

THE ITHACAN

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DICE AND DRAGONS

The Ithaca College RPG Club gives students at the college a way to bond over their favorite fictional worlds.

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ACTUALLY ...

It is the responsibility of professors to make sure discussions are not dominated by men.

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DIVING RIGHT IN

Sophomore Benjamin Presco switched to diving after suffering a hamstring injury in high school while pole vaulting.

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WELL ACTUALLY, MANSPLAINING IS... ...affecting the educational progress of women at IC

BY FALYN STEMLER
STAFF WRITER

Junior Gillian Friebe said she usually does not speak in class, but that when she decided to raise her hand one day in her politics course, she was shut down by a man in the class. It was an experience she feared would occur after seeing other women being interrupted in the same fashion by other men.

During a class discussion about the political relationship between Catalonia and Spain, Friebe spoke, only to be immediately and repeatedly interrupted by a man who said he was trying to play the devil's advocate to her point.

"After he kept talking over me, I didn't keep trying, because I knew it was going to happen again, and it reminded me, 'Oh yeah, this is why I don't talk in this class,'" Friebe said.

Women at Ithaca College, like Friebe, said they have experienced and witnessed similar scenarios in their classrooms where women's

thoughts are disregarded, shut down, re-explained and interrupted by men, and in some cases, male professors. Friebe's experience is an example of sexist behavior in the classroom, which is commonly dubbed as "mansplaining:" when a man comments on or explains something to a woman in a condescending, overconfident and often inaccurate or oversimplified manner, according to Dictionary.com. While mansplaining is one form of sexist behavior in the classroom, men interrupting women and re-explaining their thoughts also reinforces societal gender hierarchies.

Student experience

Men in sophomore Brooke Maybee's politics class, Food and Water: Challenges to Sustainability Politics, taught by Juan Arroyo, assistant professor in the Department of Politics,

would aggressively argue with her in the class, she said. Maybee said this made her question her intelligence and her willingness to participate.

"The way they dominated the conversation made me feel like I was excluded," Maybee said. "It was hard to get a word in, and in that way, I felt that I couldn't be part of that conversation."

Her experiences discouraged her from taking any more politics courses, she said.

"I know I'll never be comfortable taking a politics class again, even though in high school I loved politics," Maybee said. "It was just horrible because I didn't feel comfortable, and I didn't feel like I knew anything even though I definitely did. I felt invalidated."

Arroyo said he notices that most students in general are not very active participants in class and that men are usually more willing to

talk than women. Additionally, he said that if he sees women making facial expressions that show they are engaged in the conversation or if he knows a woman has intelligent things to say from papers and assignments, he will call on them to include more voices.

Junior Sam Castonguay said she also experienced mansplaining while participating in the college's DANA Student Internship Program during the summer of 2016. For the program, Castonguay, a sociology major, was paired with a faculty member on campus to do a paid, long-term research project where, she said, she developed a thesis about female fanaticism with boy bands like One Direction. She said she and another woman psychology student were paired up with two mathematics students who are men to critique each other's research. But rather than critiquing, she said, the two men

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College asks for input on Commencement

BY MEREDITH BURKE
STAFF WRITER

The Ithaca College Commencement Committee has started searching for feedback on how to improve the college's Commencement ceremony.

The committee sent out a survey Nov. 14 to students, alumni, faculty and members of the administration. It was also sent to parents of current and prospective students and parents of alumni. The survey asked what parts of graduation the survey-takers cared about and what they thought of the current debated changes.

The survey closed Nov. 22. It included a spot for participants to type in their own suggestions for the ceremony.

David Prunty, executive director of auxiliary services and a co-director of the committee, said he expected the survey to be an outlet for people to discuss what they want.

"The survey will hopefully give us a lot of information," Prunty said. "We're trying to offer multiple venues for people to express their opinion."

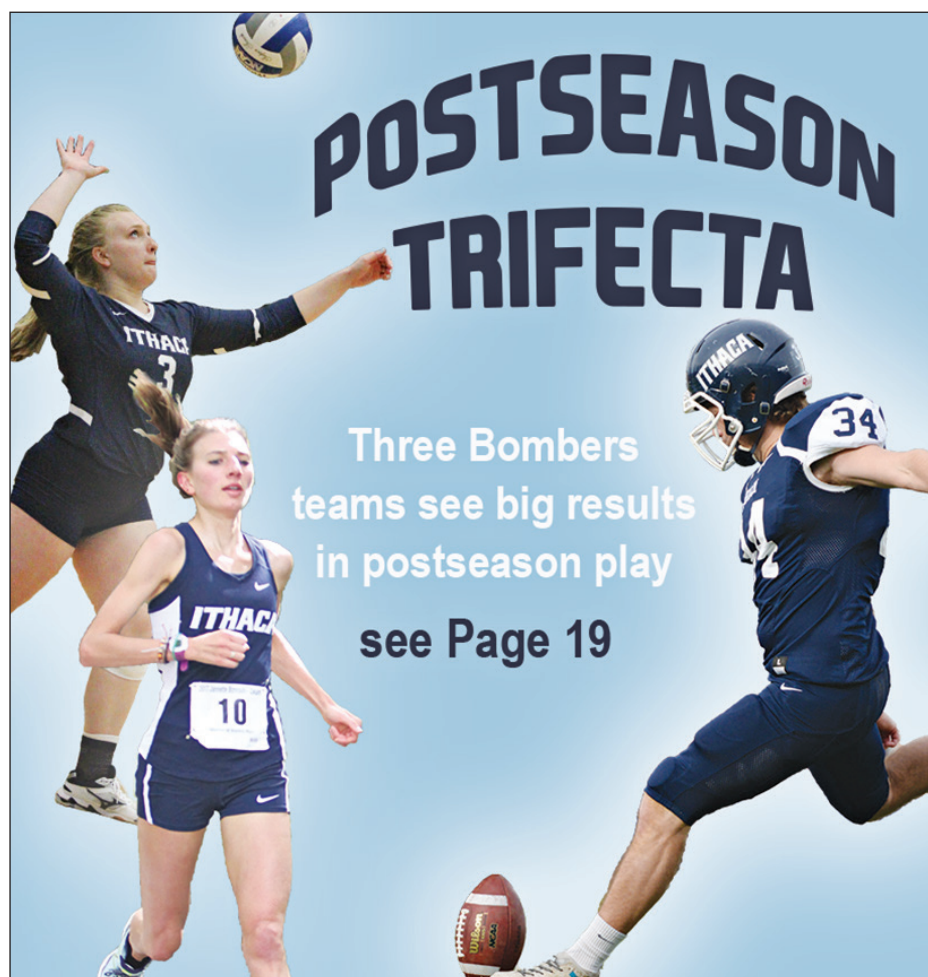
The committee held an open forum Nov. 15 for students, staff and faculty to discuss possible changes to the ceremony and for attendants to propose their own. The forum included a presentation about what happens during Commencement and the Commencement planning process. The floor was then opened to students and faculty to voice their opinions.

Prunty said the committee is acting in response to a charge given by President Shirley M. Collado when she took office in July. Prunty said the committee is trying to change the 2018 Commencement but is unsure if they can realistically meet that goal.

"We've been charged by the president to look at how we might possibly add reading names and giving individual recognition to graduating students," he said.

Collado stated that when she first arrived at the college, she was curious why there was not individual recognition during the ceremony. Since individual recognition is common at many universities and is usually something that

See GRADUATE, Page 6



NATION & WORLD

North Korea launches missile after a 10-week pause in testing

North Korea ended a 10-week pause in weapons testing Nov. 28 by launching what the Pentagon said was an intercontinental ballistic missile. It was apparently its longest-range test yet and may escalate high tensions with Washington.

Pentagon spokesman Col. Rob Manning said the missile was launched from Sain Ni, North Korea, and traveled about 620 miles before landing in the Sea of Japan within 200 nautical miles of Japan's coast. It flew for 53 minutes, Japan's defense minister said.

The launch is North Korea's first since it fired an intermediate-range missile over Japan on Sept. 15.

New company to send resources to Puerto Rico to help with repairs

After Hurricane Maria damaged tens of thousands of homes in Puerto Rico, a newly created Florida company won more than \$30 million in contracts from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide emergency tarps and plastic sheeting for repairs.

Bronze Star LLC never delivered urgently needed supplies.

FEMA terminated the contracts with Bronze Star LLC, without paying any money, and restarted the process this month to supply more tarps for the island.

Thousands of Puerto Ricans remain homeless, and many complain that the federal government is taking too long to install tarps. They have been hit by severe

rainstorms in recent weeks that have caused widespread flooding.

United Nations reviews studies to investigate fake medicines

The World Health Organization said about 11 percent of medicines in developing countries are counterfeit and likely responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of children from diseases like malaria and pneumonia every year, Nov. 28.

Between 72,000 and 169,000 children may be dying from pneumonia every year after receiving bad drugs. Counterfeit medications might be responsible for an additional 116,000 deaths from malaria mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, according to scientists at the University of Edinburgh and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine commissioned by the WHO.

Counterfeit drugs include products that have not been approved by regulators, fail to meet quality standards or deliberately misrepresent an ingredient, according to WHO, which published the two reports.

The UN health agency had experts review 100 studies involving more than 48,000 medicine. Drugs for treating malaria and bacterial infections accounted for nearly 65 percent of fake medicines.

Trump calls senator 'Pocahontas' when honoring Native Americans

Families of Native American war veterans and politicians of both major parties are criticizing President Donald Trump for using a White House event honoring Navajo Code Talkers to



Pope makes landmark trip to Myanmar

Pope Francis is greeted by young children in traditional clothes upon his arrival at Yangon's airport in Myanmar on Nov. 27. Pope Francis is in Myanmar for the first part of a weeklong visit. He will also be visiting Bangladesh from Nov. 30 to Dec. 2.

ANDREW MEDICHINI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

take a political jab at a Democratic senator he has nicknamed "Pocahontas."

Trump turned to a nickname he deployed for Sen. Elizabeth Warren during the 2016 presidential campaign to mock her claims about being part-Native American. He told the three Navajo Code Talkers on stage that he had affection for them that he does not have for her.

FBI notified a portion of officials targeted by hackers from Russia

The FBI did not notify scores of U.S. officials that Russian hackers were trying to break into

their personal Gmail accounts. The Associated Press found that they had evidence for at least a year that they were targeted.

In about 80 interviews with Americans targeted by Fancy Bear, a Russian government-aligned cyberespionage group, two cases in which the FBI had provided a heads-up appeared. Some senior policymakers discovered they were targets only when the AP told them.

The FBI released a statement that said they notify people when there are potential threats.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'Deja View'

Ithaca College alum Fred Topel '99 talks about his experiences as a freelance review writer over the past decade.

'Get It Together'

Alexzandria Sanchez speaks with Mollie McKinney and Brandon Tate about the black student experience at Ithaca College.

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Club protests blood drive policy

BY KRISSY WAITE
STAFF WRITER

Ithaca College's Red Cross Club sponsored a "Donate in protest" blood drive Nov. 28 in reaction to the Food and Drug Administration's policy that restricts men who have sex with other men from donating blood.

At the drive held in the Emerson Suites, participants had the option to send a postcard directly to the FDA in protest of the discriminatory policies that restrict people with specific sexual histories, such as men who have had sexual relations with another man or who have traded sex for money or drugs, from donating blood.

In June 2016, students organized a photo project that protested FDA restrictions.

Senior Nicole Cardascia, IC Red Cross club president, said the policy is pointless because the FDA tests the blood and ineffective because it is easy to lie about sexual history.

"We are supporting inclusion here in a very politically charged environment today," Cardascia said. "We believe it is very important to highlight the fact that we really are inclusive here as an organization. We want our campus to know that."

The FDA has strict guidelines for who is eligible to donate blood and who is not, and organizations like the Red Cross are required to follow them. For example, sex workers or those who use non-prescribed injection drugs



The IC Red Cross club held a blood drive Nov. 28 to protest the Federal Drug Administration's ruling that men who have had sex with other men in the last 12 months cannot donate blood at drives.

ANDREW TREVES/THE ITHACAN

like heroin are considered ineligible to donate.

Originally, men who have had sexual contact with another man at any point in time were indefinitely deferred to prevent the spread of Human Immunodeficiency Virus, also known as HIV. In 2014, the FDA revised this specific policy based on new data to a new 12-month deferral period for men who have had sexual contact with another man. This also extends to women who have had sexual relations with a man who has had intimate contact with another

man. Anyone who has ever tested positive for HIV is ineligible to donate.

The postcard had three options to check off: "I am donating today but I am donating in protest," "Today you lost my pint because:" and "I choose not to donate in protest because of the FDA's restrictions."

John G. Culhane, a professor of law at Widener University Delaware Law School, wrote an article titled "Bad Science, Worse Policy: The Exclusion of Gay Males from Donor Pools." He wrote that these policies are not directly backed by

scientific evidence. The policy, he states, was first introduced in the middle of the AIDs crisis when there was rapid spreading of the disease and a nervous tension in society.

Junior Julia Bieber, said the policies would not stop her from donating, but that there was clearly a problem with the policy.

"Not donating because of that [policy] takes away blood from people who need it," Bieber said.

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College creates data warehouse

BY SAM HAUT
STAFF WRITER

A new enterprise data warehouse for Ithaca College is currently being developed and is expected to be completed in three years. The goal of the data warehouse is to better collect data that includes admissions, enrollment, salary and budget data.

The enterprise data warehouse is not a physical warehouse but a place where the college's data — from enrollment numbers, revenue, salaries, retention rates for staff and faculty, student class schedules and everything else that can be expressed in numbers — will be stored and made more accessible through a cloud server. David Weil, associate vice president of information technology, who is in charge of the tech side of the project, said the EDW project began last June.

Weil said the current system the college has for data storage does not allow users to easily search for information, nor is it able to compare data in ways the EDW will. Weil said the EDW is only a step toward changing what the college does with different sets of data.

"The enterprise data warehouse is the underlying infrastructure," Weil said. "It's not really exciting in and of itself, but it builds the foundation for things that are really exciting, at least for us."

Weil said an enterprise data warehouse can be used to create tools, such as a class recommendation tool, for everyone on campus to use.

Weil said other schools are using student data to improve their curriculum and help support students.

The company setting up the EDW for the college is HelioCampus, a company that sets up data systems for colleges. They are currently working with several other colleges across the country to establish data warehouses and other systems of collecting data to make those colleges more efficient.

Susie Chang is the director of implementation services at HelioCampus and said the company has only been around since January 2016 and is currently working with eight other colleges to set up their systems. She said HelioCampus is helpful for the college, which would not be able to complete a project like this without outside help.

"For Ithaca, it's not like they have a huge army of folks that can build IT, or they have different priorities," Chang said. "So, if they can outsource some of it, they can have their staff work on different initiatives and spend more time on analysis and less time on building and I think it accelerates where they want to go."

Chang said the first phase of the project consists of setting up the Banner system, which uses the data collected into the EDW to give the college administration access to the newly stored data. This data should be available at the beginning of the spring semester, Chang said. Weil said the college's data will be fully integrated into the EDW in three years, while the project itself will continue beyond that indefinitely as more data is collected and added. Chang said HelioCampus is providing the software for the project, which the college will have to pay for.

Yuko Mulugetta, chief analytics officer for the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research, is in charge of analyzing the data that is put into the warehouse. Mulugetta said HelioCampus is helping to build the EDW and the interfaces needed to interact with it.

"One of the reasons why HelioCampus has been a very attractive collaborator is that they are not just going to help us with laying the foundation, but they help us to build a lot of different analytics and dashboards, so it's part of this big vision," Mulugetta said.

Mulugetta said her office is working on a separate system to help define the data being put into the EDW, so the EDW knows what different terms mean.

"We are building the IC data governance system, and they are like twin brothers in that they have to go hand in hand in order to put the right data into the system," Mulugetta said. "You say you're a full-time student, but what does a full-time student mean, so that we all agree what a full-time student means."

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IC rennovates to increase accessibility

BY ANA BORRUTO
SENIOR WRITER

After the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights launched an investigation in 2009, Ithaca College continues to complete OCR-required renovations to the campus. However, some students and administrators believe the school still has more work to do before being truly accessible.

The OCR delivered a resolution to the college in 2015 following an investigation into a confidential complaint of inaccessibility against the college filed in 2009. The case document states four allegations: that a staff member of the Office of Residential Life harassed students with mobility impairments by denying continuous requests for accessible housing, that various campus facilities were inaccessible to individuals with disabilities, that the college did not have the required number of handicap-accessible parking spaces and that the routes to Williams Hall did not have the appropriate number of curb ramps.

The OCR did not find merit to the first allegation, but determined the college needed to make multiple areas and buildings on campus accessible in response to the second allegation. The OCR identified compliance concerns with the number of accessible parking spots and locations with regard to allegation three, but found insufficient evidence for allegation four.

On Aug. 4, 2015, the college signed a resolution agreement to complete requirements put forward by the OCR to meet compliance. In the case document, the OCR said that if the college fails to implement the terms of the resolution agreement, the OCR will resume its investigation of the complaint.

Jenny Pickett, assistant director of operations for Res Life, said that while the college has been taking steps to improve accessibility, there is still work that needs to be done.

"There have definitely been improvements," Pickett said. "We are not done by a long shot."

Phil Garin, assistant counsel of the Division of Human and Legal Resources, said the OCR came to campus and observed in 2009. In



The Office for Civil Rights delivered a resolution to the college in 2015 following an investigation into a confidential complaint of inaccessibility against the college filed in 2009.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

2010, the OCR asked for data, took measurements and continued to make observations. In 2015, Garin said the OCR determined renovations were needed to make the campus more accessible. He said the college is in compliance with the resolution and that the college is no longer under investigation.

Garin said the only renovations that have not yet been completed on the list provided by the OCR were changes to the parking lots to make them more accessible. Garin said some of the parking lots will be fixed in the summer of 2018.

Tim Carey, associate vice president of the Office of Facilities, said the improvements include repaving and re-grating the parking lots to accommodate accessibility spaces.

Carey said the college engaged a civil engineer firm that measured designs of certain pathways and redesigned the routes so they met compliance requirements.

Door handles and heaviness, Carey said, have been adjusted for those with disabilities. The center entrance door of

Dillingham Center has been modified for wheelchair access, and door thresholds in other academic buildings have been removed to create more wheelchair accessibility.

Improvements to bathroom facilities began in the summer of 2016 and are still being addressed as issues are identified. Carey said stalls not complying to ADA regulations were enlarged to accommodate wheelchairs.

Pickett said the OCR did not observe every residence hall — only those deemed accessible by the college. Pickett said only 20 percent of the college's housing stock needs to be accessible. Pickett said OCR recommendations were fixed over a year ago.

Junior Nick O'Brien said he believes the college can do more to make the campus more accessible. He said two things the college should tackle are the minimal amount of accessible parking and updating the old elevators in various academic and residential buildings.

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man·splain

/man' splān/

(of a man) to comment or explain something to a woman in a condescending, overconfident, and often inaccurate or oversimplified manner

DICTIONARY.COM

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mansplained why they believed her research was unimportant.

She said the men told her things like, “I don’t really understand the point of this study at all,” and “You should look at this instead,” which she said frustrated and degraded her.

“I spent four months doing preliminary research into this topic, and I didn’t even get to defend myself in that moment because I was so taken back,” Castonguay said.

She said this experience still affects her ability to participate and give research presentations.

“I still remember that experience vividly, and I was deterred from doing any of those events,” Castonguay said. “It really put a damper on the opportunities I felt comfortable taking advantage of.”

Similarly, senior Stephanie LaBatt said she experiences mansplaining frequently in group project settings. She said that once in her Corporate Communications class, she was paired with two other women and one man to make a presentation for a company. She said the man did the entire project without accepting any suggestions from the women because he thought he had more experience. She and the other women were offended, LaBatt said.

“He would say no to everything we said and

took charge,” LaBatt said. “He would say, ‘I’ve done this,’ ‘I have this experience, this internship, and this and this, and you guys don’t....’ We just let him do it. There was no point.”

The origin of mansplaining and surrounding research

Rebecca Solnit, a writer, is credited with coining the term “mansplain” in an anecdotal and research-based essay she wrote in 2008 called “Men Explain Things to Me.” Shortly after, dictionaries such as Oxford, MacMillan and Dictionary.com made it an official term.

Solnit said in an article for The Washington Post that she wanted the term to be a concrete way to describe a woman’s experience in a way that is more powerful than the terminology typically used to describe sexist behavior, such as “patronizing.” Her work emphasizes the effects of silencing people, particularly women, as a form of oppression.

Friebis said she notices men taking up a lot of space during discussions in her Introduction to U.S. Politics class taught by Alexander Moon, assistant professor in the Department of Politics. She said men often argue and make comments that do not pertain to the course readings or class discussions, and she said she feels that the men are given more latitude by other students to make such commentary compared with women.

“A lot of times I don’t pay attention because people just argue the whole time, and there’s nothing I gain out of that,” Friebis said. “Sometimes when people make intelligent arguments and make counterpoints, I am like, ‘Oh, OK!’ I tend to sit there respectfully and nod to show people I am listening, but they don’t give me that same respect.”

Moon said he notices that men speak more than women in class, but he said that he does not think mansplaining is a dominant force in his classrooms.

“I do notice that on average, men are more likely to talk than women, and I imagine some people identify that as mansplaining,” Moon said. “I try to make sure everybody speaks, regardless of gender. I am very cognizant of the gender dynamic in class discussions.”

Additionally, junior Alyssa Curtis said she and other women often experienced mansplaining in her Journalism History class that she took during Spring 2017 with Todd Schack, associate professor in the Department of Journalism.

“Any time we would talk about something, they would interrupt to say pretty much the exact same thing we were saying or even what the professor was saying, adding nothing to the conversation, all the time,” Curtis said.

She said Schack sometimes acknowledged when this occurred and tried to move on to the

next topic.

Schack did not respond to a request for comment.

A study by David Dunning, retired professor in the Department of Psychology at Cornell University, and Joyce Ehrlinger, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Washington State University, analyzes the relationship between female confidence and competence found that women are less assured in their abilities than men, who tend to overestimate their abilities.

In the study, men and women who are college students were asked to rate their abilities and were quizzed on their scientific abilities. On average, women scored a 7.5 out of 10 but rated themselves at 5.8, and men scored 7.9 but rated themselves a 7.1. Their actual performances were almost the same. The research suggests the scoring disparities occur because men are more confident in their abilities than women.

Dunning said classrooms may lack intelligent conversations when only some students constantly speak.

“You don’t get a wide range of ideas and thoughts being said because the air is being filled with things people say that are willing to talk, but, it might be banal,” Dunning said. “What you

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“ I KNOW I’LL NEVER BE COMFORTABLE TAKING A POLITICS CLASS AGAIN, EVEN THOUGH IN HIGH SCHOOL I LOVED POLITICS.... IT WAS JUST HORRIBLE BECAUSE I DIDN’T FEEL COMFORTABLE. ... I FELT INVALIDATED. ”
– BROOKE MAYBEE

“ I FEEL LIKE MEN STRUGGLE WITH GIVING CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM, ESPECIALLY TO WOMEN, AND A LOT OF THE TIMES WHEN MEN SPEAK, THEY SPEAK AS IF THEY ARE RIGHT. ”
– EVE MAHANEY



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

SEXISM, from Page 4

want is to get the most people you can talking. It's not good when one person talks, including the professor."

Additionally, Cameron Anderson, professor at the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, conducted research on overconfidence. His research found that people who speak with confidence tend to be admired and listened to more, and as a result, the competency of a comment is irrelevant in a discussion or meeting setting if one speaks with confidence.

"The bad news is, if you're in an environment where you see people gain attention and influence simply because they are highly confident — even if they aren't the most competent — it's going to signal to other people that confidence, rather than actual competence, is important," Anderson said via email.

Research by gender equity scholars David and Myra Sadker, who published their first study, "Sexism in the Classroom: From Grade School to Graduate School," in 1986, found that typically in classrooms, boys received more positive reinforcement, received more attention, were asked more complex questions and were praised more for their "academic acumen," whereas girls were praised for social skills and docility. The study was conducted in 100 classrooms across four states.

Sophomore Jack Gaffney said he often witnesses other men mansplaining to women in his Argumentation and Debate class he is taking this semester.

Gaffney said he is probably guilty of interrupting women, too, and he thinks it occurs because of social conditioning that teaches men how to interact with women.

Sophomore Luke Miller said he notices women being shut down and ignored more in small group settings in many of his classes. He takes Argumentation and Debate with Gaffney and said he also notices other men in the class interrupting women.

Sophomore Graham Klimasewski said men, including himself, are often oblivious when

mansplaining and sexist behaviors occur in class. "I interrupt a lot, and recently I noticed I do it more to girls," Klimasewski said. "That's not what I would call mansplaining, but it's an issue I am addressing."

He also said he thinks he does this as a result of societal norms and conditioning.

argument — that the gender binary is harmful — was invalid and rooted in "Tumblr logic." Tumblr logic is a condescending term used to describe millennial bloggers who use the social media app Tumblr and are viewed as nonsensically liberal.

Kazim said the professor rebutted the man, which prevented him from discrediting their argument.

and Photography, men often would critique her, and other women's photos, in unconstructive and demeaning manners.

"I feel like men struggle with giving constructive criticism, especially to women, and a lot of the times when men speak, they speak as if they are right," Mahaney said.

She said Vanover handled these situations well and would call men, and women, out when they were not speaking constructively.

Vanover said via email she notices men dominating her classroom discussions and critiques, which she said tends to silence women.

THE DUNNING-KRUGER EFFECT

Men and women college students were asked to **rate their abilities** and were **quizzed on their scientific abilities**. On average, women scored a **7.5** out of 10 but rated themselves **5.8**, and men scored **7.9** but rated themselves a **7.1**.

Correcting mansplaining at Ithaca College

Students say professors could handle mansplaining by identifying and shutting it down when it occurs. Senior Sloane Kazim said Hadley Smith, retired assistant professor in the Department of Writing, helped to defuse a situation of mansplaining that arose in their argument class in Fall 2015.

During a classwide critique of their thesis paper, Kazim said, a man told them that their

"Many people in the class, especially when he made the comment about 'Tumblr logic,' rolled our eyes because it was obvious it wouldn't be anything academic-based," Kazim said. "It was just some dude airing his grievances."

At the time, Kazim identified as female, but they now identify as gender non-binary.

Senior Eve Mahaney said that in her Large Format Photography class with Rhonda Vanover, assistant professor in the Department of Cinema

"It's important that men and women participate equally in the classroom because each have something unique to contribute," Vanover said.

Castonguay said she wants more awareness and training, particularly for professors, surrounding mansplaining, so they can defuse situations that arise in class.

"I would really just like these individuals to be aware of it," Castonguay said.

Peyi Soyinka-Airewele, professor and chair in the Department of Politics, said via email that this is an issue the politics department had discussed at the end of the 2016–17 academic year at a department dinner. The faculty acknowledged that gendered power dynamics are present in politics classes, which create distinctive speaking patterns where only some voices are always heard.

Female students in the politics department shared their experiences at the dinner, which Soyinka-Airewele said was helpful for the staff. She said the department has brainstormed how to address problematic gender dynamics.

"When a classroom has vibrant discussions, it is easy to ignore how gendered patterns in that space may marginalize and devalue some students," Soyinka-Airewele said. "This is a continuing problem in U.S. academics. ... We have to continue to excavate, confront and eliminate the attitudes and practices that underlie these disempowering experiences."

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Cortaca clean-up aided by students

BY STEPH SIOK
STAFF WRITER

Students, alumni and other members of the college communities from SUNY Cortland and Ithaca College gathered in the parking lots surrounding Butterfield Stadium to tailgate for the Cortaca Jug game Nov. 11. After fans from both schools watched the Bombers win, maintenance and Eco-Reps staff members worked hard to clean up the litter left behind by fans.

The Eco-Reps, a student environmental sustainability organization, have been sorting compost, trash and recycling at all of the home football games this year. Since Cortaca attracts many more fans than the average home football game, they decided that handing out recycling bags would be a better plan than trying to sort through that amount of compost during cleanup.

According to the college's athletic website, 11,000 people attended the Cortaca Jug game. The average attendance at all other home football games this season was 2,484.5.

The Eco-Reps decided to hand out the recycling bags for the first time this year to make Cortaca as sustainable as possible, Campus Sustainability Coordinator Rebecca Evans said.

"We thought, maybe, the best choice was to try and eliminate litter during the tailgating instead," she said.

Evans said that while some students were happy to take a recycling bag during tailgating, others were not very accepting.

"I had a lot of students that were really, really negative about the whole idea," Evans said. "I haven't seen that before — people turn



Students and volunteers aided maintenance staff at Ithaca College to clean up after the Cortaca Jug football game — an event that 11,000 people attended Nov. 11 at Butterfield Stadium this year.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

me down from recycling."

Ernie McClatchie, director of facilities, grounds and maintenance, said that there are many logistical tasks that have to be performed for Cortaca that are not performed for other games.

McClatchie said the tasks include transporting portable bleachers, setting up additional barriers to keep fans separated and off the field and setting up chutes for organized entry. Other tasks included painting the field, putting out a large number of trash and recycling cans along walkways and setting up over 50 portable toilets. He said he did not have a cost estimate for Cortaca set-up and cleanup.

The biggest and most visible

concern is the trash left over from fans tailgating, McClatchie said. He said cleanup for Cortaca starts as soon as the game comes to an end, and the maintenance cleanup team evaluates how much will have to be done.

Even with trash and recycling bins available, people still produce a substantial amount of litter, McClatchie said.

"This is very unfortunate, as this is the not the case for normal games, and it is not the normal tailgaters that cause the mess but people who only show up for this game every two years," he said. "The litter that is left is disrespectful to the normal tailgaters as well as to the campus itself."

McClatchie said that 10

maintenance workers spent three hours cleaning up the litter left behind using shovels, brooms, grabbers and a mini-truck with different garbage and recycling bags.

Senior Georgia Caplen, Eco-Reps program manager, said the Eco-Reps started the Compost, Recycling, Trash sorting initiative, otherwise known as CRT, to bring more sustainability to the college.

"With this initiative, we hope to bring positive environmental change among sporting events and create an open conversation about how to properly dispose of your waste to make a positive impact to the environment," she said.

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Corruption act pitched to Ithaca council

BY SAM HAUT
STAFF WRITER

Ithaca College freshman Alexander Maceira and Cornell University sophomore Vernon Lindo presented a proposal that lays out problems the students see in lobbying, super PACs and elections nationwide, and presented a set of guidelines for the City of Ithaca to endorse at Ithaca's Common Council meeting Nov. 15. Common Council voted against supporting the proposal because they said it was not specific enough.

The proposal presented to ban lobbying and to make the money in super PACs more transparent and independent from candidate's campaigns. It also called to end gerrymandering and to change the voting system. These are all part of the American Anti-Corruption Act, which is being promoted by Represent.Us, a group advocating for lessening the influence of money in politics, around the country.

Five students attended the meeting, with Lindo being the only one from Cornell. Maceira, junior John Romanelli, freshmen Lily Dearworth and Julia Cohen attend Ithaca College. Seven community members also attended the meeting.

The Ithaca chapter of Represent.Us was started by a former art professor at Cornell, Gillian Pederson-Krag, who, along with Romanelli, wanted to try and get this act passed through the local Ithaca government and to increase support nationally by increasing awareness at a local level. At the meeting, Common Council members said they were unsure of how adopting the resolution would help, as there was little effect the proposal would have, as the problems mentioned in the proposal are outside the Common Council's jurisdiction.

Romanelli said the Ithaca chapter of



From left, Ithaca College freshman Alexander Maceira and Cornell University sophomore Vernon Lindo present to Common Council about an anti-corruption act they support.

SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

Represent.Us got in contact with the national chapter of Represent.Us to help organize methods of outreach. Once school resumed this fall, several more members joined the group.

Ozolins talked about wanting Ithaca to support the act and mentioned a petition they started to gauge support for the act that has received 803 signatures.

Maceira said the campaign for getting signatures started in January 2016.

Deborah Mohlenhoff, fifth ward alderperson, said she and other members of the council will work with the students to come up with a clearer proposal for the council to vote on at a later date.

Maceira said the intent behind the proposal

was for it to be a rulebook for the council to base decisions on, and not an actual law.

"Originally we saw it as, like, a rulebook of guidelines rather than actual legislation, so here are some guidelines and rules you can take to make your own legislation," Maceira said.

Romanelli said this kind of criticism was to be expected and that they see it as a success.

"This is the role of government — when you present a bill, they're going to scrap it, and they're gonna rewrite it to do what they want," Romanelli said. "This is getting a B-plus on an important test."

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GRADUATE, from Page 1

both graduating students and their families look forward to, she charged the committee to try to find a logistically sound way to include it in the college's own ceremony.

The issue garnered attention two months ago when the parents of both current students and alumni of the college created a Change.org petition asking to allow students to walk at graduation. The petition gained signatures quickly and currently has 2,150. After the feedback from the article *The Ithacan* published in October about the petition, Prunty said it was clear to him that the committee needed to hear the opinions of the community before making recommendations to Collado.

"It would be irresponsible of us not to seek input," Prunty said.

The forum opened with a brief presentation by Prunty to explain the current process of Commencement. The presentation covered the time and overall process of the current Commencement ceremony, the seating arrangement and the space the college has available to host potential additional ceremonies.

The current ceremony takes about 60 to 75 minutes, and graduating students are permitted to sit anywhere in the designated student seats. In the event of rain, the ceremony is moved from Butterfield Stadium to the Athletics and Events Center. This downsizes the amount of seating available to the point that most students would not be able to bring their entire families.

There is a limited amount of spaces where a ceremony could be held, Prunty said, as other options such as the Park Auditorium or the Emerson Suites would not have enough room for an entire school's ceremony. Prunty said that if all the students' names were read at the ceremony, it would add an additional three to four hours to the current hour and a half-long ceremony.

During the forum, both faculty and students suggested various compromises, including the idea of holding multiple ceremonies divided by school in addition to a large ceremony for the whole college. It was suggested that students would attend smaller ceremonies for their respective schools where their names would be read, and then the entire college would meet up for the conventional Commencement ceremony. This change would extend the celebrations for a few additional days.

Senior Charlotte Robertson, off-campus senator for the SGC, said she supported the idea. She said it would satisfy both parents and students, while also not adding a large amount of time to the collegewide ceremony.

"I think a lot of our parents would be really pumped to see this happen," she said. "I think a good way to do it is breaking it down by schools ... maybe that could cut down on the time."

While this option was the most acknowledged, it was still faced with significant opposition. Attendants' concerns included people not attending both ceremonies, not having enough space to host the ceremonies on campus and people not staying for the entirety of the name readings.

Senior Fatoumata Jallow, senior class president, voiced her concerns about this alternative at the forum, mentioning how she has had personal experience with her family struggling to find travel and board accommodations to attend her graduation. She expressed this would likely be similar for other families who were traveling from far away.

"Usually the [hotel] reservations are made two years in advance," she said. "Even my parents, who tried making reservations this year ... are having trouble because rates are just skyrocketing."

Mark McCoy, assistant manager at Super 8 Ithaca, said the hotel is normally completely booked during the college's Commencement weekend and that they raise their prices. However, he also said that they only take reservations a year in advance, so the hotel is typically booked six months before graduation.

"For Ithaca, it's about \$175 a night," he said. "Otherwise, our rates are usually \$129 to \$139 for that time of year."

Another suggestion made at the forum was to have individual recognition given visually, displaying the names of graduating students and the honors they received on a screen during the ceremony. This was suggested as a compromise between the two sides, since the display would take less time than the reading of names.

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COLLEGE

Patrol officer receives honors and graduates from police academy

The Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management’s Patrol Officer Corinne Searle recently graduated from the Broome County Police Academy. Searle also earned the top academic award for her graduating class of about 40 new officers.

Searle earned this honor by having an average of over 98 percent in the academy’s academic coursework. She is now working to complete her on-campus field training, so she will be meeting many new members of the campus community as training progresses.

Applications open to students for Alternative Spring Break 2018

The Alternative Spring Break program is an opportunity for community service, meeting new students, and personal growth. This year, trips will take place from March 10 to 17.

Applications for the Alternative Spring Break program that are received on or before 5 p.m. Dec. 1 will receive priority selection.

This year’s Alternative Spring Break trips will rebuild homes for the elderly with the Pittsburgh Project in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; turn wasted food into balanced meals with D.C. Central Kitchen in Washington, D.C.; volunteer at Kiptopeke State Park in the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia, help ensure a healthy and productive coast with the North Carolina Coastal Federation; and help fight poverty and create opportunity with CASS Community Social Services in Detroit, Michigan.

Those interested should contact Don Austin at austin@ithaca.edu for more information.

Viewing of night sky to be held at Clinton B. Ford Observatory

The Ithaca College Department of Physics and Astronomy is holding a viewing of the night sky from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Clinton B. Ford Observatory on campus.

A shuttle van will make runs to pick attendants up from F-Lot outside Smiddy Hall and the Center for Health Sciences. All attendants

must take the shuttle, as there is no parking at the observatory.

If the weather does not allow a clear view of the sky, a decision to postpone the event will be announced at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 1.

More information can be found at <https://www.ithaca.edu/hs/depts/physics/clintonbford/openhouses/>.

Modern language professor wins scholar essay award for her work

Maria DiFrancesco, professor of Spanish and chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, won Symposium’s Harold G. Jones Award for Best Senior Scholar Essay published in the journal from 2015 to 2017. The award winning essay is titled, “Facing the Specter of Immigration in ‘Biutiful.’” The award comes with a \$1,000 prize.

The editorial board invited DiFrancesco to a celebratory reception that will be held at 5 p.m. Jan. 6 at the Taylor & Francis booth at the Modern Language Association convention in New York City.

Executive director gives keynote at higher education conference

Daniel Pascoe, executive director of Career Services, presented at BIESTRA, Chile’s Biennial Conference on Higher Education and the World of Work. He was one of three keynote speakers at the event.

His keynote topic, “A Systemic Approach to College Student Career & Professional Development,” was presented in Spanish and broadcast via streaming media.

The video, in Spanish, can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PxCu7ewIE>.

Yearlong opportunity for faculty offered by excellence institute

The Center for Faculty Excellence is offering an excellence institute in inclusive course design. The Early Career Excellence Institute is a yearlong opportunity. Participants work in faculty learning communities to

problem-solve, design and reflect on course changes. This is a chance for faculty across campus to build substantive interdisciplinary relationships regarding pedagogical intention and access in student learning.

This opportunity begins with a full group orientation from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 16 in Gannett 319.

Only 15 participants will be accepted. While all faculty can apply, preference will be given to early-career faculty. Detailed information and the full application can be found at <https://www.ithaca.edu/cfe/>. Applications are due to the CFE Jan. 2.

School of Music dean re-elected to music accreditation commission

Karl Paulnack, dean of the School of Music at Ithaca College, has been re-elected to the Commission on Accreditation of the National Association of Schools of Music. The 18 elected members of the Commission have the authority to grant or deny accreditation for music programs across the United States. This authority is given to them by NASM. NASM is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges and universities and reports to the U.S. Department of Education. It is an accreditor for about 650 accredited programs at across the country.



African ensemble performs in vibrant event

Senior D’Laney Bowry and other dancers participated in a Nov. 28 event held by the IC West African Drumming Ensemble. There, dancers performed to music inspired from various Ghanaian tribes. The group used many instruments, including the djembe, the djil, gangkogui bells, shakers and talking drums while performing.

TED ZERIVITZ/THE ITHACAN

Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOVEMBER 6 TO NOVEMBER 12

NOVEMBER 6

ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE
LOCATION: School of Music
SUMMARY: Caller reported water damaged ceiling tile. A report was taken. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw.

LARCENY
LOCATION: O-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole computer on 11/05/2017. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
LOCATION: Hill Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having allergic reaction and difficulty breathing. Person was transported to hospital by ambulance. Sergeant Ron Hart.

CRIMINAL OBSTRUCTION
LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported third hand information that a person choked and threatened to kill another person. Investigation pending. Sergeant Ron Hart.

NOVEMBER 7

CHECK ON THE WELFARE
LOCATION: Friends Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person sent text about self-harming. Officer

determined person not in imminent danger. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE
LOCATION: All other
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person called reporting computer will crash without a return phone call. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa.

FIRE ALARM UNDETERMINED
LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Unable to determine cause for activation. Fire and Building Safety Coordinator Charlie Sherman.

FIRE
LOCATION: Garden Apartment
SUMMARY: Environmental Health and Safety staff reported person burning leaves on balcony. Officer judicially referred one person for starting a fire. Patrol Officer Corinne Searle.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
LOCATION: Eastman Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having difficulty breathing. Person declined medical assistance with ambulance. Patrol Officer Dylan Hardesty.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
LOCATION: Hill Center

SUMMARY: Caller reported person playing basketball injured shoulder. Person was transported to hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Dylan Hardesty.

NOVEMBER 8

SCC DRUG VIOLATION
LOCATION: Emerson Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer judicially two people for violation of drug policy. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
LOCATION: Eastman Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having chest pain, elevated heart rate and difficulty breathing. Person was transported to hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Dylan Hardesty.

NOVEMBER 9

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
LOCATION: Eastman Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported head and back pain. Person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Jake Tubbs.

SCC FIRE-RELATED OFFENSE
LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Enviornmental Health and Safety staff reported person

failed to leave building during fire alarm. Environmental Health and Safety staff judicially referred one person for fire safety violation.

SAFETY HAZARD
LOCATION: School of Music
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Activation caused by boiler spraying hot water. Building closed for a short period of time.

NOVEMBER 10

ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE
LOCATION: Terrace 12
SUMMARY: Officer reported wind blew metal box onto vehicle, causing damage. A report was taken. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento.

TRESPASS NO DEGREE
LOCATION: Recreation trails
SUMMARY: Caller reported people on recreation trails. Officer warned five persons for being in the area after hours. Master Patrol Officer John Elmore.

NOVEMBER 11

SCC DISRUPTIVE
LOCATION: Circle Apartments
SUMMARY: Caller reported excessive noise. Officer judicially referred four people for noise violation. Master Patrol Officer

John Elmore.

EXPOSURE OF PERSON
LOCATION: F-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported people urinating near wall of building. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT
LOCATION: F-Lot
SUMMARY: Officer reported two people slapping each other. State Police issued warning. Sergeant Ron Hart.

NOVEMBER 12

CRIMINAL POSSESSION
LOCATION: F-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person left bag of controlled substance. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.

Full public safety log available online www.theithacan.org

KEY
SCC – Student Conduct Code
V&T – Vehicle and Transportation
AD – Assistant Director
IFD – Ithaca Fire Department

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EDITORIALS

Professors must prevent mansplaining in classes

Discussions are the pinnacle of the liberal arts college experience, where students come together to hash out ideas. Each student should have the right to a classroom environment where they feel they can share their thoughts. But when class discussions are completely male-dominated, this welcoming environment that encourages productive discussion is lost.

Other than the issue of male students dominating discussions, there is also the issue of mansplaining — male students commenting, explaining or interrupting their female counterparts to re-explain their point. When female students say they no longer want to speak in class for fear of being interrupted or being talked down to, there is obviously a larger issue.

While it may seem like a minor issue, it devalues a female student's voice in the classroom, and the continuous restating of previous comments takes away from valuable class time. And whether the interrupting, dominating or restating is intentional or not, it still is sexist and disrespectful.

Research has shown that people who speak with some sense of confidence will often be

perceived better, regardless of whether or not they're competent, and that men are more confident in themselves than women. In the classroom, this means that male students are often given more speaking time simply because they feel the need to speak, not because they always have things to say. As a result, class discussions fall flat.

There are, of course, male students who are respectful of their female colleagues. But there are others that need to be more conscious of their participation in class. And it is not solely an issue with students. Often, professors fail to address the problem, and when male students speak too much or interrupt their female counterparts, nothing is done. Not all professors are guilty of this — some make a conscious effort to call on female students or to shut down students who interrupt others. But male students are often allowed to talk over their female counterparts, as no one is stopping them from doing so.

It is the responsibility of the professor to curb these behaviors. Though a class discussion may be student-led or student-facilitated, faculty should feel comfortable enough to intervene when necessary.

FDA's blood deferrals are backward and outdated

During Ithaca College's blood drive Nov. 28, IC Red Cross Club sponsored #DonateInProtest, an event to protest the Food and Drug Administration's policies that prohibit men who have sex with men from donating blood. Students were encouraged to write postcards to the FDA to express their disapproval of the policy.

Under FDA laws, men who have had sex with other men are deferred from donating blood for 12 months since their last sexual encounter with another man. Though the policy is more lenient than the FDA's previous indefinite ban on men who have sex with men donating blood, it is still a backward policy.

HIV and AIDS are not as endemic as they were during the initial outbreak among the LGBTQ community in the 80s and 90s. Yes, the health effects are still detrimental and should not be brushed aside.

But safe sex education has exploded since the initial HIV outbreak. Drugs, like pre-exposure prophylaxis and post-exposure prophylaxis, have nearly eliminated the odds of contracting the virus. Medical advancements and further education, on top of

cultural shifts, have made both avoiding infection and living with HIV much easier.

This makes the stance that the FDA has taken for so long seem archaic. The FDA screens potential blood donors for their high-risk behaviors. Though population studies have shown that men who have sex with men have higher risks of HIV and hepatitis, testing for diseases at blood drives has improved. Not only that, but blood is tested again once it is received by medical facilities. And considering that the Red Cross is currently facing a critical shortage of blood across the country, it seems foolish to keep the ban in place.

The current stance that the FDA has on blood donations from men who have sex with men perpetuates the stigma that gay, bisexual and queer men are inherently dirty or unhealthy. It implies that queer men do not practice safe sex habits or monogamy.

Students must continue to make their voices heard. Though postcard writing is a good start, there must be continual efforts to have this changed. Continued letter-writing campaigns, phone calls made to the FDA and other similar efforts are necessary.

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 **mmcelroy@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**.



IN OTHER
NEWS

ISABELLA GRULLÓN PAZ

Refugees sold into slavery

A video released by CNN two weeks ago on refugees being sold at a slave auction in Libya has caused less outrage than it should. Hundreds of people are being auctioned off for as low as \$400 in nine markets around the country, but there is speculation that there are many more markets.

African refugees have used Libya as a pathway to Europe for years now. It is the primary corridor for those who are trying to reach Europe by sea and is considered one of the most dangerous migratory routes on earth.

Human traffickers are exploiting the situation, as well as the refugees' fear and vulnerability, to monetize and dehumanize their lives.

Human trafficking and modern-day slavery have existed in the undercurrent of the black market ever since mass slavery was abolished, but the very public auction of African refugees has brought back images of a "forgotten era" that was never really forgotten but is a suppressed trauma the world doesn't ever seem to tackle.

There is no proper registration system for the thousands of migrants who enter Libya on a weekly basis, and detention centers are usually unsupervised. When they get too crowded, refugees are sold in an open market.

The lack of aid to refugees, the countries they come from and the countries they use as corridors has created a volatile microcosm largely controlled by both the overuse of first-world military attention as well as the lack of foreign compassion.

Just because Libya does not have the resources to handle a mass influx of refugees does not justify the sale of human life. The fact that Libya has been left almost to fend for themselves while first-world powers decide how to divide and conquer with military action in North Africa and the Middle East whilst ignoring migration patterns contributes to the idea that migrants are not people, but nomadic commodities.

The most alarming aspect of this situation is the ease with which the country has normalized the practice and the fact that what the world considered to be international superpowers have not commented on the fact that their own invention has been resuscitated.

Right now, attention must be placed on how to shut down the auction houses and save migrants from being smuggled through the country, and hopefully to find safer passage for migrants to avoid being smuggled. It seems to be a trend to demonize those brave enough to search for new opportunities.

IN OTHER NEWS is a column about international politics written by Isabella Grullón Paz. **GRULLÓN PAZ** is a senior journalism major. Connect with her at igrullon@ithaca.edu and @isagp23.

NATIONAL RECAP

Politicians accused of harassment

BY MEAGHAN MCELROY
OPINION EDITOR

Representative John Conyers Jr. from Michigan has stepped down from his role on the House Judiciary Committee amidst sexual harassment allegations.

Conyers, the longest-serving House Representative, said he would not resign from Congress, but stepped down from the judiciary committee due to "internal pressure," especially from House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

Conyers is one of many politicians being accused of sexual assault and sexual harassment during the past few weeks. Actress and radio broadcaster Leeann Tweeden has accused Senator Al Franken of forcibly kissing her and inappropriately touching her during a 2006 U.S.O. tour of the Middle East. Since then, three other women have come forward against Franken. Franken has apologized to the women and said he would work to try to regain the trust of voters and his colleagues.

In addition to Franken and Conyers, Senate candidate Roy Moore has also been accused of sexual harassment by multiple women. Leigh Corfman, one of Moore's accusers, said she was only 14 years old when Moore, then a 32-year-old judge, kissed her and undressed her.

Despite the allegations, President Donald Trump has indicated his support for Moore in the special election. Trump told reporters in Florida that Moore denied the claims and that Moore's word was to be trusted.

BuzzFeed News first broke the story on Conyers on Nov. 20, reporting that Conyers settled a wrongful dismissal complaint in 2015 when a former employee said she was fired because she would not "succumb to [his] sexual advances."

On Nov. 21, BuzzFeed News published another



Representative John Conyers Jr. has been accused of sexual harassment. Many other politicians, including Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., and former Chief Justice Roy Moore, have also been accused.

ALEX BRANDON, FILE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

story about another former employee of Conyers who said that while working in his office in 2016, Conyers sexually harassed her by "rubbing on her shoulders, kissing her forehead, covering and attempting to hold her hand" and even asking her to come home with him. The former staff member also said that Monica Conyers, the Congressman's wife, called her a whore and accused her of wanting to start an affair with the representative.

Conyers has denied all allegations against him.

Due to a law passed in 1995, sexual harassment complaints are handled confidentially, and lawyers for both the House and the Senate are supposed to keep all suits in these matters confidential. Because the law stresses confidentiality, all settle-

ments made are secret.

However, Democrats and Republicans in Congress are working to end this policy. Most notably, former Republican Congressman Christopher Shays has called for all monetary settlement information to be available to the public.

"If the taxpayers are basically being charged for the activities of someone, a staff person or a member of Congress, it should be made available to the public," Shays said in an interview with Newsweek. "That would be the spirit of the very law that the Republicans passed in 1994."

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Film classes shouldn't include industry sexism

BY ALEX COBURN

About a week before Thanksgiving break, I experienced what I would consider to be my first run-in with blatant misogyny in the Park School. In one of my film production classes we shot test footage together, with all of the students playing a different role on a film set. We were each required to make our own edit using the footage — with basically no parameters for content. One of the men in my class used that opportunity to take footage of me talking and interrupt it with a voice shouting, "Shut up, bitch."

I was not in class that day. When I heard about the incident from one of my friends, I was stunned. This was not simply a friend jokingly calling me a bitch. This man thought it out. It was calculated. He specifically chose footage of me — one of the more outspoken students in class — and used his project as a silencing tactic without my consent. Not only is 'bitch' never okay for a man to use against a woman, but he connected it with 'shut up' — a directive used all too often against women in the film industry.

Sadly, this is definitely not the first misogynistic incident that has gone down in one of the Park School film classes. I was lucky that my professor was supportive; he took the misogyny seriously and held a discussion in class about language and intent. But I know other women in Park have not been so "lucky." Almost every woman film major I know has a story like this one, and oftentimes, there was no attempt at resolution or punishment. This systemic silencing of not only women, but people of color, people in the LGBTQ+ community and basically any marginalized group, has persisted unpunished for too long here at Park.

The Park School — and specifically the film major — prides itself in teaching the "industry standard." And while we might have industry-standard equipment and professors, that doesn't mean we should have industry-standard sexism. It's as if Park is modeling itself after the toxic, mainstream film industry that so many of its students are trying to enter. Rather than use Park's immense power as one of the top film schools in the country to perpetuate the hierarchal structure of the professional industry, it should be



From left, sophomores Miranda Prise, Libby O'Neill and Alex Coburn pose on set. Coburn, a cinema and photography major, writes that female film majors shouldn't face sexism in the classroom.

COURTESY OF ALEX COBURN

using its power to combat that toxic dynamic right when its students walk in the door.

College is where you go to have your mind changed, so why uphold the norm when you can try to subvert that norm to create a more diverse film industry? With every new sexual assault allegation, I become more wary of the career path I have chosen. I love film, but apparently, film doesn't love me. That doesn't mean that I'm going to quietly quit. Because that's exactly what the misogynistic, abusive men of the industry — from Weinstein to Allen to Polanski to Ratner — would want women to do.

We can't succumb to them. So instead, I'm calling on the educators — especially the straight, cisgender, white male educators — to combat this at the classroom level. Education is not industry. Sure, let's imitate the equipment Hollywood uses, but let's maybe skip the rampant sexism, racism, homophobia

and transphobia. Professors in the film major need to be integrating discussions about inclusion into the curriculum. The burden is not on women to tell men that they are being misogynists — although I'll never stop doing that when I have to. The burden is on men to recognize their misogyny and actively work to change it.

Park has the power to create a new generation of filmmakers who leave the toxic conventions of the past behind. Straight, white men: Use your privilege to uplift voices that have been historically ignored. Listen, don't talk over. And don't forget, this is your problem, too, and now is the time to solve it. Because I'm a bitch, and I won't shut up until it's solved.

ALEX COBURN is a sophomore cinema and photography major. Connect with her at acoburn@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Ditching the penny is common cents

BY KAYLA VIETEN

If Bing Crosby had the power to make it rain “pennies from heaven,” would you spend 10 minutes to pick up 235 of them to buy a pack of gum from Macs? Probably not. In the modern age, time has significantly increased in value while the penny is losing value. Fast.

The largest push to remove the penny from the American currency system is because it costs more to make it than it is worth. This fact alone should be enough to stop its production, yet the United States Mint



VIETEN continually crafts the insignificant penny. Philip N. Diehl, the former United States Mint Director, stated that “for a decade the Mint has produced pennies — 60 billion of them — at a loss of about half a billion dollars.” How can such a small coin absorb so many financial resources from the U.S.?

What can you buy with a penny? If you get 25 of them, you can buy a gum ball. Except that statement isn’t true; you would have to exchange your 25 pennies for one quarter to buy a gum ball. Few candy machines would accept pennies as proper payment. Even those in great financial need, such as broke college students, find little value in the penny. When you are thousands of dollars in debt, a penny becomes truly obsolete.

It’s time for the U.S. Mint to set American currency free of the

continually crafts the insignificant penny. Philip N. Diehl, the former United States Mint Director, stated that “for a



Junior Kayla Vieten writes that pennies are inherently worthless and cost more to produce than they’re actually worth. Pennies have a nostalgic value attached to them, but they should not be kept in circulation, she writes.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

trivial penny. Regardless of the needed transition time, removing trifling coins from the monetary system has proven beneficial in history. Did you know there was once a monetary value lower than the penny? Are you still upset that the half-cent coin is gone? In retrospect, to have a coin that represents less than one cent seems ridiculous. According to Diehl, the penny was necessary 100 years ago as it held the worth of a modern quarter: a currency needed by modern society. Change was never intended to have worth or amounts lower than a quarter. Since that is true, it bypasses the need of having the dime, nickel and of course, the penny in this modern age.

The production of these pennies is virtually worthless as well. The

need for physical representation of money is decreasing significantly. According to Diehl, “only about 25 percent of consumer payments today involve cash. The other 75 percent are processed electronically.” That means the obscene amounts of money spent to produce a physical representation of one cent is only being used for one-fourth of transactions.

Few cash transactions incorporate the penny. Consider a grocery store shopper with a line behind them at the checkout. Automatically, they would receive eye-rolls from other impatient shoppers waiting behind them if they were to begin digging for exact change to complete their payment. The time it takes for the clerk to count your pennies is

inconvenient for everyone involved. Paying in coins, or worse, in pennies, can be considered an annoyance to many.

The penny is loved for being the most distinctive of the coins remaining in circulation. However, that is not enough to justify its cost of production. Ultimately, a penny holds more sentimental value after enduring a penny press machine and turning into a keepsake than it ever will as a monetary unit. It should be allowed to live on as a novelty but not as a financial burden to the American currency system.

KAYLA VIETEN is a junior integrated marketing and communication major. Connect with her at kvieten@ithaca.edu.



EYE ON THE MEDIA

EVAN POPP

Nazis profiled in NY Times

Since the election of Donald Trump, the media has paid close attention to white supremacist movements and ideologies in an attempt to document and understand the forces that helped Trump win the presidency. However, while the media is right to focus on white nationalism, the way it portrays this ideology often leaves much to be desired.

Take, for example, a recent profile in The New York Times of a white nationalist Nazi-sympathizer in Ohio. The article ends up normalizing white supremacy by including details like the man’s “Midwestern manners” and the fact that he is a fan of Seinfeld.

But neither the inclusion of the white nationalist’s mannerisms nor the documentation of his television preferences shed much light on white supremacy or why hate groups are on the rise in the United States. Instead, these details serve to de-emphasize the hatred of others inherent in white supremacy. The media’s coverage of one of white nationalism’s top leaders, Richard Spencer, has also often fallen short. The Los Angeles Times published a story on Spencer and tweeted a link to the story with a photo of Spencer wearing sunglasses and leaning against a wall. The tweet read, “Meet the new think tank in town: The ‘alt-right’ comes to Washington.”

However, to portray Spencer’s “think tank” as simply another organization coming to Washington D.C. makes white nationalism seem like a typical belief. In addition, the photo of Spencer leaning against the wall, looking cool and collected, helps Spencer by making white nationalism look suave and hip. None of the distinguishing elements of the article emphasize the racism central to Spencer’s ideology.

These are just a few examples of the media normalizing white supremacists. The criticism of The New York Times’ profile of the white nationalist and the Los Angeles Times’ article on Spencer doesn’t mean the media should shy away from covering white supremacy. The media just needs to approach its coverage differently.

One element that should be emphasized in the framing of articles on this topic is that hatred is the key element of white nationalism. Journalists must have a compelling reason for profiling a white nationalist. There must be something the public can learn about why many are attracted to white supremacy to justify the decision to profile a white supremacist, because an understanding of why people become white nationalists could lead to a knowledge of how to prevent more people from embracing racism and hatred, but an understanding of what white nationalists’ favorite TV shows are will not.

How the media frames the issue of white nationalism is crucial because it impacts how people view the ideology. So far, the media’s framing has been problematic. Because of this, journalists have a duty to think about how they have covered this issue and learn from their past mistakes.

EYE ON THE MEDIA is a media commentary column written by Evan Popp. **POPP** is a senior journalism major. Connect with him at epopp@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Sometimes selling out is needed for security

BY KEVIN WYNN

It was my life’s dream to work in the theater. I began performing at the age of 8 and for the following decade, I leapt at every opportunity that came across my path, both on and off the stage. I had experience, passion, serious drive — and I even had talent. So, as the time came to decide on my college path, I chose to major in theatrical technology and design at the University at Buffalo, with hopes to become a director when I graduate.

My first year of college was nothing short of wonderful. I was finally studying my passion and being fully immersed in all things theater. Every day, I was knee-deep in practical and theoretical art, and I began to rise to the top of my class as I took on more and more opportunities. I was working closely with the faculty and with the seniors in my program, all of whom seemed like almighty theater-producing legends. At the drop of a hat, these legends would pull stunningly beautiful visuals, movements and sounds from thin air. But then the seniors graduated, and they did so without a job. And then they found jobs as wait staff and receptionists — and they still were unable to land steady jobs working in their field. This reality that the alumni faced was stirring and made me look my future in the face. After a serious amount of contemplation, I decided to give up on my dream and sell out.

I then attended community college for a semester and dealt with the fact that my life plan had melted between my fingers. Finally, I decided to transfer to Ithaca College to study integrated marketing communications. After one of those alumni heard what I had done, he told me I had wasted a decade of my life and sold out to corporate America. He was right. Although I do not believe that I wasted any amount of time, I did sell out, and I could not be happier with my decisions.

College is an investment. It took me some time to fully understand what this meant. But it is true.



Junior Kevin Wynn, pictured above, was studying theater technology and design at the University at Buffalo before he transferred to Ithaca College to pursue what he calls a more secure future.

COURTESY OF KEVIN WYNN

We pour incredible amounts of money into our college educations, and we should expect to see some form of return on that investment. It is important to at least get your money’s worth, whether it be a high-paying job, marketable subject-specific skills, social capital, life skills, fulfillment or any of the other social aspects of college life. As I was chasing my dream, I could not foresee that money coming back to me in the ways I wanted. Sure, I loved every moment, but how likely was that to continue after graduation?

I am certain that I could have survived working in the theater. I could have earned a vaguely comfortable wage at some point, but I realized that chasing my dream meant giving up on a number of other dreams. I want to travel, provide for my children and dogs, own a lake house and retire comfortably. By selling out to pursue a corporate

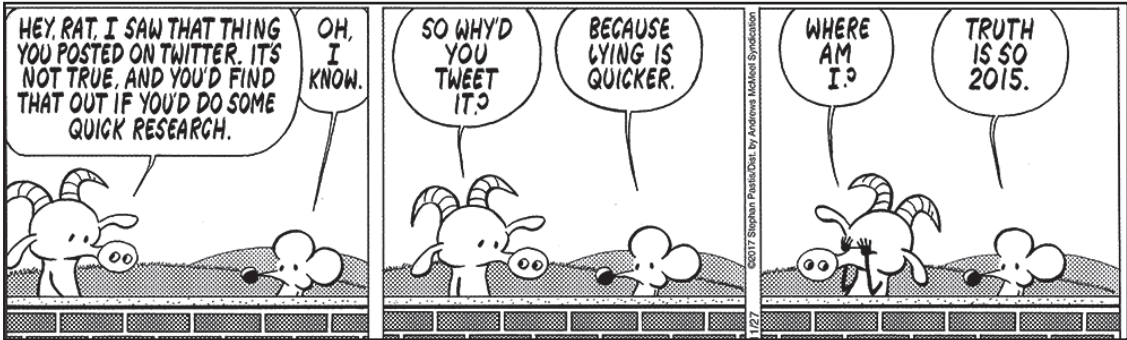
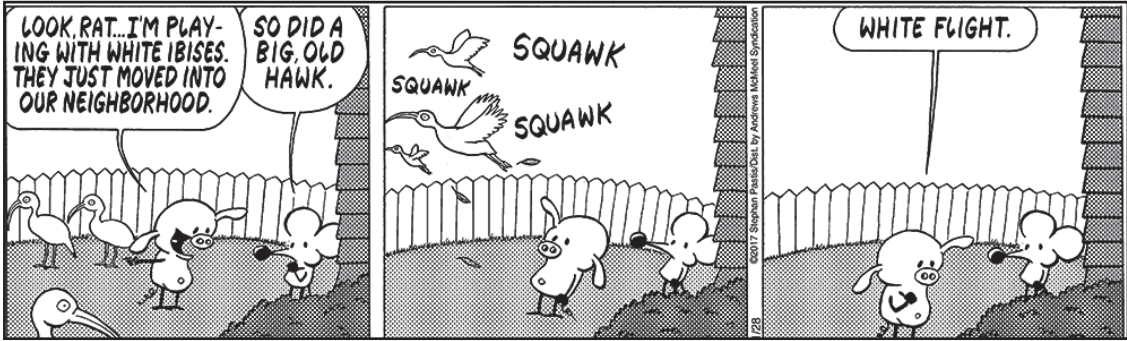
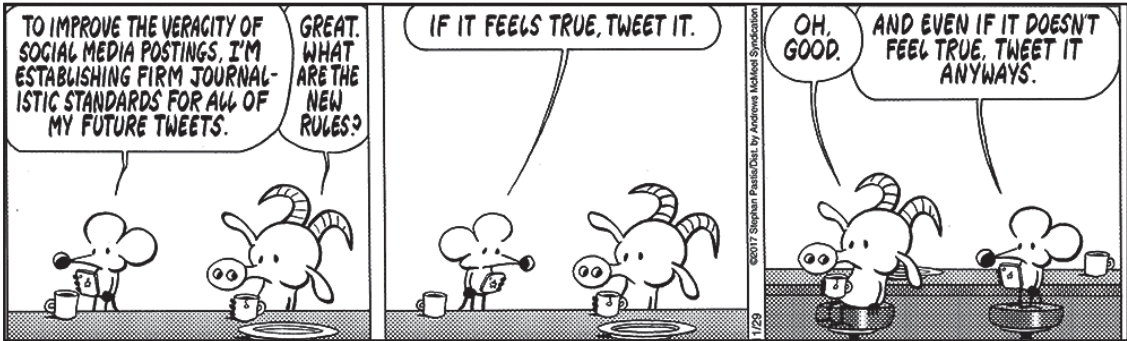
career, I can entertain the possibilities of these luxuries and have a slice of security that I would have never known.

This was my choice, and it is a choice that may not be right for all people. There is value in pursuing the arts. This world needs the arts. I have nothing but respect for those who go down that path and help illuminate stages, galleries and public spaces across the world. But, the world also needs those of us who love the arts and have the means to support it, both physically and financially. In the future, I hope my decisions have led me to have the financial resources to do so.

Selling out? It was the perfect solution for me.

KEVIN WYNN is a junior integrated marketing and communications major. Connect with him at kwynn@ithaca.edu.

Pearls Before Swine® By Stephan Pastis



sudoku

easy

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

medium

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

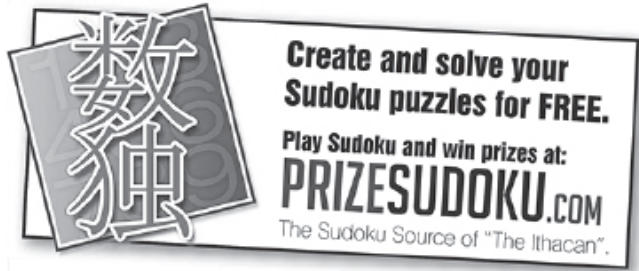
answers to last issue's sudoku

medium

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

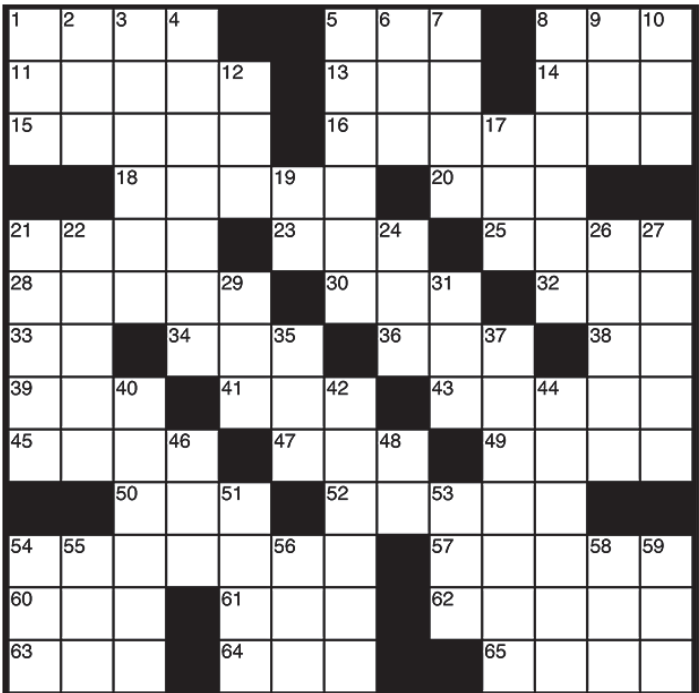
hard

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



crossword

By United Media



ACROSS

- 1 Hieroglyphics bird
- 5 "Who – that masked man?"
- 8 Prohibit
- 11 Cheap-sounding
- 13 Abby's sister
- 14 GI mail drop
- 15 Herd orphan
- 16 Thought funny
- 18 Regularly
- 20 Elegant accessory
- 21 Mixed breed
- 23 Bottom line
- 25 Major – Hoople
- 28 Bobby of Indy fame
- 30 "– Te Ching"
- 32 Puffin kin
- 33 Helena's st.
- 34 Gym iteration
- 36 Coq au –
- 38 Fridge maker
- 39 Snapshot
- 41 Home furnishing
- 43 Graceful
- 45 Big hunk

47 Unite

- 49 Golfer's tap
- 50 Observe
- 52 Draws water
- 54 Rapid rise
- 57 Main points
- 60 Tijuana "Mrs."
- 61 Fleming of spydom
- 62 Confused fight
- 63 Above, in verse
- 64 Nanny's charge
- 65 Russo of the movies

DOWN

- 1 – take forever!
- 2 Library sect.
- 3 Bullion
- 4 Brandy holder
- 5 Muffin morsel
- 6 "Wheel" buy (2 wds.)
- 7 Cold-shoulder
- 8 – Mama (rum drink)
- 9 Long-armed primate

- 12 Up till now
- 17 – – few rounds
- 19 Einsteinium symbol
- 21 Childhood malady
- 22 No later than
- 24 Dallas cager
- 26 Is much obliged?
- 27 Clay-target sport
- 29 Yankee foe
- 31 Wildcat strike
- 35 Prayer place
- 37 More chilly
- 40 Type of salad
- 42 Rely
- 44 Fracas
- 46 Provo coll.
- 48 Daphne – Maurier
- 51 Viking name
- 53 Where the lion roars
- 54 Bob Hope sponsor
- 55 Opposite of post-
- 56 Moo goo – pan
- 58 Finger count
- 59 Take in

last issue's crossword answers

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

POTIONS, PENS AND PIZZA

Role-playing games are a social outlet for IC students

Pen-and-paper RPGs are a popular way for groups of people to gather and tell stories in their favorite sci-fi and fantasy worlds. The IC Role-Playing Game Club was founded Fall 2017 by sophomore Logan Trembow and junior Isaak Hill.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN

BY SILAS WHITE

CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

A thief prowls in the darkened alleyways of a fantasy city. Government agents lose their sanity upon discovering the eldritch secrets of the universe. A heist goes wrong when the getaway driver shows up drunk. A character's life hangs in the balance, her fate decided by the roll of a 20-sided die. In tabletop role-playing games, a player's imagination is the limit.

IC Role-Playing Game Club was started at the beginning of the fall semester by sophomore Logan Trembow and junior Isaak Hill as a way to bring people together to play tabletop RPG games.

The club is open to both experienced players and newcomers.

"I like to run games oriented to new players," Hill said. "It's always fun to teach new players the rules because usually, they don't have preconceptions about other systems. I feel like people that aren't familiar with the rules are more creative with what they do in the game."

In tabletop role-playing games, which are also referred to as pen-and-paper role-playing games, players describe their characters' actions through speech. The games can be thought of as a form of group storytelling, Hill said. One player, typically referred to as the gamemaster, acts as the storyteller and referee. The rest of the players control characters within the world the gamemaster describes and usually have to accomplish an objective, such as defeating a villain or investigating a crime.

Participants choose their actions in the game based on the character they are playing, and actions succeed or fail based on established rules, dice rolls or at the gamemaster's discretion. Tabletop RPGs in their most recognizable form started with Dungeons and Dragons in 1974.

Created by Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson, Dungeons and Dragons allows players to control characters of different races and skill set in a fantasy setting. Recently, the game appeared in the Netflix original series "Stranger Things."

Trembow said he was surprised a similar club did not exist already and said he and Hill decided to start their own. Since the club's conception, interest has been relatively high, with 63 members on the club's Facebook page and about 20 people attending regular sessions and the club's Thursday meetings. Trembow said that curiosity in tabletop games has been on the rise the past few years, partly due to the Dungeons and Dragons web series "Critical Role."

Tabletop RPGs are a social activity by nature, Trembow said, so he was looking for more people to play with. Rather than have one large game, the club plays as a group. The club uses Facebook to set up several small games that players sign up for individually. While some campaigns feature larger stories that unfold over several sessions, others are only one session long. Trembow said shorter games are offered because it's hard for college students to find time to commit to weekly games.

"The basic problem of college students is that we're really, busy, and we're

really busy in a super annoying way, which is we're really busy spread out throughout the entire week," Trembow said. "It's really hard to find a good four- or five-hour chunk of time to

steal someone's afternoon away, and it's even harder to find a group of people open for the same hours on the same day."

While Dungeons and Dragons remains popular within the club, other games the club plays include "Delta Green," a game set in a

modern world that takes inspiration from the H.P. Lovecraft mythos, "Fiasco," a GM-less game designed to simulate a heist gone wrong, and "Paranoia," a game where players' characters live in a dystopia ruled by a computer. Hill said that some of the advantages to tabletop games over video games is group storytelling and freedom of expression.

"In tabletop games, you can really have a face-to-face connection with people," Hill said. "They allow for really great storytelling, which is neat. I've always had a problem with the term RPG when it comes to video games because to me, a

role-playing game is a game where you can do literally anything. In a video game, you're limited by the game's programming."

Freshman Elizabeth Zenteno joined IC RPG Club at the organization fair. She said that she had an interest in RPGs in high school but did not know anyone she could play with. Zenteno said she enjoys the social element of tabletop RPGs.

"If you don't want to be too serious, you don't have to be," she said. "I've always liked fantasy stuff, so that's another thing."

Zenteno said her favorite moment in a recent campaign was foiling her gamemaster's plans by instantly killing a difficult enemy. In the game, Zenteno had rolled a 20 on the 20-sided die, which caused her character to score a fatal attack.

"There's this one campaign I'm doing where I play a Halfling assassin ... which basically means I'm overpowered," she said. "There was this moment where we were having trouble finding a switch to get to the next room, and meanwhile we were fighting these people that were supposed to be difficult and take more time, but me and two other people killed them on our first move."

The best part of the club, Trembow said, is telling a story together with friends.

"The fact that there are many players working together and it's your shared vision is what's interesting," he said. "Also, I don't know — it's a good way to get out of the house, get some pizza and chill out."

CONNECT WITH SILAS WHITE
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Cultured

MOVIE MANIA

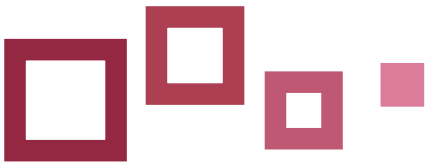


‘MST3K’

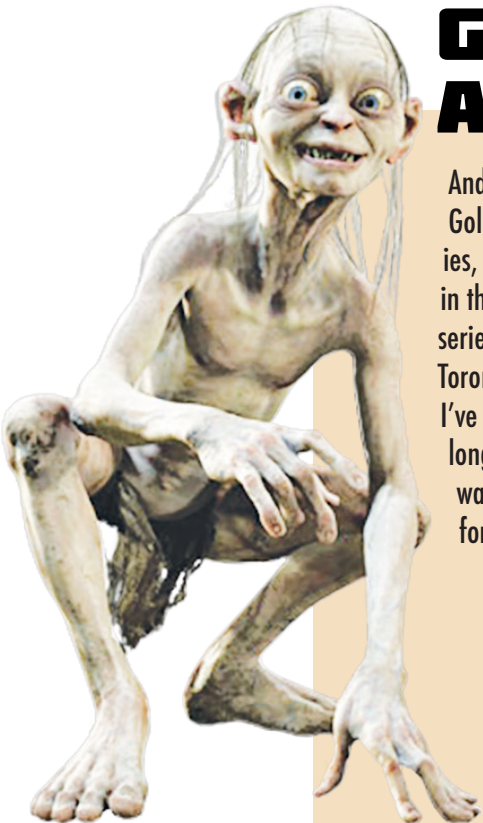
“Mystery Science Theater 3000,” the popular bad movie watch-along show has been renewed for a 12th season. The series was picked up by Netflix last year, and a new season was released on April 14, 2017, to mixed fan feedback. The upcoming 12th season was announced during a Thanksgiving marathon that streamed on YouTube, Shout! Factory TV, Twitch, and Pluto TV’s “MST3K” channel. There is no release date as of now, but in a statement released to Kickstarter backers, Joel Hodgson, the show’s creator, promised news in the near future.

A (DEATH) STROKE OF LUCK

Joe Manganiello tweeted the first image of Deathstroke, aka Slade Wilson. The picture features Deathstroke in his armor and is taken from the second after-credits scene in “Justice League.” The DC Comics assassin was the rumored villain for the upcoming “Batman” solo film, but the recent rumors surrounding Ben Affleck’s departure from the DC movies throws the future of the “Batman” movie into question.



HOLLYWOOD HULLABALOO



GOLLUM IS A GONER

Andy Serkis, the actor who played Gollum in the “Lord of the Rings” movies, announced he would not appear in the forthcoming “Rings” Amazon series. In an interview with the Toronto Sun, Serkis said, “I feel like I’ve been part of Middle-Earth for a long period of time in my life, and it was a great experience, but I can’t foresee that.”



DENIS’S DUNE

Denis Villeneuve released a statement about the upcoming “Dune” adaptation. “When I did ‘Prisoners’ and ‘Blade Runner,’ I signed on a story. I was not allowed to bring in pink elephants, you know? Surely, they are my movies; I consider ‘Blade Runner’ to be as close to me as ‘Incendies.’ But for ‘Dune,’ I am working on the script now. Maybe in six months, we’ll see: ‘oh, I’m unemployed!’ Maybe they won’t like what I am doing.” Villeneuve’s “Blade Runner 2049” released Oct. 6 earlier this year.



IC Vietnamese club fosters open dialogue

BY KARA BOWEN
STAFF WRITER

Dark brown Vietnamese coffee falls onto white condensed milk sitting at the bottom of a glass container. Waiting for the drink to steadily drip through the filter, members of the IC Vietnamese Student Association sip cups of coffee, debating over taste and sweetness to guess which contain Vietnamese coffee and which contain American coffee.

“What we want to do is be a community of people interested in Vietnamese culture and traditions and want to learn more about other cultures in the world,” senior Tra Nguyen, the club’s vice president of event planning, said.

Nguyen, senior Cathy Tran, juniors and Co-presidents Trang Kim and Nga Ruckdeschel and sophomore Ly Do created the association this semester. Taking inspiration from the success of Cornell University’s Vietnamese Association, the founders began planning events and became officially recognized by OSEMA.

Kim said she wants members to learn about Vietnamese culture collaboratively by sharing their own experiences.

“We are all still learning about our culture because there’s so many aspects of it, and there’s so many regional differences that we cannot cover in our own knowledge,” she

said. “We are learning ourselves, and we want to be learning with other people as well.”

Nguyen said that she and Tran were also motivated by a desire to leave their mark on the student body after they graduate in the spring. After they leave the school, she said that she hopes other members will continue to create new events and leave a lasting legacy. The seniors also hope to foster diversity within the club. ICVSA is open to students of all ethnic backgrounds.

“It’s kind of a way we can pass it along to the next people, even if they’re not Vietnamese, if they’re interested,” she said.

The association’s first event, held Nov. 15 in Friends 203, was a coffee tasting and discussion of Vietnamese culture. The meeting offered Vietnamese snacks like Pocky and rice crackers, and a raffle for a Vietnamese pouch. As traditional music played, attendees played a game of Kahoot that quizzed them on trivia about the country.

After the trivia game, the meeting ended with coffee tasting of coffee from Dunkin Donuts, Gimme Coffee and traditional Vietnamese coffee. There was also a demonstration of how to brew coffee using a traditional Vietnamese coffee press. Vietnam is the second-largest exporter of coffee in the world, and its strong coffee with



The IC Vietnamese Student Association hosted a Vietnamese coffee talk at 7 p.m. Nov. 15 in Friends 203. The event included a coffee-tasting game for which students guessed if coffee was American or Vietnamese.

COURTESY OF THE ITHACA COLLEGE VIETNAMESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION



From left, seniors Tra Nguyen and Cathy Tran, sophomore Ly Do and juniors Nga Ruckdeschel and Trang Kim founded the club together.

COURTESY OF THE ITHACA COLLEGE VIETNAMESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

condensed milk is an iconic street food in the country.

Ruckdeschel said that ICVSA planned a coffee-tasting night because the club believed it would draw more students from all ethnic backgrounds. The event was attended by over 20 students from many cultures.

“We know that people are obsessed with coffee here because we’re college students,” she said. “The coffee here is very different and not that strong, and we knew that Vietnamese coffee was going to be unique.”

In the future, ICVSA hopes to put on both fun and cultural-themed events for the whole campus, including traditional food and games

surrounding different holidays.

“Next semester, we want to have at least one big event for the whole campus, like the Lunar New Year,” Kim said. “That’s our goal ... to add more diversity when it comes to culture. That’d be one of our biggest events of the year.”

The club also wants to provide opportunities to try traditional food such as pho, a popular noodle soup.

“I really want to introduce people to our food because our food has a lot of flavor and is really healthy and fresh,” Ruckdeschel said. “We are a very family-based community; we have a lot of value on that and being close with each other and sharing food.”

Besides sharing their culture with other students, board members also wanted to have a place to remind themselves of Vietnam. Ruckdeschel was adopted from the country, and the other founders are international students.

“There’s also the personal background, as we’re all international and Nga was adopted long ago,” Nguyen said. “It’s bringing back our memories of Vietnam when we’re in the U.S. It’s not only to show other people, but it’s for us to bring that Vietnamese picture along with us.”

CONNECT WITH KARA BOWEN
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Ithaca alum finds his niche in entertainment criticism

Fred Topel ’99 has developed a lengthy career in entertainment journalism since graduating from Ithaca College. He has worked for Rotten Tomatoes, Slashfilm, We Live Entertainment and several other news outlets. He adopted the moniker Franchise Fred, as he comments on the latest entries in major movie series. Topel, who wrote for *The Ithacan* while he attended the college, moved out to L.A. after graduation and began to freelance for numerous film sites.

Jake Leary, Life and Culture editor, spoke to Topel during an episode of *The Ithacan*’s “Deja View” podcast about working as a freelancer, breaking into the entertainment industry and forming an identity as a journalist.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Jake Leary: Could you tell us about your time at *The Ithacan*?

Fred Topel: It’s how I knew I could do this. ... Probably like a lot of film students, I was Bachelor of Science in cinema production. I started at *The Ithacan* just wanting to write reviews, and at one meeting, I decided to try my hand writing a feature. And I found I really enjoyed writing features, interviewing people and telling their story. So the more I started doing that, I realized I could write about other things than just movies.

JL: When you came out of college initially, where did you go?

FT: That was the first real dot-com boom where

websites were popping up and they needed writers, so I would just start writing to people and ask if I could write about film for them. And eventually, I started using those sites to get on red carpets. And once I had red carpet experience, I started pitching and going to press junkets and getting more in-depth interviews, which I could sell to much bigger and well-paying outlets.

JL: Do you have a moment where you finally felt comfortable, or at least safe?

FT: I was lucky that after a year, I was able to support myself as a journalist. ... It was fortunate because there was also a lot of money being thrown around in the early 2000s. ... By then, I had the resources and connections to keep making a living.

JL: How did you keep yourself afloat when all that money started disappearing?

FT: You try to look for the next thing. ... Once the first round of dot-com hopefuls went bust, there was a new crop that came out, trying to find a different way to make it sustainable to publish online. The first model was trying to do it on the newspaper scale for the internet. And that was spending a lot of money to make very little in return, but it also contributed to putting the newspaper industry out of business. So I guess the first next thing was another wave of outlets. The next new thing was expanding from film into television. ... A lot of film sites that weren’t covering television



Fred Topel ’99, who goes by Franchise Fred, is an Ithaca College alum who writes movie and television reviews. As Franchise Fred, Topel focuses on film sequels and series.

COURTESY OF FRED TOPEL

needed someone to cover television once it became big.

JL: Can you talk a bit more about Franchise Fred?

FT: I’ve always loved sequels and wanted every story to continue. So the more I started talking about it, I realized that’s actually a pretty good

focus. ... When my favorite critic gave me the name Franchise Fred, I loved it. ... He called me Franchise Fred ... as a lark, and I took it.

Read the full Q&A online at theithacan.org/fred-topel.

CONNECT WITH JAKE LEARY
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Pixar brings life to the Land of the Dead



“Coco” is heavily inspired by Mexican mythology and details Miguel’s (Anthony Gonzalez) journey into the Land of the Dead. Miguel’s family has banned music from their lives, but Miguel aspires to be like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz (Benjamin Bratt), and become a musician. The film is accompanied by “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure,” a 20-minute short set in the “Frozen” universe.

PIXAR

BY LIAM CONWAY
STAFF WRITER

Only Pixar could make the Land of the Dead feel so alive. “Coco” is the latest animated film from Pixar, and it continues the legacy Pixar has worked so hard to create. “Coco” tells the story of Miguel (Anthony Gonzalez), his family of shoemakers and the impact music has on his life. Miguel’s journey through the Land of the Dead is full of incredible life and color that combines a realistic aesthetic with the fun and popping colors Pixar is known for. All of this is tied together with an emotionally resonant story, making “Coco” a great film for all ages.

Miguel grows up in a family that has banned music in their lives,

MOVIE REVIEW
“Coco”
Pixar
Our rating:
★★★★★

but he feels compelled to pursue a career in music. Miguel’s drive to play music sends him on a path of self-discovery as he uncovers the truth about his heritage.

The filmmakers successfully introduce many members of Miguel’s extended family without making the film feel overcrowded. The film doesn’t waste time on exposition, and instead lets the characters speak for themselves, primarily through their actions. This simplistic yet brilliant introduction of characters contributes to the break-neck speed of the film.

The overall story of “Coco” illustrates the traditions associated with Mexican culture, and more specifically, the Day of the Dead. The filmmakers clearly don’t try to

educate American audiences who have absolutely no prior knowledge of the holiday, but it does work to expand the way American audiences might view the holiday and shed light on the true nature of the beautiful celebration. “Coco” also does a wonderful job playing with the holiday, showing how the afterlife is supposed to be a fun and happy experience. In the end, “Coco” conveys a beautiful and moving message that may bring tears to the eyes of even the toughest audience members.

“Coco” is another demonstration that Pixar has perfected the family film formula and manages to create a visual tapestry far beyond what might be expected. Despite its brilliance, “Coco” is hindered by the short that plays before the film. Pixar has become

famous for their pre-movie short films, and before the film begins, the audience is greeted with a short following the antics of the characters from Pixar’s “Frozen,” specifically Olaf. This short is terribly out of place, especially for someone who might not be familiar with “Frozen.” On top of the strange placement, the short is not so short, clocking in at around 20 minutes and featuring several songs. It is baffling as to why Pixar included this short as a part of the film. After the excessively long short ends, there is a pre-roll where some animators talk about the making of “Coco.” The poor lighting and unscripted nature feels terribly unprofessional, which made the pre-roll more jarring.

It’s also worth noting the similarities between “Coco” and the 2014

film “The Book of Life,” which features a similar premise and art style. There are scenes in “Coco” that look identical to scenes in “Book of Life.” Fortunately, the similarities end at the visual style. The plots of the films differ greatly. That being said, it is difficult not to notice the visual similarities between the two films.

“Coco” is one of Pixar’s most outstanding films to date and continues to illustrate how Pixar is constantly pushing the boundaries of visual and narrative excellence. It also does an amazing job exposing people to a beautiful culture through a fun and uplifting story that carries real emotional weight.

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Greta Gerwig’s family drama is a soaring success

BY LIZA GILLESPIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Lady Bird” renders every previous coming-of-age film shallow, insincere and outdated.

With a backdrop of Sacramento, California, the film follows Christine “Lady Bird” McPherson (Saoirse Ronan), a passionate and eager teenage girl in her senior year of high school, from 2002 to 2003. Lady Bird resents every part of her upbringing, from her family’s working-class status to her own name, which she changes from “Christine” to “Lady Bird” before the film’s story begins. Over the course of the film, Lady Bird does everything in her power to form an identity as far removed from her family as possible, which puts her at odds with her equally headstrong mother, Marion (Laurie Metcalf).

The film is Greta Gerwig’s directorial debut. The story was influenced by Gerwig’s own adolescence in Sacramento, but she insists that all the events in the film are fictional and that it’s the emotions Lady Bird experiences that are true.

The characters and circumstances in “Lady Bird” are cliché at face value. Lady Bird has a crush on both the wholesome, polite boy next door, Danny (Lucas Hedges), and the jaded, pretentious bad boy, Kyle (Timothée Chalamet). She briefly befriends her school’s resident hot and popular girl, Jenna (Odeya Rush), at the expense of her long-time sweet and dorky best friend, Julie (Beanie Feldstein).

The characters in “Lady Bird” are so nuanced that they make legendary director John Hughes’ characters

seem like caricatures in comparison. For example, Jenna is not a bully like audiences are accustomed to. She’s not mean; she’s simply aloof. Danny is not the school’s star football player, nor her childhood best friend, but a theater nerd whose talent and charisma Lady Bird finds attractive.

“Lady Bird” shines brightest with its multidimensional and refreshingly honest portrayal of a mother-daughter relationship. The conversations between the two can switch from casual to confrontational, and vice-versa, at a moment’s notice, which never feels too flippant or arbitrary. Lady Bird’s feelings toward her mother are contradictory; she treats her mom like she is a villain, but defends her when others do the same. The film’s emphasis on these shades of gray within their dynamic helps it feel more mature than others in its genre.

This mood whiplash helps the relationship between Lady Bird and Marion achieve an authenticity so rarely found within coming-of-age movies. Mother-daughter pairings are hardly allowed the same development as the so-often dominant friendships or romances.

Ronan, who, at 23 years old, is barely past her own childhood, is removed enough to embody the yearning a teenager feels for the freedom, and the angst that results in not being able to reach it. Her performance is inspired and exciting to watch, but it would not be nearly as effective if she were not opposite Metcalf. Metcalf and Ronan steal every scene they are in and only find their equals in each



“Lady Bird” follows Christine “Lady Bird” McPherson (Saoirse Ronan) as she rebels against her mother, Marion (Laurie Metcalf). At the same time, Lady Bird is trying to reconcile her feelings for Danny O’Neill (Lucas Hedges).

A24

other. Their scenes play like a thrilling boxing match that can only end in a stalemate.

“Lady Bird” excels with its vivid characters, but its setting lacks the same rigor. Sacramento is such a crucial part of Lady Bird’s identity, and yet Gerwig does not take time to explore Lady Bird’s environment. The few-and-far-between views of major

Sacramento locations are beautiful but do not offer the audience context and ultimately leave them without a distinctive feel for the city.

At its heart, “Lady Bird” is a film about reflection. It is Gerwig’s love letter to Sacramento and her own adolescence. It is Lady Bird’s discovery that only in reflection can she truly understand the meaning of home.

With this sincere portrayal of the often-oversimplified American adolescence, Gerwig and Ronan invite audiences to reflect alongside them, and leave viewers feeling nostalgia, gratitude and the urge to apologize to their moms.

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Morrissey’s musical melodrama is magical

BY KARA BOWEN
STAFF WRITER

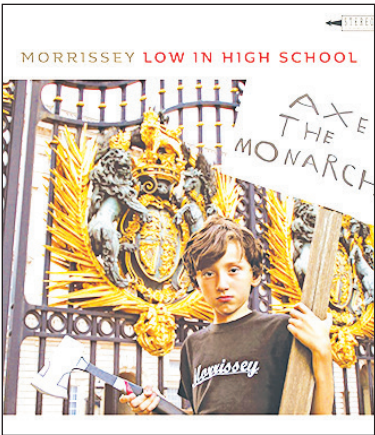
Morrissey is back at it again. His newest album “Low in High School” provides a mix of political criticism and sensitive self-pity that his fans know and love. Throughout his career as The Smiths’ frontman and his own solo success, Morrissey has combined witty confessional poetry with aggressive commentary. “Low in High School” sticks with the themes he’s famous for while experimenting with different musical genres to keep the album current. Beautiful instrumentals and vocals make up for its occasionally overdramatic lyricism.

The drum roll and loud brass in “My Love, I’d Do Anything for You” kick off the album. Morrissey’s voice is fantastic as usual, a smooth, crooning baritone that is able to reach an impressive range of pitches. The first verse warns the listener to “Teach your kids to recognize

and to despise all the propaganda/Filtered down by the dead echelon’s mainstream media.” Throughout the album, the lyrics continue to be verbose, as if Morrissey opened a dictionary and chose a word at random to throw into each song. The lyrical complexity is unnecessary, but the delivery is dynamic through changes in pitch and timing.

The best moments come from two singles. “Jacky’s Only Happy When She’s Up on the Stage” is the story of an actress who’s seen better days. The chorus is catchy with a dark underlying bassline. The song goes on for a minute too long, and the constant repetition of the title gets tiring. Children’s voices join in on the final verse of “Everybody’s Heading for the Exit” and the song builds to a shouting climax before fading out to sinister laughter. “Spent the Day in Bed” is the crowning glory of the album, a misanthropic delight about avoiding current events. Its lyrics are tongue-in-cheek instead of exhaustingly serious.

Overall, “Low in High School” — like the rest of Morrissey and The Smiths’



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work — is a cohesive collection of musically strong tracks with an unfortunate lack of self-aware lyrics. The instrumentals and vocals are beautiful and well-arranged, even if the lyrics are so overly dramatic that they’re difficult to take seriously. It’s an album that elicits heavy sighs and repeat listens.

Whether you hate to love him or love to hate him, this album reinforces Morrissey’s polarizing reputation. “Low in High School” succeeds in making an impact on the listener — and whether listeners agree or disagree with the messages they can’t help but tune in.

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Mature rapper rocks

BY AIDAN LENTZ
STAFF WRITER

Hallelujah, we have a new installment in the most exciting burgeoning rap sub-genre: “dad rap.” Critically acclaimed rapper Talib Kweli is back with his eighth full-length album, “Radio Silence.” Kweli, who’s been active since the late 1990s, has never broken into the mainstream. But he has worked with some of hip-hop’s biggest legends throughout his career, including Common, Kanye West, Rakim, Mad Lib and Mos Def. With this new project, he may finally break through.

This album has an impressive list of features. Anderson .Paak provides an electrifying hook for “Traveling Light,” Waka Flocka Flame drops a fiery verse on the club-oriented “Chips” and Jay Electronica delivers a politically charged verse on “All of Us.” All of these artists fit perfectly into the

album and help the project feel more contemporary.

Kweli’s older, more measured perspective and jazz-oriented beats are part of a larger shift in hip-hop. Many famous rappers like Jay Z are becoming middle-aged — along with their fan bases — and their music has started to reflect that, leading to the term dad rap.

Kweli shows with this heartfelt and relevant album that his older perspective still has plenty to offer the rap world in 2017. In a genre dominated by men under 30, maturity is exactly what rap needs.

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COURTESY OF JAVOTTI MEDIA

QUICKIES



UNLIKE PLUTO

“I NEED A WIN”
Unlikey Pluto
Unlike Pluto makes a spacey, creepy song out of trite melodramatic material. The lyrics would appeal to an angsty teen, but the way they’re presented is stellar — the song has an alien, out-of-this-world quality.



ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION

“PIÑATA”
Vice, BIA, Kap G and Justin Quiles
Atlantic Recording Corporation
After a disinterested voice whispers “Piñata,” the song goes on to annoy and intrigue in the span of three minutes. The guest contributions are frustrating.



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“BLOODSTREAM”
blackbear and FRND
Beartrap LLC
Most of “Anxiety” is spent remixing and repeating the title over and over and over again. There are moments when the distortion is so deep and heavy that blackbear sounds like a whiny teenaged ogre.

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TEAMS SHINE IN POSTSEASON

Three teams put on a show

Volleyball

BY CAITIE IHRIG
SPORTS EDITOR

The Ithaca College volleyball team ended its most successful run in the NCAA Division III Volleyball tournament after losing in the semi-final 3-1 to the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps College Athenas on Nov. 17.

In the semi-final, the Athenas took the first set 25-23 after scoring the first two points of the set. The score went back and forth for the first 10 points, and the Bombers took the lead twice. After the Athenas scored their 10th point, they had the lead for the rest of the set.

The Blue and Gold were able to come back for set two, winning 25-23. Shelbi Stein, senior opposite hitter for the Athenas, had an attack error, allowing the Bombers to score the first point. The South Hill squad led the whole set. The third and fourth sets were won by the Athenas, scoring 25-21 and 25-18, respectively. In the third set, the Bombers took the lead three times, but the Athenas came back when they scored six points in a row. Four of those six points came from Bomber errors.

In the fourth set, the Blue and Gold took an early lead again, but allowed the Athenas to make a comeback in the middle of the set. The Athenas took control when they scored five consecutive points to make it 24-17. The South Hill squad was only able to score one more point before the

Athenas scored the final point to secure their spot in the NCAA Division III Volleyball Championship game, and Gold earned their bid to the NCAA tournament after defeating Skidmore College 3-0 in the semi-final and losing to Clarkson University 3-2 in the championship.

After winning its first game of the season 3-0 against Augustana College on Sept. 1, the South Hill squad lost four consecutive games. It then turned the season around to win six consecutive games. Junior outside hitter Hailey Adler said that each of the 17 members of it had a crucial role in that winning streak.

After Vassar College snapped the winning streak, the Blue and Gold only lost four more games in a span of 22 games to finish the season with a 25-9 record.

In the final national volleyball American Volleyball Coaches Association coaches rankings, the Bombers were ranked eighth. Adler said that it is proud to be nationally ranked, but as it looks toward next season, it will have to fill new roles because it is losing five seniors.

"Being a nationally ranked team is awesome, but there is always still more to work towards," she said.

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Senior Joelle Goldstein prepares to hit the ball over the net Nov. 4.

ELIAS OLSEN/THE ITHACAN

Football

BY MATT HORNICK
SENIOR WRITER

The Ithaca College football team finished its 2017 season with an 8-3 record and a 27-17 win over Salisbury University in the Scotty Whitelaw Bowl. It also won a share of the Liberty League Conference Championship in its first year as a member of the conference. Eight victories is the most it has had since the 2013 team went 9-3. The Blue and Gold also had a brand-new coaching staff, with Dan Swansstrom at the helm.

The Bombers won the Scotty Whitelaw Bowl after a 20-point comeback in the fourth quarter to top the Salisbury University Seagulls 27-17. The Blue and Gold scored first with less than seven minutes left in the first quarter on a 1-yard run from sophomore running back Isaiah D'Haiti. The Seagulls then scored 17 unanswered points in the first, second and third quarters.

Starting with less than five minutes left in the fourth quarter, the South Hill squad scored three touchdowns. Freshman Wahid Nabi threw a 67-yard pass, connecting with senior wide receiver Jared Bauer for a 27-yard touchdown to put the score at 17-14. Brown then scored the next two touchdowns, including a 57-yard run, with 31 seconds left in the game.

"It felt great to get those seniors a win in their last game," Nabi said. "That win coming in a postseason setting like that is even more special. A win like this sets the bar for us going forward."

The Bombers lost their first two games to start the season but were able to turn the season around and win their next three games after Nabi replaced senior

Senior wide receiver Jared Bauer runs with the ball Nov. 4 against Union College.
SAM FULLER/THE ITHACAN

Adam Fron as its starting quarterback. On Sept. 30 Nabi, making his second start, led the Bombers to a 24-21 win over Hobart College in which he completed 29 of 45 passes for 343 yards and one touchdown.

After a loss to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the Bombers won their final four regular-season games, including a 48-20 win over SUNY Cortland, which was their first time winning the Cortaca Jug since 2009. In that game, Nabi set a school record with six touchdowns passes, five of which came in the first half. Senior running back Tristan Brown rushed for 58 yards and scored one touchdown against the Red Dragons, making him fourth in college history in career rushing yards. Sophomore wide receiver Will Gladney finished the season with 72 catches for 1,014 yards and seven touchdowns, making him the third receiver in Bomber football history to have a 1,000-yard receiving season.

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Cross-Country

BY TYLER EVANS
STAFF WRITER

The women's cross-country team finished one of its best seasons to date after placing ninth in the NCAA Division III Cross-Country Championship. Last season, it placed 11th.

Its top five performers from nationals last season returned this year, which gave it experience competing at a high caliber. The returners are sophomore Annie Morrison, junior Emilie Mertz and seniors Taryn Cordani, Sierra Grazia and Denise Ibarra.

Cordani and Ibarra were named All-American for their performances at nationals. Cordani is the third Bomber to be named an All-American three times and had a time of 21:05.50, which was good for 14th place at nationals. Ibarra was named an All-American for the first time in her collegiate career after finishing 34th with a time of 21:32.40 at nationals.

Grazia placed 134th for the Bombers with a time of 22:30.50, and Mertz was close behind with a time of 22:32.70 for 140th place. Junior Amanda St. Clair placed 192nd in 22:53.80, and graduate student Kristin Lynn finished in 232nd place with a time of 23:14.40. Senior Christina Rucinski placed 270th in 24:19.90.

"It was definitely a bumpy road," Cordani said. "We did not let anything crush our spirit and distract from our goal. We overcame a lot together, and we are even stronger because of it. My teammates are the toughest girls

I know. I am so honored to have led a pack of such gutsy, inspiring and determined runners this past cross-country season."

In the preseason, the Blue and Gold started off ranked as the best team in the Liberty League conference, which they joined this season. Besides Morrison, Grazia and Ibarra were out early in the season due to injuries, and the Bombers got healthy just in time for the Liberty League Conference championship. The Blue and Gold took first place, capturing three of the top four spots in the women's 6K. Cordani won the race with a time of 21:26.1.


CONNECT WITH TYLER EVANS
TEVANS@ITHACA.EDU | TYLEREVANS_24Senior Sierra Grazia runs at the Alumni Run on Sept. 2.
RAY VOLKIN/THE ITHACAN

THE BOMBER ROUNDUP

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


Football

RESULTS



27–17

Nov. 18



Salisbury

Next game: End of season

STANDINGS

School	Conference	Overall
RPI	4–1	8–3
Ithaca	4–1	8–3
Hobart	3–2	7–3
Union	3–2	7–3
St. Lawrence	1–4	2–8
Rochester	0–5	2–7

Swimming and Diving

Men’s RESULTS



183–117

Nov. 18



Ithaca

Next meet: 6 p.m. Dec. 1 for the Ithaca Bomber Invitational at the Athletics and Events Center

Women’s RESULTS



206–94

Nov. 18



Ithaca

Wrestling

NYS Collegiate Championships – Team Results

School	Place	Score
Cornell University	1st	183.5
United States Military Academy Preparatory School	2nd	121
Ithaca College	3rd	119
Binghamton University	4th	110.5
Finger Lakes Wrestling Club	5th	108.5


Next meet: 9 a.m. Dec. 2 at the Spartan Invitational in York, Pennsylvania

NYS Collegiate Championships – Individual Results

Name	Place	Bracket
Jake O’Brien	1st	285-pound
Sammy Schneider	2nd	149-pound
Nick Velez	2nd	165-pound
Ben Brisman	3rd	149-pound
Jake Ashcraft	3rd	184-pound


Volleyball

RESULTS




3–1

Nov. 16




Emory



3–1

Nov. 17



Ithaca


Next game: End of season

STANDINGS

School	Conference	Overall
Ithaca	6–1	25–9
Clarkson	6–1	22–8
Vassar	5–2	22–8
Skidmore	4–3	18–11
St. Lawrence	4–3	18–11
RIT	2–5	14–18
Union	1–6	12–21
Bard	0–7	6–26


Men’s Basketball

RESULTS




70–66

Nov. 15




Ithaca




100–72

Nov. 17




SUNY Canton



86–84

Nov. 28



SUNY Cortland

STANDINGS

School	Conference	Overall
Skidmore	0–0	4–0
RPI	0–0	3–1
Hobart	0–0	2–1
Ithaca	0–0	2–1
Union	0–0	2–1
Clarkson	0–0	2–2
RIT	0–0	2–2
St. Lawrence	0–0	1–2
Bard	0–0	0–3
Vassar	0–0	0–3

Next game: 8 p.m. Dec. 1 against Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York



Sophomore forward Cassidy O’Malley goes up for the shot against junior forward Dmonique Wirsing of the Red Hawks. The Bombers won the game 66–56 Nov. 18.

CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

Cross-Country


Women’s NCAA Championship

Name	Place	Time
Taryn Cordani	14th	21:05.50
Denise Ibarra	34th	21:32.40
Sierra Grazia	134th	22:30.50
Emilie Mertz	140th	22:32.70
Amanda St. Clair	192nd	22:53.80

Next meet: End of season


Women’s Basketball

RESULTS




83–81

Nov. 17




Fairleigh Dickinson




66–56

Nov. 18




Montclair State




84–74

Nov. 24




Pomona-Pitzer




74–68

Nov. 25




Ithaca



78–58

Nov. 28



SUNY Cortland

STANDINGS

School	Conference	Overall
RIT	0–0	3–0
Ithaca	0–0	4–1
Vassar	0–0	4–1
William Smith	0–0	3–1
Clarkson	0–0	4–2
St. Lawrence	0–0	2–1
RPI	0–0	3–2
Union	0–0	1–1
Skidmore	0–0	1–2
Bard	0–0	0–4

Next game: 6 p.m. Dec. 1 against Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York

Sophomore dives into a brand new sport

BY DANI PLUCHINSKY
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Benjamin Pesco has been a pole-vaulter in track and field since seventh grade. Even though he participated in track his freshman year at Ithaca College, he switched to the men's diving team at the beginning of this year.

Pesco was recruited to pole vault for the college's men's track and field team but was only able to participate for the first part of his freshman year. He suffered a hamstring injury during high school that lingered into his college career.

Pesco suffered a grade-I hamstring strain, which stretched the muscle fibers in his leg. Kentaro Hawana, his former athletic trainer, said Pesco's injury is common, but also hard to treat.

"Pesco pulled his hamstring two to three times during the indoor season," Hawana said. "A muscle strain is a very tricky injury because it is easier to get reinjured once you have it."

He went to a sports medicine doctor on campus, who told him he had two choices — he could either keep competing or walk like a normal man when he's in his 40s. Pesco chose the latter and stopped competing in track and field.

However, this setback did not stop him from playing sports altogether. Pesco took a diving class called Water Safety Instructor with the men's diving coach, Chris Griffin.

While taking the class, Griffin asked Pesco if he would like to be on the diving team. Pesco said yes to Griffin's offer to walk onto the team because he wanted to try something that would be less aggravating for his hamstring.

Pesco said being a walk-on is much different from being a recruit.

"For diving, it was a much more intense process of actually having to show improvement," Pesco said. "I

am picking up the skills since I am coming in without a known set of skills and I had to actually show that I was committed to the process."

Freshman diver Brian Coburn said Pesco is someone he looks up to because he admires his commitment to improvement.

"Every day, even though he is clearly new to the sport, he is probably the hardest-working on the team, and he has shown more improvement than any of us," Coburn said. "When he finishes a workout, instead of being done, he asks our coach, 'Is there more you want me to do?' His work ethic is definitely something I look up to."

Throughout his career, Pesco had to learn certain skills to become a successful pole-vaulter. He said he had to learn where his body is in relation to the pole, bar and the air around him.

Pesco said that already having the background of being in the air helped him but that the transition was difficult because he can no longer use the skills he has acquired over his years of pole-vaulting when he's diving.

In pole-vaulting, when an athlete jumps over the bar, their feet are above the rest of their body. The athlete has to arch their back to keep up with the height of their feet and get over the bar clearly. Pesco said that if he arched his back for diving like he would for pole-vaulting, it would throw off his whole dive.

Judges will critique a diver if their body is not straight when they enter the pool at the end of their dive. This has proved a challenge for Pesco, who said that learning a new kind of muscle memory has been difficult.

"I have to try to take something that I have spent six years learning muscle memory of and in the last four weeks say, 'No, I can't do this,'" Pesco said. "It is difficult to learn because some things feel natural when



In seventh grade, sophomore Benjamin Pesco began pole-vaulting, but switched to diving last season after a hamstring injury from high school lingered into college. Pesco was advised to switch sports to prevent damage. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ELIAS OLSEN

I try them, but others require a lot of thought process. I need to make sure that I am not doing the old habits again because the old habits do not lead to good dives — they lead to good vaults."

Griffin said he is impressed with the progress Pesco has made so far this season.

"He is absolutely doing a very nice job with everything because he spent a large amount of his time working on pole-vaulting and learning the

mechanics," Griffin said. "It is really about relearning muscle skills and everything else. Initially, it was a major issue, but slowly we have been trying to make that transition, and he has been showing improvement."

Pesco has already made an impact on the team. In the Nov. 3 meet against Cortland, Pesco earned sixth place in the men's 1-meter dive.

During the next meet, he earned fifth in the men's 1-meter dive to help propel the team to a victory against Le

Moynes College. While Pesco said he is happy with the switch to diving, he said he still misses competing in track and field. "I would be lying if I said that I did not miss it," Pesco said. "I definitely miss pole-vaulting, my old coach and my old teammates, but I don't feel like I am in the wrong sport right now."

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Men's basketball defeats Cortland by two points

BY MAX O'NEILL
STAFF WRITER

The Ithaca College men's basketball team defeated the SUNY Cortland Red Dragons 86–84 to give head coach Jim Mullins his 300th win. With the win, the Bombers improve to 2–1 on the season after avenging its loss to the Red Dragons on Nov. 15. With the loss, the Red Dragons fall to 2–1 on the season.



Junior guard Matt Flood prepares to throw the ball. He had 12 points in the game. JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

The Blue and Gold was led by sophomore guard Riley Thompson, who scored 14 points. The South Hill squad had luck shooting 3-pointers all night, shooting 50 percent total and 60 percent in the second half from beyond the arc. Junior forward Miles Herman had his first career double-double, scoring 13 points and 11 rebounds.

"I didn't even know I had a double-double, but that's exciting," Herman said. "And like I said, it's just playing hard and trying to get a win for the team."

The Blue and Gold got out to their biggest lead of the game, 63–50, with 12:07 remaining before the Red Dragons battled back, making it a 65–63 with 7:34 remaining. The game was very back-and-forth from there, with neither team exerting their dominance and going on a big run.

Cortland's senior guard James Morales dropped 29 points in this game to go with his 28-point performance on Nov. 15, when the Red Dragons defeated the Bombers 70–66.

With 28 seconds left in the game, senior guard Marc Chasin went to the free-throw line and made one of two shots to put the Bombers ahead 84–82. Cortland subsequently dribbled down the floor and hit a layup shot to tie the game. The Blue and Gold inbounded the ball, and junior guard Justin Cooper of the Red Dragons immediately fouled sophomore guard Sebastian Alderete, sending Alderete to the line to win the game. At the line, Alderete made both free throws to go up 86–84.

Thompson was on fire from beyond the arc in the second half, playing a big role in the win. Thompson went four-for-five from 3-point range and finished with 14 points.

In the last battle between these two rivals, the



Senior guard Joey Flanagan shoots the ball during the Blue and Gold's game against SUNY Cortland. The Bombers defeated the Red Dragons 86–84 Nov. 28 in Ben Light Gymnasium. JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

Blue and Gold had a lead, but blew it late and were unable to recover. While the same thing happened this game, they were able to recover.

Head coach Jim Mullins said the game plan changed from the previous game to help guarantee a win. On Nov. 15, the Blue and Gold forced 10 turnovers, whereas on Nov. 28, they only forced eight turnovers.

"Well, the odd thing is, I think we played better a few weeks ago, particularly on the defensive end of the floor," he said.

Mullins is now eight wins from passing his predecessor Tom Baker, who compiled 307 wins over a 19-year period from 1979 to 1997. Mullins coached on Baker's staff from 1992–93 to 1996–97, when he took over as the head coach.

Mullins said he didn't even realize he was sitting at 299 with a chance for 300 until he got a text from a former player.

Mullins said the possibility of being the winningest coach in history is not on his mind moving forward.

"No, on my mind is trying to win the Liberty League, which is a very tough league," Mullins said. "No, I don't care about that."

The Blue and Gold look to go 3–1 when they take on Vassar College at 8 p.m. Dec. 1 in Poughkeepsie, New York.

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THE BEST FROM THIS
WEEK IN SPORTS

11.17

BOMBERS MEN'S BASKETBALL
AGAINST SUNY CANTON

100-72

KEY PLAYERS:
RILEY THOMPSON: 29 POINTS, 1 STEAL, 3 ASSISTS
MARC CHASIN: 22 POINTS, 3 STEALS, 3 ASSISTS



Sophomore Nate Bartalo swims the butterfly during the Bombers' race against SUNY Geneseo. The men's team lost to SUNY Geneseo 183-117 Nov. 18 at the Athletics and Events Center. CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN

GAME
TO WATCH

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving
for the Ithaca Bomber Invitational

6 p.m. | Dec. 1-3 | Athletics and Events Center

The Bombers will be hosting the Ithaca Bomber Invitational for the sixth season in a row. The men's swimming and diving team is going into the invitational with a 5-2 record, while the women's team is 6-2 on the season.



Junior guard Meghan Pickell dribbles down the court as senior guard Kerry McHugh of the Red Dragons chases her. The Bombers defeated SUNY Cortland 78-58 Nov. 28 at Ben Light Gymnasium. The Bombers are now 4-1 on the season. MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN

THE BIG PICTURE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017



From left, junior forward Miles Herman tries to take the ball from freshman forward Joseph Werner of SUNY Canton in the Blue and Gold's 100-72 win on Nov. 17 in Ben Light Gymnasium.
CAITIE IHRIG/THE ITHACAN