



# THE ITHACAN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016 • VOLUME 84, ISSUE 13

## PREPARING TO FIGHT

Junior Shannon Davis made the switch to boxing after suffering two concussions from wrestling. **Page 23**



## GO LOCAL

With more local papers shutting down, reader donations can be another way to keep them afloat. **Page 9**

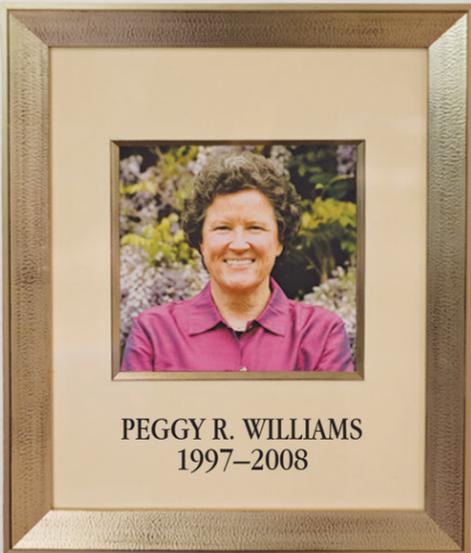
## GIRL POWER

Women's empowerment organizations on campus create a network of support and advocacy. **Page 15**

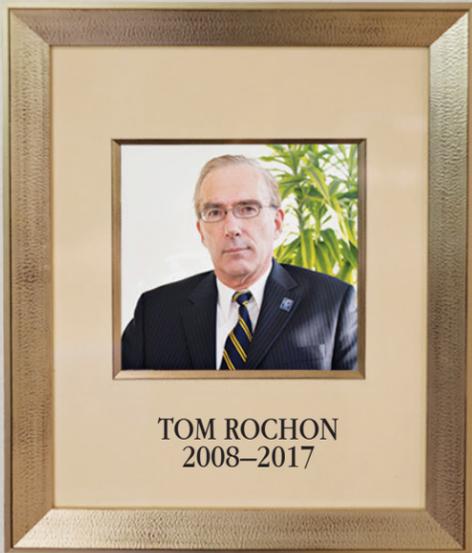
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY FERNANDO FERRAZ



J. WHALEN  
5-1997



PEGGY R. WILLIAMS  
1997-2008



TOM ROCHON  
2008-2017



# OUT IN THE OPEN

Higher education institutions across the country trend toward using closed presidential searches

BY SIERRA GUARDIOLA AND SOPHIA TULP  
STAFF WRITERS

While Ithaca College is still conducting an open presidential search to find its next president, colleges across the country are increasingly using closed searches to identify theirs. The next steps for the college's search process remains unclear.

The Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges states that open searches feature final candidates interacting with the campus community and are often preferred by faculty, staff and students. In a closed search, candidates meet only with the search committee and must follow strict confidentiality guidelines.

"Many believe that a closed search allows sitting presidents and other high-profile candidates wary of public exposure to explore their interest," the association wrote. "However, it ... requires conversations early in the process to gain buy-in from often-skeptical faculty, students and staff."

Though some experts say this leads to greater satisfaction within the campus community with the final selection in the end,

others say this could limit the applicant pool. In a closed search, the names remain confidential throughout the process.

During protests at the college last fall that brought attention to issues of inclusivity and grievances with President Tom Rochon's tenure, POC at IC expressed a desire for a democratic process to elect the next president.

In May, the Student Government Association, now known as the Student Governance Council, formally requested the search be open.

In a July 1 update, James W. Nolan '77, chair of the presidential search committee, confirmed the search would be open but private until finalists were selected.

"Those finalists will openly engage with the IC community for the final stage of the process," Nolan stated in the update. "This is consistent with the feedback many of you have provided us, and aligned us with similar searches conducted by the college historically."

Nolan's most recent update to the campus community Oct. 17 noted that the search committee was not prepared to

finalize and outline the rest of the search process. At that time, Nolan said the members of the search committee are representing the constituencies of the college.

Tom Grape, chair of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees, said the search has "gone very smoothly" so far and that "a lot of attractive candidates" have applied. Grape said the search is down to "a few finalists" during an interview with *The Ithacan* earlier in November, but the search committee is still sorting out what the final steps of the search process would look like.

### A national trend

Jeff Selinger '95, a higher education columnist for the Washington Post, special adviser and professor of practice at Arizona State University and former editor of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, said the trend in higher education is moving away from open searches, as candidates' current employment statuses may discourage them from applying.

See SEARCH, Page 4

# Citizens concerned for Title IX in Trump presidency

BY SOPHIA ADAMUCCI  
STAFF WRITER

The Republican Party platform's opposition to President Barack Obama's executive expansion of Title IX protections to include gender identity and transgender status, combined with President-elect Donald Trump's silence on the issue, has left many concerned about whether the new provisions will remain in place.

According to the Republican platform for 2016, the Republican Party "supports the original, authentic meaning of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972," which states that educational facilities receiving federal funding cannot discriminate based on gender. The Republican Party's issue regarding Title IX is that the Obama administration "wrongly redefined sex discrimination" by including sexual orientations under Title IX protection.

"They are determined to reshape our schools — and our entire society — to fit the mold of an ideology alien to America's history and traditions," the platform stated. "Their edict to the states concerning restrooms, locker rooms, and other facilities is at once illegal, dangerous, and

ignores privacy issues."

Tiffani Ziemann, Ithaca College's Title IX coordinator, said she is unsure about what will happen to Title IX under the Trump administration because of the lack of conversation regarding Title IX during the election. In its current form, Title IX outlines how sexual assault and violence prevention and education should occur on campus, and how schools should investigate complaints regarding gender discrimination and sexual assault. Each school must have a Title IX coordinator, whose job it is to handle complaints filed under Title IX.

Amanda Lowe, a practicing lawyer in Buffalo, New York, who focuses on harassment and discrimination cases and has worked on Title IX cases, said the president has the power to issue executive orders for Title IX, which Obama has done in the past to expand the coverage of the law without explicit approval from Congress. With Title IX, there has been a movement from the Obama administration to increase the extent of rights covered, like transgender rights,

See TRUMP, Page 4



President-elect Donald Trump speaks during an election-night rally Nov. 9 in New York City. Trump has remained silent on the Republican Party's opposition to the Title IX expansion.

EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

# NATION & WORLD

## Ohio State student who killed 11 upset over treatment of Muslims

The Somali-born student who carried out the car-and-knife attack at Ohio State University stewed over the treatment of Muslims while apparently staying under the radar of federal law enforcement, underscoring the difficulty authorities face in identifying and stopping "lone-wolf attacks."

Abdul Razak Ali Artan was not known to FBI counterterrorism authorities before the Nov. 28 rampage, which ended with Artan shot to death by police and 11 people injured, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

Law enforcement officials have not identified a motive for the Ohio State violence but have suggested terrorism as a possibility. FBI agents continued to search Artan's apartment for clues.

## Tennessee wildfires rapidly reach tourist city in Smoky Mountains

With flames dripping from tree branches like lava and the air filled with embers, thousands of people raced through a hell-like landscape as they fled from wildfires that killed three people and destroyed hundreds of homes and a resort in the Great Smoky Mountains.

The fires spread quickly on the night of Nov. 28, when winds topping 87 mph whipped up the flames, catching residents and tourists in the Gatlinburg area by surprise. Police banged on front doors and told people to get out immediately. Some trekked 20 minutes to catch lifesaving rides on trolleys usually reserved for tours and wedding parties.

In all, more than 14,000 residents and

tourists were forced to evacuate the tourist city in the mountains, where some hotspots persisted and a curfew was planned for Nov. 29.

## Plane crash in Colombia kills 71, including Brazilian soccer team

A chartered plane carrying a Brazilian soccer team to the biggest match in its history crashed into a Colombian hillside and broke into pieces, killing 71 people and leaving six survivors, officials said Nov. 29.

The British Aerospace 146 short-haul plane, operated by a charter airline with roots in Venezuela, declared an emergency and lost radar contact just before 10 p.m. Nov. 28 because of an electrical failure, according to Colombia's aviation agency.

The aircraft, which had departed from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, was carrying the Chapecoense soccer team from southern Brazil for a Nov. 30 Copa Sudamericana final against Atletico Nacional of Medellin.

## Cuban institutions remain closed following death of Fidel Castro

Schools and government offices were closed Nov. 29 for a second day of homage to Fidel Castro, with the day ending in a rally on the wide plaza where the Cuban leader delivered fiery speeches to mammoth crowds in the years after he seized power.

Hundreds of thousands of Cubans have been bidding farewell to Castro, pledging allegiance to his socialist ideology and paying tribute before images of the leader as a young guerrilla gazing out over the country he would come to



## Brazilians protest government action

Protesters stand on an overturned car outside Congress, where senators planned to vote on a spending cap bill and the lower Chamber of Deputies was considering controversial anti-corruption legislation, in Brasilia, Brazil, on Nov. 29. Brazil, home to Latin America's largest economy, is suffering its worst recession in decades.

ERALDO PERES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

rule for nearly a half century.

On Nov. 29, they were joined by two of Castro's firmest ideological allies, presidents Nicolas Maduro of Venezuela and Evo Morales of Bolivia.

## Trump selects Obamacare critic to lead US health care system

Reaching deep into conservative territory, President-elect Donald Trump chose Georgia Rep. Tom Price to oversee the nation's health care system Nov. 29, picking a fierce "Obamacare" critic who also has championed efforts to privatize Medicare. Trump selected another veteran

Republican, Elaine Chao, to lead the Department of Transportation.

Both have long ties to Washington.

Price, picked to lead the Department of Health and Human Services after more than a decade in Congress, helped craft House Speaker Paul Ryan's plan to privatize Medicare — a position Trump opposed in the campaign. Chao, who was the first Asian-American woman to serve in a president's Cabinet, is married to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

# MULTIMEDIA

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### 'The Asman and Budick Show'

Ithaca College seniors Jake Asman and Dan Budick will broadcast their VIC radio show from Radio Row at the 2017 Super Bowl.

### Sports One on One: Nick Velez

Junior wrestler Nick Velez shares his past success in the sport and his goals going into the upcoming season.

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or 274-3207.

# French program faces instability

BY EVAN POPP  
STAFF WRITER

Since the end of the 2014–15 academic year, the Ithaca College French program has relied solely on part-time adjuncts and full-time contingent faculty members hired on one-year contracts, with no tenured or tenure-eligible faculty positions.

Now, a search process is underway to fill a tenure-eligible faculty position in the program, but faculty and students say the program has suffered without any tenure-eligible faculty positions and that one tenure-track position is not enough.

The French program is part of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. The program had three tenure-eligible positions during the 2013–14 academic year. At the conclusion of that academic year, one of these faculty members, Mark Hall, was denied tenure and left the institution. Elizabeth Hall, another tenure-eligible faculty member, took a leave of absence. She was later granted tenure but did not return to the college. The third tenure-track faculty member, Anne Theobald, left after the Spring 2015 semester, leaving the program without any tenured or tenure-track faculty members.

Julia Cozzarelli, assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and former chair of the department, said she asked the provost's office for three tenure-eligible lines two years ago but that none was granted. She said they requested two lines for the program last year and were granted permission to search for one.

Theobald, now an assistant professor of French at Hillsdale College, said in an email she was "outraged and disillusioned" when Mark Hall was denied tenure in Spring 2014.

"I still regret leaving my students, especially since they lost three of their French professors in a very short period of time," Theobald said.

Vincent Wang, dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences, said in an email that he expects the tenure-track professor who will be hired in the French program will begin in the Fall 2017 semester. He said the



Alex Lenoble, lecturer in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, teaches an elementary French class Nov. 30. A search is underway to fill a tenure-eligible faculty position in the French program.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

tenure-track position was approved by the provost in July and is part of the 2017–18 hiring plan "to support and strengthen the French program at Ithaca College with commitment to a teacher-scholar model."

French is the only program at the college that has no tenured or tenure-eligible faculty positions, according to deans and associate deans in the college's five schools.

The lack of a tenure-track faculty position in the French program is part of a larger trend in higher education. In 1969, 78.3 percent of professors were tenure-track. By 2009, that number had dropped to 33.5 percent, while 66.5 percent of professors were ineligible for tenure, according to the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. Part-time and full-time contingent faculty members — who are ineligible for tenure — make up 40 percent of the college's faculty population, *The Ithacan* reported in April.

Junior Chris Kim, who began as

a French major and subsequently switched to sociology with a French minor, said he has seen a revolving door of French professors.

"It seems like we get a new professor every semester, and someone leaves every semester," Kim said. "I've been trying to stay updated. ... They just go in and out so quick."

Bari Doeffinger '03, who was a lecturer in the French program before departing after the Spring 2016 semester, said she's worried that the instability within the faculty that comes with the lack of a tenure-track French position will have an impact on the quality of the program.

"By the time I left, the professors were still excellent, and the students were still excellent, but I was and I am really concerned that the quality of the program, the quality of students and the quality of instructors is going to decrease over time without that stability," she said.

Alex Lenoble, a lecturer in French, said there are three faculty members

who only started teaching in the French program this semester.

Senior David Braddy, a French major, has experienced firsthand the impact the revolving door of professors can have. He said poor academic advising from a professor in the program who has since left the college led to some challenges.

"I can't really blame her though. She's clearly thinking about other things," Braddy said. "But it definitely did impact me in a way because I was in this situation where I didn't know what to do and who to talk to."

The lack of stability makes it difficult to form a community within the program, said junior Elizabeth Alexander, a French minor.

"It's so crucial that we have people that are staying around for more than a semester ... at every level so that within the department, we can have so much more community across lev-

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# FYRE sees increased numbers

BY SAM HAUT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Participation in First-Year Residential Experience programs has nearly doubled in the past two years, largely due to the implementation of a rewards system for attendance, according to surveys conducted by the Office of Residential Life.

The FYRE program has been marketed toward incoming freshmen as a way for students to transition into college life, according to the FYRE webpage. The program hosts events and activities for freshmen to feel more at home in college, said Jacqueline Winslow, director of the FYRE program. These include focus events, or student-learning initiatives, which are educational events with focuses on diversity and inclusion, sustainability, and social and emotional learning, Winslow said.

In 2014, 272 students attended the first focus event held during the fall semester, 17 percent of the freshman class, according to the surveys FYRE conducted for that year. However, at each subsequent event, the turnout fell. The final event for the fall semester recorded 57 students, or three percent of freshmen, according to FYRE data. Data for the Spring 2015 semester is not available.

However, data from the 2015–16 school year show that attendance at the focus events doubled from the year before. In Fall 2015, the average attendance was 30 percent of the freshman class, and in the spring, it was 21 percent. Winslow said lower turnout in the spring is because it is a busy time for students.

The program has gone through many changes over the years, which have been determined by student feedback, Winslow said. Last year, she said, Residential Life began using engagement points to reward students for attending FYRE events.

Winslow said the numbers show a promising increase of student participation in the programs.

"Our hope is to have as many students as possible ... but we are happy with the increases we have been seeing," Winslow said.

Sophomore Joe Cruz, a resident assistant, said an event planned earlier in the year fell through because of low attendance and poor planning since students did not want to commit to a daylong event.

"We were going to go to a farm ... and we needed a certain amount of people to go in order to fund the trip," Cruz said. "We didn't get the funding because no one signed up."

However, Cruz said other events have been successful among students. One event had 30 students participate, which he said was impressive.

Though there is no data collected by the FYRE on smaller floor events, students and RAs have different experiences with the participation rates.

Freshman Juhi Kapoor said the program should focus on making the events more interesting and accessible to students who have busy schedules.

This sentiment is not shared by all freshmen, like Magdalena Kwasnica, who said she enjoys the program and thinks that it helps people get acclimated to college.

"It gives bonding experiences for getting to know people in the building," Kwasnica said.

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# SGC passes bill on campus coffee sourcing



The Ithaca College Student Governance Council holds its Nov. 28 meeting, at which it passed a bill to bring the local company Gimme! Coffee to campus as an alternative to Starbucks.

ANDRE ROJAS/THE ITHACAN

BY SOPHIA ADAMUCCI  
STAFF WRITER

Amid a slow semester in terms of bill proposals, the Ithaca College Student Governance Council passed its second bill, which would bring local company Gimme! Coffee on campus as an alternative and eco-friendly coffee option.

Sophomore Laura Waxman, Class of 2019 senator, and sophomores Micol Wajskol and Calvin Yohannan, who are Eco-Reps for the Resource and Environmental Management Program,

sponsored the bill, titled Alternative Coffee Bill.

"I want to have some sustainable coffee companies on campus, especially when coffee is definitely something consumed by most college students," Waxman said.

Gimme! Coffee's CEO, Kevin Cuddeback, was present at the meeting, along with both the company's chief operating officer and national sales representative, to answer any questions the SGC had regarding the bill.

The bill criticized Starbucks' alleged lack of

environmental consciousness and unsustainable production practices. The bill's authors claim that Starbucks does not pay its farm workers fair wages or dispose of their cups in an environmentally conscious way. Starbucks Corporate declined to comment and redirected *The Ithacan* to its website for more information.

The bill also denounced the large carbon footprint created by getting coffee delivered from Starbucks — which is the brand of coffee sold at the cafes on campus — since the company does not have a distribution center in New York state. The closest distribution centers to Ithaca are located in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, according to the Starbucks website.

By contrast, buying coffee beans that are locally roasted and packaged in Ithaca would produce a smaller carbon footprint, the bill stated. Gimme! Coffee's cold cups are recyclable, and the company is working to make its hot cups recyclable, too.

However, the goal of the bill is not to replace Starbucks. Instead, Gimme! Coffee would offer an alternative option for coffee. SGC President Marieme Foote said she is excited to see a local business being supported on campus.

The bill passed with nine votes in favor and five votes opposed, with one abstention. Senators who opposed the bill said the bill did not provide a cohesive timeline for when Gimme! Coffee would arrive on campus.

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## TRUMP, from Page 1

Lowe said. Trump could interpret the Obama administration's addition of transgender rights under Title IX as an executive order and eliminate it, Lowe said.

Ziemann said she is concerned about the example Trump is setting regarding the treatment of women but hopes the Trump administration will support Title IX. Trump has not made a statement regarding his opinion of Title IX or if any changes will be made to Title IX once his administration takes office. However, Trump's campaign fielded accusations of sexual assault on a number of women as well as a tape of Trump using graphic language to describe his sexual advances toward women.

**“I think colleges and universities need to be vigilant and ... clear about our own principles.”**

— Mariko Silver

“I do get concerned over how people might feel, that they might be able to act, because someone who has openly been accused of sexual assault, someone who has said things that are really degrading towards women, has now been elected president,” Ziemann said. “So I do get concerned that will give other people permission to feel like it's OK for them to do that.”

Mariko Silver, president of Bennington College in Vermont, contributing writer for *Inside Higher Ed* on the topic and former Obama administration staff member, said it is unclear what the Trump administration will do regarding Title IX but that schools still have moral and ethical responsibilities to be attentive to Title IX policies and education regarding sexual harassment and assault.

“I think colleges and universities need to be vigilant and need to be clear about our own principles and how we want to pursue issues of sexual harassment and assault, regardless of if the government holds our feet to the fire,” Silver said.

Sophomore Emily Honen, School of Humanities and Sciences senator for the Student Governance Council who also sits on the Policy, Procedures and Practices committee for Title IX, said she hopes Trump will take the content of Title IX seriously.

“I feel as though Title IX also serves as a source of empowerment for many women already in the workforce, including in areas of politics, and I feel as though female leaders in the House and the Senate will do their best to lead our country on the right path,” Honen said.

Since the college is in New York state, it falls under *Enough is Enough*, a 2015 New York state law that established the definition of affirmative consent for the state and outlined the rights and responsibilities colleges have to their students regarding the education and the processing of sexual assault, Ziemann said.

“We've been focusing on the direction we've been given from *Enough is Enough*, and again, I think a lot of the work we do around Title IX has been outlined through *Enough is Enough*, Ziemann said. “So I think we'll really focus on those aspects, unless there become federal mandates to do things differently, but I would be surprised if they came out with very drastic differences there.”

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## OPEN VS. CLOSED PRESIDENTIAL SEARCHES

OPEN

An open search can limit the number of sitting presidents in the applicant pool.

Final candidates are announced publicly.

Candidates usually visit campus and interact with the campus community, which provides feedback to the search committee.

Candidates only meet with the search committee, board of trustees and sometimes selected administrators or staff members.

Confidentiality guidelines are strictly enforced and there is no public involvement by the campus community.

CLOSED

SOURCE: ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BOARDS  
DESIGN BY ALISON TEADORE

## SEARCH, from Page 1

“Many candidates now sometimes don't want to be part of open searches — they don't want to put themselves out there knowing they're a final candidate given their current jobs,” Selingo said. “If somebody is applying for jobs and is known to be applying for jobs, they sometimes lose support back on their home campuses.”

He said it is common for possible candidates to let colleagues know that they are applying for jobs.

“It's not impossible to find good candidates using open searches, but it does sometimes create tension among those candidates who would prefer to keep their name kind of undercover,” he said.

Selingo said he does not think that making a search open rather than closed changes the overall quality of the applicant pool, though, as he said there are benefits in other areas. He said the fact that campus constituencies get to interact with the finalist may create more of a “buy-in” to the final candidate.

With the events on campus last fall, Selingo said, an open search makes sense for the college.

“Given ... the turmoil on campus last year ... I can imagine what the reaction would have been if it were a closed search,” Selingo said. “I'm assuming that students and faculty would have been up in arms.”

The American Association of University Professors spoke out against closed presidential searches in a November 2015 letter on the topic. The AAUP advises that finalist names should be made public and that they should meet with the campus and be subject to questioning.

Henry Reichman, chair of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, who co-signed the letter, said the AAUP has never seen any evidence to support the argument that open searches could place limitations on an applicant pool. He said “perfectly qualified” candidates usually apply in both public and private searches and that there are other underlying reasons an institution may use a closed search.

“I believe that the real reason that they do this is that they don't want the faculty and the students to hear about the negatives of some of the candidates that they're bringing in,” Reichman said.

While open searches are not necessarily democratic processes, Reichman said campus involvement with the finalists can add greater accountability to the search committee selecting the president.

## At the College

Marieme Foote, president of the SGC, said it is important to have an open search to find a president who fits the campus community's needs and can connect with it.

“It is really imperative that our community has that link to the new president,” Foote said. “Our community is fractured, and we really need to be connected and reconnected and work on building something together.”

Tom Swensen, professor and chair of the Department of Exercise and Sports Sciences, chair of the Faculty Council and member of the presidential search committee at the college, said the college has a history of always conducting an open search.

This was the case during the 2007–08 presidential search in which Tom Rochon was selected

as president: Three finalists visited campus. While on campus, finalists met with the Administrative Assembly; the Faculty Council, the Academic Policies Committee and Dana professors; the SGA; and the Deans Council. They also had open meetings with students, faculty, staff, and the Staff Council in addition to meetings with the entire campus community on topics in higher education, followed by question-and-answer sessions.

Derek Adams, assistant professor in the Department of English, said it is important the presidential search be open because students, faculty and staff have been concerned about the upper administration's lack of transparency in the past.

“Even if we had the most ideal candidate take this position through a closed search, I think there always would have been a measure of doubt,” he said.

**“It would be nice to have people as involved as possible and be transparent.”**

— Tati Herold

Tati Herold, administrative assistant for the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance's graduate programs and preprofessional programs, as well as recording secretary for the Staff Council, said she supports an open search process, especially, because of the needs of the community at this time.

“Especially considering the campus climate last year, I think it would be nice to have people as involved as possible and be transparent,” Herold said.

## Other Institutions

Cary Fowler is a member of the presidential search committee at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. He said their committee is conducting a closed search. Fowler said Rhodes College's presidential search firm, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, told the committee that this is becoming more of a trend in searches because many potential candidates will not apply if they hear the search is an open one.

At first, the committee thought the search would be open. However, Fowler said, as they learned more, they decided to conduct a closed search to attract the best applicant pool.

“Maybe they are a sitting college president already ... and they don't want a doubt that they were looking for a new job that would undermine their current job,” Fowler said.

Very few people are willing to take the risks involved in participating in an open search because it could potentially harm their careers, Fowler said. He said if Rhodes College had been conducting an open presidential search, it would not have gotten any of its top 30 candidates to apply.

He added that there were other disadvantages to open searches in addition to candidates' wanting confidentiality. He said the search committee spends huge amounts of time investigating the candidates, talking to them and interviewing them to ensure the chosen candidate best fits its community.

“One could argue that campus visits tend to promote superficial views of candidates,” Fowler said, pointing out that what you learn in a short, public meeting is often not as involved as what you would learn in a long, closed-door interview process.

Isaac Kramnick, a Richard J. Schwartz professor of government and member of the presidential search committee at Cornell University, added that the traditional argument for closed searches, such as the one conducted recently at Cornell, is that it offers a larger pool of highly qualified candidates.

However, he said allowing candidates to meet with the community makes the process easier. In closed searches, the committee has to rely solely on references to evaluate a candidate, he said.

“There are obvious advantages of an open search where you get a lot more people than just the search committee looking and evaluating the candidate,” Kramnick said.

*News Editor Aidan Quigley and Staff Writer Sophie Johnson contributed reporting.*

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## LATEST UPDATES

JULY 1

The search would be open but confidential until finalists were selected.

OCT. 17

The search committee was not prepared to finalize and outline the rest of the search process.

Source: James W. Nolan '77, chair of the presidential search committee

# Student trains seeing-eye dogs for the blind



Junior Melissa Potter plays with Cassidy, a dog that is being trained to be a seeing-eye dog. Potter has been training guide dogs through the Ithaca College chapter of Guiding Eyes for the Blind since she was a freshman.

COURTESY OF ERIC MITCHELL

**BY MADELINE VENEZIANO**  
STAFF WRITER

In a large, gated field behind Emerson Hall, labrador retrievers Eden and Aura enjoy some playtime by running through the grass—a short break from training with students like junior Melissa Potter.

Potter, vice president of the club Guiding Eyes for the Blind at Ithaca College, said she has been involved with the club since the fall of her freshman year. GEB is a national nonprofit organization that trains service dogs for blind and visually impaired people. She said a teacher's assistant in her psychology class told her about the club and that her love

for dogs was one of the reasons she decided to get involved.

After meeting certain requirements, such as attending enough classes and workshops, a club member is invited to be a certified dog handler and can walk and spend time alone with the dogs. Potter said it was a lot of effort to attend classes and constantly check her emails so she could eventually become a handler.

"I'm always willing to make time and budget my life around my time with the dogs," she said.

Attending enough classes also allows participants to become sitters or raisers, Potter said. To be a sitter, a person must be an active general-body

member and attend two Monday night classes per month, according to the club's constitution. Raisers must have a sitter status for at least two blocks; gain approval from the GEB executive board, region manager and region coordinator; and attend all meetings. Raisers get their dogs when they are around eight weeks old and live with the dogs until they are 14–18 months. If raisers cannot bring their dog to class or work, they can ask a sitter to watch the dog for a period. Potter works as a sitter and said she spends about 10 hours a week with the dogs in the program.

Last semester, Potter said, she went on a trip with some other club

members to the national Guiding Eyes for the Blind training school in Patterson, New York, to see some of the guide dogs graduate from the program and be paired with a recipient. She said experiencing this moment was emotional.

"It was kind of amazing to see how confident people were now that they had another means of moving through the world," she said.

Senior Tim Conners received a guide dog in August 2015 that went through the GEB program at a different location. When he was 15, Conners became blind from leukemia that relapsed in his optic nerves. He said the GEB training program provided him not only a companion—his dog, Lang—but also a major confidence boost.

"He is a great friend, and people are definitely more willing, it seems, to strike up conversations with me now that I have him," Conners said.

Senior Lauren Reightler, president of the college's chapter of GEB, described Potter as understanding and dedicated to what she is passionate about. She said Potter is always brainstorming new ideas and suggesting new ways for the GEB executive board to bond.

"She's always bringing up new opinions and different things that we can get involved with," Reightler said. "That definitely helps our club because we have a wider range of things to do."

Christine Johnson, assistant professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy and faculty adviser for GEB, said in an email that Potter is always willing to put 100 percent effort into any task for the club.

"Melissa positively contributes to the IC community by setting an

example on a daily basis of an active, engaged, caring college student that many students strive to be," Johnson wrote.

Potter said she has cut back her participation in other organizations and clubs to prioritize GEB. However, she said the experience is worthwhile.

"I don't have as much free time as I used to, but I think that putting my efforts towards something that matters and towards helping other people is what I like the most about it," she said.

Sophomore Jack Ficcardi, a fellow club member, said Potter always has a solution to any problem. He said that during a recent Halloween meet-and-greet where students could interact with the guide dogs, one of the dogs, Quincy, was giving his raiser, junior Zach Thomas, a hard time. Ficcardi said Potter volunteered to give Thomas a break and take Quincy outside for him.

"It showed how compassionate she was about the people and the dogs in the club," he said.

Thomas said Potter is thoughtful and caring, especially toward him and Quincy.

"Sometimes he [Quincy] can get to me more than he should, and I get stressed out, and she'll be the one that will calm me down and say, 'He's doing better than you think, he's going good,'" he said.

Potter said she is glad GEB gives her the opportunity to use her time for something that will benefit others.

"In the long term, you're giving a blind person sight, which is an incredible gift, and I feel really lucky to be a part of something so important," she said.

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# Professor publishes essay on teaching in Saudi Arabia

Janice Levy, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, recently published an essay about her experience overseeing a service-learning program that taught children with disabilities the art of photography.

During her 2010–11 sabbatical, Levy taught

photography at Princess Nora University, a large government-run university in Saudi Arabia. She said she learned that students were interested in doing more service-learning projects and decided to start one while she was there. She brought her photography students at PNU to a school for children with disabilities, and there they taught the children how to take photographs.

The Institute for Photographic Empowerment published her paper, titled "What I see, Who I am: Saudi Women Enrolled in University Photo Course Teach Disabled Children to Communicate with Cameras," in October, and the paper went on to be accepted into the Arts and Society Research Network conference, which will be held in Paris in June 2017.

Contributing Writer Erin Conway spoke to Levy about her work in Saudi Arabia, her paper and the upcoming conference.

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity.*

**Erin Conway:** What made you want to write this paper about your experience?

**Janice Levy:** While I was over there, I looked up a Washington Post photographer from the '80s named Jim Hubbard. Hubbard would go into impoverished areas, and when he did, he realized whenever kids were around, they would want to take pictures with his camera. He started a program called Shooting Back. He let these kids



LEVY



This photo of a child in Saudi Arabia is part of a series by Janice Levy, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, that she created during her sabbatical.

COURTESY OF JANICE LEVY

use the cameras and noticed the pictures they took were really revealing about their lives and their homes and the things that were important to them.

**EC:** How did you come up with the title for this paper?

**JL:** I came up with it myself. It's fitting because it says, "If I can show you what I see, it will tell you who I am." It says, "If I can't talk or move or if I don't look like you, I will show you. I am so much more than just what you see."

**EC:** What were some of the challenges teaching at PNU?

**JL:** There was a lot to overcome in just terms of

teaching my students at the university. In their interpretation of Islam, they are not allowed to make any likeness of anything living. In other words, they cannot draw the human figure or anything living. I learned about this when I gave my first portrait assignment and one of the young women raised her hand and told me they couldn't do the assignment because it's haram, or against Islam. Instead, they took pictures of things that represented the human form or just objects and scenery. Another challenge was the language barrier. They didn't speak much English, and I didn't speak much Arabic. Being disabled is also very taboo in Saudi culture, so getting the PNU students to even want to come to the Disabled Association took a while.

**EC:** What else do you have to do to prepare for

the conference in June?

**JC:** I'll have to write an article. I plan on expanding on the paper I have written. I have asked the PNU students to write about their experience, which they have, but it needs to be translated. I will be able to include some of their quotes in the article that will be published in the academic journal the conference puts out. I will also give a presentation during the two-day conference, so I'll put together a slideshow and present the work the students did and discuss how it was done.

**EC:** Why is this conference important for you to go to?

**JL:** Sometimes, when I start to think about what a mess this world is, and I ask, "What have I done to help?" I think about this project, and I think about this upcoming conference, talking about this project to people who might take this model to their country and try it and make people think about the ways in which they contribute. Maybe they will make a little bit of a difference. It's like a double blessing because I get to pass this lesson on.

**EC:** What do you hope that your readers take away from the piece you will have published in the academic journal?

**JL:** I want people to take away the lesson that it is possible to teach humility and understanding. I think that those are a part of the equation for eliminating hatred and xenophobia in this world. That's what I want. I want my work to show that if you can put people together in a way that eliminates those irrational fears, it can create something productive. Like I said in my proposal, I want my work to be a lesson in humility, humanity and hope.

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# Cornell students mobilize

BY SOPHIA TULP  
STAFF WRITER

Graduate students at Cornell University are attempting to gather enough votes to hold a referendum on whether or not to form an official graduate student union. However, there is a divide among graduate students, as well as between graduate students and the administration, about how effective forming this union would actually be.

The group Cornell Graduate Students United (CGSU) affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers and New York State United Teachers in a referendum in 2015. It reached an agreement with the administration in June allowing the students to hold a union campaign and election, according to a news release from the American Federation of Teachers. The CGSU now needs signatures from 30 percent of the bargaining unit, which consists of graduate students like teaching assistants, for unionization to go to a vote and become recognized by the administration.

This follows years of unionization efforts by Cornell graduate students. They argue that unionization will help with job security, health care coverage and benefits.

"It's important for those situations where people haven't been able to speak up, and they don't have it as good as the rest of us, to have legal protection that can only be granted by a legally binding contract that our union will negotiate," said Alex Brown, a German studies graduate student who is part of CGSU.

There are more than 30 collective bargaining units representing more than 65,000 graduate students across the country, according to the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions at Hunter College.

However, Cornell's administration is discouraging graduate students from unionizing.

In a statement emailed to students Oct. 27, Hunter Rawlings, interim president of Cornell, voiced concern that the Cornell Graduate Student Union would change the working relationship between faculty and graduate students by creating a divide between workers and "management."

Not all graduate students are on board with the union. A group named At What Cost formed in 2015 in response to the unionization efforts.

Mark Obstalecki, a representative from At What Cost and a Ph.D. candidate in mechanical engineering, said among the concerns of some graduate students are misinformation being spread by union organizers, a lack of understanding by graduate students about what it means to be in the union and a concern that a single union would standardize all departments, despite necessary differences.

Taylor Ford, president of IC Students for Labor Action, said the group has spoken out in solidarity with the Cornell graduate students.

Part-time and contingent faculty at the college voted to unionize and are currently bargaining with the administration. However, graduate students at the college are currently not considering a union, Ford said.

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# Students aid gene research study

BY SIERRA GUARDIOLA  
STAFF WRITER

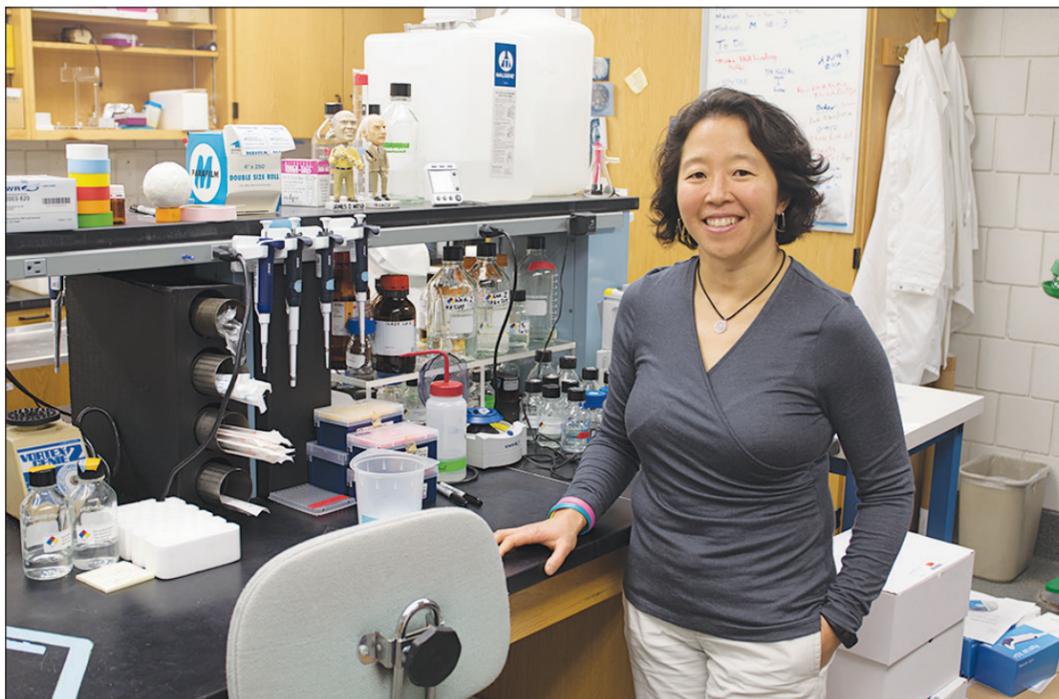
Three Ithaca College graduates and one professor have researched a surprising new way in which genes are turned on and off, leading to their work's being published Nov. 2.

During the summer, Maki Inada, associate professor in the Department of Biology, led her team of three undergraduate students — Robert Nichols '14, Ruby Benn '15 and Reyal Hoxie '15 — to examine gene expression through experimenting with yeast. Initially, the goal was to examine how the enzyme that copies DNA was altered, what genes would be affected and how gene splicing would be altered. However, the team's research led it to an unexpected discovery, warranting its work being published in the *Nucleic Acids Research* journal, part of the Oxford University Press Journals network.

Gene expression refers to how a person's cells know how to represent characteristics so that they can perform different functions within the body. For example, a skin cell is different from a lung cell because of which genes are expressed.

In a process integral to how the body functions, an enzyme must copy DNA into RNA. The team was interested in the enzyme that performs this function, which is called RNA Polymerase II. The team made mutations to this enzyme in yeast so that when the DNA was transcribed to RNA, it could see how gene expression in the genes of that cell would change, Inada said. The yeast was used since it is a model organism, and the team could take what it observed in a single-cell organism and apply it to humans, she said.

