there has been a 39 percent drop in the median net worth, decreasing from \$126,400 in 2007 to \$77,300 in 2010.

Small businesses are taking a hit as well. According to a 2012 survey by Citigroup, 23 percent of small business owners went more than a year without taking pay, and more than half had problems making payroll: 54 percent of owners went without at least one paycheck. If this trend continues, many businesses will close because they are not making money.

The belief that shoveling money into programs will fix these problems makes no sense. It only means that the income for more individuals will be cut. When politicians use the buzzword “forward,” they probably mean forward off the economic cliff.

DYLAN MALONEY is a senior history and politics major. Email him at dmalone2@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Sochi Olympics highlight repression of LGBT citizens

In the months leading up to the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, much of the talk surrounded Russia’s anti-gay policies. However, now that the games have been going on for almost two weeks, there haven’t really been giant outbursts of anti-LGBTQ acts that have surrounded the Olympic Games. Or have there?

At least 19 people across Russia were arrested for protesting the treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens Feb. 7, the day of the opening ceremonies. Many of the protesters reported being beaten and sexually threatened by government authorities. To make matters worse, the International Olympic Committee actually defended these arrests as necessary.

Other minor issues have been popping up around the country as well. Hunters, a Russian gay dating mobile application similar to Grindr, was shut down. Anyone trying to log on to the app was met with the message, “You will be arrested and jailed for gay propaganda in Sochi according to Russian Federal Law 135 Section 6.”

Russia also blocked the website of Justin Kripps, a Canadian bobsledder, after he posted a picture of his bobsled team being weighed in their sled in their underwear. Users in Russia trying to access the website were shown an error message reading, “Dear users: We are very sorry, but the access to



From left, sophomores Chloe Lewis, Kyle James and Chris Kelley, senior Madison Averett and sophomore Kat Crowe represent Athlete Ally.
COURTESY OF KYLE JAMES

the requested content is forbidden because of a law or decision by lawmakers of the Russian Federation.”

Several other journalists have reported that some of the Russian people have expressed extreme hatred toward LGBTQ people. This sentiment was seen during a protest held by one American man and two Russian men. The trio held up signs with the phrases “GOD BLESS PUTIN BECAUSE HE IS AGAINST THE SIN OF SODOMY AND GOD BELIEVES IT IS DISGUSTING” and “HOMO SEX IS SIN.”

Others, however, have shown massive support and want to get the message out that not all of Russia shares anti-LGBTQ sentiment. This is reflected in a few stories coming out of Sochi. In the

opening ceremonies, the German delegation showed up in full rainbow gear. Sochi flag bearers were required to wear rainbow gloves, and the volunteers were given a rainbow-colored uniform to wear as well. Part of the entertainment at the opening ceremonies included t.A.T.u., a pseudo-lesbian pop duo. Even though the two aren’t actually lesbians, the choice to include them in the opening ceremonies seems a bit puzzling.

During the games, Cheryl Maas, a gay snowboarder from the Netherlands, held up a glove to the camera with unicorns and rainbows on it. Most notably, an LGBTQ athlete from the Netherlands, Ireen Wust, was “cuddled” by Russian President Vladimir Putin after winning a gold medal in speedskating.

Wust and her teammates were at a Russian nightclub celebrating her victory when Putin showed up to party with the Dutch athletes. After talking with Wust, he congratulated her with a hug. Wust had been publicly hailed as the first LGBTQ athlete of the Olympics to win a gold medal immediately after her victory, so there was little chance Putin didn’t know she was bisexual.

The Human Rights Campaign has a counter online to see how much airtime NBC is giving LGBTQ issues. As of Feb. 18, the counter sat at 1 hour, 37 minutes and two seconds. Coupled with recent pro-LGBTQ ads from the Canadian Institute of Diversity and Inclusion, Athlete Ally and XXL, a Norwegian sports brand, the issue of LGBTQ rights is getting decent media coverage. However, one can wonder how much more coverage the issue would get if the media and visitors were not feeling repressed by the Russian government.

All in all, the Sochi Olympic Games are still not a safe place for LGBTQ athletes and others to openly express themselves. But considering the violence and speculation that lead up to the games, the scenario could have been worse.

KYLE JAMES is a sophomore integrated marketing communications major and co-president of Athlete Ally. Email him at kjames1@ithaca.edu.

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Senior Geoffrey Guthe makes a mix on a Traktor DJ Mixing Controller in his apartment Feb. 16. Guthe has been DJing for six years and performs as DJ RageFace at parties and events on campus. TUCKER MITCHELL/THE ITHACAN

SPIN CYCLE

Student DJs heat up campus
dance floors and parties



Senior Maris Jones, a DJ who goes by DJMJ, performs at the 2nd Floor Bar every Thursday night. Jones said putting her mixes on SoundCloud helps promote her beats. COURTESY OF MARIS JONES

BY ASHLEY WOLF
STAFF WRITER

A rave, a party, a club or even a Halloween bash in Emerson Suites would not be the same without a disc jockey. With dimmed lighting, or no lights at all, people jive and twist on the dance floor, all clustered together in a giant, gyrating crowd. The dancing, energy and chaos would be missing without the upbeat dance music provided by student DJs.

Senior Geoffrey Guthe, who is usually called Yas by his friends and goes by DJ RageFace during gigs, has dabbled in DJing for six years. In Ithaca, Guthe plays about once or twice a month, mainly at Cornell University fraternities, Bombers' athletic events, IC After Dark's Halloween-themed Ravapocalypse and local dance club The Oasis. He also performs when he's home in New Jersey, largely in bowling alleys.

As a sophomore in high school, Guthe became interested in electronic music and began to listen to mashups, which are generally DJ-mixed audio recordings adjusted to make new compositions. As he grew interested in the production of these mashups, he experimented with Virtual DJ, an audio/video mixing program, and Audacity, a sound recording and editing program.

When he began DJing, his sound was mainly hip-hop and video game music mashups. Though he did enjoy creating this type of music because of its sound and popularity, he got back into electronic sounds during his sophomore year at the college and began shaping his DJing around the electronic beats.

For the past three years, Guthe has taken his hobby and turned it into performances. He said DJing in Ithaca makes him feel more like an artist than when he's home in southern New Jersey.

"It's definitely more of a job [at home]," Guthe said. "Not as creative, as interactive, or as fun as it is up here. Here, even though I don't get to play all the music I'd like to ... it's still a lot more free [spirited]."

Guthe said he likes how in Ithaca he can play trap, house or mashups, because in New Jersey he has to stick to more of the standard Top-40 music scene, such as Miley Cyrus,

Taylor Swift or Katy Perry — whatever the venues request him to play.

Joel Almand, freshman DJ whose stage name is DJ Almond, said Ithaca is a hub for student DJs. Though it would be easy for campus DJs to become competitive with one another, they often teach one another new concepts or techniques, he said.

"From my experience, I think IC is so DJ-filled because of how accepting the returning DJs are," Almand said. "It's not a competition; we want to learn from each other."

Guthe said DJing is more than just pushing play on a computer; DJs have to know when to play a certain track at a specific time.

"Some people think that DJing is all on a computer, super easy," Guthe said. "But not really. There's some parts of it — it's a very different challenge ... You have to play the right track at the right time, and as easy as that sounds, there's a lot more that you can do as a DJ."

Senior Maris Jones, a DJ who plays at the 2nd Floor Bar every Thursday night, said in order to choose the right tracks, it's important to find a good set list and be immersed in popular and up-and-coming music.

"I'm constantly searching for new music, so the minute I end my set on Thursday night that means the next day I start searching again," Jones said. "I didn't even realize how much research would go into it, but you really have to keep updated with what's going on."

While performing gigs, Guthe has learned how to read the crowd — an important skill for a DJ. Guthe said he understands that what he wants to play is not always what the crowd wants to hear, and that sometimes he needs to put his wishes aside to appease his audience. Guthe can gauge the audience's response to the tracks by watching the way it responds to the music based on the audience's enthusiasm, if the members are dancing and what he says is the "vibe" of the environment.

Sophomore Ryan Meara said a DJ should be able to read the audience, and he has noticed that Guthe can gauge the timing of his music well.

"What makes [Yas] a good DJ is his ability to read the

room," Meara said. "Yas can tell what type of music is most suitable by the vibes he gets off the crowd. He has a great internal clock and has a knack for perfect timing."

Freshman Ian Loomis, another DJ on campus, agreed that making sure the audience is having a good time is key. He said if the crowd's not on its feet, then he must be playing the wrong track.

"I like to play electronic music and dance music, and if they're just standing around then that's not something that you want," Loomis said. "That's how you get the vibe that maybe they're not liking [a track as much]."

In order to book gigs, get a DJ's name out to the public and find tracks to play, SoundCloud, an international online audio distribution site, can be very useful for DJs like Guthe, Meara said.

"Yas' sound has matured to an eclectic mix of well-known and lesser-known tracks," Meara said. "He is always on SoundCloud looking for new pieces to add to his set list."

On his SoundCloud, DJ RageFace, Guthe's music has heavy techno beats and bass layered in with both Top-40 radio hits and more obscure electronic beats to create dance tracks.

Jones said putting mixes on SoundCloud is helpful because it allows people to hear her productions and get to know her as a DJ.

"I produce some of my own mixes, so I do make mixes that I've been posting up on [SoundCloud] too, just to get people aware of me," Jones said.

Though some consider DJing as just a part-time job or hobby, others, like Jones and Almand, are thinking of pursuing it some way within their careers.

"I think right now it's too late to just make it a hobby," Almand said. "I've put way too much work into just making 'Almond' a side project ... I'm happy it's my career."

Loomis said he believes more people should try DJing.

"More people should look into it as something to do," Loomis said. "I don't really know anyone that doesn't like music in some sort of sense, and it's really fun to be able to play music for everyone and be the life of the party."



Guthe's mixes are often composed of heavy electronic beats and pop mashups. TUCKER MITCHELL/THE ITHACAN



Jones said she is constantly searching for new music in order to keep her mixes fresh each week. COURTESY OF MARIS JONES



Pass the peppers!

Sophomore Joseph Calinda hands out peppers to chili-eating competitors Feb. 15 during The 16th Annual Downtown Ithaca Chili Cook-off. Contestants chowed on the powerful veggies, bearing the heat for the title of champion pepper eater.

COREY HESS/THE ITHACAN

band of the week

With a positively funky sense of rhythm, Massachusetts-based band Ducktails merges dreamy retro musicality with funky bass grooves, delivering a body-moving product that can only be described as “smooth.”

Founded in member Matt Mondanile’s shed, Ducktails began in 2006 as a solo project. Now, the group boasts four official members, along with many guests, and released its most recent album, “The Flower Lane” in 2013.



— STEVEN PIRANI

Cybercafe



Assistant Accent Editor Steven Pirani sorts through the Internet in search of its finest gems

It’s easy to lose track of time browsing the Web. With the likes of Tumblr, Reddit and Facebook, it can feel as if the Internet is a deep, unforgiving pit of distraction — and that would be correct. However, it doesn’t mean that it can’t be a creative, unforgiving pit of distraction, and that’s why Silk is here.

Calling itself “interactive generative art,” Silk is a supremely addicting bit of online artistry. All users must do is click their mouse. Then, like flowing fabric, the cursor explodes into ribbons of color, rippling and wiggling as it “unravels” onto the screen. It’s visually arresting, meditative and irresponsibly fun, urging users to fiddle with the settings on its sidebar. Color, symmetry and line behavior can be manipulated, allowing an infinite amount of opportunity to flex those creative muscles. Find Silk at www.weavesilk.com and start dishing out some abstract beauty.



APPTASTIC



NEW SURREALIST APP EXPLORES RADIOHEAD

When they’re not producing their next psychedelic rock masterpiece, the members of English rock band Radiohead are diligent in furthering their artistic horizons by venturing into the realm of smartphones. The group announced Feb. 11 that it had released its own app, “Polyfauna,” for both Android and iOS devices. The application is a collaborative effort between Radiohead and UK-based digital art practice Universal Everything, putting users in surrealist, watercolor worlds as they follow a red, guiding orb. Each moment of the adventure takes musical and visual cues from the group’s song “Bloom,” off its most recent album “King of Limbs,” providing both a visual and auditory experience to behold. “Polyfauna” is available for free download.



— STEVEN PIRANI

tv time

BELOVED PRISON DRAMA RETURNS FOR NEW SEASON



Netflix series that is making waves every step it takes.

Netflix junkies, begin catching up on sleep now, because the next Netflix binge is on the horizon. On Feb. 15, Netflix announced via a teaser trailer that its exclusive series, “Orange Is the New Black,” will be returning for a second season June 6. The series made waves with its premier season, with critics praising its quick, dark humor and vibrant cast of characters. The series joins “House of Cards” as another exclusive

— STEVEN PIRANI

celebrity scoops!

Ellen Page comes out

“Juno” star Ellen Page took the podium Feb. 14 at Time to THRIVE, an LGBTQ rights conference in Las Vegas, addressing for the first time her own sexual orientation.

“I’m here because I am gay,” Page told the crowd. “And because maybe I can make a difference. To help others have an easier and more hopeful time.”

The crowd’s reaction was overwhelmingly enthusiastic, and her announcement was received with a resounding round of applause and a lengthy standing ovation.

Outside of the convention, praise for the actress continued with celebrities, including Hugh Jackman, sounding off on Twitter, commending the actress’ professional and dignified approach to her coming out speech.



— STEVEN PIRANI

tweetuntweet



I’m done doing interviews for magazines. I just want to give my music to the people. That’s the only way my message gets across accurately.

— Rapper Drake reacts after his Rolling Stone cover was scrapped to cover the death of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman. The rapper made a public apology shortly afterward.

Quirky French operetta hits Main Stage Theater

BY ALYVIA COVERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In a whimsical kingdom far, far away, the perseverance of love is tested in a comedic twist on a classic fairy-tale story incorporating opera and American musical theater styles.

Coming to Ithaca College Main Stage Theater, “L’etoile” is conducted by Brian DeMaris, assistant professor of music performance and director of opera, and is directed by Jeanne Slater, a guest from the Juilliard School. Junior theater major Timothy Rheiner is assistant director. The operetta, written by Emmanuel Chabrier in 1877, premiered at Offenbach’s Theatre des Bouffes Parisiens in Paris.

The play follows the story of King Ouf (senior Eric Flyte), whose 40th birthday is just around the corner. Every year on his birthday, tradition calls for the execution of a prisoner by the king. Unfortunately for King Ouf, the jail is empty as his birthday approaches. In his plot to find a person to execute on his birthday, the king looks to trick someone into publicly defying the government.

DeMaris said the plot is driven by an outrageous selection of comedic encounters, juxtaposing traditional views of opera.

“There’s a tendency to approach opera as high art, and then there’s a moment when you have to acknowledge that this opera is not high art,” DeMaris said. “But that’s the point: this opera is complete silliness.”

The kingdom’s constitution also requires that the King provide an heir to the throne upon his 40th birthday. Herisson de Porc-Epic (senior Chris D’Amico), an ambassador from the neighboring kingdom, and his wife Aloes (sophomore Ariana Warren) decide to bring Princess Laoula (senior Shelley Attadgie), daughter of the king in this neighboring kingdom, to King Ouf and marry them to provide an heir to his throne.

During the journey to King Ouf’s castle, Princess Laoula falls in love with a peddler they



Senior Shelley Attadgie and junior Rachel Ozols play Princess Laoula and Lazuli, respectively, in the Main Stage Theater production of “L’etoile.” In the opera, Laoula and Lazuli are lovers. COURTESY OF MAIN STAGE THEATER

encounter named Lazuli (junior Rachel Ozols). When the two arrive to the neighboring kingdom, the king meets the peddler and gets him to speak badly about the government, deciding to execute him. Just as he is about to be executed, the court astrologer says the peddler and the princess are fated by the stars — if the

peddler dies, the king will die a day later.

DeMaris said the operetta grows comical as the princess and the pauper’s happy ending is challenged by powers out of their control.

“It’s really about love and death, but very humorously treated,” DeMaris said.

Because the show has been translated into

English, Attadgie said, the message of the show has become easier for the audience to understand without having to read the plot off a page, as can happen in foreign-language operas.

Slater said she hopes the translation of the dialogue will also help reach a wider audience.

“The great thing about this show is that it’s incredibly accessible,” she said. “The humor, I think, is both physical and in the words, so it would appeal to a larger range of ages that would get the overall humor of the piece.”

Since auditions in September, the cast has been preparing a show that portrays themes of destiny and fate through a farcical opera. Slater said an important theme throughout the play is believing what fate predicts.

“In the end, there’s nothing really to it, but it still ends with them actually believing that the stars tell you your fate and that’s what you need to depend on,” Slater said.

D’Amico said vivid color of the costumes was an important part of the play, as it distinguished different characters from one another. King Ouf wears a neon orange and acid green costume, Herisson and his wife sport purple and blue costumes and Princess Laoula wears the classic princess pink throughout the show.

“Everyone has a very specific look, and we’re almost color-coded,” D’Amico said. “The more high status you have, the more colors you have. You’ve got the color telling the story and the music telling the story.”

A fairy tale–love story may be common, but “L’etoile” incorporates opera, dialogue, humor, a strong ensemble and a colorful set to tell the story about the strength of love.

“At a time of the year like this when it’s kind of miserable out, it’s nice to remind ourselves that we can’t take ourselves seriously all the time,” D’Amico said.

The Ithaca College Main Stage Theater production of “L’etoile” opens at 8 p.m. Feb. 20 and will run until Feb. 23 in Dillingham Center.

Artist blends found objects with traditional painting

Boston- and Brooklyn-based artist Patte Loper’s work is featured in the Handwerker Gallery until March 7 in an exhibit titled “Your Margins, Your Rivers, Your Diminutive Villages.” Her exhibit is composed of oil paintings and abstract geometric structures constructed from found objects. Loper will give a talk at 6 p.m. Feb. 20 in the Handwerker Gallery.

Accent Editor Evin Billington spoke with Loper about inspirations for her work, discovering found objects and her creative process.

Evin Billington: Your work for the exhibit in the Handwerker was influenced by your time on Governors Island in New York City. What specific parts of that area were you most inspired by?

Patte Loper: There were a few things I was really intrigued by on the island. The first thing was the fact that the island is pretty deserted during the weekday. There’s no tourists around, so it’s only park facility people and artists and maybe a few workmen and stuff, so it’s basically deserted. But the harbor is full of boats, and there are always helicopters flying overhead for tourists, but it kind of seems militarized. You really get this sense when you’re there that you’re ... in the stillness in the middle of all of this chaos. The buildings are deserted, it’s very strange.

EB: You use found objects in your pieces. What do you like about this particular medium, and why do you

pair it with traditional oil paintings?

PL: It has to do with this idea of what’s valued and what’s not valued. Obviously, oil paint on canvas is something that has this sort of sense of great historical value, and old cardboard boxes from a liquor store do not. I really like the juxtaposition of that. I also feel that even though it’s just a tiny thing that I’m doing, it’s part of an environmental responsibility to try to take something that’s devalued and that is useful and that we actually kind of discard a lot that maybe we could be using in other ways.

EB: Where do you look for these found objects, and what do you look for when gathering them?

PL: A lot of it actually comes down to stuff that I can kind of cut up and reform. I work in this very, very low-tech way. A lot of it is stuff that’s lightweight enough that I can carry it, and also stuff that’s around that’ll be available so I can have a lot of it. Cardboard is great for that. I teach at a school that has this great woodshop, and I could go and dig through the garbage, and I would find interesting pieces of wood. I also live in Brooklyn where there’s a lot of interesting garbage. Interesting moving palettes and plastic and pieces of construction ... Kind of anything.

EB: Your found object structures are displayed next to paintings. What are you trying to convey by putting them so close together?



A found object structure made of cardboard and wood sits in the Handwerker Gallery. The piece is a part of the exhibit “Your Margins, Your Rivers, Your Diminutive Villages” by Patte Loper, who will give a talk at 6 p.m. Feb. 20 in the gallery. COREY HESS/THE ITHACAN

PL: For me, the painting process is really different. Actually, in my last show, I was actually painting the objects from observation and putting them into these hypothetical landscapes. At the Handwerker, I made the paintings actually kind of just more responding to the [found object] structures and not really trying to literally paint them. It was a less literal process, I wanted the paintings to be more like backdrops or props to the [structures],

to kind of contextualize them, to give you the idea that they have this relationship with the landscape.

EB: What is your creative process usually like?

PL: I used to plan a lot and would do a lot of research and a lot of preliminary sketches and drawings, but lately I’ve just been much more interested in surrealist automatism, especially because I

don’t know how to build. I’m not trained as a sculptor, so that frees me up from using any actual kind of technique. It really becomes this kind of battle, or maybe collaboration, between me and the material, and when you’re working in that way, I have to work really quickly. I don’t understand how to build slowly, or the whole thing will fall over. That brings out this very intuitive, automatic kind of process.

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Through the woods

The Readers’ Theatre to present intense thriller about the relationship between a brother and sister

BY TYLOR COLBY
STAFF WRITER

Many families have secrets they keep hidden from outsiders, leading to conflicts and resentment among relatives. In Neil LaBute’s play, “In A Forest, Dark And Deep,” however, the secrets are more complex and dangerous than in most families, proving that sometimes the truth is more toxic than the lies the family uses to cover it up.

From March 7–9, the Readers’ Theatre will perform a production of LaBute’s play at Cinemapolis. The play is directed by Cynthia Henderson, associate professor of theater arts at Ithaca College. Anne Marie Cummings, artistic producer of Readers’ Theatre, and Evan Stewart Eisenberg, local Ithaca actor, will be playing the two lead roles of Betty, the sister, and Bobby, the brother, respectively. Cummings said the play, which is a psychological thriller, is fast-paced because of the constant dramatic moments in it.

“There’s a lot of things going on at once, and there’s a heightened sense of urgency from the first page to the end,” Cummings said. “It doesn’t really stop.”

The play takes place in a remote cabin where Betty has enlisted her younger brother Bobby to help pack up all her belongings, but the two siblings begin quarreling almost immediately. The cabin is presented in a minimalist fashion, the only props being two boxes of books and a six-pack of beer in order to focus more on the dialogue between the characters. At first, their disputes are mainly because of their stark personality differences. Bobby is a simple minded, blue-collar conservative with a New York accent who curses in almost every sentence, and Betty is a wealthy and reserved dean at a nearby college who

struggles with her role in society. Eventually, though, their arguments turn to more personal matters, like their complicated relationship with their deceased parents and the secrets they keep from each other.

This results in tension between the characters that rises and falls throughout the play between bouts of casual conversation, eventually reaching a startling climax that leaves the characters in the rubble of their own feud.

While the play contains multiple layers of anger and deception, many moments demonstrate the siblings’ desire to help each other and how that overrides their most violent confrontations.

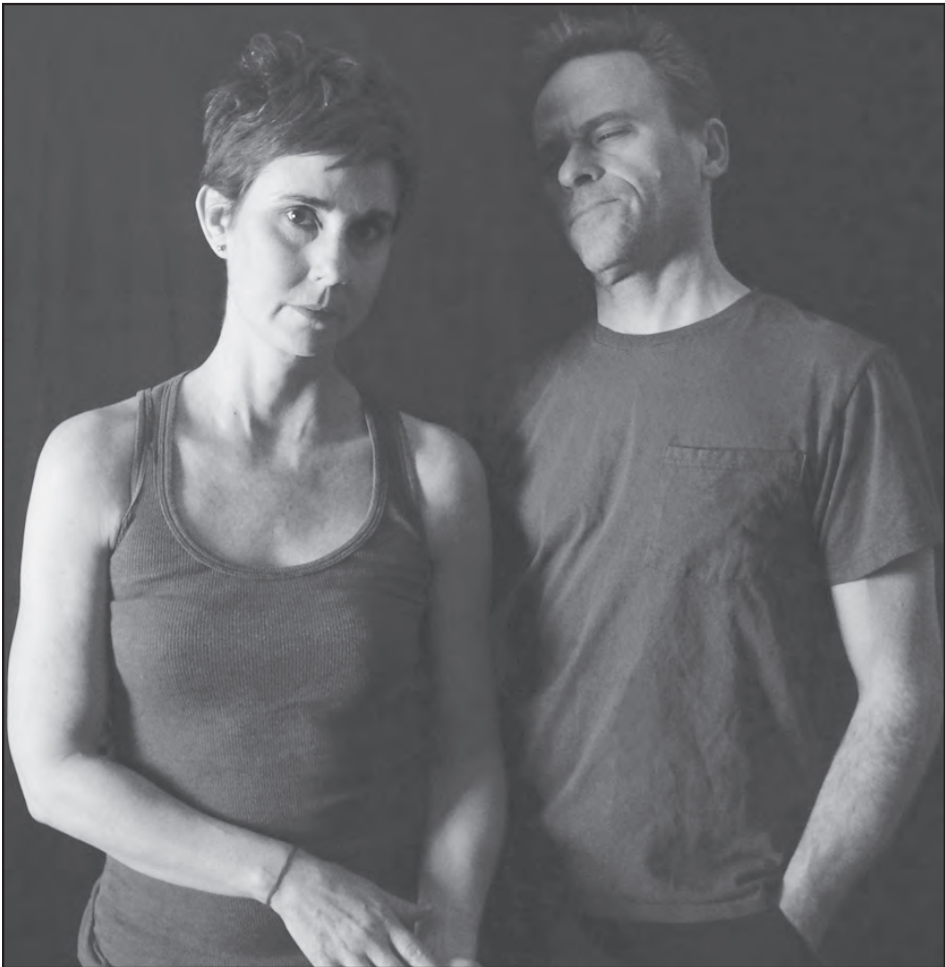
Henderson said while the play is heavy on dysfunctional arguments between the two characters, she wanted to focus on their love, which drives much of the siblings’ actions.

“These two argue a lot, but if you look deeper into the psychology of it, these two care about each other,” Henderson said. “And even at that end moment, it’s almost like they’re little kids in the dark in the bedroom talking.”

Eisenberg said this characterization of Bobby and Betty is largely because of LaBute’s particular style of dialogue, which involves a fast back-and-forth rhythm between lines and often results in the two characters talking over each other in a casual way.

Cummings said this role is the hardest she’s had so far as an actor because of the layers of deception that her character has to believably present throughout the play. She said sharing commonalities with her character, like her age and complex life circumstances, helps her come into the role.

“It really calls on everything for an actor,” Cummings said. “The trick with this role is masking what’s underneath, but having what’s



Anne Marie Cummings and Evan Stewart Eisenberg star in the Readers’ Theatre production of “In A Forest, Dark And Deep” as Betty and Bobby, respectively, two feuding siblings.
COURTESY OF THE READERS’ THEATRE

underneath there as well. I can identify with this woman. I’m 46, so as a 46-year-old woman I can imagine some of the things she says.”

Eisenberg said his role had a few difficult aspects, but he was most challenged by the prospect of playing such an offensive brute.

In order to help the actors tap into this realm of deception and anger, Henderson said she implemented various exercises that brought Eisenberg and Cummings to emotional places. One of these exercises involved asking the actors personal questions

that required them to go to places that were emotionally uneasy in order to evoke their best acting.

“I didn’t like using the C-word towards my dear friend,” Eisenberg said. “But I have been really mad [before]. So I just tap into that energy of arguing with people, which I’m really good at.”

The Readers’ Theatre production of “In A Forest, Dark And Deep” opens at 8 p.m. March 7 and will run until March 9 at Cinemapolis.

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Game bravely pursues new combat

BY ROBERT MAYO
STAFF WRITER

“Bravely Default,” developed by Square Enix and Silicon Studio and made for the Nintendo 2DS and 3DS, draws upon many of the conventions established by the “Final Fantasy” series, a staple in the Japanese role-playing game genre. Working off traditional JRPG tropes, “Bravely Default” keeps the genre fresh through its new combat mechanics, breathtaking visuals and clever dialogue.

The game follows four heroes on their journey to save a dying world by purging darkness from four crystals, each responsible for an element of wind, water, earth or fire. While the story of young heroes focusing on restoring magic crystals is typical within the JRPG genre, the game keeps the events entertaining through lively characters. Tiz is the sole survivor of a destroyed town, Agnes is the Vestal of Wind, Ringabel is an amnesiac Casanova and Edea is a defector of the enemy nation. Together, they form a party and travel the world, restoring universal order.

Riding on the coattails of the “Final Fantasy” series, the game features many of the established mechanics of previous games. Players assign orders to their heroes against enemies in turn-based combat. The game features a job system that allows players to change their class and their role within the party, such as healer, damage dealer or support. Classes draw upon “Final Fantasy” classics, such as the healing job of “White Mage” and the quick and light “Thief,” but also brings new classes to the table, like capable “Sword Master” and support roles such as “Performer.”

While combat is heavily based upon usual JRPG battle norms, the game’s titular “Brave” and “Default” mechanics set its combat apart from a typical JRPG. In some instances, players may “brave” — perform extra actions, such as casting spells or attacking several times in a turn, at the expense of losing future actions. Other times, players may “default” and go on the defensive to reduce damage and save up actions for when they may need them. These innovative

**VIDEO
GAME
REVIEW**
“Bravely
Default”
Square Enix
and Silicon
Studios
Our rating:
★★★★



Players explore a range of beautifully crafted locales in the Japanese role-playing game “Bravely Default,” developed by Square Enix and Silicon Studio exclusively for Nintendo 2DS and 3DS consoles. COURTESY OF SQUARE ENIX AND SILICON STUDIO

mechanics add ebb and flow to the combat, allowing the player to bide time, wait to strike or immediately use all of the actions at the expense of leaving one’s player defenseless if the enemy survives. The additional strategy elements have the player thinking more strategically and weighing whether the rewards are worth the risks.

The new combat mechanics are a huge improvement, but the stunning visuals of the game cannot be denied. All of the cities, towns and dungeons feature handpainted environments that add a fairy-tale intrigue to the game. Both the cities and the overworld map offer a grandeur that makes the player’s journey feel all the more important.

The game also features a generous amount of dialogue. Text-only scenes establish motivations and personality, while voiced storyline cutscenes advance the plot. A surprising amount of the

game has voice work, and the game offers the ability to play with the original Japanese voice actors or the English voice cast. Atypical of many JRPGs, conversations aren’t groan-inducing, and while the story follows many cliches of the genre, notably the tale of four young heroes saving the world, “Bravely Default” remains engaging.

While the game succeeds at times to break outside convention, it ultimately doesn’t cross many boundaries of the genre as some hoped it would. Though it takes cues from the “Final Fantasy” series, it is an exemplar JRPG title. “Bravely Default” manages to breathe some life into the genre with its powerful narrative, energetic characters and new mechanics, creating a memorable and colorful role-playing experience.

“Bravely Default” is available exclusively on Nintendo 2DS and 3DS consoles.

hot dates

thursday

Hands on Gourds, a gourd-carving workshop, will be held from 1:30–4:30 p.m. at Ecovillage. Class is intended for adults. Children under 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Admission is \$40.

friday

Pianist Andrew Zhou will perform at 8 p.m. in Cornell University’s Barnes Hall. Pieces include Ludwig van Beethoven and Frank Zappa. Admission is free.

A Black History Month Concert will be performed at 8:15 p.m. in Ithaca College’s Ford Hall. Admission is free.

saturday

A Garden In Winter, a guided tour of the Cornell Plantations, will be held from 1–2:30 p.m. in the Mullestein Family Winter Garden. The tour is 90 minutes long. Warm clothing is advised.

Mad Brain, a jazz group, will perform a live set of jazz and reggae music from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kilpatricks. Refreshments will be provided.

sunday

A Glacial Lecture Series will be led by Dr. Mike Willis of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill at 2 p.m. at the Museum of the Earth.

