

# THE ITHACAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 • VOLUME 86, ISSUE 19



## ART AND IDENTITIES

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## POSTSEASON PEAK

The wrestling team aims to perform its best during the regional and national matches.  
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## Food allergy area opens

BY ELIZABETH HENNING  
STAFF WRITER

A new area located in the Campus Center Dining Hall opened at the beginning of Spring 2019 to provide a way for students with food allergies and intolerances to safely eat in the dining hall.

The area, called “My Zone,” is a locked room that students with allergies or intolerances can access with their ID cards after they have been authorized by Dining Services. Inside the room, there are a variety of foods that are safe from cross-contamination and allergens like nuts and gluten. My Zone is located behind Simple Servings, toward the back of the Campus Center Dining Hall. Food allergies cause an immune system reaction, whereas food intolerances are less severe and normally limited to the digestive system.

Jeffrey Scott, director of Dining Services at Ithaca College, said that before the college established My Zone, there was no separate, dedicated area for students with food allergies. He said the area is primarily designed for students with nut and gluten allergies and intolerances, but any student who registers with Dining Services as having an allergy can have access to the area.

Scott said Dining Services wanted to focus on nut and gluten-related allergies because nut allergies tend to be more severe, and gluten intolerance is one of the most common dietary problems for students.

Scott said the dining hall previously offered gluten- and nut-free foods, but they were not contained, so cross-contamination was still an issue. Many cases of allergic reactions that resulted from mishandling of food in campus dining halls have occurred in the past.

Scott said the college held a dietary roundtable last semester with students who have allergies and dietary restrictions to get a range of student opinions about how the dining hall can better handle food to prevent allergic reactions.

“This was something we heard loud and clear

See **ALLERGY**, Page 5

## IC’s vegan rating raises questions

BY KRISSY WAITE  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Sophomore Kara Schultz was excited to transfer to Ithaca College because, based on her own research, she found that the vegan options in the dining halls were high quality and had a variety of options. Schultz follows a vegan regimen because of dietary complications, and because of the college’s A-plus vegan rating, she thought it could accommodate her dietary needs.

However, after arriving at the college, Schultz said, she lost approximately 10 to 15 pounds in her first semester at the college because she could not find enough to eat in the dining halls.

“I would go to Campus Center [Dining Hall], and they would have lettuce and hummus and cold quinoa, and I would eat that, and that would be my meal,” Schultz said. “It’s not enough; it’s not sustaining.”

Ithaca College Dining Services, fueled by food provider Sodexo, has received high ratings for its vegan options over the past several years. However, the A-plus grade the college has obtained through a program called peta2 has been greeted by mixed feelings of dissatisfaction and skepticism from students who say that the rating does not accurately reflect the vegan options offered. The peta2 grade is only meant to represent the availability of vegan food on campus, not its nutritional value. Students at the college have expressed that they think vegan food should be graded by both its variety and nutritional value as well, which many have said is lacking.

After losing weight, Schultz said, she did not go to the Hammond Health Center because she felt that nothing would be done to address

## A Vegan Breakfast

Meal served at Campus Center vegan station at 9 a.m.



**Sweet potato and  
tofu hash:  
per 4 oz  
Protein: 4g  
Sugars: 6g  
Total Calories: 230**

**Fried Green  
Tomatoes:  
Per 3 slices  
Protein: 2g  
Sugars: 5g  
Total Calories: 70**

### ONLINE

For more on the  
vegan rating,  
go to  
[theithacan.org/  
veganrating](http://theithacan.org/veganrating)

**Contains:**  
Vegetables  
Starch  
Protein  
**Missing:**  
Calcium-Rich Food  
Nuts / Seeds  
Fruits

PHOTO BY CARLY SWANSON  
DESIGN BY ANNA COSTA

the lack of nutrition in vegan food in the dining halls. She did end up joining a food advocacy group — which is not yet officially recognized by the college — to try to address the issues she experienced.

“Honestly, they have a lot of tofu, and it seems like that’s one of the only proteins that they provide, which kind of bothers me because I’ve always gotten my proteins from beans and actual plants rather than something that’s processed like that,” she said. “I guess I just expected more — more whole foods

instead of processed.”

Peta2 awarded the A-plus rating to the college in November 2018 and is run by the nonprofit organization People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, also known as

See **VEGAN**, Page 4

## Locals voice concern over Tompkins airport expansion

BY RYAN KING  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Local activists from Tompkins County expressed their concerns with the expansion of the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport during the Tompkins County Legislature meeting Feb. 19.

The legislature unanimously approved the expansion back in June 2018, accepting a \$14.2 million Upstate Airport Development Grant it received from the state, with the understanding that the legislature would find funding for the rest of the \$24 million project either from its budget or from other sources. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer has recently called upon the Federal Aviation Administration to give a \$10 million grant to help fund the rest of the project.

During the meeting, some of the activists said they felt that the new customs inspection

station could lead to more U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids in the area and that expanding the airport would only further climate change. Tompkins County is a sanctuary county, and the City of Ithaca is a sanctuary city, meaning that the municipal laws in those areas protect undocumented immigrants from deportation.

The expansion will nearly double the size of the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, enable the airport to receive international flights, construct a federal customs inspection station and more. The project has been endorsed by prominent New York politicians, including Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Schumer.

Some of the activists suggested that investing money in the airport would not serve the local Tompkins County community and would only serve the wealthier people. They suggested spending the funds in areas that are better suited toward the community, like



Local resident Stephanie Heslop was one of the activists to speak against the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport expansion at the county’s legislature meeting Feb. 19.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN

busing and public transportation.

Local resident Amanda Kirchgessner said the airport money could have gone toward funding 400 new Second Wind Cottages for the homeless. She also said the airport

expansion would be detrimental to the environment because it would increase carbon emissions.

See **AIRPORT**, Page 5



# NATION & WORLD

## Lawmakers demand investigation of immigration detention centers

Nearly 50 Democratic lawmakers are calling for a watchdog investigation of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement after the agency confirmed it had been force-feeding immigrant detainees on hunger strike.

Reporting by The Associated Press revealed late last month that nine Indian men who were refusing food at an El Paso, Texas, detention facility were being force-fed through nasal tubes. That practice abruptly stopped last week after a U.S. district judge said the government had to stop force-feeding the two detained immigrants against their will.

## Illinois governor signs measure to raise statewide minimum wage

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed a measure Feb. 19 to gradually hike up the statewide minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2025, an early victory for the Democrat on the eve of his first budget proposal.

Fulfilling one of his top campaign promises just five weeks into the job, Pritzker declared that Illinois “welcomes working families, setting a high standard for workers’ rights, economic opportunity and economic justice.”

## Judge allows lawsuit against construction of Obama’s center

A federal judge gave the green light Feb. 19 for a parks-advocacy group’s lawsuit that aims to permanently stop the already delayed construction of former President Barack Obama’s \$500 million presidential center in a Chicago park

beside Lake Michigan. Supporters of the project had hoped the federal court would grant a city motion to throw out the lawsuit by Protect Our Parks, some fearing that any drawn-out litigation may lead Obama to decide to build the Obama Presidential Center somewhere other than his hometown.

The judge concluded the group has standing to sue because it represents taxpayers with concerns that providing parkland in the public trust to the Obama center violates their due-process rights.

## Thousands rally in France to oppose anti-Semitic acts

Rallies against anti-Semitism attracted crowds of thousands in Paris and other French cities Feb. 19 following a series of aggressive acts with Jewish targets. Those targets included a cemetery where approximately 80 gravestones were spray-painted with swastikas overnight.

In the French capital, former presidents Francois Hollande and Nicolas Sarkozy joined a rally on Republic Plaza led by Prime Minister Edouard Philippe.

Political parties from across the spectrum participated in the nationwide rallies with the theme “That’s enough,” though Marine Le Pen’s far-right National Rally Party held a separate event.

## Catholic Church leaders apologize for failing to act on sexual abuse

Catholic religious orders from around the world apologized Feb. 19 for having failed to respond when their priests raped children,



## Nigerian president holds emergency meeting

Nigerian police guard the entrance of the All Progressives Congress (APC) party headquarters, where incumbent President Muhammadu Buhari held an emergency meeting Feb. 18. The presidential election has been delayed until Feb. 23.

JEROME DELAY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

acknowledging that their familylike communities blinded them to sexual abuse and led to misplaced loyalties, denials and cover-ups.

The two umbrella organizations representing the world’s religious orders issued a joint statement ahead of Pope Francis’ sex abuse prevention summit, which opens Feb. 21. The church vowed to implement accountability measures going forward to ensure that cover-ups by religious superiors end and that children are always safe in the presence of clergy.

## Maduro plans large rival concert to oppose opposition leader Guaido

Refusing to back down amid a mounting battle over Venezuela’s humanitarian crisis, the government of President Nicolas Maduro announced Feb. 18 that it will hold its own huge concert to rival one being organized by billionaire Richard Branson, a backer of opposition leader Juan Guaido. Information Minister Jorge Rodriguez said the government will throw a concert Feb. 23–Feb. 24.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

# MULTIMEDIA

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## Men’s swim team goes blond

In preparation for the conference championship, the majority of the men’s swimming and diving team members bleached their hair.

## IC Mixed hosts art showcase

As a part of the celebration of Black History Month, IC Mixed hosted an art showcase from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 18 in Klingenstein Lounge.

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THE ITHACAN IS PRINTED AT BAYARD PRINTING GROUP IN WILLIAMSPORT, PA.



# Board of Trustees hosts open forum

BY MARY RAND  
STAFF WRITER

The Ithaca College Board of Trustees held an open forum Feb. 15 to discuss its winter session and take questions about its work from members of the college community.

Approximately 40 people, including students, staff and faculty, attended the forum led by David Lissy '87, chair of the board of trustees, and vice chair James Nolan '77. Topics varied, including the board of trustees' role in the ongoing development of the college's strategic plan; diversity, inclusion and representation; and the state of finances at the college.

Audience members asked what issues the board of trustees addressed in its meeting, what input it had on the search for a dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences and how to best reach alumni donors.

Lissy spoke openly about the state of the college's finances, which has recently raised concerns among the college community. He said that while the college is struggling in a similar way to peer institutions with rising tuition prices, he thinks it has the ability to control its future more effectively than others.

"While this term 'burning platform' has been used a lot," Lissy said, referring to a perceived crisis situation concerning higher education finances, "it's not burning in the sense that we're worried about whether we'll be able to turn the lights on next week. What we're worried about is, if we do nothing, the long-term picture does not look good."

Lissy said the board of



From left, David Lissy '87, chair of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees, and vice chair James Nolan '77 take questions from the college community. The board of trustees recently held its winter meeting Feb. 15.

JACKIE MARUSIAK/THE ITHACAN

trustees can only approve the overall budget and did not affect specific line items in college's budget. Lissy said the trustees are working on how to better the campus through increased donations from alumni.

"Our reality — I don't want to sugarcoat it — we have a modest amount of historical success at giving," Lissy said. "We have an endowment that I would characterize as modest. That said, you can't let what might have been in the past continue, and the truth is, there's plenty of Ithaca alums out there."

Lissy distanced the board of trustees from being the arbiter of a solution to the college's finances.

"The board, we are not going to be telling the campus what those solutions are," Lissy said. "We're participating in it, but collectively,

we have to agree upon solutions, some of which will be really fun to think about, and others will be a little bit harder because change is sometimes a little bit hard."

Lissy also said the board of trustees is still learning to respond to issues of diversity and inclusion, beyond numerical representation, in the college community. Lissy said the board of trustees is working to be aware of diversity, pointing to the selection of President Shirley M. Collado, who Lissy said had a strong commitment to building inclusion. Lissy added that the board of trustees has more work to do to fully create a culture of diversity.

"Diversity and inclusion isn't a box you check off; it's baked into a culture," Lissy said. "I can confidently speak for the board and

say that we don't feel like we've arrived [at that culture]."

Nolan emphasized the board of trustees' commitment toward the development of the strategic plan in its session and the enthusiasm it has toward producing an effective result.

"[The strategic plan] is consuming the board's attention right now," Nolan said. "The strategic plan — the effectiveness of putting that together — is really top of mind."

Lissy said this strategic plan was unlike previous ones he had worked on and spoke highly of the progress the steering committee is making.

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# Former board members die

BY RYAN KING  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca College President Shirley M. Collado announced in an Intercom post Feb. 12 that Herman "Skip" Muller Jr. '51, former Ithaca College Board of Trustees chair emeritus, and honorary trustee George Schunck both died recently.

"I join the members of our community in extending our condolences to the Muller and Schunck families, and in being incredibly grateful for the work and dedication of both in their leadership of Ithaca College," Collado wrote.

Muller served on the board from 1966 to 1982 and from 1991 to 2003. Collado credited his leadership to saving the college from a potential financial failure.

"At the time of Herman's tenure, the college was struggling financially and on the verge of bankruptcy," she wrote. "His leadership changed what could have been the demise of Ithaca College. He led the board in the decision to move the Ithaca College campus from downtown to South Hill, which changed the course of Ithaca College."

Former President Peggy Ryan Williams said she was privileged to have worked with Muller during her time at the college.

"I met Skip 22 years ago this month, during the first round of presidential interviews in New York City," she said.

Schunck served on the board of trustees from 1982 to 1992.

Collado said Schunck played an important role in managing the college's finances during his time as chair of the Investment and Finance Committee.

"We are fortunate that Ithaca College was among the organizations he cared so deeply about," she said.

Schunck died Feb. 6.

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# IC student creates add-on to make Sakai user-friendly

BY OLIVIA KING  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sakai is a tool that all Ithaca College students use, but one student has developed an extension to make it "better."

Senior Barrett Smith created Better Sakai, a Google Chrome add-on that redesigns the presentation of Sakai to make it more user-friendly. He said he created the extension in January 2019 as an experiment for himself because he did not like the design of Sakai. Sakai is one of various learning management systems colleges and universities use to organize class assignment information.

Smith works in the Department of Information Technology at the college and helps train faculty members on how to use Sakai. Smith has a background in website development but no prior experience in making extensions.

Smith said he is mostly self-taught and started coding with Cascading Style Sheets — or CSS — which is a programming language. In the past few years, he has taught himself HTML, Hypertext Markup Language and JavaScript.

Smith said that he started developing a CSS for Better Sakai last year but that he reached out only a few weeks ago to the creator of Less Terrible HomerConnect — a Google Chrome extension that changes the design of HomerConnect — to get tips on how to create Better Sakai. He said it only took him a few days to then package his extension and submit the first version of Better Sakai to the Chrome Web Store.

Smith said that although Sakai offers many features, the site lacks a user-friendly design and is difficult to navigate. However, because there are so many customizable features on Sakai, Smith said, this leads to inconsistencies

for users. For example, when navigating Sakai, clicking on some tabs will change the window content without opening a new tab, and clicking on others will take users to an entirely different page. He said this creates a confusing experience for users. This is where his styling comes in.

"I kind of feel like my extension takes the features of Sakai and wraps it in something that looks a lot cleaner and nicer," Smith said.

Smith said he redesigned the website to make buttons clearer and more consistent. He also made different parts of the website clearer to distinguish from each other. Smith added a feature that saves users' scroll positions so that when a page reloads, it does not bounce back to the top.

David Weil, associate vice president of the Department of Information Technology, commended Smith for his work on the extension.

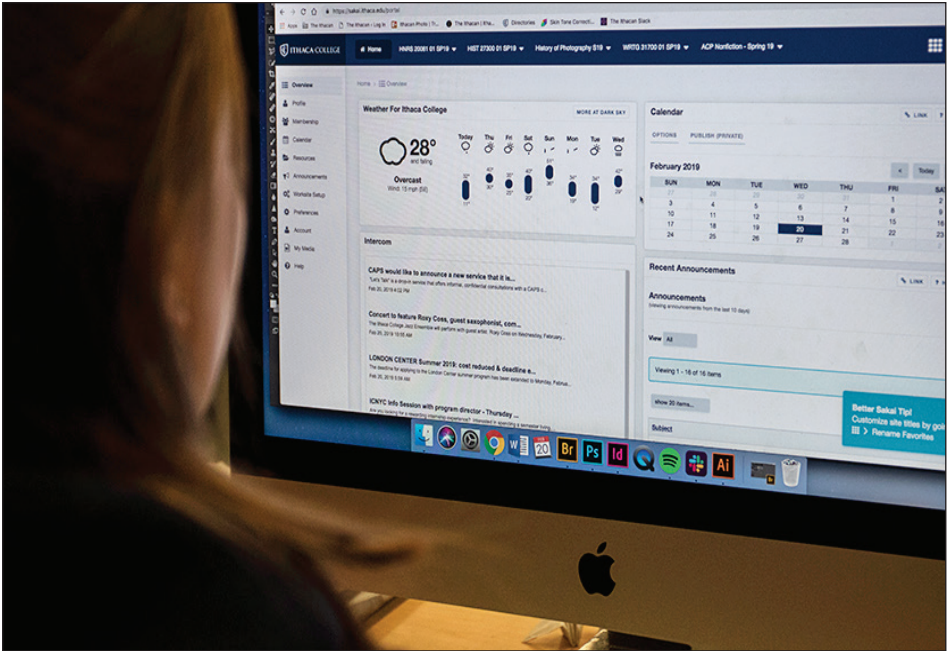
"It's always great, I think, when students experiment and try to do something that takes a service or takes something and tries to make it better," Weil said.

Weil said that although he commends Smith's work, the college has not reviewed the extension. He said that because it was created by a student and the college has not reviewed it, it may not be fully functional.

Senior Stetson Doggett downloaded Better Sakai and said the extension presented the site in a visually aesthetic, appealing and understandable way. He said this presentation helps users to focus on tasks and presents information in a more digestible way.

"I think it just improves the overall experience of using Sakai, which I know is something a lot of students are on a lot," Doggett said.

Smith added a few functional features as well,



The Google Chrome add-on called Better Sakai redesigns the layout of the Sakai webpage to make the site more user-friendly. The add-on is free for anyone to download.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTEN HARRISON

like a button in the grade book section that takes users right to the Satisfactory, D or Fail form if they want to take a class pass-fail. Smith said he is currently working on a feature that allows users to choose their own accent colors.

Freshman Adam Kluge is a user of Better Sakai and said he thought the design was cleaner. He said he found it to be a more productive and accessible way to keep tabs on his own academic performance.

"It's much nicer, aesthetically," Kluge said. "Basically, at the end of the day, it's just a ... better Sakai."

Freshman Kaitlyn Calhoun said she liked Better Sakai's layout because it is more organized.

"The font is nicer," Calhoun said. "It's more pleasing to the eye. There's a search button, which is pretty nice. I think that I'll definitely use this in the future."

Freshman Cat Fox said she liked that she is able to see the weather on the homepage of the

site with the extension.

"As a student, it's nice to have everything in one place," Fox said.

Smith said the HomerConnect extension inspired him to share his redesign of Sakai with the rest of the campus community. Both Better Sakai and Less Terrible HomerConnect are free to download on Google Chrome.

Smith said he chose to make the extension free because he does not think students are passionate enough about Sakai to invest money into a better version of it.

"I created Better Sakai to challenge myself, improve my skills and learn," he said, "The knowledge and skills I have gained in the process of developing Better Sakai are the return on the time I invested."

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### From VEGAN, Page 1

PETA. PETA specializes in animal-rights causes, as well as promoting plant-based, animal product-free diets like veganism. Veganism is defined by PETA as a diet void of any animal-sourced products like meat, fish, eggs, honey and bovine dairy products.

Each year, peta2 sends out a questionnaire to colleges across the United States asking about the vegan options offered in campus dining halls. To get a grade, the college must self-report on a list of qualifications to be rated by PETA, a process that Dining Services has completed since first participating in the rating system five years ago, according to peta2.com.

The list of 10 qualifications includes whether the college offers at least one vegan entree at each meal, offers nondairy milk, labels vegan entrees, labels vegan desserts, includes a vegan member on its student advisory board, promotes vegan options, participates in meatless Mondays, offers an all-vegan station and has an egg or mayo replacement. This means that the college must have at least one dedicated station serving vegan food somewhere on campus but not necessarily a vegan station in every dining hall. The only requirement that the college does not fulfill is having an all-vegan dining facility, according to peta2. These requirements are per campus, not per dining hall. This means if a college has three dining halls on campus and only one dining facility fulfills any or all of the peta2 requirements, then the college is still accurately self-reporting.

According to Kenneth Montville, education outreach manager for peta2, peta2 started six years ago as a baseline for schools to rate themselves. He said the requirements listed in the questionnaire are only a baseline and are not meant to serve as a final grade.

The college tweeted about the A-plus grade in November 2018 and posted about the grade on its Facebook page. News about the grade can also be found on the college's website.

The peta2 website also allows for student input, either by leaving a comment or by voting on the college's vegan food quality by using the thumbs up or thumbs down button. However, no student identification is required to access the page, so anyone is able to go on the website and vote. As of right now, the college has a 73 percent student satisfaction rate, but there is no way to tell exactly how many people voted on the website and if they were Ithaca College students who have directly experienced the vegan offerings.

Jeffrey Scott, director of Dining Services at the college, said this is the third year the college has received an A-plus rating. Before then, the college held an A rating for two years. Scott said that Dining Services has been working with various companies, like the Humane Society of the United States, to develop more vegan options. Despite only having ratings for

approximately the past five years, Scott said the college has had a vegan station inside the Campus Center Dining Hall, one of the three dining halls on campus, for 18 years.

Scott said that while he is happy with the rating, there are still improvements that can be made with the help of student input.

"What we have to continue to do is not only have the item, but like anything else, is it the right menu, are they totally satisfied or not, what could make it better?" Scott said. "We have to keep working with students to get input."

Scott said he does recognize where some of the student frustration is coming from because there is not a lot of variety of food in the dining halls for those who follow a strictly vegan diet.

"The other reality, too, is that certainly if somebody is keeping a strict vegan diet, there's a lot of the menu choices that are not available to them," Scott said, "I would expect students to grade us tougher if they don't have access to the full menu."

In comparison, Ithaca College has a higher grade than some in its peer group of small, private liberal arts colleges. According to peta2, Marist College in Dutchess County, New York, has a B grade; Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, has an A grade; and Northeastern University in Boston has an A grade as well.

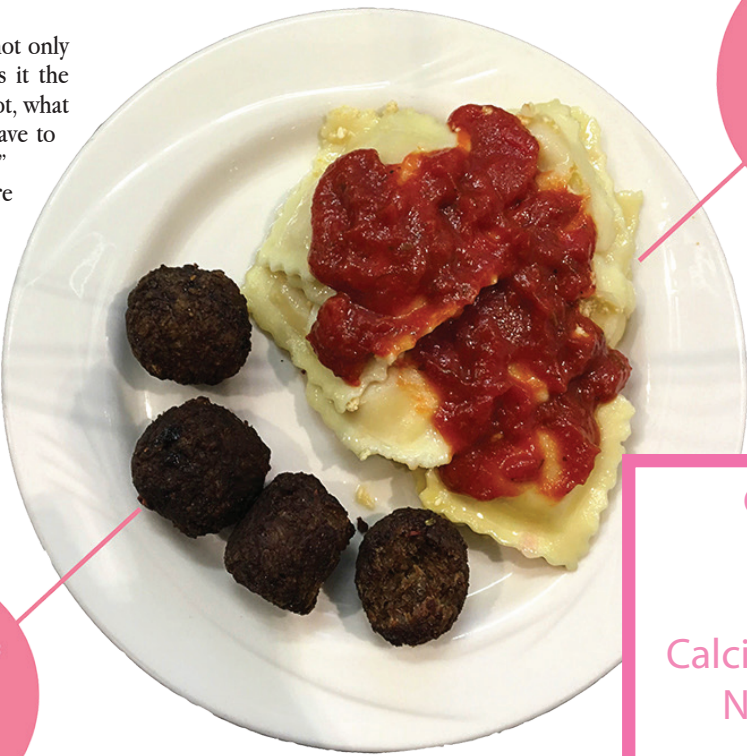
Sophomore Gemma Gallucci has been a vegan for approximately 2 1/2 years and chose to change her diet because of how industrial agriculture treats animals. Gallucci is on a college meal plan and said she has had issues with the vegan station mislabeling its food as being vegan when it is not in the Campus Center Dining Hall, a situation that makes her skeptical about the A-plus rating. She said she does not think the rating is accurate.

Gallucci also said she does not believe that having only one dedicated vegan station out of all three dining halls on campus is enough to qualify for the status of an A-plus rating.

"I think that compared to other colleges, yeah, that makes sense that we have a higher rating, but I don't agree with an A-plus because I've been to Towers [Dining Hall] once, and it was a terrible food experience. ... There's nothing vegan," she said. "The fact that we have one vegan station in one of our dining halls does not mean we should have an A-plus rating. I think that's absurd."

## A Vegan Lunch

### Meal served at Campus Center vegan station at Noon



**Vegan Ravioli with marinara sauce:**  
Per 1 ravioli and 2 oz sauce  
**Protein: 4g**  
**Sugars: 3g**  
**Total Calories: 160**

**Meatless Meatballs:**  
Per 2 meatballs  
**Protein: 6g**  
**Sugars: 0g**  
**Total Calories: 50**

**Contains:**  
Starch  
**Missing:**  
Calcium-Rich Food  
Nuts / Seeds  
Fruits  
Vegetables  
Protein

PHOTO BY CARLY SWANSON  
DESIGN BY ANNA COSTA

Gallucci said she wishes Dining Services would hire more people who are educated about vegan diets and train student employees how to handle vegan food.

Scott said all senior cooks, supervisors and managers take a safe food-handling course and obtain certifications. Employees also take an AllerTrain course that educates them about cross-contamination and other food hazards.

Sophomore Brontë Cook found another issue with the vegan food on campus. She said she feels restricted eating on campus as a vegetarian. Because Cook prefers not to eat dairy products, she finds herself relying heavily on vegan dishes served in the dining halls. She said she often finds that the options at the vegan station are lacking in protein or are bland options, like pasta, that she could get at another station.

"I am usually really unhappy with the options," Cook said. "I hate when they have pasta at the vegan station, like you have that on the other side. ... I don't get enough protein at all."

Cathy Saloff-Coste is a registered dietitian who works with the Health Center. She said vegan diets should include legumes like chickpeas or lentils, whole grains, nuts and seeds, plant proteins like tofu and tempeh, and more fortified foods, meaning foods that have added nutrients. She said vitamin B12 is one of the harder nutrients for vegans to consume because it is found in animal products. She said vegans can take a B12 supplement or find food products that have added the vitamin. She said that as long as vegans get the needed nutrients and vitamins, following a vegan diet can be very nutritious and filled with options.

"It can be really varied and wonderful," she said, "The key is to have a variety of foods throughout the day in order to be sure to get all the vitamins, minerals and protein."

However, the menu offerings for the Campus Center Dining Hall vegan station often do not meet these nutritional necessities to keep vegan students healthy. On the dinner menu Feb. 12, the vegan station offered two dishes. Only one of the dishes, black beans with rice, had a high protein count of 39 grams of protein per cup. For dinner Feb. 13, the vegan station offered rice noodles, which

have 1.9 grams of protein per cup. For dinner Feb. 14, the vegan station offered three dishes, none of which had high protein counts but did have vitamins K and B.

For dinner Feb. 15, the vegan station served fresh green beans, which only contain 1.8 grams of protein per cup but have a high amount of potassium and vitamin C.

On some days, like Feb. 11, Feb. 13 and Feb. 15, not all the elements offered at the vegan station were labeled as vegan and stated that they contained either fish or dairy. For example, the vegan station served rice noodles Feb. 13, but the pho broth and tofu pho that were offered with it were not vegan and contained fish, according to Sodexomyway.com.

However, some vegans are satisfied with the vegan options on campus. Senior Allison Brunner has been a vegan for approximately two years and transferred to the college in Fall 2017. She said that when she was looking into coming to the college, she was told that the vegan options were of good quality and that the college offered a supportive community for following a vegan diet. She said she believes that to be true.

"Compared to my last school, there's always been a bunch of vegan options, especially at CC," Brunner said. "Terraces is a little more hit or miss for me, but it's definitely nice that there's somewhere on campus that I can go and eat something there."

Junior Abby Haley began following a vegan diet her freshman year but did not realize how hard it would be to follow the diet at all of the dining halls. Haley said that adding a vegan station in the Terraces or Towers Dining Halls would improve the dining experience. She said that when she did eat at Terraces, she often found herself defaulted to the salad bar, a situation that she felt fed the stigma that vegans only eat lettuce.

Scott said Dining Services is always trying to expand the options for vegan dining at the vegan station in the Campus Center Dining Hall, as well as looking for student feedback about what is working and what is not in terms of vegan entrees. He said there are a few different aspects that are thought about when determining what vegan options are offered, as well as where they are offered. How much a food option is consumed, for example, could determine how often it is offered.

"We're trying to keep improving the service level to all students," he said. "That's just symptomatic in college dining. ... If you look at what was offered three years ago, it's a lot further now. If you look ahead three years, it's going to be a lot more variety."

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## A Vegan Dinner

### Meal served at Campus Center vegan station at 5 p.m.



**Curried Cauliflower:**  
per 3 oz  
**Protein: 2g**  
**Sugars: 2g**  
**Total Calories: 50**

**Jasmine Rice:** Per 1 cup  
**Protein: 7g**  
**Sugars: 0g**  
**Total Calories: 350**

**Tofu Curry:** Per 1/2 cup  
**Protein: 3g**  
**Sugars: 3g**  
**Total Calories: 70**

**Contains:**  
Vegetables  
Starch  
Protein  
**Missing:**  
Calcium-Rich Food  
Nuts / Seeds  
Fruits

PHOTO BY CARLY SWANSON  
DESIGN BY ANNA COSTA



# Students create LGBTQ ‘Valentine’s Gay’ prom

BY HANNAH FITZPATRICK  
STAFF WRITER

The Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services and the Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change (IDEAS) will host the inaugural “Valentines Gay” LGBTQ pride prom 7–9 p.m. Feb. 22 in Clarke Lounge.

This dance, which was organized by Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) campus ambassadors and Ithaca College seniors Elena Piech and Avery Santiago, will allow students of all gender and sexual orientations to come together and dance the night away while celebrating their respective identities. This event is free to the public, and people can come as dressed up or dressed down as they like, Santiago said.

As GLAAD campus ambassadors for the college, part of Piech and Santiago’s roles are to organize events that support the LGBT Center and students in the LGBTQ community, as well as promote GLAAD through media campaigns. Santiago said she was inspired to create this event because she felt it will provide an opportunity to allow students in the LGBTQ community to feel more

included. She also said it allows people in the LGBTQ community to get together for a positive reason.

“On campus, we seem to find that the only time the LGBTQ community gets together is when an awful event arises or something happens,” Santiago said. “We just thought, ‘Why can’t we get together on a happy occasion? Why not just get together to have fun and be in a place where you can exist and just have a good time overall?’”

Though this event is sponsored by the LGBT Center and Center for IDEAS, Piech and Santiago were the masterminds behind planning the event.

With funds contributed by both centers, GLAAD and their own pockets, they designed posters, recruited a DJ and a photographer, booked Clark Lounge and will decorate it with Valentine’s Day-themed decor.

Luca Maurer, the director of the LGBT Center, was first approached by Santiago and Piech with the idea for a pride prom when they realized that an event like this did not take place last year. He said he was very interested in sponsoring this initiative because it will benefit LGBTQ students by allowing them to form



Senior Avery Santiago, a GLAAD ambassador, is one of the organizers of the inaugural “Valentine’s Gay” LGBTQ pride prom. The dance is free and will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 22 in Clarke Lounge.  
KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

“Why not just get together ... and be in a place where you can exist and just have a good time overall?”  
– Senior Avery Santiago

connections with other people who have similar identities.

“There’s a whole bunch of negative health things that can happen to LGBTQ students because of social isolation, and so with events like this, there is a direct connection between students’ healths in all aspects and their ability to succeed academically,” Maurer said.

Geselle Dominguez, administrative assistant for Center for

IDEAS, said that having this event is important because it provides a safe and fun environment for people who may feel alienated or marginalized because of their sexual or gender orientations.

“One of our goals as a new center is to help foster a sense of belonging to all students through campuswide programming and collaborations, and this dance provides just that,” Dominguez said.

“We believe helping to give the community access to a space in which their sexual, romantic and gender identities are celebrated, rather than invalidated, tends to the overall well-being of our community and speaks to our mission to empower.”

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## From AIRPORT, Page 1

“I’m here tonight to ask you who you serve,” she said. “Do you serve the billionaire in our community, or do you serve the people? There’s a billionaire who wants an airport expansion, and there’s a bunch of people that can’t even get on a bus anymore. So our priorities should be people.”

Many of the legislators were uneasy with some of the assertions the activists were making.

Martha Robertson, chair of the legislature, responded to some of the comments and said she supported their efforts against ICE but emphasized that ICE would not be coming into the county through the new customs station.

“You are preaching to the choir — we are committed to the protection of immigrants,” she said. “I want to encourage people to pay attention to the facts. ... This is not the threat that you are led to believe it is.”

She added that the new customs facility would do nothing to increase ICE presence in the county.

“There will not be a tolerance of ICE coming through this customs facility — period,” she said. “We have no control over what they are already doing and know that they don’t need a 5,000-square-foot office to do what they are already doing.”

Legislator Deborah Dawson also shot back at some of the claims and said the county legislature was not legally able to spend money toward housing or bus services between cities. She also said that having a customs facility is very standard in airports and that not having one in the Ithaca airport could result in more carbon emissions for international flights.

“When you need to land in New York or Philadelphia to go through customs, you need to use more fuel,” she said. “Planes use way more fuel when taking off than they do at cruising altitudes.”

The airport expansion is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

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## From ALLERGY, Page 1

from a number of students — that if we could have a dedicated area, that would really be helpful,” Scott said.

Sophomore Sara Schneiderman, who has celiac disease, a condition where gluten damages the small intestine, said accommodations for students with dietary restrictions allow them to be included in campus life.

“Eating is as much social as it is biological,” Schneiderman said. “To have to find a separate place to get your food from ... is challenging.”

Sophomore Eden Strachan said the former allergy area was not effective because it was not protected from cross-contamination by other students without allergies who were eating in the dining hall. While she has never had a reaction due to cross-contamination in the dining halls, Strachan has a life-threatening nut allergy that always has her concerned about the issue.

After the roundtable took place, several students with allergies — including Schneiderman and Strachan — wanted to form a club called Food Allergy Advocates that would work with Dining Services to promote allergy awareness and safety in the dining halls on campus. Schneiderman said the group is in the club recognition process now and hopes to be a recognized club by the end of the semester.

Schneiderman also had problems with the previous allergy area because none of the foods were compatible with her other restrictions.

“For me, the food that they served there never worked with all my dietary restrictions and my allergies,” Schneiderman said. “It was really frustrating for me because I was spending a lot of time focusing on how I was going to be able to get healthy food.”

Scott said the area has been in the works for a few years as an ideal practice, but the college lacked the space to implement it.

“We’ve kind of viewed it as a pending opportunity should we get space,” Scott said.

Prior to being renovated into My Zone, the room near the back of the dining hall was used as a meeting space, Scott said. The college approved the space for a dedicated allergy area last fall, and the room was renovated to be opened at the beginning of Spring 2019.

If it is a student’s first time using My Zone,



Ithaca College Dining Services has created a new area in the Campus Center Dining Hall for those in the campus community with nut and gluten allergies and intolerances.  
SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN

they check in with a staff member who records their name and student ID number. At the end of the day, the dining hall sends the list to the ID office, and next time, the student is able to use their ID card to access the area. No backpacks or coats are allowed into the room, and students must wash their hands upon entering to avoid cross-contamination.

Inside the room, there is a variety of food, ranging from bagels to frozen meals and fruit, plus a microwave for students to use. Scott said Dining Services is getting feedback on the food selection and hopes to tailor the offerings to what users enjoy.

Scott said he is excited for the potential of the new space.

“I think, certainly, one of the things we’re always trying to do is improve our service,” Scott said. “Certainly, for folks that have dietary restrictions, having an area that supports them better, we’re thrilled to have it.”

Schneiderman said My Zone is a good start to ensuring that students with allergies can eat safely in the dining halls.

“If we could get to the point where everyone who has dietary restrictions can know that they are grabbing something that is safe for them to eat and not have to worry about cross-contamination, that would be great,” Schneiderman said. “The allergy section is such a great start to that because it is knowing that no one is going to bring in outside food and contaminate it.”

Strachan said she hopes that My Zone is only a start and that Dining Services will continue the conversation about food allergies.

“This was a huge step, and when I saw it ... I was overjoyed,” Strachan said. “Just the fact that they made a safe space means a lot to me.”

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# First finalists for wellness position visit college

**BY RYAN BIEBER**  
STAFF WRITER

The first two of four final candidates for the newly created executive director for student wellness position have presented their goals and plans to the campus community.

The goal of the position is to combine the counseling and psychological services, health services and health promotion on campus into a cohesive model to improve student wellness. Ithaca College hosted the first two open campus presentations from the final four prospects, events during which anyone in the community could listen and provide feedback after the candidates explained their backgrounds and philosophies on health and student wellness. The last two presentations from finalists will be held from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Feb. 20 in Klingenstein Lounge and from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Taughannock Falls room.

Finalist Sislena Ledbetter, director of counseling and student development at the University of the District of Columbia, gave her perspective on college students' health needs Feb. 12 in Clarke Lounge. Approximately 15 community members attended.

She said her priorities in the new position would focus on integrated health care, prevention, promotion, space and confidentiality. Ledbetter said she has worked in higher education for the past nine years and has an added perspective as a first-generation college student.

"We are starting to reimagine what wellness can be," Ledbetter said. "It's

all about understanding how to serve the students better."

Ledbetter said she wants to build a more diverse community at the college and focus on strengthening the intersection of mental and physical health. She said it is important for her that the people who work in the Hammond Health Center and the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services reflect the diversity in the student body. A strategic priority she mentioned is to get more feedback from students, staff and faculty.

Another finalist for the position, John Dunkle, the executive director of counseling and psychological services at Northwestern University, pitched his ideas on student wellness to approximately 25 community members Feb. 14 in the Emerson Suites. Dunkle emphasized his idea of a "community of care," which involves all branches of the college community working together to meet the mental and physical health needs of students.

"The idea is that we want to create multiple avenues of support," Dunkle said. "A lot of students may not come through the doors of the Health Center first, so we need to develop partnerships."

Dunkle also stressed the importance of being realistic in what the college says it can and cannot offer. Dunkle said he has seen many colleges claim that their health centers can meet all of their students' needs when it is really impossible to do so.

"I'll tell you right now, no campus can offer comprehensive mental health services," Dunkle said. "But, we can do some things to align our



Two of the four finalists for the newly established executive director for student wellness position came to campus Feb. 12 and Feb. 14. They gave their pitches in open forums about why they should be selected.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

resources and scope of practices."

The search for the position began shortly after Keeling and Associates, the college's health care provider, published a report in November 2018 that claimed that there is no articulated vision or strategy for student health and well-being at the college and that there was a lack of organization among the health and wellness

services on campus. Not long after the review was published, the college posted an ad for the position of director of student wellness.

Since the review, Keeling and Associates has worked closely with a hiring committee comprised of seven members of the college community, which is being chaired by Susan Bassett, associate vice president and

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# Ithaca locals protest Trump's emergency

**BY RYAN KING**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

While many Ithacans were home from work celebrating President's Day, some took to The Commons on Feb. 18 to protest President Donald Trump's recent declaration of a national emergency to build a wall on the southern border.

"The national emergency declared by Trump is outrageous — it's an overreach," said Amala Lane, a local resident and the organizer of the protest. "It is actually against the Constitution. He is not living up to the standards of iconic presidents like Washington and Lincoln."

Trump declared a national emergency at the U.S.-Mexico border Feb. 15 in order to have access to \$6.7 billion, which Congress had allocated to other areas of the government, to build a wall. This declaration came after a bitter dispute with Congress over funding for the wall, which resulted in a monthlong government shutdown. Trump also signed a bill to avoid another government shutdown and to allocate \$1.375 billion

toward fencing on the border. He originally asked for \$5.7 billion.

Lane organized the event the day prior through social media after realizing that no one else in the Ithaca community had organized a local rally. Activists in cities across the country, like Syracuse, New York, and Washington, D.C., organized rallies of hundreds of people with the support of MoveOn.org to protest Trump's actions, and Lane said she was surprised no one in Ithaca had organized one.

"I was asking friends why other groups didn't organize it and someone said, 'Maybe they're burnt out,'" she said. "Trump has been a never-ending spiral of hell."

Although she has attended rallies in the past, she said this was her first time organizing one.

During the rally, approximately 50 people braved the bitter cold for an hour to rally in the Bernie Milton Pavilion at noon and held signs expressing their discontent with Trump's recent move. They chanted lines like "I say emergency, and you say fake" and "When immigrants are under attack, what do we do? Stand up



Protesters hold up signs expressing their opposition to President Donald Trump's recent declaration of a national emergency at the U.S.-Mexico border. The rally took place Feb. 18.

RYAN KING/THE ITHACAN

and fight back."

Some of the rallygoers came to the front of the crowd and expressed outrage with the policy.

Garry Thomas, a local resident and professor emeritus in the Department of Anthropology at Ithaca College, said he wishes Trump was not the president.

"I am so deeply offended by so many of these policies, and it's so inhumane," he said. "Trump professes to be a Christian, and I wonder what is so Christian about building a wall."

Steven Stoblick, a local resident who

attended the rally, said he felt it was important to protest the president's actions.

"I really feel that the president went too far in overstepping the boundaries of his office and created a fake crisis in order to do that," he said. "I didn't want to let that go by without saying something about it."

The rally ended with the attendees huddling together in a circle to have a moment of silence.

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## COLLEGE

### IC plans Campus Center open house for community to tour offered services

Ithaca College will be hosting an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Feb. 25 in the Campus Center. During the open house, attendees will be able to tour all the offices and services in the center. All students, faculty and employees are encouraged to attend.

Visitors can check in at the North Entrance of the Campus Center or at the Campus Center lobby to receive their passport. When participants have visited at least 50 percent of the offices and services in the Campus Center, they will be entered into a contest to win a prize.

One of the stops in the center will be the new food pantry. If attendees bring an item to donate to the pantry, they will be able to spin a prize wheel to get an additional prize. The food pantry is in need of cereal, pasta, nut butters, instant oatmeal, fruit juices, condiments, spices and personal care items.

### IC staff members receive award for excellence in community affairs

Ithaca College's Staff Council Employee Recognition and Development Committee recognized two staff members with the Staff Recognition Award. Jennifer Pawlewicz, career engagement and marketing specialist for career services, and Luca Maurer, director of the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services, both received the award.

The award is meant to recognize staff members who are actively involved with the college's community and who have gone above and beyond their regular work duties. The committee will begin accepting employee recognition nominations for Spring 2019 by mid-February.

### IC sports radio station recognized for Fall '18 Cortaga Jug coverage

Ithaca College's WICB Sports, one of the radio stations that broadcasts out of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, has been recognized by the Broadcast Education Association (BEA)

at its annual Festival of Media Arts Awards Competition. WICB Sports was applauded for its coverage of the 2018 Ithaca College football season.

WICB Sports' winning submission was written, produced and voiced by senior Cam Pratt, the station's sports director. The submission was approximately five minutes long and originally aired during the Cortaca Jug football game in Fall 2018. His broadcast included sound bites, notes from each team, stats and an open narrative.

BEA recognized 295 entries out of over 300 entries from participating schools and over 1,500 entries from around the world.

### IC School of Business offers tax help for students during 2019 tax season

Ithaca College is offering free tax consultation and preparation for students who earned an income less than \$55,000 in 2018. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is available on Mondays from 1 to 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is run out of the School of Business.

The clinic asks that students bring a current driver's license or other photo identification and that students check if they are being claimed as a dependent on their parents' tax returns. Students can email [ithacacollegevita@gmail.com](mailto:ithacacollegevita@gmail.com) to make an appointment. International students can email [internationalvita@gmail.com](mailto:internationalvita@gmail.com) to make an appointment.

### Cinemapolis hosts Q&A session with filmmakers of civil rights film

Cinemapolis in downtown Ithaca will feature the student- and faculty-made film "With Infinite Hope: MLK and The Civil Rights Movement" and will end the feature with a Q&A session with the filmmakers at 7 p.m. Feb. 21.

The documentary aired over 300 times on more than 75 public television stations in the United States and focuses on the life of Martin Luther King Jr. The film also looks at many of the important events surrounding the civil rights movement, like the Freedom Rides



### IC band Butter performs at local lounge

From left, junior Dan Yapp plays the trumpet while performing in his band, Butter, for its EP release show Feb. 16 at Sacred Root Kava Lounge and Tea Bar. The band plays funk music and is composed of current Ithaca College students and alumni.

KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

and the Memphis, Tennessee, sanitation workers' strike. The documentary was directed by James Rada, associate professor and chair of the Department of Journalism, and co-produced by Rada and Chrissy Guest, assistant professor in the Department of Journalism.

Six Ithaca College students and alumni also worked on the film: Christy Calcagno '18, Kalia Kornegay '18, Emily Varga '18 and seniors Mary Jones, Sophia Tulp and Elena Piech.

All community members with an interest in the history of the civil rights movement, oral

history and documentary production are encouraged to attend.

### Professor pens chapter in book about communication in neuroscience

Patrick McKeon, associate professor in the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences, had a chapter he wrote published in the textbook "Neuroscience Fundamentals for Communication Sciences & Disorders." It is the 12th chapter in the book and is titled "Introduction to Motor Learning and Control Principles of Behavior."

# Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM  
FEBRUARY 4 TO FEBRUARY 7

#### FEBRUARY 4

##### PETIT LARCENY UNDER \$50

LOCATION: West Tower  
SUMMARY: Officer reported unknown person stole exit sign. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

##### SUSPICIOUS PERSON

LOCATION: James J. Whalen Center for Music  
SUMMARY: Complainant reported two suspicious people walking through building. Officer was unable to locate the people. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

##### UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 151  
SUMMARY: During health and safety inspection, caller reported finding marijuana paraphernalia. Officer judicially referred two persons for unlawful possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Neena Testa responded.

#### FEBRUARY 5

##### SCC DRUG VIOLATIONS

LOCATION: West Tower  
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer judicially referred one person for violation

of drug policy and for college regulations. Patrol Officer Dan Redder responded.

##### MEDICAL ASSISTANCE/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 190  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person having difficulty breathing from allergic reaction. Person was transported to hospital by ambulance staff. Fire Protection Specialist Max Nobel responded.

#### FEBRUARY 6

##### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: James J. Whalen Center for Music  
SUMMARY: Officer reported unknown person damaged wall and wrote graffiti. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

##### SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 110  
SUMMARY: Caller reported finding door to apartment open. Officer determined no evidence of unauthorized entry or items missing. Sergeant Ron Hart responded.

##### MEDICAL ASSIST/ PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: Emerson Hall  
SUMMARY: Caller reported

thirdhand information that person had signs of self-harm. Officer determined person sought psychological assistance. Patrol Officer Dan Redder responded.

##### FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Circle Apartments Building 131  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Activation caused by burnt food. Fire Protection Specialist Max Noble responded.

##### RECLASSIFICATION OF CRIME

LOCATION: Lyon Hall  
SUMMARY: Officer reported incident that originally occurred in Lyon Hall on Jan. 28 was reclassified from unlawful possession of marijuana to criminal possession of marijuana in the fifth degree.

##### UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Clarke Hall  
SUMMARY: During health and safety inspection, caller reported finding marijuana paraphernalia. Patrol Officer Dan Redder responded.

##### FIRE ALARM SMOKE INVESTIGATION

LOCATION: Peggy Ryan Williams Center  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. Activation was caused by smoke from faulty belt on water pump. Fire Protection Specialist

Max Noble responded.

##### MOTOR-VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: Grant Egbert Boulevard  
SUMMARY: Caller reported two-car property damage accident occurred at approximately 7:55 p.m. Parties exchanged information. A report was taken. Sergeant Don Lyke responded.

#### FEBRUARY 7

##### MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Terrace 3  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person feeling ill with a fever. Person was transported to the Hammond Health Center. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

##### MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS-RELATED

LOCATION: Center for Natural Sciences  
SUMMARY: Caller reported person fainted. Person transported to hospital by ambulance staff. A report was taken. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

##### TRESPASS NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Muller Chapel pond  
SUMMARY: Caller reported safety concern for person on ice of pond.

Officer issued person warning for being on the ice. Patrol Officer Neena Testa responded.

##### UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: West Tower  
SUMMARY: During health and safety inspection, caller reported finding marijuana paraphernalia. Officer judicially referred one person for unlawful possession of marijuana and possession of flammable substance. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

##### CRIMINAL TAMPERING 3RD DEGREE

LOCATION: Bogart Hall  
SUMMARY: Caller reported odor of marijuana. Officer also found the smoke detector was covered. Officer judicially referred two people for violation of drug policy and one person for tampering with fire safety equipment. Patrol Officer Neena Testa responded.

Full public safety log available online at [www.theithacan.org](http://www.theithacan.org).

#### KEY

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





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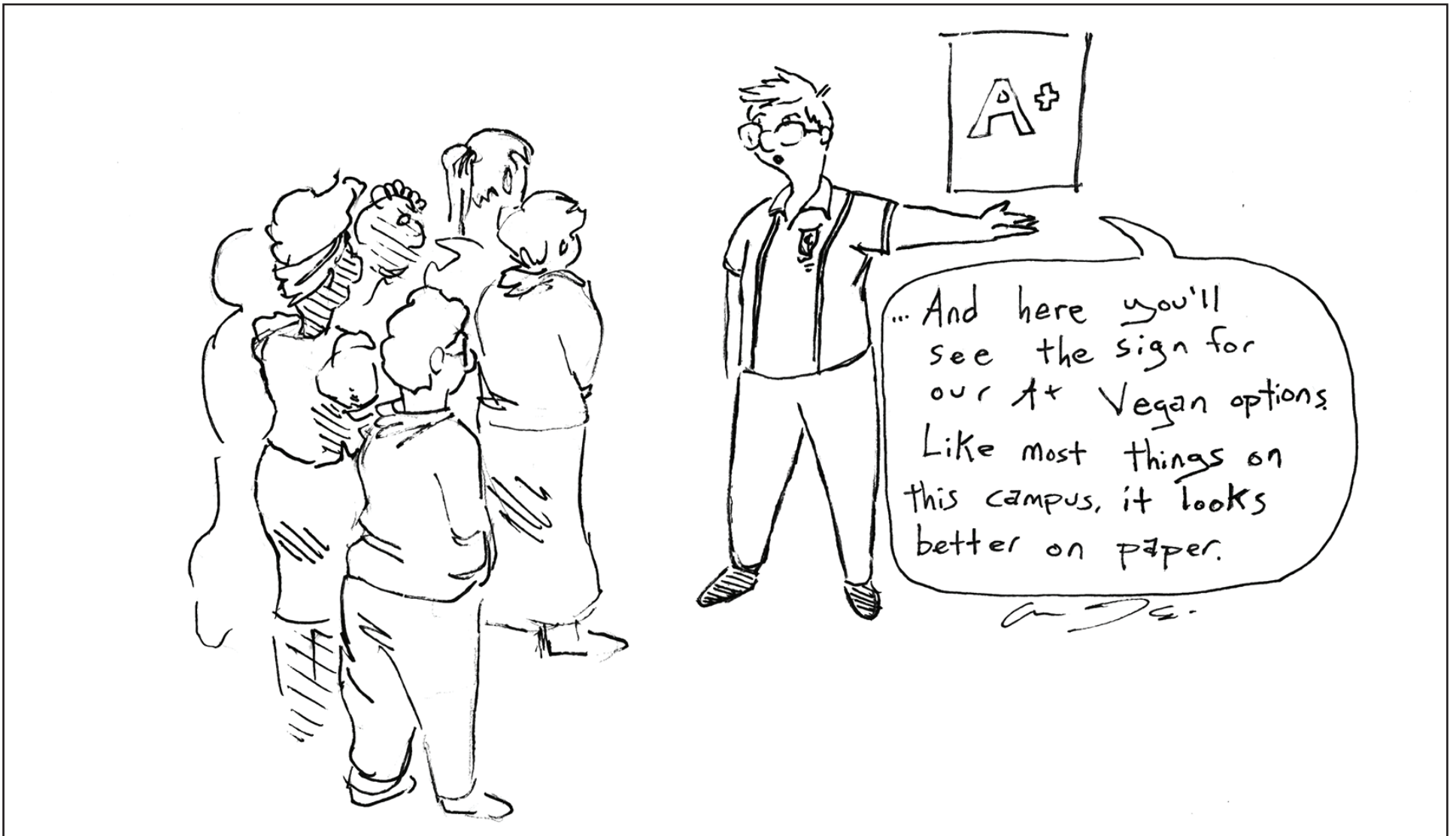
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form. on our website.







AVI KENDRICK/THE ITHACAN

## EDITORIALS

### College's vegan options do not meet dietary needs

For the past several years, Ithaca College has received an A-plus rating for the vegan options it offers in its dining halls. The rating is based on a self-reported survey administered by peta2, an organization that requires colleges to have basic vegan meal options in at least one dining hall on campus. This rating has been a selling point to vegan students in the past; however, several students voiced that they felt disappointed with the options once they arrived at the college.

If someone were to walk into any dining hall on campus or visit the college's website, they would be able to find an advertisement promoting the A-plus rating. Despite this rating, a glaring issue with the vegan options available in the dining halls remains: Vegan students' dietary needs are not being fulfilled.

Instead of plentiful, diverse options from each food group, it has been reported that the vegan options at the college's dining halls have largely remained static and are often limited to a handful of foods that often lack necessary nutritional value. Several students have commented that the dining halls only offer one type of protein, or none at all, and that the other food groups available still often leave much to be desired. Ultimately, students have claimed that a vegan diet under the college's Dining Services is lackluster and unfulfilling and sometimes has led to malnutrition and weight loss.

Considering this widespread dissatisfaction, it is problematic that the college continues to advertise itself as an institution that is open to all diets. While the A-plus rating exists, it only stands as a baseline for minimal vegan requirements, and the criteria to earn a high rating are rudimentary at best. It mandates that Dining Services provides only the most basic level of options for vegan students.

While non-vegans are provided numerous entrees and overall options — despite, admittedly, being of questionable quality at times, as past student complaints will reveal — vegans are met with the same static, often non-nutritious food time and time again.

Vegan students also deserve nutritious meals. There are several dining halls and places to obtain food on campus in order to feed the college's entire student population; however, only a small fraction of those services are accessible to vegan students on restricted diets. Despite only being able to eat a small fraction of the food available — which is often also limited to specific hours in the dining halls — vegan students still have to pay the same amount for a meal plan as any other student, funding a dining service that does not truly serve them. Additionally, on top of meal plan fees, vegan students often need to pay for more food out-of-pocket due to not being satisfied with what the dining halls provide.

These grievances all beg one question: What can the college do to improve the experiences of its vegan students?

Ultimately, the best way for Dining Services to improve is to genuinely listen to the desires of students, and then act on them. Students voiced concerns about the college's vegan options at Dining Services' most recent roundtable discussion, where officials from Dining Services fielded feedback and suggestions for change, and it is one of the issues Dining Services said it will address in the future. Moving forward, Dining Services should investigate ways it can provide more options for vegan students. Students' nutrition is integral to their academic performance and overall experience at the college, and to not make that possible for vegan students is unfair to them.

### Anti-contamination area vital addition to dining hall

At the beginning of Spring 2019, a new area in the Ithaca College Campus Center Dining Hall was added so that students with food allergies or intolerances could eat without risk of cross-contamination. Now, students who are registered with Dining Services as having a food allergy or intolerance can get their meals from "My Zone," a place where a variety of foods are available and are guaranteed to not be cross-contaminated with allergens like nuts and gluten.

This addition follows a roundtable discussion that took place Fall 2018, where students and officials from Dining Services discussed ways the dining hall could better handle its food and protect students with allergies and intolerances. It is clear that Dining Services is taking the severity of allergies and intolerances seriously, and these additions are making our campus a safer place. Cross-contamination in the dining halls has caused issues in the past, as some students have experienced serious allergic reactions, and it is encouraging to see Dining Services respond promptly with a viable solution. Dining Services should be

praised for taking action on this issue.

Students attending the college deserve to know that the food they are being provided will not cause them to have dangerous, harmful reactions. Most students who live on campus are dependent on the dining halls to provide most of their nutritional needs — as they should be, considering that meal plans for residents not living in an apartment are made mandatory by the college.

Moving forward, Dining Services should extend this initiative to all dining halls and keep these anti-contamination areas open during all hours. Students with allergies or intolerances pay for the same meal plan all students at the college do; however, their access to these services is limited. The area preventing cross-contamination only currently exists at the Campus Center Dining Hall, and the students who need to use it are restricted to eating at that location and during its operating hours. If Dining Services wants to make itself truly accessible to all students attending the college, it needs to begin working on ways to improve food safety and availability across campus.

## Letter to the Editor or Guest Commentary

Letters must be 250 words or fewer and commentary must be between 500-650 words. Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject. Must be emailed or dropped off by 5 p.m Monday in Park 220.

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

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



INTO  
IDENTITY



MAHAD OLAD

## Omar’s critique not anti-Semitic

U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar, a Democrat from Minnesota, ignited a national controversy last week for expressing a basic political fact: The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC, yields enormous lobbying power in Congress. Instead of addressing her critiques of this prominent pro-Israel lobbying organization, Jewish Americans and both parties of Congress, especially opportunistic Republicans, denounced Omar as an irredeemable “anti-Semite.” Don’t these members of Congress have more significant issues to fuss over than Omar merely calling attention to AIPAC’s financial and political clout?

The specific tweet that landed Omar in trouble read “It’s all about the Benjamins, baby.” Omar was responding to another tweet by Glenn Greenwald, who rightly pointed out that, from day one, Republican Party leaders have been intimidating Omar and Rep. Rashida Tlaib, a Democrat from Michigan, for exercising their free speech rights to criticize Israel. After being asked who she “thinks is paying American politicians to be pro-Israel,” Omar replied “AIPAC.”

The response to Omar’s tweets has been troubling, and it goes to show how toxic the debate over Israel and Palestine has become. Not only did Omar attract condemnations for her remarks, but President Donald Trump called for her to resign from Congress, or at least withdraw from her position on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. This is obviously hilarious coming from Trump. His ascendance to the White House was due to his brazen bigotry.

Omar is not a vicious anti-Semite, and I think her tweets were wildly misread. Her basic points were about the immense influence of money in politics and the tight alliance between Israel and the United States. In the past, Omar has critiqued the relationship between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. Why wasn’t she denounced by the whole nation as an Islamophobe for condemning a Muslim-majority country? Part of the vitriol against Omar and Tlaib has to do with them refusing to toe the democratic script, particularly on the Israel-Palestine conflict. In fact, they are the first members of Congress to actively support the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel. It’s also likely that a lot of the criticisms toward Omar and Tlaib stem from their identity as outspoken Muslim women of color.

More to the point, critiques of Israel’s government shouldn’t translate into a bias against Jews. Is it important to be cognizant of the language one uses when critiquing Israel so it doesn’t unwittingly fall into anti-Semitic tropes? Of course. But I also find it problematic that any mention of the word “Palestine” is virtually prohibited in the American political discourse. During the 2016 presidential campaign, Bernie Sanders committed heresy by stating, “We are going to have to treat the Palestinian people with respect and dignity.” The mainstream media fretted over this statement for weeks.

**INTO IDENTITY** is a column about identity issues written by **MAHAD OLAD**. Olad is a junior politics major. Connect with him at [molad@ithaca.edu](mailto:molad@ithaca.edu).

# NATIONAL RECAP

## Trump sued over border wall plans

BY MEREDITH BURKE  
OPINION EDITOR

As of Feb. 18, 16 states have filed a lawsuit against President Donald Trump’s administration, challenging his plan to use emergency powers to fund the wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Following Trump’s declaration Feb. 15, which would allow him to access billions of dollars more for the border wall than what Congress granted him, the suit argues that Trump does not have the power to divert funds to the wall because Congress controls government spending.

The lawsuit was organized by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra and filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. The other attorney generals involved in the lawsuit are from Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon and Virginia.

This emergency declaration is the first that authorized military action since the 9/11 attacks, which Trump justified in his declaration by referring to migrants crossing the border as a criminal invasion. Declaring this emergency was not the only way to fund the wall — a



President Donald Trump declares at the White House that he plans to use emergency funds to build a wall along the southern border, a move that numerous organizations and states have legally challenged.

EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

fact that Trump acknowledged in his declaration speech — but it is the fastest.

The states’ lawsuit is one in a series of suits that have been filed against the administration over the national emergency declaration. Over the weekend, the Center for Biological Diversity and the American Civil Liberties Union also filed lawsuits. Additionally, El Paso County and the Border Network for Human Rights (BNHR) are also

filing a lawsuit against Trump with the help of Protect Democracy and the Niskanen Center, two nonprofit organizations. Fernando Garcia, founder and executive director of BNHR, told KFOX14 that the wall would harm the communities surrounding the border.

On Feb. 19, Trump criticized the states’ lawsuit and claimed via Twitter that opposition to the state of emergency is the result of leftist radicalism. He also noted that he

had anticipated legal challenges with declaring the state of emergency but is not deterred. He also criticized Becerra’s state for its plans of a high-speed railway, which gained national attention in recent weeks after Gov. Gavin Newsom said building it would not be feasible due to costs and logistical challenges.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Legal THC needs to be regulated

To the Editor

NYS seems to be on the road to legalizing “marijuana.” However, the reality is that it will (in effect) actually legalize THC, which is the active component of the marijuana plant used recreationally. The risk is that commercial corporations will market THC in forms and concentrations far beyond what is prudent for public health and beyond what has been studied medically. Like “big tobacco,” these corporations will likely stay within the law but, in effect, market to

our children and young adults in their aggressive pursuit of profit. Should NYS legalize THC, it should follow the pattern of legalization of alcohol. The product must be regulated in form, concentration and packaging. Marketing practices and advertising in particular must be regulated. To do less is to invite corporations to once again prey upon our people.

Dr. William Klepack  
Medical Director, Tompkins  
County Health Department

### Ticket price supports IC’s services

Dear Editor:

In the recent *Ithacan* issue on the front page, it was interesting to see two columns. The first was on the “Unsustainable IC Budget” and just below it on a new position to “manage initiatives for first-generation students, sophomore students and social media.” This support position would be the third unit of the OSEMA. In a business setting, these positions would be referred to as overhead. In the last twenty-years of reading *The Ithacan*, it is not unusual to find an article on a new support position or department being formed. These positions all add up and have helped create an “unsustainable” budget.

Questions: 1. How much of the \$61,000 yearly cost for students goes to finance these support departments? 2. What percentage of the total student body use these support departments on a regular basis? 3. What incentive do

colleges have in reducing total costs when the basic requirement for a student loan is a signature? 4. What percentage of the student body actually pay the full \$61,000? 5. What percentage of Full Professors average 3 or 4 hours a day in direct contact with students in a lecture hall, classroom, or lab?

The realization is that these costs have become “unsustainable.” If this is what the college feels it has to do to remain competitive, the students want these support services and with the students being 88% of the revenue source, the students will have to pick up 88% of the tab. Not that complicated.

Jack Turan, BS 68, MS 69

### Adjust workload to reduce payroll

Dear Editor,

I am a grandmother to a male student and have a subscription to *The Ithacan*.

Responding to your Jan. 31 issue, “Unsustainable,” etc., these are the points I make: I am a retired public school teacher who spent from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day with 25 to 30 children with one half-hour for lunch.

A good friend who spent several years in academia commented “The college professor is

the last leisure class in America.” Why not reduce your payroll by requiring each professor to add one course to their workload?

I hope that the administration gives some serious thought to this recommendation.

Yours Sincerely,  
Carole West

### Misogyny is not thoughtful critique

As I read staff writer David West’s *Ithacan* review of Ariana Grande’s latest album, I quickly realized that I wasn’t reading a critique so much as I was reading a misogyny-driven screed trying to disguise itself as a review. In fact, West’s review is so dependent on and saturated with sexist tropes about women in music that it’s difficult to even take it seriously as a work of artistic critique in the first place.

West fails to provide a thoughtful critique throughout his whole piece that doesn’t already rely on sexist stereotypes. As a result, the critique isn’t smart or thought-provoking. Instead, West’s piece is low brow, hollow and mean-spirited. West doesn’t even take the time to engage with the actual music itself, aside from brief one-liners and an overuse of adjectives that, when absorbed along with rest of the review, come off as incongruent. Instead of analyzing the album on its

merits, West resorts to a character attack in which he projects his grievances with Grande onto the review itself.

What West decides to ignore is that “thank u, next” is intentionally personal. Thus, it matters that Grande chose to write about her vulnerabilities in a public way. It matters because women are constantly shamed and harassed for centering themselves first. And it matters because women are still expected to placate men at their own expense.

This is not to say that West is wrong for not liking Grande’s album — there are always works of art that may not strongly appeal to us. But there is a marked difference between smart commentary and lazy writing; West’s review is the latter.

Sincerely,

Celisa Calacal  
Ithaca College ’18



GUEST COMMENTARY

# Contingent faculty deserve more recognition

BY THE CONTINGENT FACULTY UNION COMMITTEE

Whose teaching has touched your life? Whose dedication to their students inspires you? Who on Ithaca College's campus is making a difference in the world? Now is your opportunity to nominate your instructor or colleague for the Faculty Excellence Awards and let the campus know how much their work means to you.

This is only the second year that this award will be open to contingent faculty members — non-tenured faculty on short-term contracts, who have significantly less pay and job stability than their tenured counterparts. Through hard work and three years of persistence, the Contingent Faculty Union, made up of faculty at IC, won a great contract in 2017 that improves the lives of faculty and students here on campus. This was one of the benefits that we won: the right for contingent faculty to be included in faculty awards. Since then, the union has been working closely with the Center for Faculty Excellence and the Faculty Development Committee to make the awards more inclusive and accessible. As a result, the criteria of the awards have shifted; the Faculty Development Committee is now responsible for making sure that each nominee is judged only on the basis of what they are employed to do at IC, whether

that includes teaching, service work, and/or scholarship.

For contingent faculty, teaching is at the core of what we do. While many of us do research and perform unpaid service work — we mentor students, sit on committees, help our departments develop curricula and so on — our main responsibility is day to day, in the classroom. That is the criterion on which contingent faculty nominated for this award are to be judged: our work as educators. Because contingent faculty tends to be ignored or taken for granted by our institution, the work that we do with students usually flies under the radar, and our passion and dedication often go unremarked upon for years at a time.

But we would argue that a strong, supportive and productive relationship between a student and their teacher is more than deserving of recognition: It is the beating heart at the core of higher education — or at least, it should be. That relationship is also what keeps contingent faculty coming back to these jobs, keeps us bringing our energy to

work that is underpaid, unstable and underappreciated: We love teaching, and we love our students. We believe it is only right to celebrate that and to reward those who give so

much of themselves every day. Last year, the first year the awards were open to all IC faculty, there was a flood of contingent faculty nominees; in fact, the Faculty Development



Megan Graham, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, and her fellow members of the Contingent Faculty Union Committee encourage students to nominate contingent faculty for faculty excellence awards.

CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

“We love teaching, and we love our students.”  
– The Contingent Faculty Union Committee

Committee saw the highest number of overall nominations in a long time, nearly half of which were contingent faculty. Students and colleagues were finally able to ask for recognition for these teachers, who have been pouring their hearts into their classrooms without recognition for years. Of the six faculty members selected for last year's awards, one of them was, for the first time, a contingent faculty member. This year, we hope that the IC community will once again nominate those who have been shut out of these

awards for so long and whose contributions to our campus community are richly deserving of recognition. It would be wonderful to see more awards go to contingent faculty this year, but that can only happen if you — yes, you! — nominate someone who's touched your life.

All materials are due by February 25, but if you want to nominate someone, get started now! You'll need three letters of recommendation, including your own. If you're a student and aren't sure how to get started, you can ask your

department chair or another professor for help, or you can contact one of the faculty on the Contingent Faculty Union Committee for guidance. You're welcome to contact any of the contributors above! See [https://www.ithaca.edu/cfe/research/faculty\\_excellence\\_award/](https://www.ithaca.edu/cfe/research/faculty_excellence_award/) for more details.

**THE CONTINGENT FACULTY UNION COMMITTEE** is an organization advocating for contingent faculty on campus. Connect with them at [mdgraham@ithaca.edu](mailto:mdgraham@ithaca.edu).

GUEST COMMENTARY

# US dependence on Saudi oil causes major conflict

BY CHRIS JONES

Since the Second World War, the United States and Saudi Arabia have had a symbiotic relationship of sorts.

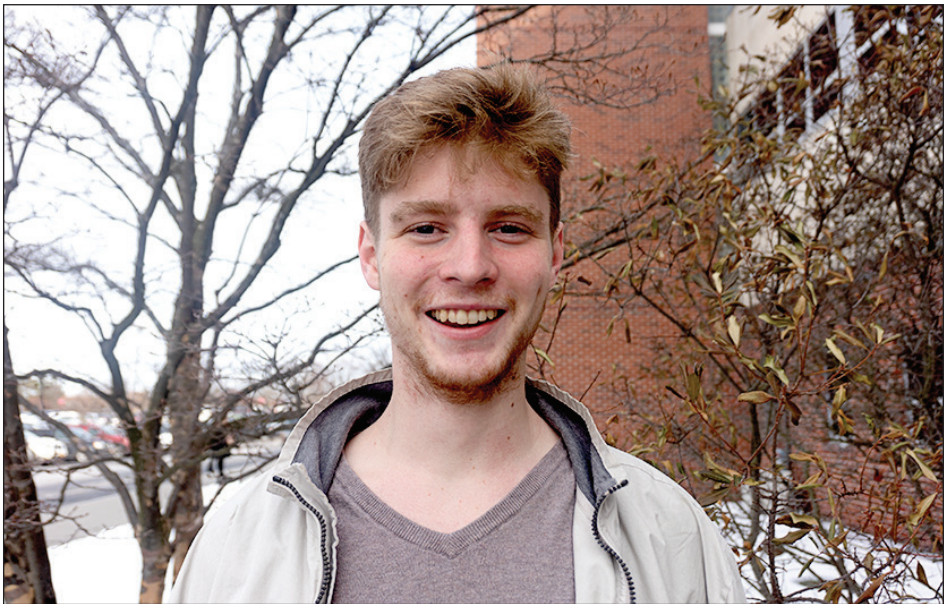
The benefits afforded to the partners are simple — the United States is afforded cheaper, more accessible and stable oil via significant Saudi production, and meanwhile, the Saudi kingdom receives diplomatic support and military protection. This alliance has continued up until today in spite of major ideological differences between the partners. The United States is ostensibly a democratic secular state, while Saudi Arabia is an authoritarian non-secular monarchy. The brand of liberalism the United States has championed since the end of the Second World War, one dependent on integrating states economically and politically through democratization, has largely been abandoned for economic stability predicated on an unending quench for oil.

The basis for this oil relationship is unnerving for multiple reasons and has led to a foreign policy with Saudi Arabia that contradicts United States policy and liberal ideology in most other arenas. Firstly, the United States has practiced diplomatic oversight in Saudi relations with other states and individual actors, empowering the kingdom to challenge and break international norms. Secondly, the reliance on oil through this favored relationship has stagnated United

States entry into a cleaner future independent of fossil fuels and stemmed economic growth in renewable energy sectors. Thirdly, the relationship has drawn the United States into conflict in the Middle East that has led to wars and an increase in anti-American sentiment that produces terrorism.

The diplomatic oversight is incredibly palpable today in regards to the murder of United States-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi in a Saudi consulate in Istanbul. This murder, according to most available evidence, was premeditated and ordered by the highest Saudi authority, Crown Prince Mohammed Bin-Salman. Khashoggi's dissidence from the kingdom was welcomed as an invitation to murder the journalist in a diplomatic station in a foreign country — significantly disregarding both international norms and Turkish domestic law. However, Khashoggi's killing is only one example of the Crown Prince's assault on basic humanitarianism and world diplomacy.

The kingdom has launched a war in Yemen against the Houthis that includes a blockade and tactical targeting of food and water sources — largely with American armaments — that has left over three-quarters of the population food-insecure and at risk of famine. His policy has isolated another United States partner in Qatar, largely over a perceived friendship with Iran and criticism from the Qatari government media corporation Al Jazeera. Salman orchestrated the kidnapping



Senior Chris Jones writes about the United States' problematic reliance on oil, its resulting relationship with Saudi Arabia and what it could mean for future diplomacy initiatives.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN

“This puts the United States at risk of falling behind other economic powers ...”  
– Senior Chris Jones

of the acting Prime Minister of Lebanon, a crucial United States geopolitical partner, Saad Hariri, attempting to force his abdication from a hotel in Riyadh. The Crown Prince's directed actions are not normal diplomatic posturing, yet the United States has refused to apply tangible sanctions that would be dealt to other actors.

The United States' reliance on oil has manifested in a draconian economic doctrine that clings to fossil fuels rather than moving toward renewable energy. This has drastic effects on the progression of global warming while simultaneously discouraging a new energy sector that promises growth and development. This puts the United States

at risk of falling behind other economic powers, namely China and the EU, that are more heavily invested in developing renewable energy.

The US-Saudi relationship is a toxic one, based in faulty economic and diplomatic premises that have the United States supporting a tyrannical government for obtuse and increasingly regressive reasons. It's time the United States ends its dependence on oil and significantly alters its relations with the kingdom, or risk losing its perceived diplomatic and economic leadership.

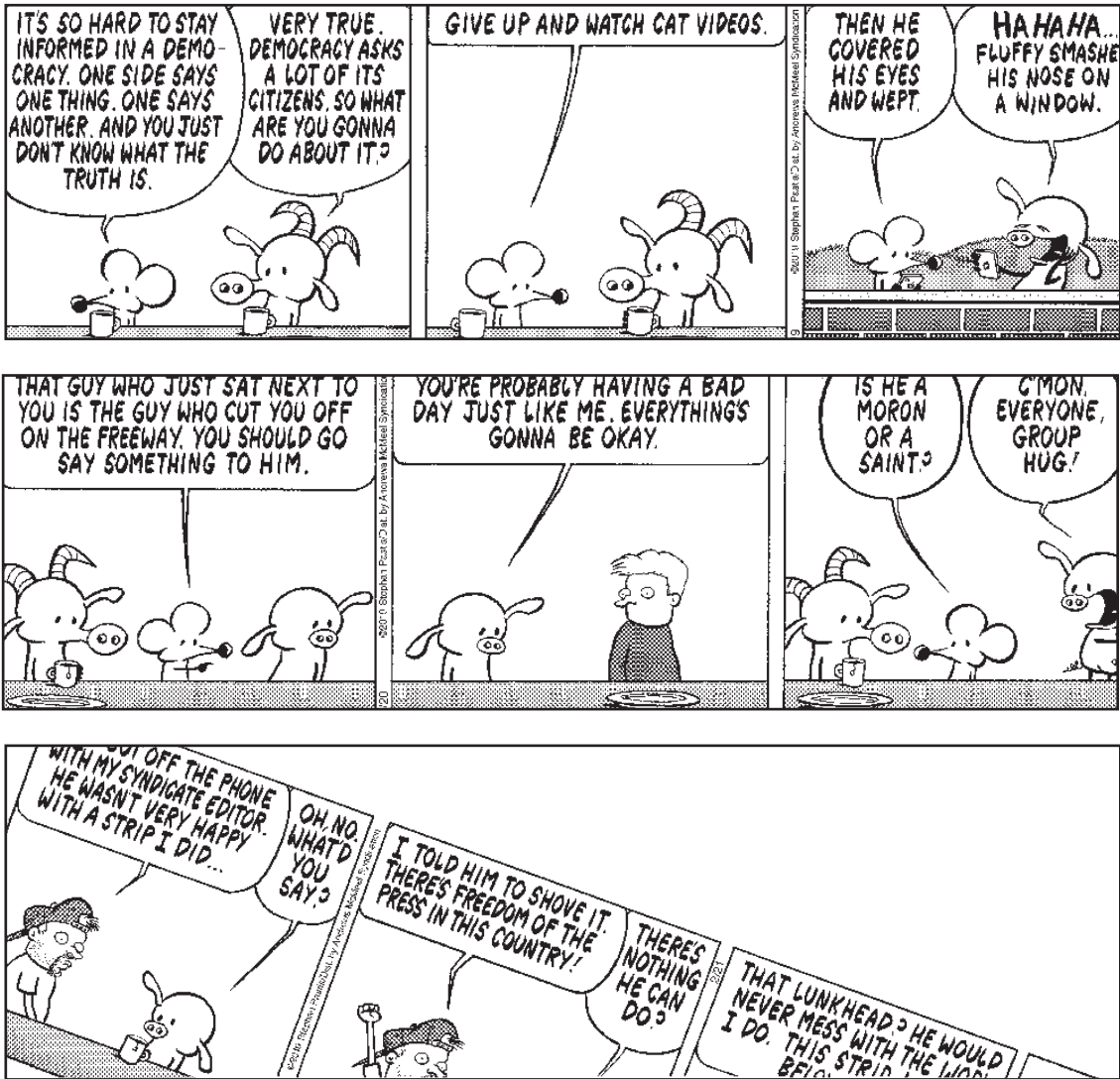
**CHRIS JONES** is a senior politics major. Connect with him at [cjones@ithaca.edu](mailto:cjones@ithaca.edu).



# DIVERSIONS

## Pearls Before Swine®

By Stephan Pastis



## Yesterday's Pasta

By Avi Kendrik



## sudoku

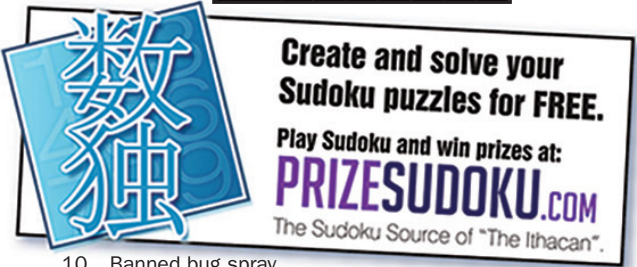
hard

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

answers to last issue's sudoku

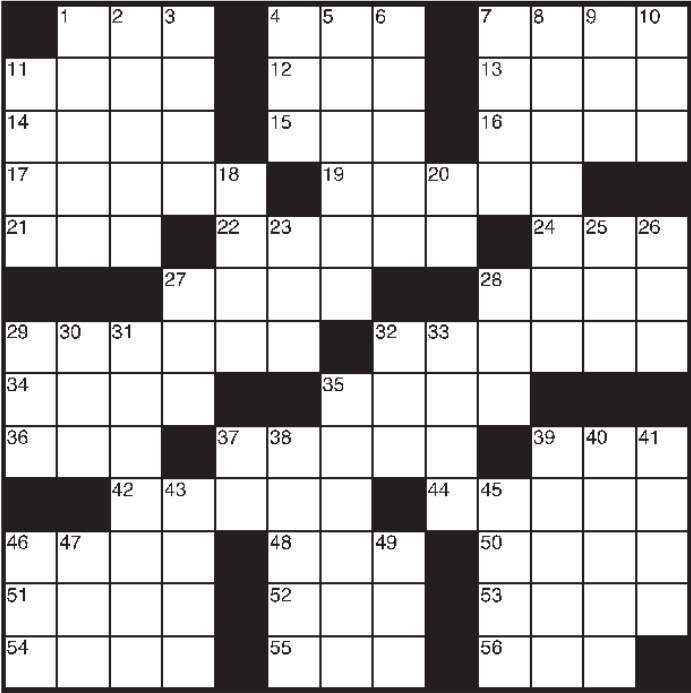
easy

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



## crossword

By United Media



### ACROSS

- Procter & Gamble detergent
- Distress signal
- Treated a sprain
- Public meeting places
- Work at
- Walked on
- Vivacity
- Empty space
- For fear that
- Alaskan town
- String-quartet member
- Golf bag item
- Cheerless
- Nieces and cousins
- Scorch
- Hoagy
- Powerful
- Bauble
- Mete out
- Mole, to suburbanites
- Drag into court
- Yet

- What was that?
- Showery time
- hole
- Humerus neighbor
- Chomped
- Feed the kitty
- Combustible matter
- Sign one's name to
- Mr. Diamond
- Man-eating giant
- In time past
- Ogle

### DOWN

- Angelina - of films
- Exponent at length
- Pull
- Resort
- Statesman - Cromwell
- Lebanon neighbor
- "- just take a minute!"
- Sounded like rusted hinges
- Daughter of Hyperion

- Banned bug spray
- Gala
- Help a hoodlum
- All right
- Set in place
- Rollover subj.
- Gesture
- Any ship
- Torrid
- ER VIPs
- Chit
- Reaper
- Md. neighbor
- Fjord city
- Stacking (up)
- Prom honoree
- Leg bone
- Nectar, finally
- Loosen
- Sock part
- Turn white
- Mr. Grey of Western novels
- "Close Encounters ..." craft
- Wheel nut
- Tyson stat

### last issue's crossword answers

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



## Celebrating color and creativity

### IC Mixed holds Black History Month Collaborative Art Showcase

#### ONLINE

For more on the showcase, go to [theithacan.org/ic-mixed-bhm-art-showcase](http://theithacan.org/ic-mixed-bhm-art-showcase)



ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

**BY OLIVIA RIGGIO**  
LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR

Some students sit at a table in the center of the Campus Center's Klingenstein Lounge, doodling on a large sheet of paper with paint and pastels. Others wander around the room, looking at vibrant visuals and poetry. All of these pieces, from the quilt displayed on a table to the pop art collages on the room dividers, were made by students and community members of color.

IC Mixed hosted the Black History Month Collaborative Art Showcase from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 18. The exhibit aimed to celebrate artists of color on campus and in the community.

The event showcased a variety of art forms, consisting of paintings, drawings, crafts and poetry. The club also provided large pieces of paper and art supplies for attendees to contribute to a collaborative creation.

IC Mixed is an organization at Ithaca College dedicated to strengthening the community of those on campus who identify as mixed or multiracial or who come from multiracial

"We all want to see mixed people — and people of color in general — in spaces that aren't necessarily made for us on this campus, and I think that, predominantly, in any spaces that art is held in the Ithaca area, it's very heavily populated by white artists," Velazquez said. "We didn't see a space where art by people of color is being celebrated in an intentional way."

Velazquez said that even though the group is not made up entirely of students who identify as black, the group members found it important to take part in this month's celebration of black history.

"We're asserting that everyone should be celebrating Black History Month," Velazquez said. "We don't have race and ethnicity in common like a lot of student orgs for people of color on campus, so I think that it's really important that even though we're not made up entirely of black members, that we still celebrate Black History Month and that we're still trying to hear the voices of black people and trying to celebrate art from people of color in general."

Freshman Louis Bavaro, treasurer of IC Mixed, also said that taking part in Black History Month through this showcase was important to the group.

"There are still some of us who share culture and heritage similar to African Americans," Bavaro said. "The idea behind it was to pay tribute to what's going on this month, in regards to the campuswide celebration."

Freshman Julia Bertussi attended the event to support the art produced by people she has worked with in IC HEARD. IC HEARD is a volunteer club at the college that provides creative arts outreach to incarcerated

juvenile detention facility in Brooktondale, New York. Bertussi said many of these residents are people of color.

"They deserve to have their voices heard, and they deserve to be able to express themselves, ... and having their work exhibited like this is just a great way to do that," she said.

Black history is commonly whitewashed and shrouded in euphemisms in white spaces. From remembering Martin Luther King Jr.'s fight for justice as a feel-good story about pacifism to believing racism is no longer a daily reality, white institutions often downplay people of color's struggles. Larkin said that while Black History Month is a celebration, it is primarily a time for learning and reflecting on black history and how it applies to contemporary history.

"Black people, black history and black voices have always been and continue to be obscured and devalued in our culture," Larkin said. "Black History Month is a yearly reminder for us to not only learn about the black history that was hidden from us growing up, but to understand how history influences what is happening to black Americans right now."

Senior Gabrielle Watson attended the event and said she chose to go to the showcase because of her interest in art and its ability to express peoples' lived realities.

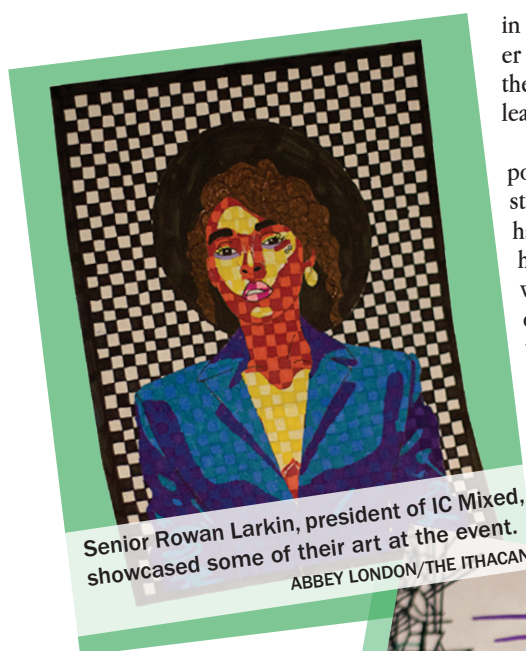
"I feel, oftentimes, if you're trying to get to know people or even just try to build relationships or get along

in the world, it's important to understand other people, to understand their lives and what they've been through, and art is a good way to learn all of that," Watson said.

For Velazquez, who had some of her own poetry displayed, art helped her express her struggles with her identity. She said she never had a chance to work on embracing her mixed heritage until her freshman year of college when she wrote the bulk of a poetry piece displayed at the showcase as part of a creative writing assignment.

"In some spaces, I am the most ethnic person there — I can be tokenized in so many ways — but in other spaces, I am just a white girl, and that's it," Velazquez said.

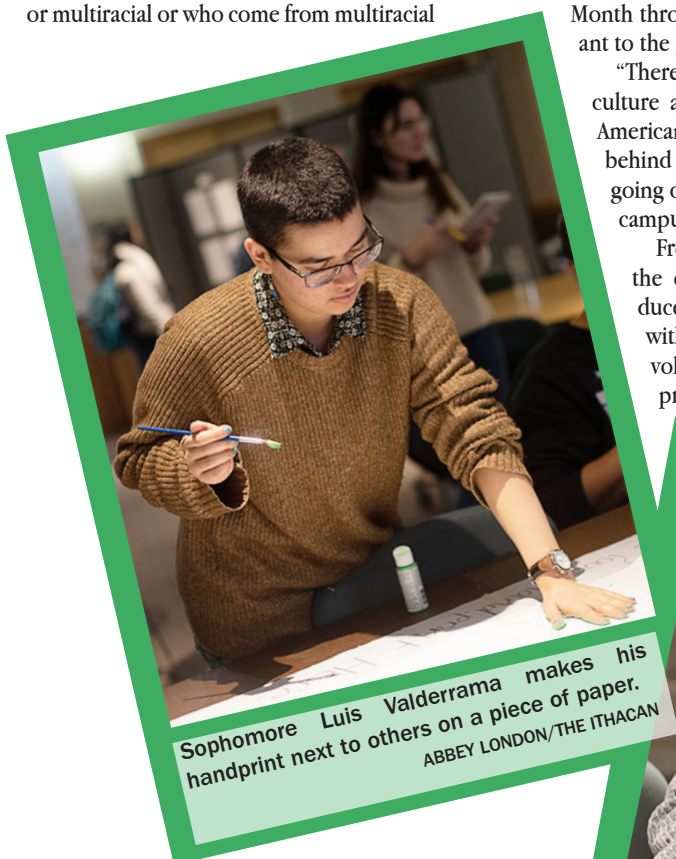
Her poem consisted of two pieces of paper



Senior Rowan Larkin, president of IC Mixed, showcased some of their art at the event.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN



Some of the art was made by boys at the MacCormick Secure Center in Brooktondale, NY.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN



Sophomore Luis Valderrama makes his handprint next to others on a piece of paper.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN



Senior Nnebundo Obi draws as part of the collaborative art piece students contributed to.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

backgrounds. Senior Rowan Larkin, president of IC Mixed, said the group has been wanting to host an event like this for some time.

Junior Serena Velazquez, vice president of IC Mixed, said this event was the first time IC Mixed held a collaborative art showcase. She said the group chose to invite attendees to create their own art so that they could participate in the exhibit in a way that was not strictly discussion-based. She also said the main goal of IC Mixed is to give a voice and space to those who are often shut out of conversations about race and identity.

males who are 14–20 years old. Some of the art featured at the showcase was produced by residents of the MacCormick Secure Center, a

covered in capitalized handwriting in red and blue. The writing spelled out statements that encompassed Velazquez's journey toward recognizing both her Latina and white identities. The text was blue and red to represent the colors of both the American and Puerto Rican flags. Some of the text included, "HOW TO NOT ACT TOO HISPANIC," "HOW TO AVOID MIRRORS" and "HOW TO HONOR YOUR ANCESTORS." She said the form of poetry she chose was inspired by a short story written by Jamaica Kincaid titled "Girl." Kincaid's piece similarly consists of episodic "how-to" statements.

"Basically, I would describe it as ... a bunch of different statements that I've thought, that I've felt, compiled," she said.

Bavaro said the celebration of Black History Month and IC Mixed's Collaborative Art Showcase are about representation and celebrating people who are often ignored.

"It's always cool to learn more about the history and culture of people who aren't always celebrated for the color of their skin," Bavaro said. "In terms of the art, it's this sense of we celebrate black history but also the unity that goes behind that."

Staff writer Phoebe Harms contributed reporting.

**CONNECT WITH OLIVIA RIGGIO**  
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# CULTURED



## The Oscars to air all categories after facing backlash

The Oscars came under fire after deciding to forgo airing four categories in the live broadcast Feb. 24. The categories — cinematography, editing, live-action short, and hair and makeup — were going to be presented during commercial breaks. Dozens of Hollywood stars stepped forward since the announcement, expressing their disapproval of the decision. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences reversed its decision amid the backlash, pledging to air all categories live.

## Attorney introduces new video evidence against R. Kelly

New evidence has surfaced against R. Kelly for sexual misconduct. Attorney Michael Avenatti claims that he has video evidence of the R&B star having sex with an underage girl. The tape shows a man who appears to be Kelly and a girl speculated to be 14. This video evidence is different from the evidence that was used in Kelly’s 2008 trial, during which he was acquitted on child pornography charges. Kelly and his attorney have denied all sexual misconduct charges and have yet to comment on these new allegations.



## Disney breaks world record with viral ‘Frozen 2’ trailer

“Frozen 2” is now the most-watched animated trailer in history. The teaser features the main characters, Anna, Elsa and Kristoff, in an unfamiliar land and hints at some of the struggles the trio will face in the new movie. The trailer received 116.4 million views in a 24-hour period, beating “The Incredibles 2” with 113.6 million views. However, these views are not all organic, as autoplays are taken into account as well. The movie will be released Nov. 22.

## 21 Savage said he fears deportation after conviction

In an interview with “Good Morning America,” 21 Savage said he is afraid he will be deported. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested the British national Feb. 3. His visa expired in 2006. He was released on bond Feb. 12 after spending over a week in detention, and he now has a legal team preparing him for an upcoming deportation hearing. The rapper said in the interview that he felt targeted by ICE, possibly because of his outspokenness about immigration issues.





# Jazz musician and activist to perform at IC

**BY MOLLY BAILOT**  
STAFF WRITER

It's not every day that songs like "Nasty Women Grab Back" and "Feminist AF" are performed in the James J. Whalen Center for Music. The Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble and guest saxophonist Roxy Coss will play these songs and more Feb. 27.

Coss is a New York — based saxophonist, composer, bandleader of the Roxy Coss Quintet, educator and activist. Her band has headlined at jazz festivals all over the world.

Coss will join the jazz ensemble to play selections from her 2018 album, "The Future is Female." A few of her original pieces are already arranged for a large band, while Michael Titlebaum, associate professor of music performance and director of the jazz ensemble, and several jazz students are working on expanding others so that they can be played by the whole jazz ensemble. The arranging and rehearsing process is currently in the works. A student vocal quartet will perform the song "Jackie," and junior Michelle Shaubi will sing an Ella Fitzgerald solo.

Titlebaum said he first heard of Coss through Emily Pecoraro '12, who now directs the mentorship program for the Women in Jazz Organization, which Coss founded.

"I realized that I needed to be more active in encouraging young women to get involved in improvisation," Titlebaum said. "I think that there's a growing sense that women have not had as much opportunities in the past, and it's important to give them equal opportunities, if

not greater opportunities."

Among Coss' achievements is her work as an activist. In July 2017, she founded Women in Jazz Organization, a New York City-based group of over 350 professional female and nonbinary jazz musicians.

"At the time, I was feeling the need for a community of women in my life and, simultaneously, feeling a lot of frustration with the larger political and social climate following the presidential election," Coss said. "I was seeing a lot of the issues that I've experienced in the jazz community reflected in the larger arena of the United States politically."

Coss said she was inspired by events like the Women's March on Washington and began to reach out to women she knew personally about her idea to found the organization. She encouraged these women to spread the word.

"From there, we started meeting every month — gathering to build the community with the women involved, developing ideas on how to change the scene and address how to change the issues we've all been facing for years in our musical lives," Coss said.

There has always been a disparity between men and women in jazz, and although progress has been made, the difference is still evident. The jazz ensemble that will be performing with Coss has only four women out of 18 total instrumentalists, and the jazz department faculty is largely dominated by men.

Since 2003, The number of women in the jazz studies major has never exceeded the number of men.

Sophomore trombone player Kate Mori will perform at the jazz concert.



Female saxophonist, composer, bandleader, educator and activist Roxy Coss is known for her work promoting female representation in jazz music. Coss will be performing with the Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble on Feb. 27.

COURTESY OF ROXY COSS

This is her second year with the jazz ensemble, and although she said she hasn't personally been discriminated against in the industry for her gender, she said that seeing female instrumentalists performing sends a strong message.

"We need to get more women involved and show that we can do it just as much and just as well as men can," Mori said.

Kathleen Barnes, a senior music education and flute performance major, helped start IC Women in Music in March 2018. Similar to the Women in Jazz Organization,

it works on promoting women's work in fields where they're not typically acknowledged.

"It's still rare to see women in certain fields of music," Barnes said. "It's so sad how it can be so hard to find women in those fields to look up to."

The values often represented in music schools can be detrimental to ethnic and gender diversity. The sterile, perfect environment doesn't cater to everyone.

As one of the few women in the jazz ensemble, Mori said that being able to see and play alongside professional female musicians has been important.

"The biggest influence on me getting more involved in jazz has been going to concerts and seeing performers like her out there," Mori said. "Just seeing amazing players come in is having an impact on me."

The concert will be held at 8:15 p.m., Feb. 27 in Ford Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music. The event is free and open to the public.

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# Junior acting major in Netflix show finale

Junior acting major Dharon Jones auditioned for a role in the Broadway musical "Mean Girls," but instead he received an opportunity to appear in a Netflix hit.

Jones was a dancer and extra in the final episode of the series "The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," which Netflix released Jan. 25. The scene he is in is a colorful rendition of "The Lion King," in which the character Titus Andromedon (Tituss Burgess) gets to live out his lifelong dream of appearing in the Broadway show.

Staff Writer Hannah Fitzpatrick spoke with Jones about how he first got the role, his experiences on set and his plans for his future in acting.

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

**Hannah Fitzpatrick:** How did you come upon this opportunity to be on "The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt"?

**Dharon Jones:** During this past summer, I auditioned for a show called "Mean Girls." I was invited to audition for them for an immediate replacement. ... The assistant choreographer of the show — his name is John MacInnis — taught us a choreography, I got a callback and I sang for them. Ultimately, I didn't get the role ... but a couple of weeks later, he inboxed me on Facebook saying, "Hey, I have this opportunity for you. It involves 'The Lion King' and 'Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt.' Can you send me a resume, your headshot and availability for these dates?" I sent in all the information, and a few days later, I got an email from their stage director saying the dates of filming, the pay rate and what I was going to be. ... The first day, we recorded the singing, and then the second day, we filmed us doing the choreography along with the singing. That was pretty dope.

**HF:** Could you go into some more detail about

your experiences on set?

**DJ:** It was really cool because the people I was working with were mostly African-American because it had to do with "The Lion King." The first day we all met each other, we were in a recording studio somewhere in midtown Manhattan, and I was in a room with all this melanin, which was awesome, and I was singing stuff from "The Lion King," which has a nourishing effect on me. That was one of the first Broadway shows I have ever seen in my entire life, and I was so young when I saw it, so I can barely recall how I felt, but I just know that "The Lion King" was my favorite movie when I was a kid. ... Working with them was really great. They were really professional, and I learned a lot of things just by being with them on set. ... I got to interact with the cast on set, which was awesome, too. This wasn't my first time being on film or TV, but it was my first time being a part of something so large-scale, so it was really interesting to see all the factors. We had our own dressing rooms, and I got my makeup done and everything. It felt like I was being treated like royalty, and that was an amazing experience.

**HF:** You said that you were able to interact with a lot of the actors on set?

**DJ:** Definitely! ... There was a scene where Tituss had to walk through as we were stretching, and we said hi and got to interact with him. I got to sort of just watch him film the scenes, and to me, it was like getting paid to learn, so that's awesome. This is a great motivation for me as an artist, too, because that's what I want to do, so being able to see it happen firsthand was really cool.

**HF:** What was the most memorable part of being on "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt"?

**DJ:** I think it was when we were dancing in a circle around Tituss. He was singing as Rafiki in



From left, junior Dharon Jones was an extra in "The Lion King" scene in Netflix's "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," where he performed alongside Tituss Burgess.

COURTESY OF DHARON JONES

"The Lion King," and his voice is incredible. I was blown away by just being able to be on stage, sort of praising this god in a way, and I was like, "This is gorgeous." The whole experience was full of melanin and full of culture and people who have shared experiences similar to mine, and it was so fulfilling to have that happen to me. It felt like my heart was full.

**HF:** How do you feel that your training at IC and other experiences that you may have had in the theater or acting field have helped you with being on "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" and other opportunities that you might have in the future?

**DJ:** I've been dancing since the fourth grade. ... I went to LaGuardia High School in New York City, where I was a dance major there, so I spent about five days a week, three hours a day just dancing my heart out. That school changed my life and gave me the foundation for a lot of the skills I have today, along with creating

relationships with people that I still have today. It also gave me a platform to work with. ... I think coming to IC has allowed me to slow down and hone in what I need to work on and develop myself as an artist and as a person.

**HF:** What are your plans for the future?

**DJ:** I've got some huge news coming out. I don't know when, and I wish I could say it, but I'm not allowed to. It's a really big opportunity, and it comes full-circle to me because it's the first time I was introduced to theater, and this is what I saw. ... I'm also currently working on a show, "The Wild Party." It's a one-night-only show, at the end of March that is basically a concert, but I'm actually doing the choreography for the show as well, so I'm pretty excited about that. You should also see "Little Shop of Horrors," running April 24 to April 28. You may see a familiar face.

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# PROMOTING SELF-CARE AS A RADICAL ACT

BOLD scholars hold event to support POC mental health



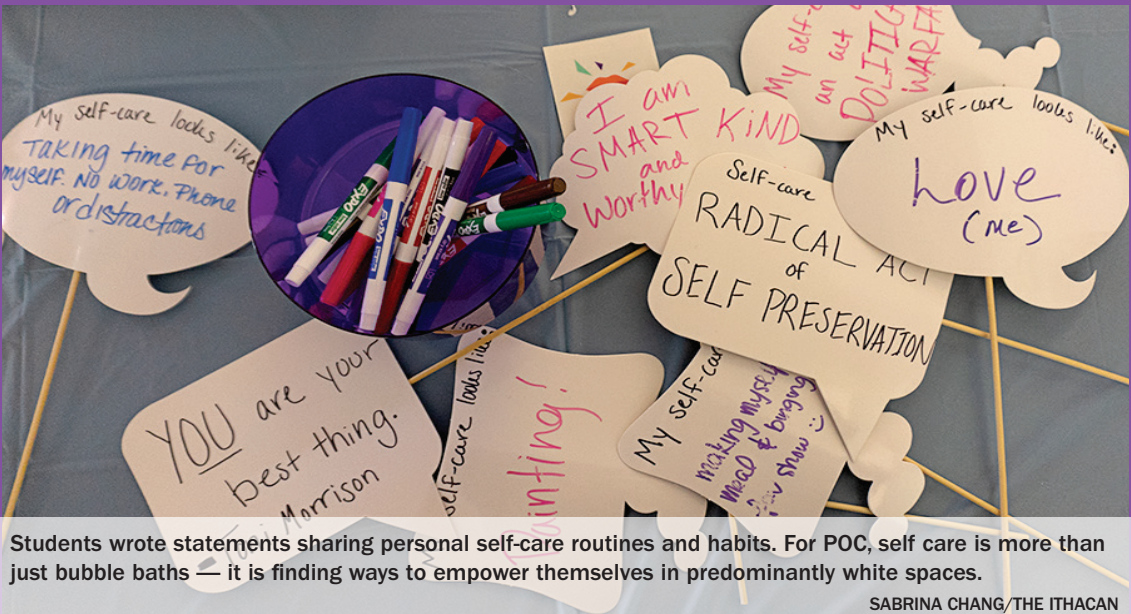
Senior Glenni Rodriguez Santos poses for a photo, showing off her self-care habits. The photos from the event are being posted online under the hashtag #EMPOCselfcare.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN



Senior Damiano Malvasio attended the event in which students and staff shared their self-care routines in photographs.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN



Students wrote statements sharing personal self-care routines and habits. For POC, self care is more than just bubble baths — it is finding ways to empower themselves in predominantly white spaces.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN

The BOLD scholars held their first Spring 2019 event for Engaging Mental Health in People of Color (EMPOC) on Feb. 20. The event was advertised as a self-care photo shoot to help normalize mental health among people of color and to promote self-care as an important and necessary act. EMPOC itself is a program created to deconstruct stigmas surrounding mental health that especially impact students of color. The BOLD scholars held their first-ever EMPOC event in Fall 2018 and will continue offering activities to support mental health awareness in the future. Attendees of this particular event were encouraged to take photos sharing the ways they practice self-care and to post their pictures on social media under the hashtag #EMPOCselfcare. All photos posted under the hashtag were automatically entered into a raffle to win a prize of one of three happy therapy lights.



From left, senior Candace Cross takes photos of Belisa Gonzalez, associate professor and director of the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity, during the self-care photo shoot event.

SABRINA CHANG/THE ITHACAN





# Dark-humored revenge drama is unoriginal



From left, Tom Bateman plays the villain, Viking, and Liam Neeson plays a mild-mannered plow driver, Nels Coxman, in “Cold Pursuit.” Sometimes the dialogue feels flat, but other times the characters seem endearing. The film closely resembles the Norwegian thriller “In Order of Disappearance.” It has some emotionally complex scenes, but overall feels like a shallow action film. SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

**BY TYLER OBROPTA**  
STAFF WRITER

In “Cold Pursuit,” Liam Neeson kills Santa. And of course, he does — every one of Neeson’s increasingly campy action offerings since “Taken” have built to this moment. Rising above those braindead shoot-em-ups, “Cold Pursuit” casts Neeson as mild-mannered everyman Nels Coxman, which is a far cry from the dusty law enforcement agents or embattled mobsters Neeson usually portrays.

His “very particular set of skills” in “Cold Pursuit” consists of plowing snow and cooking eggs. He’s everything the old Neeson was not: vulnerable, passive, average. His relationship with his wife (Laura Dern), while sweet, seems to have lost its spark. He dreads public

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
“Cold Pursuit”  
Summit  
Entertainment  
Our rating:  
★★★★☆

speaking, too, and in the film’s opening minutes, when the town of Kehoe names Coxman its Citizen of the Year for his dedication to road-clearing service, all he can do is stumble through a brief speech about choosing to live a good, clean life.

Naturally, the peace does not last long. Coxman’s son (Micheál Richardson) soon turns up dead, and Neeson whiles away the next two hours in his quest for revenge, plowing through a small army of local criminals — including a bearded guy nicknamed Santa. Thankfully, “Cold Pursuit” livens up the otherwise generic proceedings, borrowing heavily from the work of the Coen brothers, especially “Fargo.” That film’s chipper, “Oh, you betchya” tone is mimicked here, but it’s mixed with a litany of tense mob shootouts. And in case the comparison isn’t clear enough, there’s a scene where two po-

lice officers (Emmy Rossum and John Doman) spot a body suspended from a highway road sign, and the partner bends over in the snow to barf.

“Cold Pursuit” director Hans Petter Moland is now telling this story for the second time, cannibalizing and Americanizing his 2014 Norwegian film, “In Order of Disappearance.” “Cold Pursuit,” with a handful of script changes, is otherwise a nearly shot-for-shot remake of that gritty, snowy thriller, and much of the frigid Nordic gallows humor remains.

Sometimes that humor jumps from the set design — “Remember: Always load bodies head out!” reads a plaque in a morgue. Most of the jokes, however, come from the deaths. Moland fills his barren Colorado setting with life, and Coxman and company delightedly snuff it all out. Every kill, be it from gunshot, strangulation or snowplow, precedes a quirky intertitle

with the name of the deceased. Does it ruin the flow of the movie? Maybe. But the action scenes are light and amusing, and the blitheness of the filmmaking rubs off. Moland’s Scandinavian sense of humor might be pitch-black and require some acclimation, but he’s crafted a zippy, engaging film.

Sometimes the indulgent, gussied-up dialogue wears thin, but often, it succeeds in endearing the characters to their audience. Take, for example, the gay henchmen couple who adorably sneak sweets to their boss Viking’s son (Nicholas Holmes) while Viking (Tom Bateman) isn’t looking. Or consider the Native American mobsters, drawn into a turf war with Viking’s gang when Viking wrongly accuses them of killing his men. Led by White Bull (Tom Jackson), the Native American gang of drug dealers travels to Kehoe, where they check into

a ski resort.

White Bull’s rage — and the gangsters’ childlike wonder — at the disgusting poshness of the resort doesn’t add anything to the narrative, but it’s in quiet, emotionally layered scenes like these that one can see screenwriter Frank Baldwin trying to create something more meaningful than a snowy revenge picture. The music also illustrates the movie’s kooky leanings. George Fenton’s score brings more than a little of Alexandre Desplat’s spritely mischief to the table. But “Cold Pursuit” never capitalizes on these elements. It never becomes a better film. Its foot is slammed too hard on the accelerator to let up. There are so many people to kill and so little time.

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## ‘Rainswept’ is a deluge of scenic, visceral visuals

**BY AVERY ALEXANDER**  
ASSISTANT LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR

A rich landscape of beautiful, rolling hills is quickly followed by the silhouette of a man in his window — then a heart-stopping bang leads to peaceful silence. This is the beginning of “Rainswept,” an indie detective game that leaves the gate with a promising start but ends up fumbling before it can reach the finish line.

Michael Stone, a detective from the big city, rolls into the town of Pineview, where a speculated murder-suicide took place the previous night. A man named Chris is dead with a gunshot to the head, and his lover, Diane, is lifeless after being shot in the stomach. Michael is unconvinced that the crime that took place was a murder-suicide and firmly believes that both Chris and Diane were killed by someone else.

The early plot is fine — nothing is particularly special or different about it right off the bat. The game prompts players to have Michael sniff around at the crime scene. In comparison with other detective-mystery media, the investigation seems like it is going to be a rather bland one, as everything Michael discovers in Chris and Diane’s home is as mundane and boring as possible. However, this is all a set up to lull the player into believing that nothing is out of the ordinary. After Michael combs the home for clues, discovering very little information, he heads out to check into his hotel room in town. During a scene of the drive into town, Michael suddenly hallucinates an apparition of his dead wife, Abigail, in the middle of the road and gets into a mild accident in his surprise.

This unexpected peek into Michael’s backstory opens the player up to the possibility that something deeper than a standard investigation is underway. The apparition gives

the player a new mystery to unravel — what trauma lies in Michael’s past, and why is it now coming back to haunt him?

The detective eventually makes it into town, moving on from his incident rather quickly. He wanders around town, questioning seemingly everything that breathes. Thanks to this, the player gets to meet a slew of side characters. This would be great if those characters that the player meets actually mattered. Throughout the game, the story desperately tries to make all of the Pineview residents relevant to the plot. In this attempt to have the player build a connection to the town and its people, everything becomes a little worse for wear. Once the game moves past this bland introduction things really start heating up.

The true plot focuses closely on Michael’s mental state and makes poignant commentary about grief, guilt and relationships. It is honestly better to ignore the actual investigation going on and just sit back, relax and enjoy the vivid, symbolic ways in which the game portrays Michael’s spiral into depression and hopelessness. The part where Michael sees a vision in the street is only the beginning, and it opens up the game to its more abstractly stunning side. The game explores abstract concepts that deal with survivor’s guilt, depression and suicide mostly through Michael’s own dreams. Within his mind, Michael finds himself lost in various mazes that replicate the day Abigail died. These scenes dig deeper into Michael’s internal struggle in the most beautiful, symbolic way possible with vivid symbolism and hazy colors.

The art is by far the most notable part of this game, and it brings so much to the experience.

**VIDEO GAME REVIEW**  
“Rainswept”  
Frostwood Interactive  
Our rating:  
★★★★☆



The indie murder-mystery game “Rainswept” has beautiful animation and a plot with potential, but it is laden with glitches and ultimately lacks a coherent story progression. FROSTWOOD INTERACTIVE

The characters and setting are 2D and abstract. The skies are also painted in watercolor, bringing the scenery to life. The 2D design can feel limiting for character movements, but the way it builds the setting is absolutely worth it. Within Chris and Diane’s backstory, there is a moment when the two take a boat out on a lake. The scene is brilliant, assisted by the unique style. The occasional, close-up shots of the characters are also amazing, as the style becomes incredibly detailed, bringing vitality to the characters.

“Rainswept” also boasts a robust and hauntingly beautiful soundtrack. The morbid circumstances surrounding the game’s story are juxtaposed with the pleasant sound of soothing strings and piano. The instrumentals change depending on where the player is in the game, ranging from swelling orchestral compositions to glittery, serene sonatas.

All this aside, there is one major issue with “Rainswept”: The game has so many glitches. It’s a newer game created by a small business, but it’s still amazing how many game-breaking problems one can stumble upon during a

playthrough. Randomly, necessary actions for the progression of the story just don’t work, or the character will get stuck, unable to exit a conversation. Each time this happens, it’s easy to reach out to the creator, Armaan Sandhu, who is very quick to help anyone with problems. Still, it’s upsetting to be sucked into a story of life and love, just to be interrupted by an unfortunate programming error.

“Rainswept” is a game that, at first, hides its true meaning behind the guise of a standard archetype. Although the hidden message, art and visuals are effective, stunning and deeply moving, the game falls short when it comes to offering true complexity. Dialogue tends to drone on, and characters lack a necessary relatability. These issues produce a rather dull product at times. Along with the staggering number of errors and glitches, these factors make it hard for the player to be totally swept away.

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# Netflix’s ‘High Flying Bird’ shoots and scores

BY NOA COVELL  
STAFF WRITER

The new Netflix film “High Flying Bird,” which was shot completely on an iPhone, delves deep into the relationship between sports and the politics of the United States’ capitalist society.

With scenes that show the determination of witty underdogs and amateur basketball players, the movie works to undermine the corporate world of the NBA. The screenplay, written by Tarell Alvin McCraney, Academy Award-winning writer of “Moonlight,” sets the stage in a world where the NBA has been in a six-month lockout about disputes over money, leaving no one balling on the courts. Because of this, people are not being paid until corporate executives and athletes reach an agreement to allocate the money fairly. This means that the corporate basketball world is stressed, and people’s jobs are in jeopardy.

In response, rookie basketball player Erick Scott (Melvin Gregg) and his agent Ray Burke (Andre Holland) set out to upend the NBA. Ray implores Erick to go down a risky path as he pushes for the young basketball player to debut in a pro game. Not only that, but Ray tells his pupil to lie low and stick to tradition so they can operate under the radar.

## MOVIE REVIEW

“High Flying Bird”

NETFLIX

Our rating:

★★★★☆

As the media covers the lockout, Erick and Ray work to align themselves to the stereotypical basketball culture of sneakerheads and rap songs to try to progress their careers forward while the NBA is still in a stalemate.

Themes in this movie cover more than just the sweatbands and the tall, tattooed guys of the NBA. “High Flying Bird,” directed by Steven Soderbergh, takes audience members beneath the surface level of the NBA to give critiques of the behind-the-scenes activity of the corporate, and sometimes corrupt, lifestyle of basketball. “High Flying Bird” shifts the vacuum of power from the hands of capitalists to the hands of the players looking to correct all that is wrong. These aspects of the film, among many others, are what set this film apart from other sports movies.

The message of this movie has been a long time coming. It stands out from other classic sports movies like “Bend it like Beckham” and “Moneyball” because the message behind “High Flying Bird” critiques the corporate inner workings of the sports industry and what keeps the capital of professional sports alive and running. This criticism of the relationship between the sports industry and the support from wealthy partnerships and elite sponsorships is one that is scarcely seen in sports movies. However, without the driving factor of capitalism, there would be



“High Flying Bird,” a film about the NBA shot entirely on an iPhone, serves as a poignant critique of professional sports’ intersection with capitalism. The cinematography and camera angles play with power dynamics.

NETFLIX

no sports world. This film was able to balance both the business and athletes’ perspectives to capture a full-circle experience of the sports world. By utilizing cinematography tactics like shifting from a business room to a shot of a dimly lit high school basketball court, the movie depicts this balance of power in a perfect way, allowing the importance of both sides of the industry to shine through. The authentic character development also aided in depicting this dynamic. The movie includes points of

view from public sports figures like Reggie Jackson, Karl-Anthony Towns and Donovan Mitchell to define the hurdles they overcame while they were rookies. Providing anecdotal clips of public figures in the sphere of professional sports brings the importance of the movie back into the real world to describe real-life instances. The movie is able to explain experiences the sports figures had when overcoming issues.

Soderbergh took a half-court shot and scored with “High Flying Bird.”

He was able to make a movie with the perfect balance of both corporate and athletic perspectives. It’s emphasized that progress is not single-handedly brought about by men in business suits, but also by rookie basketball players driven by passion. When there is balance between the two, that’s when shooters can confidently take the game-winning shots.

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# Said the Whale album flops and flounders

BY HANNAH FITZPATRICK  
STAFF WRITER

After the success of their previous album, “As Long As Your Eyes Are Wide,” in 2017, Vancouver-based indie rockers Said the Whale are back with their sixth LP, “Cascadia.” Though Canadian magazines like “Exclaim!” have claimed this record to be one of the most anticipated albums of 2019, it fails to meet its high expectations with bland vocals, confusing lyrics and cringey instrumentals.

The first song on the record, “Wake Up,” is a promising start. The instrumentals throughout this track are upbeat and groovy, complete with soothing piano chords and a simple yet catchy drum beat. The chorus is what sticks out in this track. An acoustic guitar riff accompanies lead singer Ben Worcester’s vocals, emphasizing the positive message behind lyrics like “Time makes all things fall together/ Time brings all things together.” However, Worcester’s voice sounds monotone and uninspired. This, unfortunately, also sets the tone for the mess that is about to come.

## ALBUM REVIEW

Said the Whale

“CASCADIA”

Arts & Crafts

Our rating:

★★★☆☆

The next few tracks, “Love Don’t Ask,” the title track “Cascadia” and “Shame,” are arguably some of the worst songs. “Love Don’t Ask” tries its best to pass as a cute love song, with lyrics like “A simple life alone with you beside me would be paradise,” but fails miserably. Worcester’s vocals sound like a cheesy impersonation of Arctic Monkeys’ Alex Turner, while the song’s tacky guitar riffs and out-of-tune piano could easily make some individuals want to tear their ears off. “Cascadia” is also a complete disaster and can be best described as what John Mayer’s 2002 single “No Such Thing” would sound like if played through a washing machine. “Shame” somewhat redeems itself with a more hard-rock introduction, complete with a bluesy drum solo. However, the hopes for this track are not met. Though Worcester’s vocals are strong here and show off his ability to transition from soft to powerful tones, they sound awkward and out of place when put together with the song’s lyrics and instrumentals.

Despite this LP’s obvious flaws, there are some tracks that keep the album from being a total flop. “Old Soul, Young Heart” strips everything down to just a simple, mellow acoustic guitar riff, accompanied by Worcester’s voice. This, along with its lyrics of a sweet



ARTS & CRAFTS

tribute to the band’s friend Dan (“Dan, you’re an old soul/ And the songs that you write are beautiful”), adds rawness and emotion to Worcester’s vocals.

The final song on the album, “Gambier Island Green,” is another stripped-down track executed as an emotional piano ballad. The lyrics are the star of the show here. Descriptions of the flowing water and abundance of trees on Gambier Island — an island located off the coast of Vancouver, Canada — brings the scenery of the song to life and makes listeners feel like they’re actually standing on the island, taking in the views with their own eyes.

“Cascadia” is a complicated album. Though there are some songs that feel authentic and fun, others are boring and unimpressive and do not flow together as a cohesive piece.

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# ‘WarGround’ bombs

BY VIVIAN GOLDSTEIN  
STAFF WRITER

“WarGround” is a turn-based strategy game that offers new ideas and art styles to hide a mountain of flaws.

The player must choose between two sides of an arbitrary war:

Partan or Cora. Partan consists of pirates, knights and the undead, while Cora consists of cowboys, Vikings and samurai. The game provides backstory for each playable class, exploring lusty downfalls and intricate histories. Unfortunately, the explanations are all riddled with typos. Some of the sentences become so incomprehensible that it’s impossible to extract the story. The classes and their backstories don’t matter much in the end, as the game can be played without the context of the story anyway.

The combination of the game’s multiplayer-only system and its unpopularity on the market can leave people waiting five minutes to a half-hour trying to find a match. If you do match with other players, when engaging in combat, the player’s avatar’s

## VIDEO GAME REVIEW

“WARGROUND”

GamersUnit

Our rating:

★★★★☆

moves have an inordinate amount of lag between the order to attack and when it actually attacks, though this will not inhibit the attacks’ effectiveness.

WarGround isn’t a complete failure. The blocky, colorful animation style keeps gameplay fun. If the player gets into a match, it can offer a constantly changing experience with all the joys of any other turn-based game.

But, ultimately, that’s all it is: just another turn-based game. It has a lot of potential with, solid mechanics and a fun art style. The game chooses to muddle in mediocrity rather than rise to its potential. It’s like the creators had big ideas but forgot to think through effective ways of doing them. In the end, WarGround is doomed to mediocrity.

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GAMERSUNIT

## QUICKIES



RCA RECORDS

### “RAISE A MAN” Alicia Keys RCA Records

Passionate, sultry and strong, Alicia Keys’ latest track chronicles the difficulties — and triumphs — of deep love. It is lush with harmonies, flourishing piano chords and orchestral accents.



ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION

### “PLEASE ME” Cardi B & Bruno Mars Atlantic Recording Corporation

Cardi B and Bruno Mars are back at it with another sexy and energetic single. Mars’ smooth riffing and Cardi B’s robust rapping compliment each other, making the song a definite future club staple.



RUBYWORKS, LTD.

### “FLUCTUATE” Catfish & the Bottlemen Universal Music

Catfish and the Bottlemen’s latest release is a fiery, heavy rock track. The anthemic chorus, complete with distorted guitars and gang vocals, is nothing groundbreaking, but the song will definitely make for a powerful festival performance.



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# ROAD TO THE PODIUM

## Wrestling team hopes to peak in postseason

BY WILL GAGLIOTI  
STAFF WRITER

After taking several losses at the beginning of the 2018–19 season, the Ithaca College men's wrestling team has bounced back and seems poised to be at the top this year. The team is currently on a seven-game winning streak, and the wrestlers are hopeful that their success will continue as they begin their championship season.

The team is currently the sixth-ranked Division III team in the country, according to the InterMat Wrestling rankings. The Bombers hold an 11–4 record on the season with only two meets left on the schedule. Out of the South Hill squad's four losses on the season, the first two losses came at the hands of Division I schools at Northeast Duals — University of Virginia and Appalachian State University. The other two losses occurred at National Duals against the fourth-ranked Wabash College and fifth-ranked Baldwin Wallace University.

Head coach Marty Nichols said matches where the wrestlers compete against top-tier teams — like Division I schools and top-ranked teams in the country — prove to be valuable in the long run, despite the losses that they have notched in the team's record.

“Getting that kind of competition and understanding of where you need to be for the end of the season is what those prepare us for,” Nichols said. “We are competing against guys that are training all summer and coming away within one match — in terms of points of winning — against the teams that we are going to be seeing again at the end of the year.”

Junior Ben Brisman, who wrestles in the 141-pound bracket, said these matches against stronger opponents help to prepare him well for his postseason contests

and teach the team where it needs to improve.

“All these high-level competition matches have just given us more experiences to learn from,” Brisman said. “It prepares us for high-level competition in the postseason and helps us learn from the mistakes we make when facing the best guys in the country. Most of the season can be thought of as a learning experience in order to be the best wrestler you can during the postseason.”

The NCAA Mid-east Regional Championships and NCAA Division III Championships are the last two meets of the year, and they are by far the most important, according to Nichols. In 2018, the South Hill squad won the regional championship, qualified seven wrestlers for the national championship and placed third at the meet. Brisman, then a sophomore, won a national title in the 141-pound weight class.

This trend of championship success is not a new one. Since team scoring was added to the regional meet in 2014, the Bombers have never finished outside of the top two spots. They have appeared in every NCAA Championship meet since 1982 and have placed in the top 10 18 times.

Nine of those appearances have occurred during Nichols' tenure as head coach. The Bombers' third-place finish last year at nationals was their highest rank since their

first-place finish in 1994.

The regional and national championships give the Blue and Gold the opportunity to prove themselves against the best teams in the country. The team has to prepare for these matches intensively so that each athlete is able to wrestle their best at this critical point in the season.

Senior 125-pound captain Ferdinand Mase said the team works to improve throughout the season, and particularly down this final stretch, by making small changes that lead to a greater goal.

“We have the 1 percent rule, where we push ourselves to get at least 1 percent better at something every day,” Mase said. “By focusing in on gradual steps, you can't help but fill in the gaps.”

Mase also

said that focusing on strengthening the team dynamic is critical to success in the team's championship meets. The captains and other members of the team try to emphasize the wrestling team's legacy of success so that it can continue to improve.

“We have a team of leaders,” Mase said. “It's not just a few of us driving toward our goals; it's every single person pushing each other and working hard every day.”

Everyone knows what it's going to take from this point forward, and everyone has been playing their part well and taking pride in everything they do.”

Brisman said the physical intensity at practice and the mental drive that he and the rest of the team have while training increases as they enter the championship season.

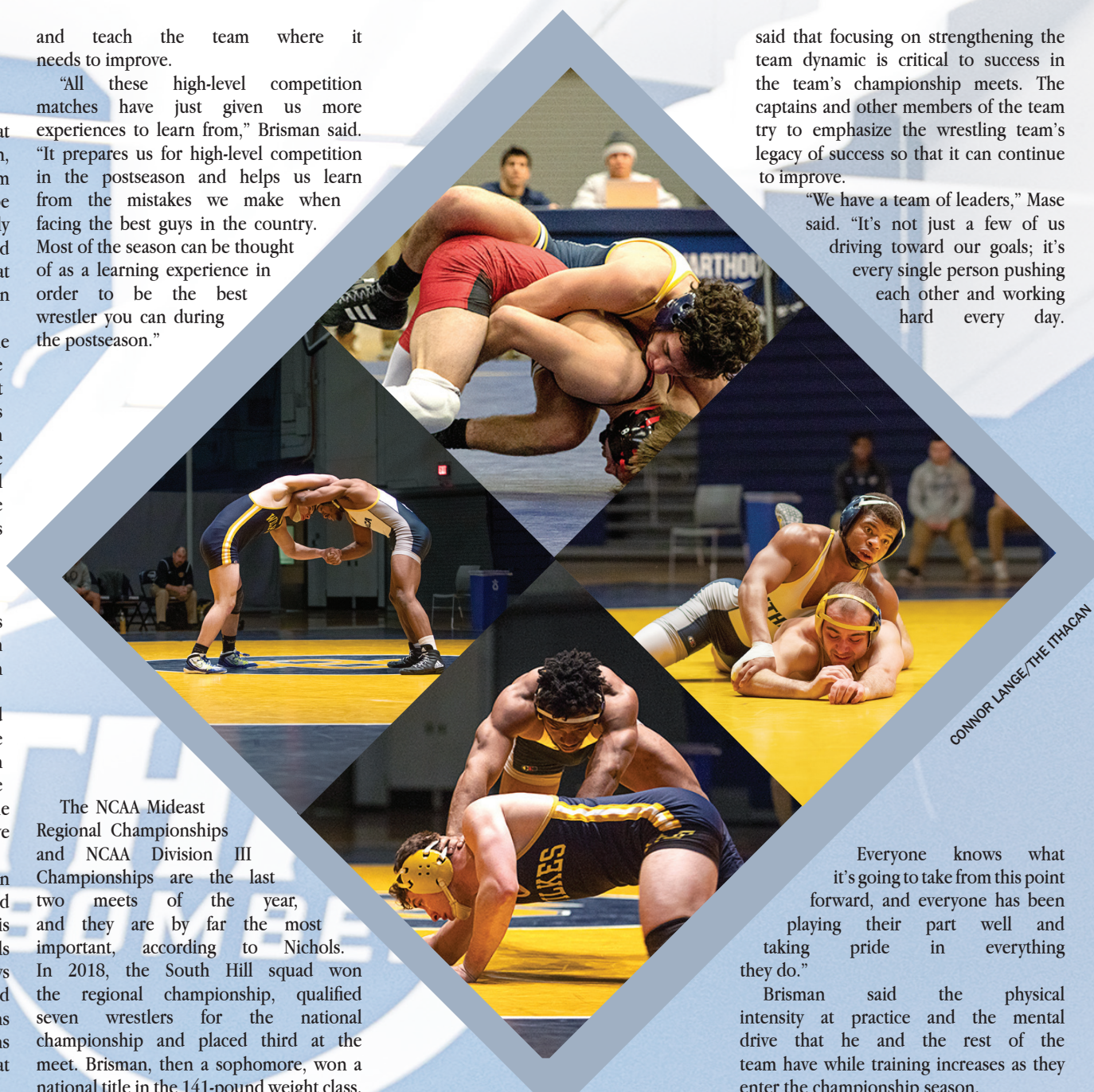
“The intensity definitely picks up a bit,” Brisman said. “The team starts becoming more motivated since everyone wants to do well this postseason. The mentality stays somewhat the same. Everyone has goals

to be national champs or do the best that they can by giving it their all.”

With just one month left in the season, Nichols said he has been pleased with the team's

performance so far this year but hopes to improve its overall game plan heading into matches before the regional meet Feb. 23 in Brockport, New York.

“They have been pretty consistent coming in from the workouts and training and that type of thing, so I think we are good in that realm,” Nichols said. “I think we just up our strategy a little bit, improve our conditioning a little bit and hone in on the guys that are going to regionals and tune those guys up, while the other guys have to up their game to help those guys as well to get ready for regionals.”



CONNOR LANGE/THE ITHACAN

**“We push ourselves to get at least 1 percent better at something every day.”**

– Senior Ferdinand Mase

Senior Demetri D'Orsaneo wrestles with freshman Dylan Earl during practice in Ben Light Gymnasium. The team is preparing for the Mid-east Regional Championship on Feb. 23–24 and the Division III NCAA Championships on March 8–9.

KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

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# THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP

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



From left, SUNY Cortland junior Zachary Kashmer, senior Kevin Toal and junior Nick Cohen compete in the 60-meter hurdles during a tri-meet versus SUNY Cortland and SUNY Oneonta on Feb. 16 in Glazer Arena. Kashmer placed sixth in the event, followed by Cohen and Toal, who placed eighth and ninth, respectively. The Bombers were the overall winners of the meet.





SHEHANEE FERNANDO/THE ITHACAN

## Gymnastics

RESULTS vs. Springfield College			
Name	Event	Place	Results
Katie Holcomb	Balance beam	1st	9.750
Victoria Gery	Floor exercise	T-2nd	9.800
Carolyn Nichols	Vault	1st	9.700
Mackenzie Kennedy	Floor exercise	T-2nd	9.800
Courtney Christoforo	Uneven bars	1st	9.750

Next meet: 3 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Harriet Marranca Memorial Invite in Ben Light Gymnasium

## Men’s Basketball

RESULTS			
 <b>87–83</b> 	Ithaca	Feb. 15	Bard
 <b>89–62</b> 	Ithaca	Feb. 16	Vassar





Next game: 7 p.m. Feb. 19 against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Ben Light Gymnasium

## Men’s Track and Field

RESULTS vs. SUNY Cortland and SUNY Oneonta			
Name	Place	Event	Results
Chris Singer	1st	1-mile run	4:17.69
Derek Howes	1st	400-meter dash	51.00
Danny Jagoe	1st	5,000-meter run	15:33.76
Daniel Monchek	2nd	60-meter hurdles	8.68
Dominic Mikula	2nd	Pole vault	4.42 meters

Next meet: 11 a.m. Feb. 22 at the Liberty League Championships in Glazer Arena

## Women’s Basketball

RESULTS			
 <b>73–36</b> 	Ithaca	Feb. 15	Bard
 <b>64–55</b> 	Ithaca	Feb. 16	Vassar

Next game: 12 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Liberty League semifinal game in Ben Light Gymnasium

## Women’s Track and Field

RESULTS vs. SUNY Cortland and SUNY Oneonta			
Name	Place	Event	Results
Meghan Matheny	1st	Pole vault	3.52 meters
Logan Bruce	1st	60-meter hurdles	9.21
Lizz Eberhardt	1st	1-mile run	5:27.99
Grace Merchant	1st	High jump	1.61 meters
Meghan Burd	1st	60-meter dash	7.98

Next meet: 11 a.m. Feb. 22 at the Liberty League Championships in Glazer Arena

## Wrestling

RESULTS vs. SUNY Cortland		
Name	Weight Class	Results
Ferdinand Mase	125	MD: 14–3
Tito Colom	133	MD: 14–46
Colin Murphy	149	DEC: 10–9
Austin Whitney	165	DEC: 6–4
Jake Ashcraft	184	FALL: 1:57

\*Updated as of Feb. 19



# Swim team aims for gold with golden locks

**BY EMILY ADAMS**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When freshman swimmer Michael Sheehan was walking to class in the morning, his dark brown hair used to blend in with the dreary winter background on campus. But now, his bleached-blond locks are a beacon, signaling to all of his peers that he is a member of the Ithaca College men's swimming and diving team and is ready to compete at the Liberty League Championships.

In preparation for the conference championship, the majority of the athletes on the team bleached their hair. The act has become an annual ritual for the team over the last several seasons, but it is not unique to the South Hill squad. Assistant coach Andrew Marsh said "crazy hair" is a long-standing tradition among competitive swimmers.

"I used to swim at West Virginia University, and we did the same thing," Marsh said. "Back in the day, we didn't really have swim caps, so all the swimmers just shaved their heads. For the weeks leading up to the championships, everyone would do something funny with their hair."

Marsh said the tradition gets competitive between the athletes at the college as they attempt to create more ridiculous hairstyles than their teammates.

"Everybody tried to outdo themselves," Marsh said. "Some of them turned out orange, so one of them was like, 'I want to make it even blonder,' and then they were all trying to see who could make it the blondest. [Senior] Jake [Hewitt] has the mohawk,

which is pretty awesome." Although the bleaching is a common practice, Sheehan had never experienced it before coming to college. "I've never done anything like this before," he said. "I had seen pictures of the year before, but I really didn't think I was going to do it because my hair is so dark, so I was kind of scared to try out the blond hair." However, Sheehan wanted to be a part of the team bonding, so he eventually came around to the idea. He said the noticeable hairstyle has unified the team both in and out of the pool.

"I think it's cool," Sheehan said. "It's a nice little culture, and you see everyone walking around campus and it's like, 'Oh they're swimmers.'"

Junior swimmer Nate Bartalo did not participate in the hair-dyeing during the 2018 Liberty League Championships. However, this season, he felt that the team has grown closer and said he was excited to be visibly part of something bigger than himself.

"Not a lot of people were doing it last year, and we had to buy our own dye," Bartalo said. "This year, the captains were able to supply it for us. We also had a strong freshman class, and a lot of them wanted to do it."

Marsh said the four seniors on the roster have put a strong emphasis on building the team culture and creating a tight-knit energy among the athletes.

"Our senior class has done a good job leading the team," Marsh said. "It's nice, as a coach, when you don't have



Members of the swimming and diving team show off their bleached hair at practice in the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium. The athletes dyed their hair for the upcoming Liberty League Championships on Feb. 20–23. JACKIE MARUSIAK/THE ITHACAN

to be the one preaching the message when your seniors are kind of living it out and setting the example for everyone else."

The team has high expectations for this year's Liberty League Championships, which will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 20–23 in the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium. The Blue and Gold are currently tied for second in the conference with Rochester Institute of Technology. They will be in contention for the team title, along with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The team's goal is to claim at least the

second-place spot if they are unable to defeat the reigning conference champions. Marsh said the hair will give the team the confidence boost it needs.

"If you can go walk around campus with your hair looking just bright blond and orange, that's a sense of confidence," Marsh said. "If you can do that, then you can go from point A to point B in the pool."

Bartalo said the bonding experience of the bleached hair will help the team members to motivate each other through the grueling, four-day meet.

"Swimming is a very independent

sport, but when you get behind your teammates and go up there and push them, it really pushes everyone to work hard and do their best," he said.

Sheehan said he is excited for his first Liberty League Championships, but he is unsure about the future of his blond hair.

"If it looks good, I might keep it," he said. "I've always wanted to go bald, so I might shave it off. We'll have to see."

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# Junior continues to lead in second year as captain

**BY ELI EHRBAR**  
STAFF WRITER

When junior guard Riley Thompson stepped onto the court in Ben Light Gymnasium during his freshman year of college, he was one of the new kids on the men's basketball team. Precisely one year later, he was leading the team as captain.

To say that Thompson has been productive in his tenure with the Bombers would be an understatement. He appeared in all 25 of the Blue and Gold's games during his freshman season and was named a Liberty League All-Conference Honorable Mention as a sophomore. This season, Thompson is averaging 18 points per game and has scored more than 20 points in 12 of the team's 25 games.

In addition to Thompson's extraordinary play during the early stages of his college career, his appointment as captain as a sophomore is unusual. The Bombers have only had one other sophomore captain besides Thompson in the past 15 years and have only had six junior captains. The other sophomore captain, Marc Chasin '18, was Thompson's co-captain during the 2017–18 season. Thompson said Chasin helped him improve his leadership skills.

"[Chasin] played a big role model for me," Thompson said. "I want to build off of that. I want to be more outspoken this year and gain my teammates' trust, as well as being more confident in what I have to say."

Head coach Jim Mullins said Thompson's demeanor on the court motivates the rest of the athletes on the team, as he is constantly giving maximum effort.

"I love his competitiveness and work ethic," Mullins said. "He's got one of the most competitive attitudes I've been around."

Mullins said Thompson's hard work was exemplified in the team's game against Bard College on Dec. 1. Thompson contributed 26 points, but what really stood out was his

seven rebounds. Mullins said this statistic is uncommon for guards, especially because Thompson is only 6 feet tall.

Thompson said that being undersized has helped develop his leadership skills. This is because he must adapt to the level of play and outwork his opponents.

"I feel that I play as hard I can," Thompson said. "As an undersized guard, I got to compete all the time on every play. I take pride in being a leader — I have grown over the past year to lead vocally, and this year I lead by example. This off-season, I encouraged my teammates to get in the gym for a big season."

Thompson also held himself accountable for getting better during the off-season. Mullins said Thompson asked him what he needed to do to improve. Mullins told him he needed to add another component to his offensive play, because Thompson was primarily a 3-point shooter in his two previous seasons. Mullins said Thompson is much more versatile with his offensive abilities.

"After I told him that, he went home over the summer and worked hard on the dribble attack, which is taking offensive game to another level," Mullins said. "He also lost some weight, and he's much quicker this season. He'll do anything that I tell him to. That's a coach's dream. A lot of people only work on their strengths — he works on his weaknesses."

Despite the fact that Thompson is the Bombers' leading scorer and has the best free-throw percentage, Thompson said he is not satisfied with only being a shooter.

"Some of my improvement involves areas like getting my shot at spots I want," Thompson said. "I believe that I am a different animal when I can score anywhere on the court."

Freshman guard Skylar Sinon, who has been a consistent performer for Bombers this season, said Thompson's competitive drive is unmatched by anyone.

"He always wants to win, and his passion for it



Junior captain Riley Thompson calls an offensive play during a game against Hobart College on Jan. 25 in Ben Light Gymnasium. This is Thompson's second season as a team captain. JULIA CHERRUAULT/THE ITHACAN

is like nothing I've ever seen before," Sinon said. "He's probably the best shooter in our league, so it makes teams respect him, and that just spreads the floor for us."

Mullins said he believes there are multiple attributes that make Thompson a great leader.

"One of the areas that make him such a good leader is whenever we ask him to do something, he'll do it," Mullins said. "For example, we told him that if he added a drive component to his game, it would benefit the team. He's always been a good defender, and now he's rebounding much better. ... It's obvious that he has the ability, but more importantly the drive to make him great at that aspect."

Mullins said he credits some of Thompson's previous coaches for helping him become as smart of a player as he is.

"He has a great basketball IQ, and some of that comes from previous coaches he's played for," Mullins said. "I could tell when he first came in as a freshman that he was very well-coached before. He's one of those guys that just has a feel for the game and has a passion for it."

Mullins said Thompson's continual growth as a leader made his candidacy for being a captain very obvious.

"Over the past couple years he has added a different dimension of leadership," Mullins said. "As he has grown older, it's obvious that he's become more vocal, and that's why I elected him last year and this year."

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Off-Campus Housing SL: Fossil Fuels. Learn how fossil fuel emissions are affecting the planet and how choices you make in your home have an impact.

**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 11-3 PM, Clark Lounge**  
EcoCareers Conference livestream. Join Career Services and the Office of Energy Management & Sustainability for a livestream of the NWF's EcoCareer Conference. Light snacks and refreshments will be served.

**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 12 PM, Business #202**  
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# Swimmer discusses postseason preparations

The Ithaca College women's swimming and diving team has flourished during the 2018–19 season and has a 7–1 record to show for it. The team's only loss has been to its conference rival, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the defending Liberty League champions. This year's championships are a chance for the Bombers to claim their first Liberty League title, and the Engineers will prove to be their most formidable opponent.

Junior Kaitlyn Scott is a three-year veteran of the Bombers who has competed in the breaststroke, freestyle, butterfly and individual medley during her collegiate career. She has scored points consistently for the team this season and will attempt to continue that trend at the Liberty League Championships. She won the 200-yard butterfly against Alfred University on Jan. 26 and contributed a second-place finish against Union College on Feb. 2.

Sports Editor Jack Murray spoke with Scott about how the team is preparing for the Liberty League Championships and how the team, and she, have evolved throughout her athletic career.

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

**Jack Murray:** How has the team improved since the beginning of the year?

**Kaitlyn Scott:** Our motivation and our attitude toward our training has improved. After our training trip, it's a tough month to be back here and swimming, but we are all positive, and that definitely helps. If you're negative, it brings everyone

down. I think, in that aspect, we have definitely improved.

**JM:** How do you believe your team will improve upon last year's performance at the Liberty League Championships?

**KS:** I think we are more motivated this year because we know we can beat RPI. They are our biggest competitor. We are going in united — we know that we are working as a team. We have had a lot of meetings talking about how, while we are swimming individually, everything we do is as a team, so we are going in with the mindset that we are doing it for the team.

**JM:** How has the transition been from being a freshman to now?

**KS:** I think I'm definitely hitting my groove in terms of training. It is different coming to a college sport, but this year I am not afraid to push myself anymore. It's really cool being an upperclassman and helping the underclassmen transition into it and letting them know that it gets easier. It is definitely a tough transition during freshman year, but it gets easier.

**JM:** What is a team goal for the Liberty League Championships?

**KS:** I think we need to have a positive attitude — to not be disappointed with anything. We need to go out there and do our best and cheer everyone on and be happy. Honestly, no matter what happens, we just need to be happy with the outcome and happy that we've worked hard to get here.



Junior swimmer Kaitlyn Scott has competed in the breaststroke, freestyle, butterfly and individual medley during her collegiate career. She will compete in the Liberty League Championships at Ithaca College on Feb. 20–23.

SHEHANEE FERNANDO/THE ITHACAN

**JM:** How has head coach Paula Miller prepared you the entire year?

**KS:** She is constantly reminding us that we need to work hard, have a good attitude and just stay united as a team. It's honestly the biggest thing they remind us — we are a family; we are a team. Everything we do, we do it together.

**JM:** Is there anyone you think might make a splash in the Liberty League Championships?

**KS:** I think Morgan Hoffman-Smith is going to do a great job. She broke a

record earlier this year, and I think she is going to do really well.

**JM:** If you were to characterize this year's team in one word, what would it be?

**KS:** I would say that we are a family. This year we have really united, and, for me, this is the first year where we really feel that family aspect. We talk about it, but it's hard to actually be like that. We have problems, but we deal with it. We train together and spend so much time together, so we really have grown together. I think that is the

most important part.

**JM:** How does it feel to have the Liberty League Championships at home?

**KS:** It's really nice because we are comfortable here, and it's our own pool. We don't have to travel anywhere, so we are not staying over at hotels. It's cool because we are hosting it and can say, "This is our pool." Everyone's coming to our pool, and it feels good.

**CONNECT WITH JACK MURRAY**  
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the

Buzzer

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

GRACE  
MERCHANT

STATS FROM  
THE WEEKEND

Cleared lifetime best  
height of **1.61 meters**

Defeated **No. 15** ranked  
high jumper Estelle Yedynak

Ranked in the Top **50**  
nationally for high jump



Freshman Grace Merchant attempts to clear 1.65 meters during a dual meet with SUNY Cortland and SUNY Oneonta on Feb. 16 in Glazer Arena. However, Merchant’s winning jump was 1.61 meters.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF RILEY BRUNNER

GETTING TO KNOW  
GRACE

What got you involved with track and field?

I started track and field seven years ago, and I really loved everything about the sport, so I decided to continue high jumping in college.

What is your favorite hobby outside of track and field?

My favorite hobby outside of track is watching movies with friends in the winter and paddle boarding with my dog in the summer

What has been your favorite class at IC so far?

My island life seminar has been my favorite class so far, it was a really intriguing and fun course.

What is your dream job?

My dream job is to be a physical therapist for the U.S. track and field team.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE ATHLETICS



# THE BIG PICTURE

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019



Sophomore Emily Carey completes a jump at a track and field meet Feb. 16 against SUNY Oneonta and SUNY Cortland. The women's team swept the top four spots in pole vault. SHEHANEE FERNANDO/THE ITHACAN