

THE ITHACAN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018 • VOLUME 86, ISSUE 12



VAPE NATION

Juuls were created to help smokers quit cigarettes, but their accessibility and flavors create new nicotine addicts.

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PREVENTING RAPE

Statistical rises in sexual assault on campus call for preventative action from the administration.

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SWITCHING SPORTS

Former gymnasts have found new homes by participating in the Ithaca College varsity diving and track and field teams.

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Students protest violence at southern border



The School of Americas Watch 2018 Border Encuentro hosted an "Overnight Vigil in Solidarity with the Refugee Caravan" on the Arizona side of the border Nov. 17. The vigil also included a die-in, which protested the deaths and disappearances of those who attempted to cross the southern border. The encuentro was held from Nov. 15 to 18 in Arizona and Mexico.

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUE

BY RYAN KING, MAGGIE MCADEN AND GRACE ELLETSON

STAFF WRITER, ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The southern border of the United States has been holding the spotlight in American mainstream media over the past few months, primarily due to the contentious immigration

policies employed by President Donald Trump's administration that are being widely critiqued.

A group of Ithaca College students recently took a trip to the U.S.-Mexico border to challenge these policies they deem as violent and oppressive. They were also there to bring light to broader causes, like neoliberal economic policies that cause mass migration, and local activism

that addresses how their migrants' hometowns can be restored.

The trip, which took place from Nov. 15 to 18, led seven students to Nogales, Arizona, and Sonora, Mexico, where they participated in the School of the Americas Watch 2018 Border Encuentro. SOA Watch is an advocacy group that formed in 1990 to protest the U.S. Army School

of the Americas — a school in Georgia that trains military and law enforcement officers in Western Hemisphere countries.

Alumni of the school allegedly murdered six Jesuit priests in El Salvador in November 1989 — an incident that sparked the formation of SOA

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Circle Apartments see six burglaries in month

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER
STAFF WRITER

A total of six burglaries have taken place at Ithaca College over the course of November, all of which occurred at the Circle Apartments.

The two most recent burglaries occurred Nov. 27 in apartments 110 and 170, according to the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management. Tom Dunn, associate director and deputy chief in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, said that in apartment 110 coins and cash were stolen. In apartment 170, he said there were not any stolen items reported but that there was damage to a bedroom door.

Another burglary occurred Nov. 23 in apartment 341. Two other burglaries were reported in apartments 10 and 12 sometime between the night of Nov. 9 and the morning of Nov. 10 over Cortaca weekend.

In apartments 10 and 12, televisions and similar electronics were stolen. One person was caught and

taken into custody during the burglary in apartment 341. The suspect, a student at the college, was charged with burglary in the second degree, Dunn said.

He said there were no signs of forced entry in any of the burglaries.

Dunn said the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management is looking into connections between the person taken into custody in apartment 341 and the burglaries in apartments 10, 12, 110 and 170. However, Dunn said there are no other leads to the open investigations into apartments 10, 12, 110 and 170.

"Each of these circumstances is unique, in particular, because one was the Cortaca weekend where we have extra people on campus that aren't necessarily tightly affiliated with the community," Dunn said. "With these three, it happened during a holiday break period, being Thanksgiving, when the college is less occupied with

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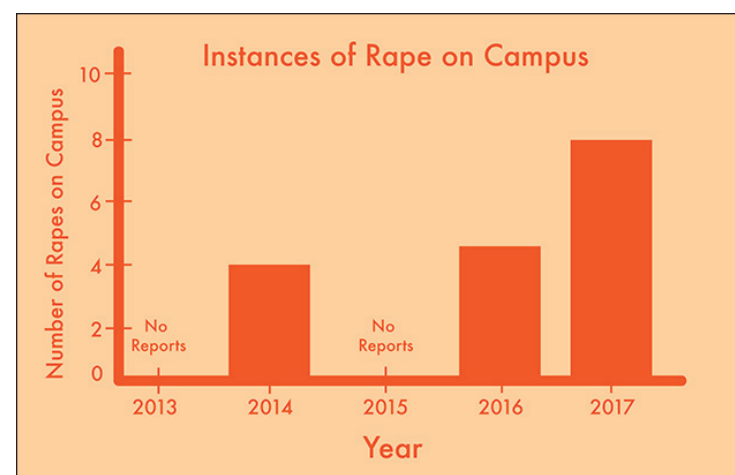
Increased reports of rape crimes attributed to change in culture

BY LIZ HENNING
STAFF WRITER

Like many colleges and universities around the country, Ithaca College's number of reported rapes has risen the past few years. But instead of calling for change, experts and administrators are praising the numbers as a sign that more crimes are being reported, not that the acts are increasing.

The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report at Ithaca College showed that eight rapes were reported in 2017. In 2016, there were five rapes reported, and in 2014, there were four. From 2015 to 2017, Cornell University recorded 2 rapes each year, according to the Cornell University Police Statistical Crime Record. From 2014 to 2017, the city reported two, 14, 10 and 10 rapes in each respective year, according to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

The National Center for Education confirms that the number of



Eight rapes were reported in 2017 at Ithaca College, whereas five rapes were reported 2016 and four rapes were reported in 2014.

DESIGN BY MAYA RODGERS

forcible sexual assaults has risen nationally as well, even though the total number of campus crime reports has decreased nationally. However, many experts and college officials have said that the increased reports do not reflect an increase in the number

of sexual assault crimes being committed but an improvement in the systems and culture that allows people to increasingly report sex crimes. However, some are concerned that

See RAPE REPORTING, Page 6

NATION & WORLD

North Carolina woman wins lottery after being given incorrect ticket

A North Carolina woman who was given the wrong lottery game ticket is celebrating that mistake. The North Carolina Education Lottery said in a news release that Zerineia Carmichael of Goldsboro wanted to buy the Carolina Panthers lottery game ticket Sunday, but the store clerk gave her a "777" ticket instead.

Carmichael said she normally would have asked the clerk to give her what she asked for, but she decided instead to keep it. When she began scratching off the card in her car, she thought she had only won \$7.

New York driver kills and injures after losing control of vehicle

A 70-year-old driver trying to parallel park on a New York City street Nov. 26 lost control of his minivan and struck several pedestrians standing next to a fruit stand, killing one person and injuring six others, police said.

"The car just suddenly appeared and banged into the wall backward. I was just so shocked," said witness Jin Lin, 32, who saw several pedestrians trapped between the vehicle and the wall.

It happened shortly before 7 p.m. Nov. 26 in Manhattan's Chinatown. Police said four people were hospitalized. Two were in critical condition and the other two were in serious condition.

Denver works to propose site for supervised drug injections

Despite federal opposition, Denver is trying again to become what could be the first U.S. city to open a supervised drug injection site, a

strategy that some liberal cities have tried repeatedly to launch to reduce overdose deaths fueled by a nationwide opioid epidemic.

The Denver City Council voted 12 to 1 Nov. 26 to approve a measure that would allow one site to open for at least two years under a pilot program. But there are still several hurdles to clear.

The program must win approval from the state legislature, which is now under Democratic control after this month's election. Earlier this year, the Republican-controlled Senate killed similar legislation.

Prominent Chinese photographer taken away by security agents

Lu Guang's photos exposed the everyday realities of people on the margins of Chinese society: coal miners, drug addicts and HIV patients.

The photographer was taken away by state security agents three weeks ago for unknown reasons, Lu's wife, Xu Xiaoli, told The Associated Press Nov. 27.

Xu said Lu was traveling in Xinjiang, China, on Nov. 3 when she lost contact with him. He had connected with photographers in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang, one week before and was scheduled to meet a friend in the Sichuan province Nov. 5, but he never showed up.

Parts of Ukraine under martial law after Russia seizes Ukraine ships

The Ukrainian government warned Nov. 27 that a simmering war in eastern Ukraine could boil over after Russia seized three Ukrainian ships and Kiev, the capital of Ukraine,



Tunisians protest relations with Saudi Arabia

Tunisians demonstrated with saws Nov. 27 in Tunis, Tunisia, in protest of the prince of Saudi Arabia. The protests condemned a meeting between the prince and the Tunisian president following the killing of Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

HASSENE DRIDI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

responded by declaring martial law in parts of the country. Russia paraded the captured seamen on television, a move that Ukraine called criminal.

Russia and Ukraine have blamed each other for the confrontation Nov. 25 in the Kerch Strait, which links the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.

The clash has raised the specter of renewing a full-blown conflict in eastern Ukraine and saw Russia strongly criticized at the United Nations by the United States and its allies.

Officials question euthanization of Belgian woman with autism

Belgian officials are investigating whether doctors improperly euthanized a woman with autism, the first criminal investigation in a euthanasia case since the practice was legalized in 2002 in the European nation.

Three doctors from East Flanders are being investigated on suspicion of having "poisoned" Tine Nys in 2010. The 38-year-old had been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, a mild form of autism, two months before she was euthanized.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

MULTIMEDIA

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Former gymnasts continue to shine

Pole vaulters and divers use their gymnastics experience to shape their careers in different sports.

How does SmileBack work?

SmileBack is a dating app that offers students another way to connect through social media. It is centered on sending anonymous smiles.

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Speaker details experience of Ethiopian Jewry

BY MARY RAND
STAFF WRITER

Simha Tamano, Morris J. Escoll Israel Fellow for Cornell University Hillel, spoke about the history of her native community of Ethiopian Jews at an event hosted by Hillel at Ithaca College on Nov. 27.

The talk was the second of Hillel at Ithaca College's Global Faces of Judaism series, organized to spread the stories of international Jewish individuals, said Austin Reid, Springboard Innovation Fellow for Hillel at the college. Approximately 12 people attended the event.

Tamano told the story of the Aliyah — the migration to Israel — that was started by the Ethiopian Jewish community in the 1980s that continues this day.

She also spoke about the transition the community is currently undergoing in Israeli society.

The Ethiopian Aliyah came in waves, Tamano said. Ethiopian Jews received legitimate recognition by Israel in the 1970s, and motivated by Ethiopian political strife in the 1980s, thousands of Ethiopian Jews left their homes behind and traveled to Israel through neighboring Sudan, Tamano said.

Before entering Israel, however, the immigrants were forced to linger in camps as Israel processed them.

The struggle of the walk to Israel is a lingering memory in the community's history, Tamano said.

"To this day, you can hear people talking about it," she said.

Then, after further strife in the 1990s upset Ethiopia, Israel made an effort to airlift a mass number of Jews remaining in Ethiopia to Israel directly. With good

intentions and respect for the tight-knit village communities of Ethiopia, Israel organized neighborhoods populated with only Ethiopians, Tamano said.

This decision stunted the integration of the new population into Israeli society, Tamano said.

Separated, the Israeli government and society began to raise questions about the legitimacy of the Ethiopians' Jewish identity.

"Are they Jewish at all?" Tamano said. "Or are they Jewish enough? We don't know them. We didn't have any connection with them."

Tamano said that before undertaking the compulsory military service required by Israel, Ethiopians were formerly singled out and given special pre-orientation on integration before joining the wider military. She said she thinks this pre-orientation did more harm than good.

"The army is like a melting pot of all Israeli society," Tamano said. "Saying to the Ethiopian young people, 'Okay, hold on, you should have a special program before you join the others.' It says something to them."

In a past role interning with the Israeli House of Representatives, Tamano spoke about current efforts by Israel to bring Ethiopians into the wider Israeli community by providing scholarships, mortgage aid and army recruitment efforts.

Many Ethiopians are wary of schooling, Tamano said. The scholarships are designed to show Ethiopians that education is achievable.

"A lot of young Ethiopian Jews don't see themselves going to university," she said. "It seems so far away."



From left, Simha Tamano, Morris J. Escoll Israel Fellow for Cornell University Hillel, and junior Samantha Butlien attended a Hillel-sponsored event Nov. 27, where Tamano spoke about her experience as an Ethiopian-Israeli.

ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

With a new generation of Ethiopians now born in Israel, Tamano said, first-generation parents struggle to support the modern problems their children are facing in the society.

Many parents are illiterate and have not attended school, leaving them ill-equipped to understand the experiences of their children who serve in the military or attend school or universities, Tamano said.

Reid organized the speaker series and invited Tamano to speak. Reid said he appreciated that the event gave perspectives about where

Jewish communities can originate from worldwide.

"Sometimes I feel like, that here in the United States, America's Jewish community comes from, predominantly, Eastern Europe," Reid said. "So, I think it's really great when people see that Jews aren't just based in Europe or from Europe."

Sophomore Luis Valderrama attended the event to explore a different conception of Judaism. Valderrama is currently in the process of converting to Judaism.

"I want to learn more about Jewish experiences that aren't as

represented in the U.S.," Valderrama said. "I think it's important to talk about other communities and other experiences."

The event included a sampling of injera, an Ethiopian dish of spongy flatbread served with a variety of spices and vegetables. Tamano said she was happy to see attendees enjoying the food. Reid said the next talk in the series is to be held in February and will be about the Jewish community in China.

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Community gives feedback on search for vice president

BY SAM HAUT
STAFF WRITER

Leading up to the selection process for Ithaca College's new vice president of the Office of Human and Organizational Development, Innovation and Planning, the search committee hosted two listening sessions to get community feedback.

Hosting the events were the co-chairs of the selection committee, Diane Gayeski, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, and Marc Israel, assistant provost of finance and administrative operations. Previously, the position was held by Brian Dickens from February 2016 to July 2018 and was formerly called the vice president of the Office of Human Resources.

The position of vice president of the Office of Human and Organizational Development, Innovation and Planning will replace the previous title as the job has new responsibilities. Gayeski said one of those jobs would be to oversee the college's strategic plan. The strategic plan is a five-year plan that President Shirley M. Collado is implementing for the college, with the outline of the plan being established in Spring 2019.

Gayeski said the reason for the change in title is that the field of human resources is changing and that it now involves planning and development in addition to its previous responsibilities. Israel said the search committee does not know whether the search for the vice president will be open to the public or not, nor do they know when they will know if it will be open or not.

At the first listening session, which was hosted Nov. 27, three staff members attended. Israel pointed out that one of the big goals of the meeting was to crowdsource questions from the community that the search committee can ask potential candidates in

February, when they would be conducting interviews, Israel said. Israel said the search committee wants to know what the community wants to ask the incoming vice president.

Luca Maurer, director of the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services, said the new vice president should be able to address faculty members who are violating certain diversity goals of the college, such as respecting the pronoun and/or name preferences of people on campus.

"Sometimes it will come to my attention that a faculty person will refuse to call a student by the name that they use and the response to that is usually, 'Oh, that faculty person needs more education,'" Maurer said. "That I think is partially true, and sometimes, that faculty will say right to me or to other people, 'Yeah, I'm not going to do that. I refuse to do that.' I can educate someone about all that stuff, and if they look me in the eye and say 'I'm a tenured faculty, and I do as I please, and HR doesn't tell me what I do with my classroom,' then, to me, that is also an accountability piece."

Gayeski said she wants the questions they ask the candidate concerning diversity to be more than a yes or no question on whether or not they support diversity. Instead, Gayeski said she hopes to address more specifically how candidates will promote the college's diversity goals.

"We're doing a number of faculty searches in Park, and one of my search chairs said that his committee feels like the current statement that is the template that's used on all faculty searches about our valuing diversity is not appropriate and seems like it's tokenism," Gayeski said. "I'm trying to dig deeper to see what in particular is causing that reaction."