Eclectic rock band blurs genres with experimental electronics

BY TYLOR COLBY
STAFF WRITER

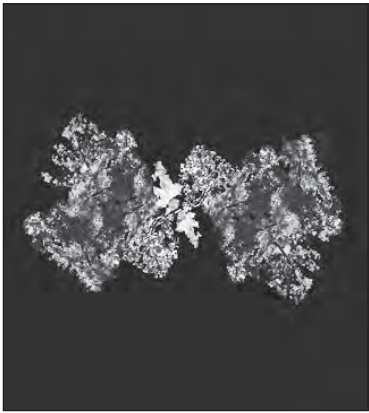
A collage of swirling guitar tones provides the framework for Woodsman’s self-titled EP, but that is not all this psychedelic alternative-rock band has to offer. “Woodsman” initially seems uninspired because of the basic guitar and drums setup, but as each track moves on, a new sound or dynamic is added, expanding on the ethereal mood that the band has laid out in a concise, yet emotionally charged, fashion.

What gives this EP its greatest appeal is the seemingly dissimilar elements it brings together, noting

**ALBUM
REVIEW**
Woodsman
“Woodsman”
Fire Talk
Our rating:
★★★

trip-hop and ’90s alternative to name a few. Songs like “Gravelines” have a highly intense buildup marked by effect-heavy guitars and a pulsating drum buildup. Meanwhile, tracks like “Rune” introduce synth-bass tones and jazz chords that seem oddly danceable in comparison. Each track instead gives the EP a balanced feel that is fun to listen to without sounding at all bland.

However, where “Woodsman” suffers is in its inappropriate use of guitar effects. Frequently, the band seems unsure of what to do with its vast array of guitar pedals. At some points there are too many effects at once, sounding as if the guitarists are relying too much on heavy reverb and distortion to sound edgier. Other times, the guitar is technically well



COURTESY OF FIRE TALK

done but would benefit from a degree of experimentation.

When the effects and technical playing do line up appropriately, the band is at its most powerful. “Woodsman” rides the line between trip-hop and highly energetic rock music, and through its different guitar sounds, the band fashions an atmosphere that is occasionally jarring, but overall a surprisingly cohesive experience.

Duo muses over pained hearts

BY GABRIELLA JORIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Broken Bells’ new album, “After the Disco,” confronts themes of time and uncertainty, its lyrics tackling the question: What happens next? Members James Mercer and Brian Burton confront their own struggles, singing about solitude, heart-break and resignation. Though the record features impressive vocals, it ultimately seems incomplete as a whole.

Listeners may be taken on a musical journey in “The Changing Lights” with its sudden jumps from slow to fast tempos. The lyrical exploration of uncertainty

is apparent in the lyrics as Mercer sings, “And sometimes you wonder if it’s off/ Just another mistake/ and why don’t you just walk away?”

Unfortunately, “After the Disco” lacks a musical climax. After the sixth track, “Control,” the songs lose the energy established in the first half of the album, ultimately leaving the record seeming unfinished.

**ALBUM
REVIEW**
Broken Bells
“After the
Disco”
Columbia
Records
Our rating:
★★★



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS

Check out **theithacan.org/spotify** to listen to the songs featured in this week’s reviews!

quickies



COURTESY OF SUMERIAN RECORDS

**“+++”
Crosses
Sumerian Records**
The track “This is a Trick” opens Los Angeles rock group Crosses’ EP with a punch of abrasive synths that delight the senses. The album’s aggression never lets up, delivering a pleasingly visceral experience.



COURTESY OF NAME THE PET

**“FUTURE / NOW”
Name the Pet
Name the Pet**
Swedish electro-pop artist Hanna Branden throws her dainty voice into a delicate forest of minimal electronica, with wonderfully dreamy results. The track “I’ll Forget” stands out with its airy instrumentals and elegant vocals.

Watered-down cyborg flick lacks spark

Softened content keeps action movie from reaching excellence

BY MICHAEL CAFFREY
STAFF WRITER

While the concept of RoboCop — a half man, half machine, crime-saving cop — is awesome, a remake of the 1980s film is not a great idea. Joel Kinnaman stars in the action remake that cuts the violence, retains the cheese factor and down-grades the story.

Directed by Jose Padilha and hailing from Executive Producer Bill Carraro ’81, this film may struggle to make back its hefty \$130 million investment.

Set in the year 2028, the film follows Detroit detective Alex Murphy (Kinnaman) as he gets caught up with the wrong crime boss, Antoine Vallon (Patrick Garrow), in the undercover world. This results in an assassination attempt on Murphy, which leaves him almost dead from a car explosion that breaks and burns his body.

Enter OmniCorp, the corporation that is looking for a human specimen to turn into a machine that would head a marketing campaign toward introducing citizens of the United States to the idea of robotic police officers. Its lead scientist, Dr. Dennett Norton (Gary Oldman), successfully engineers Murphy into half man-half machine, much to the pleasure of his boss, Raymond Sellars (Michael Keaton), who sees the transformation as a brilliant business opportunity.

Part of what made the original 1987 film so compelling was its

FILM REVIEW

“RoboCop”
MGM Pictures and Columbia Pictures
Our rating: ★★½



Joel Kinnaman and Gary Oldman star in “RoboCop,” directed by Jose Padilha. Kinnaman stars as Alex Murphy, a Detroit detective who finds himself saved by technology after an assassination attempt leaves him close to death. COURTESY OF MGM PICTURES AND COLUMBIA PICTURES

eye-opening qualities. The original was rated R because of its brutal violence and subversive nature. Curbing the violence was clearly a marketing decision to attract more families to the theater with a PG-13 rating. However, some of the best grit and punch that came with the brutal violence of the original, which drew the audience into the moment, has been lost.

Kinnaman, Oldman and Keaton do the best they can with what they are given in the screenplay. Unfortunately, the writing is incredibly one-dimensional, so there isn’t much room to grow for these characters throughout the movie. Many

of Raymond Sellars’ decisions that regard different business investments beyond RoboCop make the subpar writing stand out.

Norton spends most of his time taking orders and playing the stereotypical corporate employee. While many “RoboCop” characters are morally questionable, Norton possesses motives that the audience may identify with. Because Kinnaman is in a robot suit for most of the film, there are few standout moments from his character. Despite those struggles, the standout feature of the film is the action sequences. The chase scenes are incredibly well done. The agile cinematography

following RoboCop through the streets of Detroit while he speeds around on his motorcycle is incredibly engaging on the big screen.

sadly, the visuals are not enough to put the film on the same level as its predecessor. While the idea was ambitious to begin with, the concept of “RoboCop” was always designed as an ’80s action movie. Though it is not the worst remake to ever hit theaters, this rehash of “Robocop” is by no means a cinema classic.

“RoboCop” was directed by Jose Padilha and written by Joshua Zetumer.

Radical album trims length

BY MARISSA FRAMARINI
STAFF WRITER

Following a mainstream wave of ’90s post-punk nostalgia and low-profile namesakes, Speedy Ortiz took back the reigns of the underground rock ’n’ roll scene with its 2013 debut, “Major Arcana,” blending together distorted guitar progressions with a stream of witty and vulgar lyrics. Now, fewer than seven months later, the western Massachusetts alternative-rock pop brigade is back and breaking down melodic barriers, dropping “Real Hair,” a follow-up EP that proves Speedy Ortiz is leading and setting industry trends, rather than merely following them.

Only four songs, “Real Hair” keeps its runtime short, and guitar-riffs tightly wound to make room for frontwoman Sadie Dupuis, who specializes in slinging insults and biting metaphors that can have listeners cracking up at one moment and crying all in the same chorus. the album showcases the 25-year-old songstress at the top of her game, as she sneers over some “bonebag” she fell for, only to be found in the next song cackling out witty quips like, “And I don’t want to listen when he tries to talk/ I stare at his flapping jaw.”

The album is jam-packed with twists and turns to match Dupuis’ careening mood. Opener “American Horror” begins with a seething guitar riff, only to dive into a jungle of charging drums and knotty, angular riffs. Plunging forward, “Oxygal” is equally sinister and dark, with its heavy guitar thrashing that exposes Dupuis and her wounds, causing her to cry out, “And who wants to sleep by her who death becomes/ Someone who sleeps with her neck in

ALBUM REVIEW
Speedy Ortiz
“Real Hair”
Carpark Records
★★★★



COURTESY OF CARPARK RECORDS

reverse/ It’s only me.” Constantly switching its sound, Speedy Ortiz refuses to be pigeonholed or labelled as a second-coming of a tired sound, shredding their way forward with a fresh and daring melodic variance.

The EP’s closing songs, “Everything’s Bigger” and “Shine Theory,” continue to unravel with Dupuis, her vocals dipping below a crescendo of distorted guitar, briefly resurfacing for a powerful foot-stomping chorus before being pushed under by a smoldering drum build. Anchoring the set, the songs tease listeners with a hint of the enjoyably experimental, lo-fi punk sound that can be expected from the group on its next full album.

Despite an overall play time of just 13 minutes, “Real Hair” does not suffer from its short length. Instead, the album takes advantage of its brevity, offering a fast-moving, riotous and impressively varied listening experience. Boasting potent emotion and delightfully distinct , the album marks yet another commendable leap forward for these newcomer indie rockers.

Clever beat-maker boldly weds sounds

BY SAMANTHA CETRULO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Norwegian beat-maker Cashmere Cat has once again succeeded in creating an exceptionally experimental album titled “Wedding Bells,” released Feb. 11 via LuckyMe Records. The four tracks on this EP create an alien sound, dismissing linearity and embracing the unexpected. Compared to Cashmere’s first EP, “Mirror Maru,” this EP is considerably more daring, each track pulsating with layers of samples and synths.

Beginning with the sound of a ticking clock that soon grows into an intense drumbeat rife with kinetic energy, “Rice Rain” takes a sharp left when it slowly descends. Piano riffs, heavily distorted vocals and synthesized water droplets contribute to this effect, resulting in a sound that is pleasantly intricate.

“Pearls” has the most elaborate use of layering, yet no one sound overpowers another. The musical drops are jagged and unanticipated, yet never cease to be engaging. They end cleanly and re-establish themselves strongly throughout the rest of the track.

“Wedding Bells” has evolved outside the electronic dance music spectrum. Its unpredictability may frustrate some listeners but by no means pushes them away. Instead, it attracts the senses with its complex design. The best part of each song isn’t the beat drop — Cashmere manipulates this necessary part of any electric track and uses it to his advantage, keeping it appealing and mysterious without stepping over the line into boredom.

ALBUM REVIEW
Cashmere Cat
“Wedding Bells”
LuckyMe Records
Our rating: ★★★★★

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1:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:10 p.m. and 9:50 p.m.

THE LEGO MOVIE ★★★★★
11:40 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:20 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 5:45 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 8:20 p.m., 10 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.

THE MONUMENTS MEN ★★½
1 p.m., 3:50 p.m., 6:40 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

ENDLESS LOVE
12:20 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:20 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.

ROBOCOP ★★½
11:50 a.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:45 p.m. and 10:15 p.m.

WINTER’S TALE
12:30 p.m., 3:40 p.m., 6:55 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.

ABOUT LAST NIGHT
2:10 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT ★★½
2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:10 p.m. and 10:40 p.m.

THE NUT JOB ★★½
11:30 a.m. and 1:45 p.m.

RIDE ALONG ★½
12:10 p.m., 2:50 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 7:50 p.m. and 10:20 p.m.

AMERICAN HUSTLE
6:50 p.m. and 9:55 p.m.

FROZEN ★★★★★
12 a.m., 2:40 p.m., 5:10 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

OUR RATINGS

- Excellent ★★★★★
- Good ★★★★
- Fair ★★★
- Poor ★

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3/5	Single Squatting for Fall 2014 on HomerConnect (start time 9:00 a.m.)
3/18	Residential Learning Community and Substance Free Applications due on
3/21	Residential Learning Community and Substance Free Approvals posted on
3/24	Residential Learning Community Selection and Substance free selection on
3/27	Single Selection for students with 3+ semester for Fall 2014 on HomerConnect
4/7	Summer Wait List and Vacancy forms available at the Office of Residential Life
4/21	Summer Wait List and Vacancy forms due at the Office of Residential Life
5/5	Block Housing Applications due at the Office of Residential Life by 5:00 p.m.
7/7	Block Housing Awards Communicated
7/14	Sophomore selection on HomerConnect (7:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.)
7/16	Sophomore selection on HomerConnect (7:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.)

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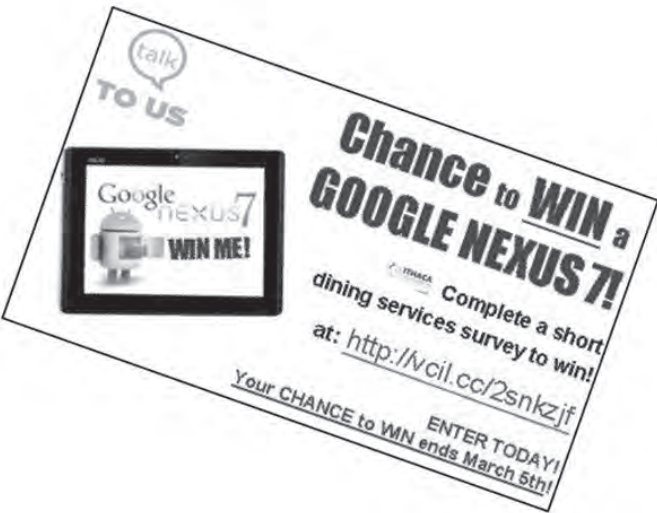
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reject corner

By Alice Blehart '16



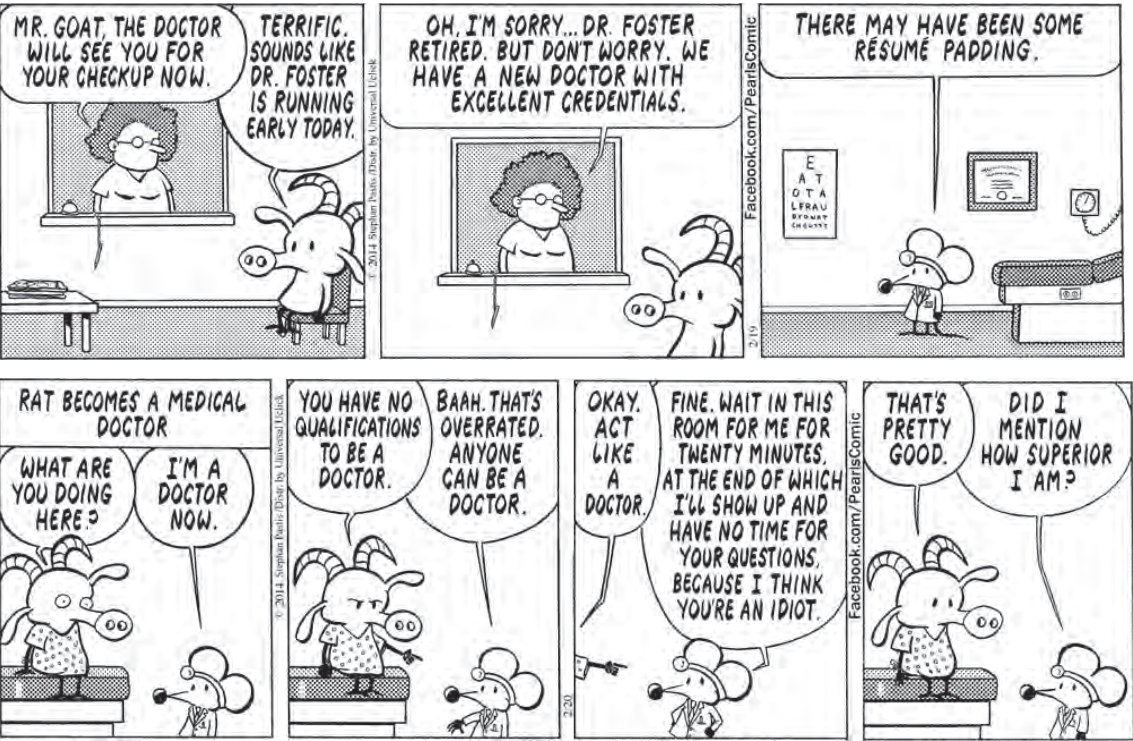
dormin' norman

By Jonathan Schuta '14



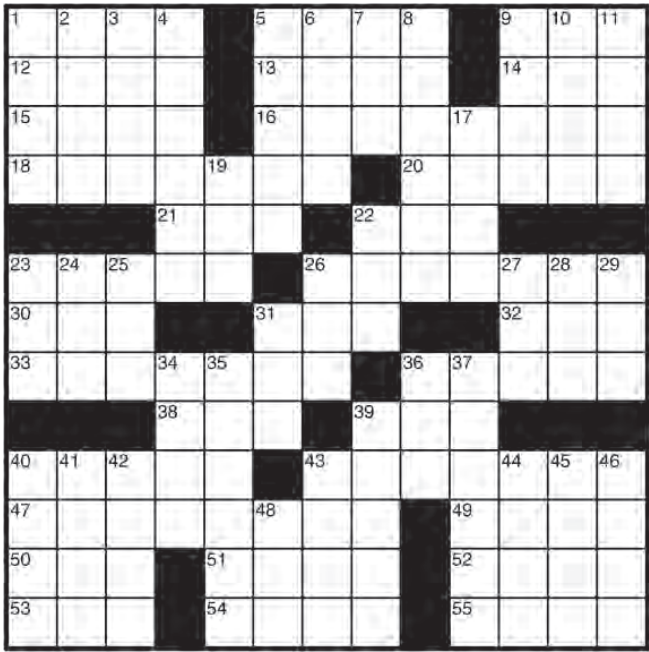
Pearls Before Swine®

By Stephan Pastis



crossword

By United Media



ACROSS

- 1 The "I"
- 5 Forest grazer
- 9 Cakelike cookie
- 12 Irish Rose's guy
- 13 Gumbo veggie
- 14 Future fish
- 15 Pakistan's language
- 16 Crow's-nest occupant
- 18 Scribbled
- 20 That place
- 21 Support
- 22 Give -- break
- 23 Pasture entrance
- 26 Cruise stops
- 30 Skirt border
- 31 Burrow
- 32 Model, to begin with
- 33 Takes place
- 36 Emerson opus
- 38 Masseuse employer
- 39 Trigger's rider
- 40 Mural base

- 43 Plant nursery
- 47 Awful
- 49 Exploding star
- 50 A, to Helmut
- 51 Collies do it
- 52 Idyllic spot
- 53 After taxes
- 54 Rock back and forth
- 55 Football cheer

DOWN

- 1 Faisal succeeded him
- 2 Iberian river
- 3 Chic beach resort
- 4 Medieval
- 5 Gave medicine
- 6 Barely managed
- 7 Age
- 8 White-water enthusiast
- 9 Unwanted guest
- 10 State definitely
- 11 Hard to get
- 17 Obsessed whaler

- 19 Embroider, maybe
- 22 -- wheels (sporty rims)
- 23 Quiet sound
- 24 Afternoon social
- 25 Mischief-maker
- 26 That fellow's
- 27 Gives authorization to
- 28 Narrow inlet
- 29 Messy place
- 31 Spiral molecule
- 34 Furtive whisper
- 35 Historical periods
- 36 Job-ad letters
- 37 Aussie city
- 39 "I Am Woman" performer
- 40 Dancer -- Verdon
- 41 Great Lakesport
- 42 Dropped in the mail
- 43 Immunity shots
- 44 Foreshadow
- 45 Mr. Knieval
- 46 Boone, informally
- 48 Wield an axe

last week's crossword answers



sudoku

easy

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

medium

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

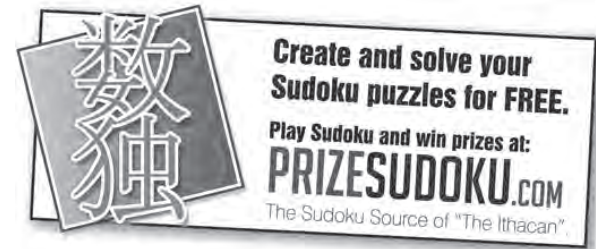
answers to last week's sudoku

Medium

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

Very Hard

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





Making the jump

Equestrian team
seeks varsity sport status

Senior Vicky Weber rides in the novice fences during the Cornell University Horse Show at the Oxley Equestrian Center on Feb. 16. Weber qualified for Regionals in Alfred, N.Y.
AMANDA DEN HARTOG/THE ITHACAN

BY MARK WARREN
STAFF WRITER

Senior Sarah Apgar walks along the salted sidewalk toward the Oxley Equestrian Center at Cornell University on Feb. 16. As she opens the glass front doors, which fogged because of the cold, the familiar smell of dirt and hay wafts up her nostrils.

Overhead, dim fluorescent lights illuminate the 250 foot by 90 foot arena as the Ithaca College equestrian team joins 11 other schools from around New York state to compete at the last Cornell Show of the season. The faint thud of hooves softly echoes throughout the facility as Cornell's riders warm up prior to the show. Hanging over the riders near the ceiling are 24 red banners, which signify each National Championship Cornell's accomplished varsity team has won in the program's history — an honor Ithaca's club team would one day like to receive.

The Ithaca College equestrian team is an on-campus club founded 17 years ago that has been trying to gain recognition as a varsity sport. Until then, the team is limited in its practice time because of financial constraints and team status. This also translates into competitions, as Apgar said she and the rest of her team are at a disadvantage before they even mount their horses.

"We use Cornell's horses, which a lot of us haven't ever ridden before," she said. "We get no warm-up, whereas if we hosted our own shows, we would have that advantage that Cornell and other varsity programs have."

In 2012, ICET member Kathleen Burns '12 began to vie for the team to gain varsity status when the college needed to add a women's sport to comply with Title IX legislation. When sculling was chosen in 2012 to become the newest women's varsity sport, the equestrian team was left behind.

After the decision was made to keep the team as a club sport, ICET president Sarah Farmer-Smith said she was told by an Office of Intercollegiate Athletics staff member to temper the team's advocacy for varsity status when she became club president in the fall of 2012.

For a club team to request varsity sport

status, the organization's head officer submits a form to the athletics office. Then it must receive a recommendation from the college's Gender Equity Committee, which meets annually to review the college's athletic teams and its compliance with Title IX requirements.

Next, several aspects of the sport are reviewed, including coaching availability, competition at the varsity level in the region and the amount of local recruiting available for the sport. After this is considered, the committee can recommend the sport to President Tom Rochon, who then makes the final decision.

Michelle Manning, assistant director of intercollegiate athletics, said the college is not ready to add a varsity team for the next academic year. Despite the wait, ICET

because the college doesn't provide transportation for clubs.

Once at the farm, riders are given the choice to practice either once or twice per week. While members are not required to compete in shows, the 12 riders who choose to compete typically practice twice per week, Farmer-Smith said. Fees vary each year, but once-a-week riders will pay between \$300 and \$500 while those who opt for the maximum practice time will pay between \$600 and \$800.

Meanwhile, Cornell University provides the 30 members of its equestrian team riding lessons at no cost. The university also provides box stalls for horses on campus.

The limited amount the team can practice affects its performance. Schechter said the

athletes ride their horses through three to four course cycles, and they cool down by walking their horses out until their heartbeat returns to resting rate.

Apgar said the team is limited in not only its practice time, but also team workouts, which improves team unity.

"It is really expensive — we pay out of pocket for lessons," she said. "We also can't have team workouts. Looking at the Cornell team, they're riding so many more times a week, and they're lifting and going to the gym, and it doesn't cost [riders] nearly as much money."

Apgar also said riders should ideally practice three to four times a week. Vrabel said varsity status would level the playing field for when the team competes at events and shows.

"More practice time would allow us to become more competitive," Apgar said. "We compete against varsity schools such as Cornell and Alfred, and while we have become a very competitive team, it's hard when we're only allowed to practice one-fourth the time that they are practicing."

Vrabel admitted she can't practice as much as she'd like because of the steep cost of lessons.

Last year, the ICET finished second in the regional standing behind Alfred. Farmer-Smith said she was surprised at how well the team has been doing since she has been involved, even despite limited practice time.

"I would say during the last four years we have definitely become a strong force to be reckoned with," she said.

Farmer-Smith also said the riders' strong performances have caused others to take notice of the team, including competitors and potential recruits. She said performing well at competitions may convince the athletics office to grow the program and provide additional resources to help offset travel and equipment expenses.

ICET member junior Maria Amalia Van Buskirk said though making the ICET a varsity sport would take a concerted effort by the athletics office at the college, she is optimistic that it is listening.

"The hard part is it takes a lot of money, and there would have to be a facility," Van Buskirk said. "It would definitely be a huge commitment by the school, but the idea has been brought up a few times, and I think they're definitely paying attention."

ONLINE

To see the equestrian team compete at the Cornell Horse Show, visit <http://theithacan.org/sports/making-the-jump-equestrian-team-seeks-varsity-status>



The Ithaca College 2013-14 equestrian team holds its banner in the School of Business.

COURTESY OF JESSICA MERRILL

member sophomore Krista Vrabel said the team is remaining optimistic that its proposals will eventually convince the athletics office to add equestrian as the 28th varsity sport.

"There has been talk of ICET becoming a varsity sport, and our entire team would be ecstatic if that were to happen," Vrabel said. "I believe every single team member wants us to go varsity and hopes that it will happen soon."

The ICET currently has 30 members, and seniors Farmer-Smith and vice president Rachel Schechter coordinate the club. Members must pay fees each semester to have access to lessons and the team's practice facility, If Only Farm, in Freeville, N.Y. The facility is a 15-minute drive from campus, and team members carpool to practice and events

team would like varsity status because it's currently fighting an uphill battle at events. The teams the riders compete against, like Cornell University and Alfred University, are certified varsity programs, and they practice more, which allows them to form greater chemistry with their horses and hone their technique.

"Most sports you practice every day, and because we don't, we're at a little bit more of a disadvantage," she said. "Right now, most of us ride once or twice per week, which is a lot less than other varsity teams we compete against."

According to Vrabel, the club's routine consists of bringing its horses in, grooming them and then tacking up — outfitting the horse with a saddle, stirrups, bridles, halters, reins, bits and harnesses prior to riding. After that,



KRISTY'S
CORNER

ANDREW KRISTY

Olympic games are always special

“Legit the best time ever over here!”

Senior Sarah Hassett, a television-radio and international communications student, said this in a Facebook message Feb. 14, the morning after Team USA swept the podium in slopestyle skiing at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. She later apologized for the lack of professionalism, but the apology was not necessary. The Olympics are actually the best time ever.

I was in London in 2012 interning with NBC Sports, just as Hassett and 33 other students from Ithaca College are now. The Olympics are an experience and create an environment unlike any other atmosphere in the world.

Sure, the biggest story of the Olympics was Sochi’s inability to be ready for the world’s microscope. Sochi was warmer than Florida on Feb. 12, hotel accommodations have been trifling and dubious political standpoints have hung a veil over the games. There were and still are problems, but let’s focus on the core instead of the bruises.

Think about it: 88 countries gathered together for one purpose. Can you recall any other highly publicized event that can do that? All for a sporting event.

“The best part was being able to see all of the Olympic venues before anyone arrived,” Hassett said. “Seeing them go from being completely empty to filled with hundreds of thousands of people was an incredible experience.”

Hassett said her favorite part of the Olympics wasn’t attending multiple events, getting to speak with all of the 32 athletes who qualified for slopestyle skiing or getting pictures with gold medalist Joss Christensen and silver medalist Gus Kenworthy. She said the best part was the aura surrounding the Olympics.

There is something mystical about the Olympics. From the trading of pins that transcends language barriers, to the hordes of people walking around Olympic Park flaunting the colors of their countries, this is an event where everyone is united.

Even if you disagree with how prevalent it is in contemporary times, the fact that “The Olympic Spirit” is a well-known saying is meaningful. In 2008, the Agence France-Presse wrote, “True Olympic Spirit is found away from gold medalists with their agents and sponsorship deals — it is found in its purest sense in those that come last.”

For example, snowboarders from different countries wishing one another good luck prior to runs they are all competing in illustrates this ethos. This is a sport untied from the corporations that rule professional leagues.

The Olympics are not perfect, but in sports, they hold the throne.

ANDREW KRISTY is a senior journalism major. Follow him on Twitter @andrewkristy.

THE BOMBER ROUNDUP

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

MEN’S BASKETBALL BY GIL GUO

The men’s basketball team was able to split its weekend games Feb. 14–15 with a 69–68 loss against Elmira College and an 86–84 win against Utica College.

Against the Soaring Eagles, the Bombers held a four-point halftime lead. However, Elmira made a second half push and hit a game-winning layup with about three seconds remaining. Senior forward Frank Mitchell and senior center Tom Sweeney each finished the game with 16 points for the Bombers.

The Blue and Gold came away with a victory against Utica on Senior Day. Mitchell hit the game-winning layup with four seconds left to play to take the lead. Sweeney blocked a final attempt by Elmira to secure the win. Mitchell and junior guard Max Masucci each had 20 points in the win. Masucci also had six 3-pointers in the game.

The 7–17 Bombers finish their season at 4 p.m. Feb. 22, facing the Alfred University Saxons in Alfred, N.Y.

WRESTLING BY MEGHAN GRAHAM

The wrestling team lost No. 9–ranked Wilkes College 23–9 on Feb. 14 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Junior Kristopher Schimek reached 100 career wins with a victory in the meet. Schimek, senior Dominick Giacalone and freshman Matt Booth were the only members of the Blue and Gold to win in their respective weight classes.

Schimek has won 27 matches by major decision at 165 pounds this season. Giacalone came back from an injury during his match and defeated his opponent Michael Fleck by a 3–2 decision. Booth improved his record to 17–9, with a 6–2 victory by decision.

Losses from the meet came from junior Anthony Cabrera at 125 pounds, sophomore Eamonn Gaffney at 149 pounds, freshman Carlos Toribio at 174 pounds and senior Shane Bartrum at 285 pounds. The South Hill squad also lost one point during the match for unsportsmanlike conduct.

The Bombers return to action in their last dual-meet of the season at 7 p.m. Feb. 19 in Ben Light Gymnasium against No. 5–ranked SUNY Cortland.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL BY KERLINE BATISTA

The 20–4 women’s basketball team finished off the weekend Feb. 14–15 with two victories against Empire 8 Conference teams. The two wins extended the Bombers’ winning streak to 12 games.

The Blue and Gold walked out of Ben Light Gymnasium on Feb. 14 with a 63–57 victory against the Elmira College Soaring Eagles. Senior guard Kathryn Campbell led all Bombers with 17 points, while senior Jenn Escobido scored 13 points and had 10 rebounds. The Bombers had trouble controlling Elmira senior Jessica Zoltowski, who led the Soaring Eagles with 27 points.

But, the South Hill squad hit three 3-pointers in the first half and opened up an 18-point lead at halftime. Despite a late Elmira surge, the Bombers held on for a six-point victory.

The last home game for the Bombers came Feb. 15 when they defeated Utica College by a score of 64–53. In honor of Senior Day, head coach Dan Raymond altered the usual starting lineup and started all of the seniors on the team: Kathryn Campbell, Jenn Escobido, Mary Kate Tierney, Renee Metzger and Elisabeth Wentlent. The seniors combined for 40 points and 17 assists. Junior forward Geena Brady tied Jenn Escobido with 13 points scored.

The Blue and Gold will face Alfred University for the final game of the regular season at 4 p.m. Feb. 22 in Alfred, N.Y.



Freshman Nicole Razzano performs her bars routine at the Harriet Marranca Memorial Gymnastics Invitational on Feb. 15 against SUNY Brockport and Rhode Island College in Ben Light Gymnasium.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS/THE ITHACAN

TRACK & FIELD BY NICK MARCATELLI

The men’s and women’s track and field teams competed Feb. 15–16 at the Ithaca Bomber Invitational and Multi in Glazer Arena, which was the last indoor meet at home for both squads.

The men’s team hit five East Coast Athletic Conference qualifiers. Junior Rashaad Barrett placed third in the 60 meters dash with a time of 7.06 seconds, while fellow junior Dennis Ryan placed third in the 800-meter run clocking in 1:56.90, a personal best.

Senior Brendan Wilkins had the lone highlight in the field events, as he finished third in the high jump with a leap of 1.94 meters.

The women’s team met 10 ECAC qualifiers and won two relay events. Juniors Harmony Graves, Emily Smith, Hannah Wright and Alexa Rick won the Distance Medley Relay with a time of 12:32.10. The Blue and Gold also won the 4x400 meter relay with juniors Alex Lewis and Graves, sophomore Eliza Dewart and freshman Julia Jones finishing in 4:04.46.

In the field meets, freshman Natalie Meyer won the high jump with a height of 1.64 meters.

Both teams will be back in action Feb. 22 at Cornell University’s Deneault Invitational in Barton Hall.

SWIMMING & DIVING BY JONATHAN BECK

The men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams competed at the six-team Ithaca Invitational on Feb. 15 in the Athletics and Events Center Pavilion.

The men opened the meet with a first-place finish in the 200-yard medley relay. The team of freshmen Eddie Mostert and Gregory Markert and sophomores Jon Yoskin and Jeremy Kingsley clocked in a time of 1:39:36.

Senior Charles Thomas had a dominating day, securing second place in both the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke. He finished in times of 1:01.71 and 2:17.16, respectively.

On the women’s team, junior Christine Zulkosky took first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:00.82.

The Bombers will begin the postseason hosting the 2014 Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Championships at the A&E Center. The event is four days, beginning at 10 a.m. Feb. 19 and concluding Feb. 22.

GYMNASTICS BY ALEXIS FORDE

The gymnastics team was able to secure its first win of the season, moving their record to 1–8 Feb. 15, scoring its highest team score so far at the Harriett Marranca Memorial Invitational against Rhode Island College and SUNY Brockport in Ben Light Gymnasium.

The annual meet was in honor of Harriet Marranca, founder of the gymnastics program. The team also wore pink to raise awareness for breast cancer.

In the meet, the South Hill squad placed second with a score of 176.775, SUNY Brockport placed first with a score of 186.900 and Rhode Island College placed third with a score of 173.575.

Sophomore Lara Haberle led the Bombers on the beam with a career-best score of 9.550, which tied her for first with freshman Jennifer Sklenar of Brockport.

Sophomore Megan Harrington was the only all-around gymnast for the Bombers at the meet. Harrington scored a 9.175 on the vault to place ninth overall, a 9.300 on the bars, an 8.750 on the beam and a 9.525 on her floor exercise. Harrington placed first in all-around with a total score of 36.750.

Senior Shilanna Gallo had the highest score on uneven bars with a score of 9.375, placing second overall. Freshman Ingrid Calfee and senior Rani Jacobson also performed well on the vault. Calfee scored 9.350 and placed fifth overall, and Jacobson scored 9.325, placing seventh.

The Blue and Gold will be competing at 11 a.m. March 1 in Ben Light Gymnasium to face SUNY Cortland.

I
SPORTS

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Senior leaders assist emerging freshmen

BY MARK WARREN
STAFF WRITER

Senior forward Jenn Escobido guards freshman guard Ali Ricchiuti during their women's basketball team practice Feb. 6 in Ben Light Gymnasium. Ricchiuti crosses over and Escobido swipes for a steal, losing her handle momentarily but then regaining it. Simultaneously, Escobido offers her teammate some advice and demonstrates techniques, a teaching method which has helped Ricchiuti and her fellow freshmen on the team develop into productive players off the bench.

Senior guards Mary Kate Tierney, Elisabeth Wentlent and Kathryn Campbell join Escobido as leaders for the Bombers. Last season as juniors, the team finished with a 27–3 record, won the Empire 8 Conference Championship Tournament and advanced to the Sweet 16 round of the Division III NCAA Championship Tournament before losing in overtime to No. 19–ranked Williams College on March 8.

Ricchiuti said having a solid core of captains with NCAA tournament experience is beneficial to the development of younger players.

"It's like having a coach on the court at all times," she said.

Head coach Dan Raymond has applauded the initiative his seniors take to be leaders of the squad. He said each captain brings her distinct personality to the team, and the continued effort to help develop the younger players puts pressure

on opponents to improve.

"There are so many facets to what [the young players] provide for us," he said. "It's not just what everybody sees here on the game floor, but it's also in practice. Their continued improvement means that the players have to improve, so it's that cycle that's in a really good place right now and cycling up."

Ricchiuti is not the only first-year player thriving in this system. Freshman forward Erin Ferguson was named Empire 8 Women's Rookie of the Week on Feb. 10 for her contributions to the team's three wins from Feb. 4–8. She was efficient off the bench for the Blue and Gold, averaging nearly eight points and four rebounds while only playing 13 minutes per game.

Ferguson said the seniors are supportive of younger players, but they don't hesitate to take charge on the court if the team is struggling.

"[The seniors] help us when we get down on ourselves, and they'll take the team on their shoulders if we need them to," Ferguson said.

The Bombers have now won 12 straight games. From Feb. 14–15, the seniors played their final two regular season home games against Elmira College and Utica College. Junior forward Geena Brady said the energy the captains had during that stretch extended to the whole team.

"Our seniors lead by example and by how hard they play," she said. "We see how fired up they get, and that makes us fired up. It was great to win



From left, freshman guard Ali Ricchiuti defends senior Jessica Zoltowski of Elmira College during the women's basketball team's game Feb. 15 in Ben Light Gymnasium. The Bombers defeated the Soaring Eagles 63–57.
BRIAN PULLING/THE ITHACAN

for them during Senior Weekend."

Senior players have encouraged Ricchiuti to be more aggressive when driving to the lane and getting to the hoop more. They also told her to take more shots and trust in her ability. Ricchiuti said the tutelage of her senior teammates has helped her improve drastically.

"They've definitely helped me with having more confidence and being more aggressive on offense as

well as defense," she said.

Ricchiuti did not score in her first six games as a Bomber, but as the season went on, Ricchiuti said, she found herself playing more and converting more field goals.

Campbell said she is excited for what Ricchiuti can bring the team by providing a well-rounded scorer on the court while the starters rest.

"I think she can be a huge threat going forward now that she's got

some confidence in her game," she said. "She can go off of the dribble, she has an outside shot."

Tierney's eyes lit up as she talked about Ricchiuti's talent. She said Ricchiuti's contributions can continue the team's string of success.

"She's athletic, she gets to the basket and she's just a good hard-working kid," Tierney said. "That's something that is always important to have on your team."

Israeli team selects junior midfielder for international competition

BY MEGHAN GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

Though the men's lacrosse team's schedule only lasts for two months, junior midfielder Matt Greenblatt will continue to play into the summer on a schedule that is much longer than those of most collegiate players.

The Israel Lacrosse Association announced in the beginning of February that it selected Greenblatt to compete with the men's team for the 2014 Federation of International Lacrosse World Championships in Denver this July. Greenblatt participated in interviews, played in scrimmages and endured a two-week tryout to be one of the 46 players selected to be on the team out of approximately 150 men. The Federation of International Lacrosse was established in 2008 and holds the international championships annually.

Greenblatt traveled to Israel on a Birthright trip in the summer of 2013 with the Mayanot Israel organization. A Birthright is an all-expense paid trip to Israel for Jewish Americans aged 18–22 to understand more about their religion and heritage. Greenblatt's birthright happened to fall a couple of weeks before the tryout.

While wearing the official Israel Lacrosse Association polo shirt, he said it was an unexpected but fortunate coincidence.

"Once my Birthright ended, they had a league where we could just play in the cities," Greenblatt said. "I had a great experience of being with everybody and being in Israel."

The Israel Lacrosse Association was founded by Scott Neiss in 2010. During Neiss' Birthright, he realized that lacrosse hadn't been discovered in Israel. He created the team with financial and organizational assistance from the Federation of International Lacrosse.

Recently, many college players have been moving to Israel to promote and build up the program. Greenblatt said though he had trouble communicating with some of the Israeli



Junior midfielder Matt Greenblatt catches the ball in his stick during the men's lacrosse team's practice Feb. 17 at Higgins Stadium. Greenblatt was second on the team with 64 faceoff wins.
ANTHONY MEKOS/THE ITHACAN

players on the team, the experience was nothing short of rewarding. Greenblatt became friends with other players who were staying in Israel to try out. The players worked together to help Israeli children learn lacrosse.

"We would do clinics with little kids," he said. "Although I couldn't communicate with these kids because they speak Hebrew, I was able to tell them what to do by playing lacrosse.

It was a form of communication."

After the two weeks of preparation, tryouts were held at the Wingate Institute, the Israeli Olympic facility. About 70 percent of those trying out were American citizens. The other 30 percent were Israeli. The federation will divide the 46 players picked in Israel into two teams of 23 when the team travels to Denver in July. One team will play exhibition matches

against various countries. The other will be given the opportunity to play in the championships, which Greenblatt calls the "Olympics of lacrosse."

Last season, Greenblatt had 64 faceoff victories and scored one goal on the season. Working in the offseason, Greenblatt said Jeff Long, 26-year head coach of the men's lacrosse team, is pushing him to be his best before the games. Long said he is not surprised that Greenblatt was chosen for this position.

"He is just one of those guys that does everything when no one is watching," Long said. He's always putting the extra time in down low and working out in the weight room."

Long said he hopes Greenblatt will gain experience and come back for his senior season not just improved as a player, but improved as a person as well.

"I think that it benefits him way beyond that in terms of interaction with people on his team," he said. "It's the experience of a lifetime to compete for a country or for your heritage. Hopefully, he will come back a better player and more worldly individual."

Greenblatt's colleague, Cole McCormick, a senior lacrosse player at Division I Cornell University, has also been selected for the Israel Lacrosse team. He said Greenblatt is a teammate that everyone wants to have.

"He doesn't stop moving," McCormick said. "He works so hard. He's really shifty, super fast and is one of those guys that you see going hard no matter what."

Greenblatt said he is grateful for his Birthright because it gave him the opportunity to learn more about his heritage. Before going to Israel, Greenblatt said, he didn't pay attention to his heritage, but returned more aware.

"I came back a lot more proud," he said. "It's just awesome to be able to put on that jersey with the Star of David on the front and my name on the back. I take a lot more pride in saying, 'I'm Jewish.'"

Freshman swimmer plunges into prominent team role

BY JONATHAN BECK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It is 4 p.m. at the Athletics and Events Center Aquatics Pavilion, and the pool is still, waiting for a body to make some splashes and stir up the water. Freshman swimmer Grace Ayer has produced major waves this season in the pool, impressing many opponents and spectators who have seen her perform.

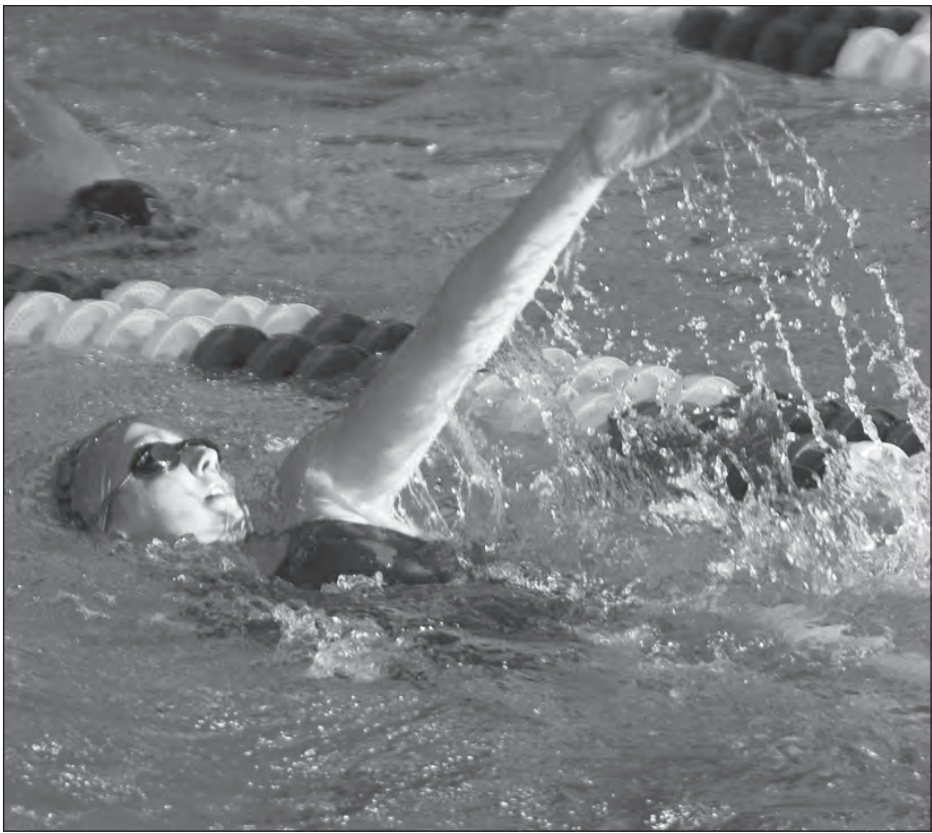
As she begins to take her warm-up laps, the smell of chlorine is in the warm, misty air and pump-up music plays in the background. Ayer takes a break to catch her breath and looks up at the record board containing the names of the many former swimmers who have worn the Ithaca College swim cap and accomplished so much in their collegiate careers, as many expect her to do.

Ayer, who graduated from Bethlehem High School in Delmar, N.Y., last spring, has won half of her individual events, with 17 so far this season. Her high school team is known for its notoriously good swimming program, where she earned five varsity letters and was a part of the Section II State Champion team in 2011. She was also the Section II Champion in the 100-yard breaststroke in 2010.

Unsure of what to expect in the beginning of the collegiate season, Ayer said, she has been able to make a bigger impact on the team because there was no initial pressure to succeed as a freshman.

"I came in here not knowing what to expect," Ayer said. "It helped me to focus. I went with the flow and absolutely loved it."

With the 2014 Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association Championships and the Empire 8 Championships beginning Feb. 19, the women's swimming and diving freshman class has proved it could make a significant impact this season — especially with Ayer's contributions. The Bombers enter the meet undefeated at 11–0 and ranked 16th in the country, positioned to



Freshman swimmer Grace Ayer practices her backstroke during the women's swimming and diving team's workout Feb. 18 at the Athletics and Events Center Aquatics Pavilion.
COREY HESS/THE ITHACAN

capture their first Empire 8 title since 2012. During Paula Miller's 27 seasons as head coach, the Bombers have finished in the top 10 at the NCAA Division III championship 12 times and have twice placed fourth in the meet. Miller said Ayer will be a key factor toward success this year.

"She is very well-balanced with tremendous talent," Miller said. "She is not just pigeonholed at one event. It is sometimes challenging though because — for example, at States — she could score in any event. It is a curse in one

way, but a blessing in another." Miller said she has made a strong impact on the team in her first season with the Bombers. Most notably, she has been named Empire 8 Conference Women's Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Week twice this season. Leading all swimmers in nine different categories, including the 100-yard freestyle and 200-yard butterfly, Ayer has totaled for almost double her output in points for the scoring meets during the course of the season. Last year, the Bombers went undefeated, as

they hope to do again this year. They sent two senior swimmers and three overall divers to the NCAA Championships. The team graduated 11 seniors from its roster last season, but ended up recruiting 17 swimmers and two divers to fill in for the swimmers it lost. Miller hoped at the beginning of the season that her team could stay as healthy as possible while training as hard as it could. The women look to win the Empire 8 and to qualify as many swimmers and divers as they can for Nationals.

Ayer said the freshman class has many talented first-year swimmers who have helped her train hard during practices and given her support in and out of the pool. "We use each other as a support system," Ayer said. "The hardest thing is seeing your teammate being injured and have them sitting out because we want everyone to have a chance to swim. We care about each other's races and not just our own."

During practice, Ayer and her teammates converse about ways to correct their strokes. As they work on longer distances, she can hear her teammates shouting her name, giving her motivation and the last ounce of energy she needs to finish the rep, Ayer said.

Before every meet, the seniors gather in the locker room and make a motivational, heartwarming speech and play music to get their teammates awake and focused. For the upcoming meet, those five seniors will be swimming to motivate the freshman class and keep their final season alive.

Senior captain Elizabeth Gawrys said the impact of the freshman class will dramatically improve the structure and the outlook of the team in the future.

"It is going to make the team grow and become stronger overall," Gawrys said. "If they can stick with the program long-term, they can be very powerful. This team is capable of setting a new standard."

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Top Tweets

The best sports commentary via Twitter from this past week.



The Fake ESPN @TheFakeESPN

TJ Oshie rides off into sunset on motorcycle wearing American Flag cape while bald eagles rest on each of his shoulders.



Korked Bats @korkedbats

In preparation for his Valentine's Day date tonight, Manti Te'o runs to CompUSA to pick up some extra discs of free AOL hours.



Not Bill Walton @NotBillWalton

Matt Lauer has replaced Bob Costas as NBC's Olympics host. Looks like Costas will be taking the Red Eye flight from Sochi back to the US.



SportsPickle @sportspickle

The obvious explanation for why Richie Incognito thought this report would exonerate him is that he can't read.



Making a splash

Senior Andrew Walker, an Aqua Zumba trainer, instructs his swimmers during an Aqua Zumba session Feb. 17 in the Athletics and Events Center Aquatics Pavilion. Classes are available Mondays and Thursday at 12:15 p.m.

MATT COLGAN/THE ITHACAN

PLAYER of the week

NAME: TOM SWEENEY
SPORT: BASKETBALL
CLASS: SENIOR



Senior center Tom Sweeney had a strong weekend for the men's basketball team. In the Bombers' 86-84 win against Utica College on Feb. 15, Sweeney blocked a layup in the final seconds to secure the Blue and Gold's victory on Senior Day.

ON This DAY IN...



Important moments in professional and Bombers sports history.

PRO SPORTS HISTORY 1998

American figure skater Tara Lipinski won the Olympic figure skating gold medal at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. She became the youngest ladies Olympic figure skating champion in Winter Olympics history, winning the gold at the age of 15. Her record was not broken until this year's Winter Olympics, when Russian figure skater Yulia Lipnitskaya won the gold at 15. Lipnitskaya was six days younger than Lipinski was when she broke the record.

BOMBERS SPORTS HISTORY 2009 The women's swimming and diving team had two swimmers in the 100-yard breaststroke qualify for the NCAA "A" Provisional Qualifying Standard at the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association at Nottingham High School in Syracuse, N.Y. Lauren Botterbusch '09 and Becca Blazak '11 finished first and second, respectively. With times of 1:03:31 for Botterbusch and 1:04:60 for Blazak, they have the two fastest times in the 100-yard breaststroke in Bomber history.

MILES SURREY'S FANTASY CORNER

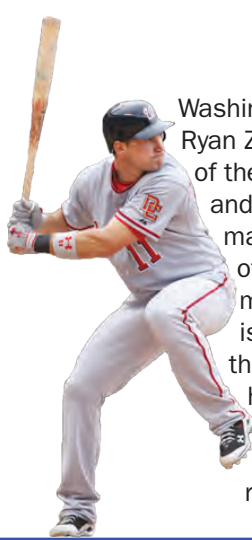
With the MLB season fast approaching, here are two hitters you should target in the draft.

MATT KEMP LOS ANGELES DODGERS



After only missing 11 total games between 2008 and 2011, Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Matt Kemp has missed more than 100 games in the past two seasons combined. It's always a risk to draft a player with a recent injury history, but the reward could be a top-10 overall fantasy player. It wasn't long ago that Matt Kemp was an MVP candidate, totaling 39 home runs and 40 stolen bases to go with a .324 batting average in 2011. Any owners looking to take a chance in the middle rounds should target Kemp.

RYAN ZIMMERMAN WASHINGTON NATIONALS



Washington Nationals third baseman Ryan Zimmerman has been at the heart of the National's lineup since 2006, and he is a major reason the team may make the playoffs. With 11 of his 26 home runs last season made in September, Zimmerman is hoping to begin the season with the same momentum that made him one of the game's most dominant third basemen. If Zimmerman is lurking in the middle rounds of your draft, pick him up.

They said it

There's absolutely no doubt in my mind that this is the most scientific suit in the whole world. These guys make F-16 fighter jets. If they can invade Afghanistan and Iraq, they can build a speedskating suit.

American speed skater Patrick Meek, when asked about the speedskating suits designed for the U.S. skaters by Under Armour and Lockheed Martin. The suits have been a topic of debate because of the poor performance of the country's speed skaters at the Winter Olympics in Sochi.





Olympic speed skater and gold medalist Apolo Anton Ohno, center, stands with senior Brittany Romano and juniors Chris Carpenter, Eric Westfield, Travis Collins and Jeff Dirdack.
COURTESY OF JEFF DIRDACK



Junior Jeff Dirdack stands under the Olympic rings outside of a Sochi Winter Olympic Games venue.
COURTESY OF JEFF DIRDACK



Junior Edward Bohn sits on a curb in front of the bobsled track at the Sochi Olympic Games.
COURTESY OF EDWARD BOHN

IC AT SOCHI

Thirty-four Ithaca College students from the Roy H. Park School of Communications were selected to intern at the XXII Sochi Winter Olympic Games. They sent in photos of their experiences at the games.



Juniors Stephanie Khoury and Michael Sadwith pose at the ski hill.
COURTESY OF MICHAEL SADWITH