The team originally hoped to see how mutations would affect splicing,



Maki Inada, associate professor in the Department of Biology, led her team of three undergraduate students in a research project on gene expression through experimenting with yeast. Their work was published Nov. 2.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

which is when sequences of RNA are removed from the copied sequence, Inada said. However, the team said it was surprised when it got results and did not see any effects on splicing.

Instead, Nichols said that because of the mutations they made, the genes in the cell became loosely packed, turning on genes only in the ends of chromosomes. Therefore, gene expression is not completely altered by changing the enzyme used to copy DNA with respect to splicing. Large effects on gene expression were only seen near the ends of the chromosomes, also known as telomeres. But they still do not know why only the ends were affected, Nichols said. Data from the collaborators at the University of

California, San Francisco, helped to confirm the evidence that the team at the college found, Nichols said.

"We drew an interesting connection that wasn't necessarily thought of before," Nichols said.

One of the most fundamental questions in molecular biology is how cells determine what genes to represent. Inada said the data collected show a new and unusual mechanism for gene regulation, and though they do not know directly what it means, it opens up avenues for other researchers to explore.

Nichols, currently a graduate student at the University of California, Berkeley, said he began working in Inada's research lab during his freshman year at the college.

Benn, currently a graduate student at the Indiana University School of Medicine, said she became involved in Inada's lab after taking biology and chemistry classes with her. Benn joined the team once research had already begun, so her first job was to validate and analyze the data that had been collected so far.

She said being a part of this research influenced her work ethic.

"It taught me that you cannot rush research ... and [to] be patient because your results and what you expect might be completely different from what's going on," Benn said.

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# Students win startup funds at Rev event

BY RYAN KING  
STAFF WRITER

A Malian clothing line and a biodegradable ceiling-tile company — startup ideas from students — took home the largest prizes from the first Ithaca College Startup Idea Demo Day on Nov. 17 at Rev: Ithaca Startup Works.

For the past five years, a similar event, called the Business Idea Competition, has been held on campus, but this year, it was renamed and moved to Rev, a business incubator downtown, so students could network with entrepreneurs and local residents in an off-campus setting.

Most students competed in the event in teams, and each team pitched an idea for a business startup to a panel of judges composed of local and alumni business entrepreneurs. Twelve teams gave four-minute presentations followed by four-minute Q&A sessions. Each team that presented was awarded at least \$100.

The judges had \$6,500 to award students. This money came from donations to the School of Business.

Aniko — the clothing line — and Myco Ceiling won the biggest prizes, and in both cases, the students were awarded the full assistance they asked for.

Freshman Ana Coulibaly, a business administration and legal studies double major, pitched Aniko, a startup clothing line featuring fashion designs from her home in Mali. She said she finds the clothing more colorful and diverse in style there and that she wants to bring this to the U.S. Coulibaly received \$1,000 in financial assistance, which she said she will use to pay her mother in Mali to make about 70 designs to start the business.

"I got exactly what I was looking for," she said. "I can't wait until I actually start working with this and then actually produce products and be on the market."

Senior Cory Kimmel and junior Meagan Priest, both business administration majors, pitched Myco Ceiling, a startup specializing in ceiling tiles that are more environmentally friendly and can biodegrade at a faster rate than mainstream ceiling tiles.



Ithaca College students pitch their startup ideas at the college's first Startup Idea Demo Day, which took place Nov. 17 at the Rev: Ithaca Startup Works, a business incubator downtown.

EVAN SOBOKOWICZ/THE ITHACAN

The panel awarded Myco Ceiling \$1,240 in financial assistance and an additional Sustainability Award for \$200. Kimmel and Priest plan on spending that money on participating in the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Boston and on necessary supplies.

"[I'm] really excited that we have the opportunity to move forward, and I can't wait to see where this takes us next," Priest said.

Attendees voted on the Audience Choice Award, which went to REDs, a store that would sell medical marijuana in Ithaca. Sophomores Wilson Fay, a legal studies and business administration double major, and Noah Aussems, a business administration major, pitched the idea.

Aussems suffers from Crohn's disease and said he is forced to either get a painful injection in his stomach or take medicinal marijuana. He said he wants to create REDs because the nearest medical marijuana facility is miles away. The project

received \$460 from the judges and \$100 for the Audience Choice Award. They will spend that money on additional research into the marijuana business.

Students in the IC Young Entrepreneurs Organization and instructor Brad Treat's entrepreneurial innovation class pitched ideas at the competition. The event was sponsored by the business school, but students from all five schools on campus pitched ideas.

Treat said the event is a great way for students to exchange their ideas with the local community.

"It wasn't just about the money," he said. "Many of these students are going to be able to help move their business forward because of mentorships, connections, technical know-how — things like that. And one of the things I find is that people like working with Ithaca College students."

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# COLLEGE

## Unidentified man found shot dead near IC campus in Los Angeles

A man was found dead outside of the Ithaca College Los Angeles campus Nov. 29.

Dean Diane Gayeski said in an announcement the man seemed to be “targeted” and was killed by a gunshot wound. Gayeski said the incident did not seem to be a random act of violence, according to police, but that all students at the ICLA campus have been accounted for and have been reported safe.

“While we believe this was an isolated incident, the safety and well-being of our students is paramount, and the complex will be increasing security measures and patrols as our students finish out their final week in Los Angeles,” Gayeski said.

The announcement did not specify the identity of the man but said he was found dead in a parking structure located near the housing complex for the ICLA program. Gayeski said that if anyone has any questions or concerns about the incident, they can call the Roy H. Park School of Communications Dean’s Office at 607-274-1021 or the ICLA campus at 323-851-6199.

## IC theater to put on production of musical ‘The Last Five Years’

“The Last Five Years,” Jason Robert Brown’s musical, which, in 2014, was produced as a movie starring Anna Kendrick and Jeremy Jordan ’07, will be performed at Ithaca College. Performances will be held at 8 p.m. Dec. 3, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 4, and 8 p.m. Dec. 5 on the Earl McCarroll Studio Theatre stage in the Dillingham Center. Senior Adam Lee Secor is directing the production, and sophomore Jacob Kerzner is serving as music director. Tickets are free and can be reserved online at <http://bit.ly/2f7CDDT>. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The musical showcases the love story of two characters, Jamie and Cathy, from beginning

to end, from both of their perspectives and in two separate perceptions of time. Cathy’s portion of the story begins with the end of the relationship, while Jamie’s begins at its origin. Secor said the production will explore a particular scene in which Jamie returns home to confront Cathy at the end of their relationship, while Cathy is simultaneously remembering its beginnings.

The composer wrote the piece during his divorce with his first wife and showcased some songs at the college while it was still being written. Cast members include juniors Danny Hayward and Kelsey Seaman and sophomores Joshua Altenburg and Juliana Betancur.

## School of Communications hires director of technical operations

The Roy H. Park School of Communications has hired Roger Raiford as its new director of technical operations. Raiford will replace David Priester, who retired from this position in September.

Raiford has worked in both the engineering and producing aspects of media. Most recently, he worked as the head of technical operations for the Americas at the Al Jazeera Network and helped to build and launch the network’s studios and production system. Before that, he served as a bureau manager for the Associated Press and as a production manager for CBS in New York City. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in film and television from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

## College basketball teams to host promotional events during games

The Ithaca College men’s and women’s basketball teams will host a promotional event during their upcoming double-header games against Wells College at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 in Ben Light Gymnasium.

The event will include a \$10,000 halftime

contest for both games, music by DJ Almand and food provided by Italian Carry Out. The first 50 student attendees will receive a white Ithaca College Athletics T-shirt.

## Music students to be featured in new vocal-performance series

Music students studying voice will produce a new series called Tuesday at 12, which will feature freshman Molly Ferguson, junior Juliana Child

and seniors Lauren Hoalcraft, Abigail Rogers and Ann-Marie Iacoviello. The first performance will take place at noon Dec. 6 in the Hockett Family Recital Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music.

The Tuesday at 12 series has been established to provide students in the School of Music with more performance opportunities. All members of the campus community are invited to attend.



## Founder of nonprofit media site gives lecture

Atul Singh, founder, CEO and editor in chief of Fair Observer, gives a lecture titled “Making Sense of the World: Why Discourse Matters and Why Discourse Must Now Be Global” on Nov. 29 in the Center for Natural Sciences. The event was co-sponsored by the Roy H. Park School of Communications, the journalism department and the Honors Program.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

# Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 6

### OCTOBER 31

#### MEDICAL ASSIST

LOCATION: Dillingham Center  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person passed out after using StairMaster and injured head. Person transported to hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Jenny Valentin.

#### OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All other  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person sent threatening emails and left voicemail messages. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Chris Teribury.

### NOVEMBER 1

#### FIRE ALARM

LOCATION: Eastman Hall  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Activation caused by a fire pump being tested in another building. Fire Protection Specialist Enoch Perkins.

#### MEDICAL ASSIST

LOCATION: Gannett Center  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having a seizure. Person transported to hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Jenny Valentin.

### NOVEMBER 2

#### SCC FIRE SAFETY OFFENSE

LOCATION: Garden Apartments  
SUMMARY: During fire alarm drill, officer reported person failed to leave building. Officer issued

person a warning. Fire Protection Specialist Max Noble.

#### MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT

LOCATION: S-Lot  
SUMMARY: Caller reported two-car motor vehicle accident. Property was damaged. Report taken. Master Patrol Officer Chris Teribury.

### NOVEMBER 3

#### DISORDERLY CONDUCT

LOCATION: Terrace 7  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person threw egg at window. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Lance Clark.

#### HARASSMENT

LOCATION: Garden Apartments  
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-hand information about person making an offensive Snapchat video. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw.

### NOVEMBER 4

#### PETIT LARCENY

LOCATION: Garden Apartments  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole clothing. Officer determined no theft had occurred. Sergeant Terry O’Pray.

#### MAKING GRAFFITI

LOCATION: Circle Lot 8  
SUMMARY: Complainant reported unknown person wrote graffiti on vehicle. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Lance Clark.

### NOVEMBER 5

#### CRIMINAL TAMPERING

LOCATION: Circle Apartments  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person threw eggs at building. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Lance Clark.

#### CRIMINAL TAMPERING

LOCATION: Upper Quad  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person tampered with and stole sign. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Lance Clark.

### NOVEMBER 6

#### PETIT LARCENY

LOCATION: Textor Hall  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole purse. No theft occurred. Patrol Officer Lance Clark.

#### HARASSMENT

LOCATION: Circle Apartments  
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person placed a bag of dog feces outside apartment. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento.

For the complete safety log, go to [www.theithacan.org/news](http://www.theithacan.org/news).

#### KEY

SCC – Student conduct code  
V&T – Vehicle and Transportation  
AD – Assistant Director  
IFD – Ithaca Fire Department

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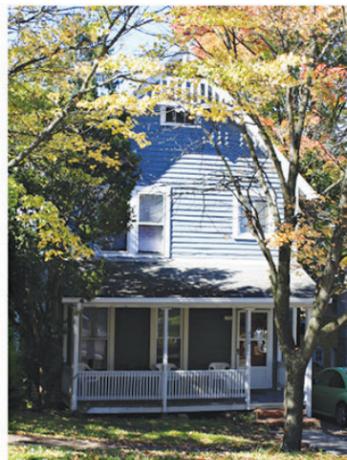
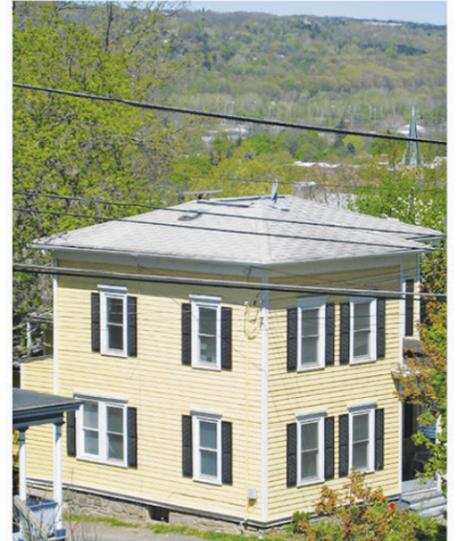


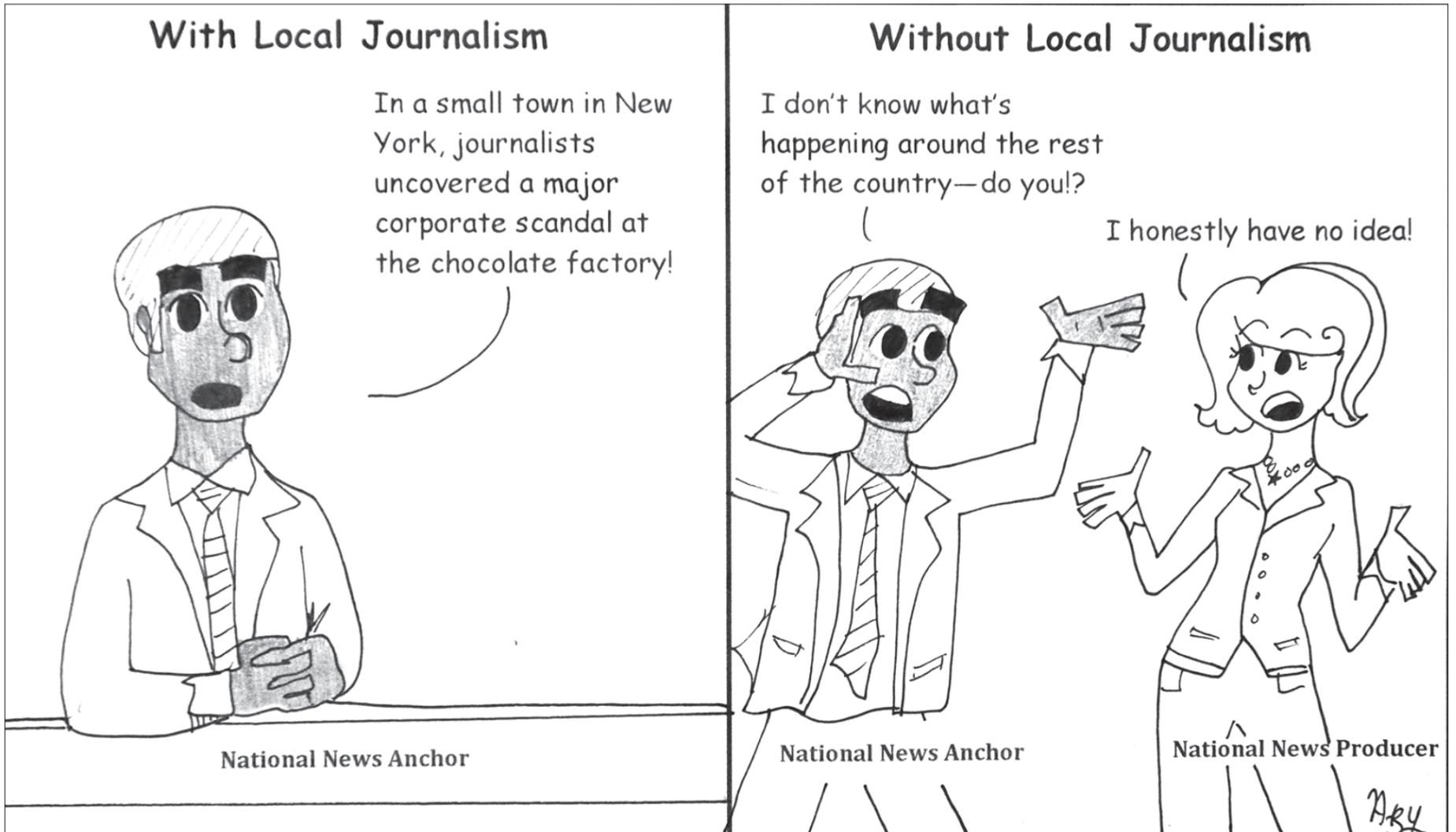
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ALLISON LATINI/THE ITHACAN

## EDITORIALS

### Community should fund local media endeavors

The newspaper industry is dying. Many local newspapers have closed down or significantly downsized their staff in the past decade, and the community newspaper, The Ithaca Journal, is no exception.

With only one reporter left on the entire paper, the Journal's ability to adequately cover the community has greatly shrunk. Important investigations that may require more research and time could be brushed aside because the publication no longer possesses the means to cover them.

This affront to local journalism may seem like an unstoppable trend given the lack of advertising and money flowing to these publications. But there is a more deeply rooted problem that should be reversed: a withering commitment to community journalism. Local journalism is the backbone to coverage done by national media, such as The New York Times. These national outlets rely on local publications for certain stories or breaking news in areas such as Ithaca that may be inaccessible to national reporters.

There must be a shift in where local outlets receive their funding, and it involves reviving this commitment. Advertising is not

providing enough financial support to outlets like the Journal; however, large and small publications throughout the country have proved that a donation model can be sustainable. National media like Democracy Now!, as well as local outlets like Ithaca's own independent radio station, WRFI, rely on reader support rather than advertising.

These outlets are also free from corporate models, such as Gannett Company, that prioritize maintaining profit margins despite falling ad revenue, forcing local branches to lay off employees to compensate. A less-corporatized and independent model is becoming a more efficient structure for community journalism.

This shift in funding means that people in the community and beyond must support community journalism through monetary donations or by purchasing subscriptions.

Newspapers and news sites need some type of monetary funding to survive, and reader-based donations and subscriptions are growing as a more ethical way to fund the fourth estate. The influence of community journalism cannot be overlooked, as the local area — and the larger national media model by extension — cannot adequately function without it.

### Open search best option for choosing IC president

The search is still underway for Ithaca College's next president. And this is nearly the extent of what the campus community knows, which is surprising considering the expectation was to have had candidates arrive on campus by this time.

The process of narrowing down candidates is complex: accommodating the schedules of many high-profile applicants, respecting their privacy. Currently, the college has said the search is open, meaning the final candidates will visit campus publicly, eventually. For the sake of those candidates who might be concerned about their home institutions' finding out about their candidacy through this public exposure, it might be tempting for the college to engage instead in a closed search, in which all of the proceedings are kept private.

The Ithacan, along with the Student Governance Council and numerous members of the faculty, staff and student body, agree that it is in the best interests of the college's future that the presidential search remain open.

Open searches allow for transparency during the process, as candidates vying for the position are given the opportunity to interact with the campus community and learn more

about the college. And given last year's wave of community activism and greater demand for transparency, allowing the campus to have a voice in choosing the college's next president is necessary to repair some of the wounds.

There is reason to be concerned that a possible reason for the delay is that the committee is having difficulty identifying qualified candidates. Whatever the situation is, the committee needs to communicate to the community an update on what is happening.

It may be true that conducting an open search could potentially discourage some very qualified candidates from applying. But the college needs to prioritize transparency of the process — allowing the community to have input — and find the qualified candidates who will participate in an open search.

After the events of last fall, the administration's and Ithaca College Board of Trustees' relationship with the community will suffer beyond repair if transparency does not remain a priority. The next president of this college should not be chosen without meaningful community input, as it is imperative for the college's future to have a leader who understands and is committed to their community.

### Letter to the Editor

Be heard in print or on the Web.



Send a letter to the editor to [ithacan@ithaca.edu](mailto:ithacan@ithaca.edu).

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

### Guest Commentary

Individuals or groups interested in submitting a guest commentary can send their writings to [ithacan@ithaca.edu](mailto:ithacan@ithaca.edu) or to the Opinion Editor at [cacalacal@ithaca.edu](mailto:cacalacal@ithaca.edu). All commentaries must:

1. Convey a clear and concise message.
2. Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject.
3. Be between 500-650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor.

Comment on any story at [theithacan.org](http://theithacan.org).



IN OTHER  
NEWS

ISABELLA GRULLON

## US only aids allies abroad

There was a 7.8 magnitude earthquake Nov. 14 in New Zealand that left entire sections of the country completely isolated. There have been more than 2,000 earthquakes and aftershocks the week following the 7.8 earthquake. The earthquake lifted the sea floor two meters into the air, yet there has been little to no outrage on social media, and news sources in the United States have barely covered the subject.

New Zealand is at a halt. One of the most affected regions, Kaikoura, has become completely isolated, which is dangerous for New Zealand's economy. Dairy exports make up almost a third of New Zealand's annual merchandise exports.

Kaikoura currently has little access to water, which has made the more than 21 large dairy farms in the region dump out hundreds of thousands of liters of milk to irrigate their lands and feed calves.

New Zealand's capital, Wellington, is shutting down slowly; its business center is almost desolate.

Homes have been evacuated all over the country. Some relief efforts have been initiated, but the continuous aftershocks have made it harder to get aid to where it needs to go.

Warships from Canada, Australia and the U.S. have been sent to New Zealand to help with cleanup efforts in Kaikoura and Waiau, the two most affected regions, yet there are no signs of this being important to the U.S.

It might not be a direct interest for the U.S. to intervene in something so far away, but if the U.S. is to pride itself in being the policeman of the world, it should do so in a way where self-interest is not the primary motivation.

When Japan suffered an earthquake in 2011, the U.S. scrambled to create social media filters, send aid and cover the catastrophe in great detail. There has been little response to the situation in New Zealand. President Obama never came out to say that the U.S. is ready to help New Zealand, as he did with Japan. There has also been no coverage on the natural disaster, coverage that leads to more aid efforts.

This might not be directly political, but the fact that the U.S. only seems to be outright distraught when an ally that it depends on economically is hanging by a thread says a lot about where its priorities are and how it manages international relations and aid.

**IN OTHER NEWS** is an international politics column written by Isabella Grullon. **GRULLON** is a junior journalism major. Connect with her at [igrullon@ithaca.edu](mailto:igrullon@ithaca.edu) and [@isagp23](https://twitter.com/isagp23).

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# Unpaid internships do not pay off

BY JOANN CASTILLO

You need experience to get a job. You need a job to get experience. As is often the case, to get experience, you settle for an unpaid internship. Students ask, is the experience of an unpaid internship worth it? Probably not.

Throughout my college career thus far, I have completed four unpaid internships and have made \$250. These internships included technical and marketing operations for a play for Capital Fringe, a theater festival in Washington, D.C.; social media management for a local music journalism website; social media and website management for a music school in Maryland; and digital strategist for a woman who works for the district government of Washington D.C. I received travel stipends for the first and the last internship.

I found it very easy to argue with myself that I got what I deserved. I did not work very hard to secure these internships. I hardly completed a lengthy application process and merely settled for the easiest internships I could secure. In the cases of the Capital Fringe play and the DC Music Download social media, I felt like I didn't do enough work to warrant payment anyway. After the music school internship, I have been hired during breaks with generous pay. The case where I felt like the employer might have taken advantage of me was the personal project of the woman in the D.C. government.

Often, students are unaware that unpaid internships are regulated by the U.S. Department of Labor, let alone that they have legal rights. According to the Fair Labor Standards Act, an unpaid internship must meet the following criteria to be considered legal: the internship is similar training as which would be given in an educational environment, it is for the benefit of the intern, it does not displace regular employees, the employer does not derive immediate advantage from the activities of the intern, the intern does not necessarily entitle a job at its conclusion and does not entitle wages for the time spent in the internship.

For the digital strategy internship, I felt as though I was the one saving the promotional plan that the employer had laid out. I proposed an



Junior JoAnn Castillo has had four unpaid internships during her time as a student. She writes that unpaid internships are not always the best option for students seeking professional experience.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

alternate plan based on public relations strategy that I learned in class, but as if I was the one doing the training. I felt as if I did benefit from the internship because it simulated consulting experience; however, as a student, I didn't think I could get paid as a consultant. I ended up creating a website for the employer, who had previously hired a website programmer out of an agency and was dissatisfied with the original product that was delivered.

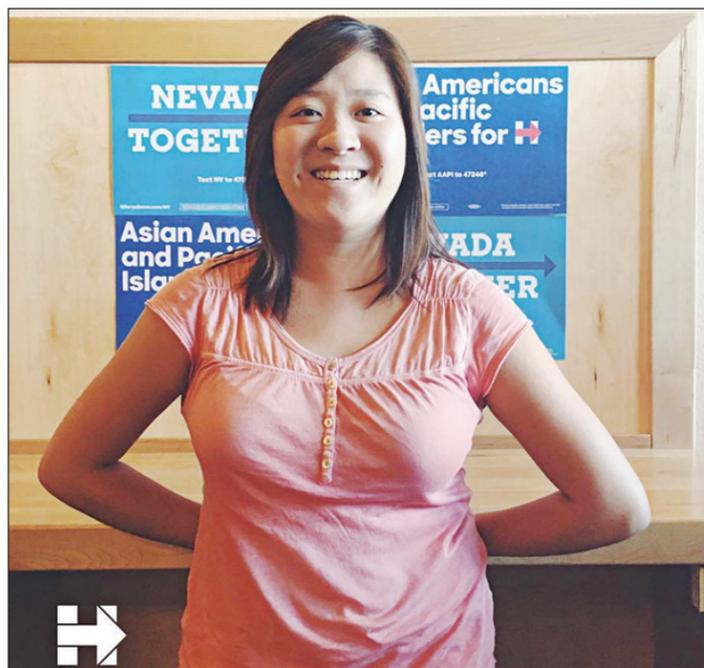
According to the Department of Labor regulations, I believe that I would have a case for an illegal internship. However, I am hesitant to call it illegal because the work was for a cause that I believe in, the empowerment of families against gentrification. The work was also considered nonprofit work. Nonprofits are not held to Department of Labor regulations. Companies typically label the work as a volunteer opportunity as a way to circumvent an illegal internship. The definition of a volunteer that

the FLSA and state wage and hour laws provide is vague, but basically is marked by giving free time to religious, charitable, civic, humanitarian or similar nonprofit organizations as a public service. Unless you really believe in the work that you are doing and would rather give your time than get paid, then there is no reason to reject volunteer opportunities.

Surely, I am frustrated about my past experience, but I would rather put my past unpaid internships behind me in favor of focusing on getting paid internships and a job in the future. Even though you need experience to get a job, an unpaid internship experience is not always the right one. Don't just take what you can get. Work hard to get the best work.

**JOANN CASTILLO** is a junior integrated marketing communications major. Email her at [jcastillo@ithaca.edu](mailto:jcastillo@ithaca.edu).

## Mixed-race families face political divides



Frances Johnson '15 writes about the debacle of having family members who supported Trump despite his hateful rhetoric toward minorities.

COURTESY OF FRANCES JOHNSON

BY FRANCES JOHNSON

I grew up in a mixed-race family. My mom is an immigrant from Taiwan, and my dad is a white man from North Dakota. Throughout my childhood, I never saw my extended family much. My mom's entire family is still in Taiwan, and my dad's family is scattered around the Great Plains and other parts of the U.S. I've never been particularly close to my extended family, especially my dad's, but this recent presidential election has pushed me to further distance myself

from them.

I'm fortunate enough to have parents who share my political views. That hasn't been the case with most of my dad's extended family. My dad and his family never discuss politics or anything that is controversial or "private." Even though we never talked about politics with them, it was pretty clear where most of their votes were going on Nov. 8.

If you followed the 2016 presidential election, you heard the latest despicable comment Donald Trump

made about every disenfranchised group in the U.S. That rhetoric resonated strongly with my dad's family. Some of them would post terrible things about one of these marginalized groups of people on Facebook, calling them "terrorists" or "moochers" or other derogatory terms. It was physically painful to read.

The one lingering, burning question that always came to mind was if my family could say such horrible things about marginalized groups of people, what did they really think about my mom and me? How am I supposed to feel accepted in my own country when some of my family can't accept people like me? To my knowledge, my family members have never said anything to my dad about us. But that doesn't mean they haven't said anything about us behind our backs. I've never discussed politics with my dad's family, but if I were to ever bring up how their comments on immigrants affect my mom and me, they'd say something like, "That doesn't apply to you. You're one of the good ones."

What they — and many other people — don't understand is that comments berating one or more groups of people are all-encompassing. By making crass generalizations, the targeted group or groups are labeled, and there's no removing that label just because you know or like that one person who doesn't fit the particular generalization. You can make as many exceptions as you want to attempt to sound less racist,

bigoted or prejudiced, but it doesn't mean anything.

This election loss really hurt, not just because I was a staffer on the Hillary Clinton campaign. What hurt more is that I know many members of my dad's family voted for Trump, and maybe some of them didn't agree with the disgusting rhetoric Trump spewed but wanted radical change in the form of an outsider stepping into politics. But in casting their vote for Trump, they didn't seem to mind the racism that they also elected. And for the ones who do agree with the rhetoric, a Trump presidency further validates their right to say any and every horrible thing that they want to. Because if the president can say it, so can they.

I know I'm not the only person in this familial-political debacle. There are many others who are mixed-race, adopted or come from blended families that are facing the same struggle. As much as I want to love my family and accept them for who they are, I simply just can't until they accept that their vote and support for such a repugnant candidate is a vote against my mom and me — their own family members — and the millions of others who are also worried about their future and worth in this country.

**FRANCES JOHNSON** is a former field organizer with Hillary for America and currently a customer service and support associate at Brilliant Earth, a conflict-free jewelry company in San Francisco. She is also a former columnist and opinion editor for *The Ithacan*.

NEWSMAKERS

# ‘Transgender Toolkit’ receives award

Luca Maurer, program director for the Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Education, Outreach and Services at Ithaca College, and Eli Green, assistant professor at Widener University and founder of the Transgender Training Institute, recently received an award for their book “The Teaching Transgender Toolkit: A Facilitator’s Guide to Increasing Knowledge, Reducing Prejudice & Building Skills.” The book is a collection of resources for people who want to facilitate trainings about transgender people and their experiences that was published last year.

The award, the Significant Research/Publication Award, was granted by the College Student Personnel Association of New York State to recognize a piece or published report that has merit and educational significance. “The Teaching Transgender Toolkit” is currently in its third printing, and several parts are also available for free online. Portions of the book sales go to supporting transgender-serving organizations.

Opinion Editor Celisa Calacal spoke with Maurer about the topics discussed in the toolkit, the response it has received and misconceptions that are addressed in the book.

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity.*

**Celisa Calacal:** Tell me about the Transgender Toolkit: What is it and what it’s about?

**Luca Maurer:** It’s a detailed collection of best practices, lesson plans and resources for folks who want to facilitate trainings about transgender people and transgender identities and experiences. Transgender people are in our families, in our communities, our schools, our faith communities. They’re part of our society, but stigma and discrimination make it extraordinarily difficult for transgender people to sort of make their way in the world. And I and my co-author, Eli Green, believe that education is the first step to helping people understand their transgender friends and neighbors and family members, and so that’s why we wrote the book.

**CC:** What are some topics you touch on in the book?

**LM:** There are many, many different topics. The entire first section is sort of foundations, so it’s frequently asked questions about transgender people, ... questions and answers about the most common questions and confusions that many people have. There are several sections about intersectionality and why that’s an incredibly critical topic, especially when we’re talking about transgender people. Because again, transgender people, especially transgender people of color, face multiple marginalizations and face extraordinary discrimination. And so we want anybody learning about transgender people or wanting to teach about transgender people to understand the ways that race, particularly, and class, and sexual orientation, and age and ability — and a whole host of other dimensions of diversity — intersect with transgender people’s lives to give them different kinds of experiences. In addition to that, there is



Luca Maurer, program director for the Center of LGBT Education, Outreach & Services, co-authored “The Teaching Transgender Toolkit” for facilitating discussions about transgender people.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

a section for people who work on college campuses. There’s a section for people who are medical and health care providers. There’s a section for counselors. There’s a section for K through 12 schoolteachers. ... And then at the end, there’s an extensive resource list of, again, a variety of free publications people can access and also recommended other books and resources that you can find at the library or online and things like that. ... Also, my co-author, Eli, and I were very, like I said, are very, very committed to lifting up actual transgender people. And so a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the book are donated to support transgender-led and transgender-serving organizations who focus primarily on providing services and advocating for the most marginalized members of the transgender communities, particularly transgender people of color and transgender people in rural communities.

**CC:** What are some misconceptions you try to address that are distinct to educators?

**LM:** One that’s very big is about intersectionality and multiple identities. It’s common that I will hear a person refer to transgender people and then separately refer to people of color. And I’m like, “Those groups of people overlap.” Or, you know, they’ll talk about students with disabilities and transgender students. And I’m like, “There are students with both of those experiences and both of those identities.” So one common misconception is sometimes some folks — not everyone, some folks — you know, will approach me and say, “Well tell me about

transgender students.” And then approach someone else and say, “Tell me about students of color, or tell me about first-generation students. Tell me about international students.” And I’m like, “Wait wait wait. Transgender students are all of those too.” ... Another huge misconception: People confuse gender identity and sexual orientation. That’s huge. So they’re separate, right — being gay, lesbian or bisexual or queer or pansexual is about to whom you are attracted. Being transgender is within yourself, your sense of who you are in your heart, your mind, your soul as a gendered person, right. But it’s a very common confusion. So again, there are some transgender people who are heterosexual, some transgender people who are gay or lesbian or bi, pan or queer.

**CC:** How do you feel about the response that you’ve gotten to this toolkit?

**LM:** I’m pretty excited. ... We know that people are having these conversations already. ... Like, I hear people. People contact my office for resources or for help or for advice all the time. And we thought, well instead of us just doing this separately, individually, what if we put everything in one place? That could really help. So I’m really happy with the response. ... It seems like our goal of being helpful to people — it seems like we did well, so I’m pretty happy about that.

**CONNECT WITH CELISA CALACAL**  
CCALACAL@ITHACA.EDU | @CELISA\_MIA



## Vote recount is reasonable

The election may have happened weeks ago, but the controversy surrounding it has not subsided. The Clinton campaign stirred mixed responses after it offered to participate in a recount of votes in Wisconsin, one of the states that was key to President-elect Donald Trump’s victory. While critics of the recount feel the campaigns should accept the results and move on, there is no harm in ensuring all results are accurate, especially with such small margins of victory for Trump.

After the election, Green Party Candidate Jill Stein requested a recount in three states and so far has raised over \$6 million for the effort. Her fundraising campaign suggests there were statistical anomalies in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania, and she wants recounts in all three. The Clinton campaign agreed to participate in the recount effort to verify that there was no hacking or other tampering with election results. Stein will be footing the bill from the money she raised, so the recount will not depend on government funding.

Trump and his associates have been highly critical of the recount effort. It would reflect poorly on him if voters do not think he won the election fairly, so it makes sense that he would be critical. Trump called Stein’s fundraising effort a scam and said the money would not actually be spent on the recount. However, Stein said the money is being collected in a separate account from normal donations, and her website states that all leftover funds will go toward other efforts in ensuring election integrity.

Even if this recount is unlikely to change the election results, given that all three states would need to be won by Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton for her to win, there is nothing negative that comes from being absolutely sure the election results are correct. The attitude that Clinton is being a “sore loser” by supporting the recount effort is harmful. Clinton made her concession speech and has not questioned Trump’s legitimacy other than supporting a recount. Even Trump questioned some of the results, claiming millions of people voted illegally, so it seems hypocritical for him to be mad that Clinton is skeptical of some results. Trump should actually be happy to support the recount efforts since it will only strengthen the legitimacy of his win if he is still declared the winner.

Considering how important the presidential election is, even slim possibilities need to be considered. There is not much to lose by doing a recount that is completely funded by Stein and her donors, and we are gaining certainty that the election results are absolutely fair.

**PROGRESSIVE PUNDIT** is a progressive politics column written by Emma Whitestone. **WHITESTONE** is a senior politics major. Connect with her at ewhites2@ithaca.edu and @EJWstone.

# SNAP JUDGMENT

What was the toughest topic to talk about with your family during Thanksgiving?



“Probably the election and politics. ... It was pretty tense — our family was actually split this year for Thanksgiving.”

**DEANNA WETMORE**  
**JOURNALISM**  
**'19**



“My entire family was for Hillary, so they were depressed about what’s going to happen.”

**ERIC BROWN**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**  
**'20**



“I guess the toughest thing was talking about Black Lives Matter and the Trump presidency and how all that connects.”

**KECIA ROMIEL**  
**WRITING**  
**'17**



“It was based around religion and moral values. Because surprisingly, unlike most families, I am the religious person in my family.”

**AUSTIN SMITH**  
**CINEMA & PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**'19**



“We kind of avoided the whole presidential thing to keep common ground.”

**ANNMARIE MURRAY**  
**COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT & DESIGN**  
**'18**

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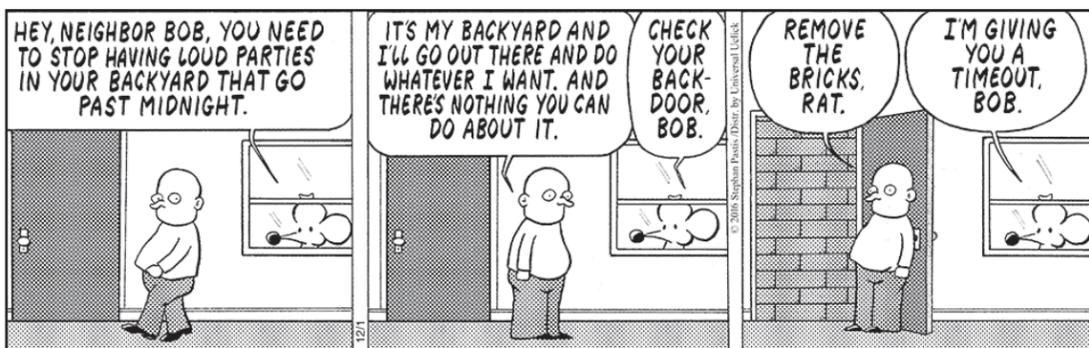
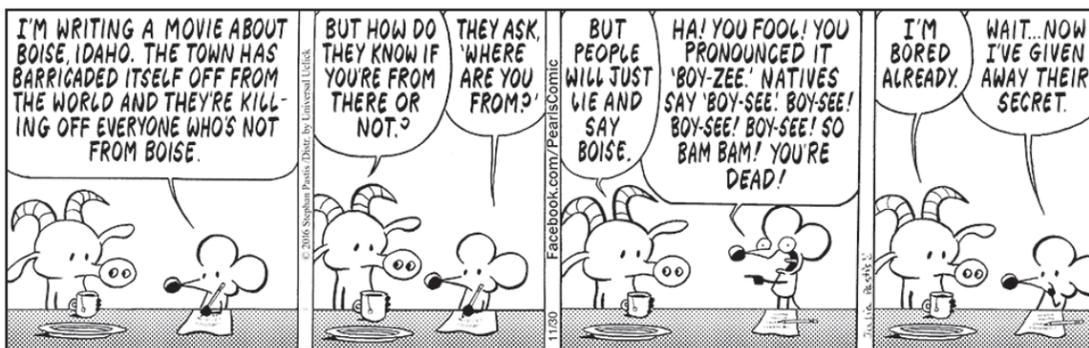
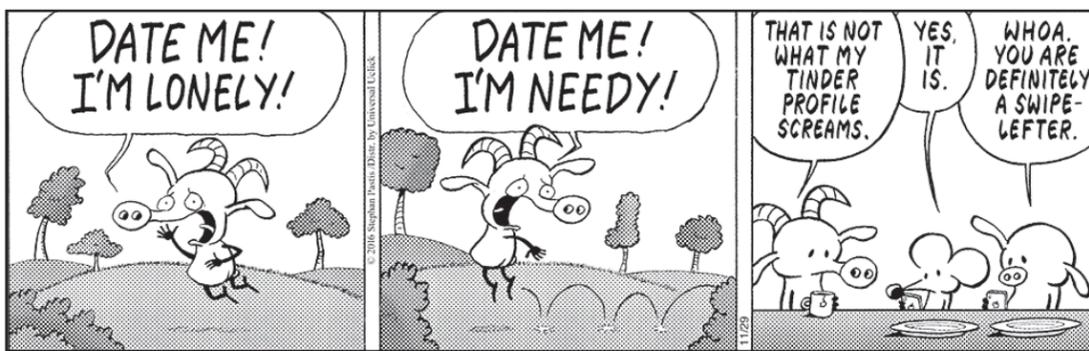
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## Moonshoes By Allison Latini '17



## Pearls Before Swine® By Stephan Pastis



## sudoku

medium

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

hard

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

### answers to last week's sudoku

easy

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

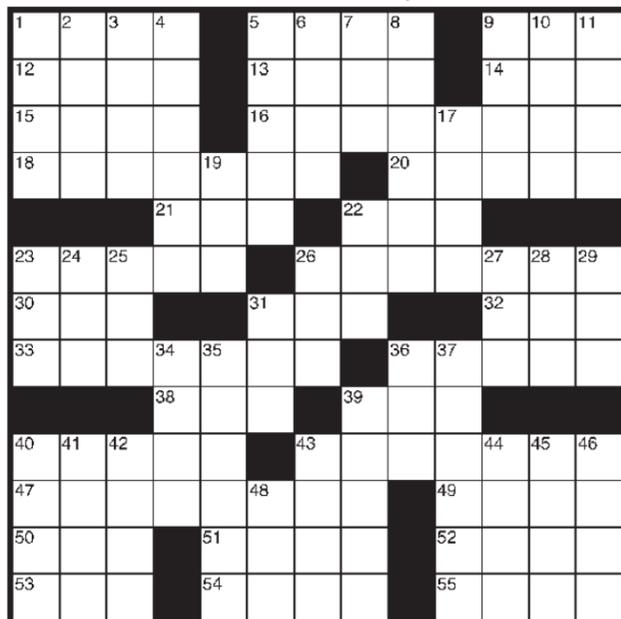
medium

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

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## crossword

By United Media



### ACROSS

- 1 Huff and puff
- 5 Hot tubs
- 9 Like some socks
- 12 Pale-green moth
- 13 Pushpin
- 14 Hex halved
- 15 A Ponderosa son
- 16 Right-brained, maybe
- 18 Water ouzels
- 20 Split to join
- 21 Did lunch
- 22 Brady Bill opposer
- 23 Whammy
- 26 Fragrant bush
- 30 Tempe coll.
- 31 Kickback
- 32 Cow's "second course"
- 33 Violent storm
- 36 Mortgages
- 38 Bled, as a color
- 39 Cattle call
- 40 Troublesome joints

- 43 Ballgame fare (2 wds.)
- 47 Kept nagging (2 wds.)
- 49 John, in Siberia
- 50 Dow Jones fig.
- 51 Coax
- 52 Grocery section
- 53 Paleo opp.
- 54 Attention getter
- 55 Quod - demon-strandum

### DOWN

- 1 Spiky flower
- 2 German import
- 3 Cold spell
- 4 Argentine plains
- 5 Gawk
- 6 Standards
- 7 Fake it
- 8 Downhill racers
- 9 Director - Preminger
- 10 Stalagmite starter
- 11 Cut into cubes
- 17 Shut with a bang

- 19 Dog days in Dijon
- 22 Velvety surface
- 23 Cheshire -
- 24 Do something with
- 25 Sugar cane product
- 26 Iota
- 27 Hard water?
- 28 Creature of habit?
- 29 MS readers
- 31 FICA number
- 34 Get ready
- 35 Cut some slack (2 wds.)
- 36 Parcel of land
- 37 Cloud-seeding compound
- 39 Water-lily painter
- 40 Genghis -
- 41 Pew locale
- 42 Hence
- 43 Macho motorcycles
- 44 Done with
- 45 Big celebration
- 46 Angry mood
- 48 Rx writers

### last week's crossword answers

V	I	P	E	H	S	A	C	E	S		
R	O	V	E	S	O	S	A	L	E		
S	T	O	C	K	A	D	E	A	S	S	T
V	E	R	S	A	A	D	E	P	T		
P	R	Y	R	U	D	E	R	I	D	S	
A	M	P	S	K	N	E	E				
A	M	E	B	A	S	A	P	O	G	E	E
F	U	S	I	D	E	A					
R	D	S	Z	E	N	D	A	L	B	S	
E	R	N	E	S	C	A	I	R	O		
J	U	N	O	R	I	G	H	T	N	O	W
A	R	C	S	I	D	A	E	G	O	S	
G	L	E	E	E	L	N	O	M			

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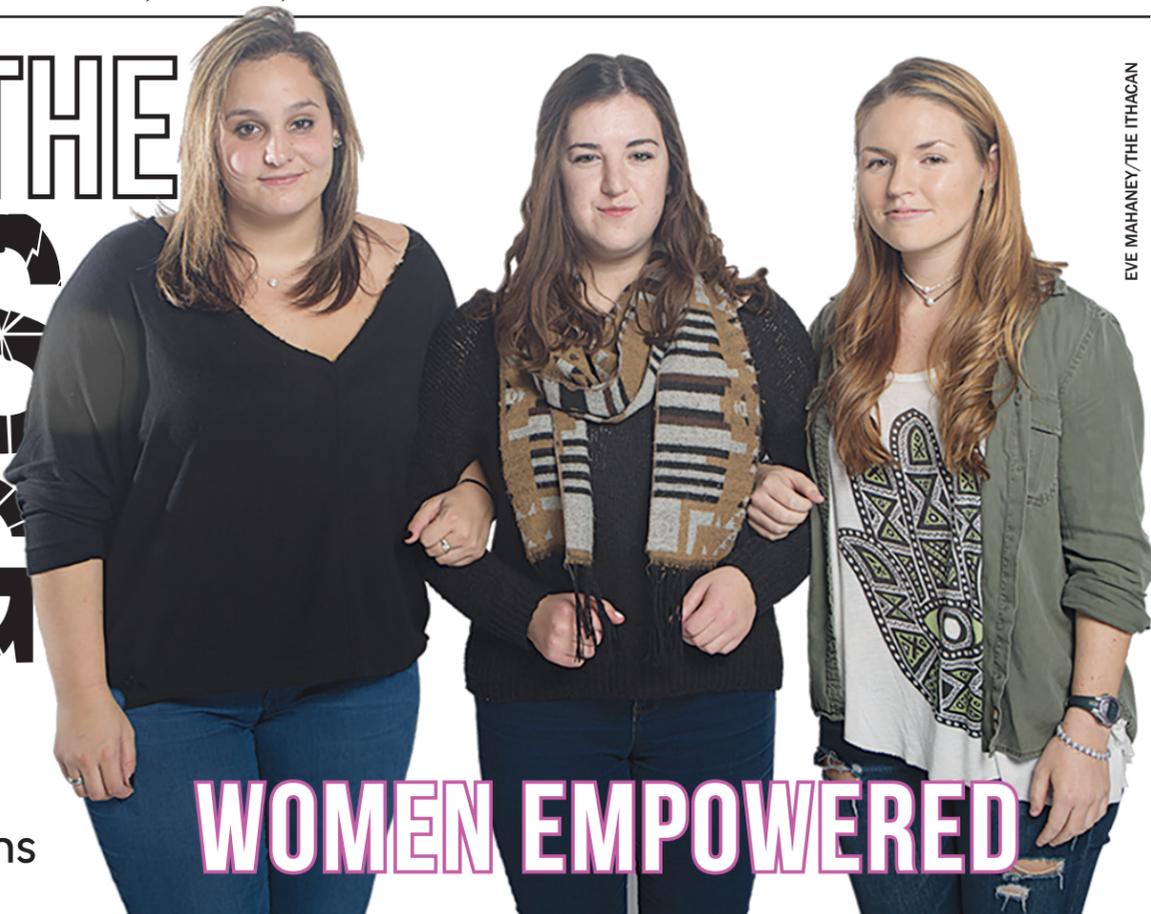


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## CRACKING THE GLASS CEILING

Women on campus address issues through a network of empowerment organizations



EVE MAHANEY/THE ITHACAN

### WOMEN EMPOWERED

**BY LISBETH PEREZ**  
STAFF WRITER

As senior Nicole Lane sat down for her first computer science class, she took a look around the room and realized that she was one of two women in the class. This realization led to doubts about belonging and a compulsion to overachieve.

"I needed to prove myself and that I could do it better than everybody else," she said.

After attending a couple more classes, she became friends with the men in the department and decided that she was a strong and competent computer scientist.

So she joined Women in Computing, one of several clubs at Ithaca College whose missions concentrate on the empowerment of women. Similar organizations include Ithaca College Girl Up, She's Fit To Lead — also known as Women Empowered — Feminists United and IC Sister 2 Sister.

#### Women in Computing

Lane is now the president of Women in Computing, a club on campus that provides a space for women who are interested in computer science and programming to discuss the low number of women in the program on campus. This semester, there are 15 women enrolled in computer science, compared to 63 men, according to the Office of Institutional Research.

Women in the group are able to share their personal experiences in the field, network and try their computing and programming skills.

"We have worked with the Game Developer's club, and we're planning on doing a mixer with the Cornell Women in Computing club," Lane said, although the plans are still tentative. "We're new, so we haven't done many collaborations yet, but we are looking forward to doing so in the future."

She said the group also does outreach with younger girls in the Ithaca community, such as providing guest speakers who are women in the industry

from all different types of programs to help promote empowerment for young women.

"The problem is that there aren't many women getting involved, and the problem stems from ... the fact that it is hugely male-dominated," Lane said.

The computing field wasn't always male-dominated. The proportion of bachelor's degrees in computer science going to women was at its highest, 37 percent, in the early 1980s, according to a report from the American Association of University Women. But the study found that hiring practices and professional networks in the 1990s tended to favor male entry into the field, and women tended to leave more, experiencing isolation in the workplace. In 2013, 18 percent of computer science bachelor's degrees went to women.

"Every week, I sit down in Williams 320, and I'm in awe at the women that are sitting there with me," Lane said. "It feels incredible to listen to, to see, and to experience all of the incredible things that women can accomplish, individually and in groups."

#### Girl Up

Sophomore Skyler Hollenbeck first got involved with Girl Up — an

organization composed of advocates dedicated to bettering the lives of others and promoting the empowerment of women in leadership — in her hometown, Binghamton, New York, while she was in high school.

She became passionate about her advocacy work and decided to bring that with her to college by creating Girl Up last year.

Hollenbeck said the club's goal is to empower women at the college and abroad, and to help with, she said, they advocate and raise money to help girls abroad who might not have the same benefits that the members might benefit from.

"Sometimes at our meetings, we do leadership activities ... to make girls feel more confident," she said. "We talk a lot about leadership in ourself and personal care and self-care."

Similar to Women in Computing, the organization also reaches out to the younger community members to teach them about the leadership qualities that empowered women possess. In the spring, the organization will be hosting a leadership summit for middle school and high school students in Ithaca in partnership with a high school in Buffalo, New York, and Binghamton University.

Hollenbeck said she has many plans for Girl Up in the future but that the biggest is for the organization to

expand. She said she wants the club to not just be recognizable on campus and in the community, but to also be known as a club that has made a significant impact on both.

#### Women Empowered

Women Empowered begins each meeting with a discussion of everyone's highs and lows of the week.

"Having a moment to just have a group of supportive people there to listen to you and help give you feedback when you need — it is an amazing feeling," said Michelle Shipley, a current executive board member of Women Empowered.

Shipley joined Women Empowered when approached by the former president of the organization. She said she loved the idea of women coming together and having a support system, a form of networking and a way to become well-rounded women.

Seniors Emma Herschman, current president of Women Empowered, and vice president Sarah Handler said the club's goal is to act as a support group on campus for anyone who is seeking help, but especially for women, which make up the group.

"You can just come and have someone to talk to, especially for freshmen who haven't made friends yet," Handler said. "It is called Women Empowered, but anyone can come if

they need someone to talk to."

The group is hoping to develop a partnership with Women in Communication to host an event about empowering women in the workplace, Handler said.

In addition to acting as a support group, the organization also hosts activities that help raise money for other nonprofit foundations on and off campus. For example, the group is currently selling chokers to raise money for breast cancer awareness and for the club.

Herschman said joining Women Empowered has created a safe place where she, along with many other women, have been able to grow.

"I joined the club to get more involved on campus and be involved with something I'm really passionate about," she said. "I feel that there is no 'safe space' for people to go to on campus, and there are so many struggles that I myself experienced in college and felt trapped."

Herschman said she is able to see the smiles on all the women's faces after their meetings, which makes her feel empowered.

"I love that these girls feel comfortable enough to open up and share any thoughts they are having," she said.

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### ITHACA GIRL UP

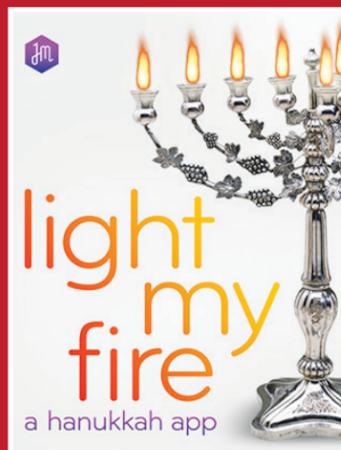
### WOMEN IN COMPUTING

EVE MAHANEY/THE ITHACAN

# ACCENTUATE

## Light My Fire: A Hanukkah App

Celebrate the Jewish holiday on your mobile app with “Light My Fire: A Hanukkah App.” The app offers a variety of modern and traditional menorahs for app users to light. To celebrate Hanukkah, the user drags a lit match across the screen each day as the app sends users a holiday blessing in either English or Hebrew. The app was created by The Jewish Museum, a museum in New York City focused on Jewish culture and art.



## VIRAL VIDEO

Wes Anderson produces digital short for H&M

Indie movie director Wes Anderson released a short film Nov. 27 as part of the 2016 H&M Christmas clothing collection. The four-minute video takes place on a train. It begins when the conductor, Ralph, announces a delay in arrival due to weather conditions, so the passengers decide to host a small celebration on the train. The film, titled “Come Together,” stars Adrien Brody, notable for his roles in “The Pianist” and “The Grand Budapest Hotel.”



## PEPPERMINT MOCHA MILKSHAKE

**Ingredients:**  
 1 cup chocolate milk  
 4 ice cubes  
 Half cup greek yogurt  
 Half tablespoon instant coffee powder  
 1 tablespoon cocoa powder  
 1 tablespoon vanilla extract  
 Half teaspoon peppermint extract  
 1/4 teaspoon sugar  
 Whipped cream (for garnish)  
 1 regular candy cane

**Instructions:**  
 —Combine all ingredients into a blender except whipped cream and candy cane.

—Insert candy cane into small plastic bag and crush into thin bits using a spoon.

—Pour blended shake into tall glass. Top with whipped cream and crushed candy cane bits. Enjoy!

Recipe modified from HowSweetEats.com, photo from HowSweetEats.com.



## CELEB SCOOPS

### Emma Roberts Rocks Her Ring

After “American Horror Story” stars Emma Roberts and Evan Peters were spotted kissing and shopping on the streets of Provincetown, Massachusetts, over Thanksgiving weekend, the rumors have been confirmed: The duo are re-engaged. The two stars are known to have had an on-again, off-again relationship, but Roberts has been seen wearing her engagement ring. While the two have yet to comment on their relationship status, Roberts referenced Peters in her recent Instagram post. In the picture, she holds a bottle that reads “Gobble Gobble Idiot Hooker,” and included Peters’ username in the caption. The duo reportedly split earlier this year after getting engaged in January 2014.

## Fun Fact

According to the Guinness World Records, the tallest Christmas tree ever cut was a 221-foot Douglas fir displayed in 1950 at the Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle.



## Word of the Week

### VICISSITUDE

Noun | vuh-SISS-uh-tood

A change that occurs over the course of something



# 'Black-ish' creator receives Serling Award

BY JAKE LEARY  
STAFF WRITER

Ithaca College has recognized Kenya Barris, executive producer and creator of the ABC comedy "Black-ish," with the college's Rod Serling Award for Advancing Social Justice Through Popular Media.

"I think that I've been given a unique opportunity to tell a story and start conversations, and I think that's the most important thing any artist can do," Barris said during his acceptance speech at the Rod Serling Award ceremony the evening of Nov. 16. "We just try to give you as many different points of view so you can have conversations that you might have at one point been afraid or uncomfortable to have."

The award commemorates Rod Serling, who taught at the college from 1967 to 1975. Diane Gayeski, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, said Serling's television show "The Twilight Zone" received critical acclaim for its complexity and social relevance. The Serling Award honors a current media figure whose work sheds light on inequality and discrimination.

The first Rod Serling Award was given in February to writer David Simon for his work on HBO's "Show Me a Hero," the story of racial tension in Yonkers, New York, in the early '90s.

The most recent award ceremony took place in the Paley Center in Los Angeles. The audience consisted of students, alumni and members of the industry.

Barris previously wrote for the TV series "Are We There Yet" and is co-creator of "America's Next Top Model." "Black-ish" deals with complex social issues, particularly those pertaining to racial identity in modern America.

Gayeski said she believed Barris was a worthy successor to Serling's legacy of raising difficult social and political issues.

"He is also involved in a lot of other projects that are very well-known and is getting a lot of attention for his creativity and — similar to Rod Serling — for tackling some very important, fairly sensitive social issues in a way that is accessible and attractive to the public," she said.



Kenya Barris, executive producer and creator of the ABC comedy "Black-ish," gives his acceptance speech after being presented with Ithaca College's Rod Serling Award for Advancing Social Justice Through Popular Media. The ceremony was held on Nov. 16 in Los Angeles.

COURTESY OF JAKE WEST

Gayeski said the award is a chance to recognize modern attempts to speak out against injustice and a chance to integrate the college's students into the vast media industry.

"Students are invited as guests, so they'll have a great opportunity to mingle with a lot of intellectual people from the industry who are attending tonight," Gayeski said.

Actor Marcus Scribner, who plays the role of Andre Johnson Jr. on "Black-ish," co-presented the award with Gayeski. Scribner praised Barris for providing him with the freedom to portray difficult social issues.

"It's been a blessing working on the show and getting to tell these very important stories

every single week, and Kenya just makes it so much easier because ... he allows us actors the creative freedom to perform these words and give the performance of our lives," he said.

When Barris finally took the stage, he recollected the realities of the marginalized in America and discussed the bitterness that can arise from institutional oppression.

"As a member of a disenfranchised group, one of the things I have always taken and learned from my people is we've never gotten our way," he said. "The brilliance and beauty of my culture that I'll always love is that we still send our kids to school, believe in this dream, live in neighborhoods that people are often afraid to drive

through and believe in this country, even when it doesn't believe in us."

Barris discussed the progress of the United States over the last half-century and its current political state. Teary-eyed, Barris said the American people should come together and live up to the country's potential.

"Let's reach across and stop calling 50 million people crazy, and let's have them stop calling us crazy, and let's find that middle ground, and let's find a way to make this country a better place," he said.

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## IC students express themselves through dance in upcoming show

BY LISBETH PEREZ  
STAFF WRITER

The Department of Theatre Arts at Ithaca College has put bodies into motion to address pertinent questions in life — good and bad habits, the desires of the subconscious and the role of women throughout time — in an upcoming dance production.

On Dec. 1, the Dillingham Center will present "Winter Bodies," a ballet dance concert choreographed by three professors in the department: Courtney Young, Lindsay Gilmour and Amy Walker O'Brien.

The production will be showing until Dec. 4.

The concert is broken into three distinct acts, each with its own choreography — Gilmour's "Hysterical Creatures"; Young's "Dream Ballet" and "Out of my Dreams"; and Walker O'Brien's "In a Particular Way."

In "Hysterical Creatures," Gilmour deconstructs the roles that women perform throughout history in a loose poetic interpretation. Some archetypal roles that Gilmour addresses in her ballet are of women as wives, mothers, spinsters, sirens or vixens, and workingwomen.

Before her performance, in the lobby, Gilmour will have a display of the Victorian era gowns that are worn by the dancers and designed by

Marcie Farwell, a local artist who creates mid-century gowns as art pieces. The gowns will be used to represent the suffragist movement, the first part of Gilmour's ballet.

Other parts of the performance include a look at the post-World War II woman, women from the era of sexual liberation and finally, a look at the workingwoman who tries to balance everything — a family, career and hobbies.

**"Dance is a beautiful physical language, and this group ... put a great amount of love and heart into the evening's work."**

— Amy Walker O'Brien

"I'm working with these historical taboos, but it is not really about history or these particular times; it's using these time periods to be symbols for things that we are now," Gilmour said.

Senior Maya Drummond, a dancer from "Hysterical Creatures," said the process of creating this modern piece was physically, mentally and emotionally taxing. In the end, however, she said it encouraged vulnerability, acceptance, humility and confidence.

"Our movement, and the emotion behind it, is influenced by each others' experiences and the experiences of women throughout history," Drummond said. "This piece is a chance to overtly condemn oppression of women while simultaneously empowering women."

Gilmour's inspiration for "Hysterical Creatures" came from thinking about the world in which she wanted her daughter to live.

"The piece is part satire on things that I have struggled with and that my generation or my mother's generation have struggled with," she said.

Unlike Gilmour, Young did not create her piece. Young choreographed two pre-existing ballets from the musical "Oklahoma" — "Dream Ballet" and "Out of my Dream."

Young said this ballet is important to the show because it exposes theater students to classic ballets from the musical theater canon.

"Dream Ballet" follows Laurey, the main character, and her inner struggle between two men in her life, Curly and Jud, after falling asleep. Throughout her dream, Laurey goes back and forth between the two, and in "Out of my Dream," she wakes up and makes her decision.

Sophomore Maria Scherer will be playing Laurey, the lead in the ballet.

"I'm so fortunate to be able to bring this beautiful piece of golden-age musical theater alive alongside a group of talented and dedicated performers," Scherer said. "I really enjoy telling Laurey's story because I feel like every person has gone to far lengths to try to find clarity, especially with something as special as love."

Walker O'Brien's "In a Particular Way" examines the many dimensions of the habits people develop.

"A habit is something that we become accustomed to doing



Dancers from "Hysterical Creatures" rehearse the original play by Lindsay Gilmour, assistant professor in the theater department, on Nov. 14.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

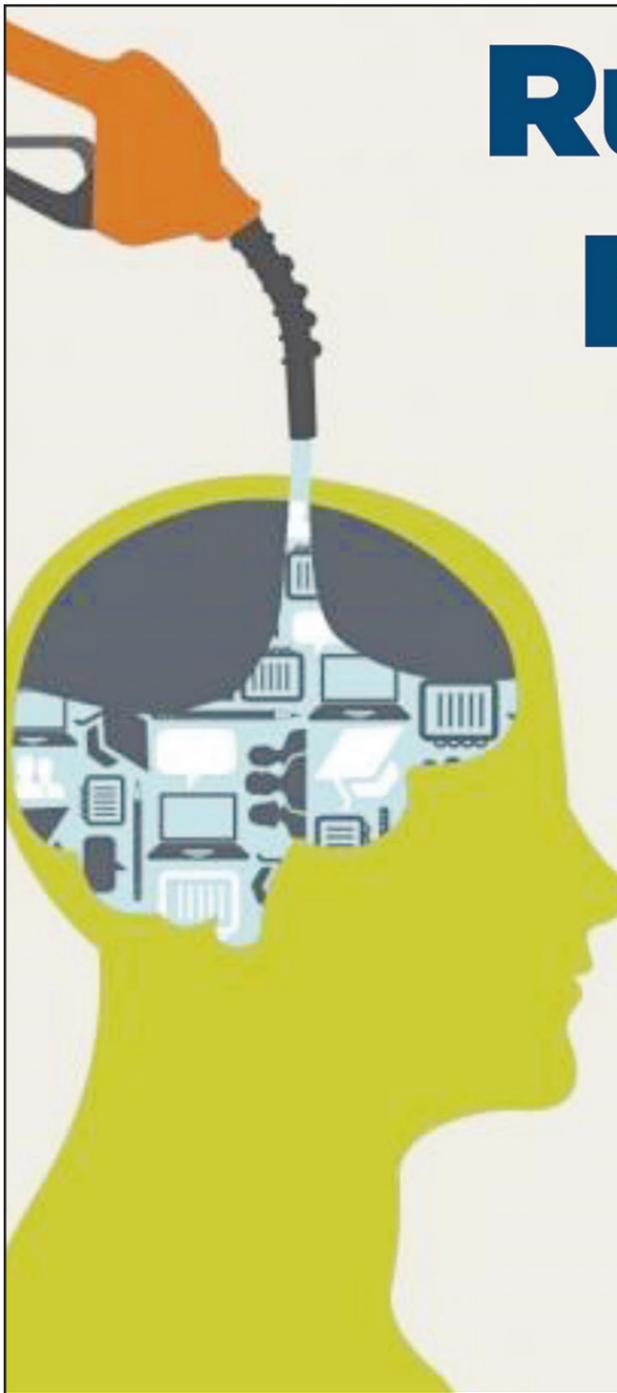
without even realizing it," she said. "Exploring these questions reveals that our habits and society are intricately connected and that reflecting on our habits helps us reach a deeper understanding of the society we live in as well."

Walker O'Brien said her inspiration for this ballet came from her own habits and how she communicates them through her physical language as a dancer, teacher and human. She said she hopes the ballet will promote discussion.

"Seeing the dancers take ownership and how they will put their breath and life into the steps ... dance is a beautiful physical language, and this group of dancers, designers and mentors put a great amount of love and heart into the evening's work," she said.

Tickets are currently for sale at <https://ithaca.ticketforce.com/>.

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# Dozens of bands gather for local Big Day In



**BY OLIVIA RIGGIO**  
STAFF WRITER

Local indie music fans will escape the cold for a 12-hour celebration of live music, local artists and organizations at The Haunt this weekend.

Ithaca Underground's 12th annual Big Day In begins at 12 p.m. Dec. 3 for \$7 per person. The event will feature 26 bands, both local and touring acts, covering various genres such as hip-hop, punk and noise rock.

Bubba Crumrine, president of the board for Ithaca Underground, said the mission of Ithaca Underground is to bring new and challenging music and art to inclusive environments. His job as president includes booking artists; leading outreach and logistics teams; running shows and events; and making connections with other local not-for-profits, venues and bands.

He said the purpose of Ithaca Underground's Big Day In is to provide an end-of-the-year celebratory event and to bring attention and publicity to the Ithaca community and its array of artists.

"We are trying to provide a day of music that's diverse agewise, which has always been at the core of what we do, as well as diversity in gender, race and orientation," Crumrine said.

Crumrine said the low price allows those who may be financially struggling to enjoy a large variety of acts. Some acts that will be performing include B. Dolan, Guerilla Toss, Japanese Breakfast, Izzy True, Sammus and Imperials.

This year, the event will include more bands than in the past with the addition of a second stage outside of the venue that will showcase local acts until 8 p.m. Crumrine said Ithaca Underground values artists who are more than just performers.

"We're bringing artists that aren't just musicians, but they're active in their communities in a variety of ways — whether that's on a national level, whether it's a social-political type of way or if it's supporting their own music communities and the DIY arts around them," he said.

Izzy Reidy of indie-rock group Izzy True, and Sammus, a rising indie feminist hip-hop artist and Cornell graduate, are both upstate New Yorkers who express inclusivity and activism both on and off the stage. Reidy grew up performing with Ithaca Underground and said the environment it provided gave them and their friends a platform to perform.

"I've been going to the Big Day In since the beginning and have played a number of them in various projects dating back to my high school band, Fight A Scary Dog," Reidy said.

Aside from engaging audiences with self-deprecating humor and witty indie songs, Reidy is also active in Ithaca's local music community.

"I think seeing the power of community early on has deeply affected the way I look at art," Reidy said. "A good DIY scene promotes the idea that artistic expression is an end in and of itself."

Crumrine said Ithaca Underground upholds a mission of inclusivity and a strong sense of community that will be exemplified during Big Day In.

"[My music] focuses on black experiences of being a nerd or being a geek and being a person of color in this country and kind of being a millennial," Sammus said.

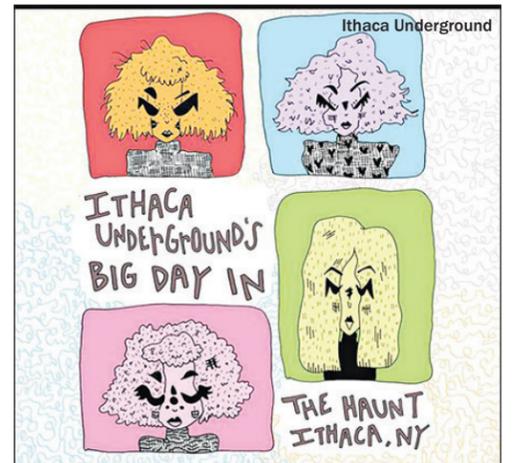
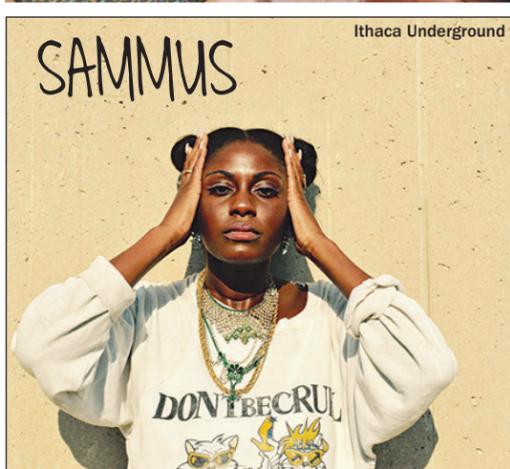
This year will be Sammus' third year performing at Big Day In, and she said she looks forward to what this year will offer.

Sammus just released an album in October, but she said since Ithaca Underground provides a supportive space for artists to experiment, the audience can expect to hear some unreleased songs.

Crumrine said Big Day In is a strong representation of what Ithaca Underground does year-round. He said above all else, the environment is positive with volunteers' making sure audience members are enjoying themselves safely.

"If you want to understand what it means to be a part of Ithaca Underground, Big Day In is it," he said.

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# CIDER MONDAYS

Instead of celebrating Cyber Monday, Ithaca community members enjoyed complimentary cups of locally produced cider for Cider Monday on Nov. 28



Simon Ingall, owner of Grisamore Cider Works, had a small table set up for cider sampling in the back of 15 Steps, a local shop located on The Commons.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



Catherine Michael, communications librarian at Ithaca College, shops for a Christmas gift for a friend in Ithacamide, a shop located in DeWitt Mall, where Bellwether Hard Cider set up a table.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



American Crafts supplied its complimentary cider in a cold-stone dispenser, which was also for sale, for prospective customers to enjoy while holiday shopping.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



Todd Kurzweil, owner of Sunny Days, pours a complimentary cup of cider outside of his shop, which sells local hand-made souvenirs.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



From left, Ian Merwin, owner of Black Diamond Cider, presents samples to local residents Matt Stupak, Lawrence Carkberg and Casey Griswold in Press Bay Alley. Other cider-sampling tables were scattered throughout town.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

# 'Strange' misses the mark in Marvel Universe

BY JAKE LEARY  
STAFF WRITER

Space and time fold in upon themselves, buildings warp and twist like rubber, neon lights and colors flash across the screen, portals open, glowing weapons clash. Glorious eye candy with a shallow plot.

"Doctor Strange" marks Marvel's 14th entry into its ever-growing cinematic universe. As such, it boasts the familiar triumphs — the spectacle, the charismatic hero, the not-so-subtle references to obscure Marvel characters. But it also bears the weight of past failures: a vague villain, a sidelined love interest, a nagging feeling that the film is no different from the 13 that came before. "Doctor Strange" is a beautified rehash that exemplifies a dangerous trend in Marvel's recent films — stale familiarity.

When "Iron Man" was released in 2008, it demonstrated that comic-book adaptations didn't have to sacrifice complexity for fun. Though not perfect, "Iron Man" was a breath of fresh air. "Doctor Strange" is effectively the same movie eight years later. Stephen Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch) is a cocky surgical prodigy whose promising career is cut short by a car accident. After exhausting modern treatment methods, Strange turns to the mystical — but there's a twist. He is forced to change, to rise above his selfish arrogance if he wishes to return to full health, a similar path to that of Tony Stark as Iron Man. The major difference is that Stark is fighting machines, while Strange combats extradimensional gods. Though

the scope of the threat in "Doctor Strange" is much larger, the journey Cumberbatch's Strange takes is almost identical to that of Stark. They both start as lovable jerks, become selfless heroes and face off against bland foes.

Marvel struggles with villains. With few exceptions, the Marvel Cinematic Universe is rife with antagonists who are evil for evil's sake. "Doctor Strange" is no different. Kaecilius (Mads Mikkelsen) wants to achieve immortality by releasing an ancient deity — a cosmic god that would obliterate all of existence, including Kaecilius himself. Despite repeated mentions of Kaecilius's magical and intellectual prowess, he is somehow ignorant to this obvious flaw in his plan. There is a blink-and-you-miss-it explanation of his motivation, but none of his subsequent actions reflect the tragedy of his background. There was a time when the antagonist was the most compelling part of a superhero film, when moral ideologies would clash and high stakes thundered behind every confrontation. Instead, Kaecilius is another empty punching bag for the protagonist to prove himself against. Unfortunately, he is only one of several meaningless characters in "Doctor Strange."

Strange's love interest, Christine Palmer (Rachel McAdams), and his sidekick and mentor, Mordo (Chiwetel Ejiofor), are both underdeveloped yet crucial characters. Palmer is a symbol of Strange's development as a person. The dynamic between the two should be fraught with tension,



"Doctor Strange," directed by Scott Derrickson, fails to differentiate itself from previous Marvel Universe films. The 14th Marvel film, released Nov. 4, stars Benedict Cumberbatch and Rachel McAdams.

MARVEL STUDIOS

but instead, their interactions are flat and empty. Palmer is a prop to make Strange look redeemable by the film's end; she isn't her own character. Mordo is similarly underutilized — his arc is fodder for an after-credits zinger and nothing more.

The one aspect of "Doctor Strange" that truly shines is the twist spectacle during the first half of the

film. The opening fight is a delightful kaleidoscope of city streets and glass buildings. But Strange's introduction to the magical arts is more impressive by far — a bright splash of psychedelic images akin to the end of Stanley Kubrick's "2001." It is a shame that this visual treat fades in the film's second half.

Marvel kicked the comic-book

craze into overdrive when it released "Iron Man." "Doctor Strange" shows how thinly Marvel is stretched — that which made its past films enjoyable has become old hat. If Marvel wants to maintain its grasp on moviegoers, it can't be afraid to be strange.

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## Bruno Mars grooves his way to artistic gold

BY MEG TIPPETT  
STAFF WRITER

Dubbed a "nineties throwback" by Rolling Stone, Bruno Mars' newest album, "24K Magic," is a collection of flashy songs and funky grooves that transports listeners back to the soulful decade. Mars takes on a rhythm-and-blues persona that he has recently been incorporating into his music, strung together with energetic twists and pop sounds.

"24K Magic," the first song on the album, was released Oct. 7, weeks before the album release. The song begins with Mars' singing a giddy riff, and a synthesizer follows the melody. The song includes a DJ record scratch, ingraining Mars' album in the '90s. Similar to his past hits, such as "Uptown Funk," the song features a background chorus that assists in singing the melody and emphasizing harmonies. Throughout the

song, there is a constant, prominent beat — one that is easy for listeners to dance and jump to.

"Perm," the third song on the album, features a synthesized trumpet frontline and a distinct R&B vibe. Mars throws in several growls and ha's, once again reminiscent of the sounds of the '80s and '90s. The electric guitar and drum chords maintain a jazzy groove throughout.

A different style of laid-back, cool swing is featured in "Calling All My Lovelies." The song begins with a synth riff and a drum beat that is easy to groove to, and it features finger snaps, a distinguishing characteristic of '90s R&B. Mars' vocal range is clearly displayed with a jump into the higher register during the chorus and a deep fall into a lower register for the verses. This contrast gives the song an ambience separate from the other songs on the album while paying homage to the real roots of R&B music.

The last song on the album, "Too Good to Say Goodbye," sounds eerily similar to a love anthem straight from



ATLANTIC RECORDS

the '90s. Mars' vocals are quite prominent throughout the song, not covered up by the emphasized drums or intense brass solos. His vocal range and ability to control his voice through the chorus once again proves Mars is at the top.

Mars' newer music has been quickly approaching the label of a refined, neo-modern, cool swing. Mars seems to express himself the best in this style of music, which helps raise his popularity among listeners. While the lyrics are not necessarily written with any complex ideas in mind, the catchy beats add up to an undeniably fun and groovy album.

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## Tasteless album spoils

BY COLIN BARRETT  
STAFF WRITER

After the massive success of her hit singles "Talking Body" and "Stay High," techno artist Tove Lo has felt the pressure to make another radio hit. Unfortunately, Lo falls into the category of cliché pop, which is prominent in the music scene today.

Her latest release, "Lady Wood," is divided into two sections: Fairy Dust — the "highs" — and Fire Fade — the "lows." On and off the album, Lo functions as the typical edgy teen girl, singing frantically about how she's intentionally careless. Derivative of artists like Lana Del Rey, Halsey, and Marina and the Diamonds, Lo just gets lost in the sidelines.

The first track, "Influence," featuring Wiz Khalifa, is a combination of Khalifa's unnecessary lyrics and Lo's decision to jump into vulgar topics right off the

bat. Through lyrics of sex and drugs, Lo tries to prove she's not messing around.

The next section of the album, Fire Fade, is even more questionable than Fairy Dust. The first track, "Don't Talk About It," is unimaginative and predictable, as is the next tune, "Imaginary Friend." At this point on the album, it would be surprising if anyone other than Lo's imaginary friend is listening.

Despite her sexy attempt, Lo creates a messy, tasteless album that will turn listeners off from the beginning.

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ISLAND RECORDS

### ALBUM REVIEW

Bruno Mars  
"24K Magic"  
Atlantic Records  
Our rating:

★★★★☆

### ALBUM REVIEW

Tove Lo  
"Lady Wood"  
Island Records  
Our rating:

★★★☆☆

## QUICKIES



"I KNOW BETTER"  
John Legend  
GOOD MUSIC

Soul and rhythm-and-blues singer John Legend released his latest single Nov. 25. His strong, breathy vocals float over the piano as he sings introspectively about his career as an African-American singer and songwriter.

GOOD MUSIC



"SHED A LIGHT"  
Robin Schulz  
WARNER MUSIC GROUP

DJ and record producer Robin Schulz collaborates with fellow DJ David Guetta and electronic music trio Cheat Codes in "Shed A Light." The single builds into an electronic-pop dance tune.

WARNER MUSIC GROUP



"RIDE 'EM ON DOWN"  
The Rolling Stones  
Decca Records

Famed English rock band The Rolling Stones released its newest single Nov. 25, "Ride 'Em on Down." The heavy guitar throughout the tune reflects the band's classic rock and blues roots and makes for an enjoyable listen.

DECCA RECORDS

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016

# The Eye of the Bomber

Junior Shannon Davis made the switch from wrestling to boxing after suffering two concussions his first season

## ONLINE

For more on Davis, go to [theithacan.org/shannon-davis-boxing](http://theithacan.org/shannon-davis-boxing)

BY ANDREW SULLIVAN  
STAFF WRITER

The moment junior Shannon Davis sets foot in the Chet Cashman Gym in the Greater Ithaca Activities Center, he laces up his royal blue boxing shoes and enters full-on training mode.

After warming up with the punching bag and speed bag, he enters the main stage — the ring — where he partakes in mitt workouts with Danny Akers, head coach of the gym. Davis circles the arena and unloads punch after punch, booming when he makes contact with one of Akers' mitts.

During his freshman year, he was a member of the Ithaca College wrestling team and was only boxing for fun with members of the club on campus called the Ithaca Defenders, of which he is a co-founder and the current vice president. Inspired after sparring Oct. 31 with Vinnie Denierio, a local amateur fighter, Davis said he decided to take a leap and box competitively.

"I'm in love with this sport," Davis said. "That's all there is to it. ... It's not just something I think is interesting for a little bit and I'm just going to put down. Like, I really have a passion for this right now."

Akers said that when he first met Davis, he was most amazed at Davis' demeanor when it came to boxing.

"I liked his attitude," Akers said. "That pretty much convinced me. Looks are deceiving. Anyone can be built and look like [a boxer], but his attitude is what impressed me — just the fact that he jumped in there, he does everything that I ask him, and he always wants to do more."

Davis said he is primarily focused on his first fight as an amateur — which Akers said will be scheduled for sometime in February — and achieving his ultimate goal: becoming the 2018 New York Golden Gloves champion.

Before boxing, Davis wrestled for the Bombers in the 125-pound weight division. He only started wrestling the summer before he entered his freshman year of high school at Blair Academy in Blairstown Township, New Jersey, one of the top-ranked high schools in the nation in wrestling.

He also lived in a household in Newton, New Jersey, that bred top-notch wrestlers who went on to compete at high collegiate ranks. Two of his uncles wrestled at Blair Academy and went on to wrestle at the Division I level at Lehigh University and Old Dominion University.

Davis suffered a concussion during practice a week after the Ithaca Invitational during the 2014–15 season. He endured another one during another practice 2 1/2 months later. He said he took more notice of the second concussion than the first one.

"I just remember there was this white flash, and then right afterwards, it was like I had just ran 5 miles full speed," he said. "That's how fatigued I felt right after that."

Davis took a month and a half off to recuperate from the two concussions before he returned to the wrestling mat. However, during a practice, he fell on his head during a drill, and the white flash crossed his eyes once again.

At the end of the season, head coach Marty Nichols and athletic trainer Jess Anderson urged Davis to stop wrestling to prevent further damage to his brain, which he agreed to.

Davis said the transition from mat to ring was effortless. He said he has been hitting a heavy bag since he was a 16-year-old in his basement in

Newton, although he said he had no idea that he would go down the path of amateur boxing.

Once he stopped wrestling, Davis began to lift weights and hit the heavy bag on a more consistent basis.

Simultaneously, Davis said, he trained with his friend junior Jordan Babatunde, the president of the Ithaca Defenders, who is also training with Akers, after club meetings.

Since slipping on the mitts, Davis said he has received some flak as well as some perplexed looks from his peers over the fact that he is now competing in a sport that is assumed to be more concussion-prone than wrestling.

"My new response is, 'Hey, I've been hit in the head a few times in the sport. Hasn't really shown any effects yet,'" he said. "The moment I realize that my academic work is suffering because I can't think straight, that's the day that I quit. Until that, though, I'm going to try my goddamn hardest."

Babatunde said he was a bit concerned when Davis told him that he was going to box competitively but that he is confident that Davis will avoid any further serious harm to his head.

"I was worried, and I told him, 'OK, if you plan on doing this, we're going to definitely work on your head movement so you don't get hit in the head,'" Babatunde said.

Akers said it is too early for him to tell if the concussions will be an issue since he and Davis have only been training for a couple of weeks.

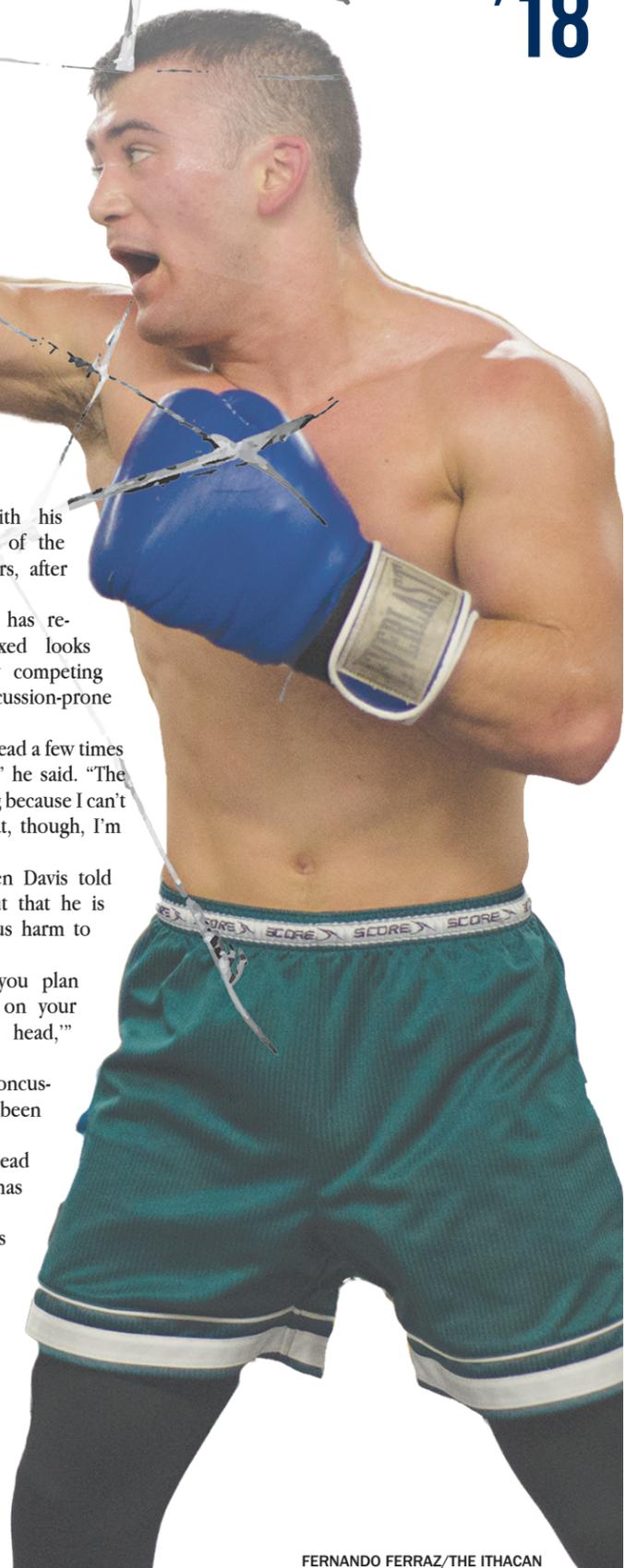
However, he said Davis has been hit in the head and knocked down during sparring sessions and has hopped right back up on his feet.

Davis made it clear that he is only taking this as far as the amateur level; however, he said he is interested in becoming a boxing coach down the road.

"The club definitely helped me realize that because I'm not a certified coach, I want to be soon," Davis said. "But just working out with the people, showing them the very basics like the things that I have down pat ... I have almost as much fun doing that as I do actually hitting."

CONNECT WITH ANDREW SULLIVAN  
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## Shannon Davis '18



FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



Junior Shannon Davis practices with Max Beckett at the Chet Cashman Gym in the Greater Ithaca Activities Center on Nov. 11. He is currently training to be a competitive boxer.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



Davis was on the Ithaca College wrestling team for a year, but after suffering two concussions in the span of 2 1/2 months, he made the transition to boxing.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

# THE BOMBER ROUNDUP

The Ithacan's sports staff provides statistical updates on all of the varsity Bomber squads during the fall and winter seasons



Senior guard Ali Ricchiuti attempts to shoot over William Smith College's sophomore guard Olivia Hughes on Nov. 19 in Ben Light Gymnasium. The Bombers won 84-73.

KENDYL BENNETT/THE ITHACAN

## Swimming & Diving

### Men's RESULTS

**157-127**   
Ithaca Nov. 20 Hartwick

**213-81**   
Geneseo Nov. 20 Ithaca

### Women's RESULTS

**232-86**   
Ithaca Nov. 20 Hartwick

**162-138**   
Ithaca Nov. 20 Geneseo

Next meet: 6 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Bomber Invitational at the Athletics and Events Center

## Cross-Country

### Men's NCAA Championship

Name	Place	Time
Sean Phillips	148th	25:42.7

### Women's NCAA Championship

Team	Place	Time
Johns Hopkins	1st	21:25
Washington	2nd	21:34
SUNY Geneseo	3rd	21:40
Williams	4th	21:47
MIT	5th	21:44
...	...	...
<b>Ithaca</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>21:57</b>

Next meet: Season over

## Wrestling

### New York State Collegiate Championships

School	Place	Score
Cornell University	1st	155
University at Buffalo	2nd	132
Columbia	3rd	118
Army	4th	108
<b>Ithaca</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>91</b>
Hofstra	6th	79.5
Niagara Community College	7th	43

Next meet: 9 a.m. Dec. 3 at the Spartan Invitational in York, Pennsylvania

## Men's Basketball

### RESULTS

**111-73**   
Ithaca Nov. 18 St. Josephs

**95-93**   
Ithaca Nov. 19 Purchase

**89-85**   
Ithaca Nov. 22 Skidmore

**103-65**   
Cortland Nov. 29 Ithaca

### STANDINGS

	Conference	Overall
Nazareth	0-0	3-0
St. John Fisher	0-0	3-1
Houghton	0-0	2-1
Stevens	0-0	2-1
Alfred	0-0	3-2
Hartwick	0-0	3-2
<b>Ithaca</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>3-2</b>
Elmira	0-0	2-3
Utica	0-0	0-5

Next game: 7 p.m. Dec. 2 against St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York

## Women's Basketball

### RESULTS

**81-54**   
Ithaca Nov. 18 St. Lawrence

**84-73**   
Ithaca Nov. 19 William Smith

**67-61**   
Ithaca Nov. 22 Skidmore

**71-51**   
Ithaca Nov. 29 Cortland

### STANDINGS

	Conference	Overall
Alfred	0-0	2-3
Elmira	0-0	2-4
Hartwick	0-0	3-3
Houghton	0-0	2-1
<b>Ithaca</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>4-0</b>
Nazareth	0-0	2-1
St. John Fisher	0-0	2-3
Stevens	0-0	0-3
Utica	0-0	1-3

Next game: 7 p.m. Dec. 2 against Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut

# Students to broadcast live from Super Bowl

BY JAMES MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

For years, seniors Jake Asman and Dan Budick have held their radio show, "The Asman and Budick Show," in the confines of Ithaca College's Roy H. Park Hall. This February, they'll be live from Radio Row.

On Oct. 28, the two seniors announced that they will be broadcasting at the 2017 Super Bowl in Houston.

They will be the first students ever from the college to be a part of Radio Row.

"To now have the opportunity to take our show to Radio Row is a dream come true," Asman said. "We are grateful to be the first-ever students from Ithaca College student media to broadcast our show from the site of one of the world's biggest sporting events."

The two became friends in eighth grade and attended Syosset High School in Syosset, New York, where they worked at WKWZ Radio, the school's radio station.

"That's really where we found out we had such a passion — such a love — of radio," Asman said.

Asman and Budick continued to pursue their love for radio when they enrolled at the college in 2013.

During their second semester as freshmen, Asman and Budick pitched a sports talk podcast to the executive staff at ICTV and released their first show on iTunes and ICTV.org on Feb. 19, 2014.

"Ithaca College opened the door for us to do those kinds of things," Budick said. "The [Roy H.] Park School [of Communications] allowed us to do the show consistently and gave us the platform."

The best memory the two had on the show was when they were able



Seniors Jake Asman and Dan Budick host "The Asman and Budick Show" on Nov. 11. They created the show on iTunes and ICTV.org on Feb. 19, 2014. Asman and Budick will be the first Ithaca College students to broadcast live from Radio Row at the 2017 Super Bowl on Feb 5 in Houston.

TEDDY ZERIVITZ/THE ITHACAN

to invite Bob Costas, host of the NBC Olympics since 1992, on the show. While Asman was working at the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro this past summer, he met Costas and was able to air a prerecorded interview with him over the phone.

"Bob Costas is really the face of sports, whether it's NBC or what he does for MLB Network — I mean, he is as big as it gets in sports broadcasting," Budick said.

The story of how Asman and Budick got the chance to be at the Super Bowl goes back to when they studied at the college's Los Angeles program

in Spring 2016.

They originally tried to get to the Super Bowl when it was in San Francisco, which would have been a six-hour drive, but it did not pan out how they expected, Budick said.

This year, they applied for the chance to be a part of the festivities back in October under Ithaca College Radio.

They heard back less than a day later and were given the opportunity to broadcast their show from Radio Row for three days, which they gladly accepted.

The Park School will also be

funding their flight to Houston along with the transportation while there.

Much of that will be in the hands of senior Jake Chernok, producer of the show.

"A big part of my job will be fighting it out with other producers for guests," Chernok said. "We're already talking about bumping some elbows, and I'm working hard."

The show will be broadcast in large part for fans of teams in the greater New York area.

However, Asman said they will also welcome listeners from other areas of the country.

"The thing about the Super Bowl is it appeals to a national audience," he said. "So any team you root for or any type of fan that we can attract, we'll quietly take them as a listener."

Budick said his opportunity to work the Super Bowl will be worthwhile.

"What I hope to get out of it is a great sports experience," Budick said. "To say we're going to be a part of the Super Bowl is the most exciting for me."

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# Senior transfer finds her place on IC gymnastics team



Senior Lynley Choate competes on the balance beam Feb. 15 in Ben Light Gymnasium. Last year, she averaged a 9.28 on the balance beam and scored a season-high 9.575 twice.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

BY CASEY KOENIG  
STAFF WRITER

Despite being hundreds of miles away from her native Arkansas, senior Lynley Choate found a family in the gymnastics team at Ithaca College.

Choate, a transfer from Arkansas State University, has made an impact for the Bombers for the past two seasons. During her junior year, she averaged a 9.28 on the balance beam and achieved a career-high score of 9.575 twice.

She is now the only senior on a team composed mostly of underclassmen.

Choate said the team has become like her

family and that she has adjusted to being the only senior on the team.

"They're my best friends," Choate said. "It's hard to lead them in the leader role, but sometimes I have to step in and be like, 'Hey, you need to do this,' or 'You need to do that. This is acceptable, and this isn't.'"

Choate began gymnastics when she was 3 years old, training at the Jonesboro Gymnastics Academy in Jonesboro, Arkansas. When Choate was searching for colleges in high school, she said, Rick Suddaby, Ithaca College gymnastics head coach, recruited her.

She decided to attend Arkansas State University instead because she said she was not ready to travel more than 20 miles away from home.

While at Arkansas State University, Choate continued to train with the Jonesboro Gymnastics Academy.

Halfway through her freshman year, Choate said, she decided to look into the Bombers' gymnastics program again and took a trip to Ithaca to meet with Suddaby and get a tour of the campus.

Choate transferred to the college the following fall semester to begin her sophomore year.

As an exercise science major at Arkansas State, she said, it was easy to make the transfer because she did not have to change majors.

Choate said her training schedule did not change that much. At the academy, she practiced four hours a day, four days a week and got Wednesdays off, whereas at the college, the team practices five days a week for three hours.

Choate said the team is very uplifting, even on bad days.

"If someone is having a bad day, we'll go up to them and be like, 'Hey, are you OK? If you want to talk about it, I'm here for you,'" she said. "The atmosphere is very positive. If someone hurts themselves, we always try to pick up the pace a little bit."

As a transfer, she came onto the team at the same time as the nine juniors on the team. Even though she is slightly older — and has maybe one or two more years of gymnastics experience — at the collegiate level, she feels like she is a third-year gymnast like the juniors.

Junior Kelly Nash said that since Choate came in with the rest of the junior class, she has always

felt like she was in their class as well. However, she has always carried herself differently.

"Maybe it's her southern roots in Arkansas, but there is always this confidence about her," Nash said. "She is decisive and sure of herself, and that attitude carries over to all of us. Since she's the only senior, she assumes a leadership role on the team, and since she's such a strong-minded, dedicated and ambitious woman, she serves as such a great role model for all of us."

Choate competed in exhibition events sophomore year and on the balance beam during her junior year.

Suddaby said Choate's gymnastics has improved over the time that she has been at the college and that she has been a great asset to the team with both her skills and her positivity.

"She's always been the kind of person that her teammates just love, and she sets a great example," Suddaby said. "She's stepped it up and taken on the kind of leadership that seniors do."

Suddaby said Choate was able to be consistent and solid all year and hopes that it continues this year.

"Especially with the seniors, you just want to sit back and watch them be consistent," Suddaby said. "You want to see them hit meet after meet after meet and just kind of enjoy the show, because at this point, they're as much of an expert as they're going to be."

Choate said in her last season, she wants to accomplish as much as she can.

"Even if this season isn't as good as I want it to be, I want to end it on a good note," Choate said.

“Even if this season isn't as good as I want it to be, I want to end it on a good note.”

— Lynley Choate

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# Junior pins down success on wrestling mat

BY ZACH GREGG  
STAFF WRITER

For Nick Velez, wrestling has been a lifelong endeavor.

The 165-pound junior received All-American honors last year at the NCAA National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

He is ranked third in the nation on InterMat Wrestling among all 165-pound Division III wrestlers.

His path here began in kindergarten, when his dad introduced him to the sport and his improvement led him to pursue it further, he said.

"I started to get real good at it as a younger kid, and I liked it, and I kept going, and I just kept improving," Velez said. "I kept going on that path and stuck with it."

Coming into high school as a multi-sport athlete, Velez said, he had a choice to make.

He said he wanted to focus on one sport to improve on, and he eventually chose wrestling.

"Up until eighth grade, I played, like, every sport," Velez said. "I played baseball, lacrosse, soccer, football and wrestling. And then when I got to high school, I really thought about it, and I wanted to get good at one sport, so I just stuck with wrestling, and I committed to that one."

While at Westfield High School in Westfield, New Jersey, Velez amassed 64 wins and just 15 losses.

Glen Kurz '95, who wrestled all four years for the Bombers, was Velez's coach in high school.

Velez said Kurz was just one of the reasons he chose to attend the college.

"I knew I'd fit right in with the



Junior Nick Velez pins an opponent at the Ithaca Invitational on Nov. 5. Velez, who competes in the 165-pound division, entered the competition ranked as high as the second seed and overall won his weight class.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

program because I grew up doing the same technique that they do here, so I'd fit right in, and it would be a smooth transition," Velez said.

As a freshman, Velez led the team with 33 wins and was a runner-up in the Empire Collegiate Wrestling Championships and the Division III Northeast Regionals.

He was also the only freshman on the team to qualify for the NCAA Division III Championships.

As a sophomore, Velez posted an overall record of 37-8 and placed seventh at the Division III Championships, earning his first NCAA All-American honors.

Head coach Marty Nichols

said that, as a junior, Velez has an advantage by having two years of experience under his belt.

"He's really good on top, and he can score a lot of points," Nichols added. "He's working on his defense so he doesn't get taken down or scored on. His conditioning has really come up a lot, so he's going to be wearing

these guys out, I think."

Freshman wrestler Al Cicitto said Velez is a constant source of motivation for the other team members.

"His hard work motivates others," Cicitto said. "He's very technically sound, so a lot of other people try to watch him and learn how he effectively does his moves. He's really good at turning kids. He's very good on his feet as well. He's a well-rounded wrestler; he's good at every position."

Nichols said he expects Velez to make some noise at nationals, which will be held March 10-11 in Lacrosse, Wisconsin, as long as he keeps improving and stays focused.

"Winning nationals, right, that's always the expectation," Nichols said. "If he keeps improving, he can be at the top of the podium by the end of the year — just have to keep training and keep focused."

At this year's Ithaca Invitational, Velez took first place in his weight class, helping the Bombers take home the team title. At his next two showings, Velez earned a third- and fourth-place finish.

As far as his plan for the rest of the season, Velez said he is already looking forward to the national championships in March.

"I'm thinking about nationals already, but I got to pace myself and stay focused on the rest of the season because it's a long season," Velez said. "So just taking it day by day, practice by practice, trying to get better every way I can."

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## Senior runner discusses his first trip to Nationals

Since his freshman year on the cross-country trails at Ithaca College, senior Sean Phillips has shown he was capable of leading the pack. In his final year, he did just that.

As a freshman, Phillips was a three-time Empire 8 Runner of the Week and the Empire 8 Rookie of the Year.

In his sophomore year, he placed 34th at the NCAA regional meet and was named to the All-Empire 8 First Team.

In 2015, Phillips made the Empire 8 First Team and earned All-Region honors after finishing 22nd at the NCAA Atlantic Regional race.

As a senior, Phillips is a three-time Empire 8 Runner of the Week, and he was the only runner from the men's cross-country team to race in the 2016 NCAA Division III Cross-Country Championships in Louisville, Kentucky.

He finished his last collegiate cross-country race in 25:42.7 and crossed the finish line in 148th place.

Staff Writer Becky Mehorter spoke with Phillips about his final cross-country race, his favorite team memories and what he expects out of his two remaining seasons on the men's track and field team.

**Becky Mehorter:** What was your reaction to making Nationals for the first time?

**Sean Phillips:** I was just incredibly happy. It's been about eight years of trying to make it to Nationals, all through high school. And last year, our team was about the first team to not make the national cut. We got fourth in our region, and personally, I got really close as an individual. So I was just so incredibly happy.

**BM:** What was the experience like?

**SP:** It was an extremely exciting atmosphere, and there's more people, like twice as many people,

than any other race. People are all excited, hyped up. There's people running everywhere with painted chests and screaming — a very energized crowd, a lot of people excited about running and excited to watch us race.

**BM:** How do you feel your last collegiate cross-country race went?

**SP:** It was pretty much the best way I could have ended cross-country. Being able to make it to the national level was really my goal for the season. Even though I would have like to go All-American and put forth my best race at Nationals, just making it was a huge goal for me. I couldn't really have asked for a better way to go out for my senior year, unless my team made it, of course. I was really hoping my team was going to make it, but they all ran just about as hard as we could run.

**BM:** How is it different running by yourself, without your team?

**SP:** It really didn't feel that different because about five of the guys, and then three more alumni, showed up. They road-tripped out to Kentucky to watch me race. It was awesome. Right before the race, I had a large portion of my team there at the starting line, so we did a team huddle, and our coach got the energy going, and it felt normal to have all the guys there.

**BM:** Do you have a favorite memory from over the past four years?

**SP:** There's a lot of things that stick out. Last year's regional race sticks out quite a bit because we ran the fastest we've run in the past 12 years, since 2003, and we thought we made it to Nationals because we came in fourth. So that was probably the craziest race. ... This year in



Senior Sean Phillips runs in the annual Jannette Bonrouhi-Zakaim Memorial Run on Sept. 3. He completed the race in 15:40.50, which is the second-fastest time for the memorial run.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

particular, after the Lehigh invitational, our whole team was excited. I think we ran one of our best races there. So that one sticks out for me. And our Empire 8 Championship race this year because I was able to win the race individually. That was our Conference race, and our team was able to win as a whole with 30 points to the next team's 68. So it was a strong performance, and we were really excited about that.

**BM:** What are you looking for the team to achieve? What are your goals?

**SP:** In track season, we always want to try to do the triple crown — so to win the

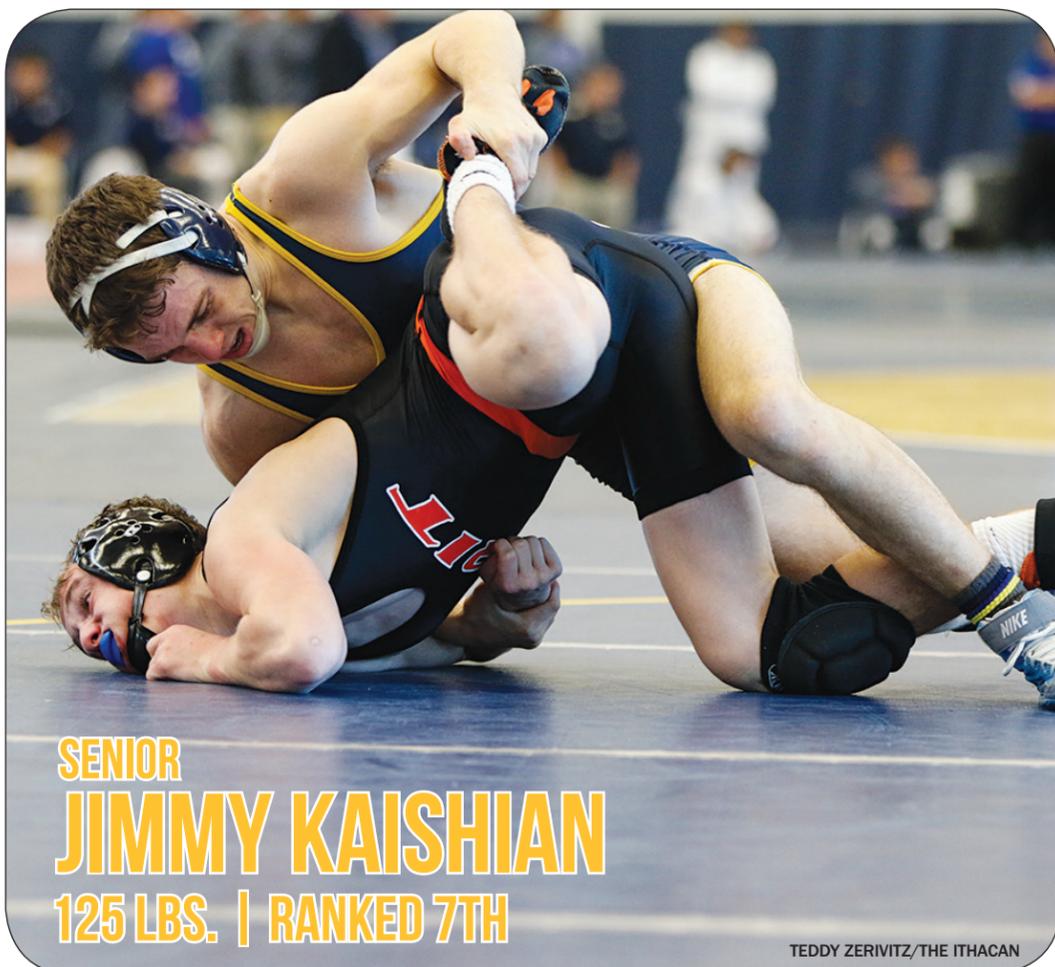
conference championship in cross-country, winter track and spring track. ... We did it my freshman year and my sophomore year. We weren't able to do it last year. We really want to look to do that this year. So we'll be gearing up to the Empire 8 Championship for indoor track and ultimately looking to get a lot of guys to States for indoor track and see if we can compete for a state championship title, then, ultimately, see how many guys we can get to ECACs [Eastern College Athletic Conference] and then the national championship.

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the  
**Buzzer**  
 THE BEST FROM THIS  
 WEEK IN SPORTS

# BOMBER SMASH

THE ITHACA COLLEGE WRESTLING TEAM IS CURRENTLY RANKED THIRD IN THE NATION. IT ALSO HAS FIVE INDIVIDUALS RANKED IN THE TOP 10.



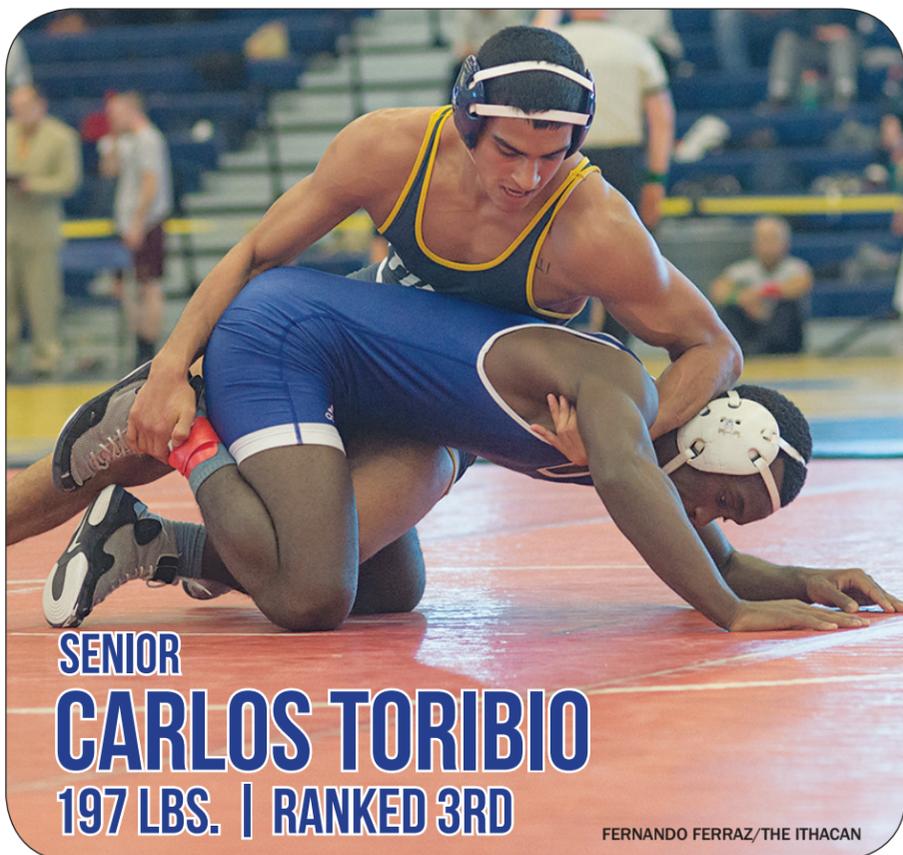
SENIOR  
**JIMMY KAISHIAN**  
 125 LBS. | RANKED 7TH

TEDDY ZERIVITZ/THE ITHACAN



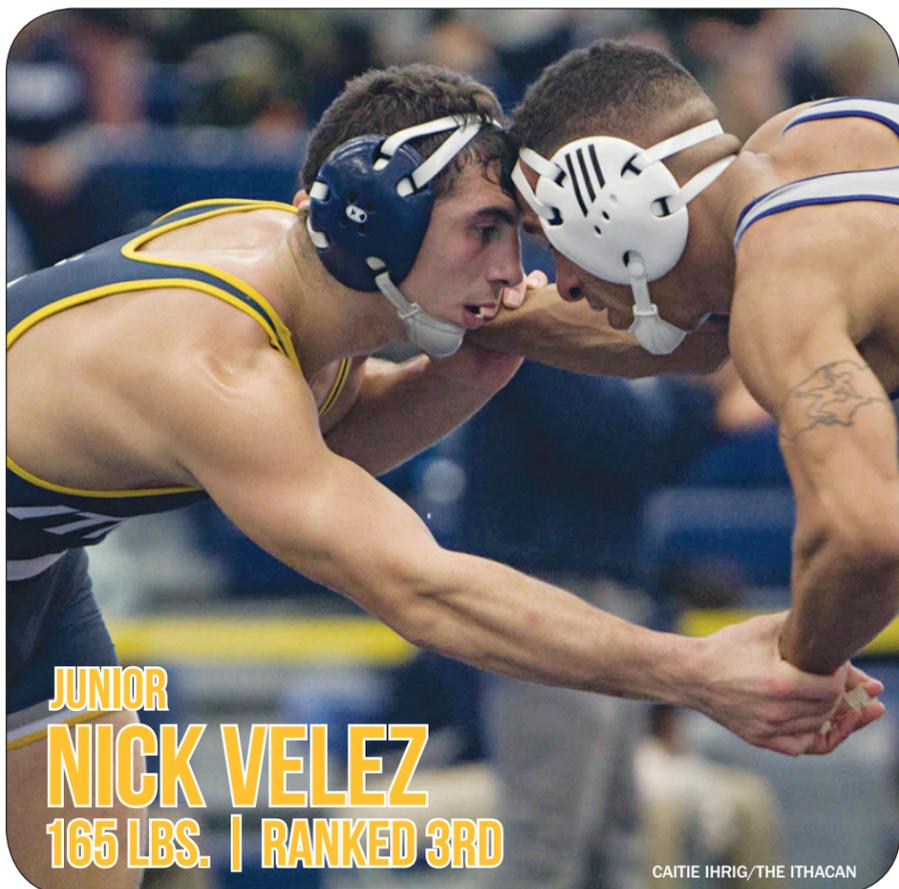
FRESHMAN  
**SAM SCHNEIDER**  
 149 LBS. | RANKED 7TH

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



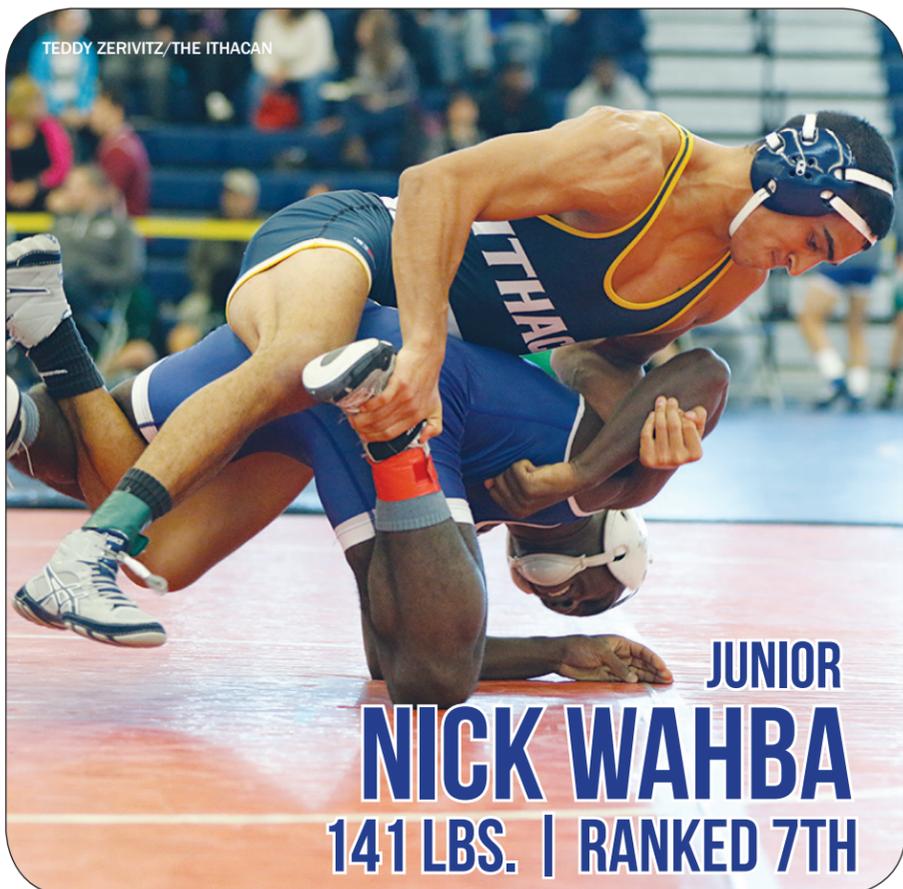
SENIOR  
**CARLOS TORIBIO**  
 197 LBS. | RANKED 3RD

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



JUNIOR  
**NICK VELEZ**  
 165 LBS. | RANKED 3RD

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN



JUNIOR  
**NICK WAHBA**  
 141 LBS. | RANKED 7TH

TEDDY ZERIVITZ/THE ITHACAN

# THE BIG PICTURE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016



Junior guard Marc Chasin attempts a shot over University of Rochester senior forward Zack Ayers on Nov. 15 in Ben Light Gymnasium. The YellowJackets defeated the Bombers 104-94.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN