

THE ITHACAN

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OPEN MIC

Four DJs put in extra hours for VIC Radio's 50-Hour Marathon April 7-9. Page 17



BATTING HISTORY

Baseball bats have changed with better technology and from wood to aluminum. Page 23

FACING THE STORM

With climate change impacting the Ithaca area, more students should become active to combat global warming. Page 11

BY MEAGHAN MCELROY
STAFF WRITER

It was 70 degrees in Ithaca for nearly a week this past February. While the quads outside the residence halls were full of people tossing Frisbees and lounging on the grass, the well-received warm period was troubling for some Ithaca locals and scientists.

The warm-to-cold weather pattern has made syrup production and landscape management difficult for faculty and staff at Ithaca College and also has beekeepers concerned about the overall health of their hives.

The increasing variability in weather over the last few years is troubling, said Jason Hamilton, professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences.

"The weather over the past 10 years has become less and less and less predictable," Hamilton said. "With global climate change, this unpredictable weather is what's predicted. Whether this run's due to climate change or not, who knows? But it's exactly what's predicted by the models — that things are going to get

See CLIMATE Page 14

A change in the air

Unexpected weather patterns impact natural products



Senior Kerry Schulz boils sap during the Ithaca College Non-Timber Forest Products class. Lately, its products have been affected by climate change.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

Students react to Ithaca shooting

BY SIERRA GUARDIOLA
STAFF WRITER

As college students poured out of bars on The Commons in Ithaca early the morning of April 9, witnesses said, an altercation broke out between two men, causing one to pull out a gun and start shooting, wounding the other.

It was a regular night on The Commons for freshman Samantha Springer as she exited Sammy's Pizzeria with her friend. After spending the night out with her friends, she had grabbed some pizza and was heading to meet up with the rest of her friends when she noticed a fight break out in front of the bar, Silky Jones, adjacent to Sammy's, at around 1 a.m. She said she and her friends decided to stop and watch, thinking it was people messing around.

"I knew a lot of people who were in The Commons, and it could have been anyone."

— Jessica Hauser

About 10 seconds after they turned to walk toward the TCAT stop on Aurora Street, they heard a gunshot.

After the altercation Springer saw, one man was shot in the leg and back and was brought to the hospital, said Jamie Williamson, public information officer at the Ithaca Police Department. The alleged shooter, Yakez Cornett, 22, has been charged with second-degree attempted murder, first-degree assault and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, according to a press release issued by the Ithaca Police Department. He is currently being held on \$50,000 bail.

Although no one else was hurt, many Ithaca College students were on The Commons when the shooting occurred,

witnesses said. Neither the IPD nor the college would comment on whether the victim was a student.

Rachel* was another college student on The Commons when the shooting occurred. She said she had left Moonies and was headed to Sammy's Pizzeria when she heard the gunshot, which she said sounded like a firework.

"I did see a guy ... fall to the ground," Rachel said. "The guy with the gun was still shooting at him."

With around 100 people on The Commons at the time of the shooting, she described the scene as "mass chaos." When people realized someone had been shot, she said, people immediately began running. When police tackled the suspect, Rachel said, she and her friends began heading back toward South Aurora Street, where she saw the man who was shot being loaded into an ambulance. The blood from the shooting stained the ground, she said.

See SHOOTING Page 4

IC presents final body cam policy

BY ZOË FREER-HESSLER
STAFF WRITER

After missing the deadline to have a body camera policy by Fall 2016, the Ithaca College Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management has announced the body camera policy is now complete.

On April 5 and 6, a panel of speakers addressed the campus community about the new policy and how it would be implemented at the college. The college has created a number of goals and guidelines surrounding the cameras, tackling issues of transparency, privacy concerns, public disclosure of footage and misuse of footage.

The policy states that officers will record all enforcement-related calls, including noise complaints, lock-out calls and other "service-related" calls from students and staff. The guidelines list also states that officers should state that they are recording, but since New York state is a one-party consent state, officers do not have to get consent from all parties.

Officers have the authority to choose to stop recording if and when they see fit, especially for situations including sexual assault, domestic abuse or personal privacy matters.

See BODY CAM Page 4

NATION & WORLD

Tillerson and top diplomats hold urgent meeting on Syria crisis

With fresh urgency but scant solutions, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and top foreign diplomats held an urgent meeting April 11 to strategize on a way forward to end the protracted civil war in Syria.

A meeting was hastily arranged on the sidelines of a Group of 7 industrialized economies in Italy, days after the U.S. for the first time launched airstrikes against Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces. It came hours before Tillerson was to make a tense trip to Moscow to press Russia's leaders to finally abandon their support for Assad.

At the April 11 meeting, the G-7 countries were joined by diplomats from Muslim-majority nations including Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. The inclusion of those countries is important because the U.S. strategy for Syria involves enlisting help from Middle Eastern nations to ensure security and stability in Syria.

Previous marriage precedes fatal San Bernardino school shooting

A brief marriage and quick estrangement came before a man walked into his wife's elementary school class and opened fire without saying a word, killing her and an 8-year-old student and wounding a 9-year-old student before fatally shooting himself, authorities said.

Some six weeks earlier, 53-year-old Cedric Anderson was a newlywed calling his 53-year-old wife Karen Smith an "angel" in one of many social media posts professing his love.

San Bernardino police have said nothing of what might have motivated Anderson to open fire

in the special-education classroom at North Park Elementary School on April 10.

What appears to be his Facebook page features many public declarations of his love for Smith before his last public post March 15.

United Airlines faces backlash over man dragged off plane

Several minutes after a passenger recorded a video watched around the world that showed security officers dragging another passenger off an overbooked United Express flight at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, a smaller snippet of video showed an even more troubling scene.

There stood the passenger who had been dragged on his back to the front of the plane, appearing dazed as he spoke through bloody lips and blood that had spilled onto his chin.

The treatment of the passenger April 9 prompted outrage and scorn on social media, and anger among some of the passengers on the flight as the unidentified man was evicted.

The incident risks a backlash against United from passengers who could boycott the airline as the busy summer season is set to begin.

South Sudan famine could worsen as summer season approaches

Two months after the world's youngest nation declared a famine amid its civil war, hunger has become more widespread than expected, aid workers said.

South Sudan's Northern Bahr el Ghazal region is on the brink of starvation, with 290,000 people at risk of dying without sustained food assistance. Humanitarian workers said conditions will only



Migrants in France displaced after fire

Migrants have a rest as they gather in front of a gymnasium, where they take shelter in the Dunkirk suburb of Grande-Synthe, northern France, on April 11. Several hundred migrants have disappeared after they were evacuated from a camp in northern France that was ravaged by a shocking fire that left 10 injured.

CHRISTOPHE ENA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

deteriorate as the lean season approaches.

In February, South Sudan and the United Nations formally declared a famine in two counties in Unity State. Northern Bahr el Ghazal's five counties now face the same fate.

US, Canada and Mexico ask FIFA for faster World Cup bid process

The North American bid to host the 2026 World Cup has asked FIFA for a decision in June 2018, two years ahead of schedule.

In a letter seen by The Associated Press, the soccer federations from the United States,

Canada and Mexico asked FIFA to consider their request next month in Bahrain at its annual congress. The bid was launched in New York on April 11.

The extra agenda item asks FIFA members to make a "principle decision" for the 2026 tournament to be "jointly and cooperatively organized" in North America.

If approved, FIFA could then ask the bid to show the Zurich-based administration it meets all technical demands by a March 31 deadline.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

MULTIMEDIA

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Students rally for Planned Parenthood

Ithaca College students and faculty gathered at the Free Speech Rock to rally against the defunding of Planned Parenthood.

Puppy Love

Guiding Eyes for the Blind volunteers talk about the bonds they form with the dogs they train.

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SGC passes CAPS initiative bill

BY RYAN KING
STAFF WRITER

After holding a special meeting at Public Safety two weeks ago and outlining year-end goals last week, Ithaca College's Student Governance Council was back in regular business at its April 10 meeting. At the meeting, the SGC passed a bill unanimously for the first time this school year, focusing on concerns about the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services.

The CAPS Initiative, which was sponsored by Class of 2020 Sen. Sarah Horbacewicz, seeks to address issues that some students experience at CAPS.

The bill includes the creation of an ad hoc committee that will work with CAPS to improve the service. The committee will be composed of senators, students, a therapist from CAPS and other CAPS staff members.

"I definitely want to start off with smaller, more immediate goals," Horbacewicz said. "Eventually, after the new president is in, the goal would be to reallocate funding so that CAPS is more of a priority — and get CAPS out of the basement. ... But those are more long-term goals."

Since the college has already planned out funding for the next school year, the committee would not be able to get increased funding for CAPS next semester. This is why Horbacewicz said she wants to focus on short-term goals such as making the 30-minute premeeting in person rather than on the phone and working to ensure that CAPS follows up with patients after missed meetings.

Horbacewicz has been developing this bill for roughly two months



Class of 2020 Sen. Sarah Horbacewicz presents on the CAPS Initiative, a bill she sponsored that seeks to address issues students have with CAPS at Ithaca College, during the April 9 SGC meeting.

RYAN KING/THE ITHACAN

by conducting surveys and contacting CAPS officials to get ideas about improving the service. As the sponsor of the bill, she will also chair the ad hoc committee that will form by May 14, after the SGC spring elections take place.

The CAPS Initiative passed 19–0 with no one abstaining.

In addition to the passage of the bill, Luke Keller, Dana professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and Bonnie Prunty, director of the offices of Residential Life and Judicial Affairs and assistant dean for first-year experiences, both of whom chair a self-study reaccreditation steering committee, gave a presentation to the SGC about the upcoming Middle States accreditation report for the college. Colleges in this region must be evaluated and accredited by

the Middle States Commission on Higher Education to receive federal grants and financial aid.

Keller and Prunty sought to get the SGC engaged in helping to make adjustments to the report that they are working on. On April 12, the committee released a draft of the report to the campus community. The 100-page online report has forms for community members to recommend changes, available for the next month. Once the committee finishes getting input from the community, Jaime Warburton, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, will go through and edit the language of the report over the summer.

Senate Chair Carlie McClintey divided up the sections of the report for senators to assess. She said she feels it will help senators better

understand the college.

"Being able to understand the campus as a whole is very important," she said. "I think that's a foundation that all senators should have."

SGC President Marieme Foote is a member of the self-study steering committee. She said that reaccreditation is a major event for the college to go through.

"Reaccrediting Ithaca College is a huge thing," she said. "You can't do a lot of things if you are not reaccredited."

The last time Ithaca College was accredited was in 2008, which led to the creation of the Integrative Core Curriculum.

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New York approves Uber usage

BY GRACE ELLETON
NEWS EDITOR

The New York state budget, approved April 10, authorized ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft to begin operating across New York this summer.

While ride-hailing was already permitted in New York City, the budget provision will allow companies to expand to the rest of New York state, assuming they follow provisions and licensing laws, according to New York state's website. The provision will take effect in 90 days, meaning ride-hailing companies can start offering services mid-July.

Peggy Coleman, vice president of tourism and community relations for the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce, said she is excited about the prospect of ride-hailing's modernizing transportation in Tompkins County for tourists. She said visitors come to upstate New York from all over the world, and because they are often used to using Uber or Lyft for transportation, it can be confusing and stressful to rely on taxi services, especially at peak transportation times.

"I think it will absolutely give our visitors the services they're used to experiencing," Coleman said. "It brings us up to date with other destinations."

Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick shared an article on his Facebook page about the ride-hailing initiative and praised it, saying the move will benefit consumers and businesses while also lowering the risk of drunk driving.

Read the full article online.

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IC weapon policy remains consistent despite trend

BY MADELINE VENEZIANO
STAFF WRITER

Recent shootings on school grounds have raised the question of whether to allow students to carry weapons on campuses. While New York state law has not changed, other states, such as Texas, have seen legislation change, allowing for a student to carry a loaded, concealed weapon in buildings at all four-year state colleges and universities.

Ithaca College offers students a policy to register and store firearms and weapons with the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management so they have access to them. New York state law S 265.01 prohibits college or university students from carrying or possessing a weapon on school grounds. New York is one of 10 states where possession of guns on campus is prohibited by law, with legislation defining exceptions varying state-to-state, according to Armed Campuses' website.

Bill Kerry, director of the Office of Public Safety, said that as long as the weapon is legally owned, it can be stored with Public Safety. Kerry said that since the start of this academic year, there have only been three students who have registered weapons.

Tom Dunn, lieutenant for the Office of Public Safety, said students who wish to have a weapon on campus have to register it through Public Safety. All registered weapons are stored in a large firearm safe and can be accessed only if there is an officer present and permission to release the weapon has been secured in advance.

"The beauty of it is that we're open 24/7, so it's not like we're limiting your access," Dunn said. "It's not like Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. you can have your weapon — it's 24/7."

Kerry said this policy is a unique offering because not all colleges have a system like this for students to utilize. For example, Massachusetts colleges and universities such as Amherst College follow a Massachusetts state law similar to the New York state law that prohibits students from carrying a weapon on campus. However, John Carter, chief of police for the Amherst College

Police, said in an email his college does not offer the storing of firearms to non-police officers, and Amherst has no plans to do so.

Other colleges, such as Union College in New York and Saint Michael's College in Vermont, offer services where students can store weapons with their campus safety offices. Mike McCrary, sergeant for the Campus Safety Department at Union College, said only one student at his college currently has a weapon registered with the Campus Safety Department. Douglas Babcock, director of the Department of Public Safety at Saint Michael's College, said the number of students who have a weapon registered is in the single digits.

Kerry said the college offers this policy to try to appeal to as many students as possible.

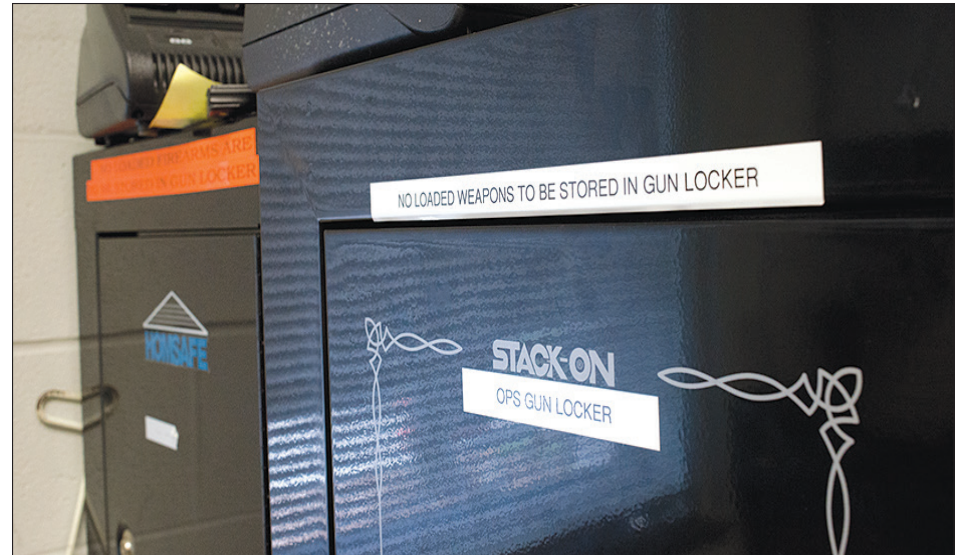
"As an institution, we want to offer the best student-life experience that all of our students seek, and there's a lot of different interests with our student population," Kerry said. "Hunting or recreational use of firearms is one of those things, so we continue to hope each year that nobody abuses the ability to do this."

Senior Colton Freeman said he utilized this policy from his freshman to junior year to store his father's bow. Now, he lives off-campus, so he does not store the bow with Public Safety. Freeman said he would use the bow to go target shooting with his friends.

He said he had a good experience storing a weapon with Public Safety and that an officer in the office was always willing to let him take the bow when he wanted to.

"I never had any problems with them," Freeman said. "They were pretty easygoing about it."

Michael Leary, assistant director of the Office of Judicial Affairs, said it is rare to see any gun violations on campus but that violations regarding airsoft or paintball guns are more common. According to the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, in 2016, there were seven arrests and 15 disciplinary actions made for the carrying or possession of a weapon on campus. The report does not specify which type of weapons the students were possessing.



As part of the Ithaca College weapons policy, the college offers students a space in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management to store weapons like guns in a firearm safe.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

Judicial actions taken against a student violating any policies would vary depending on the circumstance, Leary said. He said the punishments could range anywhere from a warning, if the student was unaware of the college's policy, to suspension or expulsion if a student threatened another person on campus with a weapon. In the end, he said, regardless of the judicial action, the student is always informed on why the violation could be dangerous and what policies are in place.

"We want to have some kind of educational sanction because the important part is so somebody learns this is why we have a policy," Leary said.

Senior David Heffernan, president of the college's chapter of Young Americans for Liberty, said he thinks storing a weapon with Public Safety that a student may use for self-defense defeats the purpose of having a weapon at all since one would not have immediate access to it. Heffernan said he would be in favor of allowing students to carry

small self-defense weapons, such as Mace, Tasers and potentially small knives. In New York state, some knives, such as daggers, are legal to own, and pepper spray with less than 10 percent capsaicin concentration is allowed on campus but still could be considered a weapon under the college's policies, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*.

"If it's for self-defense, don't lock it up somewhere where you can't access it," Heffernan said.

Freshman Sydney Gershon, who was not previously aware of the college's policy, said she thinks the New York state laws prohibiting weapons on campus are reasonable. She said she would still fear a weapon if it were concealed and carried by someone on campus.

"It's not safe, and if you're carrying it, God forbid you leave it somewhere ... and I'm not saying people are irresponsible, but I'm saying that can be a real hazard," Gershon said.

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BODY CAM, from Page 1

Officers must have sound reasoning behind turning off their cameras and must document why the camera was turned off, said Bill Kerry, director of Public Safety.

"Situations when we get a call about a disruptive person, and we get there and the disruptive person is intoxicated and naked, but maybe loud or uncooperative, we won't turn off the cameras just because they're naked," Kerry said. "These kinds of disruptive situations are why we have the cameras."

In August, Upturn and The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights released a scorecard of body camera programs in 50 U.S. cities. The scorecard established eight criteria to judge body camera policies, five of which the college's policy meets fully: that departments must delete unflagged footage within six months, that those filing police-misconduct complaints may view relevant footage, that cameras may not have facial recognition technology for privacy service, that only authorized personnel may access any recorded footage and that the policy is publicly accessible. Three criteria were partially met by the college's policy: that it should require officers to write a report or statement before the footage is reviewed for all incidents, whereas the college's policy only would require this under special circumstances, such as with complaints of misconduct; that victims of sex crimes should not be recorded without consent, which the college's policy does not require but suggests the officers use their discretion; and that the policy explains when officers must record and requires them to provide justification when they do not, whereas officers at the college are given the discretion to stop recording but not required to provide concrete justification for doing so.

Tracy Mitrano, academic dean of the University of Massachusetts' trust assurance and cybersecurity programs and former Ithaca College professor, said she thinks this policy is ahead of the curve in terms of its definitions of use and limitations.

"I think that it is a model policy for higher education at large on this point of the use of body cameras by law enforcement on a college campus," she said.

Syracuse University established a body-worn camera program and policy in Fall 2015, as did Cornell University in February of this year. However, none of the schools in Ithaca College's common data set peer group have body camera policies published on their websites.

The college's policy also states that public disclosure of the body camera footage will be limited and only released to the public by request on a case-by-case basis.

"There can be situations where footage is released not through Public Safety, but we would know about it," Kerry said.

Kerry explained that the software on the body-worn cameras automatically uploads and categorizes footage from the cameras. Extreme situations, including arson and death, are permanently stored in the cloud, while smaller misdemeanors, like traffic citations and non-arrest police contacts, only remain for 12 months, he said. In between those two extremes are medical assists including illness, injury and psychological situations that remain

Body Camera Scorecard

UPTURN AND THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS RELEASED THIS LIST OF CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BODY CAMERA POLICIES

FULL SATISFACTION



PARTIAL SATISFACTION



MAKES THE DEPARTMENT POLICY PUBLICLY AND READILY AVAILABLE



LIMITS THE USE OF BIOMETRIC TECHNOLOGIES



ADDRESSES PERSONAL PRIVACY CONCERNS



PROTECTS FOOTAGE AGAINST TAMPERING AND MISUSE



PROHIBITS OFFICER PRE-REPORT VIEWING



MAKES FOOTAGE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS FILING COMPLAINTS



LIMITS RETENTION OF FOOTAGE



LIMITS OFFICER DISCRETION ON WHEN TO RECORD



DESIGN BY MARISA ELLIS

SOURCE: THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS, UPTURN AND ITHACA COLLEGE

in the cloud for five years before automatically deleting.

"At the end of a shift, the officers are required to put the cameras back on the docking station," Kerry said. "The station charges the device, but it also pulls the content and puts it in the cloud. After officers dock the cameras at the end of a shift, they categorize any footage they shot. Supervisors have access to the videos, but only a few supervisors have access to that. The footage cannot be deleted or tampered with from the camera."

The cameras are meant to offer supporting details regarding incidents, but they will not be able to recount every detail, Kerry said.

"The thing that the cameras don't capture are human emotion," Kerry said. "The cameras are a tool to help us stay accountable."

To demo the camera, Kerry walked around the room and let students at the meeting look at it. The camera is about 5 inches across and 2 inches thick and has magnets that secure it to the officers' uniforms.

The college has cameras for each of the 22 sworn members of the department, plus two spare cameras in case of breakage, Kerry said. He also said the total program cost \$30,000 for the first year and that the college has a three-year contract that will end up costing \$70,000.

"Officers are excited about this," Kerry said. "We want to build trust, transparency and accountability, and these are a tool for us. We can use them to enhance what we're doing and improve in our actions about what we're doing with the community. It won't be perfection, but we strive for perfection."

To help the campus community understand the cameras better, Public Safety sent out an Intercom announcement urging students to stop by the satellite office in the Campus Center to ask questions and get their hands on the



Ithaca College's Office of Public Safety purchased these body cameras from Taser International over the summer of 2016, during which time the officers were trained to use them.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

camera and see how they work.

Rory Rothman, associate provost for student life, said the administration and Public Safety alike were excited about the rollout of the cameras on campus.

"One of the reasons this is exciting is because this is something that the community wanted to see happen," Rothman said. "It is supported by students, staff and faculty, and it is really nice to see something supported by all the constituencies coming in."

Administrative Lt. Tom Dunn said the cameras will not have any effect on the college's Medical Amnesty Policy, and given the situation, officers may decide to turn cameras off to protect privacy.

Senior Melanie De Lima said she was skeptical when the camera policy was first introduced

and confused when the rollout took longer than initially pitched.

"I was a little surprised," De Lima said. "I knew that this was in the plans, but I didn't think that it would take so long ... but then I was also looking forward to it, so I could see what was happening and what it was about, overall."

Technology raises the stakes for every industry, Mitrano said, not just body cameras and policing.

"There is nothing about technology that is good or bad, inherently," she said. "It is how it is used, what the rules are around it. Technology itself is never good or bad."

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SHOOTING, from Page 1

Sophomore Emily Chavez, who ran a block past the TCAT stop on Seneca Street when she heard the shots go off, said the moment felt like it was in slow motion. She said she remembers looking at her friends, whose eyes were huge, as they all sprinted away from the area. Chavez said she started crying because the event was so terrifying.

"I thought about my mom," Chavez said. "I knew she would hear it on the news the next day. You never want to hear of your child being shot."

Freshman Jessica Hauser said she was walking down the hill to The Commons with friends to catch the TCAT when some people in a car pulled over and told her what had occurred. She and her friends turned around and walked back up to campus but were still confused.

"I was really nervous," Hauser said.

"I knew a lot of people who were in The Commons, and it could have been anyone."

Hauser, hoping everyone was safe, said she then texted her friends.

Springer and Chavez said that although the situation was terrifying, their opinions on the safety of Ithaca has not changed. Springer said that incidents like these are random and that, overall, she is not worried to go out, though she may change some aspects of her behavior.

"I will probably be more aware and pay attention to little things, like if there is a fight happening," she said.

Rachel said she does not plan to go out on The Commons while the shooting is still fresh in her mind.

"I was a little naive to think that Ithaca is this safe little bubble," she said.

Hauser said she is not going to stop going out at night to The Commons, as long as she stays with her friends. However, she said she

is more nervous and more careful because of this incident. Chavez said she still feels that Ithaca is a safe place because immediately after the incident occurred, she saw and heard police respond.

"You have to be aware of your surroundings, make sure that the people who you are with are OK," she said.

Both Chavez and Springer agreed that there is not much the college can do to respond to incidents like these other than inform the students of what is happening. However, Chavez said she would like to see the college send out a reminder of some general safety proceedings when going out at night.

**Name was changed to protect identity of underage drinker.*

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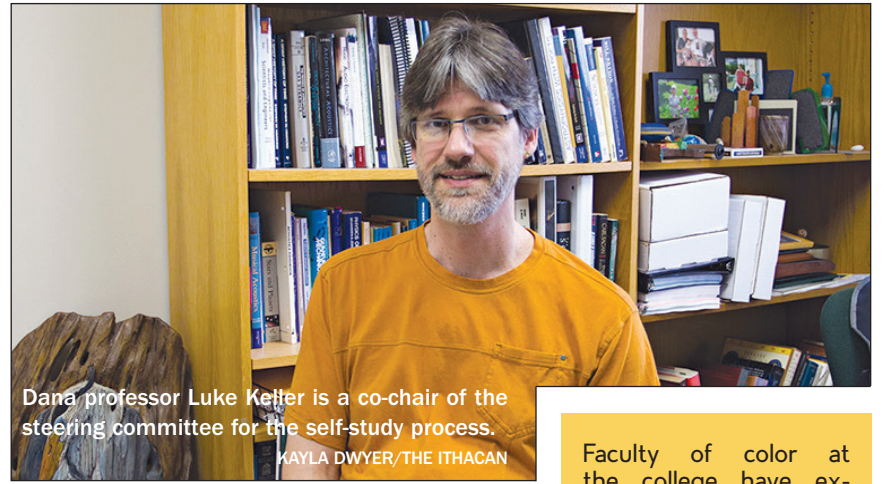
One person was wounded April 9 on The Commons after an altercation broke out between two men, leading one to pull out a gun and shoot.

YANA MAZURKEVICH/THE ITHACAN

ACCREDITATION: EXPLAINED

In order for Ithaca College students to receive federal financial aid and graduate with a degree from an accredited institution, the college first has to go through an accreditation process. The college recently conducted a self-study report with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, a draft of which was published on April 12, that the accreditation committee will be requesting feedback through its website until May 15.

Below is not the entirety of the self-study. Only some of the highlights of the report have been recorded, including suggestions the accreditation committee made and annotations provided by *The Ithacan* to contextualize some of the initiatives in question.



Dana professor Luke Keiffer is a co-chair of the steering committee for the self-study process.

KAYLA DWYER/THE ITHACAN

The IC 20/20 plan will not continue past Spring 2017 due to the early departure of President Tom Rochon, who resigned from his position following protests and campuswide votes of no confidence in Fall 2015. As previously reported by *The Ithacan*, Rochon said it would be best to wrap up the initiative almost four years earlier than planned to allow the incoming president to tackle her own strategic plan.

The college currently has 2.1 percent of its \$270 million endowment in fossil fuel companies but has no plan to divest from these companies despite pledging to be carbon neutral by 2050, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*.

During the 2014–15 fiscal year, 47 position lines were cut from the college's budget through the staff workforce analysis. Thirty-nine of the positions were vacant, while eight were occupied positions.

At the beginning of the Spring 2017 semester, many seniors reported that they were struggling to finish their ICC requirements. As the first class to graduate under the ICC, many said they were facing issues due to confusion about the requirements and not enough classes being available to fill certain perspectives under certain themes, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*. Vince DeTuri, associate professor and director of the ICC, said at a Faculty Council meeting Feb. 7 that at the beginning of the Fall 2016 semester, 21 percent of seniors were struggling to graduate because of the ICC, but he said he was able to get this number down to 1 percent, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*.

Standard I — Missions and Goals of the Institution

The success of IC 20/20 began with its collaborative creation and the support gained from faculty, staff, students, and the administration. Collectively envisioned and implemented, IC 20/20 has provided a unified perspective on how to move forward.

IC 20/20 has been implemented by means of a timeline divided into three main implementation periods: 2011-2014, 2014-2017, and 2017-2020.

Vision Statement: Ithaca College strives to become the standard of excellence for residential comprehensive colleges, fostering intellect, creativity, and character in an active, student-centered learning community.

Self-study suggestion: The Vision and Mission should be expanded to address inclusivity in addition to diversity.

As envisioned in the Guiding Principles and articulated in the Master Plan, "the most recent phase of building on the Ithaca campus embraces sustainability as a central tenet of design and has created some of the most memorable buildings on the campus." Prior to 2017, Ithaca College was one of fifty-two institutions to receive a Gold rating in STARS (Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System) from the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Self-study suggestion: As it stands now, a commitment to sustainable management is mentioned within the guiding principles and its prioritization has fluctuated over the past 10 years. Ithaca College should revisit the presence of sustainability as a named priority within our Mission and Vision.

Standard II — Ethics and Integrity

To help address the rising cost of a college education, Ithaca College has continuously slowed the rate of its tuition growth since 2008 and underwent an Effectiveness and Affordability Review by Huron Consulting in 2012–13 [...] Progress in implementing the cost saving recommendations identified through the Huron Project are detailed later in Standard VI, and include the implementation of a strategic sourcing program, the closing of the Rochester Physical Therapy Center with operations moving back to the Ithaca campus, and a staff workforce analysis (Workforce Planning Overview).

Self-study suggestion: We suggest that the college review existing policies and procedures to ensure equity and consistency as they apply to key populations in our campus community.

We suggest that the college develop and implement a regular process of reviewing and updating ethics policies as it does for academic policies.

Standard III — Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience

All degree programs have commonalities, including the all-college general education Integrative Core Curriculum (ICC), state-mandated liberal arts requirements, and discipline-specific requirements. The ICC is woven into the student experience, providing coherence through a common freshman experience, major-related complementary liberal arts, and a capstone.

In the past five years, dozens of courses have been approved for ICC Themes and Perspectives designation and the [sic] for attributes, expanding student choice.

Self-study suggestion: We suggest that the college conduct a deeper program review for the Integrative Core Curriculum than is typical for existing degree programs. In particular, we suggest soliciting feedback on the program from students as a formal part of the review as well as from faculty and staff, including those dealing with admitted students, potential transfers, and other prospects impacted by the requirement that theme/perspective courses be taken at IC.

Recent campus events have made clear that our community still has a long way to go to become more inclusive. Early efforts in that direction are only just underway, with outcomes to be judged in the future. [...] A diversity education experience has been included in the summer orientation and Fall Welcome experience that is focused on introducing students to what it means to be part of a respectful and inclusive, diverse community.

The hiring process for full-time, tenure-eligible and multi-year non-tenure eligible faculty [...] is designed to ensure a competitive and diverse pool and an equal experience for all candidates at all stages of the process as well as input not only from the faculty-led search committees but also from appropriate administrators.

Self-study suggestion: We suggest that efforts currently underway to enhance faculty diversity should be continued and monitored for effectiveness. Further, training of faculty in relation to inclusiveness and diversity should be continued.

We suggest that the college expectations of continuous development in diversity and inclusion be required for all employees across campus including faculty, staff, and administration.

Standard IV — Support of the Student Experience

Individual and group counseling programs are provided through the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Office. Staffing of CAPS has been institutional priority based on student need and utilization as seen in annual reports from the office. Staffing levels have increased from six people (5.24 FTE) in FY08 to ten people (7.92) FTE in FY17.

Standard V — Educational Effectiveness Assessment

Since the last Self-Study, the college has made a concerted effort at the institutional level to implement systematic assessment of educational goals in both Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. Significant progress has been made across the college in regard to the assessment of the holistic student experience, accompanied by continuous refinement in associated processes.

Across the college assessment is being used in more rigorous ways to identify areas for improving student learning. After several cycles of assessment, many programs have identified and implemented specific pedagogical, curricular, and/or programmatic changes as a direct result of assessment data.

Self-study suggestion: We suggest that the college expand the assessment process currently used for academic and student affairs programs to include the following areas of student learning across the college: academic advancement, athletics, career services, civic engagement, international programs, library, and state grants.

Standard VI — Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement

As is apparent in the long-term financial plans of the institution, the college is seeking to stabilize undergraduate enrollment at levels between 5800-5900 students. Additionally, in the spirit of making Ithaca College more affordable, the College has taken steps by increasing the tuition discount each year. The college does not plan to increase the discount rate indefinitely, but instead is planning to increase the freshmen discount rate for 1% per year through 2020-21, at which point the college plans to stabilize the discount rate while continuing cost savings and revenue diversification initiatives.

We have realized increased enrollment of students from historically underrepresented racial and ethnic groups over the past several years. The percentage of enrolled undergraduate students identifying as African American, Latinx, Asian or Native American has grown from 10.9% of in the fall of 2008 to 20.3% in fall 2016. The college is committed to enrolling and retaining a diverse student body and recognizes the need to sustain increasingly diverse enrollments moving forward.

Self-study suggestion: Based on our review, we suggest that Ithaca College explore institution-wide systematic strategies for periodic review and assessment of non-academic structures like those found in IC 20/20 initiatives, SACI, and academic student learning assessment areas.

Standard VII — Governance, Leadership, and Administration

In the fall of 2015, the Ithaca College Board of Trustees passed a resolution creating a task force to re-examine the issue of shared governance at the college and "enhance collaboration and communication among members of the IC community."

Comprised of members of all Ithaca College constituencies, the Shared Governance Task Force collected campus feedback through listening sessions and a survey in the spring of 2016. In October 2016, the task force presented a draft proposal, the Charter of Shared Governance. After a three-week period collecting feedback via meetings and a survey, the task force is expected to present a final draft to the Board of Trustees in March 2017.

Self-study suggestion: We suggest that the college set specific time periods in which to assess and review the College's governance structure.

Faculty of color at the college have expressed that they are often inundated with mentoring and service requests because of their cultural identity, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*. Currently, there is no extra reward for these faculty for their extra service, and because they take on so much, it damages their chances for tenure, as the tenure process prioritizes service the least.

Despite staffing increases, students are still reporting that wait times are too long and that many have had to be referred to off-campus facilities to receive help, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*. Elizabeth Bleicher, associate professor in the English department and exploratory program director, is a member of the Student Success Committee and said in a Faculty Council meeting March 7 that a lack of mental-health services is the biggest barrier to retention. The accreditation task force did not suggest any changes for CAPS.

For the 2016–17 budget, the average discount rate on cost of attendance at the college is 41.6 percent. The average discount rate for private colleges and universities nationally is 42.5 percent, according to an article from Inside Higher Ed.

Six years after the implementation of the Diversity Strategic Plan, Ithaca College has steadily increased its number of minority students at a rate comparable to the national average. However, among its peer group of institutions, the college still lags behind. Among the 11 schools in its peer group, the college ranks eighth in terms of diversity of its first-time, full-time freshman class in 2015, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*.

The shared governance draft still has not been approved. A second draft was sent to the campus community, but the Faculty Council motioned to postpone its approval so that incoming president Shirley Collado could give her input on the draft. However, the task force was originally charged to create a model without the input of Collado.

Student replaces plastic with fungi

BY SYDNEY O'SHAUGHNESSY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In a lab on the second floor of the Center for Natural Sciences, Ithaca College senior Sam Donato, an environmental studies major, checks on his latest experiment. He opens an oven and carefully takes out three chess pieces and sets them on the black lab bench. These chess pieces seem ordinary, even with bits of straw stuck inside them.

Donato soon explains that these chess pieces are unlike their commercial counterparts because they are made from fungi instead of plastic.

"I focus on growing particular strains of fungus in a certain type of way in order to replace commercial products, specifically plastics," Donato said.

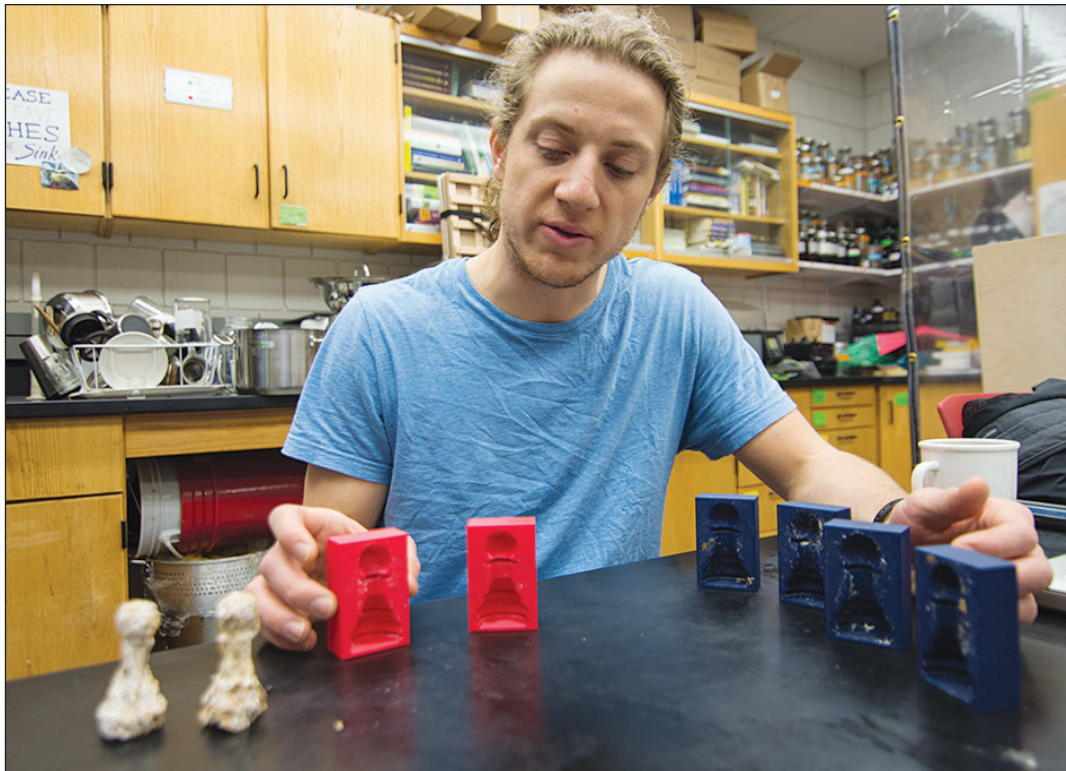
Most fungi produce mushrooms, which are the sexual fruiting body of fungus, and the fungi Donato works with, oyster mushrooms, are no different. However, Donato does not allow the organism to produce a mushroom for his research.

"I manipulate the organism's life cycle and essentially stop it growing at a point that I want to use it at," Donato said. "I am working with the stage right before the actual fruiting of this mushroom. I work with what's called mycelium, which is the intercellular network of information exchange that the fungus uses to propagate its body."

To actually grow the chess pieces from fungus, he introduces mycelium spawn mixed with straw into 3-D printed chess molds. Because fungus does not have a particular type of growth, it can grow in any shape, and Donato chose to create chess pieces.

Ryan Bouricius, lab manager of the 3-D printing lab and a physics student, helped Donato develop the designs for the molds.

"We weren't sure going in if the plastics that the printers use would have been suitable for growth, but it was something that was worth



Senior Sam Donato, an environmental studies major, holds the 3-D printed molds he uses to make chess pieces in an experiment. Donato uses fungus and other organic materials to reduce the use of plastic.

TEDDY ZERIVITZ/THE ITHACAN

giving a shot," Bouricius said. "So I helped him by taking a design of the chess piece and then altering that to make a 3-D-printed mold out of it."

Donato said that after the fungus grows into the shape he desires, he extracts it from the mold, dehydrates it in an oven and is left with a fully functional chess piece.

"At the end, you have this hard and rigid chess piece, but instead of a plastic that may have been based in petroleum, it is fully biodegradable," Donato said. "Though the organism is no longer living, it's still incredibly productive in terms of biodegrading and recycling itself into nature once disposed of."

Donato said he became interested in studying fungus after reading about mushrooms in class.

"I kept asking questions, and I was really interested in what makes a mushroom," he said. "And that brought me to the actual organism's body itself — the mycelium."

He's been working with Jason Hamilton, Donato's research professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, for about three years. Hamilton said he was excited when Donato proposed this project.

"My first thought was and still is that it was a fantastic idea," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said he believes Donato's research is at the forefront of sustainable fungal materials research.

"If this works, chess pieces are kind of irrelevant because it means that you can grow all sorts of small solid objects that people can then use for as long as they want and again, there's no trash, and in some sense, there's really no pollution in the process, either," Hamilton said.

Donato said he hopes that one day his research will contribute to the field of mycology, the study of fungi, and help decrease society's reliance on plastics. He envisions a

future where plastics are replaced, one-for-one, with fungus.

This is not yet a mainstream idea, but one company, Ecovative, is pursuing mycelial technologies to create sustainable products, like shipping materials and home decor.

However, Donato believes that the cultural stigmas surrounding fungus and mushrooms will impact how quickly others adopt these ideas.

"I think that as we progress as a community and a population, we need to start working to realize that human beings could create a relationship with fungus that could effectively help us answer a large number of questions in terms of how do we turn around our unsustainable ways and continue to live on our Earth with a mindset of longevity," Donato said.

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Union votes to ratify contract

BY GRACE ELLETON
NEWS EDITOR

Following the Ithaca College contingent faculty union's announcement that it has voted to ratify its contract agreement with the college, the union has shifted its energy to the pending labor lawsuit against the college.

The contract, officially ratified April 7, ensures that full-time contingent faculty will be granted longer-term contracts after working a certain number of years at the college, and it also gives the part-time faculty a 24 percent compensation increase over four years and longer-term job security. The contract was originally signed by the union and the administration March 26. The union cited a majority in favor of the ratification among those contingent faculty who voted, but would not disclose how many faculty members voted or what the percentage of those in favor is.

Although the contract is now in effect, Megan Graham, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, said the union is still focusing on gaining "justice" for the three faculty members who, the union claims, were not rehired for the next academic year because of their involvement in the full time-contingent faculty union. This prompted the union to file an unfair labor lawsuit against the college March 8. These faculty members include David Kornreich, assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy; Shoshe Cole, assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy; and Rachel Gundersen, instructor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education.

Dave Maley, senior associate director for media and community relations, said the allegations made by the unions are untrue but that the college looks forward to cooperating with the National Labor Relations Board, as previously reported by *The Ithacan*.

A petition has been created to protest the loss of the professors and had 600 signatures as of April 7, according to the contingent faculty union's Twitter. However, the number of people who have signed cannot be accessed publicly.

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COLLEGE

2017 Whalen Symposium speaker to discuss Fulbright research

The keynote speakers for the James J. Whalen Academic Symposium on Thursday have been announced. Kathleen Mulligan, Fulbright scholar and associate professor of voice and speech in the Department of Theatre Arts, and former student Sarah Hebert-Johnson will talk about their work and experience with her presentation “Walking Through Open Doors: A Journey Through the Subcontinent.”

Mulligan’s talk will highlight moments from her scholarship, including details about her projects “Finding Women’s Voices,” which focused on empowerment of Indian women through voice, and “Voices of Partition,” which is based on interviews with survivors of the Partition of 1947.

Her current student, senior Jordan Pesci-Smith, will also be performing an original monologue.

In addition to the keynote address, over 400 students will present their work, and over 50 student poster presentations will take place between 9:25 a.m. and 3:50 p.m. in the Campus Center. The noon-hour session will feature finalist presentations for the Whalen Symposium Awards. There will also be a closing session featuring the awards ceremony, which will begin at 3:50 p.m.

Four students and professors honored in Park School awards

Four faculty members and four students have been chosen for the Park School of Communication’s annual writing awards, endowed by an anonymous alumnus.

Arlene Flowers, associate professor of Strategic Communication, was chosen for her book, “Global Writing for Public Relations: Connecting in English with Stakeholders and Publics Worldwide.” Matthew Holtmeier, postdoctoral teaching fellow of screen studies, and Andrew Utterson, assistant professor of screen studies, were chosen for their articles. Steven Ginsberg, Pendleton-endowed chair and assistant professor at the Pendleton Center in Los Angeles, was selected for his blog “Notes from a Chair.”

For the student essay awards, sophomore Grant Brighter was honored for his research paper “Warped Space-Time: Exploiting Schematic Assumptions in Ritual in Transfigured Time (1946).” Sophomore Jenna Mortensen was selected for her long-form journalistic article “A Village Divided,” on the impact of hydraulic fracturing on one Pennsylvania town. Junior Emma McGovern won the award for a fantasy script called “Among the Reeds,” dealing with the issue of loss. Junior Tyler Macri also won for a script titled “What Comes From a Swamp,” which deals with a fictional creature and a story of siblings from a dysfunctional family.

Politics professor presents talk regarding criticisms of capitalism

Naeem Inayatullah, professor in the Department of Politics, presented “Two to Tango: The Seductions of Capitalism” at Skidmore College on April 3.

His talk assessed the strengths and weaknesses of capitalism seen as a culture. According to a description posted on Intercom, “It highlights and troubles those elements that we seem unwilling to endorse as well as those that we seem happy to condemn. It aims to make what is familiar about capitalism seem strange as well as to bring home what seems alien.”

Inayatullah wrote that the hope for the talk was to clear the ground for debating capitalism’s cultural values. The talk can be read online at <http://faculty.ithaca.edu/naeem/Talks/>.

Department of Politics hosts nationally recognized UN member

Phyllis Bennis, an Institute for Policy Studies fellow, is the director of the New Internationalism Project at IPS. She will give a department-wide talk sponsored by the politics department on April 20 from 12:10 to 1:00 p.m. in the Dorothy D. and Roy H. Park Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise. Bennis works as a writer, activist and analyst on Middle East and United Nations issues. She is also a fellow of the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam.

She writes and speaks widely across the U.S. and around the world as part of the global peace movement. She has served as an informal adviser to several top U.N. officials on Middle East and U.N. democratization issues.

Board of Trustees announces plan for presidential transition

In a message posted to Intercom by Tom Grape, chair of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees, a committee has appointed a transition team to assist with the planning for the welcoming of a new president to the campus community and to provide support throughout the first year of the

presidency. The transition team will begin its work in April 2017 and continue through the first year of Shirley Collado’s presidency.

Jason Freitag, associate professor of history, and Nancy Pringle, senior vice president and legal counsel in the Division of Human Resources, will be co-chairing the campus transition team.

The team is charged by the Board of Trustees with the development and implementation of a transition process which will enable Collado to learn institutional history, culture, strengths, opportunities and challenges at the college. The team is advisory and is not intended to replace institutional organizational and governance structures.



Students take advantage of spring weather

From left, sophomores Julia Cohen and Leah DeFusco sit on the Academic Quad and do homework on April 10. Students spent the week enjoying the 70-degree weather, flocking to the outdoor spaces on campus as temperatures rose and spring weather hit Ithaca after a week of gray skies and rainy weather.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

Public Safety Incident Log

MARCH 20

CHANGE IN STATUS

LOCATION: Public Safety Office
SUMMARY: Officer reported barricade originally reported stolen on March 18 from M-Lot was located and not stolen. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

LOCATION: Friends Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person ill. Person declined medical assistance. Assistance was provided. Patrol Officer Dylan Hardesty.

MARCH 21

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

LOCATION: Friends Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person passed out. Person transported to the health center. Fire and Building Safety Coordinator Charlie Sherman.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

LOCATION: Garden Apartments
SUMMARY: Crisis hotline reported person called about harming themselves. Person was taken into custody and transported to the hospital. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore.

MARCH 22

MEDICAL ASSIST

LOCATION: Terrace Dining Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported

person in pain. Person transported to the hospital by ambulance. Fire and Building Safety Coordinator Charlie Sherman.

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Caller reported they had been on the phone and person told them they were having a stroke. Officer contacted local agency, and this person was helped by emergency services and was transported to the hospital. Assistance was provided. Master Security Officer Amy Chilson.

MARCH 23

MAKING GRAFFITI

LOCATION: Terrace 12
SUMMARY: Officer reported unknown person wrote graffiti and unknown person damaged an exit sign. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento.

MARCH 24

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-hand information that person turned furniture upside down in apartment. Caller concerned for this person’s welfare. Assistance was provided. Lieutenant Tom Dunn.

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Complainant reported unknown person placed flyers in mailbox. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore.

MARCH 25

ASSIST TCSO

LOCATION: Conservatory Drive
SUMMARY: Officer reported TCSO traffic stop. TCSO took person into custody for DWI. Sergeant Don Lyke.

CRIMINAL TAMPERING

LOCATION: Emerson Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person dumped bucket of rock salt down stairwell. Investigation pending. Sergeant Ron Hart.

MARCH 26

DISRUPTIVE NOISE

LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Caller reported loud music. Officer judicially referred three people for noise violation. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento.

KEY

SCC – Student conduct code
TCSO – Tompkins County Sheriff’s Office
AD – Assistant Director

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM MARCH 20 TO MARCH 26

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4/13 PINK TALKING FISH
4/14 WILD ADRIATIC
4/15 BRIDGET KEARNEY
4/18 THIFTWORKS
4/20 TALK
4/21 BIG MEAN SOUND MACHINE
4/23 ROBERT RANDOLPH
4/29 DRIFTWOOD
4/30 DUSTBOWL REVIVAL

STATE

4/11 WELCOME TO NIGHTVALE
4/30 BARENAKED LADIES
5/26 FUTURE ISLANDS
6/24 MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD
9/12 CONOR OBERST
9/17 AN EVENING WITH DAWES
11/16 JOE BONAMASSA

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- Fall 2017 students must come to one of each of the below sessions.
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Tues. 4/25, 12:10-1:00, Textor 101	Thurs. 4/27, 12:10-1:00, Textor 101

All students going abroad in the summer or fall must also schedule a pre-departure meeting with an adviser in International Programs. Email studyabroad@ithaca.edu or call 607-274-3306 to set up your appointment!

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EDITORIALS



ALLISON LATINI/THE ITHACAN

Climate change deserves more localized attention

Rising sea levels. Increasing temperatures. Erratic weather patterns. The truth is in the weather and the natural environment: Climate change is, undeniably and unequivocally, real, and now it is tangible on the hyperlocal level.

Due to human activity, global warming has been exacerbated to the point where unrelenting damage is being wrought in areas all over the planet.

The same rings true in Ithaca. Just last fall, the local area experienced its worst drought on record. The weather in Ithaca has largely been inconsistent, with temperatures reaching the 60s and 70s one day, then dropping to the 30s and 40s the next. Local environmental groups like Non-Timber Forest Products have also felt the brunt of climate change in maple syrup production, and all of the college's bees have died this winter. These weather patterns are the foreboding harbingers of intense climate change on this planet.

Despite the rising urgency to combat climate change, only a small handful of students, most of whom are in the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, truly care about global warming, as most sustainability events are spearheaded by students in this department. In the college's Integrated Core Curriculum, the theme Quest for a Sustainable Future has the lowest number of students enrolled.

This lack of urgency also extends to events held on

campus. For instance, when the college hosts speakers or events centering climate change, they are often relegated to smaller classrooms not centrally located on campus. Even Sandra Steingraber, a prominent figure in the fields of environmentalism and sustainability, will be giving her talk during Sustainability Week in Textor 102 instead of in a larger location like Emerson Suites.

What these examples show is a lack of an institutional commitment to engaging in these issues. But this apathy will only hurt the community in the end. Personal efforts to combat climate change can start small, such as taking shorter showers. Those who may be resistant to small changes are ultimately trading long-term changes for short-term conveniences. Choosing to do nothing to combat one's carbon footprint or reduce waste demonstrates ignorance to the ways climate change will inevitably change the world we live in.

Climate change should be given a greater sense of urgency at this college, whether through making sustainability events more accessible to the campus or encouraging more students to take more classes on environmentalism. Climate change is already taking effect on the local level, and it will get worse. As years pass, temperatures continue to rise and humans continue to contribute to global warming, the effects of climate change will only spread farther and wider to any and all communities — Ithaca included.

Let seeing-eye dogs be trained in peace

It is a sight guaranteed to cause excitement and joy in any Ithaca College student: dogs on campus. Many dogs can be seen on campus grounds, oftentimes with their owners following closely behind.

Many of these dogs are training to become seeing-eye guides and are affiliated with the organization Guiding Eyes for the Blind at the college. Guiding Eyes for the Blind is an organization that educates students on how to train a dog to become a seeing-eye dog for others in the future.

Of course, the natural reaction to seeing these dogs on campus, with their silky fur and round, wide eyes, is to pet them. But students should caution against this impulse, as seeing-eye dogs are not simply domestic pets. Moreover, they are training to be able to provide services to blind people. This purpose should become better recognized by students across campus, as it would help students understand the work and training these dogs must undergo. The necessary action to take, should that

impulse arise, is to ask the owner whether it is all right to pet the dog — it's impossible to know whether petting the dog would be detrimental to its phase of training without asking first. Even an overzealous emotional reaction in front of the dog and its owner could distract the dog from its training.

What students must recognize is that seeing-eye dogs, which are very easily identifiable by the specific vest they wear, are not just animals that exist to fulfill students' love of furry creatures. In the case of seeing-eye dogs, the work and training they complete daily often trumps students' desire to walk up to these animals and pet them.

Having the Guiding Eyes for the Blind program is one of several aspects of the college that never fails to make students smile, and the growing organization provides a great service to the broader community. But while black labradors are undeniably adorable, students must placate their love of these dogs, at least momentarily, to recognize the hard work they do.

Letter to the Editor

Be heard in print or on the Web.



Send a letter to the editor to 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 or to the Opinion Editor at 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.



INTO
IDENTITY

MAHAD OLAD

Why I chose to leave Islam

My journey away from Islam began in the slums of Eastleigh, a suburb of Nairobi, Kenya. During my walk home from the mosque one morning, I heard a thunderous eruption off in the distance. Petrified, I sprinted to a relative's compound to seek refuge. A grenade had been thrown into a local church in the midst of a Sunday school session by al-Shabaab, a Somalia-based militant group. The explosion killed a child and wounded nine others.

That evening, a local sheikh, religious leader, delivered an energetic speech sanctioning the grisly attack. He cited verses from the Quran and reporting from the Hadith — deeds and sayings attributed to the Prophet Muhammad — as divine sources of inspiration for the jihadists.

I realized I couldn't overlook the fact that today's Islamic extremists are driven by a political ideology, an ideology derived from Islam's most sacrosanct texts. That event, including the sheikh's speech, propelled me to critically examine my faith, eventually leading me to renounce Islam altogether. It was a traumatizing experience to reject a religion whose doctrines I'd been conditioned to believe as the literal truth.

My mere existence as an ex-Muslim is radical and controversial. Many Muslim-majority nations retain laws that criminalize apostasy — the renunciation of Islam by a Muslim. Even in the secular West, where the freedom to change religions is recognized, ex-Muslims continue to fear for their lives. While I have not acknowledged my identity as an atheist to loved ones, they've figured out my disbelief due to my lack of observance of religious rituals. As a result, my siblings no longer speak to me. My parents believe that by turning my back on Islam, I've turned my back on them. To them, I will always be a great disappointment.

I renounced Islam at the age of 14 and thought I was alone. Then I stumbled upon an internet forum catering to ex-Muslims. We discussed our experiences, vented to one another and sought advice on how to deal with issues often faced by ex-Muslims: family estrangement, loneliness and persecution. This virtual community served as my support group and helped me cope during rough times. A year after joining the online forum, I began attending local meetups through a nonprofit called the Ex-Muslims of North America. There, I've formed lasting bonds with members who understand the struggles I go through. I finally feel as if I belong.

INTO IDENTITY is a column about identity issues written by Mahad Olad. OLAD is a freshman politics major. Connect with him at molad@ithaca.edu.

NATIONAL RECAP

Missiles escalate Syrian conflict

BY MARY FORD
MANAGING EDITOR

On April 4, at least 70 people were killed in a chemical weapons attack against a residential neighborhood in Syria. The attack marked a new twist in the brutal yearslong civil war, which began in 2011 after peaceful protests against President Bashar al-Assad escalated into rebellion. It has since become a complex conflict involving sectarian violence, the rise of the Islamic State and the emergence of a proxy war between major international players, including the United States and Russia, which is allied with the Assad government.

Assad has repeatedly used brutal total war tactics, including the use of chemical weapons, to terrorize civilians resistant to his government's control. According to Human Rights First, this constitutes a war crime and a violation of international law. Former President Barack Obama's policy on Syria was that the use of chemical weapons would draw "a red line," which, if crossed, would trigger United States military intervention. However, following a 2013 chemical weapons attack in which 1,300 civilians were killed, Obama sought permission from Congress to retaliate but was met with little

support. The United States then made a deal with Russia to help remove the remaining chemical weapons from Assad's control.

In response to the most recent use of chemical weapons, President Donald Trump acted decisively, firing 59 missiles to the Syrian air base from which the chemical weapons attack was initiated without getting permission from Congress. Trump had previously campaigned on an "America First" foreign policy. As recently as March 30, his administration's stance, reinforced in individual statements by Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Nikki Haley, ambassador to the United Nations, was not to intervene in Syria. He also tweeted in 2013 that Obama should not intervene in Syria and then proceeded to blame Obama's lack of intervention for the continued violence in Syria.

Trump is not the only politician with oscillating opinions on Syria. When Obama requested authorization from Congress in 2013, many Republican lawmakers were slow to offer him support. Now, many of those same lawmakers back Trump's military action. There is a bipartisan belief, however, that any further actions taken in Syria should be approved by Congress.



U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson meets with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on April 12 to discuss the U.S. role in Syria.

ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

On April 11, American intelligence agencies debunked Russian claims that the chemical weapons attack could not have been perpetrated by Assad. This bold stance on Russia indicates another shift in Trump's foreign policy agenda, which was largely characterized as Russia-friendly during his campaign

and early presidency.

Tillerson met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on April 12 to discuss the conflict in Syria following the U.S. missile strike.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Asian Americans lacking in Hollywood

BY SARA KIM

The third annual Ithaca Pan Asian American Film Festival will be held April 20–22 at Cinemapolis. As a three-year veteran of the festival, I cannot help but reflect on the reasons why I joined in organizing such a large event. I remember when this festival started two years ago in Spring 2015 and the purpose it serves the community.

Though Asian Americans make up 5.4 percent of the United States population, film and television have almost no Asian or Pacific Islander lead characters, according to The New York Times. In fact, only 1.4 percent of lead characters in Hollywood are Asian, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are constantly fighting for their own visibility in Hollywood by speaking out against whitewashing — when white actors take the roles of Asian or Pacific Islander characters and their stories.

Whitewashing AAPI roles erases the existence of AAPI in the media and continues to be an ongoing issue with Hollywood's major motion picture films. Jake Gyllenhaal, for example, showcased eyeliner and a dark spray tan to play his character in the 2010 film "Prince of Persia: Sands of Time." In 2015, actress Emma Stone played a character of Asian descent in her film "Aloha." Even the most recent animated film, "Kubo and the Two Strings," had white actors voice most of the Japanese characters. The lack of diversity in Hollywood ultimately discounts AAPIs. Perhaps there is a larger issue behind the lack of Asian and Pacific Islander representation in media: that is, the perception that a movie with an all Asian and Pacific Islander cast will fail as a box office hit. I mean, Hollywood is a business, right?

Diversity in Hollywood needs to happen not only in front of the camera, but also behind the scenes. From writers to producers to actors, the people running the show from behind the camera contribute greatly to the representation on-screen. That is why it is important to create outlets where AAPIs can create their own stories. The advocacy of celebrities like Constance Wu from "Fresh Off the Boat" and Aziz Ansari from "Master of None" sheds light on breaking the one percent barrier in Hollywood.



Senior Sara Kim leads a meeting of the Asian American Alliance. Kim writes about the lack of Asian Americans or Pacific Islanders in the media and the whitewashing of Asian characters.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

Besides YouTube, which is a major outlet for independent AAPI artists, there is almost no place within the media that allows for AAPIs to tell their stories. It is film festivals like IPAAFF that provide an outlet for these artists. Diversity, I believe, begins with us as media consumers.

As media consumers, I think it is important to recognize the lack of diversity in films and find ways to advocate for more representation, whether it is by becoming content creators, creating spaces for those who want to tell their stories or speaking out against misrepresentations. The most recent example is the controversy surrounding the cast of the live-action remake of Walt Disney's "Mulan." In 2015, fans began a petition against Walt Disney studios to ensure the lead characters of the remake are not whitewashed. Currently, the petition has over 100,000 signatures. Nowadays, the use of social media allows for media consumers to speak out against whitewashing and the invisibility of AAPIs.

The #OnlyOnePercent movement, for instance, aims to highlight the lack of AAPI representation in the entertainment industry, and as media consumers, I believe we are responsible for spotlighting Hollywood's diversity issue.

The festival is important to me because it creates a space for Asian American and Pacific Islander filmmakers to showcase AAPI stories: the ones missing from mainstream media. With support from students; professors; the Center for the Study of Race, Culture and Ethnicity; Cornell University; and community members, IPAAFF lets AAPIs be the storytellers, producers and actors. IPAAFF is an example of passionate students making a difference, and it's a place for the Asian American and Pacific Islander narrative.

SARA KIM is a senior journalism major and president of the Asian American Alliance. Contact her at skim8@ithaca.edu.

NEWSMAKERS

Professor studies labor movements

In recent months, the U.S. has seen a resurgence in the labor movement, with news of many unions — from the U.S. Women's Hockey Team to the contingent faculty union at Ithaca College — banding together to fight for better pay and treatment.

In a recent paper, Jonathan Ablard, associate professor in the Department of History, goes back in time about a hundred years ago to focus on another labor movement that took place in Latin America. Entitled “Proletariats in Ties: Labor Organizing and Strikes by Barbers in early Twentieth Century Buenos Aires,” the paper focuses on strikes conducted by barbers in 1906 in Buenos Aires. Ablard presented the topic at the Mid-Atlantic Conference on Latin American Studies in Charlottesville, North Carolina, from March 24 to 25.

Opinion Editor Celisa Calacal spoke with Ablard about the barber strike, its impact and the re-emergence of the labor movement in the U.S.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.



Associate Professor Jonathan Ablard recently gave a presentation in Charlottesville, Virginia, about a labor movement involving barbers going on strike in Buenos Aires in the early 20th century.

CELISA CALACAL/THE ITHACAN

Celisa Calacal: Could you give a summary of the presentation?

Jonathan Ablard: It's a sort of introduction or sort of brief history of strikes that barbers made in Buenos Aires in the early 20th century. And I kind of look at how the barbers organized, what their unions were like, what their newspapers were like because the barbers actually had their own special newspapers that came out once a week. And then I looked a little bit at how the strikes, in general, operated: who was involved, who wasn't involved, who was opposed to them. And [I] look at issues like strikebreakers and strikers, barbers who perhaps were supposed to be on strike but would secretly cut people's hair for fun. And it started in a very accidental way. I'm a historian of 20th-century Argentina, and I've been doing some projects on the draft. I was looking at old newspapers from the early 20th century. ... I saw an article that had nothing to do with my project, which was basically, [in] 1902, about 3,500 of the barbers in Buenos Aires went on strike for about two weeks.

CC: How did the barbers' proximity to upper classes impact their movement?

JA: I think the question of barbers and class is very interesting. There are a couple of layers to it. One is, of course, barbers worked in shops that were situated across the city, from working-class and poor neighborhoods and very wealthy cities. And so, barbers would have very different social experiences at work depending on where they were cutting hair. And so, barbers working in working-class neighborhoods would have been cutting the hair of their neighbors and probably people of similar ethnic backgrounds or religious or political backgrounds. Whereas barbers who worked in elite barber shops would have, on one hand, been paid more most likely, but also would have experienced a kind of tension between their own personal identities and the people that they were working with. ... So Buenos Aires was a city of immigrants. ... So a lot of these barbers would have belonged to immigrant

collectives, immigrant communities. But they also would've belonged to anarchist or socialist unions. But also, they would've read socialist or anarchist newspapers. So there's a kind of whole culture around work or ethnicity, national origin and politics that barbershops kind of provide a little window into that rich world.

CC: What was distinctive to you about the barbers and what they were doing?

JA: After I found this first article that was actually published in the socialist paper *La Vanguardia*, I wanted to look at some magazines from the time period. ... What I discovered was the barbers actually had really serious issues. They had very long hours. They would often work 12 to 16 hours. They had to commute all across the city, and they usually had to do it by themselves because the barber shops were dispersed throughout this gigantic city of 1.5 million people. ... They had to have a uniform. They had to be perfectly well-groomed when they showed up to work. They had to have their shoes shined, their collars ironed. And so this kind of created a lot of added cost to be a barber. And so there were a lot of sort of real labor issues that they confronted and organized around. ... They viewed the tip as humiliating. ... And so, for men in this period — and probably this is true in many other cultures and many other times — honor is very important. And so, they felt that the receiving of a tip was a form of humiliation. That it was, rather than simply getting paid what they agreed upon, an amount for an agreed upon service, that the customer gets to sort of decide what they're going to pay you.

CC: Ithaca College this year saw its own labor movement with the contingent faculty unions. Do you see any similarities between the labor movement here and the movement you studied?

JA: I think the conditions of the unionized group are really different in some ways, in that the folks

I studied are working-class people with very low levels of education, with relatively low levels of social mobility. But I think there are some themes that kind of link them together. One thing that I was particularly struck with ... is the unwillingness or the slowness of management to simply offer concessions. I think that in the case of the IC union, I was disappointed that management, administration, couldn't come to agreements more quickly with regard to increasing the pay, that that stayed as a problem for a long period of time. But I guess it's kind of hard for me to compare the two. But I would say on the management side that's certainly true.

CC: Do you think that right now, we're seeing a resurgence in the labor movement?

JA: There seems to be a strong push in the service sector, which I believe the SEIU is the service sector ... which makes sense because our economy is heavily driven by the service sector. ... Some of the early actions by the new administration, I think, are making people reassess the value of working people being organized, that the kinds of threats that are sort of emerging to sort of maintaining economic stability in the family and the individual unit I think are making people kind of reevaluate that. But I've been struck by some of the organizing efforts in the last few years. For example, the fast food workers' unions that have emerged particularly in big cities ... is remarkable. ... I don't remember when I've seen something like that. And again, it's interesting because we think historically of unions being as important in the big economic endeavors like coal mining or steel plants. And so, it's interesting to kind of think about the power that the service sector can have. ... I think we're in a particular moment where people are re-evaluating unions.

Read the full Q&A online.

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ELEPHANT
IN THE
ROOM

KYLE STEWART

Trumpism goes on trial

Days after President Donald Trump's surprise election in November, stories of the “silent majority” filled the news. Extreme dissatisfaction with politics-as-usual and economic anxiety left many voters seeking a leader who would fight for their interests. Trump, with his brash style and unapologetic rhetoric, was the unconventional candidate that this silent majority wanted. Now, almost 100 days into Trump's presidency, what has he done for the forgotten men and women of our nation? Nothing, and it should come as no surprise.

Throughout the campaign, Trump relied on grandiose statements rather than proposing actual policy positions, such as when he said he would be the “greatest jobs president that God ever created.” Or when he said he would have the “greatest minds” working in his administration. Well, he could certainly use those great minds right about now. While Trump knew how to exploit voters' fears and frustrations during the campaign, he has struggled to turn that anger into policy-making. Why? Because Trump is a political neophyte whose allies think they can simply shove his priorities through without pushback. But that's not how Washington works.

So Trump has continued to lash out on Twitter at anyone and anything that gets under his thin skin. First, it was voting fraud claims after losing the popular vote. More recently, it was claims that former President Barack Obama wiretapped him. And of course, there is his ongoing battle with the news media. But does any of this help the unemployed men and women of rural Pennsylvania who voted for Trump? Not at all.

While Trump continues to golf each weekend, the silent majority continues to struggle. The president must put down his phone, turn off the cable news and recognize that the nation's problems are now his own. It is time for Trump, who wrote a book about deal-making, to invite both Republicans and Democrats to the table and hash out an agenda that will improve American lives. Rushed executive orders represent a leader unwilling or unable to persuade the legislative branch that his ideas are sound. The silent majority is relying on Trump to make the changes he promised. It will be watching over the next few years, and unless Trump can restore hope for these voters, he won't be able to run on his 2020 campaign slogan, “Keep America Great,” because he will have had nothing to do with the greatness to begin with.

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM is a conservative politics column written by Kyle Stewart. **STEWART** is a junior journalism major. Connect with him at kstewart1@ithaca.edu and [@KyleStew107](https://twitter.com/KyleStew107).

SNAP JUDGMENT

What did you think of Trevor Noah?



“I think his bit with sign language interpreters was really funny.”

DYLAN SHANE
COMPUTER SCIENCE
'19



“His actual content was very current with the times and very political, which I think everyone at the school really enjoyed.”

THOMAS CONTI
TELEVISION-RADIO
'20



“He was amazing. Number one, because ... he's naturally funny. He doesn't really have to do too much — he uses what's around him to make jokes about it.”

DANIELLA RESTO
TELEVISION-RADIO
'17



“I felt like I was thinking about new things, and culture and the way that I react to certain situations.”

LAURA DOUTHIT
JAZZ STUDIES, VOICE
'17




“He's really bringing about these political changes, especially in this time of unrest.”

APRIL CARROLL
WRITING FOR FILM,
TV, AND EMERGING
MEDIA
'19

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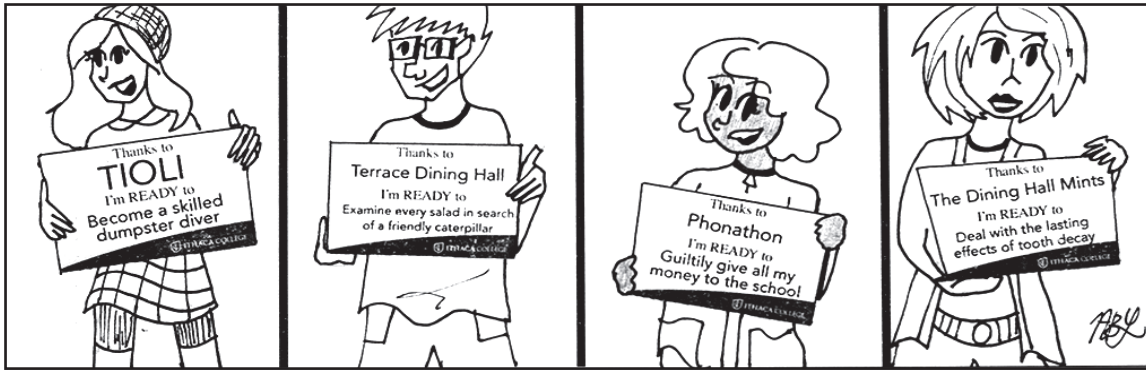


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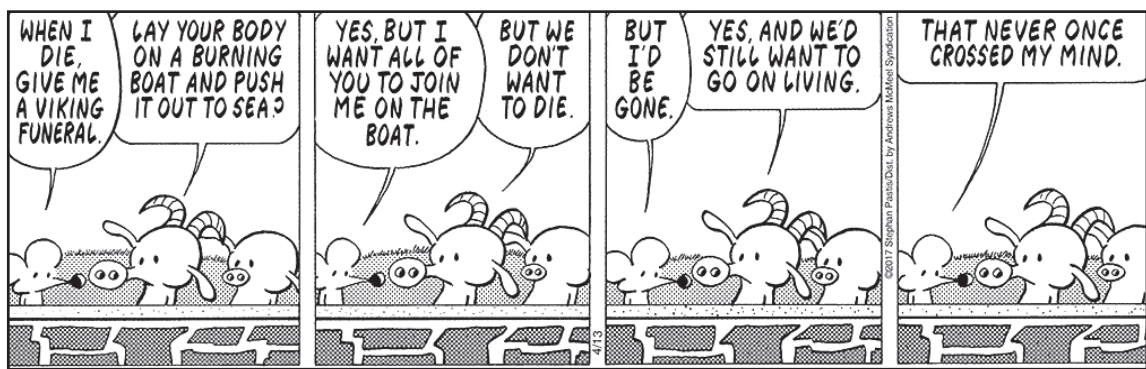
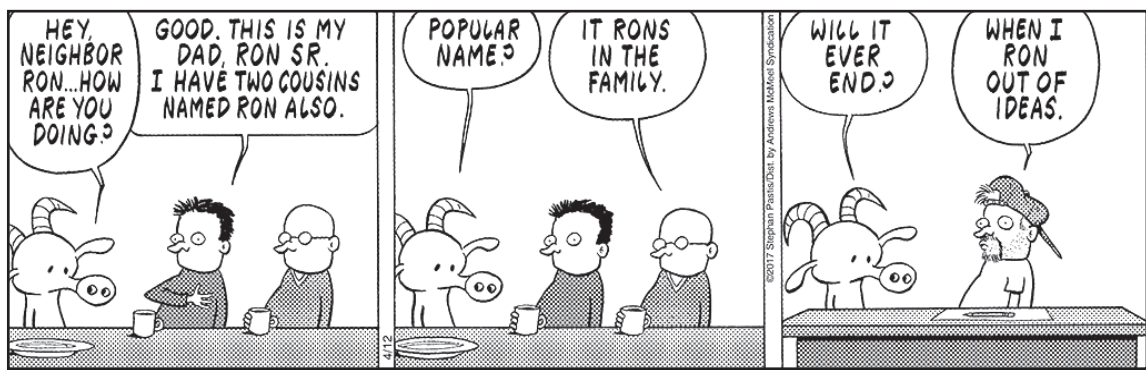
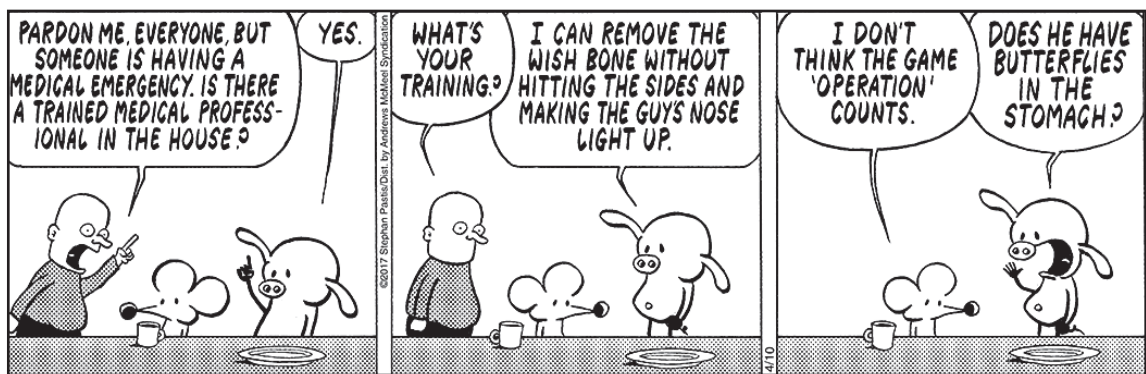
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sudoku

medium

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

hard

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

answers to last issue's sudoku

easy

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

medium

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

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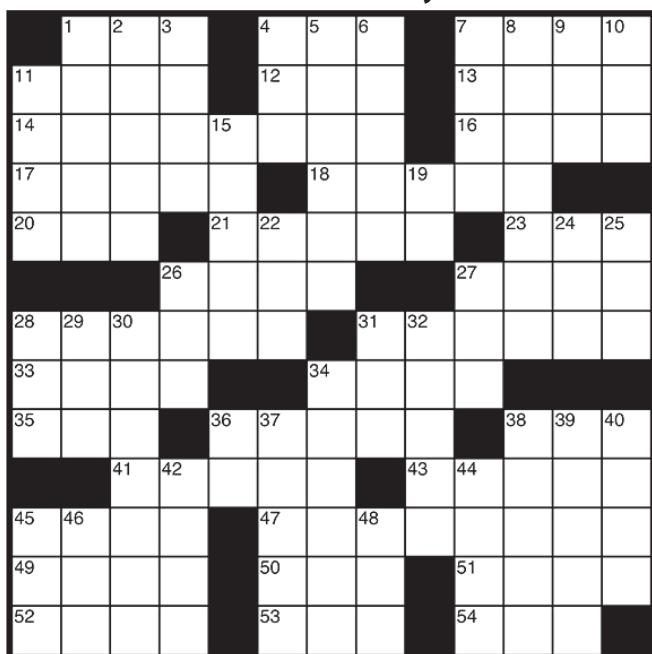
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crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 "- Vadis?"
- 4 Thurs. follower
- 7 "Puppy Love" composer
- 11 - fu
- 12 Kingsley or Franklin
- 13 Raucous diver
- 14 Emery board (2 wds.)
- 16 Three oceans touch it
- 17 Organic compound
- 18 "Good night" girl
- 20 Grunts of surprise
- 21 Drives the get-away car
- 23 Vampire -
- 26 "Famous" cookie maker
- 27 Lengthy story
- 28 Took stealthily
- 31 Mountain lion
- 33 Flapjack chain
- 34 Spare, maybe
- 35 City conveyance

DOWN

- 36 Etching fluids
- 38 Dow Jones fig.
- 41 Rare violin
- 43 - but goodie
- 45 Show of hands
- 47 Black bear variety
- 49 Smooth and level
- 50 Psst!
- 51 Distance measure
- 52 Cornfield sight
- 53 PC button
- 54 "Harper Valley -"
- 1 Physique
- 2 Volts or watts
- 3 Leer
- 4 Crime-fighting org.
- 5 Depends on
- 6 Sluggish by nature
- 7 Astronaut - Shepard
- 8 Oats holder
- 9 Garden-pond fish
- 10 Literary compilation
- 11 Type of sock

- 15 Physique
- 19 Plural indicator
- 22 Iron pumper's pride
- 24 Turkish honorific
- 25 Road topping
- 26 Band's need
- 27 Ms. Grafton
- 28 Photo
- 29 Detective's cry
- 30 Maine export
- 31 El - Campeador
- 32 Bean or Welles
- 34 Straightens up
- 36 Ess preceder
- 37 Stockpile
- 38 Usher in
- 39 Small pansy
- 40 It may be spliced
- 42 Hamiltons
- 44 Reading light
- 45 Geese formation
- 46 Biologist's eggs
- 48 UN locale

last issue's crossword answers

WOLF	BSMT	QUO
AREA	LOCI	UTA
ROOMFUL	GREEK	
	OAR	WHIR
OCCUR	PITBULL	
OILS	HIDE	LEE
MSU	RAVEN	OAF
PCS	AVON	DUCT
HOTSPOT	BUSHY	
	ERIC	GAL
PURSE	BULLETS	
ORE	RUIN	EAVE
END	SMOG	DRAW

CLIMATE, from Page 1

increasingly unpredictable”

Jennifer Francis, a research professor at Rutgers University's Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, said a large difference in temperatures between the middle-latitudes and the Arctic are what fuel the jet streams — large bands of air flowing around the hemisphere that carry weather — and this large difference also keeps these jet streams relatively uniform. But Francis said that because temperatures in the Arctic are rising at such a higher rate than they are in other areas, the jet stream has become less uniform.

“We're noticing that the west-to-east winds are getting weaker as a result, and we know that when the jet stream is weak, it tends to take these bigger north-south swings,” Francis said. “Those big waves in the jet stream, or any waves in the jet stream for that matter, are what create the weather storms, the weather systems that we feel on the surface.”

Francis said what causes extreme weather events, such as the California drought, is when these big waves in the jet stream get “stuck” over a location and cause extreme weather events.

While this may seem like a distant concept, the effects of this weather are already seen by people in the Ithaca area.

Syrup Production

Maple syrup is not easy to make. It starts with tapping maple trees for sap and waiting patiently for enough sap to collect, and if sugar-makers can get a few gallons of sap, they can make about a quart of syrup. It is a long process that requires specific conditions and a great deal of patience.

This year, though, the Non-Timber Forest Products class at the college gathered nearly 25 barrels of sap and boiled the sap for nearly 100 hours in an attempt to make syrup, but after making only 12 gallons of syrup from this run, the students had to dump sap from all other boils, as it went bad in the unusually warm weather. The class has never experienced a loss this large.

“I was disappointed,” said Tori Chamberlin, a senior environmental studies major and a teaching assistant for the class. “One of the big parts of this class is learning to

work with variability, so it's not a completely lost cause ... but yeah, it's still something you can't help.”

Hamilton, who teaches the Non-Timber Forest Products class at the college, said the reason this year's syrup-making process was difficult was the warmer weather and greater variability in the weather.

He said that in order to tap maple trees for sap, the daytime temperature has to be above 40 degrees, and the nighttime temperature has to be below freezing. He said this weather typically begins in late January and early February, with the season's typically tapering off around late March or early April.

“What's been happening over the past few years is that syrup season has started to become much less predictable in terms of when it's going to start and when it's going to end,” Hamilton said. “It makes it very difficult to figure out when you should tap your trees. ... This has been the weirdest year yet, in that there was a sap run in December, which is just absolutely unheard of.”

Hamilton said the biggest issue for the college with this early sap run was that it was during the fall semester and over winter break, and that the Non-Timber Forest Products class does not run during that period.

The warmer winter was mixed with sporadic rainfalls as well, which he said made it difficult to boil sap in their outdoor facilities. With all of this compounded, he said students collected barrels upon barrels of sap at one time and boiled the sap for 100 hours straight, which was unprecedented. But the warm streak in February caused the rest of their sap to go bad.

Chamberlin was helping boil sap during the 100-hour session and said it was particularly disappointing to have to dump the rest of their sap because it meant taking a valuable resource away from the trees themselves.

“It just so happened that, when we were boiling, it was warm, so the contamination happened that night,” Chamberlin said. “We had three barrels in the sugar

bush that we just dumped because it got too warm. ... You're taking that sap from the trees, so that energy could have gone to the trees to help photosynthesize and everything.”

The students at the college are not the only ones feeling the effect of the warmer weather. Dan Beasley is the owner of SweetFrees, a small family business in Cicero, New York, just outside of Ithaca. He started making maple syrup with his grandparents when he was a child, but he and his family started a business out of it in 2004.

“We've only been doing this for a short amount of time in the grand scheme of things,” Beasley said. “In that amount of time, we start now about four to six weeks earlier than we used to. That real hot weather in the middle of February really messed us up and put a quick end to our season.”

Beasley said people who make maple syrup are typically pretty good at dealing with the conditions they're dealt and making the best of it, but he also said the overall trend of the weather's getting warmer is concerning.

“I'm 62, and it's certainly not as consistent as it used to be, and I think anybody that wants to do maple syrup has to be ready constantly, even in December,” Beasley said. “It's changed a lot in 15 years. If it changes this much in the next 15 ... who knows? It's going to affect more than maple syrup.”

Beekeeping

Maple syrup was not the only product that the Non-Timber Forest Products class makes that was affected by strange weather this year. Hamilton said the college had 100 percent loss of its bees this year, and other beekeepers across the country have noticed anywhere between 80 to 100 percent hive loss.

Senior Izzy Sibley, an environmental science major and the head beekeeper at the college, said all beekeepers lose a certain percentage of their bees from season to

season but that this year was particularly strange. Sibley said colony collapse disorder or varroa mites are always a big problem for bees but that these did not seem to be the only reasons.

“This year, those beekeepers that treated for varroa mites saw just as much loss as the beekeepers who didn't, so it's one of the first years where we don't really know why there's such a large margin of death among the bees,” Sibley said.

Colony collapse disorder is when the bees in a colony suddenly leave the queen behind, though scientists are unsure why this happens. Varroa mites, on the other hand, are mites that prey upon colonies of honeybees as an external parasite. The mites feed upon the hemolymph — essentially, the blood — of an individual honeybee before jumping to another host, in the process spreading diseases among individual members of a colony.

Hamilton said some bee experts have proposed that the drought Ithaca had last summer could be a possible reason so many bees have died, as it could have put stress on the bees' ability to make honey.

“Our honey production was down because of the drought making fewer flowers,” Hamilton said. “If it was tied to weather, it might have been tied to drought ... but there are a lot of interacting factors. Maybe there was some sort of thing that stressed the bees a little bit that made them more susceptible to virus — we just don't know about that.”

Borst, the vice president of the Finger Lakes Bee Club and former senior apiarist at Cornell University's Dyce Lab for Honey Bee Research, said he does not think the weather over the summer and during the winter had as much effect as others believe because he noticed a majority of bees died before the winter even began. However, Borst did say temperature variation this season did probably have a negative impact on some hives.

“Honeybees are adaptable, and that's why they succeed,” Borst said. “While bees are able to adapt to some variations, there are other variations that they can't adapt to. For example, if it gets very warm, they start going through their honey because they think spring is here, and then it snaps back. ... That probably wiped out the ones that hadn't already died in the fall.”

Borst said that the main problem with the weather

has been that it's too unpredictable for beekeepers to keep their bees healthy.

“The take-home message is more variable weather is what we're afraid of,” Borst said. “If it moved a couple of degrees to be that much warmer and was spread out evenly, that would move all the plants forward. The bees would be fine. Variability is what's really the most difficult consequence.”

Plant life

What may have been the most obvious indicator of strange weather patterns this year might have been plants' leafing out earlier than usual. The warmer weather has caused an acceleration in the way plants have grown this year, Borst said.

“There's a national map of the first leafing out of green leaves, and the whole nation was three weeks in advance than normal springtime leaf-out period in February, but then it just stalled out in March in the Northeast,” Borst said.

While this is unusual, it has a few detrimental effects. The Non-Timber Forest Products class at the college had its syrup season cut short because the trees began to bud earlier than expected, Hamilton said.

“There is variability in when [the syrup season] starts, but there's not nearly as much variability in when it ends because it ends when the trees start expanding their branches and are starting to break bud,” he said.

The problem with trees' budding earlier than expected is that the sap from budding maple trees produces a syrup that tastes much different from the syrup consumers are used to, Chamberlin said.

The variable weather has also made it more difficult to get the campus ready for spring and summer. Ernie McClatchie, director of facilities, grounds and maintenance at the college, said the weather has set back the normal schedule that grounds crews usually have in the spring by two to three weeks.

The future

All of these implications about the increasing variability in weather patterns have some producers concerned for their future. In particular, Beasley said he was worried about the future of the maple syrup business for his children.

“It's exactly what's predicted by the models — that things are going to get increasingly unpredictable.”

— Jason Hamilton



The Non-Timber Forest Products class produces goods such as salves and carved utensils. The products the students make for their class business, South Hill Forest Products, are then sold in the community. COURTESY OF SOUTH HILL FOREST PRODUCTS

“My desire ... is for this to be passed down to any and all of my kids, whoever wants to continue it,” Beasley said. “For me, I think we'll do OK, but for them, I'm not so sure. ... There's a lot of opportunity, but as far as maple syrup goes in this part of the state, I think we may be on the losing end of warmer weather.”

Even still, some still feel optimistic. Despite the setbacks that the Non-Timber Forest Products class had with its syrup production, Hamilton said the class is structured to provide a good amount of diversification in products produced — such as salves and carved utensils — so that the products the students make for their class business, South Hill Forest Products, are not completely devastated.

“The story is by no means one of doom and depression,” Hamilton said. “On the one hand, you could say this is part of farming, which is that, in good years, you have to save money for the bad years. ... It was a stress test of our systems, and I would say we passed

pretty dang well.”

But he said that if this pattern of increasingly variable weather continues, there should be greater concern.

Borst said the average person can help their local bees by buying products from their local beekeeper at the farmers market, planting flowers that bees like and not using insecticides that may harm bees. But bees are naturally pretty good at bouncing back, he said.

“Hope springs eternal, and spring is coming back, and we can just start again,” Borst said. “You can go from a handful of bees, and they repopulate the hive, and they start over again. That's the inspiring part about them — they show us you can start from very little and go back to where you were.”

CONNECT WITH MEAGHAN MCELROY
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Sophomore Zachary Stewart and senior Matt Finegan work in the forest during their Non-Timber Forest Products class. Through the class, Stewart, Finegan and their classmates make organic products to sell.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017



Four ambitious DJs sacrifice sleep and sanity for VIC Radio's 50-Hour Marathon on April 7-9

Sophomore Haley Goetz, current programs director of VIC Radio, led part of the 31st annual 50-Hour Marathon to support charities.

ANDREW TREVES/THE ITHACAN

BY SILAS WHITE
STAFF WRITER

Hour 1

The DJs kicked off the marathon singing along to pop hits in high spirits. The VIC, or Voice of Ithaca College, radio studio was packed, the spring heat dangling in the studio. Four DJs — senior Kemery Colbert and sophomores Jill Simon, Lexy White and Haley Goetz — led a group of about 10 people in a joyful chorus of pop tunes.

VIC's 31st annual 50-Hour Marathon was underway. Sophomore Anna Gardner, the coordinator of this year's marathon, was responsible for reaching out to sponsors and managing the event throughout.

"Basically, what happens each year ... is four DJs stay up for 50 hours straight, all in the name of a nonprofit," Gardner said. "I'm the person that gets to sleep a little bit and be the sane brain."

Each year, money is raised through sponsorships. Businesses, organizations and individuals can pay to be mentioned on air and

receive acknowledgment on the VIC website. Businesses such as Casablanca Pizzeria, Gateway BBQ Kitchen and GreenStar also contributed food donations for the DJs, but the students were not allowed any caffeine.

This year, the beneficiary was the Friendship Donations Network, a food-rescue organization that redistributes food that would otherwise be thrown out and delivers it to those in need. Anyone could donate money online through PayPal. The marathon started at 4 p.m. April 7 and ended at 6 p.m. April 9.

Hour 2

Sophomore Ariella Ranz, promotions director for VIC, was still exuberant after the first hour.

"I feel very, very good, 50 verys for 50 hours," she said.

Hour 5

Around 9 p.m., the DJs were still going strong, but signs of exhaustion were already setting in. White and Colbert, the station manager, rem-

inisced about why they joined VIC.

"When I started radio, I was like, 'This is really fun,'" White said. "And then last semester doing it more, I kind of got more involved. ... After last semester, I started a specialty show with one of my best friends, and then I got to DJ more. And I really loved it and started considering radio as a future career possibility. I still don't know, but I definitely would not be upset or bothered to work in radio. We're just a chill group of people. We're not psychos."

Ranz was quick to disagree. "We are psychos," she said. She laughed and spun in her chair.

"Well ... psychos in the best way," White said. "Everyone is so supportive, and that's rare to find."

Hour 7

Part of VIC's 50-Hour Marathon is a scavenger hunt that typically involves teams of roughly four or five students. This year, there were six teams of four people.

Teams were asked to complete tasks such as getting a Tinder date, getting a piggyback ride from a stranger, starting a flash mob on The Commons and taking a selfie with a Public Safety officer. Students lining up for the scavenger hunt had no idea what their tasks were before the hunt's initiation, at 11 p.m.

For the scavenger hunt, sophomore Missy Birnbaum said snagging third place was an honor, considering the absurdity of the tasks.

"We ... took our clothes off and switched them, we bought 50 bags of chips, and we also bought coat hangers, a towel and trash bags," she said. "We have no self-worth."

Birnbaum's team consisted of sophomore Aden Nasarat, junior Zoe Brown and Cornell University sophomore Caitlin Garbo. One of the tasks on the scavenger hunt was for

teams to dye one of their member's hair a crazy color, so Birnbaum and her team shamelessly dyed Nasarat's hair violet.

"I wasn't expecting to dye my hair," Nasarat said as he displayed a full head of purple locks.

Hours 8-10

Around midnight, several prank callers rang in and asked the station to play Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer." VIC did not play it, and the callers rang and complained, and then called back giggling, asking for the song several more times. Soon, Colbert started hanging up on callers who repeatedly asked for the song.

Hour 21

Svante Myrick, mayor of the City of Ithaca, stopped by the VIC studio for an on-air interview at noon the following day. He commended the DJs for their perseverance.

"It's the sort of thing that ... you shouldn't do all the time, like running a marathon or pulling an all-nighter, but it's once in a lifetime," Myrick said on-air. "You'll remember the first few hours of this for the rest of your life — those last 10 hours, I don't think you're going to remember."

Myrick wasn't the only guest to appear on the 50-Hour Marathon: Folk band Norwegian Arms, hip-hop artist Paulitics, local artist Aaron Rizzo and other local bands shuffled in throughout the two-day marathon.

Hour 27

Late into the marathon's course, DJs were starting to feel the effects of fatigue. Excitement turned into delirium. Disheveled and tense, the DJs were reaching their breaking point.

Simon's dad, Lloyd Simon, hired a masseuse, who offered to give everyone in the studio a

massage. White was so surprised she cried.

"I was just so overwhelmed with emotion," White said. "I haven't had a lot of human interaction besides sitting in here with people. ... My body couldn't handle it. ... I felt like a ball, and now I feel like a person."

Hour 31

Sugary drinks and decaffeinated sodas from vending machines scatter the studio. White attempts to slice a mini pretzel with a plastic fork, grinning happily while livestreaming to the VIC Facebook account.

Hours 40-44

Hours blurred together as the DJs fought off exhaustion.

And Gardner could tell. "It was easy to see that their brains were working more slowly, especially when they were speaking on air," she said. "Overall I think they handled it well, but they were definitely ... delirious."

Hour 46

Sleep-deprived and exhausted, Goetz and Simon made their way over to the Athletics and Events Center to represent VIC Radio for Ithaca Today, leaving Colbert and White to struggle through the last few hours in the studio. They try not to mumble while interacting with accepted students.

Hour 50

The station was so packed with people and the sense of relief was so overwhelming it could be felt in the room once the DJs had signed off. The group raised \$2,259.

"I'm tired but happy," Goetz said. "It's been fun."



The four marathon DJs interviewed Svante Myrick, mayor of Ithaca, at noon April 8, almost halfway through their 50-hour journey.

COURTESY OF VIC RADIO

CONNECT WITH SILAS WHITE
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ACCENTUATE

Easter Egg Cookie Dough Truffles



Ingredients:

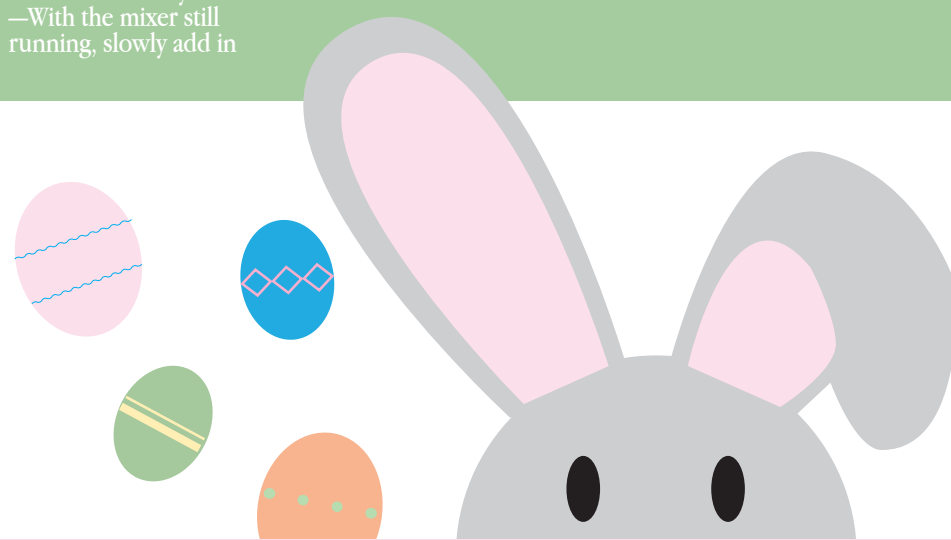
- 1/2 cup butter, room temperature
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 14 ounces sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup mini chocolate chips
- Pink, blue, purple and white candy melts

Instructions:

- In the bowl of a large stand mixer, cream the butter and the brown sugar until light and fluffy, about two minutes. Beat in the vanilla.
- Slowly add the flour, scraping down the sides as necessary.
- With the mixer still running, slowly add in

- the sweetened condensed milk. You may need to stop the mixer periodically to scrape down the sides.
- Once it is fully combined, stir in the chocolate chips.
- Form the dough into 1-inch balls, and then shape into eggs. Place on a wax paper-lined pan and cover loosely with plastic wrap. Refrigerate overnight.
- Melt the candy melts according to the directions on the bag. Keeping the truffles in the refrigerator and removing only three or four at a time, dip them in the candy melts one at a time with a fork. Gently tap off any excess chocolate and let dry on wax paper.

Recipe and image from wineandglue.com



FUN EASTER FACTS

- The tallest Easter egg chocolate was made in Italy in 2011. It stood at 10.39 meters and weighed an astounding 7,200 kilograms.
- Americans buy more than 700 million marshmallow Peeps during Easter, making them the most popular nonchocolate Easter candy.

- The idea of the Easter bunny giving candies and eggs is said to have originated in Germany in the middle ages.
- The Easter egg is said to symbolize and represent joy, celebration and new life.

Facts from elitedaily.com



CELEB SCOOPS

Kendall Jenner Controversy

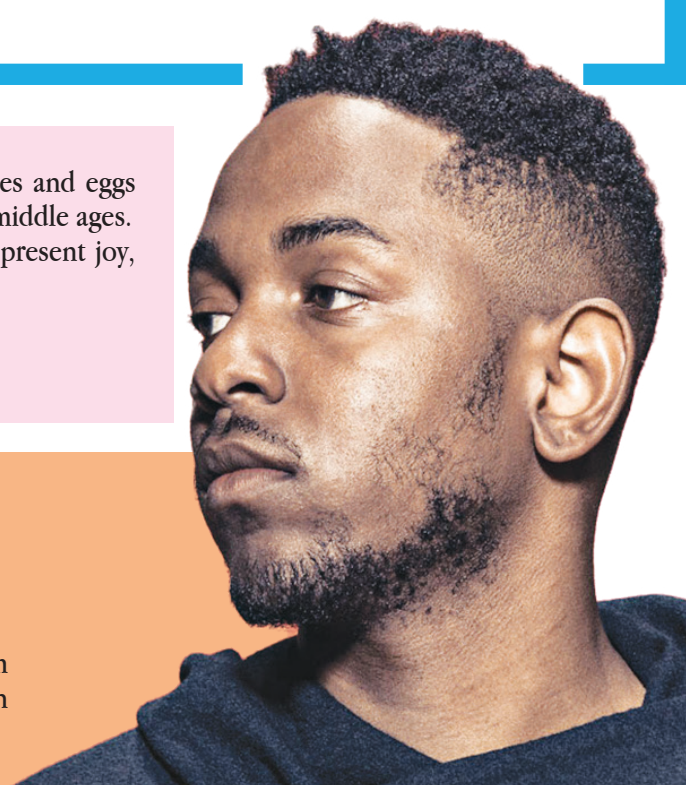
Kendall Jenner recently came under fire for appearing in a Pepsi ad that made light of race relations to sell the popular soda. An unnamed source contacted People Magazine and said, “She has been very upset. She feels terrible. She loves being a model. To get a Pepsi gig was a big deal. She was very excited. She never expected it to receive such backlash. She hopes people understand that she wasn’t involved in the creative process.” Jenner will continue to work on her other projects despite the controversy.

WORD OF THE WEEK

MARASMUS

noun | ma·ras·mus

A condition of chronic undernourishment occurring especially in children and usually caused by a diet deficient in calories and proteins



LAMAR'S LATEST

Despite Kendrick Lamar’s hints on his latest single that his next album would release April 7, the album will actually drop a week later. The album is titled “DAMN.” It appeared on iTunes with 14 tracks and an anticipated release date of April 14. The album will include his latest single, “Humble.”

Students raise guide dogs with clear vision



ONLINE

For more on GEB, go to theithacan.org/GEB-2017

Sophomore Jack Ficcardi, next year's president of the Ithaca College chapter of Guiding Eyes for the Blind, gives his guide dog in training, Aura, a treat at a puppy class on March 27.

YANA MAZURKEVICH/THE ITHACAN

BY COLIN BARRETT
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Jack Ficcardi grips the leash of Aura, his yellow labrador retriever, with a tight hold. She looks up to him and sits down at his request. She follows him across campus and remains quiet under his desk in class.

This is nothing new for Ficcardi. He will raise Aura for another six months until she is matched with a new owner to do guide work. Though she will be matched soon, Jack and Aura's bond is still strong.

"I think it's the work you put into it," Ficcardi said. "I have been taking care of Aura since she was two months old. I've been the one to cuddle her, feed her, take her to the veterinarian ... Aura is my best friend, and it's so great to see her learn and realize her potential."

When Aura leaves him to work as a guide, he knows that she will be doing what she has been trained to do. While the separation will be bitter-sweet, Jack plans on raising another dog through Guiding Eyes for the Blind — this time, as the president of the college's chapter of GEB.

Lauren Reightler, president of GEB, said they may only raise the dogs for a short while, but the bonds that they create last a lifetime.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind is a national non-profit organization that helps train service dogs for people with vision disabilities to improve their daily lives. The owners raise, sit and match a dog to an owner after it is trained for service. The organization teaches pups commands from as young as five months and trains them for challenges they may face with their future owner. Freshman Sam Epstein, who recently got a trainer certificate, said there are currently about 30 certified handlers and dog raisers in the Ithaca College chapter of GEB.

This semester, five labrador puppies are being trained on campus. Ficcardi said the connections owners form with their dogs benefit owners and other students on campus.

"To blind people, it gives them mobility they otherwise wouldn't have access to," Ficcardi said. "It creates a special bond for the person with their dog. It not only helps their future owner, but I feel like it boosts morale and creates

a positive atmosphere around campus."

The current president of GEB, junior Lauren Reightler, said connecting with her pup, Wisdom, in her sophomore year allowed her to look at guide dogs differently. Since she first joined GEB, Reightler said, her expectations for what she would get out of her participation have grown exponentially.

"Originally, everyone had the same ideas that I had, and we all just wanted to help others," she said. "We really cared about something bigger than ourselves, which was raising these dogs. Now ... I see the potential they have."

Reightler said the organization educates students about common myths and misconceptions about guide dogs and addresses them straight-on, including during Puppy Meet and Greets.

"We can advocate for people who have service dogs and explain to them ... they shouldn't ask to pet an actual service dog because it can put the person who needs the dog in danger," Reightler said.

Reightler said the dogs in training are helping people beyond the Ithaca community. Wisdom, for example, is now a guide in New Mexico, but Reightler said she still says in touch with Wisdom and its current owner.

Once a student has decided to get involved in Guiding Eyes for the Blind, they go through a process before getting their certification license: Every Monday night for several weeks, the student must attend a puppy class to learn how to raise pups and teach them to become a guide. Following the puppy classes are certification classes, where students shadow other raisers and become sitters to prepare for their experiences with their dogs.

Epstein will be raising a puppy this summer. She said her passion for animals will push her to build a strong connection with her dog.

"I love animals and always want them to be a part of my life," she said. "I love that this club involves animals but also brings awareness to how people should act around service dogs. I think it's really important for people to respect their jobs because they are working, too."

CONNECT WITH COLIN BARRETT

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Screenwriter follows in father's footsteps

Before Ithaca College instructor Nick Sagan was writing novels, screenplays and "Star Trek" episodes, his voice was recorded for the Voyager Golden Record. The record, which was sent aboard the 1977 Voyager spaceship, would define humanity if the ship encountered aliens. His father, Carl Sagan — Cornell professor, accredited astronomer and one of the most famous scientists of the 1980s — played a role in launching his son's greeting into the stars.

As a young New Yorker with divorced parents, Nick Sagan didn't know what career path he would follow until he moved to California. After a friend suggested he watch the television show "The Prisoner," Sagan said, he discovered he wanted to work in the film industry, as he was fascinated by the many roles an individual could take on while working on set — whether that be writing, directing or editing.

He passed the California High School Proficiency Exam — the California equivalent of the General Education Development exams — dropped out of high school and enrolled at Santa Monica College. He transferred to the University of California, Los Angeles, Film School and graduated summa cum laude.

Sagan currently teaches both Writing for Screen Media and Structuring the Feature Film at Ithaca College. Both courses will be offered this fall.

Staff Writer Brianna Ruback spoke

with Sagan about his writing experiences, his rise to success in the television industry and the impact his father had on his life.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Brianna Ruback: Where do you derive your inspiration for your novels and screenplays?

Nick Sagan: First thing I would say is that so much of any creative person's decision-making is powered by the unconscious mind. In my case, I think a lot of the time, it's just questions like ... "What if?" or "How come?" ... For me, my passion is science fiction, but it's not hard science fiction, so to speak. I'm not so interested in the actual science behind how a warp engine would work. ... I'm more interested in social science fiction. I'm interested in, you know, the big questions that we [can't] think to answer.

BR: Do you repel your interests away from anything science-related because of your father's credibility?

NS: Everyone looks to find their own path, but you're also the product of where you come from. ... For me, my father is a scientist. My mother is an intelligent writer and an artist. And so, I think I'm synthesizing aspects of what they both did best.



Nick Sagan, instructor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, is the son of Carl Sagan. Nick decided to pursue film, screenwriting and science-fiction writing, with the support of his father.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

BR: How were your experiences growing up different from a typical child because your father was well-known in the science world?

NS: Very different. I didn't realize it at the time, of course. It seemed very normal to me. ... I'd like to think it was a very "Jonny Quest" upbringing, except not archaeology, but more science. My mother would throw dinner parties, and famous scientists and science-fiction writers would come to those parties. ... Isaac Asimov would come to dinner parties, and Ray Bradbury. ... I would sneak down [from my room] to see what was going on past my bedtime and stuff. ... I would go to rocket launches. And there was always some weirdness. ... I would go

to school, and in science classes, they would show episodes of "Cosmos" — like, that's my dad, on TV, in my class. I was a little kid when they sent the Voyager. ... And so my parents ... tried to get greetings from every language they could find. They needed an English speaker, and they wanted one of the voices to be a child, and so they invited me. "Hey, Nick, what would you say to extraterrestrials if they're out there?" And so I said, "Hello from the children of planet Earth." And that's on the Voyager Golden Record, and it's just now the farthest human-made object in the universe.

BR: What was the biggest impact that your father had on your life and your career?

NS: He was the best teacher I ever had and from a very early age. And so, you know, you're a kid and you ask your parents questions, like why is the sky blue, you know? And a lot of parents will say, "Look it up," or "Shut up, don't bother me." And my dad was always willing to engage and tell me what he knew and he would explain things ... And it was that kind of just, you know, endless ... sweetness, and ... sense of possibility that I think was hugely influential on me as a child that kind of set me on my path.

Read the full Q&A online.

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a dance for the ages

Generations intermingled at the fifth annual Intergenerational Prom, a '20s-themed event, April 6



Ithaca local Silvia Spencer leans in close to Tom Seyler as a soft jazzy tune plays behind them. About 60 other people attended the free event. The prom featured a mix of traditional 1920s music and current pop. Ithaca College Project Generations is a nonprofit organization that provides seniors with mental stimulation, companionship and social support.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN



Al Norman and Ardy Bennet were elected prom king and queen. Bennet shamelessly danced to "Y.M.C.A." with students during the event.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN



Students sported sparkling boas, white pearls and '20s-themed dresses at the prom. Raffle prizes, choreographed swing dances and a prom king and queen coronation were major highlights of the event.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN

Anime makes a name for itself in America



Prolific anime company Funimation released another acclaimed hit. “Your Name,” directed by Makoto Shinkai, is a coming-of-age story layered over the tale of Taki Tachibana and Mitsuha Miyamizu, two high school students who switch bodies. As they attempt to find each other, they’re forced to save Mitsuha’s small town from an impending environmental disaster.

FUNIMATION

BY JAKE LEARY

ASSISTANT LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR

Body swapping isn’t new to cinema: It is a device often used in comedies and cartoons for a quick and easy gag. “Your Name,” the anime directed by Makoto Shinkai, takes this trite conceit and runs with it. But it isn’t “Freaky Friday.”

One morning, Tokyo boy Taki Tachibana wakes up to discover something strange: He’s a girl. In the small, rural town of Itomori, Mitsuha Miyamizu wakes up to the same strange fate. Neither believes their peculiar situation — at least, not at first. They slowly realize that they aren’t dreaming, but rather trading places with someone across the country. Both

MOVIE REVIEW

“Your Name”

Funimation

Our rating:

★★★★★

characters act with the mingled shock and playful bemusement one would expect from people in their situation — taunting each other through messages left in notebooks and interfering with each other’s relationships. Eventually, they attempt to bridge the distance between them.

If “Your Name” was nothing more than a shallow romance with a fantastical bent, Shinkai wouldn’t have won Best Director at the Tokyo Anime Awards and it wouldn’t be one of the greatest anime films of all time.

The film is layered, and as those layers peel away, the tender core of “Your Name” is revealed. The surface romance overlays an environmental disaster, which yet again overlays a coming-of-age story. Both leads have

instantly recognizable motivations: Taki is in love with his co-worker, and Mitsuha is desperate to escape rural life. The universality of these conflicts is portrayed with a grounded elegance: Shinkai isn’t afraid to satisfy some ambitions and leave others unachieved. As the plot progresses, these goals become complicated by Taki and Mitsuha’s burgeoning relationship with each other — a storyline so subtly and eloquently portrayed, the viewer doesn’t realize what’s truly happening. It is one of many revelatory moments in “Your Name.”

Nor is Shinkai afraid to shift the direction of the film entirely. About halfway through “Your Name,” the reality of the film is altered. It’s a stunning, heartrending moment that breaks the viewer down while

invigorating the characters. Unfortunately, to support the reveal, early parts of the movie seem convoluted.

The latter portion of the film more than compensates. “Your Name” culminates in a race against the clock. In these desperate moments, the film ratchets up the tension while maintaining the emotionality that made the opening so powerful. Happy endings are often undeserved, particularly in animated movies, but “Your Name” gives Taki and Mitsuha a glowing conclusion that leaves the viewer elated.

As one would expect from Funimation, “Your Name” is gorgeous. Verdant fields rustle with a gentle passing breeze, the tall grass taking on an oceanic quality in the moonlight. Tall skyscrapers are both austere behemoths of girder and glass,

and spectacles of neon and glinting reflections. Each character is articulated with intimate detail — faces are expressive and clothing flaps with realistic fluidity. Though it doesn’t achieve the visual mastery of Studio Ghibli, it certainly comes close.

Nestled in a story of urban fantasy are truths about growing up, about having dreams and falling in love. Watching the film is like becoming a high schooler again — the oppressive weight of the unknown stretching endlessly ahead pairs with the freedom and exhilaration of being a kid. Shinkai deserves a place in the pantheon of Miyazaki and Takahata; he created a film that won’t be forgotten.

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Netflix original film thrills and mystifies

BY SAMANTHA BRODSKY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the near future, on every building, on every corner, advertisements plead with the population to stay alive. “Suicide is not the answer. Stay in this life. #nomoresuicides #discoverlife,” reads one. In the same ad, between a crisis hotline number and a growing death tally, is a little boy smiling. He’s in a red polo and with his hands, forms the shape of a heart.

In the six months since Thomas Harbor (Robert Redford) announced he’d scientifically proven that the afterlife exists, there have been over a million suicides — athletes, celebrities, whole families of people wanting to “relocate” to somewhere better. Fast forward a year and a half, and the death toll has reached over four million. Harbor has gone into hiding, only to leave his neurologist son, Will (Jason Segel), to deal with the repercussions of his discovery.

In the beginning scene of the Netflix original sci-fi drama “The Discovery,” directed by Charlie McDowell, Harbor talks to a TV reporter (Mary Steenburgen) about the machine he built to prove the afterlife’s existence. It captures subatomic wavelengths that leave the body after death. When the reporter matter-of-factly states that, in reality, Harbor doesn’t exactly know where this part of the

human soul goes, he retaliates, “When you see a train leave the station, do you need to know where it’s going to understand that you just saw it leave?”

Touche, Harbor, touche.

The realization that suicide has wiped out the population makes for a gripping storyline — until the film gets mired in its mystery. “The Discovery” lacks the passion it needs to overlook the disorienting final scene. But the film does start with potential.

In a nightmarish world where the afterlife conclusively exists, a cancer diagnosis is celebrated. A death wish requires no second thought. When there’s proof death has a greater purpose, it’ll strike a chord with even the biggest non-believers. People can take their own lives and move to another plane of existence as easily as slipping into a dream. It’s a believable interpretation of an outlandish premise.

The film chronicles Will’s inner struggle and his self-loathing adds even more depth to the plot. So when his brother Toby (Jesse Plemons), who’s in desperate need of a haircut or comb or both, brings him to where Harbor has gone into hiding — a huge mansion and ex-summer camp for troubled youth — Will begs his father to take it all back. Stop the suicides.

On the ferry ride over to Harbor’s cultish estate, Will meets Isla (Rooney Mara), a monotone and mysterious



“The Discovery,” released March 31, is a Netflix original film in which millions of people commit suicide after a scientist confirms the existence of an afterlife. The film stars Robert Redford, Rooney Mara and Jason Segel.

NETFLIX

woman. Will rescues her from drowning herself in the ocean — she’s emotionally detached from any incentive to live, mentally disturbed. Their love story doesn’t get the chance to develop as they’re thrown into a mystery.

The mystery is compelling, even when the riddle takes some short lulls by way of scenes with eerie beaches and glimpses of a limited chemistry

between Will and Isla as they learn about each other’s troubling histories. But there’s staleness to the plot that can only be explained by a lack of “oomph.” Will and Isla’s barely-there romance leaves the viewer craving some sort of stellar development in what they’re trying to solve. But instead of bringing excitement, the answers cause confusion.

It’s not clear whether Will and Isla can answer all the questions they’ve set out to. Though there’s nothing wrong with a plot twist or cliffhanger, the film ends in such a way that the viewer is left with nothing more than confusion.

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Sci-fi thriller lives up to genre expectations

BY COLIN TESSIER
STAFF WRITER

"Life" has all of the characteristics of a typical alien horror movie, and that is both a blessing and a curse. "Life" offers a modern day take on Ridley Scott's classic, "Alien." With state-of-the-art technology, director Daniel Espinosa enables the viewer to imagine the idea of discovering alien life. Yet the film does not do anything groundbreaking in its own right, and it struggles to stand on its own in comparison to the countless other movies in the alien genre. Most if not all of the film's main plot points can be found in other alien movies: Scientists discover an alien life form, it becomes malevolent when it attacks one of the crew members and the rest of the movie centers on the tired lost-in-space trope as the crew attempts to destroy the alien. "Life" successfully captures these elements in an entertaining manner, but it fails to bring substantial new material to the table.

For the most part, "Life" is an entertaining thrill ride. The beginning of the picture introduces each of the characters on the spaceship and gradually makes the viewer care about them. This process makes their downfalls much more impactful. One crew member, Sho Murakami, played by Hiroyuki Sanada, is a loving husband who has to coach his wife through childbirth via video chat. Sho shares this joy with his crewmates, which creates a sense of camaraderie among the main characters. Another scientist, Dr. David Jordan, played by Jake Gyllenhaal, is tired of living on Earth,

so he savors his life in space. This drives many of his actions throughout the film. The characters each have distinctive personalities that make them stand out as individuals.

The first portion of the film is relatively cheery in tone, which lulls the audience into a false sense of security. The members of the crew find this alien life-form, which is the first proof of life outside of Earth, and they're thrilled by this world-changing discovery. One of the scientists, Hugh Derry, played by Ariyon Bakare, forms an emotional attachment to the creature. The development of this relationship makes the creature seem more peaceful.

Espinosa captures a realistic response to the discovery of this alien; on Earth, journalists constantly cover the development of the creature. The focus on human reactions grounds "Life" and makes the horror in the latter half of the film more effective. This creature could exist in our world, it could escape, it could threaten life on Earth. Horror is frequently polluted by unrealistic characters or situations, but "Life" creates a believable nightmare. Several minutes of the film after the discovery of the alien are filled with news coverage. Elementary school students get to name the creature: They settle on Calvin, after former U.S. President Calvin Coolidge.

"Life" is paced well; just as society on Earth has seemingly embraced Calvin, the creature attacks Hugh. From that moment forward, the film evolves into a series of rapid-fire, high-tension sequences of the alien's



"Life" is strongly inspired by the 1979 horror film "Alien." Set aboard the International Space Station, "Life" follows a team of astronauts and scientists as they investigate a probe from Mars that contains a strange alien creature.

COLUMBIA PICTURES

hostile attacks on the other crew members. It's in these moments that "Life" truly lives up to its potential. The movie becomes increasingly suspenseful as Calvin also grows smarter and becomes harder to find — and kill.

The film drags slightly as it nears the ending. The remaining crew members struggle to keep track of Calvin,

and they do not know how to destroy him. However, the action quickly resumes, and the last few minutes of the film are an exhilarating race to an enjoyable twist ending.

On its own, "Life" is a gripping story about the discovery of a dangerous alien life form and a spaceship crew's attempts to stop it from reaching

Earth. Younger moviegoers may enjoy it, as the film is "Alien" for the next generation. However, anyone that has seen Ridley Scott's film might not enjoy "Life" because it does not bring change to an oversaturated genre.

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Young rapper defies American attitude

BY MATT MALONEY
ASSISTANT MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

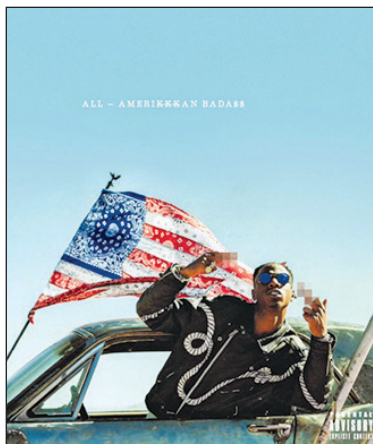
In recent years, political rap has been at the forefront of hip-hop. The most recent contributor to this trend is rapper Joey Badass, whose album "ALL-AMERIKKAN BADASS" takes on racial tensions and corruption in modern America. Although Joey is often criticized for lacking substance in his lyrics, here he delivers a project that deals with many serious topics. He questions the direction America is headed in, criticizes Donald Trump, and steers away from his usual style in favor of a more well-rounded structure to his songs.

Joey's critics often say the biggest weakness of his music is that it is often too clear who his influences are. The New York City native draws heavily from the MC's who worked during hip-hop's "golden era" in the '90s. It makes him sound more like a throwback

artist than someone who is still releasing new material, which is a problem in hip-hop, a genre that is constantly changing. People want new and exciting, and while Joey's flow and lyrical abilities rival the skills of those at the top of the rap game, his music wasn't catching the common fan's ear because it sounded too old-school. However, Joey has broken through that creative wall on "ALL-AMERIKKAN BADASS."

On a deeper level, the way this album deals with the American experience is simply brilliant. While handling serious topics, Joey never sounds like he's preaching. Even Nas, who is widely considered to be a pioneer in the street-knowledge movement of rap, couldn't escape that later in his career.

From there, Joey dives into the frustration he feels on "Temptation" and "Land of the Free." Both songs discuss the politics that limit black people from advancement in society. This frustration is amplified to anger on "Y U Don't Love Me (Miss Amerikkka)," "Rockabye Baby" and "Ring the Alarm." He finishes off this album with "Legendary" and



PRO ERA

"Amerikkkan Idol" where he says that though he struggles, his life and story will live on. This masterful structure makes for an album that presents Joey as wise beyond his years.

What is important to remember about Joey Badass is his youth — he turned 22 this past January. He has been making waves in the industry since he was in high school and is still getting better. If this is what he is turning out for his second studio album, Joey's lyrics on "Devastated" might be correct: He just might be "on his way to greatness."

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'Infinite' fills the void

BY JAKE LEARY
ASSISTANT LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

If Alan Parsons and Willie Nelson had a baby, raised it, and gave it an electric guitar and a microphone, there's a good chance it would produce something like "Infinite."

Veteran classic rock group Deep Purple returns with its first album since "Phoenix Rising" in 2011. The album fills the void left by the disappearance of classic rock, a hole in the musical landscape that only the occasional reappearance of these giants of the genre can repair. "Infinite" does just that: It's a hard-hitting nostalgia trip.

From the first moments of "Time for Bedlam," listeners understand what they're in for: A digitally sweetened voice booms and echoes like the Great and Powerful Oz. This isn't a cheery pop track, this isn't the light rock listeners have grown accustomed to

— no, this is the steely cry of classic rock. The lyrics conjure up a fiery image, a macabre vision of incarceration and hell. Unfortunately, the grit of "Time for Bedlam" doesn't last throughout the album.

"Infinite" showcases Deep Purple at both its best and worst. The guitar solos soar. The voiceovers are unsettling. It goes without saying that fans of country won't be too bothered by the stylistic flip-flopping, but those who are hungry for a return to classic rock's roots will only be half-satiated.

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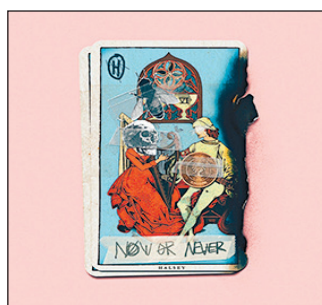
QUICKIES



ATO RECORDS

"GREEN TWINS"
Nick Hakim
ATO Records

Released April 3, Nick Hakim's single "Green Twins" is too slow. The sluggish beat lulls listeners into a sleepy state from which they won't recover. To Hakim's credit, there is a haunting quality to the single, but it's not enough.



ASTRALWERKS

"NOW OR NEVER"
Halsey
Astralwerks

The desperate strain in Halsey's husky voice at the opening of her latest single, "Now or Never," is a powerful introduction to a song that quickly fades into genericism. The single, released April 4, doesn't stand out.



MAYBACH MUSIC GROUP

"FISH AND GRITS"
Wale and Travis Scott
Maybach Music Group

Listeners are immediately overwhelmed by a sense of déjà vu. Released April 6, Wale and Travis Scott's single, "Fish and Grits," is disturbingly familiar. The opening beat is far too reminiscent of several other notable rap songs.

A hit through time

From swinging wood to swinging aluminum, college baseball bats have come a long way

BY ANDREW SULLIVAN
STAFF WRITER

A baseball bat is a hitter's calling card. Bats come in all shapes and sizes, widths and lengths, and with various modifications — all tailored to the type of hitter who swings it.

Just as the sport of baseball itself has evolved over the past century, so has the equipment that its performers use. Particularly in the college ranks, baseball bats have seen drastic changes dating back to the mid-20th century.

Ithaca College baseball head coach George Valesente played for the Bombers as an undergrad from 1962 to 1966. During that era of college baseball, only wooden bats were swung by players, and only one brand of lumber was used: the Louisville Slugger, founded in 1884.

Specifically, Valesente used an M110 — manufactured in 1944 — an O16, made in 1929; an S2, made in 1943; and a K55, made in 1935. The M110, S2 and K55 had skinny handles and barrels, producing a lighter “whip” effect, which was useful for generating more bat speed. The O16 was a much thicker bat at the handle and barrel, which allowed for more durability and power.

“When I would get a thin-handled bat, I would over-swing,” he said. “I was pulling off the ball and being ineffective because I was swinging too hard. But the thicker-handled bat felt uncomfortable in my hands and kept me from over-swinging, which made me more productive.”

Valesente said metallic baseball bats were implemented into the college game around the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The switch from wood to metal was mainly for practicality purposes. Because wooden bats were easily breakable, teams would often run dry of bats during games.

“I remember when we played here, we used to have two big bags of wooden bats, and we would crack a lot of them,” Valesente said. “We would be down to just a few bats, and at the end of the season, we were all using four

or five bats.”

The first metal baseball bats that Valesente saw being used in collegiate baseball were Worth bats. The company began manufacturing aluminum bats in 1968.

“[The Worth bats] made a pinging noise,” he said. “Grips were not comfortable because they weren't using the proper leather on the grips. Sometimes, it would start to dent and ding.”

By the mid-1970s, Easton began to manufacture and distribute its own line of aluminum bats, which Valesente said “took over the market” through the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s.

“[Easton] shaped them better and had better grips on them — rubber grips,” he said. “The barrel heads were thicker, so they didn't dent or ding or anything and were very long-lasting.”

Presently, the baseball team orders three brands of aluminum baseball bats: DeMarini, Louisville Slugger and Easton.

Seniors Josh Savacool and Ryan Henchey currently use the Marucci Cat 7, which was manufactured this year. During their time with the Bombers, they have both hit with a Rawlings 5150, made in 2014; a Marucci Cat 5 bat, made in 2009; and the Cat 6, made in 2014.

Both players use a “one-piece technology” bat, meaning the bats are not sectioned off and are one continuous piece of metal.

“We like the stiffer bat,” Henchey said. “It actually has a thicker handle. I don't like the thin-handled bats. I think it's too flimsy for me. It has almost too much whip, and then you end being late on the ball.”

The one-piece bat offers less flex but has a “stiff feel” when contact is made. The lack of flex when contact is achieved means little to no energy is lost, which permits growth in power.

A two-piece bat, where the handle and the barrel are two separate sections, provides more flex when the batter connects with a pitch and also churns out more bat speed, which produces more power.

“It all depends on the hitter,” Savacool said. “If your hands are fast, you might want the two-piece. The barrel falls behind so when you come

through, the barrel drags and then whips forward. You got a little more flex. ... If you have regular or average hands, the one-piece is probably the better option.”

Tim Locastro '13 played for the South Hill squad from 2010 to 2013. He is currently playing for the Los Angeles Dodgers Double-A affiliate Tulsa Drillers.

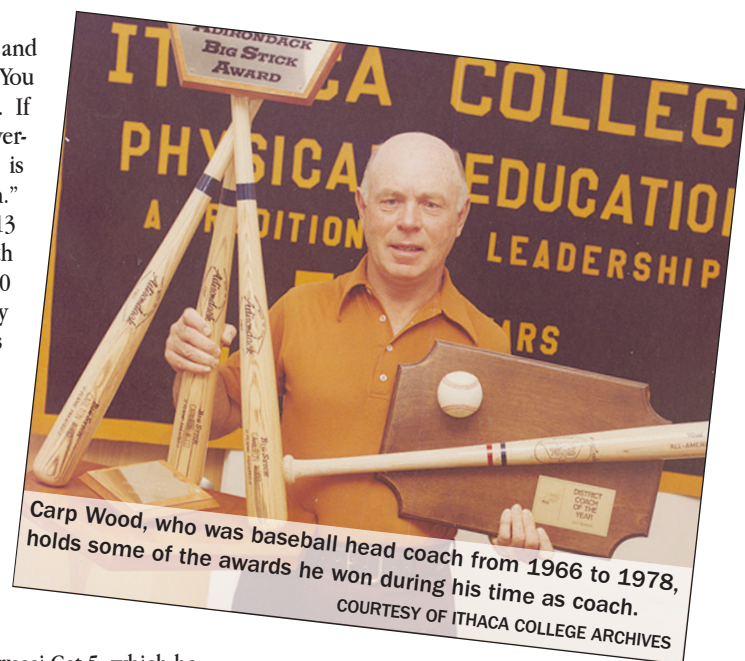
Locastro said that during his freshman year for the Bombers, in 2010, he used a bat produced by Easton, which made its first aluminum bat in 1972.

His sophomore year, Locastro switched to a Marucci Cat 5, which he used through his junior year until he chose to forgo his senior season when he signed with the Toronto Blue Jays. He was drafted by the organization in the 13th round of the Major League Baseball Draft in 2013.

During the summers of 2011 and 2012, Locastro played in the New York Collegiate Baseball League for the Syracuse Jr. Chiefs. A developmental league for professional baseball players, the NYCBL uses exclusively wooden bats. Locastro said he mostly swung Old Hickory — established in 1999 — and Marucci — established in 2002 — wooden bats.

In addition, Locastro and his teammates used Baum Bats during fall off-season play and practice. This brand of bat is also wooden; however, it contains a metal rod inside that prevents the bat from splitting.

Locastro said the transition from metal bats in college to wooden bats in the minor leagues was not that challenging. “I think all of



the summer leagues you played in college, those are mostly all wooden bats,” Locastro said. “So you sort of get used to it in the summer leagues. Then when you get drafted — at that point, you're used to it.”

Throughout his three years at the college, he said he used between four to six different types of metal bats and three to four brands of wooden bats.

While he said four to six types of metal bats was the mean number used by a college baseball player during a season, Locastro also said players would easily stray away from this average.

“There's definitely some players that, if they get into a slump or something, they'll change their bat every at-bat if they have to,” he said. “There's definitely some weird scenarios where some guys would use 10 bats in a season if they weren't feeling comfortable with some bats.”

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ADAM GALLAGHER '19

DAVID BARTON '67

THE BOMBER ROUNDUP





The Ithacan's sports staff provides statistical updates on all of the varsity Bomber squads during the spring season

Crew

Men's Crew				Women's Crew			
Event	Opponent	Place	Score	Event	Opponent	Place	Score
2nd Varsity 8	RIT	1st	7:21.6	Varsity 8	RIT and Rochester	1st	7:37.64
Novice 4	Rochester	1st	6:15.86	2nd Varsity 8	RIT and Rochester	1st	8:02.18
Novice 8	RIT	2nd	7:10.0	Varsity 4	Rochester	1st	6:55.0
Varsity 8	RIT	2nd	6:57.01	Novice 8	RIT	1st	8:54.67
Novice 8	SUNY Geneseo	1st	6:27.5	Varsity 4	SUNY Geneseo and St. John Fisher	1st	7:53.5





Next meet: 11 a.m. April 15 against Skidmore College, Smith College and St. Lawrence University on the Cayuga Inlet

Men's Tennis

RESULTS		
 9-0 	April 5	Ithaca vs Houghton
 7-2 	April 8	TCNJ vs Ithaca

Next match: 4 p.m. April 14 against St. John Fisher College at Wheeler Tennis Courts

Women's Tennis

RESULTS		
 9-0 	April 4	Rochester vs Ithaca
 7-2 	April 8	TCNJ vs Ithaca

Next match: 1 p.m. April 15 against Hamilton College at Wheeler Tennis Courts

Track & Field

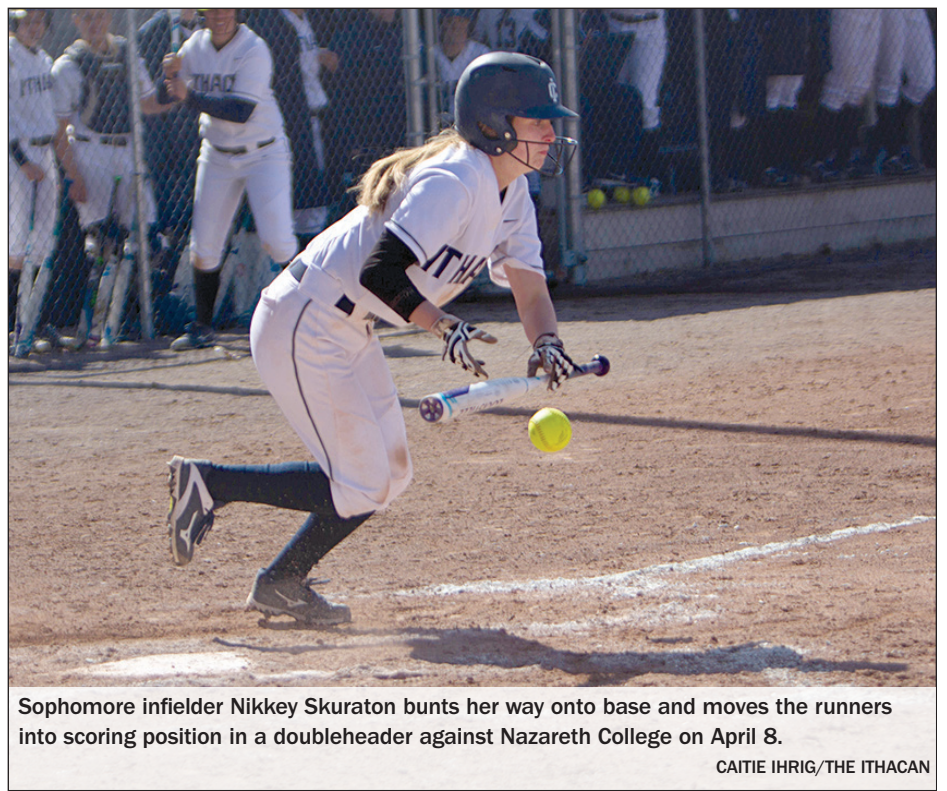
Men's Coach P Invitational				Women's Coach P Invitational			
Name	Event	Place	Score	Name	Event	Place	Score
Daniel Harden-Marshall	200m	2nd	22.29	Francesca Boylan	Hammer Throw	1st	45.64m
Forest Stewart	5000m	1st	15:44.80	Alexandria Rheame	200m	1st	25.54
David Dorsey	Pole Vault	1st	4.40m	Yvonne Palacios	Hammer Throw	2nd	45.33m
John Blake	3000m	1st	9:59.64	Sierra Grazia	1500m	3rd	4:48.88
Sam Cherney	Discus	2nd	42.86m	Katherine Pitman	Pole Vault	1st	3.95m

Next meet: 2:30 p.m. April 14 at the Bucknell University Outdoor Classic in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

Golf

Team Results			Individual Results		
School	Place	Score	Name	Place	Score
Williams College	1st	631	Kimberly Wong	1st	152
New York University	2nd	633	Indiana Jones	4th	155
Amherst College	3rd	642	Kyra Denish	T-31st	172
Ithaca College	4th	653	Lauren Saylor	T-35th	174
Middlebury College	5th	659	Peyton Greco	T-49th	182



Next match: April 15-16 at the Amherst College Invitational in Amherst, Massachusetts



Sophomore infielder Nikkey Skuraton bunts her way onto base and moves the runners into scoring position in a doubleheader against Nazareth College on April 8.



CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

Men's Lacrosse

RESULTS		STANDINGS		
 13-8 	April 8	School	Conference	Overall
		Hartwick	3-0	6-2
		Stevens	3-0	8-3
		Ithaca	3-1	9-2
		St. John Fisher	2-1	7-4











Next game: 4 p.m. April 18 against Rochester Institute of Technology in Higgins Stadium

Women's Lacrosse













RESULTS		STANDINGS		
 8-4 	April 7	School	Conference	Overall
		Ithaca	4-0	9-2
		Stevens	4-0	9-3
		Utica	3-0	6-3
		Hartwick	3-2	7-3

Next game: 1 p.m. April 15 against Nazareth College in Higgins Stadium

Baseball

RESULTS			STANDINGS			
 7-3 	April 5	 3-2 	April 9	 6-4 	April 11	
 14-6 	April 8	 9-5 	April 9	Next game: 4 p.m. April 14 against SUNY Canton in Canton, New York		
				School	Conference	Overall
				Stevens	5-3	12-12-1
				St. John Fisher	4-0	15-6
				Ithaca	4-3	12-8
				Elmira	4-4	7-9
				Houghton	2-4	10-10
				Canton	1-4	3-14
				Utica	0-2	6-9

Softball

RESULTS			STANDINGS			
 10-0 	April 5	 5-2 	April 8	 1-0 	April 9	
 5-2 	April 5	 2-0 	April 8	 8-0 	April 9	
				School	Conference	Overall
				Alfred	5-1	13-7
				Ithaca	5-1	12-6
				St. John Fisher	4-2	18-4
				Stevens	5-3	18-10
				Nazareth	4-4	11-9
				Utica	2-4	8-10
				Houghton	1-5	7-15
				Elmira	0-6	4-7

Next game: 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. April 13 against Buffalo State at Kostrinsky Field

*Updated as of April 11

Women's lacrosse player breaks program record

BY MADISON BESS
STAFF WRITER

On April 7, with 20:41 left in the second half in the game against SUNY Geneseo, graduate student Ally Runyon achieved the goal most players have — she broke the women's lacrosse program record for goals scored. The record was set by Tracy Rivas '13, who had 184 goals by the end of her senior year. Runyon now has 186 goals and will be setting the bar even higher for future athletes, as she still has at least five games to play in.

Staff Writer Madison Bess spoke with Runyon about breaking the program record and how her injury helped her in the long run.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Madison Bess: When did you start playing lacrosse?

Ally Runyon: I think I was like 6 or 7. I am pretty sure I was in first grade.

MB: What is your favorite moment of your career?

AR: There have been a lot of favorite moments. Probably my favorite has been this year when we beat Trinity and Cortland because we've always had tough games like those and always really close to winning. But this year, we were finally able to pull out the win. It was satisfying, and we came together as a team, and it was just so fun.

MB: Do you think anyone is going to beat [your record]?

AR: I think someone will. There are a lot of good, young players. If it is beaten in the next couple of years, I would not be surprised. I am going to get as many as I can to raise it up.

MB: When did you realize you were close to the record?

AR: It is kind of funny. The girl who broke it before me was a senior when I was a freshman. My freshman year, a guy I know said, "Tracy broke the record." But he thought I was going to break it. And I said that was hilarious. I didn't think about it again until after junior year, and I got hurt. I was putting together the pieces and realized it was possible. I did the math and realized it was real. After three seasons, I realized it.

MB: What was the injury?

AR: I tore my ACL my junior year in our championship game. I didn't play last year. By the time I was ready to play, I would have missed a bunch of games. I wanted to end the career on a good note. I decided not to play fourth year and play my fifth.

MB: What was the career goal like in your mind?

AR: I knew I needed one goal to tie it and two goals to beat it. I didn't want to think about it before the game. If I



Graduate student attacker Ally Runyon passes the ball to sophomore attacker Allie Panara in a game against SUNY Cortland on March 23. Runyon broke the all-time goals scored record in women's lacrosse history.

MANYA MARGOT/THE ITHACAN

thought about it, I would have made stupid mistakes. I thought about winning the game and what to do on offense and defense. I wasn't thinking to get the goals. After I scored the second one, I felt relieved. I knew I did it, and it was like a weight off my shoulders. It was a cool and satisfying feeling. I don't know how to describe

it. It was a sense of accomplishment because I did not know it would ever happen.

MB: What is the plan moving forward?

AR: Definitely our short-term goal is the Empire 8 Championship. I have been dying to win one every year. I

think we are capable and have more than enough talent to do so. Beyond that, we want to continue to go as far as we can in NCAAs.

Read the full Q&A online.

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Creating game schedules involves coordination

BY ANNETTE HOGAN
STAFF WRITER

Creating the schedules for Ithaca College's 27 varsity athletic teams and 44 club teams is not a straightforward process, but one that involves traveling, in-person meetings and conferences with other Division III administrators.

The scheduling process at the college starts with Will Rothermel, associate director of the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics. He attends conferences alongside other athletic directors in the Empire 8 Conference to make decisions and vote on the proposed and finalized schedules for the athletic teams in the conference.

During these conferences, Rothermel said, one of the first things they discuss is "scheduling philosophies." These philosophies are intended to minimize missed class time, emphasize locality between competitions and maximize competitiveness among opponents.

"Typically you'll [generate a schedule] in more-than-one-year increments," Rothermel said. "You'll come up with a plan for three or four years out so there's some continuity."

Coaches provide feedback on the schedule they receive from the conference, discuss it with the administration and agree upon it as an institution.

The athletic director brings the changed schedule back to the conference meeting, and a vote is conducted for finalization. These conference meetings deal solely with schedules for the league matchups. Scheduling nonconference games is a part of the process the coaches take care of.

"We've given them flexibility, and the onus is on them to consult with us as administrators," Rothermel said.

Factors that coaches must discuss with the administrators on their nonconference choices include how competitive of a schedule they want, which teams they want to play and what regions they will play that will potentially lead to recruiting future athletes.

Many of the college's athletic teams travel to places around the country during breaks.

Rothermel said allowing coaches to schedule nonconference matchups in different regions heightens the visibility of Bomber athletics while allowing student-athletes to expand their experiences.

The men's and women's tennis teams traveled to Orlando, Florida, during their 2017 spring break. Head coach Bill Austin said it is important to challenge the team in nonconference matches.

"[It's] something that's going to produce a good-quality match for both teams and push you competitively to prepare you for conference play," Austin said. "I think that's always how I've tried to look at it."

The scheduling process for collegiate athletics is no simple job. Both Rothermel and Austin come across difficulties while they are creating schedules. Rothermel's more recurrent problem is keeping everyone satisfied with the given schedule of the year.

Austin said finding dates that work for both him and the other schools, balancing the number of matches within a period of time and making sure he remains cognizant of the other teams that use the Athletics and Events Center are the main problems he finds when scheduling his nonconference matches. Because tennis matches take up to a few hours at a time, Austin wants to ensure the A&E Center is used fairly among the teams.

He first works around his conference schedule, and then he looks at other schools' schedules to make sure they have open days for competition.

Mike Ariel, facilities coordinator and pavilion manager in intercollegiate athletics, receives the finalized athletics schedules when each team knows whom and when it is playing and then analyzes them to determine the times in which events will happen.

Varsity, club and intramural sports all share the facilities. Ariel goes through and schedules practices for varsity athletes first, followed by club and intramural.

Prioritizing nights for varsity and club teams



Freshman track and field athlete Christopher Tinti gets on the bus April 7 to attend the Coach P Invitational in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He is also on the cross-country team.

FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

helps keep the schedule balanced. Ariel said that on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, club and intramurals have first priority, and varsity takes priority the remaining nights.

"The most difficult thing is everyone wants the very same exact time in the same venue," he said.

Scheduling two teams in one facility at the same time is how he solves those types of problems.

For instance, tennis and track and field frequently share the Glazer Arena because they are both able to have a suitable time slot while having the appropriate space to practice.

Although the athletics office has developed a general process over the years, it still comes across a few bumps. The next bump for Bomber athletics is its transition into the Liberty League Fall 2017.

Rothermel said the transition into the Liberty League was made from an institutional standpoint more than an athletic standpoint. This is because of the academic profile of the institutions in the Liberty League and what they bring to the table.

Transitioning into a different league will

bring new challenges to the scheduling process because every league schedules its athletics differently, Rothermel said. In the Liberty League, for example, scheduling both conference and nonconference matches for tennis will be up to the coaches, which will give more to Austin to schedule.

In tennis, Liberty League guidelines require teams to play each conference team once, unlike most other sports. Because of this, they have much more flexibility in their schedule and can play in the fall and spring seasons. The coaches are able to schedule their matches for any date, time and location, as long as both coaches agree.

Finding a balance between departments and within departments is what ultimately makes scheduling athletics successful, Rothermel said.

"It's not just a simple 'OK, here's the schedule. It's posted,'" Rothermel said. "I think [the scheduling philosophies] is a lot of what the foundation of Division III athletics is founded on."

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Junior pitcher transitions to fourth college

BY ALYSSA CURTIS
STAFF WRITER

Junior transfer student Jack Morello can be found this spring on the mound of Freeman Field, pitching fastballs and changeups for the Bombers. This hasn't always been the case, though.

Born in Manhattan but raised in Los Angeles, Morello has crisscrossed the country all his life, changing colleges multiple times but playing America's favorite pastime all the while.

After graduating from Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, Los Angeles, in 2013, Morello committed to Gonzaga University, an NCAA Division I school in Spokane, Washington, to play baseball.

Morello then suffered a left shoulder injury from lifting and decided to redshirt his freshman year, allowing him to practice with the team and attend classes while not using up one of his four years of athletic eligibility. He then lost his scholarship to Gonzaga.

While he could have stayed on the team, Morello viewed this as a new opportunity and instead transferred to Glendale Community College in Glendale, California.

This change allowed Morello to be closer to his hometown and rehab and to work with a familiar face. One of the associate head coaches at Glendale, Alex Kocol, knew Morello from middle school, making the transition easier.

During his time at Glendale, Morello's mom moved from southern California to New York, which prompted him to start looking at schools on the East Coast.

After doing some research, Morello transferred once again, this time to St. John's University, another D1 school.

While at St. John's, a coach that had previously recruited Morello told him that he would be on the roster but would see little playing time. After one semester, Morello decided he would rather get more playing time than stay in a D1 program.

At first, making that decision wasn't easy for him. Morello wanted to stay at St. John's because, he said, he was committed and did have a good fall semester, in terms of baseball. In the end, he said, he thought it was best to transfer.

"I figured it would be best to use my talents and what I've been working for," Morello said. "I might as well get more bang for the buck."

Morello heard about Ithaca College through his dad and decided to check it out.

After visiting the college and meeting with Bryan Roberts, associate dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, Morello was sold on the communications program and the school.

Morello recalls telling his father that this is where he belonged.

"I said to my dad, 'I would almost rather not play baseball and go to Ithaca than not play baseball and go to St. John's,'" Morello said.

While going from a Division I athletics program to Division III might dissatisfy some athletes, Morello said he is content with his decision.

"As far as the glory and hype around Division I baseball, I think it wears off after a year because you realize there are great baseball players at every level," Morello said.

While Morello is content with his decision to represent the Blue and Gold, there are many differences from his previous schools and athletic programs.

Coming from southern California, there is a big difference between the amount of baseball that athletes are able to play due to weather conditions.

For the most part, though, the transition has been smooth. Morello said he enjoys the facilities the athletics program has to offer, as well as the coaching staff and his new teammates.

The coaching staff, specifically head coach George Valesente, had a big impact on Morello's choice in the first place.

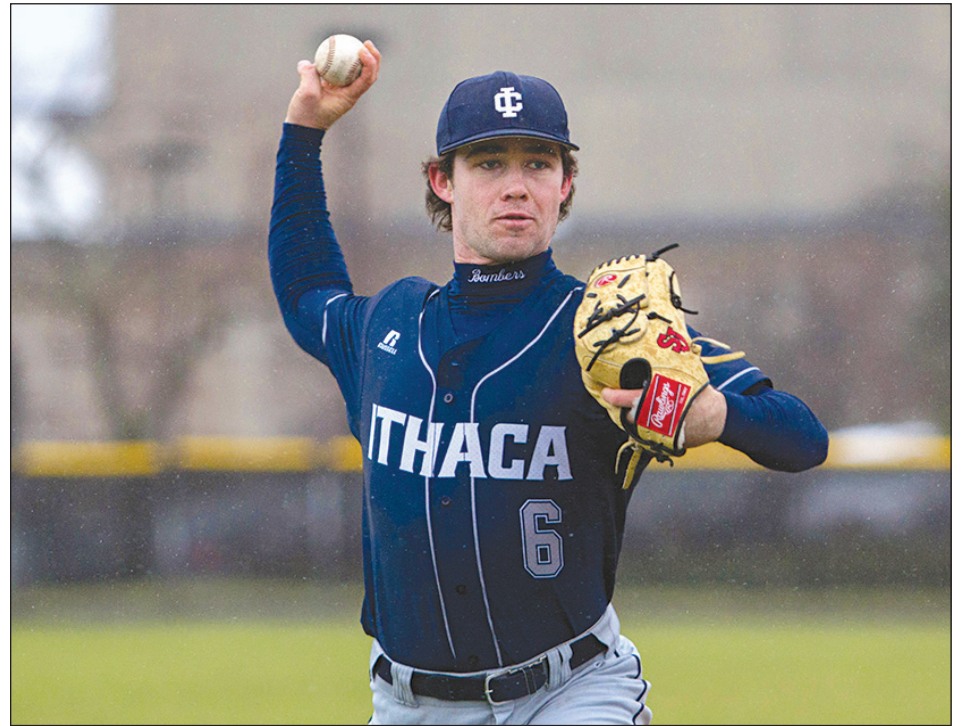
Morello credits Valesente as being nice and having an intricate and curious baseball mind, allowing him to be as successful as he has been for so long.

When Valesente first heard about Morello, he was initially intrigued by his past and the programs he played for.

His track record of schools and baseball programs hinted that Morello had some abilities the Bombers would be able to use.

Valesente said he was worried about Morello's transition from a Division I program to a Division III program, but once they started working together, the player proved to be hardworking, no matter the circumstances.

"Once we started having our workouts indoors and working together, it became apparent to me that he had a good concept of pitching and



Junior pitcher Jack Morello practices his pitching at Freeman Field on March 31. Ithaca College is the fourth school the Los Angeles native has attended in the last three years.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

a good concept of his abilities and what he had to do to function with certain pitches and things like that," Valesente said. "I was very impressed with that."

Coming from the background he has, Morello is a standout player this season.

"He seems to be more experienced as far as a total understanding of his own pitching mechanics and how they work and the functions in the different pitches that he throws," Valesente said.

He said Morello's abilities and work ethic have even inspired him as a coach.

"It invigorates me and encourages me to look even deeper at where he's at and what we can do to make it even better," Valesente said.

Sophomore pitcher Chris Marinaccio said Morello's competitive nature and being the No. 1 pitcher on the team has forced the other pitchers to step up their game.

"He set a bar that all the pitchers are trying to reach," he said. "Being our most talented pitcher, we are trying to work up to be as good as him or pass him."

Morello said his teammates are the reason behind his successful transition and his outstanding performance as a Bomber thus far.

"The team is a collective unit of great characters and hardworking individuals, which made it easy for me to hop right in," Morello said.

So far this season, Morello has a 2–2 record and has pitched a total of 32 innings. Against Stevens Institute of Technology on April 1, Morello had a career-high of 10 strikeouts and a low of one walk.

Marinaccio said Morello's transition was shaky at first but that now, he fits right in with the team.

"When you see everyone doing what our coaches are asking us to do, and we are all working together, and we are all putting in hours together, you just get to know who he is as a person," he said.

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Families build a community attending sporting events

BY CASEY KOENIG
STAFF WRITER

Lori Shields piles in the car with her husband, Gary, their son, Michael, and their puppy, Russell, to drive from Clifton Park, New York, to Ithaca to watch their daughter, freshman Abby Shields, play softball. During the game, they talk to each other and the other spectators in the stands as they watch the end of the Bombers' 5–2 victory over Nazareth College on April 8, in the first game of the doubleheader.

The biggest champion of the game was Russell, who squirmed excitedly in Shield's arms. No spectator could pass Russell without bending down to pet him.

Families are a big part of the culture of college sporting events. They make up a large majority of the cheering section at games, meets, matches and regattas.

Since her daughter is only a freshman and the season only began in mid-March, Lori said, she is starting to get to know the other families. The families have been very welcoming to the freshman's parents, Lori said, by sending them emails to let them know what is going on and to keep them in the loop.

"When the girls travel, we usually have a little tailgate before the game, and we usually do something between

their games and then something after," Lori said.

At the women's basketball games, a majority of the families sit together in the stands. Some of the moms can be seen interacting with the players before the game begins.

The families get together frequently and have plans to do so over the summer.

The parents are the ones who arrange the senior day meal, and they organize the end-of-the-year banquet.

Head coach Dan Raymond said that when he had one-on-one meetings with his players at the end of the season, many talked about how the families got along and were so close to each other.

"One of the students actually said, 'Our parents are closer than we are as teammates,'" Raymond said. "It's really interesting how those relationships develop — you don't even think about that."

When the team was at Stevens Institute of Technology for the Empire 8 tournament Feb. 24 and 25, one of the parents who lives in the Hoboken, New Jersey, area arranged for the team to have a meal at a restaurant.

Raymond said the whole team has been to the houses of different families.

"We've been to Erin Ferguson's twice," he said. "We went down to Sara

Jackson's house this season when we went to Connecticut College to play. Whenever we're in the area where the parents are, they want to host us."

Jackson said that since most of the parents try to attend all of the games, they have grown a bond in and out of the gym.

"It's great to be a part of a program that has far surpassed just being a team — I would truly say that we are all one big family," she said.

Stephen Wagener, the father of sophomore Danika Wagener, an attacker on the women's lacrosse team, goes to as many games as he can, despite living four hours away from the college.

"We try to get to the weekend home games," Stephen said. "We go to away games only if they are closer to Connecticut than Ithaca is."

When Stephen can't make a game in person, he said he does his best to livestream it. He has been to Elmira, New York, and Oneonta, New York, for games.

Stephen said that the four-hour drive is worth making.

"I can't complain because we only have a short amount of time left of watching her play sports after all these years for all these years," he said. "We got to enjoy it while we can."

Just like the softball and basketball teams' parents, Stephen said, there



Lori and Gary Shields and their son, Michael, travel from Clifton Park, New York, to watch their daughter, freshman Abby Shields, play softball.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

seems to be a community among lacrosse parents.

"There are people who organize the after-game meal for the players," he said. "We are all on the same email list."

Sophomore Meghan Mazzella said the team's parents help to create a support system at games.

"If there's few students there, they always cheer us on and bring positive energy during and after the games," Mazzella said.

Raymond said that whenever there

is a game, especially when it's at home, the parents interact not only with each other and their own children but also with roommates and other members of the team.

"The relationships that our students have not only with students but also with their parents is one of those things that you forget about how important that is," Raymond said.

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the
Buzzer
 THE BEST FROM THIS
 WEEK IN SPORTS

MAKE A SWISH



Junior Kevin Xu goes up for a basket while being blocked by junior Liz Denbigh on April 8 in the Fitness Center's Mondo Floor Gym.
 FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN



Junior David Vinder DJs for the Ithaca College Public Relations Student Society of America's 16th annual Swish for Make-A-Wish basketball tournament.
 FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

**BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
 HELD APRIL 8
 IN THE FITNESS CENTER
 RAISES MONEY
 FOR THE MAKE-A-WISH
 FOUNDATION**



Sophomore Nick Davis on Lunchbox Legends is blocked by junior Nick Garbuio on The Kids.
 FERNANDO FERRAZ/THE ITHACAN

LEO BIEN-AIMÉ '20

BEN BRISMAN '20



THE BIG PICTURE

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017



Sophomore Zack Zottola throws a pitch at Ithaca College baseball's April 12 home game against Houghton College at Freeman Field. The Bombers beat the Highlanders 12-6.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN