

Alumni donor rates decrease

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

Over the last decade, the percentage of alumni donating to Ithaca College's annual fund, capital projects and endowments has decreased by approximately half.

Dave Maley, director of public relations, said via email that the college's alumni participation rate — the percentage of alumni who give back to the college — has decreased from 12.2% in the 2010 fiscal year to 6.4% in the 2019 fiscal year. The alumni participation rate was 6.8% in 2018, 7.1% in 2017, 7.4% in 2016, 9.9% in 2015, 8.9% in 2014, 8.8% in 2013, 11% in 2012 and 11.5% in 2011.

The college's alumni participation rate is lower than the national average, said Wendy Kobler, vice president for institutional advancement. Kobler said the national average alumni participation rate at mid-sized private schools is approximately 16–17%.

During the Ithaca College Board of Trustees Fall 2019 meeting, David Lissy '87, chair of the Board of Trustees, said he had concerns about the current alumni participation rate.

DONORS, PAGE 4

Councils review proposed policy

BY ITHACAN STAFF

Editor's Note: A version of this story published in the November 21, 2019, issue of The Ithacan contained errors and misinterpretations sufficiently egregious to justify publication of a corrected version of the story. The editors apologize for this failure of reporting. A complete list of corrections appears at the end of the story.

Ithaca College is proposing a new policy that will prohibit intimate relationships between all faculty and staff members and students.

The new proposed policy prohibits employees from having intimate relationships with students because of the imbalance of power that exists within the relationship. It states that any employee in a relationship with a student that began before the policy is enacted must disclose the relationship to the Office of Human Resources.

The current policy, Section 2.6.4 of Volume II of the Ithaca College Policy Manual, prohibits intimate relationships between faculty or staff and students if the faculty or staff member has supervisory, instructional or evaluation authority over the student.

Guilherme Costa, vice president of legal affairs, met with the Student Governance Council on Nov. 18 to discuss the proposed changes. Costa said the senior leadership team will publish the final version of the policy after meeting with the SGC, the Faculty Council, the Staff Council and the campus community to receive feedback about the policy. Costa said this is an iterative process that includes reviewing the input the councils give and possibly returning to the councils as a part of that process. He said the proposed policy is still in the draft process and is subject to change.

Costa said that there is no set timeline for the policy but that he hopes this process will be completed by the end of Spring 2020 and that the policy will be ready for implementation in summer 2020.

Section 2.6.5 of Volume II of the current policy manual does not forbid relationships between supervisors, who are employees of the college in managerial roles who are not students, and supervisees, who are employees of the college who are also not students. It does acknowledge that there is an imbalance of power in the relationships, so consent may not protect an individual from allegations of sexual harassment. Sections 2.6.4 and 2.6.5 both currently fall under the sexual harassment policy.

A relationship between a supervisor and a supervisee will only be allowed when the supervisor and supervisee disclose the relationship to Human Resources and create a management plan to eliminate conflict, Costa said. He said the plan must be accepted by Human Resources and the individuals in the relationship must follow through with the management plan.

Costa said he thinks the topic of student and employee relationships should be removed from the sexual harassment policy and that a new policy should be created that focuses specifically on the expectations of employee behavior regarding both relationships between employees and students and between nonstudent employees and other nonstudent employees. The current policy refers to relationships between students and employees that could be considered consensual, so, Costa said, it does not make sense to have these relationships categorized under the

POLICY, PAGE 4

Board of Trustees approves tuition increase

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ

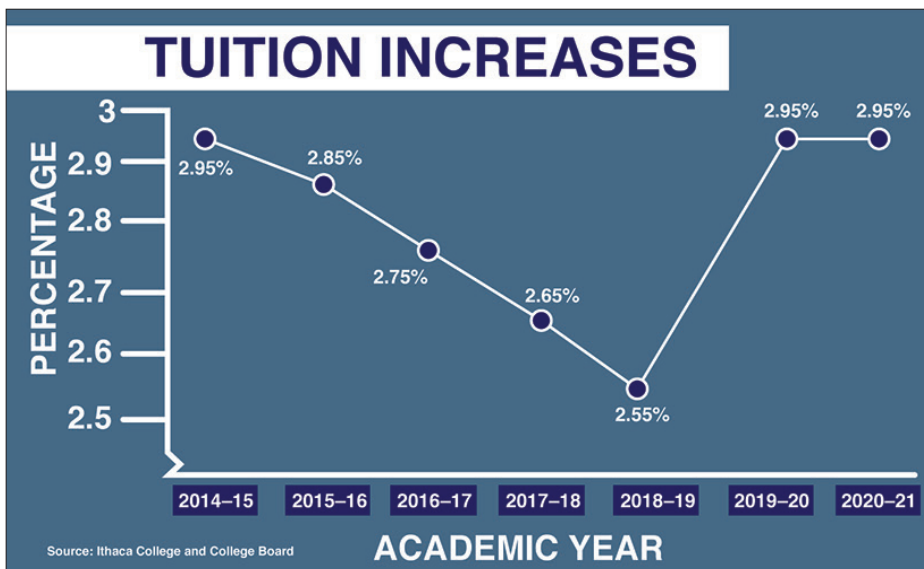
The Ithaca College Board of Trustees has set the tuition for the 2020–21 academic year at \$46,611, reflecting a 2.95% increase from the previous academic year.

The total cost of attendance, including tuition, a standard double room and the unlimited meal plan required for students in the dorms, will be \$62,457 for the 2020–21 academic year. The 2019–20 total cost of attendance is \$60,845. The announcement was made in an email sent to the campus community by David Lissy '87, chair of the Board of Trustees, and President Shirley M. Collado on Dec. 4.

This is a 2.95% increase from the \$45,275 tuition for the 2019–20 academic year, or \$1,336 more. The percentage increase for the 2020–21 academic year is the same as the percentage increase for the 2019–20 academic year, when the dollar amount of the increase was \$1,297. However, these two years are still the largest percentage increases since the 2014–15 academic year.

"This percentage increase is the same as last year's, reflecting the senior leadership team and [Institutional Effectiveness and Budget Committee's] prioritization of affordability, which is critical to the success of the college's strategic plan, Ithaca Forever," the email stated.

A standard double room is set at



DESIGNED BY MAYA RODGERS

\$8,978. The price of on-campus housing has an average percentage increase of 2.35%, which is the same percentage increase as the 2019–20 academic year. A standard double room for the 2019–20 academic year is \$8,770.

Board is set at \$6,868, which is a 1% increase from the 2019–20 academic year. The current unlimited meal plan that is required for all students living in the dorms costs \$6,800.

"The board and the senior leadership team look forward to continuing to work with the college community as we collectively prioritize a robust, innovative student experience and move IC thoughtfully and intentionally toward a sustainable, successful future," the email stated.

The tuition price for the following

academic year is typically announced in October. In the interest of focusing on the launch of Ithaca Forever, the board did not take action on approving the tuition, room and board rates during the Fall 2019 meeting, according to a previous announcement from Lissy and Collado.

Dave Maley, director of public relations for the college, said that since 2016, the board has approved the cost of attendance in the fall rather than the spring in order to provide the information as early as possible to families to support their decisions around college applications and admissions.

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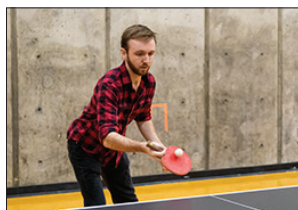
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AGE DIVERSITY IN CLASSROOM IS BENEFICIAL



SPORTS | Page 19

PINGPONG CLUB USES SPORT FOR STRESS RELIEF

NATION & WORLD

UK government holds vigil for London Bridge attack

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and main opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn paused Dec. 2 to honor the two people killed in the London Bridge attack. They then went back to trading blame for the security failings that allowed a man who had been jailed for terrorist crimes to go on a violent rampage in the heart of London. Usman Khan stabbed two people to death and injured three others Nov. 29 before being shot and killed by police. Two of the injured people remain hospitalized in stable condition.

Finnish prime minister quits over postal service strike

Finland's prime minister resigned Nov. 3 after a key coalition partner withdrew its support from his five-party government. This came after a strike at the country's postal service that spread to the national flag carrier Finnair. Antti Rinne, who took office in June, faced heavy criticism in recent days over how he and a fellow Social Democratic minister Sirpa Paatero dealt with a two-week strike of the country's state-owned postal service Posti in November. Rinne, who used to be a trade union leader, and Paatero were accused of giving inaccurate and contradictory information in the run-up to the

strike, specifically over the transfer of work contracts for 700 Posti package handlers, which effectively would have led to lower pay.

US Sen. Kamala Harris ends campaign in presidential race

Democratic Sen. Kamala Harris told supporters Dec. 3 that she was ending her bid for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020. "My campaign for president simply doesn't have the financial resources we need to continue," she said in a note to supporters. Harris launched her campaign in January. She was the first woman and first black attorney general and U.S. senator in California's history.

House report gives evidence favoring Trump impeachment

The U.S. House of Representatives released an impeachment report Dec. 3 outlining evidence of what it calls President Donald Trump's wrongdoing toward Ukraine, findings that will serve as the foundation for debate over whether the 45th president should be removed from office. The 300-page report from Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee makes the case that Trump misused the power of his office and, in the course of its investigation, obstructed Congress by stonewalling the proceedings.



Mexican town recovers after gun battle

A shop's windows are riddled with bullet holes after a gun battle Dec. 2 in Villa Union, Mexico. A gun battle between a drug cartel assault group and security forces occurred in the town and killed 22 people.

EDUARDO VERDUGO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marijuana vaping cartridge busts rise over two-year period

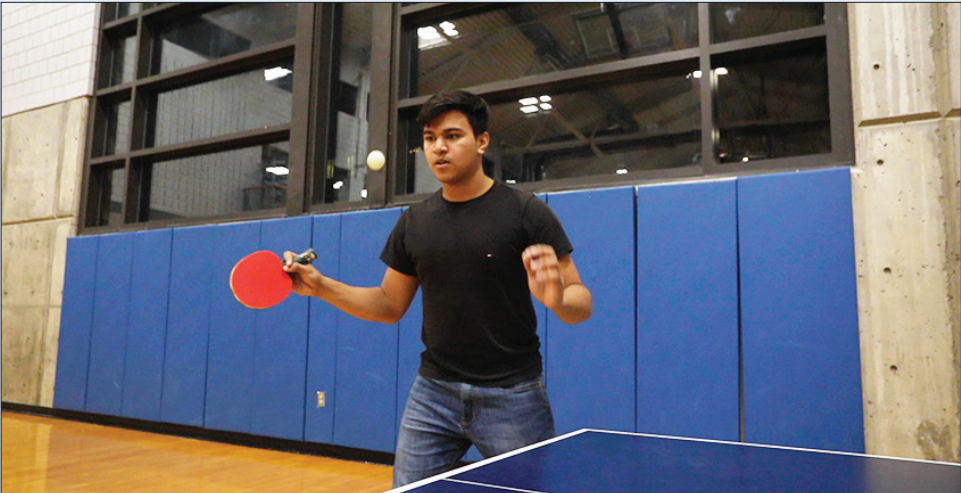
As health officials scrutinize marijuana vaping, it is on law enforcement's radar, too. From New York to Nebraska farm country to California, authorities have seized

approximately 510,000 marijuana vape cartridges and arrested approximately 120 people in the past two years, according to an Associated Press tally from interviews, court records, news accounts and official releases.

Source: Associated Press

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Pingpong club serves up a stress relief

IC Ping Pong provides students a low-commitment way to wind down from stressful schedules.



HiFashion Studios Show 2019

Ithaca College's HiFashion Studios hosted its annual fashion show Dec. 4.

THE ITHACAN

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The Ithacan

Faculty Council discusses student retention rates

BY SKYLAR EAGLE

Laurie Koehler, vice president for marketing and enrollment strategy, spoke to the Ithaca College Faculty Council about improving retention rates at the college at its meeting Dec. 3.

Koehler spoke about different ways the college is attempting to analyze its undergraduate student retention rates and how it can be improved through marketing strategies and improving the student experience. She said the third-semester retention rate increased from 82.7% in 2017–18 to 87% in 2019–20. The retention rate for fifth-semester students is lower with only 77.1% of students remaining enrolled at the college in 2018 after their fifth semester.

“The best tools for yield are their peers, who they see coming to IC, who they meet when they come here,” Koehler said. “So the better their experience here is, the better a chance of yielding our students.”

Koehler said the college is more concerned about improving retention rates and the student experience than obtaining a higher ranking.

The college currently ranks eighth in Regional Universities North on U.S. News.

“I would like the 87% to be 90% in the next five years,” Koehler said.

Koehler said the college can use this ranking to get more people to apply to the school. The college admitted 10,326 students and enrolled 1,506 freshman students for the 2019–20 academic year.

Koehler said the college is also looking at the National Survey for Student Engagement to analyze the student experience.

“Often, the biggest factor has to do with not being connected to campus, not feeling connected with faculty but also not feeling connected with peers,” Koehler said.

Koehler said she recommends changing the language used with forms and notifications sent to prospective students from the Office of Student Financial Services and the Office of the Registrar.

“How can we be more friendly in the language we use?” Koehler said. “We have advanced degrees, and it is confusing. So imagine the first-generation student who’s going through this process and then gets an award letter and has no idea because we use lingo.”

The better their [peers’] experience here is, the better a chance of yielding our students.

– Laurie Koehler



Laurie Koehler, vice president for marketing and enrollment strategy, spoke to Faculty Council at the Dec. 3 meeting about student retention rates and improving the student experience at the college.

MAXINE HANSFORD/THE ITHACAN

to come up with an extra \$10,000, and students are taking out private loans to do that,” Koehler said. “So that could be a reason for third- and fifth-semester drop-off.”

David Lissy ’87, chair of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees, and President Shirley M. Collado announced Dec. 4 that the board approved a 2.95% tuition increase for the 2020–21 academic year. The tuition for the next academic year is now set at \$46,611.

Phil Blackman, assistant professor in the Department of Accounting and Business Law, asked Koehler about the trend of decreasing enrollment in colleges across the country.

“The population of high school graduates is going to be going down, particularly in the Northeast and Midwest,” Koehler said. “That puts schools like us, regional colleges, at risk in terms of enrollment. And that means we need to think about, number one, what should our enrollment be? And, number two, how are we building a plan for our students?”

Faculty Council also voted on proposed syllabus amendments from the Academic Policies Committee. The changes include requiring more detailed course descriptions and assignment schedules as well as a mandatory rule to include more information about Title IX and Student Accessibility Services.

It voted in favor of the proposed amendments with 13 members in favor of the changes, six members against and two members who abstained from voting.

The proposed changes will now move to La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, to approve.

The council went into an executive session to discuss new policies, including policies regarding intimate relationships between employees and students, drones and the formulation and issuance of college policy, with Guilherme Costa, vice president of legal affairs, and Hayley Harris, vice president of the Office of Human and Organizational Development and Planning.

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Students present research at pop culture conference

BY CORA PAYNE

Peggy Carter, a character in the Marvel Cinematic Universe who is romantically linked to Captain America, is often regarded as a feminist character. Yet, at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association’s (MAPACA) annual conference, senior Andrea Yzaguirre challenged the impact of Carter’s character development in her presentation, “The Woman Got Married: How Peggy Carter’s Happy Ending Isn’t So Happy.”

MAPACA is an academic organization that aims to further critical academic analysis of U.S. popular culture. MAPACA’s 2019 conference took place at the City Center Marriott in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from Nov. 7 to 9. Yzaguirre’s presentation, as well as senior Charlotte Kane’s presentation, “Under the Influence: How Instagram Propagates Eating Disorders,” are finalists for the Walden Prize for Graduate and Undergraduate Papers, an award given annually to emerging scholars in pop culture studies. Any undergraduate or graduate student reading at the current year’s MAPACA conference is eligible for the award, which has not been announced yet.

Kane presented her research on the correlation between Instagram and eating disorders with her presentation. Her personal experiences with anorexia and usage of diet pills and detox teas greatly influenced her topic choice, she said.

“When you say outright that Instagram is causing eating disorders, it sounds crazy,” Kane said. “But if you look at the way I present it with a scenario, if a girl uses the money her parents

give her to go to the mall to buy some diet pills that she saw influencers using on Instagram, they’re from GNC, a health store, so she thinks they’re healthy. She’ll start losing weight and get more validation online, creating a vicious cycle.”

The majority of presenters at academic conferences are graduate students or professionals, said Katharine Kittredge, professor in the Department of English. Students are able to engage with other experienced scholars when they present as undergraduates, Kittredge said.

“Presenting at conferences is a crucial skill for those who will be going into academic professions, but it is also promotes skills that are important for most other professions,” Kittredge said.

The eight Ithaca College student presenters at this year’s conference were Kane, Yzaguirre, seniors Lauren Suna, Alayna Vander Veer and Eliana Berger and juniors Erica Otis, Angelina Randazzo and Isabella Oliverio. All the student presenters were enrolled in a single credit Block 1 course with Kittredge to further develop their research presentations.

Oliverio said she grew up watching dark youth films like “Monster House” and “Coraline,” and these films led her to her presentation topic. Oliverio’s presentation, “Where There Is No Imagination There Is No Horror: Horror Marketed Towards Youth Through Animated Films,” focused on the horror movie genre.

The preparation for MAPACA began in the middle of summer, Oliverio said. The presenters began exploring potential topics and continued to refine them at the start of the semester.

MAPACA is open to individuals presenting



Senior Charlotte Kane is eligible for an award for pop culture studies after presenting at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association’s annual conference.

COURTESY OF CHARLOTTE KANE

research related to popular culture across a wide range of disciplines.

“I love that I could delve into media and see and experience the world that I am going to work in and be a part of,” Oliverio said.

Berger created a research presentation titled “Clanks, Constructs and Mad Science: Agatha Heterodyne’s Promotion of Inter-group Empathy in Girl Genius.”

“I realized that so many of my presentations had been based on how these things of the past influenced women today, but I never thought to look at what media influenced me,” Berger said.

Berger focused her presentation on Agatha Heterodyne, a character in the comic series “Girl Genius.” Berger has been reading the comic for over 10 years, she said. Upon recognizing the potential cultural significance of the comic, as well as its significance to her personally, Berger designed her presentation around it, she said.

Suna said that presenting at MAPACA offers students a great opportunity to meet other scholars interested in similar areas.

“Presenting has really confirmed that I want to go to grad school and take my work down a very academic path,” Suna said.

Kane said the opportunity to attend and present at an academic conference benefited her personally and professionally.

“Presenting really built my confidence,” Kane said. “If I took the time to read dozens of articles, I deserve to speak with authority.”

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FROM DONORS, PAGE 1

The annual fund supports the student learning experience, financial aid for students, building and grounds maintenance and student life, including student organizations, sports and counseling. Anyone, including staff, faculty members, students and family members of students, can donate to the annual fund.

Although the college's alumni participation has steadily decreased over the years, the yearly amount donated to the annual fund is now double what it was in 2010. In the 2019 fiscal year, the donations to the annual fund totaled \$1,610,666, Maley said via email. Donations totaled \$1,620,503 in 2018, \$1,648,902 in 2017, \$1,607,392 in 2016, \$1,787,967 in 2015, \$1,436,036 in 2014, \$1,160,000 in 2013, \$760,670 in 2012 and \$848,495 in 2011. In 2010, donations to the annual fund totaled \$816,562.

Kobler said the total amount donated to the annual fund, endowments and capital projects was \$35,964,794.75 in 2019 and \$12,287,781.27 in 2018. The Park Foundation and estate contributed approximately \$24 million in 2019.

Kobler said that the largest source of donations is alumni but that the current and former Ithaca College Board of Trustees members contribute greatly as well. Other donations come from corporations, foundations and individuals affiliated with the college including faculty, staff, students and families. Those who are not affiliated with the college can donate to the funds but do not make up a large percentage.

Kobler said she is paying



Wendy Kobler, vice president for institutional advancement, said she is working to engage with alumni to encourage them to donate to Ithaca College. The donor rate is 6.4% in 2019.

SURINA BELK-GUPTA/THE ITHACAN

attention to the alumni participation rate. Kobler said the college has approximately 65,000 alumni. She said the annual fund total each year has been increasing despite the decline in alumni participation rate because the college has been asking specific donors to donate more.

Kobler said the college raises money for the annual fund by contacting potential donors through its phone-a-thon and direct mail. The college has approximately 60 students who operate the phone center for the phone-a-thon, Kobler said. The student workers sign a confidentiality agreement that prevents them from answering media inquiries.

"My philosophy is: It's important that we have a healthy alumni giving percentage number," Kobler said. "I think it really is an opportunity for us to help us engage with alumni, for alumni to feel like

their degree and the value of their degree was substantial and meaningful in their life."

Wellesley College had the highest alumni giving percentage rate on a list of colleges compiled by Forbes with a three-year average rate of 48%. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute had the lowest rate on the list at a three-year average rate of 7%. Cornell University had a three-year average rate of 18%. Dartmouth College had a three-year average rate of 41%. Stanford University had a three-year average rate of 24%.

To encourage more participation from alumni, Kobler organized the first Cortaca Jug Giving Challenge leading up to the 61st Cortaca Jug game at MetLife Stadium on Nov. 16. The game broke the attendance record for a Division III football game with 45,161 people,

including many of the college's alumni. Alumni and other attendees of the game were encouraged to donate to their respective colleges. Ithaca College won the challenge with 938 participants compared to SUNY Cortland's 905 participants. The amount raised has not been totaled yet.

Kobler said the participation of alumni and money raised from during the challenge would count toward the next fiscal year's alumni participation rate and annual fund numbers. In Spring 2020, she said, she hopes to have a day of giving challenge that will motivate people to donate more. It will be similar to the National Day of Giving or Giving Tuesday. She said she would also like to increase the annual fund through a minicampaign aimed toward faculty and staff.

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FROM POLICY, PAGE 1

sexual harassment policy.

"It feels more appropriate to really take it out of the sexual harassment policy and make a stand-alone policy about relationships involving employees and really treat it as an HR type of policy governing the behavior of our employees and what is acceptable and what is not acceptable," Costa said.

Costa said all employees are expected to follow this policy and that supervisors and supervisees are subject to discipline if they violate the policy.

Costa said it the employee's responsibility to not engage in a relationship with a student, and as a result, the student cannot be punished for violating the policy.

Costa said that the college being a residential campus creates additional challenges, especially when a relationship between a student and faculty member ends. Because most students live, work, eat and attend school on the college campus, their entire lives are on campus. Students have nowhere else to go because their lives are on the college campus, as opposed to employees who do not live on campus.

"When everyone is happy and in love, everything's great," Costa said. "When things start going south, then it gets really complicated. To have that happen in a college setting involving students and faculty presents different challenges because as students in a residential college, you live and you go to school and many of you work here."

He said that another concern regarding a relationship between a student and a faculty member is that it could have negative effects on the students' academic standing. He also said a relationship can shift from consensual to non-consensual because of unequal power dynamics that exist in the relationship.

"There's a belief that relationships involving students and employees in the academic setting



COSTA

can inhibit student success," Costa said. "Things that may feel consensual at one point early in the relationship can really stop being consensual and can put both the student and the staff member in a really awkward position kind of at the end."

At the SGC meeting, junior Senate Chair Abigail Murtha said the policy should clarify specific cases. She gave an example of a student who graduates and goes on to work for the college but is also in a relationship with a student that began while both individuals were students.

"What happens if two students are in a relationship and then one of them graduates and gets hired by the college?" Murtha said. "What is the protocol for that?"

Costa said the policy is not meant to punish a recent graduate working for the college who is in a relationship with a student. He said the new policy bans student and employee relationships but that any policy needs to be flexible enough to evaluate individual cases.

"There needs to be some flexibility on policy rather than just a straight-up prohibition," Costa said. "The default is prohibited, but we wanted to make sure case-by-case situations can really be reviewed."

Costa said the policy will not have an effect on relationships between students and student employees. He said the proposed policy explicitly excludes student workers who are not graduate assistants from being held responsible for violating the policy because they are considered students, not employees.

Senior Alex Perry, varsity sports senator, said he is unsure why the proposed policy would need to be implemented. He said two adults should not need to disclose their relationship, especially if they are in different departments.

"I don't understand, like yes, there's inherent inequity between faculty or staff and students, but given that the two individuals involved are not related or there's no direct supervision over it, I'm not sure," Perry said. "I'm struggling to understand why that would need to be implemented, especially if the student is an older student."

Junior Connor Shea, vice president of campus affairs, said he wanted to know how the campus community will be made aware of the new policy.

Costa said the communications plan being developed for the policy will be more focused on informing faculty and staff through college meetings, school meetings and department meetings. He said that this is because the new policy applies specifically to employee behavior and that it is the employee's responsibility to follow the policy. He said that students will be made aware of the policy at meetings like the all-college gathering.

Sophomore Hunter Simmons, Class of 2022 senator, said he wanted to know if there was room to change the language of the bill in order to make it more inclusive.

"In one section, I noticed there's he or she, maybe using singular they pronouns to be more inclusive," Simmons said.

Costa said that the policy is still in the review process and that once the final version is published by the senior leadership team, it will be embedded in the onboarding process for all new employees and shared at orientation. He said that the proposed policy is focused on employee behavior but that students also need to be aware of the changes.

Corrections: A previous version of this article stated that the proposed policy will allow intimate relationships between an employee and a student. The new policy will prohibit new relationships and require disclosure for preexisting relationships. The previous version also stated that the policy will be voted on by the Ithaca College Board of Trustees in the summer. It will be published by the senior leadership team, and Guilherme Costa said that he hopes that it will be ready in summer but that there is no set timeline. The previous version said the current policy is being revised. A new policy is being written that addresses student and employee relationships. The previous version stated that a relationship will only be allowed when the student and employee disclose the relationship to the Office of Human Resources and create a management plan to eliminate conflict. The statement actually refers to supervisor and supervisee relationships and not to relationships involving students. Quotes that misled statements Costa made have been removed.

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IC adds new data minor

BY DIANA DELUCA

The Ithaca College School of Humanities and Sciences is offering a new minor in data science.

Data science combines mathematical modeling, computational thinking and inferential reasoning to draw conclusions from data. Dave Brown, professor and chair of the Department of Mathematics, said students with the minor will learn the tools used by data scientists to engage in the interdisciplinary problem-solving needed to understand and communicate data. The minor requires 27–30 credits in mathematics, computer science and statistics courses. Students are able to declare the minor starting this semester. So far, two students have declared the minor.

The number of data science and analytics job listings is projected to grow by approximately 364,000 listings to approximately 2.7 million in 2020, according to a report from the International Business Machines Corporation. Data science and analytics jobs offer average salaries of over \$80,000, according to the same report. Data science jobs include computer systems engineers, data administrators and data scientists.

However, the supply of candidates does not match the demand for data science jobs. Approximately 69% of employers say they prefer candidates with data science skills, but only 23% of educators say that their graduates learned these skills, according to a 2017 report by PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The college is following the national higher-education trend of attempting to close this gap by offering data science programs. There has been a 52% increase in accredited data science and analytics programs in the United States since 2010, according to the PricewaterhouseCoopers report.

Tom Pfaff, professor in the Department of Mathematics, led the faculty initiative to create the minor. He said via email that the evolving landscape of technology is changing the way scientists and mathematicians view data.

"Given the change in both the amount of data and how it is analyzed, we really needed a data science minor to properly prepare students for the work world and also to be educated citizens," Pfaff said via email.

Students will learn how to use statistical tools, like R and Python, to analyze data. Pfaff said many of these tools are free but require some level of coding ability. R is used in Intermediate Statistics and Modern Data Science with R, both of which are required courses as part of the minor.

With data science in demand, the Department of Mathematics wanted to equip students from majors beyond science and mathematics with modern workplace skills, Brown said. Brown said students in majors like economics, journalism, business, biology and environmental science can benefit from the minor because it helps when using data. At the same time, math, computer science and physics students can benefit from the minor depending on their interests after graduating, Pfaff said.

Senior Katherine Polley, president of Ithaca College Women in Computing, said the addition of a data science minor will be a great way to introduce a possible career option for individuals who like coding.

"It's more reflective of the different kinds of jobs that are out there in the world because a lot of things do deal with data with and there's coding with that," Polley said. "For me, as a computer science major who maybe doesn't want to be a software engineer, the idea of doing something more data-oriented is very appealing. It's just kind of broadening your horizons."

College celebrates anniversary with Longview

BY RYAN BIEBER

Like his fellow classmates, Ithaca College student Allen Minsky attends classes and lectures during the week that cover gerontology, film, philosophy and more.

Unlike his peers, Minsky is 77 years old.

In 2019, Ithaca College celebrated its 20-year partnership with Longview, a senior living community located across the street from campus. The program allows Longview residents to take classes at the college and allows students to engage in hands-on learning at Longview. All five schools at the college are involved with the program.

Minsky said he feels very fortunate to take classes at the college.

"Having the partnership with Ithaca College as part of living here at Longview has been a very positive piece to me wanting to be here," he said. "I certainly don't think that a lot of places are either willing to do it or able to do it. ... I enjoy being able to have these experiences."

Longview initially began as the Ithaca Center in 1974, an assisted living home located in a renovated off-campus Ithaca College dorm. In 1997, Longview was built after the college donated 28 acres of land across from campus. Residents began to move into the new facility at the end of 1998, and the partnership started in 1999.

Collaborations between colleges and assisted living homes are a growing trend in higher education. It is estimated that hundreds of colleges have engaged in similar partnerships and only expect the number to grow.

In the Netherlands, some students are even living in nursing homes as a more affordable housing option.

Minsky is one of seven Longview residents taking classes at the college this semester, said Jessica Valdez Taves, IC/Longview coordinator and assistant professor in the Department of Gerontology.

Over the last two decades, the number of Longview residents who take part in the program has ranged annually from one to 15 people.

Minsky said Longview residents are allowed to take two free classes a semester, although the number of available classes can be limited depending on what times the classes meet.

Valdez Taves said the goal of the program is to foster community and learning between generations.

"Students start to lose the stigma about older adults and older adult facilities and start to get comfortable, and once they're comfortable, they can learn from and educate each other," she said.

Valdez Taves said that simply talking with a Longview resident is impactful for students.

She said that in some cases, Longview residents have personal experiences in the course topics and are able to share first-hand knowledge.

"It resonates with the students," Taves said. "When you get to talk with somebody ... or when you get to learn their perspectives versus from a textbook, it's amazing how much more personable and how much easier it is to really understand it for students."

Minsky said he enjoys learning



From left, junior Sarah Jennison, Longview resident Rachel Kaufman and junior Desirée Tolchin chat as part of Ithaca College's Sociology of Aging class. Longview and the college have partnered for 20 years.

JILL RUTHAUSER/THE ITHACAN

students' ideas and opinions as well.

"I enjoy hearing how people who are so much younger than I am feel about things," he said. "I find that people are listening to me and at least hearing what I'm saying, ... and I like listening to them because they are the future."

Elizabeth Bergman, associate professor and chair of the Department of Aging Studies and Gerontology, said the partnership also helps break down stereotypes between generations, particularly when students go to Longview.

"As faculty who educate young

people, our motivation with bringing students to Longview is to really breakdown some of the stereotypes and stigmas around aging," she said. "But what I find, in the end, is that it works in the other direction just as much. ... Residents and tenants at Longview will come to me and say 'Thank you for including me, you've totally restored my faith in young people.'"

Minsky said that though he enjoys his classes, he wishes more Longview residents took classes at the college. Members of the campus community have raised concerns about the lack

of accessibility on campus due to its natural terrain of being built on a hill and the unavoidable snow.

"The only thing I'm sorry about is the fact that more people don't participate in this," he said. "Many people feel that physically, it is very difficult for them to maneuver around the college."

Taves said that in the future, she hopes to improve the program to better accommodate more Longview residents.

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Ithaca Police Department settles lawsuit with IC alum

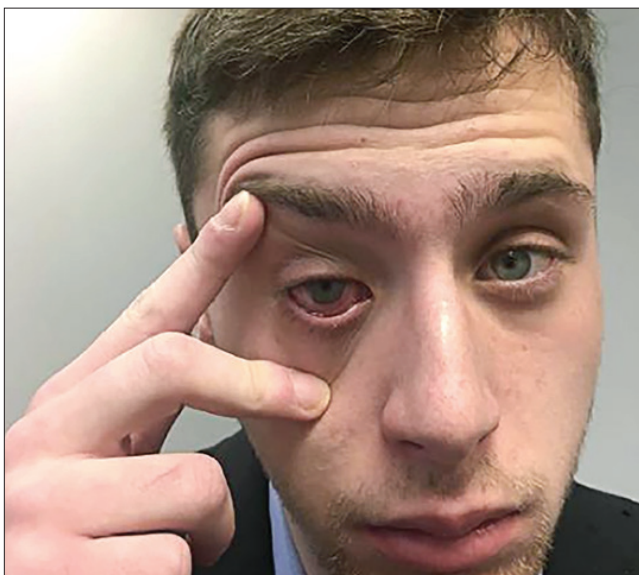
BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

The Ithaca Police Department settled a lawsuit with an Ithaca College alum following his arrest in 2016.

Kyle Goldstein '18 filed the lawsuit against Ithaca police officers after being detained by police during a party at his rented home on Hudson Street on Nov. 17, 2016. According to court documents, Ithaca police officer Jacob Allard allegedly sprayed Goldstein with pepper spray, causing injuries to both of his eyes and permanent damage to his right eye. He was allegedly sprayed while handcuffed on the floor, not resisting arrest or trying to flee, according to court documents. The police department settled the lawsuit Nov. 26. John Barber, city police chief at the time of the incident, has since retired.

Ed Kopko, Goldstein's lawyer, said he cannot reveal the details of the settlement because the City of Ithaca insisted on a confidentiality agreement. Kopko said he opposed the confidentiality agreement but consented to it to conclude the case in the best interest of his client. He could not disclose the exact amount in the settlement, but a source close to the deal confirmed it was in the "hundreds of thousands," according to the Ithaca Voice.

"My personal and professional opinion is that the public



Kyle Goldstein '18 sustained permanent damage to his right eye after being pepper sprayed at a party Nov. 17, 2016.

SOURCE: COURT DOCUMENTS

is entitled to know all of this information, and it would actually be very useful to begin and maintain a public debate in discourse about political entities like the city paying money out on behalf of their individual officers," Kopko said.

The Ithaca Police Department did not respond for comment. Kopko said the officers who were involved in the lawsuit still work at the police department and did not contribute any money to the settlement of the case. He said the city also did not disclose whether or not those officers were subject to remedial

training or sanctions following the incident.

"This whole thing started out with a college party in an off-campus apartment, and how unusual is an off-campus college party in Ithaca, New York, that has a huge student population?" Kopko said. "This was a gross, pathetic overreaction by ill-tempered, untrained police officers. I mean, who could be a police officer in Ithaca, New York, and not understand that there's going to be college parties?"

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Winter storm disrupts students' travel to Ithaca

BY EMILY HUNG

What started as a bomb cyclone on the West Coast during Thanksgiving week turned into a storm that swept across the United States, causing major travel difficulties for students returning to Ithaca College after the week-long break.

The National Weather Service issued a winter storm warning that was in effect in Ithaca from 7 a.m. Dec. 1 to midnight Dec. 3. Approximately 6–12 inches of snow were expected in Ithaca during this time as the storm blew through the area. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency for seven counties, not including Tompkins County, and deployed 300 members of the national guard to assist with snow removal and cleanup operations.

In an email sent to students Nov. 30, the college stated that due to severe weather conditions expected to impact the region, classes would be canceled Dec. 2. In a follow-up email the next day, the school announced it was officially closed until Dec. 3, when normal operations and class schedules would resume.

Other colleges and universities in the area, including Cornell University, Tompkins Cortland Community College, Syracuse University and Binghamton University, canceled classes Dec. 2 as well.

The Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management at Ithaca College recorded four incidents during the storm. A car hit a curb by Alumni Circle near the college entrance and another slid off the road into a ditch by Towers Skyline at night Dec. 1.

No injuries were reported in either case. A student hurt their leg snowboarding on a path near Z-Lot by Coddington Road on Dec. 2, and a college employee slipped in M-Lot by the Athletics and Events Center as

they were arriving to work Dec. 3.

Tom Dunn, associate director for Public Safety, said the roads were snow-covered and slippery, which led to accidents.

"I know the sheriff's department had put out a notice telling people to avoid unnecessary travel, which is a common occurrence in upstate New York," Dunn said. "When road conditions are bad, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Department wants to discourage unnecessary travel. The number of accidents was considerably lower because I think people heeded the warning of not traveling if it wasn't necessary."

Classes were not canceled Dec. 3, but the snow and ice disrupted students' travels back to the college. Freshman Kyle Friedman arrived at Port Authority in New York City only to find that buses traveling north were all canceled.

He had to board a bus back to New Jersey, where he originally traveled from. Friedman reached campus on the afternoon of Dec. 3.

"Everything was running slow because of the storm," he said. "I'm from California, so this weather has truly been a new experience. I'm not loving the snow."

Freshman Amit Rosenberg-Rappin was stranded in Philadelphia for two days. They left Chicago the morning of Dec. 1 only to find out that their connecting flight to Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport had been canceled. They ended up arriving at campus the afternoon of Dec. 3.

"I knew it would go bad, but I decided to try it," Rosenberg-Rappin said. "I couldn't get another flight back to Ithaca. It turned out the only flight I could get was to Syracuse."

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New app created by professor spreads gratitude

BY JULIE DANNEVIG

In 2017, Laura Campbell Carapella, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education, began to develop ICU Gratitude, an app for Ithaca College students with the goal of reducing levels of anxiety by sharing instances of gratitude online.

Carapella said she used funding from the college's President's Seed Grant, a grant that faculty and staff apply for to help to fund projects that add to the campus community, as well as her own savings. The app is still being tested by focus groups and modified with the goal of being released to the entire campus in Fall 2020.

She said that the app will work as a medium for students to share anonymous instances of gratitude they experience throughout the day and that her goal is for it to act as a new form of social media.

Carapella said she has found through research and studies that social media plays a role in the increase in anxiety as it promotes judgment and ridicule.

In her own classes, Carapella said, every semester she asks her students to what extent they have anxiety on a scale of one to 10.

She said that in recent years, the percentage of students who consider themselves to be highly anxious has risen considerably compared to when she first started teaching 23 years ago.

"We get to the point where we're paranoid with the way people are going to judge us, that we are paralyzed in that anxiety," she said.

According to a study conducted by

the American College Health Association, over 60% of college students felt overwhelmed with anxiety.

The theory behind Carapella's app, she said, is that replacing these judgments with thoughts of gratitude will help to reduce anxiety over time.

"What would it look like if we every day instead of pulling out social media platform that encourages you to like or dislike something or to compare yourself, it encouraged you to give gratitude," she said.

Carapella said she hopes the app will be used across campus, as it will be more effective with more students using it. The app will be free to students at the college, and, in the future, she said she hopes it could be utilized on other campuses.

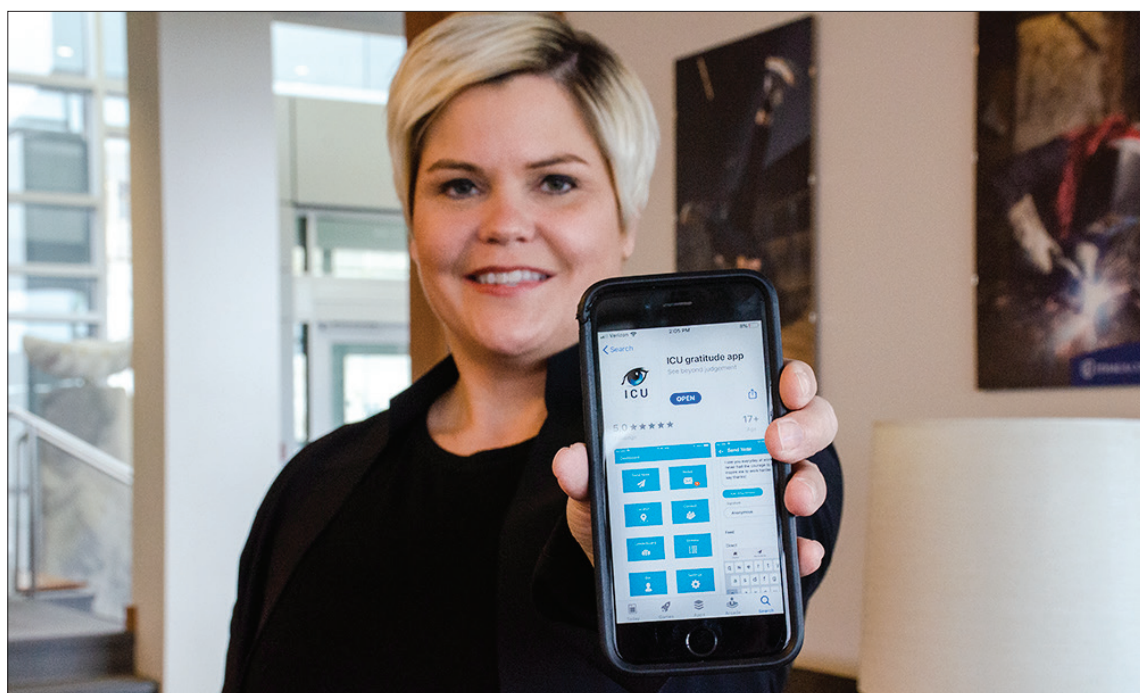
"What I like to look for rather than just an individual response, like therapy, I want to look for the social response in a domino effect," she said.

Junior psychology major Madeleine Giroux said she has worked to develop the app, collected the data and helped to conduct studies and surveys.

Giroux said that she became interested in helping with the app when Carapella introduced the idea to her class. Giroux said she has personally struggled with anxiety and found the theory behind the app interesting and encouraging.

"I understand the kind of challenges that anxiety can bring for some people," she said. "I'm excited to become part of something that I think could really help people overcome those challenges."

Giroux said she thinks the app



Laura Campbell Carapella, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education, showcases the ICU Gratitude app. The app's goal is to reduce anxiety by sharing gratitude.

BECKS EDELSTEIN / THE ITHACAN

could be beneficial in easing the stress that comes with transitioning into college. The app will be released next fall, and Carapella said she is looking to find a way to incorporate it into freshman orientation.

"I think the app could be really beneficial to new or incoming students," she said. "Most people probably experience the exciting but also the anxious nature of becoming a first-year student, so I think the app will create a really positive and safe space for new students to connect."

Freshman Emily Levine said she thinks the app could act as a way to encourage more acts of

gratitude around campus.

"I think with social media people are under so much pressure to be someone that they're not," she said. "By calling attention to [acts of gratitude], other people will end up following that and want to do it too."

The app will feature acts of gratitude that are going on around the user by using a location-based main feed.

Levine said this component of the app will help to make the campus feel more connected.

"If I do something nice and get put on that app, it would really make my

day knowing that I made someone else's day," she said.

Carapella said she is excited about the release of the app and is passionate about the work she has done.

"The conceptual thought that we could have an entire semester, maybe more, where everybody feels kindness all around them, all the time," she said. "They're giving it, they're receiving it and it grows infectiously. That's the most exciting part of all of this."

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Graduate clinicians work with individuals with autism

BY DIANA DELUCA

The aroma of chocolate and the sounds of laughter fill a small room in Smiddy Hall on Ithaca College's campus. Mixing up the ingredients to make puppy chow, a group of ICreate graduate clinicians and clients work together to make this treat and practice social skills.

This activity is a part of the Ithaca College Ready to Expand/Explore All Transition Experiences (ICreate) program, which offers adolescents with autism the opportunity to learn how to deal with daily situations to prepare them for adult life. The program launched in Fall 2014 and is run by Tina Caswell, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and Jana Waller, clinical assistant professor, fieldwork coordinator and chair of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The goal of the ICreate program is to ease the transition process for individuals on the autism spectrum from high school to college or to a professional career, Caswell said.

Approximately five clients from Tompkins County and surrounding counties ranging in age from 15 to 19 participate in ICreate every year, Caswell said. Graduate students from the college work with the clients for one semester. They work with the clients for one hour every Tuesday and Thursday for 12 weeks in the fall semester. Then, in the spring semester, two new graduate students are chosen to work with ICreate.

Christine Sikora and Melissa Potter, graduate students in the speech-language pathology program (SLP), are working with ICreate for Fall 2019. Both requested to be a part of ICreate to fulfill their clinical hours requirement, which goes toward their professional development and speech-language pathology licenses.

"Every day, Christine and I leave with a big

smile," Potter said. "It is so much fun to work with these people. ... They always bring up unexpected ideas that are outside of the box that we might not be thinking of. I think that's something that's really unique about people with autism."

Caswell supervises the graduate clinicians who participate in ICreate as a part of their curriculum.

ICreate is currently holding its first food drive to teach the students the importance of helping others in need. The food drive is running from Nov. 14 to Dec. 5 to help those in need in the Ithaca area. It was started as a collaborative idea among the graduate students and an ICreate autism spectrum disorder (ASD) client and her family.

Sikora said the client's family wanted to do something about the client's love of helping others but was unsure how to do so. After settling on the idea of a food drive, Sikora said that she and Potter decided to incorporate the concept of giving back in one of the ICreate sessions with an activity on gift giving.

The activities at the ICreate sessions include role-playing real-life situations involving interacting with other people. Potter said it prepares the clients to become more familiar with these activities in a safe space. If they say or do something that is often considered socially unsuitable, they can talk about it and work through it.

The sessions are structured in five steps. In the first step, greetings, the students and clients talk about their days. In the second step, introduction, students explain to the clients the activity they will be doing that day. In the third step, learning modules, students explicitly teach and model the activity. In the fourth step, teamwork, the students and clients work together on the activity. Then, the group shares reflections and plans for the next session.

In every session, the group focuses on



From left, graduate students Melissa Potter and Christine Sikora work with clients in the ICreate program. Approximately five clients participate in the program every year.

PETER RAIDER / THE ITHACAN

building social communication skills to improve an individual's ability to become employed or to go on to higher education.

"The most important part, the impact on the clients, is that they feel validated and supported in a safe environment to be able to practice their social communication skills," Caswell said. "They're different in the way they communicate, and that's OK."

Adolescents with ASD need explicit instruction and predictable environments to learn to navigate social interactions successfully, Caswell said. The activities are primarily group-oriented and collaborative in order to promote social skills. Skott Jones, associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, said the challenge of forming deep relationships is a main issue in individuals with ASD.

"It helps to bridge that transition into adulthood and fosters how you develop relationships, how do you work together with

people, even with pragmatic deficits," Jones said. "We teach those tools and strategies. Here are some things you can do. Here are some questions you can ask. And then that can lead to friendships and other areas of their lives to make a better quality of life."

Jones teaches Introduction to Autism: What It Is and Isn't, a class that defines the disorder and its characteristics.

Jones said approximately one in five children on the autism spectrum lives independently after high school. He said that, statistically, students with autism are less likely to be employed and more likely to be employed in low-paying jobs and live at home with their families.

"For me, it's all about viewing the individual first, their disorder second," Jones said. "There is a difference between knowing the kind of disorder a person has and knowing the person who happens to have a disorder."

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COLLEGE BRIEFS

Ithaca College Library to offer de-stress events for students

The Ithaca College Library is offering opportunities for students to de-stress from Dec. 8 to 13.

The library will host holiday trivia from 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 8.

A blanket fort with blankets, pillows and string lights will be set up from noon to 6 p.m. Dec. 9 on the second floor of the library.

The library will also host a mindful labyrinth walk from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Dec. 9. The walk will start in Gannett 319. One person will walk through the walking meditation at a time while contemplating a question or phase. This event is co-sponsored by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life.

The library will have a craft table with coloring, origami and cut out snowflakes from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 10 near Popular Periodicals.

President Shirley M. Collado will visit the library for a study break event from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Dec. 11 between the Research Help and the Circulation Desks. Food and drinks will be available at the event.

The library will host a button-making event from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 12 near Popular Periodicals.

The library will bring a therapy llama and two dogs to campus from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 13 in front of the Campus Center. The event is co-sponsored by the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services. Volunteers from Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine Cornell Companions program will attend the event.

These events do not require RSVPs, but they are available on IC Engage.

Publication names IC innovator for food service management

Food Management, a website focused on trends and best practices in the noncommercial food service industry, named Ithaca College its Innovator of the Month for the college’s decision to bring dining services in-house.

The website recognized the college for finding the resources to undertake self-operation of dining services, building relationships with local partners like Cornell University and making structural changes to the dining program to

increase the appeal of the meal plans.

Last spring, the college decided to end its campus dining contract with Sodexo after 19 years, taking those operations in-house in order to improve programming and lower costs. The college switched to local vendor Maines Paper & Food Service.

Food Management also noted the college’s decision to emphasize local vendors like Ithaca Bakery, Ithaca Coffee Company, Gimme! Coffee, Purity Ice Cream and Chick-n-Bap.

The college also changed its meal plan strategy to include two options — an unlimited plan that is mandatory for students living in on-campus dorms and a five-meals-per-week plan for off-campus students and those living in on-campus apartments.

Report recognizes the college for study-abroad participation

Ithaca College was recognized in November by the Institute of International Education as a leading institution for study abroad for master’s-level institutions in the category of “Mid-Length Study Abroad” experiences.

The college is identified as No. 4 in the nation for institutions of this type and in this category, reflecting only those study-abroad experiences that resulted in academic credit.

Provost to feature faculty work in post-sabbatical colloquium

La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, is hosting a post-sabbatical colloquium from 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 9 in Clark Lounge.

The speakers will share their works in music performance, modern languages and literatures and occupational therapy.

Janet Galván, professor in the Department of Performance Studies, will present at the event.

Marella Feltrin-Morris, associate professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, will present “Translation, or, The Grief That Keeps on Giving.”

Michelle Bradshaw, associate professor and graduate program chair in the Department of Occupational Therapy, will present “Journeying Into Other Realms: Occupational Therapy in Integrative Health.”

Gordon Rowland, director of the Center for



Students enjoy snow on day off from class

Freshman Zack Lemberg takes a photo with a snowman he built Dec. 2. It is named Diane. Ithaca College canceled classes Dec. 2 due to inclement weather. Approximately 6–12 inches of snow fell in the Ithaca area from Dec. 1 to 3.

CORA PAYNE/THE ITHACAN

Faculty Excellence, will facilitate the event.

The event is organized and supported by the Center for Faculty Excellence.

Intramurals to host tournament to benefit Ithaca Youth Bureau

Ithaca College intramurals will host a 5v5 Charity Basketball Tournament from 12:30 to 7 p.m. Dec. 8 in the Ben Light Gymnasium. It is \$5 per person to play in the tournament. All proceeds will be donated to the Ithaca Youth Bureau. Registration for the tournament can be completed at recreation.ithaca.edu

The winner of each bracket will play the winner of Cornell University’s brackets.

College to host annual event to showcase freshmen work

Freshmen students in the Ithaca College seminar program will present at the third annual Ithaca Seminar Symposium from noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 11 in the Emerson Suites.

Approximately 400 students will participate in traditional poster sessions, give individual readings and share group and individual presentations.

Students in more than 12 freshman seminar sections have been working on individual or group projects throughout the semester to showcase at the symposium.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOVEMBER 18 TO NOVEMBER 24

NOVEMBER 18

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Campus Center Quad
SUMMARY: The caller reported that an unknown person threw a cell phone into bushes for an unknown reason. Officers checked the area and were unable to locate the person. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: The Campus Center
SUMMARY: The caller reported a person sleeping in the bathroom. The officer responded to the area and met with the person. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded.

NOVEMBER 19

SCC HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/ ENDANGERING

LOCATION: Garden Apartment Building 28
SUMMARY: The caller reported that a person embarrassed them Sept. 27 and that the person may attempt to contact them. Patrol Officer Lance Clark responded to the incident.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Roy H. Park School of Communications
SUMMARY: The caller reported people were disruptive

during a lecture Nov. 18. The investigation is pending. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Other
SUMMARY: The officer reported marijuana was found inside a wallet turned in as found property. The officer judicially referred one person for unlawful possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Shawn Lansing responded to the incident.

NOVEMBER 20

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Garden Apartment Building 27
SUMMARY: The caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a video posted on YouTube. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF FOURTH DEGREE

LOCATION: Terrace 8
SUMMARY: The caller reported an unknown person or persons damaged boiler room alarm bell. The investigation is pending. Patrol Officer Khiem Nguyen responded.

TRESPASS NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Rothschild Place
SUMMARY: The caller reported an unknown person or persons possibly entered the building after hours. The

investigation is pending. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Circle Apartment Building 130
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the fire alarm activation was accidental due to steam from shower. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

NOVEMBER 21

PETIT LARCENY BETWEEN \$50–\$199

LOCATION: E-Lot
SUMMARY: The caller reported an unknown person stole a parking sign. The investigation is pending. Master Patrol Officer John Elmore responded.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Hill Center
SUMMARY: The caller reported persons blocking stairwell and utilizing campus equipment without permission. The officer determined the persons had permission. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded to the incident.

NOVEMBER 22

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Kostrinsky Field
SUMMARY: The caller reported three people climbing on the press box. The officers

located the persons and issued a warning for judicial action to stay away from the area. Security Officer Joe Oppen responded.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Muller Chapel
SUMMARY: The caller reported receiving a suspicious voicemail from an unknown person. The investigation is pending. Patrol Officer Lance Clark responded.

MAKING GRAFFITI NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Ithaca College Natural Lands
SUMMARY: The officer reported an unknown person made graffiti on recreation trail. The investigation is pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

NOVEMBER 23

SCC DRUG VIOLATIONS

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: The caller reported a suspicious odor in the area. The officer reported one person was judicially referred for violation of drug policy. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

SCC COLLEGE REGULATIONS

LOCATION: East Tower
SUMMARY: The caller reported locating drug paraphernalia. The officer reported the item was not drug paraphernalia. The officer

reported the person was judicially referred for violation of college regulations. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock responded.

SCC FIRE SAFETY RELATED OFFENSES

LOCATION: Terrace 5
SUMMARY: The caller reported a person in possession of a stolen exit sign. The officer determined the exit sign was not stolen property. The officer reported the person was judicially referred for a fire safety violation. Security Officer Joe Oppen responded.

NOVEMBER 24

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Terrace 6
SUMMARY: The caller reported hearing a person scream. The officers checked the area and were unable to locate any people in need of assistance. Patrol Officer John Norman and Master Security Officer Clayton Skinner responded.

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

KEY

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

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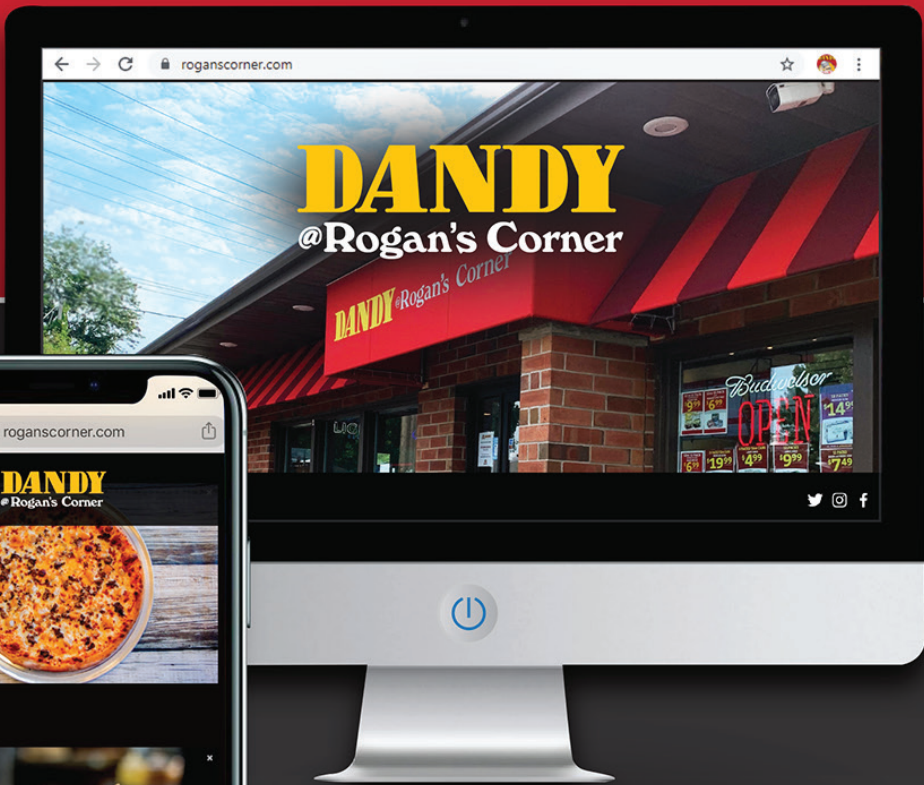
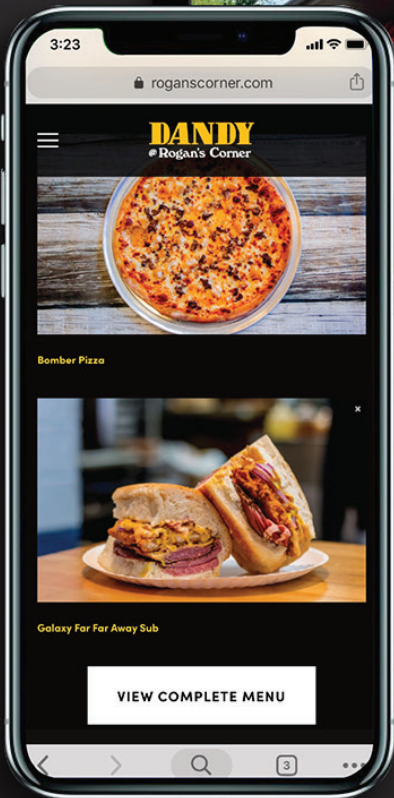


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OPINION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019

9



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EDITORIALS

College's program inspires intergenerational learning

This year, Ithaca College celebrated its 20-year partnership with Longview, a senior living community across the street from the college. The program allows Longview residents to take classes at the college and encourages students at the college to participate in hands-on learning experiences at the senior living community. Across the country, hundreds of colleges are working to build relationships with senior citizens. Throughout the last several years, opportunities for senior citizens to pursue higher education have significantly grown. Many U.S. colleges and universities have begun offering reduced or free college tuition for seniors returning to the classroom, and programs that connect college students with elders have gained popularity.

The college's relationship with the senior living community not only promotes the importance of lifelong education, but it is also a primary example of how higher education can use its resources and influence to initiate positive, intergenerational human connection.

As people grow older, they are often more likely to experience a sense of loneliness and isolation. This can happen for a number of reasons, including the difficult switch from independent to assisted living, the physical challenges of aging and a feeling of being

cut off from family and friends. Additionally, popular culture in the U.S. often wrongly deems older people dependent and undesirable despite their knowledge and life experiences. This can further influence feelings of alienation, as these individuals are often excluded from everyday society.

Human beings are social creatures, and loneliness of this kind is proven to influence health conditions, including depression, cognitive decline and heart disease.

Senior education programs help seniors combat feelings of loneliness, isolation and alienation by providing a sense of purpose and the opportunity to build new, healthy and dynamic relationships with people across generational lines.

The benefits of these programs do not just extend to older people — they reach younger college students as well. By establishing intergenerational classroom relationships, these programs provide unique opportunities for students of all ages to learn from those who likely grew up with very different experiences from their own. This, in turn, helps to build compassion.

As the world increasingly grows clouded by divisiveness and exclusion, intergenerational empathy is more important than ever, and it has the capacity to influence a more inclusive, understanding world.

Alumni donations motivated by real connection to college

This year, the amount of money in Ithaca College's annual fund is double what it was 10 years ago. However, despite the increase, the number of alumni donating to the fund has decreased by approximately half.

Many colleges and universities across the country are seeing a similar trend. While higher-education institutions are pulling in record dollars, the number of individual donors, specifically alumni, is significantly declining.

Alumni donations at the Ithaca College constitute a significant part of the funding that goes toward student life. A recent study found that the most significant indicator of alumni giving is an individual's ability to connect with their alma mater. This can mean having a connection to academics, social life or school spirit.

People give money to institutions and organizations not only because it helps them maintain social identities but also because they want to transform lives and make an impact. However, this can be a difficult thing for the college to tap into, as requests for alumni donations are most frequently made via telethon or through direct mail, both of which inherently lack personal connection. Just as the college should work to build genuine connections with alumni, alumni should work to maintain these connections, too. Although they have left campus, many still

reap the benefits of Ithaca College's programs and resources — resources that are still being used by thousands of students and rely heavily on alumni funding.

Taking this into consideration, it would be in the college's best interest to put resources toward showcasing the monumental impacts the annual fund has on student life. As a result, alumni will likely be more willing to donate to the student experience. As the college pushes out its five-year strategic plan, it seems there is no better time to do so.

The plan highlights the college's plans to build partnerships within the community and cultivate an on-campus culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. It also focuses on building stronger connections, both among current college community members and its alumni. As these plans take effect, it is the perfect time for the college to inspire and rebuild connections with its alumni, many of whom are distanced from the college and its mission as it exists today.

The 2019 Cortaca Jug was a primary example of the ways in which the college can boost community among students, faculty and alumni alike. As the college rolls out its strategic plan, it should consider it an opportunity to truly rebrand and begin building new, genuine and fun connections with all members of the college community — past, present and future.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send a letter to the editor to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

ALL LETTERS MUST:

- Be 250 words or fewer
- Emailed or dropped off by 5 p.m. Monday in Park 220.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Individuals or groups interested in submitting a guest commentary can send their writings to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor at bcook4@ithaca.edu. ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

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

NATIONAL RECAP

Connecticut works to financially divest from guns

BY BRONTË COOK

On Dec. 3, Connecticut Treasurer Shawn Wooden announced plans to reallocate \$30 million worth of shares in civilian firearm manufacturer securities. The plan would also ban similar future investments and create incentives for banks and other financial institutions to enact gun-related policies.

If approved, this will be the first time the state has moved toward divesting shares in firearm-related companies since the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. The elementary school shooting left 20 children and 6 educators dead.

The treasurer currently oversees \$37 billion in public pension funds. Connecticut pension funds are currently invested in five companies that are identified as gun and ammunition producers.

The proposal comes as the U.S. Supreme Court hears a Second Amendment case for the first time in a decade. The court began hearing arguments related to a dispute over former New York restrictions

related to taking guns outside city limits Dec. 2.

Wooden said he is pursuing the allocation of the public pension funds in an effort to influence the practices of gun manufacturers in a way that will ensure public safety.



The economic cost, the social cost of gun violence is very, very significant.

– Shawn Wooden



“I believe divestment should be a tool of last resort, and I support engagement and engaged ownership as a shareholder,” he said. “The sad truth is, even working with other institutional



Barbara Mattson, a Connecticut State Police firearms training unit detective, holds an AR-15 rifle, the same model used in the Sandy Hook shooting, during a 2013 gun control review hearing.

JESSICA HILL/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

investors throughout the country, engagement on this issue has not worked. The cost, the economic cost, the social cost of gun violence is very, very significant. And the time is now because we don’t have greater action in Washington on this issue.”

His plan would allow state pension funds to continue

investing in companies working to develop “smart guns,” which are personalized guns that can detect its authorized user. The policy would also require that financial institutions, like banks, disclose their gun policies in response to proposal requests from the Connecticut treasurer’s office.

Connecticut is not the first

state to create plans of this nature. In 2018, the California State Teachers’ Retirement System voted to use its finances, which total \$222.5 billion, to pressure gun retailers to stop selling guns and gun-related accessories.

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NEWSMAKER

Professor coordinates health lessons at NY youth center

In November, Kari Brossard Stoos, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education at Ithaca College, took a group of her students to the city of Salamanca, New York, to deliver health promotion lessons on the dangers of using Juul and vaping to children at the Salamanca Youth Center. Salamanca is unique because it is one of the only U.S. cities located almost entirely within Seneca Nation Territory.

Opinion editor Brontë Cook spoke with Brossard Stoos about the trip, her relationship with the Salamanca Youth Center and the importance of immersive learning.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Brontë Cook: You recently took a group of students to spend two days educating the youth about health topics in Salamanca. Can you tell me about that?

Kari Brossard Stoos: This year now marks the sixth year of a sustained relationship with my community partners in the city of Salamanca, New York. ... I mentored eight IC students through a service-learning experience in public and community health with a focus on delivering health promotion lessons to children attending the City of Salamanca Youth Center drop-in programming. ... Prior to the trip, the students spent class time learning an introduction about the history, culture and health statistics of the region. ... Service-learning in public health is most successful when the community communicates their needs to those who are serving.

BC: What health topics did you and your students focus on teaching?

KBS: After much consultation with Sandi Brundage, the director of the Salamanca Youth Bureau, it was decided that the most concerning topic to focus on was vaping, specifically Juuling. Since the youth center provides drop-in services for children ages 5 to 18 years old, the IC students developed two lesson plans targeting two different audiences. Lessons delivered on the first day were geared towards children aged about 5 to 8 years old, and lessons delivered on day two were geared towards children of middle school and junior high age.

BC: What inspired you to organize the trip?

KBS: During my first year at IC, Don Austin, assistant director in the Office for Student Engagement, offered me an opportunity to mentor students engaged in community service as part of an Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trip to Salamanca, New York. Since I am originally from western New York, I was very excited to give back to a community near my home. Many strong relationships were built during that first trip. ... What began as an ASB trip evolved into a special topics service-learning course in public and community health. ... Students learn how two separate governments and health systems operating within the same space work both separately and together to achieve health and wellness for all community members, ... how specific events in history have contributed to current health outcomes.



A group of Ithaca College students delivered health lessons to youth at the Salamanca Youth Center. The students pose with snack bags they packed for the children.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KARI BROSSARD STOOS

BC: How did your students respond to this learning experience?

KBS: We are still working through the learning process. ... For some, this was their first experience applying their learned skills in a rural community setting. It is always a significant moment for me to witness their growth and maturation in their discipline. ... Previous students realized how much they learned leading up to the trip and then how much they need to continue to learn from their community constituents once they are employed. ... The children at the youth center enjoyed the activities and were already well informed about the health impacts associated with vaping. Our students supported and enhanced their current knowledge.

BC: Why are experiences like this valuable?

KBS: Students can learn about health

statistics and health outcomes in a classroom, but I think lessons tend to be more solidified when students are guided through a community to actually see the results of public health initiatives ... and how these initiatives significantly alter health outcomes for individuals. ... Lessons about food insecurity and understanding the ins and outs of developing initiatives to address it seem to have greater impact if students are engaged in packing snack bags for children while discussing these topics. ... I think immersive experiences that are mentored serve to reinforce classroom learning, teach relationship building and transition students to the next level in which they will be engaged in internships and fieldwork experiences.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

BOLD promotes courage and authenticity

BY ASHAE FORSYTHE

Imagine. You walk into a room with your head held high, and you need not fear the significance behind your entrance. You do not walk into this room with trepidation, wondering if it will make space for you, wondering perhaps if you will be the only one of “your kind” there. “Your kind” — for the marginalized, this can mean anything. It can mean being a woman walking into a predominantly male space and being spoken over. It can mean being a person of color and feeling as though your own presence isn’t validated. You question your worth and your right to have a seat at the table, when, in fact, you may be the most qualified person in the room. Perhaps it means coming from a low socioeconomic background and feeling threatened by what you don’t have: the latest MacBook, the fanciest clothes, the shiniest shoes. Imagine. You walk into a room and you feel none of these things. How free would you be? How bold?

If you fail to identify with the above description, don’t think this piece isn’t for you. In fact, it is just as much for you as it is for the marginalized. Because it’s time for you to know: The minority seated at the edge of the dinner table might have a plate, but it’s not as comfortable as being seated at the head. The marginalized



Senior Ashae Forsythe writes that the BOLD Women’s Leadership Network gives women with different, complex identities a space to come together and work toward change.

ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN

have no elbow room. We shrink ourselves down to avoid taking up space. We no longer wish to do that. We want to be our brightest selves, no longer told we exist on the cusp of society. We wish to be bold, and to be bold in a world that recurrently pushes against you is to be simply and authentically the person you were always meant to be.

Courage. Authenticity. Vision. These are the tenets of the Ithaca College BOLD Women’s Leadership Network, a revolutionary program designed by women, for women. BOLD focuses on nurturing college-age women to be courageous leaders. The program is a partnered

initiative between college President Shirley M. Collado and the Pussycat Foundation, which was established in the legacy of Helen Gurley-Brown. She was editor-in-chief of Cosmopolitan Magazine, a staunch feminist and a trailblazer for women’s rights. Students are accepted into BOLD in their sophomore years and actively participate their junior and senior years. The second cohort of BOLD has decided to execute a mentoring program with New Roots Charter School to bolster relationships and give today’s youth a chance at better achieving their desired futures.

I chose to write this commentary not just to outline

the mission of BOLD and its importance on our campus but also to delineate what it means to be a BOLD scholar. Not many know what this is or what it means. And I must admit, in the beginning, I too failed to understand. Being a BOLD scholar is a way of life. It’s a conscious decision to never apologize for who you are. We each come with our stories and our own identities. BOLD creates the space for these identities to coexist, collectively come together and change the world for the better with those stories, one idea at a time.

ASHAE FORSYTHE is The Ithacan community outreach manager. Connect with her at aforsythe@ithaca.edu



SEEKING JUSTICE

JOHN TURNER

Muslims face global injustice

Society has taught me to fear Muslims. The media subliminally sends messages my heart should clench when in their presence, especially at an airport. If they are carrying a bag or wearing a hijab, I should be even more afraid.

I never understood this fear, but, even as a child, I was aware of it. I could feel the fear from my elementary school teacher as she educated me on the tragedy of 9/11. As a child, I never could grasp why I should fear an entire religion because of the actions of individuals.

This subtle but systemic fear is the reason that thousands of Muslims are in detention camps in China, and many people are not aware or simply do not care.

Recently, leaked documents revealed a network of detention camps throughout the western province of Xinjiang, China. These camps hold at least a million Muslims. The Chinese government has called the documents false and fabricated, even though the documents are signed by Zhu Hailun, the top security official and deputy Communist Party chief in Xinjiang. Muslim individuals who escaped the detention centers reported acts of rape, torture, mental abuse and much more.

The lack of mainstream media attention pertaining to this issue is saddening but not surprising. At this point, the lack of human rights coverage pertaining to Muslim individuals has become an industry standard.

Generally, the only time Muslim people are covered in the media is when they are linked to an act of terror. This further perpetuates the normalization of fear surrounding Muslims. When a Muslim person commits a heinous act, the whole religion is scrutinized, even though Islam is one of the most practiced religions in the world with 1.6 billion followers. This same scrutiny is not given to those of other religions, especially not religions that originated in Europe, like Christianity.

There is a paradox in the way society links violence with the faith of Islam. When a white individual enacts mass violence, they are labeled a lone wolf. But when a Muslim person, especially if they are brown or black, commits an act of violence, they are labeled a terrorist. Why are white terrorists allowed to be individuals but Muslim terrorists’ actions speak for a whole religion?

This fear of Muslims is seen globally. In 2017, approximately 3,000 Muslims were killed in Myanmar within three days. And, more recently, 50 people were killed in a mosque shooting in New Zealand. These detention camps in Xinjiang sadly show that these implicit biases can cause people to torture other human beings.

To create systemic change in the way Muslims are viewed within the dominant narrative, we must remove fear as the foundation and replace it with an effort to truly understand and celebrate each others’ differences. This starts with the media accurately covering the injustices Muslims face with equal weight as other human rights violations.

SEEKING JUSTICE is a column that explores cultural competency written by JOHN TURNER. Turner is a sophomore journalism major. Connect with him at jturner3@ithaca.edu

GUEST COMMENTARY

US history in Latin America challenges democracy

BY DANIELA RIVERO

As we are gearing up for an election year, my newsfeed and social media feeds have once again become flooded with political discourse on the issues and candidates that will decide the 2020 presidential election. As a scholar of social movements and Latin American studies and an intern at the Committee on U.S.-Latin American Relations (CUSLAR), I pay special attention to policies on Latin America as indicators that distinguish candidates from one another while also framing them within the larger structure of U.S. politics. U.S. policies reach far beyond U.S. territorial borders, and grasping the full scope of U.S. history and presence in Latin America is paramount in order to gain a more complete understanding of the true nature of U.S. politics.

CUSLAR is housed in a small office on the third floor of Anabel Taylor Hall at Cornell University. Our walls are covered in posters of great revolutionaries like Che Guevara, and our library has an array of materials from books on campesino movements to magical realism novels. The students who founded CUSLAR in 1965 were concerned with supporting the right of the people of Latin America and the Caribbean to self-determination and to control decisions that affect their lives and communities. We continue this mission by hosting speakers and cultural events and acting as a resource for students and other community members to conduct research, connect with social movement leaders in Latin America and learn Spanish.

Through my major in social movements and Latin American studies and my internship with CUSLAR, I spend most of my time studying political theory and resistance movements in Latin America as well as analyzing current events in the region. The influence of U.S. politics and economic models is visible



Junior Daniela Rivero writes that grasping the full scope of U.S. presence in Latin America is paramount to gaining a cohesive understanding of U.S. politics.

CHLOE GIBSON/THE ITHACAN

across the board in my studies, whether it shows up as free trade deals, military coups, repression of popular movements, economic sanctions or social conditions that are the result of the many U.S.-backed dictatorships that shaped Latin America during the Cold War.

Learning about the ways in which U.S. geopolitical interests are inextricably linked to the sociopolitical conditions of Latin America complicates popular notions of the U.S. as the vanguard of democracy and freedom. It should not go unacknowledged that U.S. intervention abroad, whether overt or covert, has always resulted in the implementation of policies in countries whose people get no say in what is happening.

Further, political and economic interventions in Latin America are being funded by the billions of dollars that Americans pay in taxes every year with little to no public

discourse, let alone a popular vote. That, to me, is undemocratic.

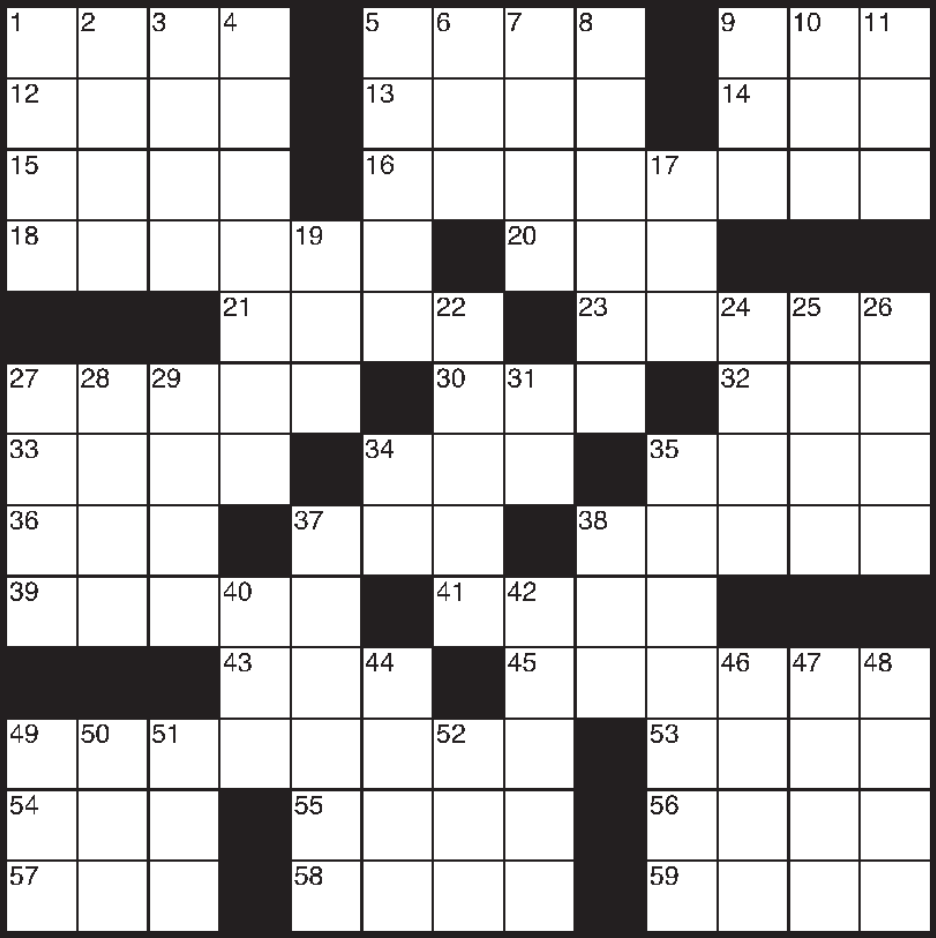
Understanding the role the U.S. has played in Latin America has laid the groundwork for a deeper analysis of the U.S. political structure. It exposes the dark underside of U.S. economy and politics, which then prompts one to look within and consider the narrowness of the American political imagination. As our newsfeeds are once again becoming saturated with political debates and campaigns for the upcoming election year, I invite people to look beyond the debate stage to places like Ecuador, Chile, Colombia and Puerto Rico and the ways in which popular movements are demanding the dismantling of all oppressive structures.

DANIELA RIVERO is a junior social movements and Latin American studies major. Connect with her at drivero@ithaca.edu.

DIVERSIONS

crossword

By United Media



ACROSS


- 1 Marshal Dillon
5 Type of ranch
9 Network
12 Libretto feature
13 Rhea cousins
14 Stadium cheer
15 Pull hard
16 Login requirement
18 Not in class
20 -- Te Ching
21 Area of London
23 Alpine refrain
27 Hindu princesses
30 Qt. parts
32 Cretan peak
33 Novelist -- Paton
34 Upper limb
35 Keeps fit
36 Henson or Carrey
37 Tijuana "Mrs."
38 Goods for sale
39 Elite squad (hyph.)
41 Kojak's lack
43 PC key
45 Isthmus
49 Safe
53 Composer
- Stravinsky
54 Tax shelter
55 Fish habitat
56 Alliance acronym
57 Go out with
58 Look good on
59 June celebrant
- 27 Punjab potentate
28 Got off the plane
29 Specify
31 Registered logo (abbr.)
34 Ess preceder
35 Discordant
37 Some T-shirts
38 Life of the party
40 Cash dispenser
42 Thing of value
44 Swain


DOWN


- 1 Yucatan native
2 Graceful steed
3 Baking pans
4 Absorbs (2 wds.)
5 Submarine's concern
6 Thurman of "The Golden Bowl"
7 Check for prints
8 "-- of Elia"
9 Mont. neighbor
10 At all times, poetically
11 Terrible
17 Try to persuade
19 Turndowns
22 "Beloved" star -- Winfrey
24 Designer label
25 Verge
26 Laird's daughter

last issue's crossword answers





DSP SHOWS
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ITHACA COLLEGE STUDENT SHOWCASE

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1/17 AN EVENING WITH MIKE GORDON
1/22 GREENSKY BLUEGRASS
2/28 KAMASI WASHINGTON *ON SALE FRIDAY*
2/29 THE MACHINE *PERFORMS PINK FLOYD*
3/7 AN EVENING WITH GRAHAM NASH
3/12 O.A.R. SPRING FLING TOUR
3/14 TIG NOTARO
3/25 BÉLA FLECK & THE FLECKTONES
4/5 DAVID SEDARIS
4/9 THE BEACH BOYS *ON SALE FRIDAY*
5/5 THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS
9/16 DAKHABRAKHA *RESCHEDULED*

HAUNT

12/8 IC SHOWCASE
12/12 SWIMMER
12/13 MIKAELA DAVIS
12/14 JUNIOR BROWN
12/30 DRIFTWOOD
12/31 DRIFTWOOD NYE
1/10 POPA CHUBBY
1/16 WEST END BLEND
1/18 THE ADICTS

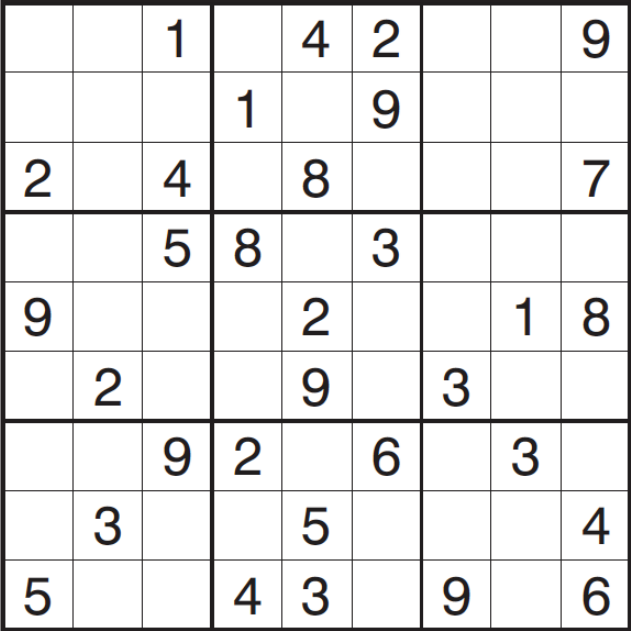
HANGAR

2/9 JOHN SEBASTIAN
3/13 HOWARD JONES
3/18 TOM PAXTON
3/26 JUDY COLLINS
4/23 ALASDAIR FRASER & NATALIE HAAS
5/9 CHRIS SMITHER

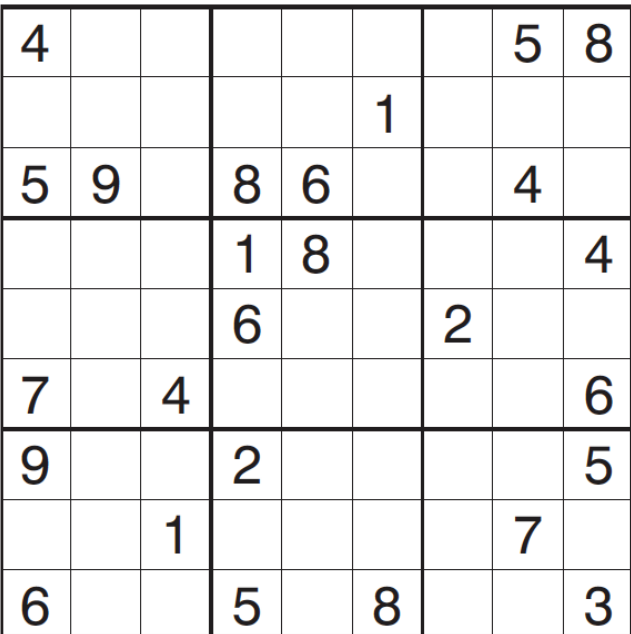


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The Sudoku Source of "The Ithacan".

sudoku medium



hard



answers to last issue's sudoku:


medium

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


hard

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


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TikTok takeover
College students use social media
for creative self-expression



BY JULIA DiGERONIMO

With each college class, a new social media platform seems to take over. In 2004, Facebook, emerged, and in 2006, young people were captivated by Twitter. Students flocked to Instagram in 2010. And now, in 2019, college students have TikTok.

When someone opens TikTok, they are greeted by thousands of videos that show users dancing to catchy songs, cracking jokes and attracting viewers. The app's content consists of only videos that can be up to a minute long in which users usually lip-sync to songs and spoken audios. The videos are unique to TikTok because of the specific editing tools and music samples that TikTok offers.

The app's demographic ranges from all ages, but approximately 25% of its viewers are age 18–24. Some Ithaca College students have gained thousands of followers, including freshman Brett Sullivan, who received almost 600,000 views on one of his videos after it made its way to the “For You” page.

The “For You” page is one of the most recognizable features of the app and is similar to the explore page on Instagram. If a user's video ends up on the “For You” page, there is a greater chance of that video gaining a higher number of views and likes.

The video that led to Sullivan's overnight fame features him between two friends, dancing to a sped-up version of “If You're Happy and You Know it Clap Your Hands.” Instead of clapping his hands, Sullivan slaps the butts of his two friends.

“It was just me and my friends doing some stupid stuff,” Sullivan said. “I had maybe 100 followers, and then I posted a video, ... and then all of a sudden, I was getting 6k followers, and then eventually plateau out. It was kind of just a big boom after I posted that video.”

After his friend's convinced him to use the app,

Sullivan started posting on TikTok in August before he arrived on campus for the semester. Even though he has only been posting on TikTok regularly for a few months, the unexpected traffic from his video boosted him to over 30,000 followers.

Sullivan said he does not consider himself famous. He said that he is just a normal guy with a lot of followers, and his fans do not make him different than anyone else.

“When people are like, ‘Oh my God, you're famous you have 20K!’ I'm like, ‘Not really,’” Sullivan said. “I don't think I'm famous at all.”

Sophomore Nathan Smith, another Ithaca College TikTok star, has even more followers. Smith started actively posting on the app before TikTok's spike in mainstream popularity in 2018 when the app hit No. 1 in the iOS App Store.

“I'm approaching almost 300,000 followers, which is very crazy, but it's cool though,” Smith said.

Unlike Sullivan, who had a rapid increase in followers, Smith said his increase in fans has been slow and steady over the past year. Each video he posts impacts his amount of views and followers, and, he said, he works hard to create content.

“The content that I post is very much me, or at least some aspect of me,” Smith said. “I put most of my time and effort into my videos. I really care about what I post and the quality of the content I post.”

Smith is known for creating his own dances and experimenting to create new trends. Dances are a large part of TikTok and are usually what makes up most videos on the app, Smith said. The most common type are ones that include a catchy song paired with a dance or small skit. Dances like the one that goes to the “Spooky Scary Skeleton” remix, a dance created by user Minecrafter2011 that has over 149,000,000 posts under its hashtag, blow up on the app and resonate positively with viewers.

Even though there is a high volume of dance trends and skits, the app allows the creators to have creative license over their content, as long as it exists within the app's rules and safety regulations.

Yvette Sterbenk, assistant professor in the Department of Strategic Communication, who teaches a course that covers social media analysis, said TikTok is designed to appeal to younger audiences. She said this allows young people to express themselves in an environment that they are comfortable in without too much intervention from older adults.

“Social media started out for college students,” Sterbenk said. “Facebook ... was a young person's platform for ... a while, and, over time, people of all ages got onto social media. ... It's just an evolution of a younger population looking for a platform that their parents aren't on.”

Smith said that the freedom and diversity of the platform allows for everyone to enjoy and use the app however they want and that this element is one of the reasons he loves TikTok. There is a piece of content for everyone on the app.

A popular trend on the app shows users flexing their creative muscles by painting random objects or places in their houses, said freshman TikTok user Gianna Nigro. These artists have adorned all kinds of items with colorful murals, from calculators and phone cases to bedroom walls. The hashtag “art challenges” has over 800 million posts under it.

“I have seen a lot of people who haven't been given the credit they deserve for all of the work they put into their art, and it's really great to see they're getting the attention they deserve and it's all because of this small app,” Nigro said.

Sterbenk said that besides TikTok fostering creative expression in young people, it has also created a new way to market oneself and establish brand identity. She said that in the past, artists and businesses had to promote their brands through

indirect means like commercials and newspaper ads with no guarantee consumers would see or be interested in the advertisements. She said that with social media, people have an easier time promoting themselves to a wider audience.

“[In my class], we study how to use social media to get your brand out there,” Sterbenk said. “Certainly it offers ways to do that, that we didn't have before and ways to reach audiences directly that we didn't have before. We hoped they would watch our advertising if we put it in the right spot. We hoped they would read a good article about us, but we had to rely on journalists to tell the story for us.”

Smith said TikTok is a way for him to promote himself and pursue his musical career aspirations. Each video of Smith is viewed by at least 20,000 people. Each view he gets is an opportunity for him to develop his brand, he said. Smith said that he has an interest in fashion and drawing and that he wants to create a distinctive brand for himself that he can incorporate into his content. He created a dance to one of his original mixes of “1997 Diana” by BROCKHAMPTON to promote his music to his fans and the public.

With 37 followers, Nigro does not have a large follower count, but she said she still enjoys making videos for herself and her friends and watching them in her free time. Her feed is largely made up of trendy dance videos that she learns.

Like Nigro, Sullivan said he enjoys the app for its simplicity and how he can do whatever he feels creatively inclined to do.

“Since TikTok isn't really that much of a priority for me, my amount of followers doesn't motivate me to put out more content, and I don't have a follower count that I'm reaching for,” Sullivan said. “I'm just kind of having fun with it.”

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Freshman Josh Pusateri dances to a song on TikTok. Dance videos are widely popular on the app.

COURTESY OF JOSH PUSATERI



Freshman Brett Sullivan has been posting on TikTok regularly since the start of the semester in August.

MOLLY BAILOT/THE ITHACAN



Sophomore Nathan Smith, who goes by @nathns on TikTok, does a dance based on another one of his videos.

COURTESY OF NATHAN SMITH



CULTURED

The Life & Culture editor’s breakdown of mainstream and alt culture
Compiled by AVERY ALEXANDER

QUOTE^{OF THE} WEEK

“I was like, ‘Let’s show black culture. Why does pop music have to be so white? Why don’t we make it a little bit more me?’”

NORMANI,
on the message of her music video for her song “Motivation”



SPOTLIGHT

H&M LAUNCHES ECO-FRIENDLY INITIATIVES

H&M is trying out a fashion rental program at its primary store in Stockholm. Members of the store’s loyalty program can rent clothes from a collection of 50 pieces for 345.74 Swedish krona, approximately \$36.25. According to Business of Fashion, H&M is also offering a new clothing repair service. The company is testing these options as a way to combat environmental concerns brought about by the fashion industry. The fashion industry is one of the world’s leading polluters. The production of fabric and garments contributes to plastic waste and water, air and soil pollution. H&M is not the first company to respond to these concerns. Other companies like Banana Republic and Urban Outfitters are changing or modifying their practices. Spokespeople from H&M said in an announcement that they hope to offset their greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.



HOT

- An unexpected favorite emerged from Disney’s “The Mandalorian” — Baby Yoda. Since the show’s release, the internet has been taken over by memes of Baby Yoda, a member of the same species as Yoda from the original “Star Wars” films. Many people seemingly fell in love with him and turned him into a fast-moving meme. On Instagram, there are over 95,000 posts under #babyyoda.
- Sydney Mesher will be the first Rockette with a visible disability. She was born without a hand. In an interview, Mesher said she was inspired to join the Rockettes after the group visited her middle school when she was a child. She said in the same interview, “Coming here, I was overwhelmed with the compassion and the aid that I received.”



NOT

- Gabrielle Union is being dropped as a judge from NBC’s “America’s Got Talent.” Amid the controversy following her firing, NBC issued a statement Dec. 1 stating it was “working with Ms. Union through her representatives to hear more about her concerns.” Union’s husband, former NBA player Dwayne Wade, said on Twitter that he has yet to see sufficient evidence to justify Union being fired.
- Country rock artist Kid Rock was escorted off stage after he went on a profanity-filled rant that slammed Oprah Winfrey and other female celebrities during a show in Nashville, Tennessee. Some concertgoers described Kid Rock as blackout drunk.



Documentary wrestles with mental health

BY KARA BOWEN

On an October night in 2018, a woman in a shiny black leotard stood inside a homemade wrestling ring with blood dripping down her face as she surveyed her opponent.

This was a deathmatch: A wrestling match in which competitors fight with barbed wire and hit each other with chairs and take prematch Tylenol to encourage blood flow. Deathmatches are a staple in the world of underground wrestling, and the woman in the ring was Terra Calaway, Samantha Cohen's wrestling persona and the subject of the documentary "Queen of the Dinosaurs: A Wrestler's Story."

A team of Ithaca College students made the documentary for Documentary Workshop in Fall 2018. The documentary first screened at the college in December 2018. The documentary also screened in festivals, including the Raindance Film Festival and National Film Festival for Talented Youth, where it won the Audience Choice Award.

Before landing on the topic for "Queen of the Dinosaurs," the production team was stumped for a topic. Senior Audrey Warner, Steven Stewart '19, Addison Dlott '19, Unagh Frank '19 and Jakob Markwardt '19 had pitched over 200 topics to Ben Crane, associate professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, including a film focusing on uranium mining in Arizona and New Mexico. The others were not approved and, Warner said, lacked a storyline.

Stewart read The New York Times article "Inside the Ring of Underground Wrestling" and got the idea to cover underground wrestling. The team began researching the topic through YouTube videos and

documentaries and pitched its topic to Crane. After it was approved, the students made plans to attend a match. The group split in two, with some going to venues in Brooklyn, New York, and others going to venues in Staten Island, New York, to search for a main character.

Warner and Dlott went to Staten Island, where they met their soon-to-be subject, Cohen. They were looking for a female wrestler who participated in intergender wrestling and who was a survivor of intimate partner violence. Warner said they went with this concept because it could connect to a bigger issue in society and offer a compelling storyline. At the match, the team told a group of wrestlers what kind of person it was looking for.

"We were talking with all of them, and they kept saying, 'You need to talk with Sam. You need to talk to Sam,'" Warner said.

Cohen attended the same match as Warner and Dlott, not in the ring but as a fan. Dlott said she approached Cohen and asked if she knew anyone who fit the profile they were looking for. Cohen said she had written a memoir on her experience as a survivor, did intergender matches and would love to talk to them.

"She invited us down for a match the next weekend, and that was our life for the next two months," Warner said.

From October to November, the team traveled every weekend down to New Jersey, Virginia, Staten Island or Maryland, following Cohen to matches. The group filmed her fights and also spoke to her in her dressing room and at her home.

"It's very loud [at the matches], people are getting hurt, people are getting thrown out of the ring, people



From left, Steven Stewart '19 films and senior Audrey Warner interviews wrestler Samantha Cohen for their documentary. Addison Dlott '19 and Jakob Markwardt '19 film a shot from a different angle.

COURTESY OF 2 A.M. PICTURES

are getting thrown in the ring," Dlott said. "You winced every time they hit the mat."

Dlott said that at one point, Stewart and Markwardt wore safety goggles while filming to protect themselves from the spraying blood and would sometimes emerge after a match with glass in their hair. Dlott said that she only became used to the environment after weeks of shooting.

The team also spent its time getting to know Cohen's story. Cohen started wrestling after she suffered intimate partner violence. Her struggles impacted her mental health to the point of attempting suicide. She said in the documentary that through her wrestling persona, she was able to deal with her depression and anxiety.

"I feel very thankful for Samantha for opening up about her mental health," Dlott said. "Talking about a suicide attempt on camera is extremely difficult, and I think it's important for people across the spectrum whether you like wrestling or don't like wrestling."

Warner said the team intended for the documentary to connect to the wider topic of intergender wrestling, but as it got to know Cohen and built a relationship with her, the final product became a profile piece.

"Based on what we had collected, we said, 'Well, this is a story of a really strong, beautiful woman who is in pain and deals with her share of mental illness,'" Dlott said. "However, she finds it to be cathartic and

empowering for her to be in that ring, and that's our story. This is Samantha Cohen's story, and we thank her immensely for letting us help her tell it."

Crane said this level of access and intimacy with Cohen made "Queen of the Dinosaurs" stand out from other documentaries that were produced in Documentary Workshop.

"She was eventually willing to share a lot of very intimate, sensitive details from her life and be willing to have that appear on screen," Crane said. "And not every group is able to achieve that kind of access or have a character that is as colorful or as interesting as our character in this film."

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New Winter Lights Festival to illuminate The Commons

BY MADDY MARTIN

Last December, blocks of ice were carved into dragons, knights and a surfing goat in downtown Ithaca. This year, 25 light prisms will be taking their places as the new Winter Lights Festival replaces Ice Fest.

Ice Fest was a popular staple of the City of Ithaca and ran for 12 years, but Scott Rougeau, special events director of the Downtown Ithaca Alliance, said the festival was canceled because of concerns about cost, vandalism and increasingly warming winter temperatures. However, he said he still wants to keep the spirit of the winter season alive, so, this year, a new festival will take Ice Fest's place.

I think the whole point of this festival is to get people outside and interacting with each other.

– Laurence Clarkberg

from Santa and an art bicycle parade, which will include Sparky the Unicorn, a giant, rideable art bike.

"We have a pretty artistic community," Rougeau said. "I'm interested to see what everyone comes up with, and I hope lots of people come out and join us for that."

The light prisms are part of Prismatica, an international art exhibit based in Canada. The triangular prisms visiting Ithaca were shipped from Montreal and stand over six feet tall. They sit on metallic platforms and appear to be different colors depending on the angle from which one views the object.

"A few people were sad to see the ice go," Rougeau said. "But when we told them about all the programming and showed them what the prisms are going to look like and showed them Sparky the Unicorn, we moved most of them over."

Rougeau said another highlight of the event will be Sparky the Unicorn, an art piece that will lead the bicycle parade. Doug Shire and Laurence Clarkberg, Sparky's creators and Ithaca residents, said the unicorn is 11 feet tall, made of steel and built on top of an old rental bicycle cart from an amusement park. Shire and Clarkberg made modifications to the bike so it can hold the sculpture's weight and up to 500 pounds of human riders. Two passengers can sit on Sparky's back and two can pedal the bike itself.

"When you see something larger than life and a mythical creature that you just don't encounter every day, like any great work of art, it will make you just plain stop," Shire said.



Some of the brightest attractions at the first Winter Lights Festival will be luminescent prisms that glow with colorful lights. Pictured, the prisms in Prismatica in 2014.

COURTESY OF DOWNTOWN ITHACA ALLIANCE

Sparky has traveled all across the country since he was completed last July, appearing at this year's Burning Man Festival in Nevada and Maker Faire Rochester in Rochester, New York, but the Winter Light Festival will be Sparky's second hometown festival visit. Shire said Sparky will be wearing antlers and a red nose in addition to his usual LED lights and stereo system for the occasion.

"As a long-time Ithaca resident, I love giving back to my own community that has given me so much," Shire said.

Rougeau said that the chowder cook-off, which takes place 12–5 p.m. Saturday Dec. 7, is the only event being carried over from Ice Fest and that he expects the chowder cook-off to draw the largest crowd during the festival. He said there are 30 different submissions in the competition

this year. He also said that although participants are told to bring 10 gallons of chowder to the event and Downtown Ithaca Alliance supplies a thousand plastic cups total, there is still the possibility of them running out within a few hours because of the event's popularity.

Clarkberg said he is looking forward to the festival and is excited to share it with his neighbors and friends.

"You know a lot of people in this town don't get out during the winter," Clarkberg said. "You don't see anyone. It's kind of gray, and I think the whole point of this festival is to get people outside and interacting with each other."

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LABOR RIGHTS

Contingent Faculty Union hosts panel to discuss local unionization efforts

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ

Although Ithaca is consistently ranked as one of the most liberal cities in the United States and Ithaca College is known to be a predominantly liberal institution, the community is not immune to labor rights issues.

"One of the things that ... I really want to touch on is the idea of working for liberal organizations and how their image of being a liberal organization is at odds with the union-busting practices that they do," said Megan Graham, vice chair of the Ithaca College Contingent Faculty Union and assistant professor in the Department of Writing at the university's first Labor Discussion Panel on Oct. 28.

In addition to discussing student and faculty labor rights issues on the college's campus, the panelists spoke about attempts in the local community to form labor unions, along with Graham discussing the union's plan for its contract renewal at its 2021 other parties included senior Alex Gray, who spoke about compensation for resident assistants at the college, Renee Gordon, a worker at local supermarket forces that who spoke about the student's unionization effort, David Blatter, a graduate student at Cornell University, who discussed graduate students' unionization, and Nicholas Sedano, a local worker who attempted to form a union at Nigro's, his place of employment. Approximately 10 people attended, including members from the community, faculty, staff and students.

Then David Friedman, a local activist who moderated the discussion, commented on the low turnout at the event.

LABOR, PAGE 4

Board of Trustees discusses strategic plan implementation

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

The Ithaca College Board of Trustees voted the strategic plan for its Fall 2019 meeting from Oct. 24 to Oct. 25. At the end of the week, the board discussed the plan and the implementation of the college's strategic plan with the campus community.

David Lay '17, chair of the Board of Trustees, and Jim Nolan '77, vice chair of the board of trustees, led a conversation with approximately 90 faculty and staff. The discussion focused on the college's vision and the strategic plan. Brian Hovner, from left, David Lay '17 and Jim Nolan '77 from the Board of Trustees host a discussion Oct. 25.

ASHLEY STALNECKER/ITHACAN

Collado demonstrates support for undocumented students

BY EMILY HUNG

Ithaca College President Shirley M. Collado recently announced that the college filed an amicus brief along with 161 other colleges and universities urging that the Supreme Court to pass legislation to protect Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

Created in 2012 by former President Barack Obama, DACA temporarily shielded certain undocumented youth from deportation and allowed them to obtain work permits. In 2017, President Donald Trump's administration terminated authorization for new DACA applications. In 2018, approximately 91% of DACA recipients — also known as Dreamers — were high school or college students. One of the approximately 32,000 Dreamers in New York state, 25% were college students in 2018.

Collado is a member of the President's "Through no choice of their own, Dreamers were raised and educated in this country as Americans," the brief said. "Yet, with DACA now announced in 2012, they lived under the threat that the government might one day come calling and remove them from the country that has become their home."

Over agreements on several filed lawsuits are expected to be heard before the Supreme Court on Nov. 12, with a decision expected no later than June 2020.

The lower courts have also been blocking Trump's intention to rescind the policy since 2017. In June, the House of Representatives passed the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019, the latest version of the DREAM Act, which could potentially give undocumented immigrants, with "Somebody

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Cold never bothers charming sequel

SHOW REVIEW: “Frozen II” Walt Disney Studios ★★★★★

BY AVERY ALEXANDER

A chorus of singers chants a Norwegian song in harmony as Disney’s iconic Cinderella palace appears on the movie screen. Once the music fades, the theater is left in momentary silence. Then, “Frozen II” opens with the main characters Elsa and Anna as children playing in the snow.

“Frozen II” starts with a flashback to Elsa and Anna’s childhood, much like in the first movie. After the flashback scene, the real storyline begins, starting off a few years after the events of the first film.

“Frozen” and “Frozen II” share a laundry list of similarities. They both feature the same main cast, Elsa (Idina Menzel), Anna (Kristen Bell), Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) and Olaf (Josh Gad), and they have the same directors and songwriters. But “Frozen II” goes far beyond what its predecessor achieved. This sequel, unlike other Disney sequel endeavors, like “Ralph Breaks the Internet” and “Finding Dory,” is more than just a cash grab. It is a film that offers important messages, boasts an outstanding cast and soundtrack and stands to be one of the greatest animated films of the year.

One aspect of “Frozen” that originally set it apart from other Disney films was how it handled the concept of mental illness and isolation. These themes are fairly mature concepts, but the film was able to miraculously make the conversation palatable for people of all ages. “Frozen II” takes the discussion even further, pushing the lessons beyond what one would expect from a Disney movie. As the film builds toward its climax, Anna reaches her lowest point. She sits alone, weak and broken on the floor of a cave, and she shakily

sings into the dark, “I’ve seen dark before/ But not like this ... / Hello, darkness,/ I’m ready to succumb.”

The heavy subject matter and Bell’s painfully tender performance hit like a ton of bricks. Anna is constantly portrayed as hopeful and warmhearted, she reaches a point at which she cannot even rise to her feet and continue on. While the first movie dabbled in these bleak themes, most viewers probably did not expect a Disney heroine to fall into what is quite literally portrayed as deep and unyielding depression.

This clear conversation about mental illness and its impact carries into other aspects of the film through well-timed, dark comedic moments. These moments are mostly offered by Olaf. For the entire movie, the lovable snowman who likes warm hugs seems to be going through what can only be described as an existential crisis. He worries that things are changing and constantly asks for reassurance from his counterparts, mainly in laugh-out-loud jokes. However, the quips hold an undertone of deep-rooted anxiety that many young adults and teenagers can relate to, making the movie more than just another children’s film.

As expected, composer Christophe Beck and lyricists Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez once again worked their magic when it came to the music. Although it is unlikely that many young children will belt these new songs like they once did with “Let It Go,” the music in “Frozen II” is enchanting and intricate. The songs break away from Disney’s usual formula, utilizing minor keys, swelling, complicated harmonies and even rock ballad-inspired guitar chords. The lyrics relate to the movie’s events perfectly,



“Frozen II” is an emotional adventure. The magical story is a sequel to the 2013 box office and cultural hit “Frozen.”

COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY STUDIOS

and the musical motifs tie the soundtrack together nicely.

It is understandable that audiences are tired of sequels, but this is one everyone should not pass up seeing. The movie is too intricate and well thought out to judge negatively just because

it is a sequel. Those who will not see it on that basis simply need to let it go or else they miss the chance to experience a genuine masterpiece.

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Holiday-themed cooking show hits nail on the head

MOVIE REVIEW: “Nailed It! Holiday! Season Two” Netflix ★★★★★

BY SARAH DIGGINS

The holiday season is the time of year when pictures of reindeer cakes or dreidel cake pops appear all over Pinterest. And at first glance, these festive creations look easy enough to replicate. Just preheat the oven to 350 degrees, roll out fondant and voila! Right? Wrong. Season two of “Nailed It! Holiday!” is the perfect antidote to the showy, sugar-coated Food Network through its humorous appeal to the amateur baker and decorator in everyone.

Netflix’s “Nailed It!” has followed a simple, fun format since the premiere of its first season in March 2018. The competition show follows three amateur bakers competing in two baking challenges, the first being a small dessert like a cookie or a cake pop. The second is usually an intricate, highly decorated cake. The desserts all turn out awful, but the baker who manages to produce the least awful creation wins a cash prize of \$10,000 as well as a set of baking tools they can use to ideally

improve their skills. “Nailed It! Holiday!” includes the addition of festive challenges centered around Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year’s. The show puts an emphasis on holiday festivities with every episode, featuring decor, apparel and narration unique to the episode’s specific holiday theme.

As with previous seasons of “Nailed It!,” the center of the show is host and judge Nicole Byer. Her limitless energy and quick, hilarious reactions keep a repetitive format fresh and easy to binge-watch. Joining Byer as a judge every episode is pastry chef and chocolatier Jacques Torres. Torres’ serious, critical nature perfectly complements Byer. Every episode also features a celebrity judge, with the strongest appearances for season two coming from comedians Maya Rudolph and Jillian Bell. Rudolph and Bells’ senses of humor and energies fit right into the aesthetic of the show.

Though the judges provide a great deal of comedy, the true stars of the shows are the contestants, who seem to get wackier and wackier with every season. Audience



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

favorites will likely be a Santa Claus lookalike who enjoys sipping alcohol while baking, a chicken noise-impersonating grandma who makes a terrifying edible angel and Paul Scheer, an actor best known for “Veep” and “The League.”

At the heart of it, “Nailed It!” is one of the most joyful shows out there right now. All teasing is done in good fun, and the contestants find it easy to laugh at themselves. Especially during the holiday season, “Nailed It! Holiday!” reminds audiences to forget the myth of the perfect holiday and to instead focus on the family and fun that really matters.

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QUICKIES



COURTESY OF THE KODIAK CLUB LTD

“ALMOST”
Sarah Close, The Kodiak Club Ltd

“Almost” owns its too-catchy lyrics and conventional pop backbeat with style. The automated drums and glossy electric guitar accentuate Sarah Close’s polished vocals.

NOVEMBER LIGHTS

black + blue



COURTESY OF NOVEMBER LIGHTS

“BLACK AND BLUE”
November Lights, November Lights

The undercurrent of uplifting drums and intriguing lyrics define “Black and Blue.” Vocalist James Hopkins delivers the lines with consistent enthusiasm.



COURTESY OF BETTER NOISE MUSIC

“DRIVE”
AWOLNATION, Better Noise Music

The bright electric guitar of “Drive” flows alongside lead vocalist Aaron Richard Bruno’s lyrics. However repetitive the lines may be, it is easy to get lost in them rather than annoyed.



COURTESY OF THOMAS HEADON

“CLEAN ME UP”
Thomas Headon, Thomas Headon

Thomas Headon’s sweet lyrics and the song’s endearing story are matched with a charming indie pop track. The song balances its cheerful beat with Headon’s enchanting vocals with ease.

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THE ITHACAN

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ART IN THE OFFICE
The Office of the Provost displays student art on the third floor of the Peggy Ryan Williams Center.
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TAKING SHAPE
As the strategic plan begins to solidify, it is essential that the community provides concrete feedback.
Page 9

MULTITASKING
Athletic training student-athletes must balance their sports with clinical hours.
Page 19



Community plans IC's strategic future

Strategic Plan
Key Milestones



BY KRISSE WAITE
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca College's strategic planning steering committee hosted three interactive brainstorming sessions titled "Themes Idea Generation" on Feb. 25, 26 and 28. The sessions were open to all members of the campus community to share their feedback and ideas about

and second ideas. Each of the different groups at the sessions was tasked with developing a goal and objective for each theme and steps or ideas for how the college can reach that goal. The working groups and committee will take the ideas generated from these sessions into account when moving forward with developing the strategic plan.

Priest faces
abuse claim

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ
NEWS EDITOR

Rev. Carsten Martensen, Catholic chaplain and director of campus ministry, has stepped down from all current assignments after being accused of sexually abusing a minor in the 1970s.

PLAYING STRESS AWAY

IC Ping Pong provides relaxing environment



Junior Ioan Dascalu, a member of the IC Ping Pong club, winds up to return a ball across the table during the group's practice in the Fitness Center on Nov. 20.

ALISON TRUE/THE ITHACAN

BY AIDAN CHARDE

At most Ithaca College club sport practices, members do not wear jeans, flannels or Converse sneakers while competing. However, the members of IC Ping Pong are completely relaxed in both their attire and attitudes.

On Monday and Wednesday nights, the club members congregate in the Fitness Center gym. There are three tables set up with enough space between them for spectators. Opposing players wield paddles as pingpong balls rapidly spin between them.

Despite this, none of the players seem focused on victory. The casual clothes and friendly play foster a comfortable atmosphere in the team's corner of the gym. Most people at the tables are not even keeping score, instead opting to just rally back and forth and try and improve their game. Junior Sean Stouffer said pingpong club has members of all skill levels. He said this creates a balance of competitiveness and friendliness among players.

"There is always an atmosphere of encouragement where beginners can get pointers and learn in a comfortable environment," Stouffer said.

Practices are relaxed, even for a club sport. The number of attendees fluctuates, and there is no pressure to attend. There can be as few as eight or over 20 players on a given day. Players rotate around tables, taking breaks and chatting with one another when there is not an open spot. If attendance is high, Stouffer said, the group uses a sign-up sheet for spots on the tables.

Because the group is mostly leisure-based, it do not compete in many intercollegiate matches. Once a semester, the group tries to travel around as a team to play against other schools. It also often hosts a tournament at the college that all students can participate in.

Senior Sam Weeks, the club's president, said experience is not necessary to be a part of the group. She said she had never played pingpong before coming to the college, but started as a freshman because she knew some of the members and loved the atmosphere of the group.

"They were a really welcoming environment, so I stayed," Weeks said. "As I played more pingpong, I got better, so I liked the

sport more, and then I had more fun playing friendly people."

Junior Billy Streleckis also had not played pingpong before coming to college, but, he said, he has been a loyal member since the spring semester of his freshman year.

"Part of my over-the-top nature really likes flinging the racket around," Streleckis said. "Of course, I've developed actual form as time has gone on."

Stouffer said that the more involved members are, the more he sees them improve.

"A lot of the regulars started at the base level learning pong, and, because they came back so often, they improved a lot," Stouffer said. "Basically, if you become a regular, you're going to improve a lot."



I look forward to pingpong on my most stressful days. It's just so fun to carelessly play a game with friends.

— Sam Weeks



Freshman Antara Sen has been a part of the club since the beginning of the semester. She said she joined because, like several other members, she is a physics major, and friends from her classes who were involved in the club recommended that she try it. Sen said she is not sure why pingpong is so popular with physics majors, but it created an easy bond between younger students and older students, who make up most of the executive board.

"All my friends are here," Sen said. "It's the highlight of my week."

While hitting the ball back and forth, some physics students can be heard casually discussing the laws of thermodynamics. Though not

every table is discussing something that advanced, it is uncommon to find a table where people are not chatting with one another between points or in the midst of play.

"It's an ineffably special environment," Sen said. "Along with being a club, it's also a place to blow off some steam and have some stress relief, something that college students can never get enough of."

Junior Ioan Dascalu appeared more prepared to move than many of his teammates in sneakers, shorts and an athletic top, but while he was playing hard, he was smiling and even laughing when he did not get the point.

"You can kind of just ignore stress or talk to other people about your stress and hit a pingpong ball," Dascalu said.

Stouffer said the pingpong club is special compared to many other groups on campus. He said that, while the team does participate in some competitive tournaments, the primary focus is to have fun.

"I look forward to pingpong on my most stressful days," Weeks said. "It's just so fun to carelessly play a game with friends."

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ONLINE

WATCH
THE VIDEO ON
theithacan.org/
pingpong



From top left, freshman Antara Sen, senior Sam Weeks, junior Joshua Schmidt and senior Danielle Gazda practice pingpong.

ALISON TRUE/THE ITHACAN



THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP

The *Ithacan* provides statistical updates on all the Bombers’ varsity squads during the season

Junior guard Megan Yawman dribbles the ball down the court in a competitive home game against SUNY Cortland on Nov. 19. The Bombers won 70–59.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

FOOTBALL



17–20



ITHACA

NOV. 23

WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL



49–60



ITHACA

NOV. 23

AMHERST



51–66



ITHACA

NOV. 24

BABSON

NEXT GAME: 5:30 p.m. Dec. 6 against Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

WOMEN’S CROSS-COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Parley Hannan	1st	20:53.8
Maggie Nickerson	147th	23:11.4
Annika Morrison	182nd	23:25.3
Lizz Eberhardt	235th	24:00.6
Sarah Rudge	246th	24:16.9

WRESTLING

NAME	WEIGHT CLASS	MEET RECORD
Logan Ninos	125 lbs	3–1
Travis Jones	133 lbs	5–0
Austin Whitney	165 lbs	3–1
Eze Chukwuezi	184 lbs	4–0
Dalton Elias	HWT	4–1

NEXT MEET: 2 p.m. Dec. 6 at York Spartan Invitational in York, Pennsylvania

MEN’S CROSS-COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Danny Jagoe	99th	25:27.1
Chris Singer	150th	25:48.3
Forest Stewart	151st	25:48.5
John Blake	190th	26:01.2
Alec Hofer	211th	26:11.0



Junior guard Grace Cannon competes in a face-off against Cortland sophomore guard Julia Siler in a home game Nov. 19. The win advanced the Bombers’ record to 1–1.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

*Updated as of Dec. 4

Four fall sports shine at national competitions

BY LAUREN WHITE

As the 2019 season came to a close for the Ithaca College fall varsity teams, four programs made their way into the Division III NCAA championships. Men's soccer, women's volleyball and the men's and women's cross-country teams all finished their seasons with impressive national runs.

The men's soccer team had a record-breaking season. The squad was nationally ranked all season, appearing as high as No. 8 in the country. It made its first NCAA tournament appearance since 2008 and notched the first NCAA victory since 2002.

Head coach Kyle Dezotell said he is incredibly proud of his team for proving that it is able to perform at the highest level in Division III. The team eventually fell to No. 1 Amherst College on Nov. 16 and finished the season with a record of 13–6–2.

"Now that they've gotten a taste of what it is like, we hope that they are hungrier than ever to get back to this point consistently," Dezotell said.

Senior defender Justinian Michaels said the NCAA ranking the team held throughout the season was a fun title, but its performance on the field rather than on a ranking list was the team's top priority.

"Something so strong and special about this group of guys was how when we would step on the field or in the weight room, no ranking, no win, no loss, no tie ever mattered to us," Michaels said. "It was just the main task at hand that was on our minds."

In 2018, the team awaited an NCAA bid into the tournament,

but its name was never called. After missing the opportunity to make an appearance last year, Michaels said, the athletes worked even harder in all aspects of their training to get there this year. Michaels said historic seasons are now becoming part of the culture of the growing program.

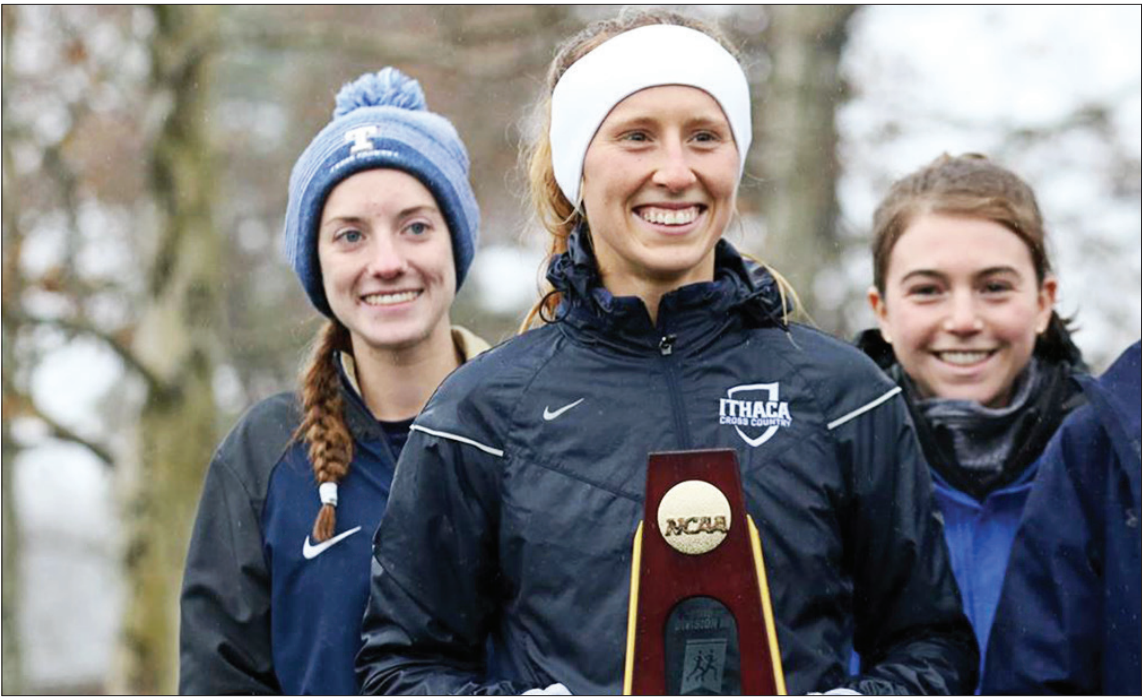
"There is no peak or pinnacle in the eyes of the players or Coach Dezotell," Michaels said. "There is no such thing as perfection. There is always room to improve and get better no matter what."

The women's volleyball team has advanced at least two rounds into the NCAA tournament every season since head coach Johan Dulfur was hired prior to the 2016 season. This fall, the team finished with an overall record of 20–11, a conference record of 6–1 and ended on a 3–2 loss to Clarkson University in the NCAA Sweet 16. Dulfur said the team played the fifth strongest DIII schedule in the country.

"We want to play the best, and Ithaca belongs among the best," Dulfur said. "We want to represent the college and get experience against the very best teams in the country."

Dulfur said that because of the challenging schedule, almost every game the team played was a battle. Dulfur said that after a consistent few years of extremely competitive seasons, the NCAA tournament is not only the goal of the program but now the expectation.

"It's really easy to forget how lucky we are or how good we are to get there," Dulfur said. "It's a standard that Ithaca has to be pursuing. The



Senior Parley Hannan holds her first-place trophy next to junior Evie Bultemeyer from Trine University and junior Sophia Gorman from Colby College on the podium at the NCAA championship Nov. 23.

COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE ATHLETICS

bar is high, and it creates expectations, but we never want to get to a point where we take it for granted."

The women's and men's cross-country teams placed second and third respectively at the Liberty League championship. Both teams placed in the top five at the regional championship Nov. 16 to qualify for the national championship. It was the first time both teams made it to nationals since 2002.

The men, who were the nationally ranked No. 29 team, earned a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Atlantic Regional meet, which qualified them for the NCAA championship held in Louisville, Kentucky, where they placed 26th.

The team was headlined by a strong group of senior runners. Head coach Jim Nichols said the athletes established at the beginning of the season that their main goal was to qualify for the NCAA championship.

"They've been working a long time for this, and things went according to plan," Nichols said.

The women also had impressive performances on the national stage. Nichols said senior Parley Hannan, who is now a national champion, was a major factor for the motivation and momentum of both teams.

In addition to Hannan's national title, the women's team had six other runners who qualified and competed in the NCAA championship race.

Head coach Erin Dinan said she could not have asked for a better ending to the season.

"They were hungry for wanting to qualify," Dinan said. "The team just really pulled together, so to see them get exactly what they wanted is phenomenal."

Hannan is the first national champion in the history of the cross-country program. She won the individual title in a field of 277 runners by a margin of 18 seconds.

"This is everything I put my heart and soul into," Hannan said. "It's a dream, to be quite honest. This just feels like a starting point to it all, which is crazy."

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Freshman forward brings Team USA experience to IC

BY MAX O'NEILL

Before taking the court for the Ithaca College men's basketball team this season, freshman forward Jack Stern competed twice for Team USA at the Maccabiah Games in 2017 and 2019.

The Maccabiah Games are an Olympic-style tournament for exclusively Jewish and Israeli Arab athletes around the world. The games were founded in 1932 and offer 45 different sports. Stern won a gold medal with the U-18 junior team in 2017 and another in 2019 with the open squad.

Stern went through an application and tryout process, after which he was selected to represent Team USA. He said that playing in the games gave him experience with a higher caliber of play while still competing at the high school level.

"The European rules really helped me to speed up my game, as we had to play with a shot clock, which I wasn't used to in high school ball because we don't play with a shot clock in New Jersey," Stern said. "Playing with such elite players on the team as well really helped to show me what type of pace I'd have to play at in college."

The 2017 games were played in Israel, and Stern's older sister, who is a sophomore on the Widener University basketball team, competed for the United States' women's basketball team. The trip to Israel was a family affair for the siblings and their parents, who all came to support. Stern said that experiencing the games with his sister made them even more meaningful. He also said it meant a lot to him to play the games in Israel from a religious standpoint, as Israel is considered the homeland for Jewish people. He

said that it was his first trip to Israel and that competing there allowed him to feel closer to his religion.

Marc Chasin '18 and Travis Warech '13 competed for the open basketball team at the 2017 games as well. Travis' brother, Zach, is a sophomore on the Bombers' basketball team and was a big part of Stern's decision to attend Ithaca College. Stern stayed with Zach for his overnight visit, and, Stern said, their connection over the Maccabiah Games encouraged him to choose South Hill.

"We know a lot of the same people, and it was cool listening to him talk about playing for Team USA," Zach said.

Stern did not have much interaction with Travis and Chasin during the 2017 games, but, he said, he spoke to Chasin a little bit at the alumni game earlier this season about taking pride in the fact that the program boasts three players who have played in the "Jewish Olympics." Head coach Jim Mullins said he is proud that so many of his players have reached that stage.

"I think that's a big honor," Mullins said. "It's cool. That's really the only way to put it. It's a neat thing."

Stern became close to Zeke Blauner and Ben Leff, the only other players on the U-18 roster from the East Coast in 2017. Leff also played with Stern for Team USA in the 2019 games in Budapest, Hungary. Leff, who currently plays for New York University, said Stern has grown a great deal over the time they have played together.

"In the 2019 games, I noticed that his athleticism improved a lot and also his outside shooting," Blauner said. "He was knocking



Freshman forward Jack Stern goes for a dunk during a practice Nov. 21 in Ben Light Gymnasium. Stern competed this summer for Team USA at the Maccabiah Games.

PETER RAIDER/THE ITHACAN

down threes and also banging out in-games and catching lobbs."

Stern said that he enjoyed his experience and grew on the court in Budapest, gaining an ability to lead.

"I had matured a couple years, and I felt a much bigger leader role in this team, as I was now the oldest player," Stern said. "When I was in Israel, I was one of the youngest players on the team, but I was the only player going into my first year of college on the team that went to Budapest. I think that helped me to excel on that team and coming into college."

Three games into his college career, Stern has been increasingly utilized every

game. He played 18 minutes in the Bombers' win against SUNY Cortland and is averaging 7.7 points, 1.3 rebounds and 4 blocks per game so far. Mullins said that though it is early, he has been impressed by Stern so far. Stern said he could not be happier with his new team.

"Ithaca was the first overnight I took, and, right when I got back, I turned to my dad, and I told him that I wanted to come here," Stern said. "I loved the guys and the coaches, and the location was just something that stood out to me all the way."

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Goalkeeper competes in national senior game

BY EMILY ADAMS

While she was still in high school, senior Savanna Lenker, a goalkeeper for the Ithaca College field hockey team, watched her older sister, Sierra, compete in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) Division III Senior Game. Five years later, Savanna took the field Nov. 23 at the Spooky Nook Sports Complex in Manheim, Pennsylvania, to compete in her own senior game.

The senior game is an annual event held to celebrate the best senior athletes in Division III field hockey. The organization selects 60 seniors to compete in the game from 150 squads around the country. Savanna was one of eight goalkeepers chosen, and she became the first Bomber to receive the honor since 2016.

Savanna is from Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, which is approximately 40 minutes from the Spooky Nook Sports Complex. She said the experience was more special for her because her entire family was able to attend.

“It was weird to have my mom drive me to a game because I hadn’t had that experience since high school and club field hockey,” Savanna said. “It was so different. I was like ‘Woah, this hasn’t happened in a while.’”

Sierra, who played goalkeeper at Muhlenberg College, was the first person to tell Savanna that she had been selected for the senior game. She said she found out from her former college coach who knew Savanna and texted Sierra to congratulate her sister. Sierra said it was exciting for her to see Savanna play so close to home.

“Coming up to Ithaca is awesome, but it’s so neat to be able to play so close to home, especially when some of these other girls are traveling from

as far as Kentucky,” Sierra said. “It kind of seemed like a home game for us.”

Head coach Kaitlyn Wahila and assistant coach Mo Ordnung also accompanied Lenker to the game. Ordnung, who has trained Savanna all four years of her college career, said it felt different to watch her athlete play from the spectators’ sideline.

“It was the first time to really be able to watch her play and not have to worry about the outcome,” she said. “It was a weird role reversal for me, which was a lot of fun and a little uncomfortable.”

Ordnung spent one-on-one time training Savanna leading up to the senior game because the field hockey team’s season ended Nov. 6. She said that, even though the competitive season was over, Savanna’s work ethic did not slow down.

“Leading up to the game, there was a day when we went out for an individual, and they usually last about 45 minutes,” Ordnung said. “An hour and 45 minutes into it, I had to stop her so that she could go on with her day.”

On gameday, Savanna competed with and against athletes who she had never met before, as well as regular Liberty League opponents. She said that playing with a brand new group of women was very challenging at the start of the game.

“It was certainly a learning curve,” she said. “We got some time to learn each other’s names quick before we were on the field together. We had a bunch of defensive corners, which you normally have a very distinctive strategy for, but we obviously didn’t have time to decide what that would be.”

However, Savanna said, the game



Senior goalkeeper Savanna Lenker, wearing gold, competed in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III Senior Game at Spooky Nook Sports Complex in Manheim, Pennsylvania. COURTESY OF SAVANNA LENKER

also gave her the opportunity to connect with players that she has competed against for the past four years.

“It was cool when you were rooting for them,” Savanna said. “I was like, ‘Wow these players are really good.’ Not that I thought they were bad before, but you’re not rooting for them when they’re your opponent.”

The game was played in conjunction with the Division III final four and national championship games. Ordnung said that she and Wahila were able to observe and learn from the play of the top teams in the nation while supporting Savanna.

“The national championship games were really exciting because we were able to look and see what they were doing,” she said. “We didn’t get to be there as a team, which was a bummer, but we got to have one of our players on that stage, and hopefully, that’s setting a precedent for the future.”

Sierra said that the whole family stayed to watch the national championship game as well.

“It’s just cool to see top-level field hockey like that,” Sierra said. “Us being able to watch together is always really fun, and we hadn’t in a

Senior runner discusses transition to indoor track

Senior Sarah Rudge has been a key contributor to the Ithaca College women’s cross-country team’s success throughout the season. Rudge placed ninth at the NCAA Division III Atlantic Region Cross-Country Championships on Nov. 16, 13th at the Liberty League championships Nov. 2 and sixth at the Hamilton Short Course Invitational on Sept. 7.

The men’s and women’s cross-country teams had a historic 2019 season that ended with both teams qualifying for the NCAA Division III Cross-Country National Championship for the first time since 2002.

At the championship Nov. 23, both teams finished in 26th place overall out of 32 squads.

Senior Parley Hannan became the Bombers’ first-ever cross-country individual national champion with a time of 20:53.8.

While the cross-country season may have just ended, Rudge and most of the other runners are just getting started. The squad has just two weeks between nationals and the first meet of the indoor track and field season Dec. 7.

Staff writer Arla Davis sat down with Rudge to discuss the national championship meet and the transition from cross-country to indoor track.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Arla Davis: What was the experience like of competing alongside the men’s team at nationals?

Sarah Rudge: I can’t exaggerate how big of a deal this was for us. Since my freshman year, there has been this dream of both men’s and women’s team making it to NCAA championship together because we train together all season long and go to the same meets. There

is this feeling that we want to make it to the championship together. We are separate teams, but we do so much together that making it as a duo was so important to us. It was ... incredibly special for the seniors.

AD: Did the team do anything different to prepare for the national championship compared to prior meets this season?

SR: I would say no. Erin [Dinan], our head coach, keeps our training really consistent. We tried to treat this meet like every other meet just so no one got too nervous or felt too much pressure. She really just wanted you to go out there and do your best.

AD: What was it like to experience Hannan’s win at nationals?

SR: It was just incredible. When I finished, the very first thing I asked my team was, “How did Parley do?” I knew she was going to win, but of course, you do not want to say that beforehand. It was one of those situations where I wish I could be in two places at once, and I could have watched her run the race myself.

AD: How does the team transition into indoor track after the cross-country season ends?

SR: It is actually pretty good timing because we get the week of Thanksgiving break off to recover. We also have a week in winter break off too. Some people come back and do meets right away, but not everyone does, so the transition is more manageable than you would think.

AD: What are some differences with competing in cross-country versus track?

SR: I think the main difference, besides cross-country being a smaller team, is that in



Senior Sarah Rudge competed with the women’s cross-country team at the national championship. She also qualified for indoor and outdoor track nationals last year. KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

a cross-country meet we are all basically running at the same time, but then in track we are all going at different times. I get to watch my teammates succeed and cheer for them, and that is what I love about track. I get that chance to finally see our hard work in practice pay off in competition.

AD: How is the training for track different than cross-country?

SR: We have the same coach for track, so our training is kind of the same all year depending on the event. In cross-country, some people will go into track and then do the 5,000-meter, which is very similar training. Some people will cut down and run the 800 [meter] or the 1,600 [meter]. Those people will do more speed work and run less miles.

AD: What are your goals going into the track season?

SR: I think the overall goal of the coaches is getting as many individuals to nationals as possible. [Head coach Jennifer] Potter wants us to place highly as a team, which has not always been the goal in the past. Sometimes, coming up with the cross-country team, goals are a little bit more confusing because we are all doing the same thing, but I know everyone just wants to see all their hard work pay off on the track. We had a successful cross-country season, and I think everyone wants that to transfer over to great times on the track.

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THE BUZZER

The Ithacan’s breakdown of Ithaca College’s week in sports



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

CASSIDY O’MALLEY, BASKETBALL

Senior forward Cassidy O’Malley has been a standout so far for the women’s basketball team. She has posted double-digit points in all four games and leads the team with 61 points and 35 rebounds this season.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN



COMPETITION OF THE WEEK

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONSHPS

Six wrestlers placed top three in their weight classes at the meet. The Bombers took third overall. Sophomore Eze Chukwuezi and freshman Travis Jones took first place in the 184- and 133-pound brackets, respectively.

BENJIN PHILIP BENNY/THE ITHACAN

EVENTS TO WATCH

10 A.M., DEC. 7, AT BARTON HALL IN ITHACA

The men’s and women’s track and field teams will travel to East Hill to compete in the first meets of the indoor season. The meet will offer competition from Division I squads.



ITHACA

at



GREG PAGE RELAYS

5 P.M., DEC. 6, AT KELSEY PARTRIDGE BIRD NATATORIUM



ITHACA

at

ITHACA
BOMBER
INVITATIONAL

The men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams will take on some of the top Division III teams on the East Coast at their first home invitational of the season.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Ithaca was the first overnight I took, and, right when I got back, I turned to my dad, and I told him that I wanted to come here.

– JACK STERN
FRESHMAN FORWARD
MEN’S BASKETBALL



From left, senior Phoebe Holland, sophomore Kyla McCall and senior Shyala Jayasinghe dance in a West African Drumming and Dance Ensemble performance Nov. 21 in Ford Hall. The ensemble is also a class, in which students learn the drumming, singing and dancing elements of African music, as well as its cultural traditions.

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