At the second listening session hosted Nov. 28 around nine staff and faculty members attended to ask questions. A question that arose



Diane Gayeski, dean of the Park School, and Marc Israel, assistant provost of finance and administrative operations, are co-chairs of the search committee for a new vice president.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN AND COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE

regarded the meaning of the new title.

Beth Reynolds, controller for the Office of Business and Finance, said she was unclear on what many of the words in the title will mean.

"How do you explain what this person is supposed to do," Reynolds said. "That title is long. The prior vice president of HR was just the vice president of HR. Are they going to realign HR so that they have an [assistant vice president], someone else that does the day to day?"

In response to Reynolds' question, Israel said they are still figuring out what exactly the title means as they are still early on in the process.

"At this point, we don't really know, I don't think," Israel said. "It hasn't been discussed with us. I think it's going to be up to this

individual to set up what they think needs setting up. ... It's bigger; it's more strategic than that; it's not just functional. It was more of a functional position whereas this is more of a strategic position."

During the meeting, the committee presented a leadership profile put together by the executive search firm Witt/Kieffer, which is helping the college pursue the search.

The profile listed several responsibilities the new position will have, like promoting effective employee services and overseeing comprehensive employee initiatives and programs.

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From BORDER, Page 1

Watch. SOA Watch says many of the school's graduates have become some of the worst violators of human rights in Latin America.

In recent months, the Trump administration has come under fire for its family separation policy, which split up families seeking asylum at the southern border. Trump was also critiqued for stoking fear among Americans about the "migrant caravan," a large group of people who were traveling to the U.S.-Mexico border to seek asylum.

The Border Encuentro — the Spanish word for "meeting" — involved a series of rallies, protests, vigils, workshops and other demonstrations of activism on both sides of the U.S. and Mexico border with the aim to protest border imperialism. This collection of protests and workshops also focused on what local communities are doing to replace borders, neoliberalism and border militarization, said Patricia Rodriguez, associate professor in the Department of Politics and one of the organizers for the trip. Beth Harris, retired associate professor in the Department of Politics, was also involved with the planning of the trip.

This is the third year that the mobilization has occurred at the border itself. Rodriguez said this was in an attempt to highlight the relationship between U.S. foreign policy in Latin America and the waves of displaced migrants that come to the border.

The first day of the Encuentro featured a rally and vigil at Eloy Detention Center and a protest in front of Milkor USA, a gun manufacturer. The next day featured a vigil in solidarity with the refugee caravan. The last day involved a ceremony near the border wall to honor people who have died in border-related incidents. A litany of names of the dead was read aloud, and some people participated in a symbolic die-in, Rodriguez said. Afterward, there was a parade involving symbolic art.

For many of the students, the trip was not only an educational experience; it was deeply personal. Rodriguez said all of the students who went on the trip were connected to a history of immigration in some form.

When senior Joe Cruz attended the vigil at the U.S.-Mexico border intended to honor those

who had died in border-related incidents, he remembered their names were being read out loud. Suddenly, Cruz heard his own name called out: Someone who shared his name had died at the border.

"It was so personal," he said. "I just shared a connection to these people that had lost their lives. Being there when they couldn't was one of the most impactful sensory experiences that I felt."

Cruz is a U.S. citizen from Texas, and his parents are Mexican immigrants. He said that he feels connected across borders and that this was his first experience in a border town.

"I didn't really know what it was like to be in a border town until this experience," he said. "I only would go through the checkpoints in a car, but during this [trip], I was up close and personal."

Junior Diana Castillo, the daughter of immigrants from Latin America, went on the trip and said the vigil at the Eloy Detention Center was one of the most memorable events for her.

"The biggest impact of the moment was when we all marched toward the visiting center," she said. "It was really sad to think about how the only difference between these people is that they don't have proper documentation and how privileged I am and others are to be born in the U.S."

Castillo said the Encuentro highlighted how the U.S. has created the conditions in Latin American countries that lead to mass migration.

"If the U.S. just didn't intervene in countries and cause extreme poverty and corruption of the government, then people wouldn't leave their countries," she said. "The U.S. is very much at fault for what's happening. If you look at Honduras or any South American country, everything's catching up to us."

Sophomore Daniela Rivero arrived in Arizona about a week before most of the rest of the group to work with the SOA Watch media team.

"For me, it's definitely very personal because I see the children being detained and the families being attacked at the border, and those are my people; those are my brothers and sisters," she said. "It cuts very deeply to see how they are treated, and it's also demonstrative of systemic issues and really just pokes holes in our conception of this state as one that protects



A group of seven students traveled to the Arizona-Mexico border Nov. 15–18. Patricia Rodriguez, associate professor in the Department of Politics, organized the third annual trip.

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ

freedoms and rights."

Rivero is a first-generation immigrant from Mexico. She said she believes the freedom to move is a fundamental right of all people.

"People in my family have been able to migrate back and forth under varying legal statuses," she said. "But I think it's the right of anyone who needs or desires to move to be able to do that."

The students, who were responsible for finding their own funding for the trip, were also able to conduct a workshop of their own at the Encuentro. Rivero, who went on the trip, said the workshop focused on border imperialism, the climate crisis and youth mobilization.

"Our workshop as IC students was about youth mobilizing against border imperialism," she said. "So, we got together and first did a brief presentation on what border imperialism is and what its effects are, specifically in relation to the climate crisis, and then we opened it up for sharing."

Rivero said she learned about things that are being done on different campuses across the country for organizing. She said she learned that, as students attending a liberal arts institution, she and her peers are privileged in their ability to be politically active.

Rodriguez also said she gave a talk at the Encuentro with Phil Josselyn, who works for the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador.

Assistant News Editor Laura O'Brien contributed reporting.

Read the complete story online at theithacan.org/borderprotest

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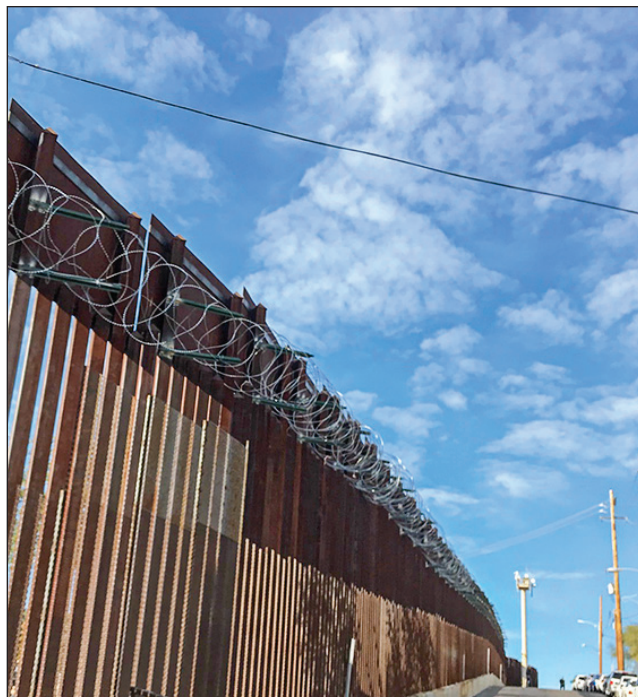
A graffiti design depicts an immigrant being taken by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It reads: "Not one more deportation/ not one more!"

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ



As part of the "Overnight Vigil in Solidarity with the Refugee Caravan" Nov. 17, images were displayed of those who have been killed or disappeared at the U.S.-Mexico border.

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ



Arizona and Mexico are separated by a border fence. The fence is made of metal and lined with curls of barbed wire.

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ



Part of the events included a parade called "Puppetistas!" involving a funeral procession and display of Puppetistas on Nov. 18. The green puppets are depictions of border patrol officers who have clashed with migrants in the past.

COURTESY OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ

Students can no longer store guns on campus

BY PHOEBE HARMS
STAFF WRITER

Due to a recent policy change, students at Ithaca College can no longer store guns in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management.

The change was made to Section 7.1.2.3.5 of the college's Student Conduct Code, which previously stated that weapons, including firearms, were prohibited unless approved by and stored at the Public Safety office.

Now, that's no longer possible. Bill Kerry, director of Public Safety and Emergency Management, said.

Kerry said he suggested the change because of the recent rise in mass shootings taking place across the country and that he felt having any guns on campus would be too much of a risk.

Kerry proposed the change to Rosanna Ferro, vice president of the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life, and Nancy Pringle, vice president of Human Resources, in February, which they then approved and passed a month after.

Only two students were storing guns when the policy changed, and both no longer have their weapons on campus, Kerry said. Ferro agreed with the change in policy.

"I concurred with the rationale provided by Public Safety leadership

to make the proposed update to the policy," Ferro said.

As of April, 320 people have been shot on college and university campuses in the U.S. since the Virginia Tech shooting in 2007 when 32 people were killed.

Out of the 320 shot, 122 were killed and 198 were injured, and 148 of those shot were part of mass shootings. Additionally, 26 individuals have died by suicide using guns on college campuses.

Although the college has never had an incident where a student did not follow the regulations for storing weapons, that the college felt it was necessary to take the extra pre-

caution. Kerry said. "It just became too risky," He said. "With mass attacks on a more regular basis, we j u s t

“With mass attacks on a more regular basis, we just felt it was time to make the change.”

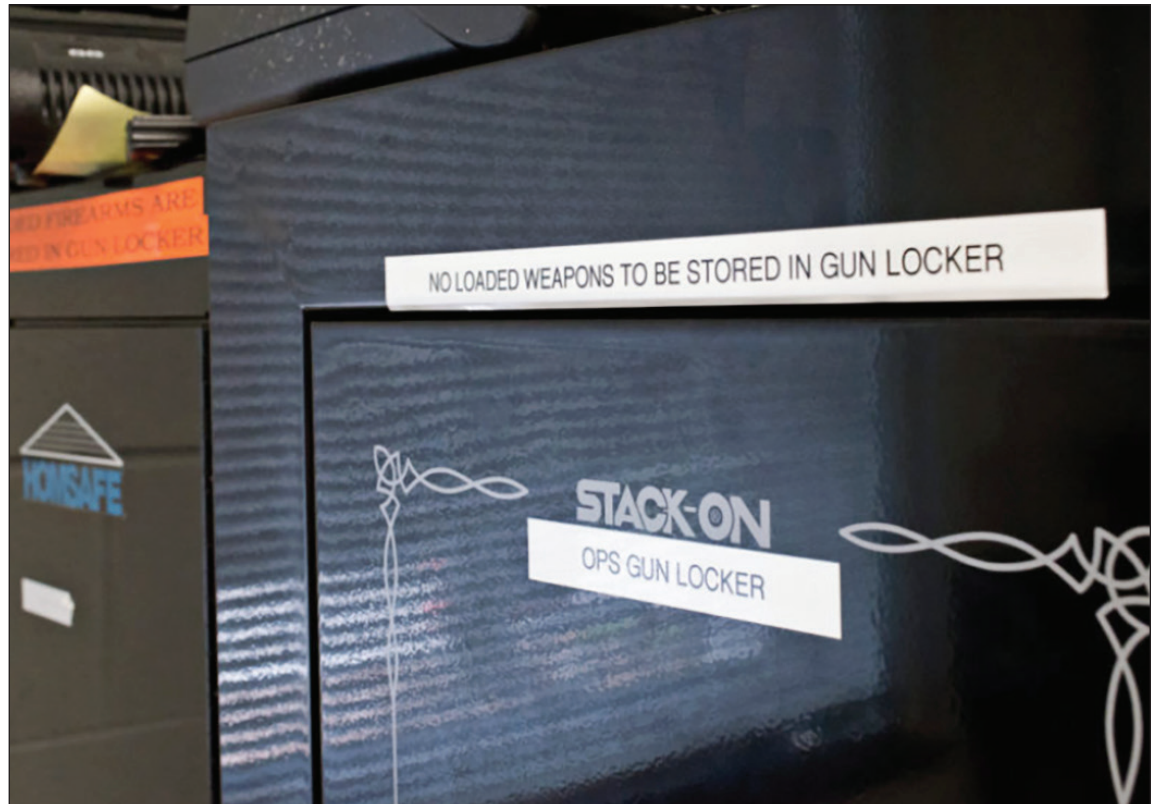
– Bill Kerry
Director of Public Safety

felt that it was time to make the change."

This is not the first time the college has responded to the increase in mass shootings in the U.S.

Earlier in 2018, the college began offering training to help the campus community prepare for active shooter situations.

These resources are available online to students, faculty and staff and include different strategies the community could follow if there was ever an active shooter situation on campus.



Ithaca College students could previously register and store firearms with the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management in the office's gun locker but no longer have this option because of a policy change.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

Kerry said neither of the students storing weapons on campus argued about the policy change and removed their weapons when instructed.

Junior Charlotte Steinberg said she appreciated guns being stored safely on campus but was happy with the decision to ban guns in general.

"It makes me nervous," Steinberg said. "School shootings are so frequent now and can happen anywhere, especially when guns aren't stored safely."

Some students said they were

unaware that they were able to store weapons on campus.

Sophomore Karly Masters said she was surprised to hear that students were ever able to store guns in the Public Safety office and feels the decision to change the policy was a smart and safe one.

"I am disappointed to have not heard about this until now," Masters said. "It makes me feel unsafe to know my peers had access to guns on an otherwise safe campus."

Not all students agree with the

college's decision to change the weapon-storage policy.

Senior Charles Kane said he thinks the decision will not make the campus community safer.

"To me, at worst, this is a missed opportunity to protect students," Kane said. "Forcing those students to store their guns elsewhere around the Ithaca area would remove an opportunity for Public Safety to engage in the overseeing of gun-owning IC students."

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Students to hold symposium on environment and media

BY CAM SESSINGER
STAFF WRITER

The Roy H. Park School of Communications and the Center for Natural Sciences at Ithaca College are collaborating to create a symposium that allows students to explore the intersectionality of media and current environmental crises.

The CNS and Park Symposium: Emerging Media and the Environmental Crisis is a student-led event that will include a speaker series and networking opportunities for students of both academic fields with the intent of facilitating conversation among students while also exploring the ways information pertaining to the environment is shared throughout the media.

The idea for the symposium came from students — junior Lily Dickinson, communication management and design major and environmental studies minor, and senior Mike Moritz, environmental studies major — who worked with other peers to organize the event.

The event is scheduled to take place at 7 p.m. Dec. 13 in the Clarke Lounge.

"As young people who are consumers of pop culture, that really shapes our idea of the events that are occurring," Dickinson said. "People's knowledge on climate change, pollution and carbon emissions is really shaped by the media. The point of the event is to be the creators of that content and make sure that everyone can understand it."

The topics being covered range from conversations of systemic theory to environmental racism to eco-architecture, Dickinson said.

She said she hopes attendees will leave with

a deeper understanding of how the environment relates to their fields of study.

Junior Grace Kneebone, environmental studies major and art history minor, said she will be presenting at the event on sustainable housing.

Kneebone said she thinks the event is an important way for CNS students to be able to communicate their work outside of the department.

"Working with the Park School could create a huge shift in how the entire campus thinks about sustainability," Kneebone said. "I also think it's a really great way to get the two schools to mingle and for people to exchange ideas."

Senior Joe Cruz, communication management design major and Latin American studies minor, said he will be presenting on his experience attending a college-sanctioned event that documented protests at the Arizona-Mexico border through a documentary and a photo essay.

Cruz recently took a trip to the border with the college's Latin American studies department and wants to learn more about the environmental crises caused by neo-imperialism at the Arizona and Sonora-Mexico border.

"This event will shine an important light on the connections and intricacies of our chosen fields of study and the spaces we occupy after graduating," Cruz said. "The world is faced with more and more complex problems that require us to rely on multiple disciplines to design the most equitable and sustainable solutions."

Cruz said he hopes to get feedback and constructive suggestions on how to localize



The Center for Natural Sciences and the Roy H. Park School of Communications will be hosting a student-led symposium on the intersection of climate change and media.

COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

his work to create a further impact on the audience.

Moritz said he hopes the symposium creates a space for students in which the science and social issues can come together in order to communicate the existing intersectionality within the two topics.

"This event is just a way to get that ball rolling even more," Moritz said.

The students said they were inspired to host the event because of the urgency needed to address environmental crises and the need to recognize how these crises affect daily lives.

They also want students to facilitate conversations about the use of media and how it can bring attention to environmental

issues. Moritz said this is prompting the need for the symposium to take place on campus.

"Climate crisis, as it is happening right now, affects every living being, including every human," Moritz said. "I want anyone and everyone to be there. We're really focusing on getting the word out as much as possible and get some numbers to come in."

Students looking to get involved in the CNS and Park Symposium can find additional information regarding the event on Facebook under the event Park/CNS Symposium.

CONNECT WITH CAM SESSINGER
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Public health club holds water bottle drive

BY LIZ HENNING
STAFF WRITER

A group of students at Ithaca College is looking to make a global difference through local efforts.

The Public and Community Health Student Association is collecting and then shipping reusable water bottles across the world to a community in Ecuador.

The group is working with the Walking Group Challenge, a community-based program that encourages participants in Manabi, Ecuador, to adopt healthy living styles by logging food and water intake, increasing exercise and increasing mental activity through games like Scrabble and bingo.

All reusable water bottles collected during the drive will be sent to Ecuador for program participants to use. The Walking Group Challenge was organized by Donette Ritchie '14, who majored in public and community health and currently works with the Peace Corps.

Students who would like to donate reusable water bottles can leave them in buckets located in the upper level of the Campus Center and outside the library.

The bottles can be new or used and will be collected at least until the end of the semester.

Senior Charlotte Hadley, president of the association, said her Front Page Public Health class skyped with Ritchie, who told them about the work she was doing in Ecuador through the Peace Corps.

Ritchie suggested that the club help with her work, so the executive board organized the water bottle drive.

Senior Margaret Heilshorn, treasurer of the association, said Ritchie's suggestion of a water

bottle drive was perfect for the college's campus.

"We thought, 'That would be sweet. There's water bottles all over campus that people just leave there and forget about,'" Heilshorn said. "This is perfect. If people are willing to donate their reusable water bottle, or we've been collecting the ones that we've found, that's great."

Hadley said that the club has not decided on an end date but that the drive will likely run for a few more weeks until the end of Fall 2018.

Senior Danielle Gross, vice president of the association, said the drive was more meaningful to her because the club has a connection with someone from the college community in Ecuador.

"Everybody always wants to reach out and help people, but it's amazing to know that we're actually doing something," Gross said. "There's someone in Ecuador that we're actually in contact with, so that's actually happening and making a difference."

Heilshorn said she thinks community engagement is important for public and community health majors because they want to spend their careers working to help people in their communities.

"I think that we should understand that we are very fortunate," Heilshorn said. "I think it's important ... if we can't always help around here, to help third-world countries and people who are poorer and populations that need the resources that we have. There are people who are fortunate enough to have three reusable water bottles, and I think it's important that we extend our outreach."

Gross said the club had just



Students who would like to donate reusable water bottles can leave them in buckets located in the upper level of the Campus Center and outside the library. The bottles will be collected at least until the end of the semester.

ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

restarted after several years of inactivity. The Public and Community Health Students Association was initially founded by Ritchie, but after she graduated, the club did not have enough underclassman participation to continue.

Hadley restarted the club, which was re-recognized this semester, and many of the current members are in the Front Page Public Health class.

Gross said it can be challenging to plan and implement events because the club is newly reorganized.

"We have all these ideas, but it's hard to finalize them and get people to do it," Gross said.

Heilshorn said she thought the drive would help establish a new purpose for the club.

"We're really in the works of developing who we are right now," Heilshorn said. "We just want to implement wellness and healthy living and preventative efforts for poor health outcomes in various populations."

Hadley said the club is looking into more opportunities to get the campus

community involved and help the Walking Group Challenge.

"We figured we'd start small with this water bottle drive and later in this semester or next semester, doing an Ecuadorian dinner so people can come pay to eat Ecuadorian food," Hadley said. "If all goes well with that, we'd like to do some sort of walk-a-thon to raise some money in support of the walking group that way."

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From BURGLARIES, Page 1

less people able to report someone being suspicious."

Dunn said he wants residents to be especially vigilant during winter break. For the glass doors, he recommended students put in a wood block so a burglar could not open the door.

Since the burglaries have occurred, Public Safety has been sending emails to students who live in Circle Apartments with suggestions to prevent future burglaries. Public Safety has also been knocking on doors to inform students of better safety measures to prevent more burglaries in Circle Apartments, he said. Dunn said he does not want to reveal any of Public Safety's other efforts to ensure that their efforts will not be thwarted.

Residents living in Circle Apartments are concerned with the increase of burglaries in that area.

Senior Sky Mattioli, a Circle Apartments resident, said she does not understand why college students are being targeted for the burglaries.

"What is more upsetting is I'm a senior; I've been here for four years," Mattioli said. "I think this is the most burglaries I've ever heard of the entire time I've been here, in the same area. And, it means that no one is either finding the person, stopping the person or doing anything. It's weird to go to bed, lock your door and be scared that you might wake up and someone's in your apartment."

Mattioli said she thinks the apartments are easy to break into and some of the locks should be fixed. She said she also believes Public Safety is not doing its best to handle the situation.

Read the complete story online at theithacan.org/burglary

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From RAPE REPORTING, Page 1

this logic does not allow the college to be held accountable for rising statistics.

"Although one sexual assault is too many, I don't think the numbers are a poor reflection on our institution's acknowledging it's a problem," said Tom Dunn, assistant director and deputy chief in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management. He said he is not worried about the rising reports of rapes on campus and attributes the rise to increased reporting.

Title IX Coordinator Linda Koenig agreed with Dunn and said the rising report numbers may have been affected by the increased attention the issue of rape and sexual assault has been receiving on campus. In the past year, the Title IX office has expanded to include a deputy Title IX coordinator and has developed new programs for faculty and students. The office has collaborated with the Advocacy Center to run the "Bringing in the Bystander" program, which teaches students bystander intervention strategies, and has created a new curriculum that faculty can use in their classrooms to teach students about affirmative consent.

"The more education and outreach we do to help people understand what their options are, what support they will get if they do report and more education about the system makes people feel more comfortable coming forward, and I think the numbers support that," Koenig said.

Koenig said her office also collaborates with Public Safety, the Advocacy Center and IC One Love to educate students about rape and dating violence. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey published in 2014, only 20 percent of rapes of college-age female students are reported, making it the most underreported crime in the U.S.

Dunn said that until the data in the annual report reflects the national averages, the rising rates could be considered an improvement. Koenig also said she thinks the increased reports are not a problem because it means the college is closing the gap between the number of rapes reported and the number of crimes committed.



Title IX Coordinator Linda Koenig said there is no evidence to determine if the increase in reporting of rape is due to a shifting culture surrounding reporting or more crime.

JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

When reporting numbers become consistent, she said, those numbers will better represent the actual number of crimes that are committed.

However, Koenig said there is no data to determine if the crimes are increasing or if the rising numbers are a result of increased reporting. Senior Anna Gardner, president of Ithaca College Feminists United, said that although the campus climate at the college might contribute to the increase in reports, officials should not discount the problem that still exists.

"There's this idea that because the culture is normalized to report these kinds of things or talk about it that that is the primary reason this is happening," Gardner said. "I think that's very possible, but there's no easy way to say that's why people are reporting. I think making sure that we don't undermine the possibility that things are just continuing to get worse is important."

Gardner said she thinks the officials on campus are still able to respond well to reports of sexual misconduct.

Bonnie Fisher, professor in the School of

Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati, has been the lead investigator on four federally funded projects to study the victimization of women and the prevalence of sexual assault on college campuses.

She said she thinks it is plausible that the increased reports of rape and sexual assaults on college campuses are due to a changing climate surrounding sexual assault.

"I think there are several factors that may explain this, including schools' reducing barrier to reporting, implementing campus climate surveys, activism on and off campus, including #MeToo," Fisher said.

Fisher also said data from the Clery Act — a federal law requiring colleges and universities that receive federal funding to disclose statistics about campus crime and security — only shows the number of reported incidents and not the full scope of crimes committed.

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COLLEGE

Scholars to hold self-care event as part of series on mental health

The BOLD Scholars will be hosting an event, “Restorative Healing: Self-Care for POC,” Nov. 30 as their second Engaging Mental Health in People of Color (EMPOC) event of the year.

The event will be held at 4 p.m. in the Peggy Ryan Williams Center lobby.

At the event, attendees will be able to engage with the idea that self-care is more than bubble baths and face masks for people of color — it is a revolutionary act.

There will be an interactive Q&A session with Rita Bunatal '16, founder of Malaika Apparel. The discussion will focus on what authentic self-care means and how people of color can practice it effectively.

Local tea lounge and bar to host showcase dedicated to survivors

The Sacred Root Kava Lounge & Tea Bar will be hosting an artistic showcase titled “When The Silence Stopped” Dec. 14 dedicated to creating a safe space for survivors of sexual assault.

The evening will feature song, dance, artwork and meditation from community members, student and outside organizations who stand in solidarity of sexual assault survivors.

Senior Sara Gutierrez conceptualized the event the morning after Judge Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed to the United States Supreme Court.

Gutierrez is accompanied by seniors Alisar Awwad, Kylee Roberts, Jacob Stuckelman and Calvin Yohannan in planning the event.

The event involves communicating with the Ithaca community off campus. Between performances of soloists, dancers and poets, organizations from all over Ithaca will be invited to share words of care and unity.

College to hold feedback sessions on transition to new orientation

The Office of New Student and Transition Programs and the August Orientation Committee Chairs will be working together to host four open forums in November and December

to share initial updates, draft ideas and gather information from the campus about the transition to a fall orientation model.

The first session, for faculty only, will occur from 10 to 11 a.m. Nov. 30 in the Taughannock Falls Room in the Campus Center. Expected discussion topics for this session are advising, registration and academic programming.

The second session, designated for students, will occur from noon to 1 p.m. Dec. 4 in Emerson Suite A. The topics that are expected for discussion are programming, schedules and supporting students from different identity and affinity groups.

Additionally, there will be a third session for staff occurring from 3 to 4 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Taughannock Falls Room.

Topics that are anticipated for discussion are programming, scheduling, summer communication and contact initiatives, staffing and logistics.

A final open session will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. Dec. 14 in the Roy H. Park School of Communications auditorium. There are no anticipated discussion topics for this session.

Strategic plan steering committee to host two events in December

The Ithaca College strategic plan steering committee will host two events to move the college to the next stage of the planning process.

The first event, “K-12 Students of Today, Implications for Us Tomorrow,” is a talk that will be given by Luvelle Brown, superintendent of the Ithaca City School District. The talk will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 4 in the Klingenstein Lounge in the Campus Center.

The second event, “Imagining Ithaca Open Session: Update on Progress,” will be hosted by the steering committee and will be a discussion about the process of drafting the vision, mission, values and themes.

It will take place from 12:10 to 1 p.m. Dec. 6 in Textor 102. The next phase of Imagining Ithaca will be announced soon. There will be an opportunity for questions and feedback during the sessions.



Downtown Ithaca celebrates Cider Monday

Local businesses in downtown Ithaca, like clothing store Petrone, offered free complimentary cups of cider Nov. 26 as part of Cider Monday. A variety of businesses and shops also held tastings of local ciders from different cideries in the Finger Lakes region.

ELIAS OLSEN/THE ITHACAN

Provost's colloquium to highlight faculty post-sabbatical research

Ithaca College will host an event as a part of the Provost's Post-Sabbatical Colloquium series Nov. 29. The colloquium will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the second-floor conference room in the Peggy Ryan Williams Center.

Michael 'Bodhi' Rogers, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, will speak about his work in a presentation, “Laser Scanning Trim Castle: How Physics and Historic Preservation Come Together.”

Patrice Pastore, professor in the

Department of Music Performance, will also share her research about improvisation in her presentation, “YES, and...The Power of Improvisation to Create Community through Self-Discovery.” Justine Vosloo, associate professor in the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences, will explain her research about evidence-based practice in her presentation, “Connecting scholarship to evidence based practice: Exploring new horizons and navigating challenges.” The facilitator of the event will be Michael Malpass, dana professor in the Department of Anthropology.

Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO NOVEMBER 10

NOVEMBER 8

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Tallcott Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person coughing, unable to speak and having a hard time moving. Person was transported to the Hammond Health Center. Patrol Officer John Tagliavento responded. Assistance was provided.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Bogart Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported person feeling faint and unable to stand. Officer reported person fell and injured their head. Person transported to hospital by ambulance. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

SCC COLLEGE REGULATIONS

LOCATION: K-Lot
SUMMARY: Parking Services reported person violated parking rules and regulations. Officer judicially referred one person for violation of college regulations.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: S-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported two-car property damage due to a motor vehicle accident. Officer issued one

driver a campus summons for unsafe backing. Patrol Officer Lance Clark responded.

PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200

LOCATION: Emerson Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole camera. Patrol Officer Jenny Valentin responded.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: East Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported person left suicidal notes. Person taken into custody under the mental hygiene law and transported to the hospital. Patrol Officer Corrine Searle responded.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer judicially referred four people for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw responded.

NOVEMBER 9

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Muller Faculty Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported person passed out and not breathing. Officers, Environmental Health and Safety, the Ithaca Fire Department

and ambulance staff performed CPR. Person transported to hospital by ambulance.

FORCIBLE TOUCHING NO DEGREE

LOCATION: James J. Whalen Center for Music
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-hand information that one person had sexual physical contact with another person without consent. Incident reported to Title IX and not Public Safety. Lieutenant Tom Dunn responded.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer judicially referred one person for unlawful possession of marijuana and underage possession of alcohol.

NOVEMBER 10

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person damaged whiteboard. Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw responded.

CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA 5TH DEGREE

LOCATION: Campus Center Quad

SUMMARY: Officer reported people smoking marijuana. Officer judicially referred three persons for criminal possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

CHANGE IN THE CASE STATUS

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw identified the person responsible for damaging whiteboard. Officer judicially referred person for criminal mischief and for responsibility of guests. Second person was restricted from the campus.

SCC DISRUPTIVE/ EXCESSIVE NOISE

LOCATION: Bogart Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported persons yelling. Student Auxiliary Safety Patrol judicially referred and reported four people for noise violation and one for irresponsibility of guests.

BURGLARY UNLAWFUL ENTRY/ NO FORCE 2ND DEGREE

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 12
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person entered residence and stole television. Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw responded.

BURGLARY UNLAWFUL ENTRY/ NO FORCE 2ND DEGREE

LOCATION: Circle Apartments

Building 180

SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person entered residence and stole television, video game console and laptop computer. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded. Investigation pending.

BURGLARY UNLAWFUL ENTRY/ NO FORCE 2ND DEGREE

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 10
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person entered residence and stole television, video game console and accessories. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 190
SUMMARY: Officer reported person in possession of marijuana. Officer judicially referred one person for unlawful possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Jenny Valentin responded.

Full public safety log available online at www.theithacan.org.

KEY

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

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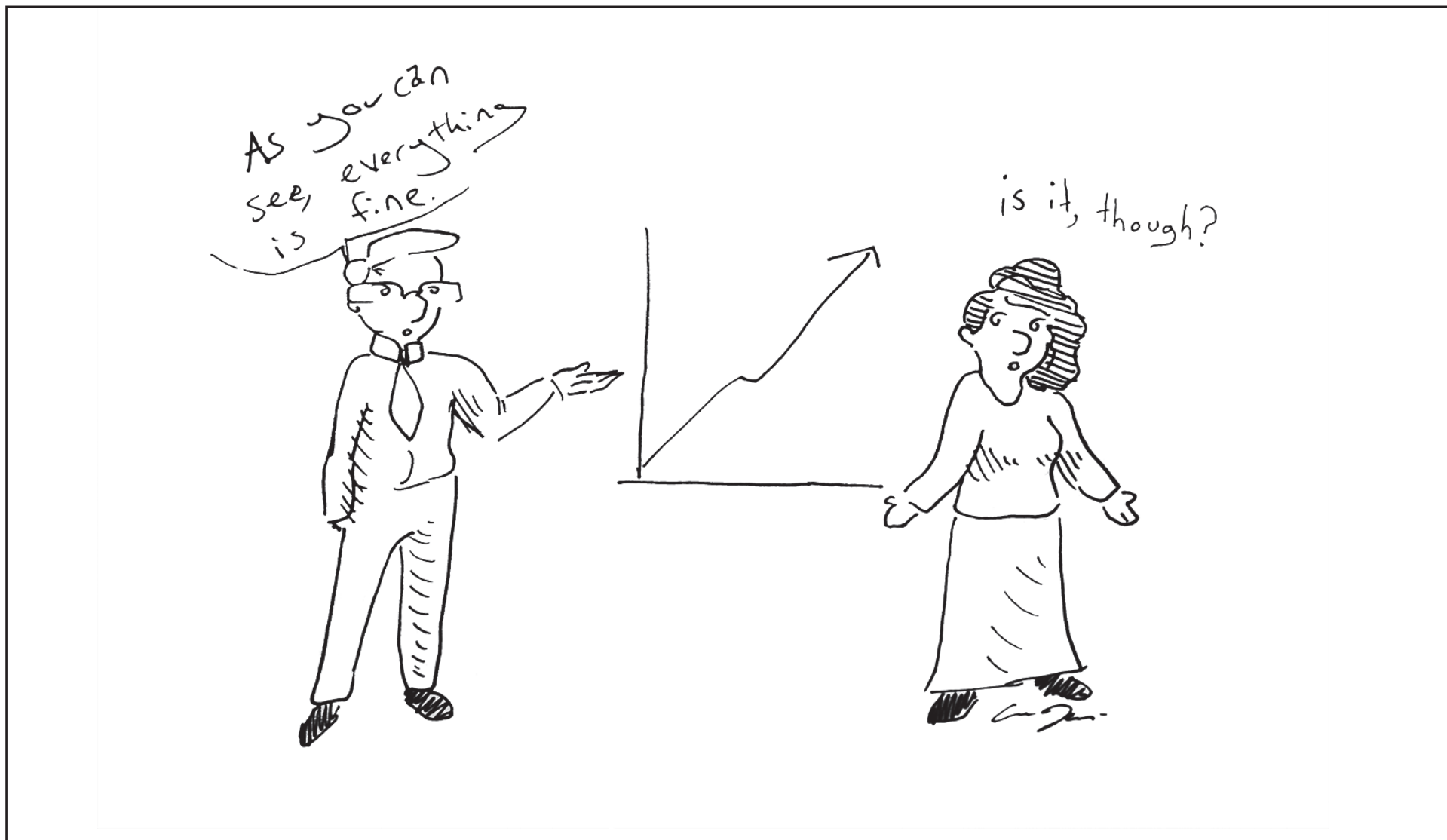
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AVI KENDRICK/THE ITHACAN

EDITORIALS

College needs to address sexual assault on campus

Over the past few years, the number of rapes reported at Ithaca College has steadily risen: The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report stated there were eight reported rapes in 2017, eight in 2016 and six in 2014. However, this rise may not be indicative of an actual increase in rapes but rather a rise in victims reporting, according to both administrators at the college and national experts.

Title IX Coordinator Linda Koenig said the rise in reports is largely due to the increased attention on-campus sexual assault has been receiving. In the past, former Title IX Coordinator Tiffani Ziemann responded similarly to the rises of reported rape in 2016 and 2017.

While it is true the rise in reported rapes can be largely attributed to the change in our culture surrounding rape and sexual assault, to see the same responses given for multiple years is troubling. If the explanation year after year that the rise in rape crimes is positive because it shows an improved reporting culture, an important question should be raised as well: How

would we know if these crimes are actually increasing? By repeating the same explanation that increased numbers are positive, this pressing issue that maybe the crime itself is continuing to increase is always ignored.

This mentality raises a critical question: What is the college doing to combat sexual assault? The college has expanded the Title IX Office, which has collaborated with multiple organizations on campus to spread awareness about sexual assault in the past year. These additions are a positive presence on our campus; however, further additions are needed in light of these rises in sexual assault, according to the data.

Violent, sexual acts against students are happening on our campus, and the college needs to take these crimes seriously. Rather than flipping the narrative around these numbers to be viewed as a positive outcome, the college should move forward by investigating if the crime is genuinely rising. And regardless of whether it is rising or not, the college should still be working toward eradicating sexual assault completely.

Students provide example for immigration activism

From Nov. 15 to 18, seven Ithaca College students traveled to the United States-Mexico border to attend the School of the Americas Watch 2018 Border Encuentro—a gathering dedicated to protesting the United States' suppressive immigration policies and educate people on the broader, more in-depth issues surrounding immigration.

Currently, the rights of immigrants entering the country illegally and immigration, as a whole, is a topical issue in American politics and the media. Among issues such as the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention centers and migrant caravans, the issue of immigration in our country has seen no shortage of media coverage. However, the reporting of these issues and the responses to it largely reflect the bipartisanship that grips the American people and often overlooks the detrimental impact these immigration policies have on migrants themselves.

Not only did the students participate in workshops and presentations that put the focus of their advocacy work on migrants—rightfully so—they dug deep into issues

surrounding immigration, including the policies and circumstances that cause mass migration in the first place. The mainstream media often overlooks the United States' complicity in these policies, or deliberate action, that has been well documented in the past. Neoliberal policies pushed by the U.S. have been ravaging Latin America for decades. What makes these students' work at the border so admirable is that they are bringing to light the truth about mass immigration and what causes it. Not only that, they are also coming up with sustainable solutions, which our government officials seem to be conveniently ignoring and trading for tear-gas rockets to shoot at migrants protesting peacefully at the southern border.

Though it seems we are currently facing an era of turmoil and violence under President Donald Trump's administration when it comes to his immigration policies, these students represent a hopeful future. Now more than ever, we need to be addressing issues of immigration compassionately and with sound logic. Thank goodness these students are leading the way.

Letter to the Editor

Be heard in print or on the Web.



THE ITHACAN

Send a letter to the editor to
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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 mburke@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.

BREAKING IT
DOWN

ELIZABETH BIERLY

US partisanship
harms citizens

In the wake of the 2018 midterm elections, one word has been used frequently to describe the nation: divided. And sure, there's division in our politics. For the first time in eight years, different political parties control the House and the Senate, creating a unique situation where our representatives will have the choice to compromise or to continue to be in conflict.

However, we've watched the sniping between red elephants and blue donkeys become heightened under the current administration, and it's definitely getting old. Both congressmen and constituents struggle to find common ground, disagreeing over everything from the environment to immigration to taxation, but is this really what we want our America to be?

Our headlines, our Congress sessions and our social media feeds are flooded with quick arguments, unfounded claims and inflammatory statements meant to make people choose one side or the other. We have lost the ability to have calm dialogue about changes that need to happen. President Donald Trump is often blamed as the flashpoint for our country's frustrations but, to be perfectly honest, these factions and fractions have been present since the founding of the United States. While our president could probably stand to fact-check or think through some of the things that come out of his mouth, saying that one person has the ability to unhinge an entire country is both juvenile and unhelpful.

To be clear, there are issues that we cannot afford to be neutral on. Words like "gun," "climate," "news" and "immigrant" instantly allow people to decide where individuals fall on the political spectrum. We enter into conversations where we've already made up our minds about what we believe before we've even heard the other side. We've turned human rights and liberties into a political debate and, quite frankly, it's sickening.

When schoolchildren put their hands over their hearts to pledge allegiance to the flag every morning, they are promising to create and uphold the America that adults have fragmented for them. They promise to make our country "indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," but if we — as adults, as voters, as representatives — can't uphold these ideals, how can we expect the next generation to behave any differently?

I don't have any actionable ideas about how to fix these problems that we all haven't heard before. We're college students, and we've been taught to have respectful, calm and compassionate dialogue. Adults have been told to coexist and to listen, to learn, not to speak. Despite growing up hearing the golden rule and about the importance of caring for other human beings, we are quick to categorize others as lazy, sensitive and a host of other uncomplimentary adjectives. Our current political system and American identity is shaped by caustic comments, closed minds and ignorant assumptions. However, changing our nation starts with changing ourselves and our own approach to dialogue. We have all the tools we need to be a successful and functioning government, country and people; now we have to decide just how united we want our states to be.

BREAKING IT DOWN is a column about breaking down national political issues written by Elizabeth Bierly. **BIERLY** is a sophomore journalism major. Connect with her at ebierly@ithaca.edu.

NATIONAL RECAP

FBI overhauls its tip-line system

BY MEREDITH BURKE
OPINION EDITOR

The FBI announced Nov. 27 that it is overhauling its tip-line system. The FBI is making changes after receiving significant criticism for missing tips about the man who killed 17 people in a February 2018 school shooting in Parkland, Florida.

On Nov. 26, the FBI sent a letter to the state commission investigating the Parkland shooting, detailing the changes the agency has made since its error. The tip-line, or the FBI's Public Access Line, is responsible for taking thousands of calls around the clock, which need to be interpreted to determine if the threat they are regarding is genuine.

Prior to the Parkland shooting, the FBI received two tips regarding the shooter, Nikolas Cruz — one last September and one in January. However, the FBI failed to investigate either of the tips thoroughly. Following the Parkland shooting in February, FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich released a statement acknowledging the FBI's oversights that led to the shooting.

At a press conference Feb. 22, Bowdich acknowledged



FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich speaks at a news conference in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 1. Following the Parkland shooting in February, Bowdich acknowledged the FBI made oversights about the shooter.

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

that the FBI failed to follow correct protocol for the tips regarding Cruz. "There was a mistake made, we know that," Bowdich said. "Our job is to make sure that doesn't happen again."

The changes being made to the tip-line include adding more staff and supervisors, dividing calls into two tiers based on importance and enhancing staff training.

The changes being implemented are also intended to improve the professional staff's efficiency and accuracy. In addition to enhanced training to help staff better relay and interpret information from calls, a quality management team will also be reviewing all calls related to threat-to-life, counterterrorism and other issues. This is being done primarily to assess the operators' phone, technical and

decision-making skills, according to the letter.

In the letter, FBI Assistant Director Douglas E. Lindquist wrote that these changes will ensure the FBI tip-line has "the staff and functionality to analyze and disseminate information in a timely manner to the field."

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Student input is crucial to revising the ICC

BY MAGDALENA KWASNICA,
HANNAH MAHANY AND
JULIA MULLER

Ithaca College has formed a program review committee to examine the Integrative Core Curriculum, better known as the ICC, to prepare a report for the campus community and make suggestions for implementing changes. This committee is comprised of faculty representation from all five schools, including three student representatives. We are Julia Muller (School of Music and School of Health Sciences and Human Performance), Hannah Mahany (School of Humanities and Sciences) and Magdalena Kwasnica (School of Business). As student representatives, we attend biweekly meetings with the rest of the committee to review each component of the ICC program and its requirements, as well as express any opinions, concerns and suggestions we have.

We took on the role as student representatives because, as students, the ICC impacts our success at Ithaca College the most. At the end of our college career, an important component determining our permission to graduate is dependent on the completion of the ICC program and all its requirements. As students with varying experiences among the schools, we felt it was vital the students' voices were included in the review of this program.

Aside from reviewing the structure of the program, the committee has also been collecting feedback from various campus groups, specifically from faculty and students. In early November, a survey was sent out to all of Ithaca College's faculty, and we received responses from one-third of the faculty body. The survey provided the committee with good insight and data as to how the faculty of the college feels about the ICC program and what the numbers are in for classes taught,



From left, juniors Julia Muller, Magdalena Kwasnica and Hannah Mahany, write about why the ICC is impactful to students and how students can better change the program for the future.

JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

students advised, etc.

Now the committee is looking to survey the student population to obtain important data and feedback about the ICC program. Your participation in the survey as a student is necessary to have a better understanding of the successes and failures of the ICC and where it could improve. We are looking to have at least 300 responses from the class of 2019, 300 responses from the class of 2020, and 300 responses combined between the classes of 2021 and 2022.

As juniors and seniors, you have the most experience with course scheduling, class selection, and ICC requirements. On the other hand, freshman and sophomores, you can offer insight into the initial challenges you faced when you first learned about the ICC because it still is fresh in your minds. As student representatives of the ICC program review committee, we urge you to take action and share

those experiences in this survey. The survey link can be found on Intercom and will also be sent out to students via email. The survey itself takes five to 10 minutes to complete and closes Dec. 6, 2018.

We value the opinions of Ithaca's student body, and completing this survey is just one of the ways you can make your voice heard. As students, it is important to know that you have power and the ability to make changes to your academic experience. Please take the time to let us know what you're thinking so we can better serve you and make the ICC more compatible for everyone.

MAGDALENA KWASNICA, HANNAH MAHANY AND JULIA MULLER are student representatives on the ICC Program Review Committee. Connect with them at mkwasnica@ithaca.edu, hmahany@ithaca.edu and jmuller2@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Pro-Palestinian activism is not anti-Semitism

BY THE STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE EXECUTIVE BOARD

In 1977, the United Nations General Assembly voted to designate Nov. 29 as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The U.N. decided to commemorate this day as a way to recognize the Palestinian people's ongoing struggle for independence. The Nov. 29 date is significant: on that day in 1947, the General Assembly adopted the "Partition Resolution," which called for the creation of independent Arab and Jewish States, with Jerusalem being placed under a special international government due to its enduring significance for both Muslims and Jews. Ultimately, this plan didn't end up working.

The current Israeli-Palestinian conflict began in the early 20th century. Due to brutal anti-Semitism in Europe, some Jews started fleeing to Palestine with the aim of creating a national homeland. However, this land was already occupied by Arabs. Seeing this as an incursion on their sovereignty, Arabs in Palestine fought back. This led to a series of wars between Israel and surrounding Arab nations. As a result of these wars, Israel eventually gained control of even more Palestinian territories: the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

We are members of Students for Justice in Palestine at Ithaca College (SJP at IC), a campus organization that promotes awareness about the injustices against the Palestinian people. Today, we wish to speak about Israel's rule over millions of

Palestinians, what it means to stand in solidarity with them and how to productively engage this issue in a climate of political polarization.

As members of SJP at IC, we believe standing in solidarity begins with being honest about the problem: The Israeli government has been systemically abusing the human and civil rights of Palestinians for decades.

In May 2018, at least 100 Palestinians were killed in massive demonstrations at the Gaza border — 3,500 other people were wounded. These protests, which started off peaceful but then turned violent after Israeli soldiers fired at Palestinian activists, occurred in response to the relocation of the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Oddly enough, this particular outbreak of violence is what appalled the international community. To Palestinians residing in Gaza, this violence is a part of their daily lives.

It's one thing to stand in solidarity on a conceptual level, but the more complicated work happens through collective action. Some of the ways SJP is working toward the Palestinian cause are by organizing protests, conducting teach-ins, sponsoring informational events such as films, writing op-eds and collaborating with Cornell Students for Justice in Palestine on various projects. These are just a few steps we are taking to stand in solidarity with Palestinians.

We think it's necessary to respond to common misconceptions about Palestinian activism. Pro-Palestinian



The Students for Justice in Palestine executive board writes about the importance of pro-Palestinian activism, both on campus and globally, and its history for the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

SAIRAM REDDY POTLAPADU/THE ITHACAN

groups at a number of institutions of higher education in the United States have used various methods to raise awareness about the issue of Palestine. The most controversial tactic is called boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS). This movement, which has been successful on some campuses, calls for colleges and universities to divest from companies that are directly profiting from the ongoing military occupation of Palestine; SJP at IC does not currently have a stance on BDS.

Some of these strategies, especially BDS, have been roundly condemned as "anti-Semitic." Anti-Semitism is indeed a real threat both on campus

and in America. It is one that needs to be fought along with all other forms of racism. However, equating Palestinian activism to anti-Semitism is highly unfair because it targets those who are fighting for human rights for all people. Furthermore, this accusation distracts from those who truly qualify as anti-Semites: white nationalists who are responsible for the tragedies at Charlottesville and Pittsburgh. We believe that calling out the enormous human rights violations at the hands of the Israeli government shouldn't translate into a bias against Jews.

This week, the flagpole located just outside of Campus Center will

display the Palestinian flag. We're hoping this will get members of the Ithaca College campus community to think about, and learn more about, this conflict. We hope it will start a productive discussion on how to effectively critique Israel's actions against Palestinians that remains devoid of anti-Semitic rhetoric. Most of all, we hope to continue standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people in whatever ways possible.

THE STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE is a group on campus dedicated to raising awareness about oppression in Palestine. Connect with them at sjpalestine@ithaca.edu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Freddie Mercury not monosexual

BY LUCA MAURER

After months of anticipation, the eagerly awaited film "Bohemian Rhapsody" is on screens, along with a review within the pages of *The Ithacan*. Unfortunately, my excitement about the movie has staled because it is problematic in many ways. And although I'm appreciative *The Ithacan* reviewed the film, this element of the review stuck out: "Even though Mercury was a gay man living a rock-star dream"...

Although Mercury himself was not very public about any particular identity words that may have resonated with him to describe his identity during his life, he was clear about being attracted to people of several genders. This passage seems to ignore or invalidate Mercury's lifelong management of his identity very privately. It may also perpetuate and reinforce bisexual and pansexual erasure.

Labeling Mercury as gay or bisexual isn't adequate, accurate or necessary. Erasure and mislabeling of people who have marginalized sexual orientations is commonplace in society. This has far-reaching negative impacts, especially in a film with such a widespread reach and appeal.

It's possible that the exchange in the film to which the reviewer refers may also itself illustrate erasure — as either an intentional or unintentional intent of the screenwriters. I believe this was a missed opportunity for the reviewer to call this out and educate rather than duplicating it in the review without comment or examination.

Regards,

Luca Maurer, Director of the Office of LGBT Education, Outreach and Services

GUEST COMMENTARY

Journalists undeterred by suppression

BY ALLISON FRISCH

Working journalists know all too well the challenges inherent in reporting on powerful government officials. It comes with the territory when you are seeking truth from power. When President Donald Trump this past week lashed out at several journalists, he proved once again he has no reverence for the First Amendment protections afforded a free press under the U.S. Constitution. Breaking our democratic systems, or using them for his personal benefit, appears to be Trump's motive — and he clearly has a target on the U.S. press because, in some camps, it's not doing his bidding.

That most of the journalists attacked most recently are women of color does not come as a surprise. This president, despite his rhetoric, has little regard for underrepresented working people. When journalists Yamiche Alcindor and Abby Phillip dared to ask challenging questions about Trump's gleefully self-described "nationalism" and his appointment of (Robert Mueller/Russia investigation critic) Matthew Whitaker as acting attorney general, he assumed his defensive crouch, the hallmark of which is bullying.

Trump called Phillip's question "stupid," and elaborated, saying, "You ask a lot of stupid questions." He called Alcindor's question about the perils of stirring up nationalist sentiments "racist." How dare these women challenge him.

Bullying 101: Deflect and project your own attitudes onto the other and try to intimidate them so you won't be vulnerable to having your true insecurities exposed.

These are hardworking reporters and photographers, making a living wage, but no more. They work 12- to 14-hour days in the service of the citizens of Pennsylvania. What they



President Donald Trump addresses the press on the South Lawn of the White House on Nov. 9. He threatened to retaliate against reporters who do not treat him with respect.

EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

received at these rallies, in turn, was hateful, harassing jabs from a wealthy, spoiled, low-information presidential candidate and his fan base, the very people our journalists vowed to inform about corrupt officials and abuses to our democratic system.

Sources often believe that they should be in control of the narrative and that journalists should act as a public relations conduit. They also often incorrectly believe that, without their input, there will be no story. But access should never be necessary for a journalist to do their job. Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein had no access to the Nixon White House, yet their reporting changed the course of history. Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey at *The New York Times* and Ronan Farrow at *The New Yorker*

didn't have access to Harvey Weinstein, the powerful movie executive now charged with rape and related offenses largely due to their reporting. In fact, it is alleged that he threatened reporters and sources on that story so they wouldn't continue to pursue it.

When I was a cub reporter and I would lament to my editors that the subject of my inquiry wasn't willing to participate for a story or grant me access, I received the best advice they could have given me. I would offer that advice to the press corps today:

You have the agency. Get the story anyway.

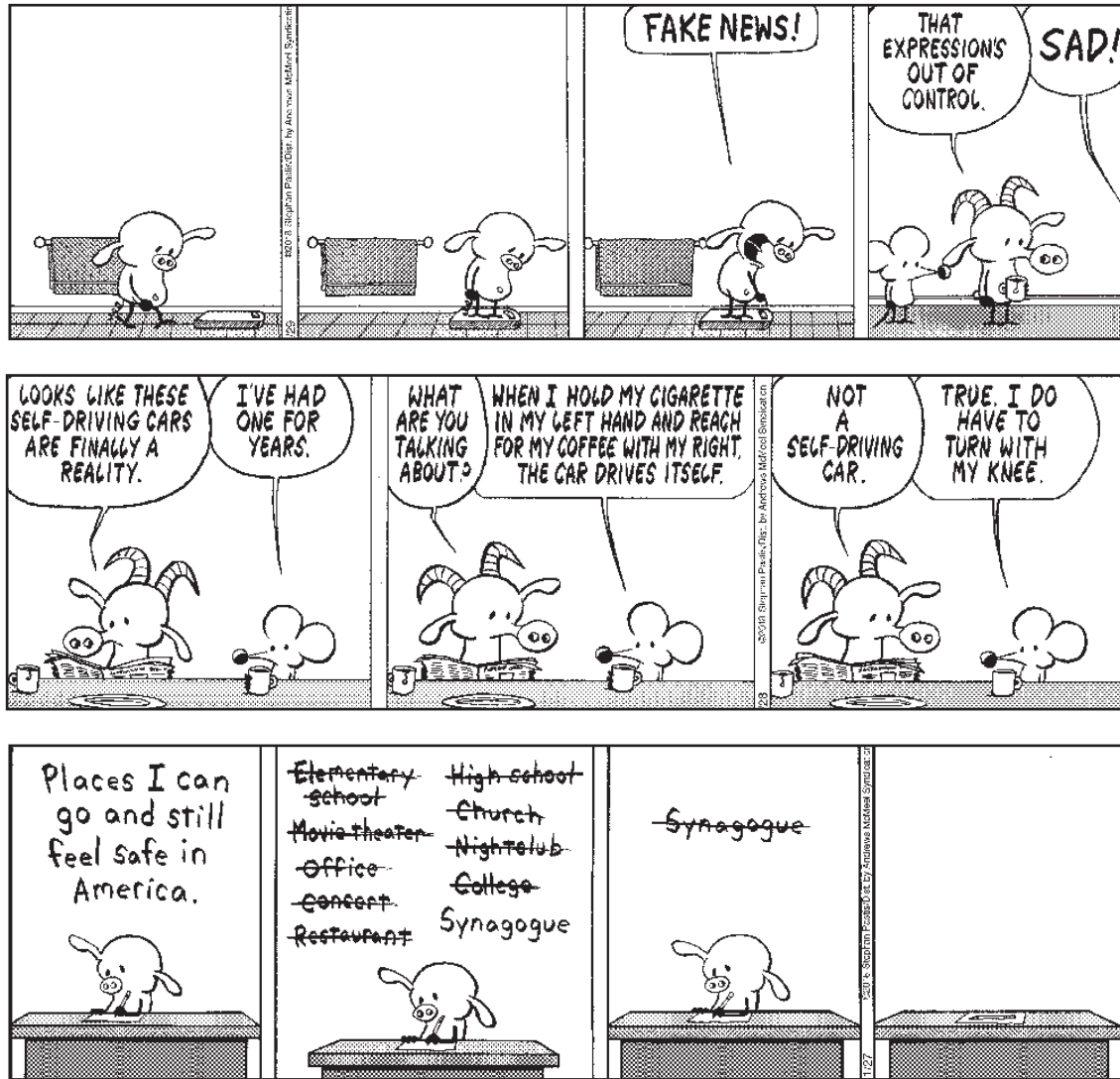
ALLISON FRISCH is an instructor in the Department of Journalism. Connect with her at afrisch@ithaca.edu.

DIVERSIONS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

12

Pearls Before Swine[®] By Stephan Pastis



Yesterday's Pasta By Avi Kendrik



sudoku medium

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

answers to last issue's sudoku very hard

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

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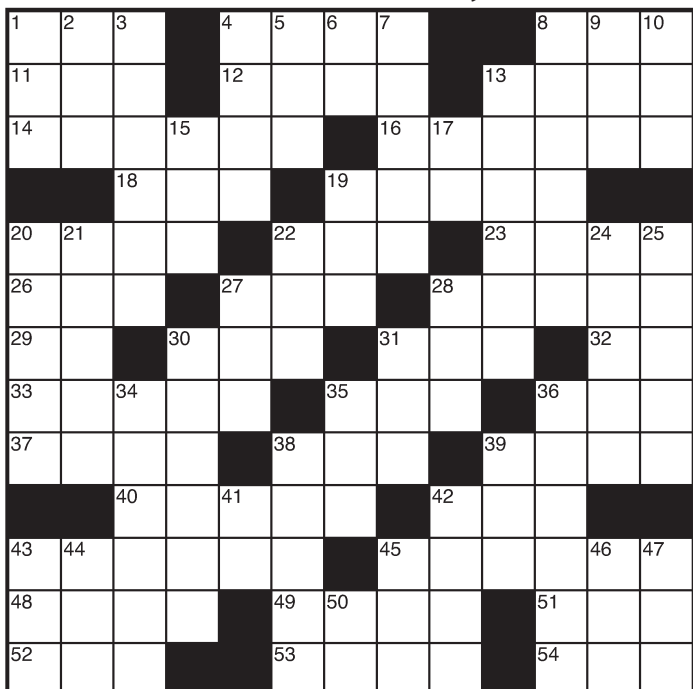
Create and solve your Sudoku puzzles for FREE.

Play Sudoku and win prizes at: PRIZESUDOKU.COM

The Sudoku Source of "The Ithacan".

crossword

By United Media



ACROSS

- Hearty laugh
- Arms the alarm
- Meadow
- Coffee server
- "Watermark" chanteuse
- Mend a toe
- Pack animals
- Get lower
- Spirit
- Chili con -
- Edible root
- Pantry pest
- Plinth
- Chicago trains
- Storage place
- Tangy
- French article
- Curtain hanger
- Mess up
- Ouch!
- Arctic dwelling
- Small pitcher
- Sunshine st.
- Gets a load of
- Cow's "second course"

- In the proper manner
- Entry permits
- Cribbage component
- Snoozes
- Suppose
- "The King and I" actress
- Belief systems
- Help-wanted abbr.
- NFL stat.
- Not do
- Airline to Stockholm

DOWN

- Mr. Brynner
- Web address
- Rascals
- Garment part
- Certain dashes
- Hall-of-Famer - Cobb
- Anwar of Egypt
- Jacket features
- Before
- Miller or Blyth

- More compressed
- Cambridge univ.
- Stammering sound
- Blitzer's channel
- Gainsay
- Thomas Gray opus
- Bail out
- Ring-shaped reef
- Side road
- Opposite of applaud
- Zig's counterpart
- More promising
- puddle
- Pry bars
- Roast beef au -
- Bach opuses
- Timex rival
- Moines
- Pedro's lang.
- Classroom sound
- Diver's milieu
- Was in front
- Friend of Henri
- Give -- break
- Daughter of Hyperion
- Sz. option

last issue's crossword answers

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

CROWN JUUL

Intended to replace cigarettes, Juuls encourage a different addiction

BY JAKE LEARY
STAFF WRITER

Lilflower, an Ithaca College student and musician who prefers to go by their stage name, wrote a song. It details one of the most important relationships in their life. It ends with a plea:

“SEND ME FREE JUUL PODS FOR LIFE, BITCH!!”

Their song — which they describe as a “meme song” with depth — is two things: The first is a gay love song, and the second is an examination of their relationship with Juuling and addiction. Unlike many Juul users, Lilflower uses the e-cigarette for its intended purpose: to fulfill their nicotine addiction without depending on cigarettes.

But Juuls aren’t popular because they’re a “safer” substitute for cigarettes. They’re popular, at the college and beyond, because Juuls are an e-cigarette for the iPhone age — a vector for nicotine with a flashy technological finish. The device is tiny, dark and long: able to fit in a pocket or a balled-up fist. Often, you’ll see someone puff a cloud of scented vapor and never see the source, making it popular among high school and college students who have to skirt the 21-year-old age requirement to procure a Juul.

For some, like senior Mike Hanlon, the futuristic design made Juuls enticing.

“There’s this appeal to them just on the sleek technological appearance to them,” Hanlon said. “So I was like, ‘I want to give that a try.’”

James Monsees and Adam Bowen created Juul in 2015 because they wanted an e-cigarette alternative that would help smokers wean themselves off of cigarettes. The company has discouraged unnecessary Juul use with warnings on its website, age restrictions and public statements about the addictive nature of nicotine.

Juuls lack the toxic slurry in cigarettes, but they still contain nicotine, the addictive component of cigarettes. While a cigarette contains about 10 mg of nicotine, a 3 percent Juul pod contains 23 mg and a 5 percent pod contains 40 mg.

David Ashley, research professor at Georgia State University who spent 27 years at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and spent years studying the effects of tobacco, said because Juuls only activate when sucked, Juulers absorb the entire nicotine content of a pod.

Unlike other cigarette alternatives, Juuls use nicotine salt, a substance that allows a Juul to deliver nicotine to the system more quickly than many of its competitors.

For ex-smokers, the nicotine rush is a benefit, but for young people who’ve never smoked, it’s dangerous. Like any drug, the faster the delivery the more intense the addiction, so nonsmokers who take up Juuls will likely get hooked fast and hard.

Juuls dominate the e-cigarette market. According to CDC statistics, Juul sales increased 641 percent between 2016 and 2017, making up a third to a half of the e-cigarette market. Though created for recovering smokers, many Juul users never touched a cigarette before their first hit.

Ashley said Juul’s success started with its advertisements.

“Just like cigarettes were marketed, [Juul] marketed to young adults,” Ashley said. “And teenagers love whatever a young adult wants. ... And so, all the ads had 21- and 22-year-olds having a great time and having fun with their Juul.”

With a Food and Drug Association ban on flavored e-cigarettes looming, Juul announced on Nov. 13 it would limit its social media presence and monitor third party-produced Juul content — a tough

task given that there are thousands of videos on social media of underage Juulers.

Juul will also restrict the sale of flavor pods, only keeping menthol, mint and tobacco flavors in stock at retail locations. A 2015 American Medical Association study of people ages 12 to 17 found that 81 percent of users surveyed used flavored e-cigarettes because “they come in flavors I like.”

Ashley said Juuls can be helpful for smokers who want to quit but are damaging for non-smokers who start Juuling. A study Ashley co-authored in 2018 found that 50 percent of smokers who take up Juuls end up as dual users, while less than 10 percent switch exclusively to Juuls or quit nicotine completely. That’s the real danger, and irony, of Juuls — they’re a gateway to cigarettes which contain life-threatening ingredients.

Though much is known about the adverse effects of nicotine, less is known about the impact of Juuls and other e-cigarettes. A study published in *Tobacco Control*, a scientific journal dedicated to understanding the effects of tobacco products, analyzed over a dozen studies on e-cigarettes. While it didn’t find any negative consequences to e-cigarette use, the author also cautioned against making broad generalizations because the current pool of research is small.

Everything from the price model to the pod flavors is intended for ex-smokers. A starter kit — a Juul device, charging dock and four 5 percent nicotine strength pods — costs \$50, while pod four-packs cost \$15. The average cost of a pack cigarettes in New York state is \$12.85.

But for smokers looking to switch, a pod is not necessarily a better economic choice. Junior Jackie Gray said that she went from smoking a pack of cigarettes a month to a pod a week, averaging out to a slightly greater cost.

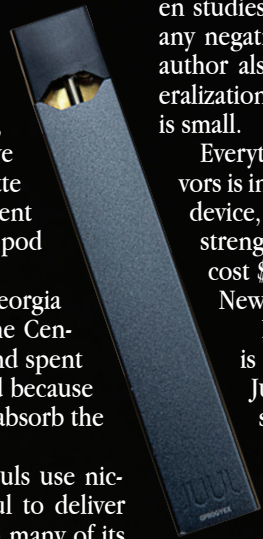
That cost doesn’t factor in the number of people who bum hits of someone else’s Juul. By Lilflower’s count, at least 10 of their friends rely on their Juul and don’t own one themselves. They said it’s worse at parties — even passing acquaintances hound them for a hit.

“Drunk bitches love Juul,” they said.

But Juuling isn’t limited to parties and intoxicated adventures — it’s prevalent during daylight hours, too. Freshman Nile Gossa-Tsegaye doesn’t Juul but has friends who do. Like other students, they’ve seen people Juuling across campus: in libraries, classrooms and hallways.

Lilflower knows they shouldn’t Juul, but quitting isn’t that easy.

“Addiction is addiction,” Lilflower said. “No one wants to admit they’re addicted to anything and just because you’re not addicted to cigarettes doesn’t mean you’re above addiction ... I hate the fact that I’m addicted because I waste so much f---ing money on it. And honestly, it’s really frustrating.”



CULTURED

NASA probe lands on Mars



A NASA probe called InSight landed on Mars on Nov. 26 after a seven-month-long journey to the planet. Because it takes about eight minutes for radio signals to reach Earth from Mars, the probe's landing was completely automatic and autonomous. InSight's mission is to study the interior of Mars from the planet's surface. It will take two to three months for the probe's robotic arm to place and calibrate each instrument, and the mission is expected to last two years.

Chinese boycott Dolce & Gabbana after cultural insensitivity

Luxury fashion brand Dolce & Gabbana learned the importance of its Chinese market after many Chinese boycotted the brand for cultural insensitivity. Offensive videos promoting the brand's runway show in Shanghai and comments in a private Instagram chat caused many Chinese retailers to pull Dolce & Gabbana from their shelves and the brand to cancel the Shanghai show. The brand blamed hackers for the private messages, and co-founders Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana released an apology video, but it is estimated the brand could lose 20 percent of its overall value due to the scandal.



Fox company launches opinion-centered digital service

Fox Nation, a digital streaming service for those who want to hear more opinion from Fox News, launched Tuesday. The service will feature a show called "Un-PC," which will discuss the day's top headlines, and shows hosted by controversial commentator Tomi Lahren. The service will cost about \$6 a month.

Recovered stolen Picasso painting found to be part of a prank

In 2012, thieves stole seven pieces of art from the Kunsthall museum in the Netherlands, including "Tete d'Arlequin," a 1971 painting by Pablo Picasso valued at \$900,000. A Romanian woman believed she had found the work, but authorities examined the painting she turned in and found it was a fake. Later, two Belgian theater directors came forward and said the stunt was a prank part of their latest performance art project. Four Romanians were sentenced for crimes relating to the theft in 2013, but most of the works are thought to have been burned.



Dating app starts conversations with a smile

BY MOLLY BAILOT
STAFF WRITER

SmileBack is a dating app that doesn't consist of right or left swipes. It's a guessing game that involves sending virtual smiles. Freshman Jamie Meyers met her current boyfriend on the app — they matched, realized they were similar and started spending time together.

SmileBack is centered on sending anonymous smiles and became available to Ithaca College students in 2013 but seems to have grown in popularity recently. Approximately 1,000 people in Ithaca, including Ithaca College and Cornell University students, are currently registered on SmileBack, and some have said its unique approach to dating-app culture has created an appeal.

SmileBack has several features that set it apart from other dating apps popular among college students like Tinder and Bumble. Rather than liking or "swiping right" on an endless number of dating profiles, SmileBack shows users just four profiles in each 24-hour cycle. The user can send an anonymous smile to just one of the four people or choose none and wait for the next day when a new set of people are displayed.

When users receive anonymous smiles, they have two guesses to determine who sent them. They can choose from five people, but only one is correct. If they get it right, they can choose to send a smile back or not. If they don't guess correctly, they must wait until the next day to send more smiles and make more guesses.

"You only have four people to choose from, so you look at them more seriously than you would if you could just swipe right on countless people," Meyers said. "It matters a lit-

tle more."

Height, college and one photo are the only required profile elements of SmileBack, but the profile can include more information like the user's major, hometown, where they work, what languages they speak and what they're looking for in a partner, along with various favorites ranging from food to sports teams.

After the smiling and guessing process when two people finally match, they're given a \$10 gift card to a local restaurant or bar as an incentive to go on a date and meet in person. Founder, CEO and Cornell University alum Dan Berenholtz said he wanted to encourage face-to-face interactions.

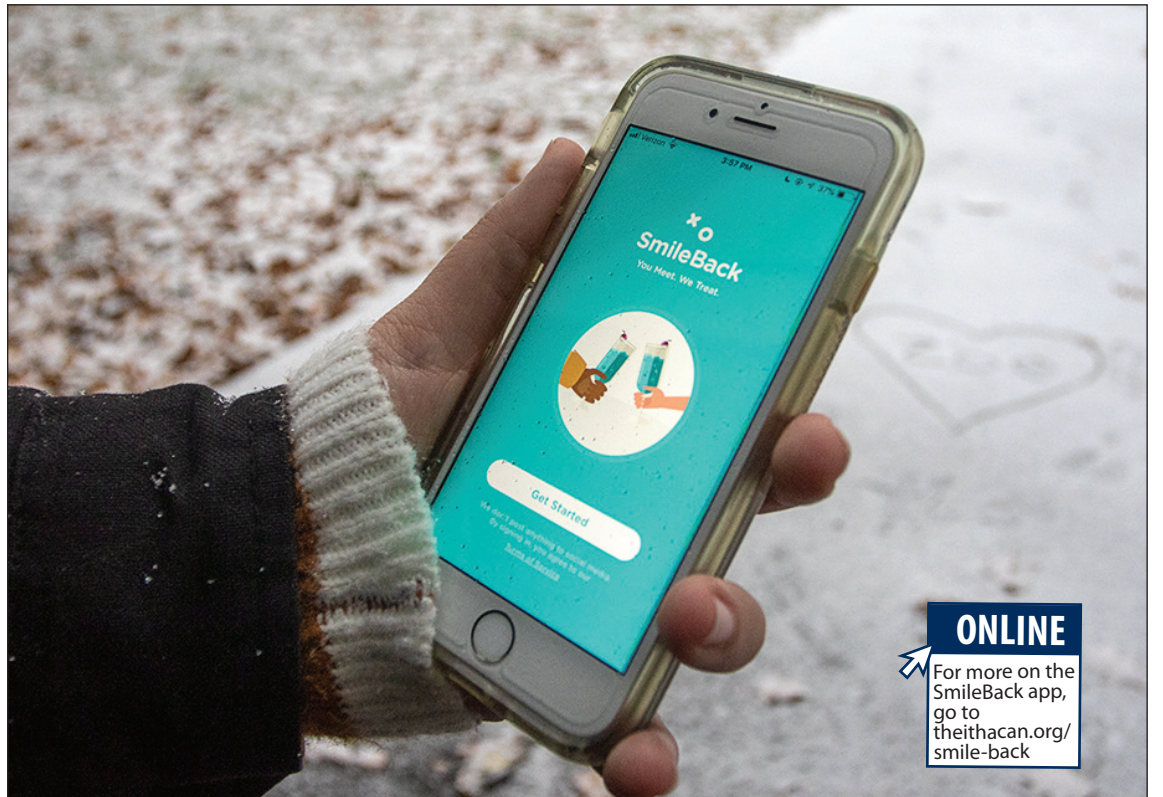
"It's about meeting other people and doing so in person rather than behind a screen," Berenholtz said. "That's why we have the whole aspect of giving a free gift card to every match. We want people to actually meet in real life and make connections."

Matches in the area can receive gift cards to places like Moonies and Buffalo Wild Wings. Freshman Aidan Fennessy decided to give the app a try, encouraged by the promise of a free gift card.

"I love free stuff," said Fennessy. "I was like, 'Wow, they're really setting us up for a date. But my gift card was to Moonies, which I can't go to because I'm 18.'"

The gift card can only be activated when the two people are at the location together. The app uses Geolocation to determine if the two people are at the restaurant and then the barcode can be displayed.

As of now, these gift vouchers are paid for by the app, but Berenholtz said his hope is that local bars and restaurants will cover the



SmileBack is an app that allows users to send virtual "smiles" to each other. When a user correctly guesses who "smiled" at them, the app matches them and gives them a free gift voucher to a local restaurant or bar.

MOLLY BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

cost of the gift cards in the long term. He said that it's a good deal for them because when the students redeem the gift card, they usually end up spending closer to \$35 or \$40 at the establishment. Users can also purchase "tokens," which can be used to view people in the next 24-hour cycle and buy additional guesses.

However, the slow pace of the matching game was described as dull for some users. Freshman Thomas Skroly downloaded SmileBack, the first dating app he's ever used.

"It was alright for a first experience, but it could have been better," Skroly said. "Some people say

they never match with anyone because they always get the guessing wrong, which I completely agree with."

While the difficulty of matching is a turn-off for some, Meyers and her boyfriend benefited from the selectivity.

"We were lucky enough to both guess each other, and I guess that it is difficult, but at the same time, I like that feature because it's selective," she said.

Berenholtz and his co-founders originally started a website called whowentout.com as a way for people to virtually smile at people they saw at college parties.

It eventually evolved into a mobile app that connects everyone on campus rather than just the partygoers.

"The way you get a match on SmileBack is different than all the swipe-right, swipe-left apps," Berenholtz said. "The process is more thoughtful. You can't send a smile to everyone. Every day you can choose only one out of four people. So when you get a match, you know that someone actually meant it."

CONNECT WITH MOLLY BAILOT
MBAILOT@ITHACA.EDU

Filmmaker Norman Lear receives Serling Award

BY DAVID WEST
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Nov. 15, Norman Lear, legendary television writer, producer and activist, was the recipient of the Serling Award, a prestigious honor awarded by Ithaca College. The honor is annually given to an influential figure in the media industry whose work has helped shape the cultural landscape of entertainment. This year, the college chose to recognize Lear's extensive career in television and film, his philanthropy, and his political and social activism.

The Serling Award is an honor the college has been giving out since 2015. Named after Rod Serling, creator of the classic "The Twilight Zone" series, it represents a standard for impact and achievement in the world of media. Serling influenced the landscape of TV throughout the 1950s by criticizing the ills of America, particularly prejudice, war and the power of corporations. Each year, administrators and professors at the college choose an individual to receive this honor.

Lear began his television career after emerging from a field different from entertainment. Prior to TV, Lear flew 52 combat missions over Europe in World War II before leaving the pilot's seat behind to allow his creativity to take flight. During the 1970s, his sitcoms "All in the Family," "Maude," "Good Times," "The Jeffersons," "Sanford and Son" and others, garnered a collective 120 million viewers each week. These are cited as cultural staples that brought modern-day issues into the living rooms of millions of Americans.

Though he was certainly an influential figure in Hollywood who pioneered countless trends of modern entertainment, it was not solely his work in television that led to his receiving

the Serling Award, according to the college's announcement of Lear being named the recipient. He was also an advocate. In 1980, while enjoying an abundance of wealth and success, Lear put his entertainment career on hold and became the co-founder of People for the American Way as a response to the growing power of the radically religious right and the polarizing rhetoric of political televangelists. With the help of co-founder Congresswoman Barbara Jordan and a group of other civic, religious and civil rights leaders, they began a nonprofit organization that continues its opposition to right-wing extremism.

Though the award has been around for several years now, Lear was, in fact, a front-runner since its conception. Diane Gayeski, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, is responsible for planning the award ceremony and helping to select a recipient. She said honoring Lear was a long-term goal that had finally fallen into place.

The evening's ceremony took place at the college's Los Angeles campus at the James B. Pendleton Center. It began with a small dinner hosted by President Shirley M. Collado before the main event which, in addition to honoring Lear, recognized the talent of several screenwriters as part of the Rod Serling Scriptwriting Competition. The short script competition offers nonproduced writers a chance to display their talent and to be recognized in front of industry legends like Lear. Writer and director Eugene Ramos, whose screenplay "When Waterdrops Have Worn the Stones of Troy," received third place. He said it was an honor to be there and have his work appreciated.

"It was great to be in the presence of a living legend," Ramos said. "It just gave you this ap-



From left, award winner Norman Lear; Diane Gayeski, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications; and Lear's colleague Mike Royce, '86, pose with the 2018 Serling Award.

COURTESY OF JAKE WEST

preciation for the work he's done and how he's influenced our culture. What this guy has done is incredible."

Steven Ginsberg, Pendleton Endowed Chair and associate professor at the James B. Pendleton Center Los Angeles, coordinated the judging of the script competition. He said Lear had commonalities with Serling, the namesake of the award.

"They came from a similar generation, and they wrote in two very different genres, but their work shared a societal relevance," Ginsberg said.

Lear said during his acceptance speech that he felt every bit of significance behind the Serling Award.

"He was very touched to get the award," Gayeski said. "Everyone really respects the work of Rod Serling, and it means something to them to win this particular award."

Gayeski said that though this an annual ceremony, this year's event stood out from the others thanks to Lear's humor and energy. Lear was no more than one minute into his acceptance speech when his phone began ringing from his pocket. Rather than scurrying to mute

it or profusely apologizing, he calmly acknowledged it and told the audience he was going to take the call. Amidst incessant laughter from the crowd, Lear nonchalantly greeted his daughter on the other line. Gayeski said their conversation was incredibly entertaining.

"He talked about how, when he first got his cell phone, he told his daughters that he was always going to take their calls, no matter what it was," Gayeski said. "It was a very funny moment because he kind of just said, 'Hi, how are you? I'm doing well. Do you know what I'm doing right now? I'm right in the middle of getting an award!' You can tell that the guy is still very witty, just enjoys every second of life. ... It's very hard to believe that he's 96."

Lear's ACT III Productions has recently signed a deal with Sony Pictures Television. Serving as an executive producer of a Netflix series and an award-winning docu-series as well as developing an animated series with Nickelodeon, Lear is further cementing his influence on the world of entertainment.

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Darkly delicate film shows fame from fraud

BY LIZA GILLESPIE
STAFF WRITER

“Can You Ever Forgive Me?” is a crime film, but don’t expect any bombs or car chases.

After some mild success writing celebrity biographies, author Lee Israel (Melissa McCarthy) finds herself in a rut. She has lost her day job, her agent won’t take her calls and she has no money to pay her sick cat’s medical bills. So, using her linguistic expertise and signature snark, Lee begins forging sensational letters from famous writers.

The film, directed by Marielle Heller, is based on real-life author Lee Israel’s autobiography of the same name, which recounts her career as a forgery artist in the 1990s.

Heller crafts a dark, delicate — and, at times, depressing — portrait of fraud. The film could have easily been confined to the dreariness of its subject, but the sentimentality Heller brings to the story and its main character make it warm and complex. In the vein of other biopics centered on morally ambiguous figures, like “I, Tonya,” Lee’s rudeness and crimes aren’t underplayed. Despite the film’s title, Lee isn’t looking for forgiveness but rather empathy. The result is a compelling and multi-dimensional point of view wherein viewers can recognize

Lee’s immoral behavior and still root for her happy ending.

McCarthy’s well-known comedic flair is backgrounded here, but Lee’s sarcastic humor and snarky dialogue allow it to shine through occasionally. Lee’s loneliness and insecurity are sharp contrasts from McCarthy’s previous roles, but she embodies them with grace and intellect. The film’s primary source of energy is Lee’s only friend, Jack Hock (Richard E. Grant), an eccentric and charming drug dealer who helps her sell her forged letters. Thanks both to the screenplay’s wit and McCarthy and Grant’s chemistry, Lee and Jack’s cynical conversations are delightfully dismal.

The film itself is defined by an endearing subtlety. No moments feel overly dramatized, and no scenes are too grandiose. This understatement extends to Lee and Jack’s sexual identities. Lee and Jack are both explicitly gay, but their sexualities don’t define either of their characters or stories, instead existing as another quality that contributes to their complexities. As a result, Heller avoids the exploitative feeling that accompanies many films that use character identities as all-defining plot devices.

A somber, pale and almost sepia aesthetic cloaks the film, crafting a refreshingly lonely New York City

MOVIE REVIEW
“Can You Ever Forgive Me?”
Archer Gray
Our rating:
★★★★☆



Melissa McCarthy stars as Lee Israel, a downtrodden author who moves away from writing biographies and toward forging letters from famous writers. The story is based on the real-life author-turned-criminal of the same name.

ARCHER GRAY

populated by dusty bookstores and stuffy bars. Even the jazzy and mellow soundtrack, at times, feels too energetic for the world Lee lives in. Telling this crime story without flash allows viewers to develop a deeper, more resonant connection to its characters, making it both entertaining and emotionally impactful.

Woven in among the film’s more explicit themes of criminality and secrets is Lee’s underlying struggle with writing — more specifically, writing

her own stories. Lee’s pride prevents her from acknowledging that she hides behind her biographies due to insecurity. Lee finding her voice, like the film as a whole, happens slowly and quietly and becomes more overshadowed by the stakes and mechanics of her crimes than most main character arcs usually are. However, as a result, Lee’s eventual confidence comes as a heartwarming surprise.

In the beginning of “Can You Ever Forgive Me?” Lee asks her manager,

Marjorie (Jane Curtin), why her books don’t sell at the rate that famous author Tom Clancy’s do, and Marjorie tells her it’s because her name doesn’t mean anything. And although Lee’s journey to fame via fraud is bleak, suspenseful and tragic, the sincerity with which Heller treats her story allows Lee’s name to be defined by more than just her mistakes.

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Mumford’s folk roots rise with pop and rock

BY ARLEIGH RODGERS
STAFF WRITER

Folk-music roots mix with alternative rock in “Delta,” the latest, gorgeous addition to Mumford & Sons’ large discography. The experimental welding of pop and rock flourishes beautifully, and it is this sound combination that structures the album.

The album’s opening song, “42,” emphasizes strong vocals and layered harmonies that were first found in the band’s debut album, “Sigh No More.” Though now combined with some electronic beats and the occasional low strums of electric guitar, “42” brings Mumford & Sons back to its folk roots.

As in all the albums, Marcus Mumford’s deep and indulgent voice soars above all else, even in the harmonies. “Rose of Sharon,” a slowed down, pop-style song in the middle of the album, showcases the lead singer’s seemingly effortless sound. But in the latter half of “Slip Away,” Mumford exhibits his ability to create a visceral reaction in the listener. “Slip Away” is about the singer’s

unconditional love for an unnamed lover, and in Mumford’s voice, the listener can find tangible emotions to grasp.

In its up-tempo tracks, though seldom, “Delta” truly blossoms. “Guiding Light,” first released as a single, harkens back to songs on the band’s 2015 album, “Wilder Mind.” Like the album, “Guiding Light” has echoing electric guitar, throbbing percussion and, of course, Mumford’s powerful vocals backed by robust, enchanting harmonies. The lyrics are simple enough to be catchy but thoughtful enough to tell a story — in this case, one about the ceaseless guidance of love during the bleaker moments of life.

The beats in “Delta,” however, are slightly different from those in “Wilder Mind,” “Babel” or “Sigh No More.” While the percussion drives the melody in all albums, there are noticeable traces of pop in the songs on “Delta.” Automated handclaps carry the mellow “Woman,” and in “Picture You,” snaps keep the vocals on the beat. This magnetic draw to pop-style artistry could be seen by some as a decline in thoughtfulness and execution on the band’s part. But Mumford & Sons has proven its talent is in its ability to dabble in innumerable genres. It has checked off folk, rock, alternative, indie and now pop. The impressive versatility is

ALBUM REVIEW
“Delta”
Mumford & Sons
Universal Music Group
Our rating:
★★★★★



UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

exciting, not disappointing.

“Darkness Visible” is the only mostly instrumental track of the album, and there is something exceptionally haunting about this song. The momentum builds into an electrically apocalyptic explosion of sound, complete with lines from John Milton’s “Paradise Lost” in place of lyrics. Most of the album deals with love and how it can steer between the good and the terrible. “Darkness Visible” is the clearest example of how the band explores love as a destructive force. The evocative power of this idea is shown through the instrumentals in “Darkness Visible,” and it’s clear through this song and the rest of the album that Mumford & Sons knows how to create masterful music. Each track on “Delta” is sensational, and the band’s excellence will not be forgotten in years to come.

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Goldblum goes jazz

BY HARLEY MCKENZIE
STAFF WRITER

Jeff Goldblum & The Mildred Snitzer Orchestra’s fresh album, “The Capitol Studios Sessions,” introduces listeners to another side of Goldblum, apart from his Hollywood acting. This album presents Goldblum, the jazz musician.

“The Capitol Studios Sessions” is Goldblum’s debut album but far from the beginning of his musical career. He has been performing piano and singing for live audiences in Los Angeles since the ‘90s, and this is only his latest exploration of the craft. Goldblum’s band comes together to play loose, improvisational shows.

Kicking off the album is “Cantaloupe Island,” a groovy, fully instrumental track that sets the lively tone for the following tunes to carry. The recordings are from a live performance at Capitol Studios in LA, allowing each instrument to sound pure and strong. The use of horn and percussion make it stand out as a bold and upbeat song made for dancing.

The jazz album sounds sweet

ALBUM REVIEW
Jeff Goldblum & The Mildred Snitzer Orchestra
“The Capitol Studios Sessions”
Decca (UMO)
Our rating:
★★★★★

and classic, using the rich vocals of talented women throughout. Goldblum and Haley Reinhart perform a romantic rendition of “My Baby Just Cares For Me,” from the 1930 musical comedy “Whoop-ee!” Goldblum also demonstrates chemistry with Sarah Silverman, in the track “Jeff Introduces Sarah Silverman” and in their duet, “Me and My Shadow.”

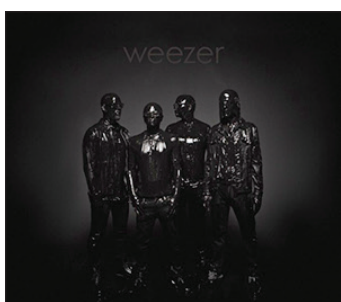
“The Capitol Studio Sessions” successfully portrays the sweet, sexy, silly, romantic messages the classics conveyed when they were first released, with dates ranging from the ‘20s to the mid-’80s. Each cover felt brand new and tailored to the artists’ style, rather than like a revival attempt. No track on this album should be skipped. They all weave together to create the vivacious masterpiece that is “The Capitol Studios Sessions.”

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DECCA (UMO)

QUICKIES



CRUSH MUSIC/ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION

“ZOMBIE BASTARDS”
Weezer
Crush Music/Atlantic Recording Corporation
Presumably referencing the c-list horror film “Die You Zombie Bastards!,” Weezer’s playful nerd-rock single begins with a reggae rhythm a la twenty one pilots before bass weighs down floaty acoustics.



RCA RECORDS

“REEL IT IN”
Aminé
Republic Records
After BROCKHAMPTON, will anyone not hop on the train of fully capitalized song titles? Regardless, Aminé infuses sweetness into trap with background flute and harp and lines like “she Bjork cute.”



ROADRUNNER RECORDS

“COME OUT AND PLAY”
Billie Eilish
Darkroom/Interscope Records
“Come out and play” sounds just like every other Billie Eilish song, but that’s not always a bad thing. Her voice is paper-thin and intimate, and the instrumentals build upon one another to drive the song.

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 Thurs. 11/29, 12:10-1:00, Textor 103
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From left, sophomore Jocelyn Pawcio holds a gymnast's stance while preparing to dive, and sophomore Juliann Terry, freshman Meghan Matheny and sophomore Emily Carey stand with their vaulting poles. All four competed in gymnastics for at least 10 years before switching sports due to injuries and the mental toll that competitive gymnastics takes on athletes.

ELIAS OLSEN/THE ITHACAN

BY EMILY ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

During her freshman year at Ithaca College, Ava Lowell was spending most of her time flipping around bars and tumbling across a spring floor for the Bombers gymnastics team. Now, at the start of her sophomore year, Lowell is putting in hours every day in the pool as a new member of the women's diving team.

Lowell is not alone in utilizing the skills she learned from gymnastics to switch to a new sport. All five of the current pole vaulters on the women's track and field team and three out of five divers on the women's swim team competed in gymnastics for at least 10 years before leaving the sport and beginning their careers in brand-new events. Both sports — pole vaulting and diving — require similar strength, spatial and body awareness, and mental toughness that gymnastics instills in athletes, similarities that make for a natural transition between the sports.

This trend is not a new one, either. Graduate student Katherine Pitman competed for the college's gymnastics team during her freshman year but was cut as a sophomore. She went on to win three national championships in pole vault and currently holds the Division III national

record at 4.31 meters. Lindsay Suddaby and Alyssa Wishart, graduate students and former divers, also came from gymnastics backgrounds. The pair qualified for nationals last season and placed sixth and 22nd respectively.

Several of the former gymnasts who compete in sports at the college listed physical disabilities to compete in high-level athletics as their reasons for retiring from gymnastics before they came to the college. Graduate-student diver Anna Belson said that during high school, she dealt with a broken wrist, a concussion and ACL surgery that prevented her from moving further in the sport. Sophomore pole vaulters Julia Nomberg and Juliann Terry, along with freshman pole vaulter Alex McKenzie, noted the chronic pains that contributed to the end of their gymnastics careers. Nomberg, who left gymnastics in her sophomore year of high school, also suffered from a broken toe and stress fractures in her shins.

Both minor and more significant physical issues can contribute to athletes retiring from gymnastics. Chris Hummel, gymnastics head athletic trainer, said he frequently sees ankle injuries, stress fractures, ligament injuries and lower back problems in the athletes he treats. Serious knee ligament injuries and chronic issues, in particular, are often season- or career-ending.

Hummel also noted that gymnasts enter the sport at a very young age, a circumstance that can lead to their bodies deteriorating as they progress in the sport.

"They start at 3 or 4 years old, and once they get to college, they've been doing gymnastics for 14 or 15 years," he said. "That cumulative effect really takes its toll on their bodies."

The eight former gymnasts involved in pole vault and diving for the Blue and Gold began gymnastics at an average age of 4 1/2 years old. The youngest was freshman pole vaulter Meghan Matheny, who began when she was only 1 1/2 years old.

Athletes also named the mental strain that they experienced in gymnastics as a motivator to leave the sport. Lowell described a feeling of "burning out" and her desire to experience something new as the reasons for retiring from gymnastics and switching to diving.

"I knew I was done around 11th grade," she said. "My mom and my coach kept pushing me to get to college and telling me it would be really fun, and it was fun. But I got to the point where gymnastics was taking up so much of life, and I realized I had never tried anything else."

Gymnastics head coach Rick Suddaby acknowledged the constant mental focus and strength that is demanded of high-level gymnasts.

"They deal with fear every day," Suddaby said. "They can't make mistakes. Whether they're competing or training, they have to be on

because if not, it could physically cost them."

Matheny, who transitioned to pole vault in eighth grade, said the high-pressure environment of gymnastics contributed to her decision to retire.

"I consider myself a perfectionist, and in gymnastics, you're always striving for a perfect 10," she said. "The point is to be perfect, so every time I wasn't, I really got in my head about it."

Matheny said one of the biggest reasons why she settled on pole vault as her new sport was that it offered a change from that rigid environment. She said that she dreaded meets in gymnastics but that she now finds competing one of her favorite parts of vaulting.

"My knees used to shake before I went on beam," she said. "[Pole vault] is just something that I love so much more. I've finally found what I'm actually passionate about."

The athletes who chose to transition to diving were looking to experience the same sensation they got from gymnastics in a different setting. Like gymnastics, diving requires athletes to mentally overcome competing at heights and performing dangerous skills in the air. Lowell explained that this fear factor is what drew her to diving after she left the gymnastics team. "I'm kind of an adrenaline junkie and really like that falling feeling, so diving seemed like the best option for me," Lowell said.

Sophomore diver Jocelyn Pawcio, who had no diving experience before college, said the strong spatial and body awareness that she developed from gymnastics also serves her well on the springboards.

"Being able to understand that you can use equipment to amplify your skills and having done flips and twists before makes the transition way easier," Pawcio said. "We have a huge advantage there."

Sophomore vaulter Emily Carey said the physical strength required of her as a gymnast made her switch to pole vault smoother.

"Having the strength really helped me transition," said Carey. "Having that upper body strength already was huge, especially in the weight room."

Many former gymnasts said they experienced a technical learning curve when they changed sports as many of them came into collegiate competition with no prior experience.

For some of the divers, the patience the sport requires was a difficult adjustment.

"We know how to twist, but it's the little things like waiting in the air before you start the twist," Lowell said. "In gymnastics, when you finish a twist, you hit the floor, and it's going to stop

you, but in diving, it's being able to stop yourself.

Though she had to leave the sport she had put so many years into at the start of this season, Lowell described finding a new home with her teammates on the diving team.

"I was definitely nervous to leave the gymnastics team, but they are so welcoming and understanding," she said. "It doesn't matter what you do. You can fail a dive, you can smack hard or miss a practice, and they'll always be there."

Carey reiterated these sentiments and said she feels constantly supported by her close-knit team despite competing as an individual.

"My best friends are all on this team," she said. "I love that we all grow together, and it's amazing seeing everyone else accomplish their goals and achieve as a group."

Pawcio said the camaraderie she has experienced has had the biggest impact on her since becoming a part of the diving team.

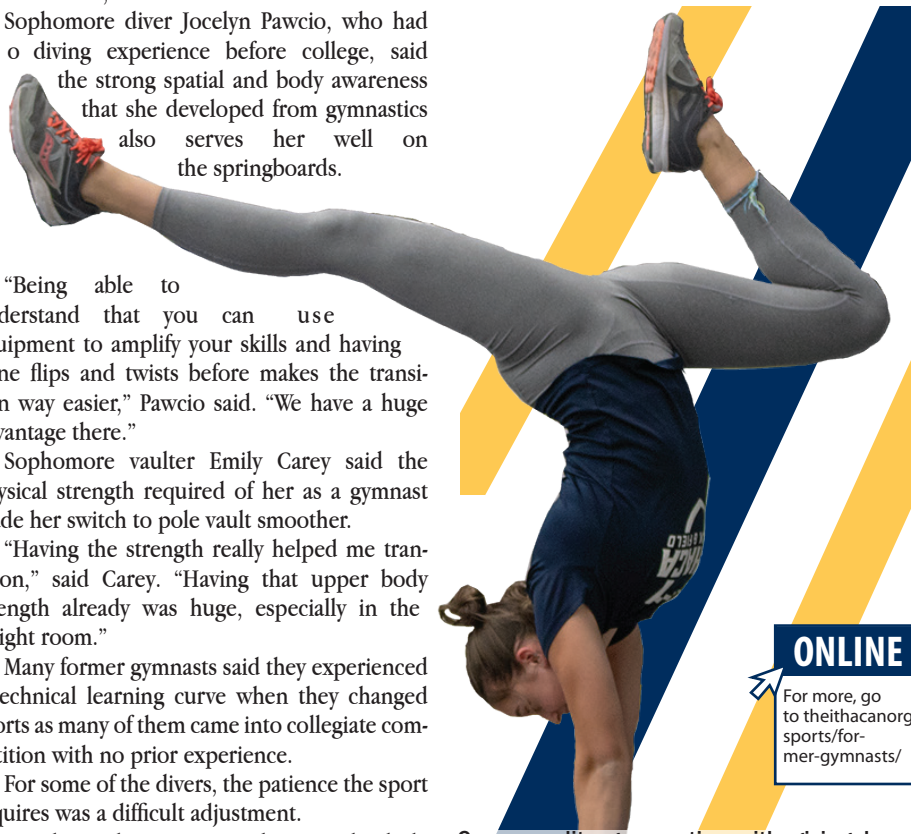
"I just feel so accepted and loved by everyone here, which is really special," Pawcio said. "I don't go throughout my day dreading practice; it's always something I enjoy and that's what sports should be."

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Pawcio said that gymnastics gave her spatial and body awareness that helps with diving.

ELIAS OLSEN/THE ITHACAN



Carey credits gymnastics with giving her the strength needed for pole vaulting.

JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

ONLINE

For more, go to theithacan.org/sports/former-gymnasts/

THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP



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



Freshman outside hitter Jaelyn Hershberger spikes the ball Nov. 11 against Carnegie Mellon University in Ben Light Gymnasium. The Bombers won their tournament but fell in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III Volleyball Championships to No. 9 Emory University, finishing their season with a 21-8 record and a second straight regional championship.

KAYLA ZEGLIN/THE ITHACAN







Football

RESULTS		STANDINGS		
	44-42			
Utica	Nov. 17	Ithaca		
		School	Conference	Overall
		RPI	4-1	10-1
		Ithaca	4-1	8-3
		Hobart	3-2	5-4
		Union	3-2	7-2
		St. Lawrence	1-4	2-8

Volleyball

RESULTS		
	3-1	
Emory	Nov. 15	Ithaca

Men's Basketball







RESULTS			
	92-84		
Gettysburg	Nov. 16	Ithaca	
	80-78		
Ithaca	Nov. 17	Albright	
	85-75		
Cortland	Nov. 27	Ithaca	
Next game: 7 p.m. Nov. 30 against Vassar College in Ben Light Gymnasium			

Wrestling

RESULTS		
Name	Weight Class	Record
Logan Ninos	125	4-1
Jake O'Brien	285	3-1
Anthony Stramiello	125	3-2
Tito Colom	133	3-2
Eze Chukwuezi	184	3-1

Next match: 2 p.m. Nov. 30 at the New Standard Spartan Invitational in York, Pennsylvania

Women's Basketball

RESULTS			
	98-36		
Ithaca	Nov. 16	Blackburn	
	70-62		
UT Dallas	Nov. 17	Ithaca	
	85-71		
Ithaca	Nov. 27	Cortland	
Next game: 5 p.m. Nov. 30 against Vassar College in Ben Light Gymnasium			

*Updated as of Nov. 27

Captain dedicates season in honor of friend

BY ANNA HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Senior guard Matt Flood is currently in his fourth season playing for the Ithaca College men's basketball team, but this season has taken on a new meaning.

Flood's best friend, Zac Garcia, died in a car accident Sept. 9. Flood said Garcia's death impacted him greatly, both as a player and a person.

"The whole situation was just really tough for me personally, just to go through that," Flood said. "Sometimes it was like my mind was at home but my body was here."

Garcia and Flood grew up together playing basketball, being on the same teams since they were little kids. Eventually, the two played on Cresskill High School's varsity team, in Cresskill, New Jersey, where Garcia was the point guard. After high school, Garcia attended the University of Maryland. This season, Flood is playing with Garcia's initials written on his sneakers as a way to both remember and play for him.

"His competitive nature was second to none," Flood said. "[It was] simply unmatched. . . . I try to match that fierce competitiveness he carried when I'm on the court."

Over the past three seasons, Flood has been a key member of the men's basketball team. Flood appeared in almost every game throughout his collegiate career, starting in 49 of the team's 78 games.

Currently, Flood has scored 571 career points for the Blue and Gold. He has also tallied 103 assists.

After playing positions all over the

court when he was younger, Flood found his place as a guard when he was 10 years old. Standing at 6 feet, 2 inches, Flood was tall for his age and was placed in the position by his coaches.

"When I started out, I loved shooting 3-pointers and being outside on the perimeter, so I kind of grew into the position," Flood said.

Flood was a 1,000-point scorer and fifth in total career points at Cresskill, where he graduated from in 2015. Flood credits his then-coach, Mike Doto, as one of the biggest contributors to his success in basketball.

Recruited out of Cresskill by the Bombers' head coach Jim Mullins, Flood became a part of the South Hill squad starting in the 2015–16 season.

"We really got what we expected when we recruited Matt, he was a really quality kid," Mullins said. "He's one of the hardest workers I know, and we're lucky to have him on the team."

Flood said he is more focused on the team's goals rather than his own. As one of the team's captains, Flood plays a major role on the team as a leader.

"If I'm doing my job, both offensively and defensively, then I'm meeting my goals," Flood said. "I just want to do whatever I can in my role on the team."

Flood is hoping to get the team back to the Liberty League Conference Tournament and to make it to the NCAA Tournament in his final season as a Bomber. He said he is looking forward to his last season suiting up for the Blue and Gold. By playing with Garcia's initials on his sneakers, Flood is hoping to end his collegiate career



Senior Matt Flood holds up his game sneakers, which have his best friend Zac Garcia's initials on them to honor him during Flood's senior season with the Bombers. Garcia died in a car accident Sept. 9.

BRIANNA MOTTEY/THE ITHACAN

with the memory of Garcia always in his mind.

"Zac's initials remind me to attack every game with his heart and hustle, put it all out on the floor for him," Flood said. "Whatever we're doing, I have to put my heart and soul into it, that's what we would have done."

Mullins, who has been Flood's coach for the entirety of his collegiate career, has taken notice of Flood's selflessness as a team player throughout the years. Mullins said he thinks Garcia's passing has given Flood's senior year a new meaning.

"He never lacked intensity, but I think he seems to be on a mission now," Mullins said. "I think character is revealed when you're dealing with a hardship, and Matt's really was."

Junior guard Riley Thompson, the team's other captain, said Flood's positive attitude has not deteriorated given the situation.

"I haven't noticed too many changes in both his mannerisms and his play since the death," Thompson said. "He still is the same kid in terms of unselfishness, dedication to the team and work ethic — which

I would've expected from a kid of Matt's character."

Flood said that even though he and Garcia played basketball together, their friendship was more important off the court.

"Zac leaving us so soon has been a shock and whirlpool of emotions," Flood said. "I will forever try my best to honor him wherever I go in life, including on the court this season. But it goes way further than that."

CONNECT WITH ANNA HARRIS
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Senior guard discusses team's playoff aspirations

In the 2017–18 season, the Ithaca College women's basketball team lost in the Round of 32 in the NCAA Tournament to Tufts University. They finished with an overall record of 21–8 and are looking to go further in the NCAA Tournament this season.

Senior guard Annie Giannone is preparing to play her fourth season for the Bombers after an impressive track record last year. Giannone totaled 155 points and had 88 assists last season and is hoping to cap off her collegiate career with a spot in the playoffs.

Sports Editor Dani Pluchinsky spoke with Giannone about what the team is doing well so far, what the team's strengths are and how her style of play has improved throughout the years.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Dani Pluchinsky: Even though it's early in the season, how is the team mentality right now?

Annie Giannone: I think it's going really well. We lost a tough one to [the University of Texas at] Dallas, but I think that game showed our resilience. We really stuck in throughout the whole game. We're focused on taking it one game at a time, one practice at a time, getting better each and every day, and I think we've really stuck to that.

DP: What is something you think the team has done well in the first couple of games?

AG: Our chemistry on the court; you could tell we're still learning how to play with one another and mesh with each other, but I think our chemistry right now is really good. I think giving it our all each and every play. Each person, when they step on the court,

you're expected to give 110 percent, and I think we've done that.

DP: What is something you think the team can improve on moving forward?

AG: We're still working on the little things. In our offense, we need to continue to run our offense more and have it go more smoothly, which I think comes with time. Our communication, we have to work on a little bit better on the defensive end, as well as the offensive end. But those are little things and adjustments that I think will come with time, it's just those two games that we saw that we need to work on it more.

DP: How have you seen your style of play transform and improve throughout your four years?

AG: I think, coming into this program, what I liked was the fast style of play — the getting up and going. Coming into college is a whole different type of intensity, so I think I had to adjust to that when I first got here. I think I really meshed well with the way we push the ball and transition. Defensively, just getting after it, I had to adjust to that a bit more, but I think I did a pretty good job at that as well.

DP: What makes this specific team special compared to teams in the past?

AG: We have so much talent on this team. Each and every one of us brings something different, and it's exciting to see that. In past years, we've had talent too, but this team is very, very talented. And I think we're still continuing to learn how to play with one another and what each other's strengths are. But I think once we really do get that, it's going to be a very good year for us. Off the court, we all



Then-junior guard Annie Giannone drives toward the hoop against William Smith College on Feb. 20. Giannone has started all of the Bombers' games this season, averaging 6.0 points.

SEAN DULLEA/THE ITHACAN

have different personalities, and each person brings so much to the team and it's so exciting to see on and off the court.

DP: What are some strengths you think the team has compared to other teams?

AG: Our offense this year is very exciting. We're only running one main offense, and we have so many looks out of that offense because of the talent we do have. Our chemistry is huge. The way we play together, a lot of us have played with each other now for two to three years, and I think, if you don't have chemistry on a team, you aren't getting anywhere, so I think that's huge for us. I think everyone's motivation to put the team first and have one goal in mind, which is making the NCAA Tournament and winning a national championship, so I think that's

huge to have on a team, the unselfishness.

DP: As a senior, what are you hoping to get out of this season?

AG: The relationships throughout these three and a half years have been the most important thing to me. Just continuing to build the relationships with my teammates and with my coaches is huge for me. Looking back on it, when the last buzzer rings, the basketball, yes it was huge and amazing to play, but the relationships are going to last a lifetime. And just having fun. I want to have fun this year, which I never not do, but knowing it's one last go around is pretty sad — just having fun and making the most of it.

CONNECT WITH DANI PLUCHINSKY
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Sustainability Corner

The Sustainability Corner is shared on behalf of the Office of Energy Management & Sustainability in an attempt to further engage the Ithaca College community in sustainability news and events across campus.

Follow Us:

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ithaca.edu/sustainability

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 26th, 28th, 30th, Noon
The Office of Energy Management & Sustainability begins the Sustainability Literacy Assessment pilot program in Ithaca Seminar classes.

Nov. 29th, 5 - 8 PM, CC Dining Hall
Scrape your plates and weigh the waste! Eco Reps will be in Campus Center Dining Hall for a demonstration on post-consumer food waste. All collected food scraps and napkins will be composted, as usual.

Dec. 4th, 12 PM, Ithaca Falls Room
Sustainability SLI: Energy. Explore the interconnections of energy, climate change, social justice, waste, and more.

Every Friday, 4 PM, Terrace Dining
Join the Environmentalists and Eco Reps for S.W.I.F.T., a program that packages leftover food from dining halls for donation to St. John's Community Services - previously Rescue Mission.

NEWS

Princeton Review Recognizes IC:
The Princeton Review has recognized IC yet again for the College's commitment to sustainability in its annual "Guide to 399 Green Colleges". The Guide, which scores colleges and universities based on a "green rating", awarded IC with 89 of a possible 99 points, commending the College's commitment to integrating sustainability into the curriculum, decision-making processes, and campus operations. Other items of note include the College's LEED accredited buildings and the recent switch to all-renewable electricity. Read the full story at, ithaca.edu/news/going-green.

Interested in composting or volunteering with the Eco Reps team?
email: ecoreps@ithaca.edu



**STARS OVER
THANKSGIVING
BREAK**

WRESTLING



Jake O'Brien

Second place in 285-lb bracket at the NYSC Championships

Went 3-1 at the tournament

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Riley Thompson

Averaged 25.5 points per game over two games

Shot 58 percent from beyond the arc

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Cassidy O'Malley

Averaged 20 points per game over two games

Had 9 rebounds against UT Dallas

FOOTBALL



Wahid Nabi

Went 35-59 for 524 passing yards

Tied own school record with 6 touchdowns

VOLLEYBALL



Reagan Stone

Led team in kills with 14

Had 8 digs and 5 blocks

THE BIG PICTURE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

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Junior guard Sebastian Alderete reaches for a basket during the Nov. 27 match against SUNY Cortland. The Bombers suffered a loss to the Red Dragons with a final score of 75-85.

JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN