

The kids are alright

Dance marathon raises over \$28,000 for children's hospital

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

Damon Goga is a normal 12-year-old, his father Rich Goga said. He loves to play soccer, baseball and Xbox. However, he does all of this with one leg. Damon is a survivor of Ewing's Sarcoma, a bone cancer that led to the amputation of his lower left leg.

Damon and his family came to the Fitness Center at Ithaca College on Dec. 7 for Ithaca College BomberTHON, the college's first Miracle Network Dance Marathon. Miracle Network Dance Marathon is a program involving over 400 colleges, universities and schools throughout North America. Since its founding in 1991, the program has raised over \$250 million for its partner hospitals, according to its website.

The college's event raised \$28,233.22 for the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, a Children's Miracle Network Hospital. The money was raised during a six-hour dance marathon and months of fundraising before the event. The donation to the hospital will be used to fund costs, including patient services, education and equipment, according to the hospital's website.

The 190 participants in the marathon danced for six

MARATHON, PAGE 4



Freshman Ruth Hernandez dances at BomberTHON on Dec. 7 to raise money for Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, New York. This was Ithaca College's first fundraiser through the Miracle Network.

REED FREEMAN/THE ITHACAN

College receives low financial health score

BY CORA PAYNE

Ithaca College has earned a grade of C+ for the status of its fiscal health, according to a recent article from Forbes.

The article, "Dawn Of The Dead: For Hundreds Of The Nation's Private Colleges, It's Merge or Perish," was written by Matt Schiffrin, vice president and assistant managing editor for Forbes Media, and Forbes reporter Carter Coudriet. Published Nov. 27, the article graded the financial condition of all private, nonprofit colleges in the United States with enrollments over 500 students.

The article found that the wealthiest and most elite private institutions, like Stanford University and Yale University, have improved financially over the last few years. On the other hand, most small private institutions have grown poorer. Forbes has been analyzing private college finances every year since 2013, with 2018 as the sole exception. Ithaca College received a grade of B in 2016; a B- in 2015 and 2017; and a C+ in 2013, 2014 and 2019.

To grade the schools, nine components were considered and weighted: endowment assets per full-time enrollment student headcount (15%), primary reserve ratio (15%), viability ratio (10%), core operating margin (10%), tuition as a percent of core revs (15%), return on assets (10%), admission yield (10%), percent of freshman getting institutional grants (7.5%) and instruction expenses per full-time enrollment student headcount (7.5%).

Bill Guerrero, vice president for finance and administration, said he was surprised by the college's C+ rating.

"I would have put us in the 'B' category," Guerrero said. "We have work to do, but we are in much better circumstances than other schools."



Bill Guerrero, vice president for finance and administration, said he thinks Ithaca College deserves a higher due to some of the changes the college is making.

KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

In Forbes' 2019 assessment, 933 colleges were evaluated. Out of the 933 colleges ranked, 498 of them received grades in the "C" range. This is approximately 53% of schools, up from 47% in 2013. Emerson College, a mid-sized liberal arts college in Boston, also received a grade of C+. Middlebury College, a mid-sized liberal arts school in Middlebury, Vermont, received a grade of B+, and Colgate University, located in Hamilton, New York, received a grade of A-.

Data is sourced from the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) database. Forbes' 2019 article used the average of 2016 and 2017 data points, as these were the two most

recent final release fiscal years.

"We wish that we were using more current data, but we're sort of beholden to the government on that one," Coudriet said.

In the two years of data covered in the 2019 article, Ithaca College averaged over \$40,000 of endowment assets per full-time enrolled student. Endowment assets refer to the total of a nonprofit institution's investable assets, and the number is divided among all students who qualify as full time. This is a median among other colleges on the list, Coudriet said.

The college performed well in the primary reserve ratio category, Coudriet said. The

FINANCE, PAGE 4

No threat after armed robbery

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ

Although the suspects are still at large, the Ithaca College Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management has determined that there is no ongoing threat to the campus community after a reported armed robbery in a dormitory room in Terrace Residence Hall 3 on Dec. 5.

An alert was sent to the campus community at 3:36 p.m. Dec. 5 that stated the two suspects displayed a taser device and a folding knife. The incident was determined to be a targeted crime and not a random incident.

One suspect was described as a black male wearing a red hoodie, red sweatpants and a black beanie. The other suspect was described as a black male between approximately 5'10" and 5'11" in his early 20s wearing green Uggs and black or gray jeans with a tattoo of a cross on the right arm.

Sophomore Alexandra Barrett, a resident of Terrace 3, said that she was in her dorm around the time of the incident. She said that she was shocked when a public safety officer told her the robbery had occurred.

"Me and my roommates know always lock your door when you're in the room, when you're not in the room, just as a precaution," she said. "I wasn't super worried because I know that we always lock our door."

Public Safety conducted a thorough search of the area of the Circles Apartments, where the suspects reportedly fled after the reported incident.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to call 911 or Public Safety at 607-274-3333.

CONTACT MADISON FERNANDEZ
MFERNADEZ1@ITHACA.EDU

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IC STUDENTS
ROCK THE HAUNT



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LOCAL HISTORY
HAS BIG ROLE
IN COMMUNITY



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SWIMMER THRIVES
DESPITE TWO
OVERUSE INJURIES

NATION & WORLD

Former Mexican security chief charged in US drug conspiracy

A man who served as secretary of public security in Mexico from 2006 to 2012 was indicted in New York City on drug charges alleging he accepted millions of dollars in bribes to let the Sinaloa cartel operate with impunity in Mexico. Genaro Garcia Luna, 51, a resident of Florida, was charged in a federal court in Brooklyn with three counts of cocaine trafficking conspiracy and a false statements charge, authorities said in a release. Garcia Luna was arrested Dec. 9 by federal agents in Dallas. The arrest and charges were announced Dec. 10.

President of Philippines to end martial law after two years

President Rodrigo Duterte decided to end approximately two years of martial law in the southern Philippines after government forces weakened Islamic militant groups there with the capture and killing of their leaders, his spokesman said Dec. 10. Duterte placed the Mindanao region under martial law after hundreds of local militants aligned with the Islamic State group and, backed by foreign fighters, occupied buildings, a commercial district and communities in Marawi city starting May 23, 2017, in the worst security crisis Duterte has faced. Troops quelled the disastrous siege after five months of intense

airstrikes and ground offensives with the help of American and Australian surveillance aircraft.

Democrats unveil impeachment articles against President Trump

House Democrats announced two articles of impeachment Dec. 10 against President Donald Trump — abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. This pushes toward historic votes over charges that he threatened the integrity of the U.S. election system and endangered national security in his dealings with Ukraine. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, flanked by the chairmen of the impeachment inquiry committees, declared at the U.S. Capitol they were upholding their oath to defend the Constitution. Voting is expected in days by the Judiciary Committee and by Christmas in the full House.

Bill Cosby loses bid to overturn 2017 sexual assault conviction

Bill Cosby lost his bid to overturn his sexual assault conviction Dec. 10, as an appeals court upheld the verdict in the first celebrity trial of the #MeToo era. In its ruling, the Pennsylvania Superior Court upheld the right of prosecutors to call other accusers to bolster their case — the same issue that was fought over in hearings before Harvey Weinstein’s sexual assault trial.



New Zealand volcano eruption kills six

Tourists on a boat look at the eruption of a volcano Dec. 9 on White Island, New Zealand. Unstable conditions continue to hamper rescue workers from searching for people missing and those feared dead.

MICHAEL SCHADE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran accuses US of holding 20 Iranian nationals in jail

Iran said Dec. 10 that U.S. authorities are holding approximately 20 Iranian nationals in jail, its official news agency said a day after Tehran said it was ready for more prisoner swaps

with the U.S. Over the weekend, Iran freed a Chinese American scholar from Princeton University who was held for three years on espionage charges. It was diplomatic breakthrough between Tehran and Washington.

Source: Associated Press

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IC Student Showcase at The Haunt

Quail, Teddy Hyde, Siamese Bikes and Ivy. performed at The Haunt on Dec. 8 for the Ithaca College Student Showcase.



Winter Lights Festival 2019

Ithaca’s first Winter Lights Festival is being held on The Commons from Dec. 5 to 15.

THE ITHACAN

220 ROY H. PARK HALL,
ITHACA COLLEGE, ITHACA, NY 14850
(607) 274-1376 • ITHACAN@ITHACA.EDU
WWW.THEITHACAN.ORG

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MANAGING EDITOR
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Contact the News Editor at
ithacannews@gmail.com or (607) 274-3208

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The Ithacan

Theater class reacts to racially charged incident

BY FALYN STEMPLER

An interim lecturer in the Ithaca College Department of Theatre Arts will no longer be teaching her course after students reported a racially charged incident.

Anne Hamilton, interim lecturer in the Department of Theatre Arts, was filling in for another professor who is on sabbatical this semester. She was teaching a senior seminar for theater arts majors called Contemporary Developments in Theatre. Students said that throughout the semester, they complained to Catherine Weidner, professor and chair in the Department of Theatre Studies, about Hamilton's lack of preparation, organization and structure in the classroom. Toward the end of the semester, the confusing classroom environment became increasingly hostile as Hamilton asked her students to write racist slurs, including the N-word, on the classroom whiteboard Nov. 21.

After students told Weidner about this incident, the class later received an email the same day of the incident informing them that Hamilton will not be teaching the class for the rest of the semester.

"I have heard from many of you about what has been happening in your contemporary developments classroom," Weidner said in the email. "I appreciate your candor and willingness to share the challenges you have faced and the time you have taken to write to me and speak with me about your experience. Our priority is a safe and

productive learning environment."

The email continued to inform students that guest faculty and lecturers will be teaching the remainder of the course and provided an updated schedule for the rest of the semester. Weidner said she had no further comments beyond the email. Additionally, Hamilton did not respond to a request for comment.

During a class toward the end of the semester, Hamilton introduced the play "An Octoroon" by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins. The work deals with race in the United States. She began the class by asking students to write words on the board that were in the play that they felt should not be used in the classroom.

Many students in the class said nobody immediately responded because of their discomfort either as white students who cannot claim the racial slur or as black students who felt targeted by the racial slur.

The Ithacan was provided video evidence of the incident by a student in the classroom who asked to remain anonymous for personal safety concerns.

The recordings show two of the students of color in the classroom, seniors Maya Jones and Jack Damien, explaining their discomfort with the task and questioning why it was necessary. As the verbal altercation escalated, Hamilton interrupted and raised her voice at Jones, saying, "Don't yell at me, young lady." Jones replied, "Excuse me?" Hamilton followed, "I said don't raise your voice



The racially charged incident occurred in the senior seminar Contemporary Developments in Theatre. The class is offered through the Department of Theatre Arts in the Dillingham Center. MOLLY BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

like that." Jones then replied, "Then please don't talk over me when I am speaking to you."

Hamilton replied, "I am in control of the class. My job is to find out where you are at. If you want, we can talk about this later, but I want to give the value to people who are here."

Jones continued to explain why she felt this conversation was unnecessary, which was followed by collective silence, and Hamilton eventually replied, "Does anyone else want to speak up? Tell me what else I am not supposed to do here. This is a

hard play, so let's try."

Jones said that as a student of color, she felt uncomfortable because she knew she or one of the other black students would have to write the racial slurs.

"That made me feel very uncomfortable," Jones said. "I turned to another black student next to me and thought, 'Is this really happening? Are we really being required to write these derogatory words and harsh and painful terms on the board in order for our professor to

know that?' I mean, we are seniors in college. ... We know what should and shouldn't be said."

Damien said he felt Hamilton was dismissing him.

"When one student [of color] got up and wrote the N-word on the board, the professor asked, 'What about this is uncomfortable?'" he said. "I said, 'This is uncomfortable because you are forcing a student of color to write derogatory terms on the board.'"

CONTACT FALYN STEMPLER
FSTEMPLER@ITHACA.EDU

Honors program to relocate to School of H&S

BY ALEXIS MANORE

The Ithaca College Honors Program is undergoing changes that will move the program from the Office of the Provost to the School of Humanities and Sciences. Additionally, its office will be relocated, and the program is searching for individuals to fill its leadership positions.

Jeane Copenhaver-Johnson, associate provost for academic programs, announced the changes to students in the honors program via email Nov. 18. She said in the email that La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, tasked the School of Humanities and Sciences with creating a new liberal arts program that will become the new honors program. She said the current honors program will continue to run and will admit students from the Class of 2024 and possibly from the Class of 2025. Any student who is currently in the honors program will still be fully supported.

Copenhaver-Johnson said that the School of Humanities and Sciences used to house the honors program and that faculty, staff and students in the School of Humanities and Sciences are developing the new program.

She said there is no set timeline for the program to be created, nor is there a set timeline for the transition from the current honors program to the new honors program to occur.

Alicia Swords, director of the honors program and associate professor in the Department of Sociology, said she and the Honors Program Steering Committee were not involved in the decision to restructure the honors program.

"I can say that I think the steering committee and I would have liked to be much more involved in a process to discuss and consider proposals for these changes rather than the process that happened, which was that we were informed that the changes were going to happen," Swords said.

Faculty members at the college have raised concerns about a lack of transparency between faculty and the administration, specifically by the Office of the Provost.

Swords said she wishes faculty and students were included in the decision-making process as well.

"I would encourage those making these



The Ithaca College Honors Program is currently located in the garden level of the Peggy Ryan Williams Center. The program will be moving to Muller Faculty Center. MOLLY BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

decisions and the administration at Ithaca College to carefully consult with faculty and students prior to making changes like this," Swords said. "And that was not the process that took place."

Cornish did not respond to request for comment.

Swords said she and the Honors Program Steering Committee are not opposed to the School of Humanities and Sciences housing the honors program.

"The committee and I believe that in whatever form the honors program takes as it's being reimagined that it's really important to maintain a commitment to interdisciplinarity," she said. "We really urge that faculty outside of H&S also be involved in the process of restructuring."

In a letter to the honors program faculty, the Honors Program Steering Committee said it is thankful to see that the guidelines for the new, reimagined program are built on the current program.

"We remain hopeful that future decisions will follow practices of shared governance,"

the letter said.

Jaime Warburton, assistant professor in the Department of Writing and honors program faculty, said that she was surprised by the announcement of the changes but that she is excited to see them take place.

"It was a bit of a surprise to me that the current honors program would be dissolved, in part because it very recently went through a restructuring, and, usually, one would give that restructuring a little time before assessing," Warburton said.

Junior Leighann Guardino, a student representative on the Honors Student Advisory Board, said she thinks the changes that are being made to the honors program will be beneficial.

"It seems like the faculty that are in charge of restructuring the honors program are making it more geared towards interdisciplinary study, which is why I joined the honors program to start with," Guardino said.

CONTACT ALEXIS MANORE
AMANORE@ITHAC.EDU

Iger and Bay give \$1 million

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ

Ithaca College will be launching the Iger-Bay Endowed Scholarship to support underrepresented students studying journalism, sports media or documentary studies in the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

The couple Bob Iger '73, CEO of The Walt Disney Co., and Willow Bay, dean of the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, is funding the scholarship using the funds from Iger's autobiography, "The Ride of a Lifetime," which was released in September. Iger and Bay donated \$1 million to the college to establish the scholarship. Iger is worth an estimated \$690 million, according to Forbes.

Dave Maley, director of public relations at the college, said that the details regarding the application and distribution of the scholarships, including how many scholarships are offered and how much they are worth, have not been determined yet.

"Willow and I have advocated strongly for equitable representation of people of color in media and journalism for our entire careers," Iger said in an announcement. "Increasing diversity in the newsroom is crucially important to us, and so we made the decision to allocate book proceeds in support of educational initiatives for underrepresented students in the hopes of fostering a more inclusive media environment for talented communications professionals."

Diane Gayeski, dean of the Park School, said she is grateful for the contribution.

"The Iger-Bay Scholarship is one important step in creating the pipeline of well-educated young professionals who can step into those roles," she said via email.

CONTACT MADISON FERNANDEZ
MFERMANDEZ1@ITHACA.EDU

FROM MARATHON, PAGE 1

hours to 2010s pop music featuring artists like LMFAO and Hot Chelle Rae with an organized dance performed every hour by the morale captains — students who were responsible for maintaining participant enthusiasm throughout the marathon. Throughout the day, dancers collected donations through social media and payment apps like Venmo.

Toni Gary, assistant vice president for community relations and development for Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital, said events like BomberTHON are important in helping the hospital accommodate children.

"We see 100,000 children a year, so every time you take a step today, think of one of those kids that will be in the hospital," Gary said.

Rich said Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital had a great impact on his family's life.

"All the care we got, we did everything at Golisano's, and I don't regret any part of it," Rich said. "They truly gave us the best care. What you're doing here is very nice. Upstate Golisano's is the best cause I can think of."

The idea for BomberTHON began in April 2018 when junior Laura Heppes, now the president of BomberTHON, learned about THON, the dance marathon at Pennsylvania State University and wanted to bring the program to Ithaca College. Penn State's THON has over 16,500 students participating every year and has raised over \$157 million for Four Diamonds at Penn State Children's Hospital since 1977, according to its website.

Junior Lee Folger was also looking to start a dance marathon at Ithaca College because of his experience as a morale captain for a



Nearly 200 members of the Ithaca College community danced for six hours in the Fitness Center. BomberTHON raised \$28,233.22. The amount surpassed the original goal of \$15,000.

REED FREEMAN/THE ITHACAN

dance marathon when he was in high school.

"I just fell in love with it, and then I got here, and there wasn't one, and it kind of rubbed me the wrong way," Folger said. "When Laura brought it up, I realized that this school had too many amazing resources for us to not have one."

Junior Madison Cardinal, BomberTHON's director of promotions, said its original fundraising goal was \$15,000, but it expected to actually raise \$9,000. Junior Thomas Edson, director of hospital relations, said that when the event started, it had already surpassed its goal with approximately \$24,000 raised during the preceding months by collecting donations.

The Miracle Network Dance Marathon program has raised \$38.6 million in 2019 as of Nov. 12 with 31 colleges and universities across the country hosting dance

marathons, according to an article by the Miracle Network Dance Marathon.

Edson said the executive board's goal at the start of the event was to raise more than Cornell University's \$27,083.94 donation from its fifth annual dance marathon, Big Red Thon, which was held Nov. 9. BomberTHON achieved this goal and raised \$1,149.28 more than the Big Red Thon.

"It's so surreal," Edson said. "This is 20 months in the making, and that number is going to stick with me forever."

Over 25 sports teams and organizations from Ithaca College participated in fundraising, and the women's crew team raised the most with \$2,064. The team received a banner that will hang in its locker room and be passed on to next year's top fundraising team.

Other participating teams

included the men's soccer team and the men's baseball team. After Damon spent time talking and playing with these teams at the event, the men's baseball team gave him an Ithaca College baseball cap to wear when he throws the first pitch at a game in the spring. The men's soccer team presented Damon with an Ithaca College Soccer T-shirt signed by the team.

Junior Luke Bugoni said BomberTHON helped him think differently about his own life.

"A lot of times we take our everyday lives for granted," Bugoni said. "It definitely means a lot that people recognize what's happening and that there are people out there that struggle with everyday life. It's just fantastic that it's come to campus, and I think it's only going to explode from here."

CONTACT ALYSHIA KORBA
AKORBA@ITHACA.EDU

FROM FINANCE, PAGE 1

primary reserve ratio is how long a school can survive on its expendable assets. To determine these numbers, total unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets and debt related to plant, property and equipment are first added together. Then, actual values of plant, property and equipment net of accumulated depreciation are subtracted. The resulting number is then divided by the school's total annual expenses.

"Essentially, if in a pinch, if a school needed to liquidate its assets to stay open, that number is how long it could cover its annual expenses with that amount of money," Coudriet said.

The University of Pennsylvania and Emory University, both top schools on the ranking, have primary reserve ratios only slightly over 1.0, meaning their expendable assets would cover their expenses for approximately a year if need be, Schiffrin said. Ithaca College's primary reserve ratio is less than one, suggesting it would last less than a year, Coudriet said.

Guerrero cited the college's bond rating by Moody's Investor Services as an indicator of its financial health. A bond rating often includes an analysis of various financial factors and is meant to serve as a guide for potential investors. Moody's gave the college an A2 rating, stating in its report that the college's outlook is stable. An A2 rating is the second-highest rating an institution can receive.

"As you will see on our definitions guide, a stable outlook indicates a low likelihood of a rating change over the medium term," said Ashleigh Thurston, client service employee at Moody's.

Most of the "C" and "D" colleges on the list are tuition-dependent schools. Approximately 86% of the college's revenue comes from student tuition and fees, but Guerrero said the college is making efforts to diversify revenue sources.

Moody's report also outlines that while the college relies heavily on student charges, it "continues to generate positive annual operating performance despite stagnant to declining net tuition per student due to increasing competition for students." The number of high school students graduating in the Northeast is projected to decrease over the next 10 years, according to the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education. With a smaller group of high school students searching for colleges, schools must compete even more for prospective students.

"We are experiencing lower enrollment," Guerrero said. "We have our strategic plan, Ithaca Forever, that is to guide us and rightsize our operations. Therefore, with decline in enrollment when we are student-dependent, our operations need to adjust accordingly."

New York state private institutions now compete with New York state's Excelsior Scholarship, which is only applicable at state institutions and select statutory colleges at private institutions. The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid programs, potentially offers prospective New York state students an education free of tuition costs. Despite the Excelsior Scholarship's extensive eligibility requirements, like required residence in New York state after an individual's education has been obtained, the scholarship resulted in a weakening of the college's operating margins to approximately 5% from 11% in the 2017 fiscal year, according to Moody's report.

"When the Excelsior Scholarship was announced by Governor Cuomo in 2017, it definitely affected private schools and the community colleges," Guerrero said.

However, the college combatted this by awarding \$6 million of additional financial aid to prospective students in the 2018 fiscal year, Guerrero said.

When considering an institution as a prospective student, financial status is important to consider, Coudriet said. While there are some schools that are prone to close, most schools will be able to get by, he said.

"Ithaca's got a C+," Coudriet said. "That's definitely not even close to the worst school on the list. I certainly wouldn't be looking to transfer because of the data."

CONTACT CORA PAYNE
CPAYNE2@ITHACA.EDU

Students implement honor code for exams

BY JORDAN BROKING

A prototype code of conduct developed by students is being used in an Ithaca College computer science class. This code allows students more flexibility while taking exams.

Ali Erkan, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science, let students in his Computer Networks class create a prototype honor code. Erkan said he has been suggesting an honor code in his classes since 2015. One of his students, senior Harry Margalotti, decided to try it out during Fall 2019 as a way to help his classmates perform better on their exams.

Erkan's prototype honor code is a collaboration among the students that addresses how they should handle taking an exam. The code entails the rules of taking an exam, what one should or should not do while taking the exam and what to do in the event anyone notices someone is violating the code.

Erkan said he would be interested in approaching the college about implementing the code as a collegewide policy, but, as of now, it is still a prototype. While other colleges and universities in the country, like Stanford University and Davidson College, have their own honor codes in place, Ithaca College does not have an honor code system mandated. There is a section on standards of academic conduct in the college's Policy Manual.

Jason Freitag, associate professor in the Department of History and Faculty Council representative to the Academic Policy Committee, said he does not know if the committee has considered implementing a schoolwide honor code.

The idea for the honor code came from Erkan after he learned about Patrick Awuah, founder of Ashesi University in Ghana and a MacArthur Fellows Program recipient. Awuah created his own code of conduct for the students at his university in 2008.



Students in the Computer Networks class taught by Ali Erkan, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science, created an honor code for their tests.

ALISON TRUE/THE ITHACAN

Margalotti said the entire class agreed on implementing the code.

"An anonymous survey was sent out to each student [in the class] asking if they would be OK with the system or not and why," Margalotti said. "I made sure to highlight the importance of providing feedback."

Margalotti said the parameters of the system and the consequences for violating the code, like being reported to Erkan, were laid out explicitly for every student. According to the college's standards of academic conduct, students who perform any act of academic dishonesty can be reported to a faculty member, the dean of the school or the director of the Office of Judicial Affairs for further consequences.

Erkan said he left the development of the

code to the students. But Erkan said he had no worries about the students' ability to create an effective code. He said the students created parameters for evaluation of his tests.

To handle any student reports of cheating or violating the code, the class formed a committee to deal with the consequences. The committee itself is comprised of three students, including Margalotti, senior Leighton Watson and junior Amelia Chady. Chady said they serve as the middle ground between the students and the professor, a solution that allows students to approach them instead of Erkan if they have any issues with the code.

CONTACT JORDAN BROKING
JBROKING@ITHACA.EDU

Class explores county's environmental history

BY ALEX HARTZOG

Surrounded by maps and manuscripts, Ithaca College juniors Alex Kavalec and Beth Fleming sat at The History Center. Here, they cross-referenced wells in Tompkins County in 1903 with a list of victims from the typhoid epidemic. Over the course of a few hours, the two realized the connection between the wells and victims. Tompkins County's water source was contaminated, and they believe a dam constructed before the outbreak was to blame.

The 25 students in the History of Environmental Thought class researched topics at The History Center ranging from the typhoid epidemic of 1903 to the efforts to stop the construction of a nuclear power plant along Cayuga Lake in 1968. The students presented their findings at The History Center on Dec. 11. This event occurs biennially, said Michael Smith, professor in the Department of History. Smith teaches the class and is currently a member of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees for The History Center.

Students worked in five teams of five to research topics of their choice, Smith said. Smith said that while he provided topics to choose from, students could research anything they wanted with the archival materials provided by The History Center. Other topics students chose included floods in 1857, 1935 and 1981, the history of Six Mile Creek and the urban renewal plan that created The Commons.

"I think all five of the topics this year grew organically from the students probing around in the archives and seeing what they found

interesting," Smith said.

Smith has taught the class since 2001 and has been working with The History Center since 2005. Smith said he decided to create the project after students in the first iteration of his class said they wanted more hands-on experience with the course material.

Attendance for the presentations varies from year to year, with as many as 15 to 20 community members coming to the presentations, Smith said. The event was promoted on The History Center's website and was highlighted in an Intercom post distributed through the college.

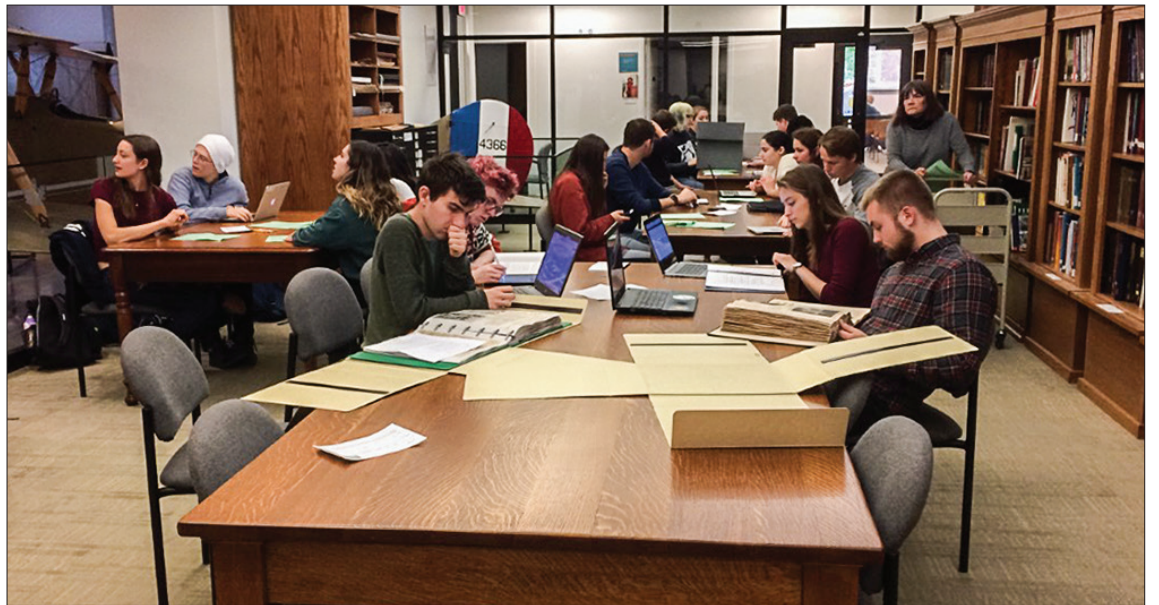
“

The chance to get to ... actually work in archives with real archival material was really exciting.

— Alex Kavalec

”

Smith's class went to The History Center throughout the semester to research their selected topics. Kavalec's group found that the dam that caused



Students in the Environmental History of Thought class at Ithaca College conduct research Oct. 29 for their presentations at The History Center. Five groups of students presented their findings Dec. 11.

COURTESY OF MICHAEL SMITH

the typhoid epidemic changed the county's outlook on water.

"It wasn't just the way that Ithaca looked at sanitation," Kavalec said. "It was the way Ithaca looked at water, in a larger sense, and the way that Ithaca began to handle its water. We're kind of presenting on one epidemic that changed Ithaca in a very large way."

The History Center moved from the Gateway Center to its current location at the Tompkins Center for History and Culture, located on The Commons, in February 2019. The History Center opened in its new location in May 2019. Kavalec said the new location made it easier for her group to research at the center outside of class time.

The History Center provides manuscript collections, scrapbooks, maps and other historical artifacts for students to use in their research. Donna Eschenbrenner, director of archives and research services at The History Center, said that while students are not directly allowed into the archives, staff members and herself are able to retrieve anything the students ask for from the archives.

"I love seeing the 'Aha!' moments because a lot of these students aren't history majors," Eschenbrenner said. "They haven't always had experience working with original materials. Seeing people handling and learning from and absorbing actual

documentary materials that's very old is deeply gratifying for me. I love it."

Kavalec said she was interested in the research project because it allowed her to get hands-on experience with archival materials. Kavalec said she wants to work in library science doing archival work.

"The chance to get to go and actually work in archives with real archival material from Ithaca was really exciting and interesting to me," Kavalec said. "And [environmental studies] is a subject I don't know a whole lot about, so being able to learn more about the history of Ithaca is a great opportunity."

CONTACT ALEX HARTZOG
AHARTZOG@ITHACA.EDU

Public safety coordinator highlights Clery Act

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

Elyse Nepa, Clery Act and crime prevention coordinator in the Ithaca College Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, has worked to develop emergency action plans as part of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

Nepa stepped into the new position in January. Her position allows her to work with the Clery Compliance Committee and other members of the campus community to compile crime statistics to inform the campus. Nepa works with departments and offices across the campus, including the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of Judicial Affairs, to develop Clery Act compliance training. As previously reported by *The Ithacan*, shelter-in-place drills are part of the emergency action plans developed for the campus community.

"I'm coming to truly love the way that this position is shaping up," Nepa said. "I make every attempt to build bridges in the community in order to increase safety on campus."

Bill Kerry, director of Public Safety, said Nepa's past work experiences have helped her to excel in her position. Before coming to the college, Nepa worked for a nongovernmental organization and worked to create a new program to help victims of human trafficking.

"The passion she has for what she has done is second to none," Kerry said.

Before working for the Samaritan House, Nepa worked with the Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center in Albany, New York, as a campus educator. Nepa said her position allowed her to address sexual violence prevention on college campuses.

Nepa said the Clery Act has three main categories. The categories are policy statement disclosure; collection, classification and compilation of crime statistics; and information dissemination. Nepa said all schools in compliance with the Clery Act must have these three components, which involve identifying campus security authorities, putting out emergency notification alerts and sharing crime statistics with the



Elyse Nepa, Clery Act and crime prevention coordinator in the Ithaca College Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, began working at the college in January.

NICK BAHAMONDE/THE ITHACAN

U.S. Department of Education.

The Clery Act was signed into law in 1990 with the intent of making colleges and universities publish information regarding campus crime statistics. Nepa said the act is named after Jeanne Clery, who was raped and murdered at 19 in her college dorm at Lehigh University in 1986. Prior to her death, there was no system for campus crime statistics available. Clery's parents began to lobby for policy changes, and, eventually, the Clery Act was born as a way to help to keep students informed about campus safety.

Dave Maley, director of public relations at Ithaca College, said that there were previously members of Public Safety who ensured compliance with the Clery Act but that now a position has been created for it. Nepa said Kerry advocated for the new position to be created.

The act requires colleges and universities that receive federal funding to release their Annual Security Reports (ASR) on Oct. 1. This report is in

compliance with the Clery Act and must include crime statistics from rapes to larceny thefts.

Nepa said the act helps to raise awareness and increase education about indicators of violence as well as increase outreach between the campus community and public safety officers.

Tom Dunn, associate director for Public Safety, said he believes the Clery Act has been extremely beneficial to the campus community and future students, especially with the publication of the Daily Crime and Fire Logs and the ASR. He said it allows students and parents to compare college crime statistics.

As previously reported by *The Ithacan*, the 2018 ASR reported an increase in sexual assault crimes. The Clery Act states that an increase can be related to colleges and universities making students feel more comfortable talking about and reporting sexual assault crimes.

CONTACT CAITLIN HOLTZMAN
CHOLTZMAN@ITHACA.EDU

Board elects new member

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

The Ithaca College Board of Trustees voted to appoint Kim Zeoli '89 to the board.

Dave Lissy '87, chair of the board of trustees, announced in an email sent to the campus community Dec. 5 that the vote for Zeoli was unanimous. Zeoli will attend the board's next meeting Feb. 12 and 13 in Los Angeles. Her term as a trustee will extend until 2023.

"Her expertise and her commitment to IC will be a major asset to our board," Lissy said in the email sent to the campus community.

Zeoli earned her bachelor's degree in accounting and currently works as a senior partner in the national Risk and Financial Advisory practice at Deloitte and Touche in Boston, a professional services firm. Zeoli was awarded the 2019 Volunteer Service Award from the college for her dedication to the college, Lissy said in the announcement. The award is given to individuals who have significantly contributed to the college.

"It is truly an honor to be selected to serve Ithaca College as a trustee," Zeoli said. "I look forward to using this experience to be an ambassador and advocate for the college where my focus will always be on making a positive, lasting impact for the IC community."

Of the 28 current trustees, 12 are women. Zeoli joins the board two years after the college appointed President Shirley M. Collado, the college's first president that is a woman of color. The same year the board voted on six white men. James Nolan '77, vice chair of the board of trustees, said in a previous article by *The Ithacan* that the board was trying to diversify its membership.

"I became a trustee to make a difference," Zeoli said.

CONTACT ASHLEY STALNECKER
ASTALNECKER@ITHACA.EDU

Students ask college to respect Jewish holidays

BY RYAN BIEBER

When sophomore Zac Wachs transferred to Ithaca College from the University of Kentucky in Fall 2019, he anticipated the typical transfer student struggles. However, he never expected his Jewish faith would interfere with his studies until he had three tests on Rosh Hashana.

Rosh Hashana is the Jewish new year and one of the holiest holidays in the Jewish faith. The Office of the Registrar website states that students cannot be penalized and are legally excused from classes if there is a religious conflict, but Wachs said this system fails to take factors like missed lectures and study times into account.

While Wachs was able to get his tests moved, he said, it was an unnecessarily frustrating and stressful experience.

The issue of scheduling events on religious holidays started being addressed in Fall 2018 after Hillel at Ithaca College presented a bill to the Student Governance Council to prevent the college from scheduling events on Jewish holidays.

The proposal came after the college scheduled the Class of 2018's graduation on Shavuot, a Jewish harvest holiday that celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai, and held the All-Student Gathering on Simchat Torah, a major Jewish holiday in which most forms of work are prohibited.

The issue of scheduling events on Jewish holidays becomes increasingly important as the Jewish population at the college continues to grow.

In Spring 2015, Hillel International, the largest Jewish college campus organization in the world, estimated

that approximately 600 Jewish undergraduates were enrolled at the college. In 2019, the organization estimates there are approximately 1,000 Jewish undergraduates.

After multiple meetings, the SGC passed a bill to create the Committee for the Advancement of Religious Equity, in which students and staff from Hillel, the SGC, the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life and the Office of the Provost and the director of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, a representative from the college's Calendar Committee and a student-at-large would work together to prevent the college from scheduling campuswide events on major religious holidays.

Senior SGC President Farwa Shaheel said that the bill was passed during the last meeting of Fall 2018 and that plans for organizing the committee were postponed until spring but no concrete actions were taken. She said the bill's wording stated that it was Hillel's job to find members and form the committee. The bill states, "As the sponsors of the bill, it shall be up to the student executive board of Hillel to confirm the members of the committee."

"We tried definitely from the SGC to make that effort, but, just the way the bill is written, we cannot be the ones responsible for actually forming the committee," she said. "There has been some informal discussion regarding setting up the committee, and we are hoping to reopen the conversation next semester."

Junior Jordan Stecker, a former member of Hillel's executive board and one of the original members who proposed the bill, said Hillel reached



Senior Matthew Feiler and Rachel Steinmetz '19 present the bill on Jewish holiday accommodations to the SGC in November 2018. The bill passed in Fall 2018, but some students have not seen change.

FILE PHOTO /THE ITHACAN

out to the SGC in the spring but received little help from its members.

Even though the bill was passed, the college has continued to schedule events on Jewish holidays. On Oct. 15, the college held a town hall for students to critique dining services, and only four students attended. This was the same date as Sukkot, a Jewish holiday celebrating the fall harvest.

The problem falls on administration and a lack of education regarding religious holidays, Wachs said.

"It's not on a college professor to know this is happening here," he said. "That should be something sent down from administrations outlining these

are important days."

Wachs said he sent an email to President Shirley M. Collado following his experience and received a three-sentence response in return. In her reply, Collado thanked Wachs for sharing his experience and said she would share the email with La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

He said there was no follow-up after this email or any sign that his experience had been acknowledged by the provost.

Cornish said via email that she received Wach's message and shared it with other faculty. She said that while

she did not directly respond to Wachs, she met with Rosanna Ferro, vice president of student affairs and campus life, and had Heraldo Osorio, director of religious and spiritual life, speak at a Deans' Council meeting to share student concerns.

Stecker said he had a similar experience when he met with Ferro on Oct. 28 to discuss the ongoing problems. After the initial meeting, Ferro said she would follow up, but Stecker said he received no response and was unable to schedule a second meeting.

CONTACT RYAN BIEBER
RBIEBER@ITHACA.EDU

New SGC bill to limit number of print publication copies

BY ALEXIS MANORE

The Ithaca College Student Governance Council passed a bill Dec. 9 to limit the number of copies on-campus publications can print. Two other bills were also passed at the meeting.

The SGC passed the Magazine Sustainability Amendment, the Varsity Athlete Senator Amendment and the Removal of the Senate Affairs Committee Amendment.

The Magazine Sustainability Amendment was sponsored by sophomore Senator-at-Large Maxwell Powers and junior Rup Patel. The bill was co-sponsored by junior Allison Kelley, vice president of business and finance; freshmen Grace Madeya and Henry Wade, Class of 2023 senators; juniors Cole Mistysyn, Jennifer D'Urso and Joseph Pullman; and seniors Adam Justiniano and Patti Banfield, student organizations business coordinator.

The Allocations Handbook previously did not limit the number of copies that on-campus publications could print. The amendment will change the SGC Allocations Handbook to state that the SGC will only fund the printing of 500 copies of on-campus print magazines per issue and a maximum of 1,500 copies per semester.

The Allocations Handbook will also be amended to allow on-campus publications to request funding for their websites. The amendment states that if the publication requests funding for its website, it can only print 750 copies per semester but is still allowed to print 1,500 copies for the academic year.

Article VI, Section B, Subsection III, Subsection F of the Allocations Handbook stated, "SGC will not fund the creation, maintenance, or anything else in regards to an organization's personal website."

The amendment will require on-campus publications to create a breakdown of the locations their publication will be distributed and how many are being placed in each location.

Madeya said the reason for the bill was to

decrease the amount of paper waste. She said if publications want to print more copies, they can fund them themselves.

Senior Mateo Flores, ministry of cool co-editor of Buzzsaw Magazine, said the section of the amendment that said Buzzsaw Magazine assessed their distribution for Fall 2019 is incorrect. He said the Appropriations Committee tabled its budget for the semester when the amendment was introduced, disrupting its production schedule.

“Because this bill was introduced to us, our operational budget for this semester was tabled, which threw our production cycle off.

— Mateo Flores

"We've only been able to run two issues of our magazine," Flores said. "When we request our operational budget, we try to fund three cycles. Because this bill was introduced to us, our operational budget for this semester was tabled, which threw our production cycle off."

He said that they cannot collect enough data from just their first issue, Puberty, and do not know how well their second issue, Space, will do, so it is not right to say that they collected data.



From left, freshmen Grace Madeya and Henry Wade and sophomore Maxwell Powers present the Magazine Sustainability Amendment at the Dec. 9 SGC meeting.

OLIVIA JACKSON/THE ITHACAN

Wade said this section was written because of a previous meeting with Buzzsaw Magazine and the Appropriations Committee in which they discussed the fact the Buzzsaw Magazine website saw an increase in readership, so the Appropriations Committee wanted to offset that by decreasing the number of print issues.

Junior Yetunde Smalls, co-editor in chief of Embrace, said she thinks the bill is a start to equity and sustainability for all on-campus publications.

"Certainly, SGC or the Appropriations Committee can make amendments to higher the number, maybe it's not 1,500, it's 1,700," Smalls said. "If you want to start creating an equity thing, I think the best way is to set a number, and I think that's fair if we're asking for your funding."

The amendment was passed with a vote of 9–1, with one abstention.

The Varsity Athlete Senator Position Amendment was sponsored by senior Alex Perry, varsity sports senator. Perry said his reason for writing this bill was because he is transgender and recently began hormone treatments to begin his

physical transition. The college does not have a men's golf team, and NCAA's inclusion policy for transgender student-athletes does not allow him to compete with women.

Perry said he is a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), but because he is no longer on the roster of the golf team, he is an ex-officio member. He said he wants to change the vocabulary of the SGC Constitution to state that any varsity sports senator must also be a member of SAAC.

The constitution previously stated that the varsity sports senator will be determined by their membership on varsity teams. The SGC Senate amended the bill to require the varsity sports senator to serve on SAAC. The bill passed unanimously with a vote of 8–0, with one abstention.

The SGC also unanimously passed the Removal of the Senate Affairs Committee Amendment. The amendment abolished the Senate Affairs Committee with a vote of 7–0, with one abstention.

CONTACT ALEXIS MANORE
AMANORE@ITHACA.EDU

COLLEGE BRIEFS

IC writing professor publishes short story in a fiction journal

Raul Palma, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, published his short story “Never Through Miami” in the Fall 2019 issue of The Greensboro Review.

The story was inspired by his 2017 research trip to Cuba.

In conversation with Roberto Quesada’s novel by the same, the story examines tensions between the Cuban enclave in Miami and Cubans in their home country, particularly those in the tourism sector.

IC Center for Health Promotion to offer finals week massages

The Ithaca College Center for Health Promotion has partnered with A Massage Station of Ithaca to bring chair massages to students.

Massages will be offered from noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 16 and 17 in the Center For Health Promotion on the lower level of Hammond Health Center.

The massages will cost \$1 per minute and can be prepaid for through PayPal or credit card. Students can sign up for appointments for 10, 20 or 30 minutes of massage through the Center for Health Promotion website.

Faculty win Emmy nomination for civil rights movement film

The documentary “With Infinite Hope: MLK and the Civil Rights Movement” was produced by James Rada, associate professor and chair in the Department of Journalism, with Chrissy Guest and Maria Mejia Yepes, assistant professors in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies.

The hour-long program has been nominated for The Midsouth Regional Emmy Awards, which are sponsored by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Ithaca College students Christy Calcagno ’18, Kalia Kornegay ’18, Emily Varga ’18, Katie Jones ’19, Elena Maria Piech ’19 and Sophia Tulp ’19 served as associate producers on the project.

“With Infinite Hope: MLK and The Civil Rights Movement” is about the life, leadership and

legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. through the eyes of 15 people who participated in some of the more notable events of the civil rights movement, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Freedom Rides, the Birmingham Children’s March, Selma and the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike.

The documentary was produced in collaboration with Memphis PBS affiliate WKNO-TV.

To date, it has aired 468 times on 250 PBS/public-television stations, 72% of all PBS stations nationwide. The Midsouth Regional Awards Ceremony will take place in Nashville, Tennessee, Feb. 15.

Faculty members and students present at convention in Florida

Students, faculty, alumni and collaborators in the Ithaca College Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology presented at the 2019 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association convention in Orlando, Florida.

David Hajjar, assistant professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and Molly Hajjar, lecturer in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, presented an oral seminar, “Supporting Communication and Participation in Recreation and Leisure Settings: Perspectives from Research and Clinical Practice.”

Luanne Andersson, associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, presented “Diagnostic Accuracy of Tests of Children’s Language, Speech Sound Development, and Phonological Awareness.” Speech-language pathologists Alison Grace Hammond, Kathleen Greenan and Jessica Takatch, senior Connor Donnelly and Charlene Kush ’19 were authors of the study but did not present.

Skott Jones, associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Jenna Abrahamsen ’19, Danielle Edelstein ’19 and Jenna Supinski ’19 presented “Treatment of Speech Sound Disorders as a Function of Lexical Variables: A Stimuli Database.”

Graduate student Samantha Watts presented “Incorporating PhotoVoice as a



Light prisms add colorful glow to festival

Freshmen Kendall Martin, Anna McCracken and Jay Tagliani admire the new Prismatica display on The Commons during the opening of the Winter Light Festival on Dec. 8. Prismatica will be on The Commons until Dec. 15.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

Strategy for Improving Oral Proficiency in Adult English Language Learners.” Marie Sanford, retired clinical associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and Morgan Lenithan ’18 were also authors of the study.

American Red Cross club to host blood drive for IC community

The Ithaca College American Red Cross Club and Staff Council are sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12 in the Emerson Suites.

The club would like to exceed its goal of collecting 75 units of blood, which is equivalent to approximately 94 appointments.

Appointments for the blood drive are required. Students, faculty and staff can sign up on the American Red Cross website.

Before coming to an appointment, the club recommends having a hearty breakfast or lunch and drinking more water than usual.

More information on the requirements and recommendations for donating blood can be found on the American Red Cross website.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOVEMBER 25 TO DECEMBER 1

NOVEMBER 25

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: Office of Public Safety Parking Lot

SUMMARY: While conducting vehicle inspection, the officer observed damage to passenger side front fender. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

ASSIST ITHACA FIRE DEPARTMENT

LOCATION: Upper Quad

SUMMARY: The Office of Environmental Health and Safety assisted Ithaca Fire Department with geography training. Tim Ryan, assistant director for the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, responded.

NOVEMBER 26

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Circle Lot 6

SUMMARY: The caller observed a vehicle with the door open and no occupant. The officer reported the owner was unable to be located. The vehicle door was secured. Patrol Officer Kiehm Nguyen responded.

ASSIST CORNELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

LOCATION: Cornell University

SUMMARY: Cornell University Police Department requested

information on person. The person is not affiliated. Security Officer Amy Noble responded.

NOVEMBER 27

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Circle Apartment Building 130

SUMMARY: The caller reported an open door to residence with the light on. The officer made contact with the resident. Patrol Officer Khiem Nguyen responded.

CRIMINAL CONTEMPT SECOND DEGREE

LOCATION: Z-Lot

SUMMARY: The officer reported a suspicious vehicle parked in lot. The officer reported passenger and driver had an active order of protection restricting all contact. One person arrested for criminal contempt second degree and issued an appearance ticket for return to Ithaca Town Court. Both persons issued trespass waiver from Ithaca College. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

NOVEMBER 28

SAFETY HAZARD

LOCATION: J-Lot

SUMMARY: The caller reported parking lot covered in ice making vehicle travel dangerous. The Office of Facilities responded and Patrol Officer Khiem Nguyen responded.

NOVEMBER 30

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: College Circle Drive

SUMMARY: The caller reported a motor vehicle accident with property damage. The vehicle struck the curb due to driver distraction. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Eastman Hall

SUMMARY: The caller reported an unknown person removed items from residence. The officer reported the caller will check with the Office of Residential Life to determine if items were removed during Health and Safety inspections. Sergeant Donald Lyke responded.

ASSIST TOMPKINS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LOCATION: Other

SUMMARY: The officer reported an alarm activation at an off-campus location. The officer secured the location until Tompkins County Sheriff’s Department’s arrival. Sergeant Don Lyke responded.

DECEMBER 1

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF THIRD DEGREE

LOCATION: Other

SUMMARY: The officer reported an

unknown person caused damage to a vehicle. The investigation is pending. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded to the incident.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: Alumni Circle

SUMMARY: The officer reported a motor vehicle accident with property damage to one car. The vehicle struck the curbing. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Terrace 2

SUMMARY: Caller reported person feeling ill due to inhaling vapor marijuana. The officer reported person decline medical assistance with ambulance staff. The officer judicially referred person for irresponsible use of drugs and judicially referred five people for unlawful possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded to the incident.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: Tower Skyline Drive

SUMMARY: The caller reported a motor vehicle accident with property damage to one car. Sergeant Chris Teribury responded.

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Landon Hall

SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. The officer reported fire alarm activation accidental due to burnt food. Sergeant Ron Hart responded to the incident.

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Circle Apartment

Building 130
SUMMARY: Simplex reported fire alarm. The officer reported fire alarm activation accidental due to steam from the shower. Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded to the incident.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Holmes Hall

SUMMARY: The officer reported an odor of marijuana. The officer judicially referred three people for under age possession of alcohol and two for unlawful possession of marijuana and violation of drug policy. Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded to the incident.

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

KEY

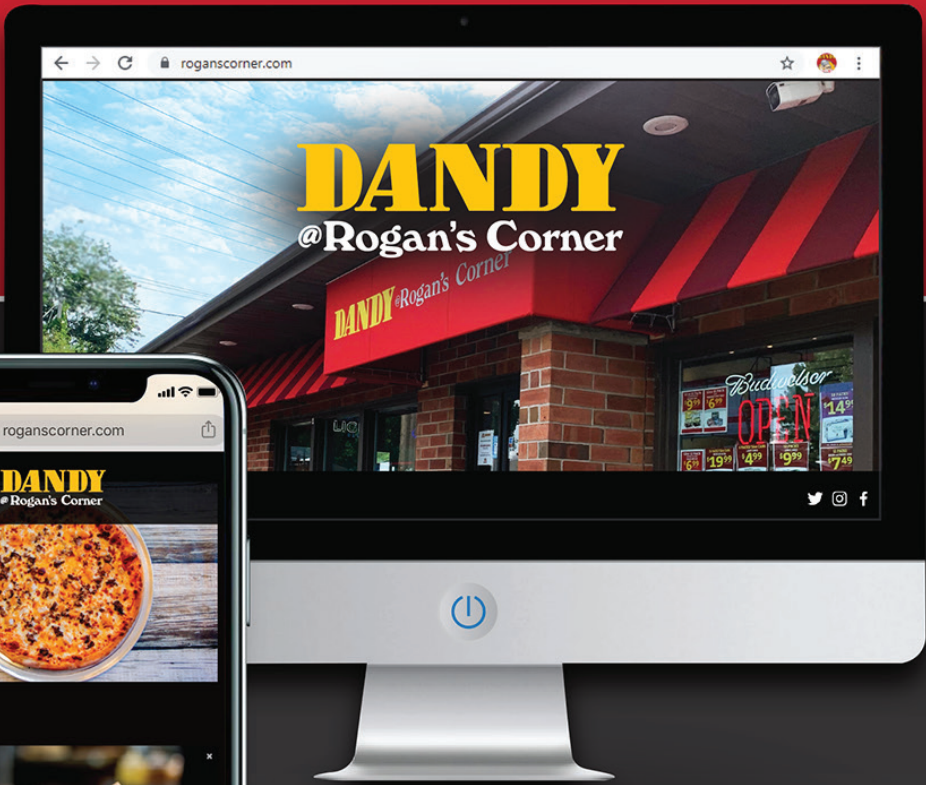
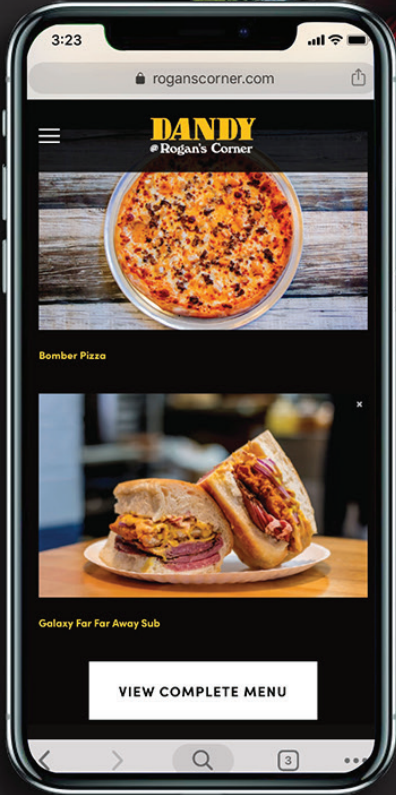
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IFD–Ithaca Fire Department

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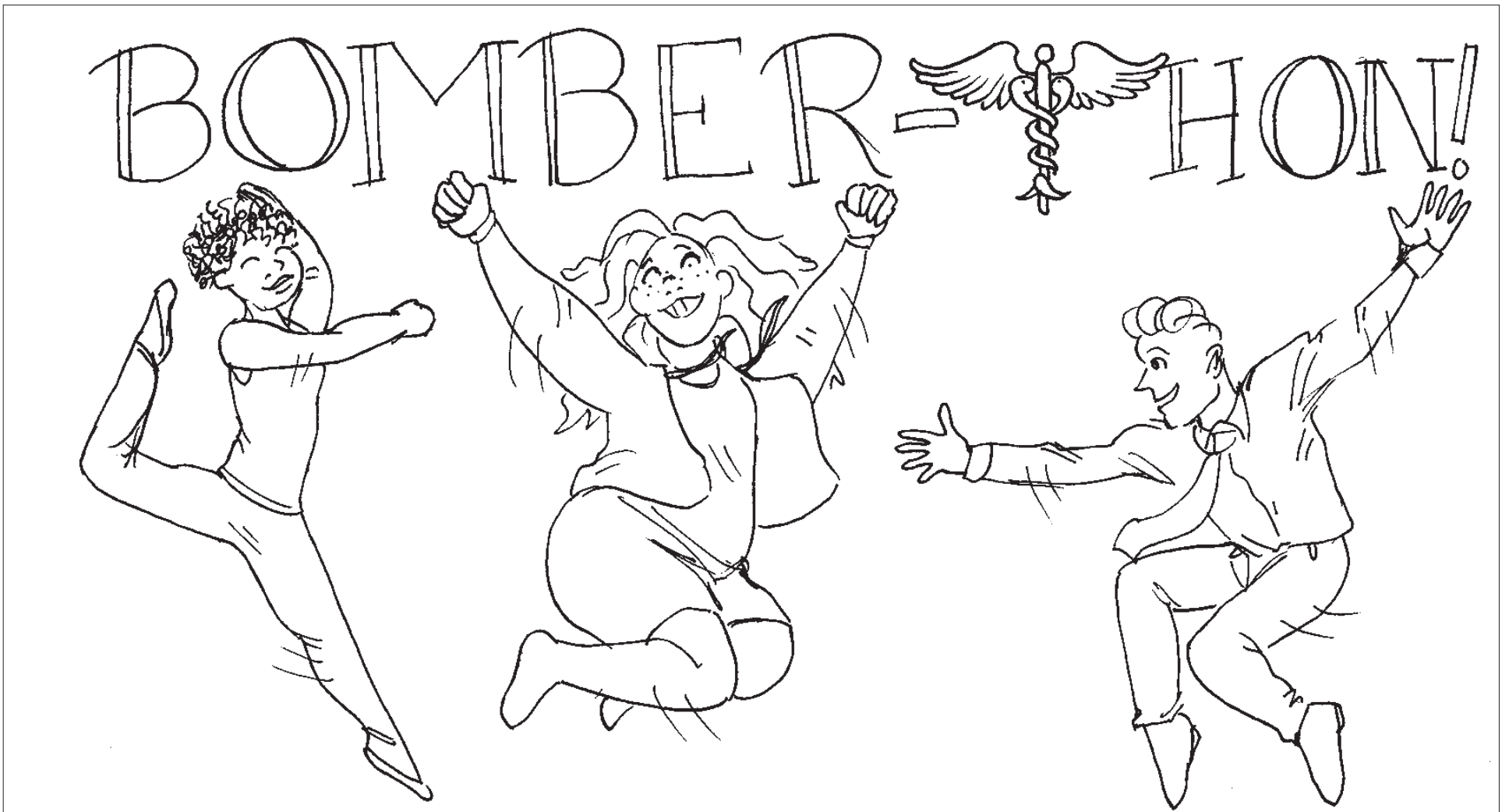
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EDITORIALS

BomberTHON highlights the importance of giving

As Fall 2019 draws to a close, Ithaca College students are frantically preparing for exams, turning in final papers and saying goodbye to their friends before a month-long winter vacation. But, on Saturday, Dec. 7, many took a break from the end-of-semester chaos to participate in the college's very first BomberTHON.

BomberTHON is the college's first Miracle Network Dance Marathon, a national program that helps raise money for pediatric hospitals across the country. The dance-a-thon at the college was organized by a group of students at the college, and approximately 29 campus sports teams and organizations participated in the event.

The event raised over \$28,000 for the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, one of the hospitals associated with the Miracle Network Dance Marathon.

Student efforts to organize and promote the BomberTHON event are extremely admirable and demonstrate the ways in which students can utilize the college's resources to pursue real, positive change.

Oftentimes, students get preoccupied with their own busy schedules and lives on campus, which leaves little time for them to engage with community service initiatives and opportunities. In partnering with the Miracle Network Dance Marathon and the

Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital, BomberTHON provided a unique, fun opportunity for college community members to step out of their bubbles, engage with other students and members of the campus community and build genuine, impactful connections with people who are struggling — people they might otherwise never connect with.

Students at the college are often separated into very distinct social groups, whether it be by majors, sports teams or clubs. The dance-a-thon prompted students with different identities to come together, relate to one another and pursue a common goal, all while having some fun in the process.

Since the Miracle Network Dance Marathon began three decades ago, it has partnered with over 400 educational institutions throughout the continent and raised over \$250 million for its partner hospitals. In partnering with the network, the college is not only bringing the idea of community to the college but is also helping to promote the network's greater mission of philanthropy and the importance of colleges using their resources and influence to help others.

BomberTHON is a primary example of the ways in which student actions can really influence tangible, positive change. Although the 2019 dance-a-thon has ended, its legacy as a successful, impactful and student-led initiative will continue.

Local history has significant role in Ithaca community

Going to school at Ithaca College has many perks: incomparable views of the lake from the top of South Hill, an ever-changing array of weather patterns and a multitude of restaurants to try. One of the best aspects of going to school in Ithaca, however, is the fascinating history of the area itself.

To highlight the personal histories that exist in Tompkins County, 25 students in the History of Environmental Thought class at the college have been delving deep into The History Center archives, currently located in the Tompkins Center for History and Culture. These archives include manuscript collections, scrapbooks, maps and other historical artifacts.

The students researched archives on a variety of topics and presented their findings at The History Center on Dec. 11.

The research project not only provided a crucial opportunity for students to learn more about the town they attend college in, but the project allowed them to utilize local resources and build relationships with the community in the process.

Tompkins County has an extremely rich local history, from the typhoid epidemic of 1903 to protests of the proposed construction of a nuclear power plant on Cayuga Lake. However, many students at the college have a minimal understanding of this history and its

long-lasting impacts on the town they live in.

While Ithaca is widely considered a college town, its identity and history go much beyond the colleges that are located within it — history that students should do their best to acknowledge and appreciate.

It is only too easy for students at the college to grow comfortable with their position "up on the hill," which can prevent them from fully exploring the outskirts of the town. While many frequent The Commons and other popular hubs like the Ithaca Farmers Market, there is a lack of intimate, authentic connection between college students and the local community.

To get the most out of their experience at the college, students should make an active effort to get to know the community — a big part of which includes educating themselves on the local history. The history of both Ithaca and Tompkins County significantly inform the current culture and identity of the region, and knowing more about it can help students get better connected with the surrounding community.

The History of Environmental Thought class' archival research project gave students an opportunity to do just that, both through a personal and academic approach. Moving forward, students should take advantage of any and all opportunities to truly get to know the town that, for many students at the college, has become home.

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.



INTO IDENTITY

MAHAD OLAD

Somali atheists face injustice

Global Voices, a volunteer-run independent website, recently published an article describing the dreadful situation facing Somali atheists in East Africa. Katie McQue wrote that Islamist extremists in Somalia and Kenya are becoming more inflamed by the rise of Somali atheists. She reports that nearly 1.2 million Somali atheists are active on social media platforms like Reddit, Facebook and YouTube.

Some of these Somali atheists — almost all closeted — live in Western countries. However, they fear for their lives just as much as their fellow free thinkers in Africa because conservative Somali communities seem to do a formidable job of policing, scrutinizing and isolating those who defy religious and cultural norms.

In light of this fundamentalist backlash, I believe it's exceedingly crucial for public Somali ex-Muslims to continue defying these oppressive norms. As a public Somali atheist who also happens to be gay, I'd like to contribute to this effort by shining a spotlight on the derogatory language used against Somalis who refuse to kowtow to backward beliefs.

The Somali language is primarily oral and snaps off into three significant dialects based on geographical locations. Therefore, these words have multiple meanings, but most are intrinsically condemnatory. My translations and interpretations are based on my personal experiences growing up in Kenya and Minnesota.

Somalis who leave Islam, identify as LGBTQ or, in the case of Somali women, remove their hijabs, are considered to be “gaalo,” a derogatory term for non-Muslims. The word “gaalo” carries a specific message: You're distancing yourself from your culture and your religion, and therefore we, the Somali community, don't want anything to do with your “faasiqnimo.” The literal translation of the term “faasiqnimo” means heresy, but it can also mean “rebellious” or “dirty.” It is intended to alienate young Somalis, especially those from the diaspora whose attitudes, beliefs and lifestyles don't fit within hegemonic notions of what it means to be Somali.

In my experience, it's typically older Somalis who are religiously observant and feel threatened by modernity. Oftentimes, they use Islam and African cultural norms to exclude those deemed “gaalraac” — Western imitators, as if there's something inherently suspect with non-Westerners framing their core identities around Western ideas like atheism.

Though these terms are constantly hurled at Somalis who are supposedly too “Westernized” to care about their cultural and religious heritage, I'd argue that we need to reclaim them — first by exposing their pejorative meanings — instead of dismissing them as irrelevant and unworthy of reappropriation. I believe there's something quite liberating about taking hold of the language that's used to isolate you from your own community and cultural traditions. To a certain degree, it allows the person being named and shamed to control their narrative, that I consider to be one of the most powerful methods in combating oppression and violence.

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

NATIONAL RECAP

US pursues grizzly protections

BY BRONTË COOK
OPINION EDITOR

U.S. federal officials have agreed to review whether enough is being done to protect grizzly bears in the U.S. The move comes after environmentalists sued the government over its lack of attention to the endangered species and demanded that the government do more to restore the animals to more areas, according to a court settlement Dec. 9.

A review of states in the continental U.S. would look at potential grizzly bear habitats, people who live in those areas and how far they are from existing populations.

Chris Servheen, former coordinator of the government's grizzly bear recovery program, said that while the review would look at potential habitats for the bears, it might also distract from efforts underway to protect them.

“It just doesn't make sense to look for new places for bears when we don't have enough money to deal with the existing areas we have,” he said.

Since 1975, grizzly bears have been technically protected as an endangered species throughout the U.S., excluding

Alaska. These protections have allowed a slow recovery of the species in a handful of areas. Today, an estimated 1,900 grizzly bears live in portions of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Washington.

This is significantly less than the species count up until the early 20th century, when tens of thousands of grizzly bears populated the western parts of the nation. However, due to hunting, trapping and habitat loss, many were wiped out.

In a June lawsuit, the Center for Biological Diversity pushed for officials to consider restoring grizzlies to California, Oregon, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Nevada. As a result of the lawsuit, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to a grizzly status review that could lay the groundwork for new grizzly restoration plans in the west, according to The Associated Press.

However, the agreement has not been fully resolved, as the lawsuit also sought an update to the government's recovery plan for grizzlies.

Throughout the last several years, there has been a significant increase in predator restoration efforts among



Federal officials have agreed to review whether enough is being done to protect grizzly bears in the United States.

FRANK VAN MANEN/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

wildlife activists. Last year, a group of environmentalists sued to block grizzly hunts in Wyoming and Idaho. The hunts were scheduled after the Fish and Wildlife Service determined approximately 700 grizzlies in and around Yellowstone National Park no longer needed protection. As a result, the federal judge restored protections.

Right now, Colorado activists are also working to get an

initiative on the 2020 ballot that will reintroduce gray wolves to the west side of the Continental Divide. Many ranchers and hunters are campaigning against the proposal.

The federal grizzly bear protection review, ordered by U.S. District Judge Dana Christensen, will be completed March 31, 2021.

CONTACT BRONTË COOK
bcook4@ithaca.edu

NEWSMAKER

Student conducts sex work research

For the last year and a half, senior Clare Nowalk, a sociology major, has researched the relationship between sociology and sex trafficking. In mid-November, she presented her findings at the New York Sociological Association general body meeting.

Opinion editor Brontë Cook spoke with Nowalk about her sex work and sex trafficking and the ways in which both function in U.S. society today.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Brontë Cook: So, what inspired your research?

Clare Nowalk: When I was young, like fifth grade, I got access to the teen section at the library. I remember walking in and looking at the books, and I found one called “Sold” by Patricia McCormick. ... For some reason, it caught my eye. It turned out to be a book about sex trafficking in Nepal. ... I mean, I was still in fifth grade, so a lot of it went over my head, but it was still this really jarring content. ... After that, that was a subject that had always been

interesting to me, so I had gone back to reading about it. ... I was like, “Oh, I wonder if this happens in the United States.” Because you never hear anything about it online, and if you do it's very touch and go. ... there didn't seem to be any combination of [sociology] and [sex trafficking] in media or popular literature. It just feels like we're having this sexual awakening in the United States, like you see people talking about sex positivity a lot online, yet we like refuse to talk about trafficking or abuse. So I wanted to see why that happens, what group dynamics occur that make people ignore this issue.

BC: How has your research evolved?

CN: I traveled to the International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference in Toledo ... I listened to one [sex worker and advocate] talk about sex work. ... I asked her about what I should do as a student researcher, and she said, “Don't forget about sex workers.” I was too far into my research



Senior Clare Nowalk has spent the last year and a half conducting research on the relationship between sociology, sex trafficking and sex work.

KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

to change my subject, ... but then, this past year, [my professor] asked me to join her sex research tutorial, and I was like, “I want to continue doing this.” ... It's really grown into this combination of, “What is sex trafficking?” “What is sex work?” “Why do we tend to conflate the two in society?”

BC: What role does sex work play in U.S. society?

CN: The average age of entry into “the life,” which is the term for being caught up in the sex industry, is around 12 [years old] in the United States. ... It's because of these other

systems in the United States that are failing. Foster care is a big one. Homelessness, child abuse, ... particularly when children, young women in particular, or LGBTQ kids, get put on the street and spend time alone or look vulnerable, they'll tend to be recruited. ... it really turns into this grooming. ... Grooming someone for abuse.

BC: Why is talking about these topics important?

CN: A component of it is knowing what is happening to people in your own backyard. We have investment in places we live, in

the communities we come from, and when people are being hurt in our community then ... what are we doing? ... Don't we want everyone to be able to engage in sex in a positive way?

BC: So, what's next in terms of your research?

CN: I'll be interviewing activists, journalists, health care professionals, police officers ... and comparing the way they all talk about this issue, and the ways in which what they're saying is similar.

CONTACT BRONTË COOK
bcook4@ithaca.edu

GUEST COMMENTARY

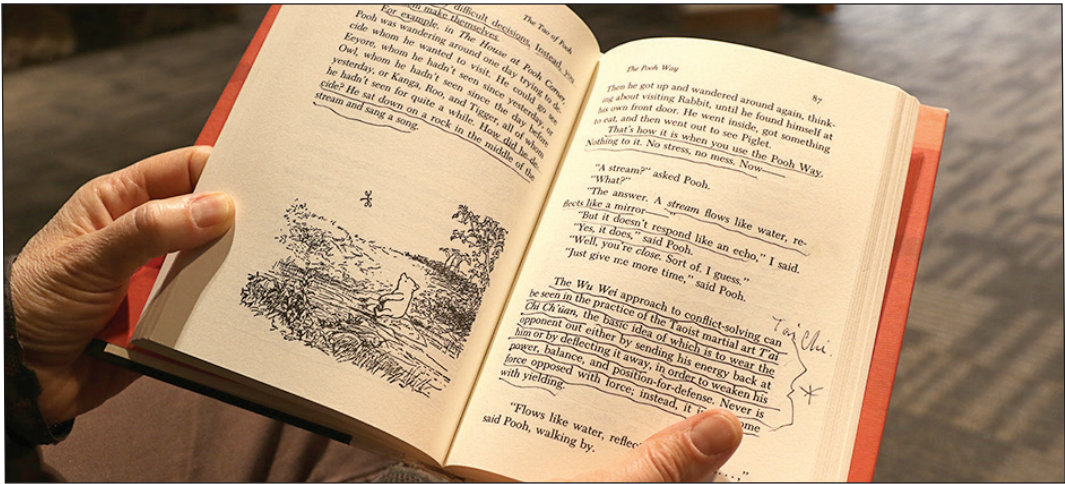
Mindfulness practices enhance wellbeing

BY JULIA LAPP

It's a busy time of year for many, and for those of us who live by the academic calendar, this time of year can be particularly fast-paced and filled with deadlines, end of semester meetings, assignments due and the hustle of the holidays — all on top of the fact that we're living in a social world that moves with unprecedented speed. Most, if not all of us, start to look increasingly like "Bisy Backson" of Benjamin Hoff's Taoist classic "The Tao of Pooh."

If you haven't read the book, and I recommend you do, the character Rabbit illustrates the "Bisy Backson" principle as one who "never lets things come to him but always [goes] out [to] fetch them," one so intelligent and self-important that he can't even allow himself to sit down. He is so busy do-ing that there's no time for be-ing. Running from place to place, never able to be still — "Busy! Back soon!" Winnie the Pooh, on the other hand, exemplifies the principles of being and stillness. Together, these characters represent core dualities of human life — action/inaction, speed/slowness, movement/stillness — that work together to maintain harmony.

Particularly this time of year, many people find these forces noticeably out of balance in their lives. As a result, an increasing number of people worldwide



Julia Lapp, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education at Ithaca College, holds her copy of "The Tao of Pooh," which highlights Taoism and mindfulness.

IMANI TURNER WELLS/THE ITHACAN

are turning to age-old practices such as meditation, Chi gong, yoga and others that cultivate mindful states, connectivity and engagement with the world. These practices minimize the bias, judgment, worry, criticism of self and other things that lead to stress and divisiveness. Thich Nhat Hahn, Buddhist monk, activist and teacher, describes mindfulness as "a serene encounter with reality." By observing the mind's running narrative that jumps from here and there like a monkey in the trees, awareness of this "monkey mind" allows practitioners to experience the stillness that lies beneath. It allows them to see their biases and question the validity, utility and wholeness of their thoughts. These

practices facilitate self-awareness, minds that tend toward stillness and hearts that grow in compassion. They facilitate a clearer seeing of how the inner world shapes the outer world.

In recent years, both public and higher education have increasingly embraced these practices as tools to help students navigate the rigors of academic life. This includes an enhanced ability to focus and learn as well as manage habits of mind that result in stress, anxiety and depression and interfere with academic success. Mindfulness practice teaches that we may not always be able to change outside forces that make us feel stressed, but changing how one thinks about and relates to outside

forces can reduce stress reactions.

Engaging with practices that enhance mindfulness are not just important for getting through college. For many, they are necessary keys for facing the challenges that threaten our very existence. To sustainably and meaningfully manifest the things we want and need to see in the world, change needs to come from within the minds and hearts of each and every human. So in the midst of all life's busyness, perhaps we can take some moments to encourage our inner, intelligent Rabbit to sit quietly for a spell beside his wise friend, Pooh.

JULIA LAPP is an associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education. You can reach her at jlapp@ithaca.edu.



GRAY AREA
ISABEL BROOKE

Establishing a sense of home

The summer before I started sixth grade, I went on a trip out West, and my mom got me a pair of thick wool hiking socks. At the time, they were big on me, and I thought they were so ugly, but I took them along because I didn't have any other socks to wear with my hiking boots. But after that trip, they sat in the back of my closet for the next eight years.

When I went back to Pittsburgh over Thanksgiving break during my freshman year, it was the first time I'd gone home since I left for college. I found myself looking through that same closet on a sort of archeological dig of my life precollege. Since I'd been away, it was like I was seeing my old stuff with new eyes, and everything I had left behind seemed strangely foreign.

Going back over winter break was even weirder. Four months in a new place changes a person. I had new ideas, plans and friends, and acting like I could just fit right back into my home and my family the same way I used to in high school felt like trying to put on socks that don't fit. Now, when I go back to Pittsburgh, I don't really unpack my suitcase. It feels more like a vacation than a homecoming.

But for the first few years, driving back to Ithaca didn't feel like a homecoming either. I felt like I didn't belong anywhere. I couldn't very well "settle into" a dorm when I knew that I'd be moving out in a few months. I felt caught in a limbo between homes and between identities without any place that felt "right."

Going home only to realize the person you've become doesn't really belong there anymore is a common college experience. Our identities are always changing and reforming, and places — their landscapes, climates, smells — are profoundly formative parts of that evolution. As humans, we resist discomfort, but embracing the many states of limbo that college puts you in gives you the room to grow into a new identity and create a new home. Of course, having a rooted sense of home is a luxury only afforded to those who already have a permanent place to sleep, and it'd be irresponsible not to acknowledge the privilege inherent in this discussion.

When you let yourself exist in the in-between, rather than thinking of placelessness as a problem to solve, the process of creating a home becomes liberating instead of uncomfortable. You learn to trust your independence and ability to connect. Somewhere along the way, the community I had pieced together started feeling like home, and I finally grew into Ithaca.

As for those gray wool socks? When I found them a few years ago over winter break, I tried them on, and they weren't too big anymore. Now I wear them all the time, although there is a little hole starting to form in one of the toes.

Right now, Ithaca feels like home, and those socks are perfect for the winter up here. But an impermanent sense of home and identity leaves me room to grow and evolve, like how wearing through a pair of socks is just an opportunity to get new ones.

GRAY AREA is a column that explores cultural competency written by **ISABEL BROOKE**. Brooke is a senior religion-philosophy and politics double major. Connect with her at ibrooke@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Journalism education must include empathy

BY BRONTË COOK

Within my first week as a freshman in Ithaca College's Department of Journalism, I learned about the importance of accuracy. I learned that journalists must remain transparent and that one of my primary responsibilities as a journalist is holding powerful institutions accountable for their actions.

For centuries, these ideals have remained central to the practice of journalism, and the program works hard to make sure students adhere to them. But in promoting these ideas, the department also discourages students from incorporating their own experiences, values and perspectives in their reporting — a departmental practice I believe is both irresponsible and fundamentally flawed.

Truth and accuracy play an important role in journalism, but they are only one half of what constitutes conscious and responsible storytelling. The other half hinges on our ability to empathize and genuinely connect with those whose stories we are helping to tell.

As journalists, our storytelling ability relies on our sources' willingness to open up to us and to reveal their struggles, their experiences and the most vulnerable parts of their identities. To help them feel comfortable doing so, we have to establish a sense of mutual trust. We need to let them know that we hear them and understand them. This is impossible if we as journalists are not willing or able to bring our own human experiences and emotions to the table.

Despite the industry's general focus on objectivity, our individual perspectives play an essential role in the way we tell stories. Whether it be conscious or not, it happens through the context of our own cultural understanding — an understanding that is primarily informed by our own experiences. Rather than shy away from the idea that our own mindset might



Junior Brontë Cook, *The Ithacan* opinion editor, writes that the Department of Journalism at Ithaca College should actively incorporate empathy into its teaching.

KRISTEN HARRISON/THE ITHACAN

influence our storytelling, we should embrace it, as it is the very thing that will help us share stories in the most authentic, genuine way.

In my two and a half years at the college (and, from what I have heard, many years before I arrived), the department has consistently failed to prioritize this idea, setting an extremely dangerous precedent for the next generation of journalists.

Every day, the world is growing more and more divided. Journalists have the tools to help combat this divisiveness and inspire connection and understanding through human-based storytelling. The only way we can do this effectively, however, is by actively listening and practicing empathy.

This is no easy feat, and it requires discipline and practice. To help us become truly responsible storytellers, the department should lay down the conceptual framework

for young journalists to understand the benefits of connecting and empathizing with the people whose stories we are trying to tell.

This could include creating a curriculum around how we can responsibly report on communities we may not be a part of. It could mean offering workshops on how to respectfully interview sources about the most intimate parts of their lives while also maintaining a level of professionalism, or even having more in-class discussions about how to find a balance between maintaining journalistic integrity while adhering to our own values.

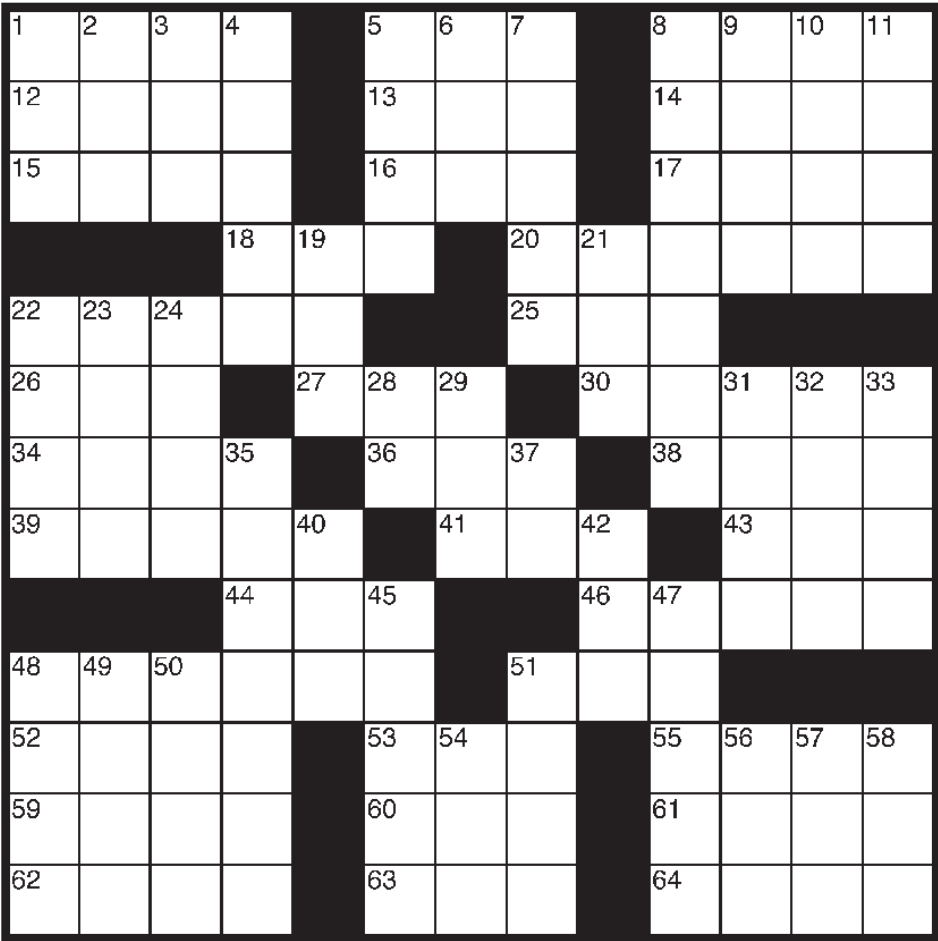
Yes, we should pursue truth, accuracy and independence. But this does not mean we cannot be empathetic storytellers as well.

BRONTË COOK is a junior journalism major and *The Ithacan* opinion editor. Connect with her at bcook4@ithaca.edu.

DIVERSIONS

crossword

By United Media



ACROSS

- 1 Ego
5 Cry loudly
8 Bland
12 Get the news
13 Smelter input
14 Loony
15 Nozzle site
16 Mini-guitar
17 Ireland
18 Search engine find
20 Stretched to see
22 "The Prisoner of --"
25 Wheel part
26 Ms. Hagen
27 Derrick arm
30 Took a toll on
34 Aristocrat
36 Shower alternative
38 Neutral color
39 Take the lid off
41 Edge a doily
43 Hail, to Caesar
44 Get a taste of
46 -- up (on edge)
48 Yellow fruit
51 Stir-fry pan
52 Alvarez or Bunuel
53 So-so grade
55 Part of a list
59 Impulse
60 Spring
61 Giza's river
62 Marina sight
63 Explosive letters
64 Lavish party


DOWN

- 1 "Keep it down!"
2 Fair-hiring letters
3 Sixth notes
4 Pioneering shrink
5 Psyche
6 Mork's planet
7 Gray-barked tree
8 Run-down hotel
9 Pork selection
10 Ranch unit of measure
11 Three- -- sloth
19 British rule in India
21 Same old grind
22 Bantu people
23 British prep school
24 DEA operative
28 Not he or she
29 However


- 31 Cavity detector (hyph.)
32 Gutter site
33 Changed color
35 Computer input
37 Univ. degree
40 Snoop
42 Prizefighter's stat
45 Ritzy boat
47 Barely scraping by
48 Purple fruit
49 Certain
50 Farm animals
51 Showed distress
54 Many years
56 Tijuana aunt
57 Building extension
58 Give -- -- break

last issue's crossword answers





DSP SHOWS
★ FEATURED SHOW ★
Mike Gordon
JANUARY 17
STAY UP-TO-DATE AT: DSPSHOWS.COM




1/17 AN EVENING WITH MIKE GORDON
1/22 GREENSKY BLUEGRASS
2/28 KAMASI WASHINGTON
2/29 THE MACHINE PERFORMS PINK FLOYD
3/1 ROSANNE CASH ON SALE FRIDAY
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
5/5 THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS

HAUNT

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
1/29 TOO MANY ZOOZ

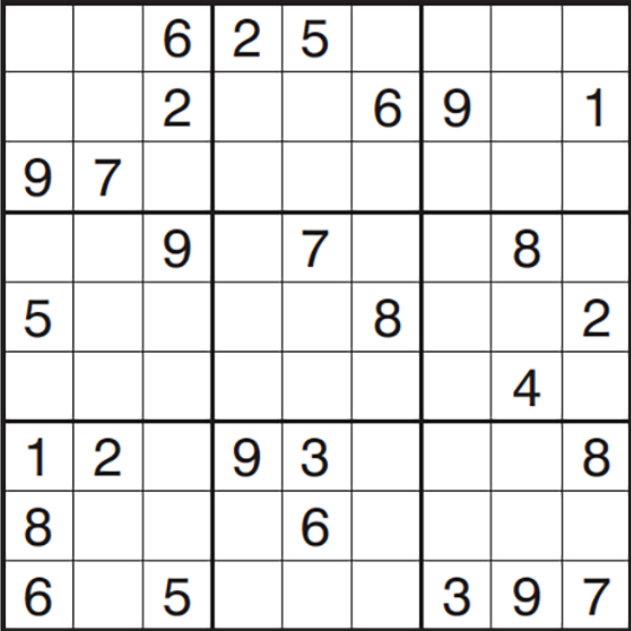
HANGAR

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



answers to last issue's sudoku:

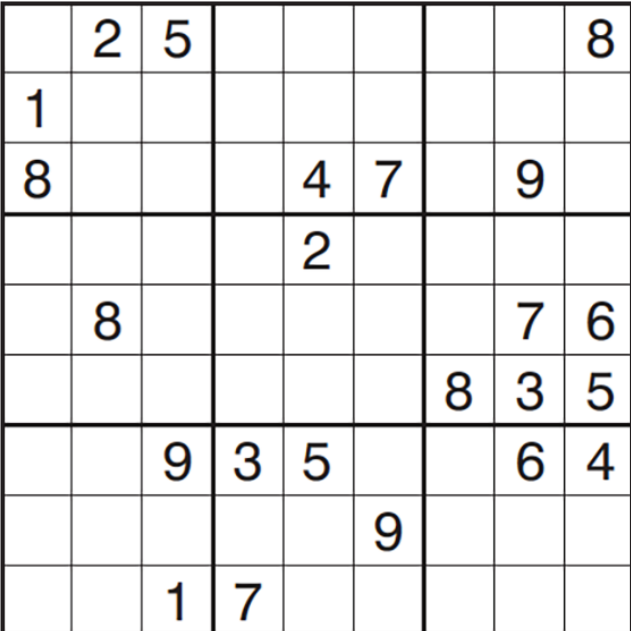
medium

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


hard

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


very hard




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Concert showcases musicians from Ithaca College

ONLINE
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ON THEITHACAN.ORG/
SHOWCASE

Junior Eddy Crowley, stage name Teddy Hyde, sings and plays at the Ithaca College Student Showcase at the Haunt on Dec. 8.

ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN



Graduate student Trina McGhee was the emcee of the student showcase.

ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN

BY EMILY LUSSIER

The dimly lit dance floor at The Haunt slowly filled with students as 8 p.m. inched closer. Some people gathered at the bar, and others grouped together at the edges of the floor, waiting for the first Ithaca College student to step onstage. As the first musician started to play under the multicolored lights, attendees started dancing to the music.

With finals right around the corner, a crowd of students took a break from studying Dec. 8 to support their peers at the 2019 Ithaca College Showcase. Musicians from the college performed at The Haunt, taking the same stage that big-name artists like the Dead Kennedys have before them.

When Ithaca College junior Eddy Crowley stepped onto the stage with his saxophone during the showcase, it was not his first time performing at The Haunt. On Nov. 8, Crowley had opened for Boston septet Juice with the exact same setlist.

"Having done it once, I feel like I'm even more comfortable," he said. "I usually get kind of nervous. I'm relatively confident, but there's always a little bit of nervousness, like what if I forget something or mess up? But that definitely gets easier, especially playing at the same place with the same songs."

Crowley performed under his stage name Teddy Hyde and shared the stage with other bands and solo artists from the college. The lineup included Siamese Bikes, Ivy, and Quail. Every semester since Fall

2017,
Dan Smalls
Presents (DSP)
Shows has hosted a
showcase featuring Ithaca
College musicians.

This semester, the showcase was held in collaboration with Lynx Entertainment, a company created and run by graduate students and faculty in the college's new entertainment and media management MBA program.

Junior DSP intern Maddie Guerrier said the graduate students in the MBA program were heavily involved in planning the showcase. She said they worked on designing the posters, promoting the event via social media and other marketing initiatives.

Guerrier said that in previous years, there was a traditional audition process for the show in which interested students would submit tapes to DSP. This year, she said, DSP interns contacted all the acts in the showcase to see if they would be interested.

Determining a date for the showcase was difficult, Guerrier said.

"Because DSP is currently growing in size, ... The Haunt had been booked out pretty far into and through December, so finding a good time for the show to actually happen was the first step," she said.

Junior Graham Johnson, under his stage name Ivy, opened the show with a DJ set. Ivy's performance featured his signature multigenre electronic remixes.

The next act was Siamese Bikes. Siamese Bikes is the primary music project of senior Colin Boyd. The self-titled EP was released in October, and Boyd now performs with seniors Sam Unger and Pat King. Boyd was on lead vocals and guitar, King played bass and Unger played drums.

Siamese Bikes performed all the tracks from its EP. The songs all had a cohesive, eclectic pop sound, though the group's first song had a more folk-influenced sound.

Crowley then followed Siamese Bikes, accompanied by his band, juniors Connor Moses on bass, Peter Van Houten on guitar and Andrew Lackland on drums. Crowley began engaging with the audience, starting off with some sort of bird call.

"We're going to open up with a song

about sex," he said.

He then began playing "Sex with a Ghost," a track off his debut 2018 album, "Sock-Footed." The album is experimental in genre, but it mostly has an indie pop sound with jazz influences, Crowley said. He said he enjoys performing live because it gives him the opportunity to try new things as well as connect with the crowd.

Crowley radiated energy throughout his performance, swaying while he sang emotively. The audience fed off this spirit and danced and sang along with him. Between each track, he bantered with the audience, yelling out one-liners.

"I really like to try to be human on stage, like really interact with the audience and kind of get personal or be personable because I think that's kind of the purpose of a live show," Crowley said. "If you wanted to hear the perfect version of my song without any changes or mistakes or interruptions, then you'd just listen to it."

The final act was Quail, with members sophomores Anna Young, Maddy Carroll, Sam Laemmle, Ali DeRagon, David Florentin and Gabe Zall, junior Jacob Graham and senior Dan Yapp. Quail is an octet featuring horns, vocals and a rhythm section.

Young said this was Quail's third time performing at The Haunt. Last year, she said, it performed at the Planned Parenthood Showcase and opened for the band The Commonheart.

The band members enjoy playing at The Haunt because it is a great, professional setting, Young said. She also said that because a lot of the band's fan base is made up of music students, the showcase provided the chance to gain new fans.

"It's a good opportunity to get to play with bands that we don't normally play with and reach a new crowd of people," Yapp said.

Quail performed several upbeat, jazzy songs. The audience was especially energized and active during Quail's performance of its new single, "Blue Sky." Twice during the song, almost all the band members crouched onstage while they continued to play, then leaped up during climactic, high-energy moments.

Young said this was Quail's first performance since the release of "Blue Sky."

"We started that song, and usually people kind of know the horn line to it, and we have them sing it, but we started playing it and people knew the first lyrics," she said.

Junior Lily Dearworth attended the showcase, and she said she had seen every act before except Quail.

"I really loved the energy that Quail brought," Dearworth said.

For most of the show, there was a large group of people on the floor. By the end, those that were still there were right by the stage, as close as they could be to Quail, dancing energetically.

"[The show] was filled with love and also ... a lot of community," sophomore Teagen Parker, a member of the audience, said. "I feel a lot closer to the people that were here that played and also the people that are here to support."

CONTACT EMILY LUSSIER
ELUSSIER@ITHACA.EDU



Senior Pat King is the bass player in the group Siamese Bikes. The group performed at the event alongside other musicians. The groups showcased different genres.

ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN

CULTURED

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

QUOTE^{OF THE} WEEK

“I don’t even need to talk about how bad it was because I’m so happy in it now — it’s actually, like, great and I’ve been enjoying the s— out of it, and I just want it to get bigger.

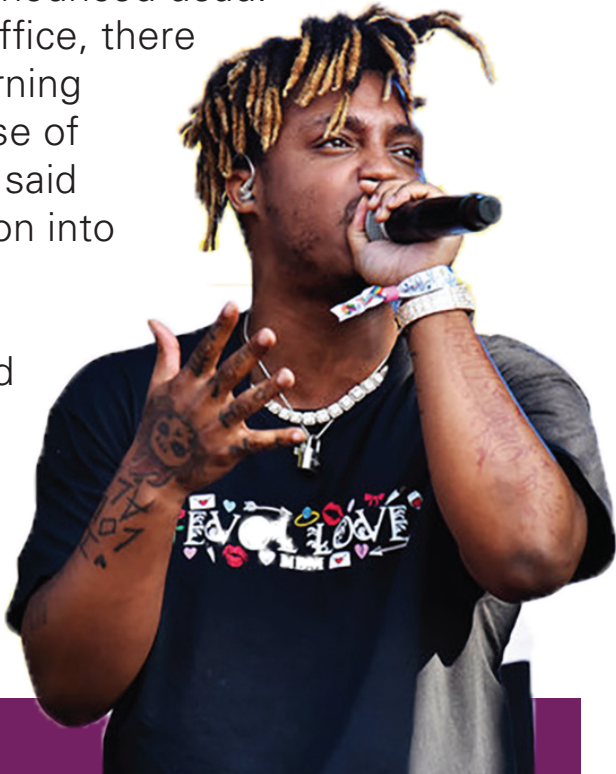
SINGER BILLIE EILISH,
on her rise to fame



SPOTLIGHT

RAPPER DIES AT AGE 21 IN CHICAGO

Chicago rapper Jarad Higgins, known as Juice WRLD, died Dec. 8 after he suffered a medical emergency while at Midway International Airport in Chicago, according to authorities. Reportedly, Higgins was walking through the airport when he suffered a seizure and collapsed. The rapper was transported to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced dead. According to the medical examiner’s office, there has not been an autopsy as of the morning of Dec. 8, so the rapper’s specific cause of death is unknown. The Chicago police said it is conducting an in-depth investigation into Higgins’ death. Juice WRLD was an up-and-coming rapper and was named the top new artist at the 2019 Billboard Music Awards in May. He is best known for his song “Lucid Dreams,” which reached No. 2 in the United States in 2018, and he toured with famous singer and rapper Nicki Minaj this year.



HOT

- “Sesame Street” received a Kennedy Center Honor for lifetime achievement Dec. 8. Other honorees include disco-funk band Earth, Wind and Fire; actress Sally Field; and singer Linda Ronstadt. The induction event will be broadcast on CBS on Dec. 15.
- Actress Emma Stone got engaged to comedian Dave McCarry. On Dec. 4, McCarry announced their engagement on his Instagram account. Since the two met in 2017, they kept their relationship mainly out of the public eye but recently made their red carpet debut as a couple at this year’s Screen Actor Guild Award.



NOT

- Clothing brand Gucci sued over 36 websites, accusing them of selling knockoff versions of its items. The websites are akin to a black market network for fake designer fashions, and Gucci claims that the sale of these items impacts its income significantly, according to the brand’s complaint, which was filed Dec. 5.
- Peloton, an exercise equipment company, is being slammed online for its most recent holiday commercial. The commercial features a husband who gives his wife a Peloton exercise bike for Christmas and ends with the wife watching a video of her year-long exercise journey the following Christmas. The internet blew up with accusations that the commercial promotes unhealthy standards.



EDM DJ balances school with music aspirations

BY ARLEIGH RODGERS

“DROWN” is an electronic dance music (EDM) track with 168,358 plays on Spotify — a statement number for Ivy., the stage name of Ithaca College junior Graham Johnson.

“DROWN” has significantly more listens than Johnson’s two other songs, “Ascension” and “Cold,” which have less than 1,000 listens. But all his songs stem from the same place: his history as a musician.

“I’ve played a lot of different instruments since I was pretty young,” he said. “I started off with a violin when I was about seven years old, I think, and then just transitioned to different instruments and eventually got into production, which I thought was really interesting just because of the freedom that it offers.”

Johnson said he both uses and ventures outside conventional EDM sounds in his music. In “DROWN,” a high-pitched melody drives the song’s electric rhythm. Sharp beat drops, a pulsing digital drum and bodiless vocals also define the song, but toward the song’s end, a soft piano holds the focus.

Merging genres and experimental exploration is a key element of his music, Johnson said.

“Originality is a huge part of it to me,” he said. “Creating something brand new is just a great feeling.”

Junior Sam Smith met Johnson during their freshman orientation. This was the first time Smith heard Johnson’s music, but, Smith said, it was during Spring 2018 that he chose to be Johnson’s manager.

“At first it was a test for me to see more into marketing, ... and then it

ONLINE
HEAR THE AUDIO
ON THEITHACAN.
ORG/EDM-DJ

became this huge thing where I realized I wasn’t so much into film anymore, which is my major,” Smith said. “I really started moving into the field of artist management, ... and that was where it blossomed.”

Johnson released “DROWN” with the record label Lowly Palace — a sub-label of Trap Nation, which is a record label prominent on YouTube and Spotify. Smith was in contact with the label coordinators and marketing teams at Lowly Palace in February 2019 after the label expressed an interest in Johnson’s music. Johnson signed a contract for a single-track record release for “DROWN,” which was released on Spotify on April 30.

Before he released his songs on Spotify, Johnson posted the bulk of his music on SoundCloud. Unlike Spotify, which requires artists to pay a fee for distribution, SoundCloud users can upload and publicize up to 180 minutes of their music for free. This easier access has fostered a community of emerging artists on SoundCloud.

“It is cool to connect with different artists,” he said. “You can message them and be like, ‘Hey, this is really cool. I like what you did.’ Sometimes you’ll get that back from other artists.”

Smith books Johnson’s shows, talks to promoters, manages Johnson’s career financially and advises his social media. Learning how to manage a musician and navigate the music industry was hectic and surreal, Smith said, but as the two booked more shows and Johnson eventually signed the contract with Lowly Palace, these feelings began to dissipate. They were replaced by the need to balance schoolwork with shows, which took place during the school week in Syracuse, New York.

“He’s been able to play for idols of ours, in front of people that he has



Junior Graham Johnson, an EDM DJ who goes by the stage name Ivy., performed an original electronic dance mix Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019, for a set at the Ithaca College Student Showcase at The Haunt.

ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN

looked up to for his music,” he said. “What’s been the coolest thing is seeing his music progress, and the way he moves through genres is really cool. ... So when you hear his music, ... you can really hear similarities, but it’s always something new with each song, and I think that’s really awesome.”

Though Johnson said he has faced struggles in terms of creative blocks and decent exposure for his music, overall he thinks his budding music career has gone relatively well so far.

“Once you really get into the flow of creativity where everything just sort of starts coming naturally and you just get really wrapped up in the composition process, it’s a great feeling,” Johnson said.

One upcoming collaboration he

has is with junior Danni Carra, a fellow EDM artist with music of her own. While Carra said she often produces chilled-out EDM, a style distinctly different than Johnson’s trap style, she said their sounds blend together well.

Johnson is working to remix Carra’s song “Hold On.” Carra released the original song over the summer with producers Gill Chang and Maa-zel. Carra said she heard a rough draft of Johnson’s remix, and if the remix is approved by her label, the song will be released as a single or in a remix pack, a short album with remixes of “Hold On.”

“He captured a lot of the elements that were originally in the song but added more of a dark vibe to it,” Carra said. “He just distorts what’s going on,

and it definitely sounds like a remix.”

When he is on stage, Johnson rarely uses a setlist. He chooses his songs based on the venue he is playing or the audience’s reaction.

“Going based off of that can be a little bit more nerve-racking,” Johnson said. “It takes a minute to really get into the groove of things, but then after that, it all comes pretty easily.”

The 2019 Ithaca College Showcase on Dec. 8 at The Haunt in Ithaca marked Johnson’s ninth and final show for Fall 2019, but the smaller venues and crowds were valuable beginnings to hopefully larger shows in the future, Smith said.

CONTACT ARLEIGH RODGERS
ARODGERS@ITHACA.EDU

Junior student actor strives toward career in theater

Ithaca College is known for its respected Department of Theatre Arts, and the students who participate in its shows are known to be extremely dedicated to their craft. One of these students is junior Courtney Long. Long’s most recent role at the college was as Deloris Van Cartier in the mainstage musical “Sister Act,” a show based on the 1992 film of the same name.

Long got her start with theater in high school and has dedicated herself to fostering a reputation within the industry so she can pursue a career after graduation. Long said theater helped her discover her confidence and realize her strengths.

Staff writer Noah Pincus spoke to Long about her plans for the future, her history in theater and what theater means to her.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Noah Pincus: When did you first start getting involved in theater?

Courtney Long: It was a show that I had done in high school called “Aida.” I was never into theater when I was really young. I started singing in church when I was about three years old. I had my heart set out to be a singer. ... When I went to high school, I auditioned for “Aida,” which was about a Nubian princess falling in love with an Egyptian man. ... I didn’t have high hopes of getting any roles in the show. I just auditioned hoping to be at least the ensemble, but I got a call back for the lead role as Aida. That show changed my life. It changed my perspective of who I am as a person today. If it wasn’t for my directors in school, I don’t even think I would be in Ithaca today. It made me more humble, more confident in myself. Aida

was such a powerful human being, and it made me realize this is what I want to do for the rest of my life.

NP: You said the show changed your life. Can you explain a little bit more how the ideas and themes in the show changed you?

CL: Personally for me, I am a very insecure person. When you go to a performing arts school, it’s very competitive. It’s very much fighting to be at the top. I was very shy, very held back in my personality. However, “Aida” allowed me to come out of my shell and become the person I want to be, the person that can speak up, the person that can have a voice, the person that can be confident, can be beautiful and not be insecure about who they are.

NP: How were you able to transfer the confidence of Aida into your personal life?

CL: When I came to Ithaca after doing the show, it allowed me to open up more. It allowed me to have a voice. I was able to look in the mirror and say, “I deserve to be here.”

NP: Would you say you have a love-hate relationship with performing?

CL: Well first, I love, love, love performing, that’s my number one thing, but there’s times where I walk out and think to myself, “I sound terrible.” Most of that is insecurity and me being hard on myself. When it comes to performing, I’m a perfectionist, so I’m really hard on myself, and I want to get the job done.



Junior Courtney Long practices at rehearsal for “Sister Act” on Sept. 14. Long became interested in theater in high school when she was casted in “Aida.”

REED FREEMAN/THE ITHACAN

NP: How do you believe your performances inspire others?

CL: I was in a show recently called “Sister Act.” I played Deloris Van Cartier, who is the lead role in the show, and my high school came to see it. It was so amazing to see these young kids applying to colleges asking me questions. The fact that I was a mentor to them just brought joy to my face. It made me so happy to see these kids walked out and felt good about the show. They felt good about themselves, and it inspired them to keep pushing and fighting and being great at what they’re doing. ... So many of them told me the show changed their lives.

I was so happy, it just made me want to keep performing.

NP: What do you plan on doing with your acting career in the future?

CL: My goal is to hopefully be on a Broadway show or on a film. If I can be on stage with many other talented people who have a name for themselves, it would mean the world to me. And doing what I love for eight shows a week would be amazing.

CONTACT NOAH PINCUS
NPINCUS@ITHACA.EDU

Flawed Pokémon games fail to catch 'em all

GAME REVIEW: “Pokémon Sword and Shield” Nintendo ★★☆☆☆

BY ALEX HARTZOG

A young girl runs across the rolling hills of the countryside. She reaches into her bag and pulls out a red and white ball. Clicking the button in the middle, it springs open and out comes a rabbit-like pokémon. This is the first scene many players will see when they start their own journey in “Pokémon Sword” and “Pokémon Shield.”

“Sword” and “Shield,” the newest games in Nintendo’s long-running franchise, take place in the Galar region, an area of the Pokémon world inspired by the United Kingdom. The player sets off from their rural town in Postwick, aiming to become the new champion of Galar.

“Sword” and “Shield” are the second pair of Pokémon games to appear on the Nintendo Switch. Like many games in the franchise, “Sword” and “Shield” were released together. Both games have the same plot and characters but offer slight differences in gameplay. Despite the jump in power from the 3DS, “Sword” and “Shield” appear to suffer from growing pains.

The scope of the games is narrow, and the story often blocks the player from setting out on their own path. The player, in some instances, is physically blocked from advancing by virtual walls formed by Team Yell goons or minor antagonists for most of the game. These barriers are placed in front of paths that the game developers do not want the player to access until later.

The Wild Area is a new feature to the Pokémon games and provides

an open-world area for the player to explore. This allows players to traverse most of the overworld early in the game.

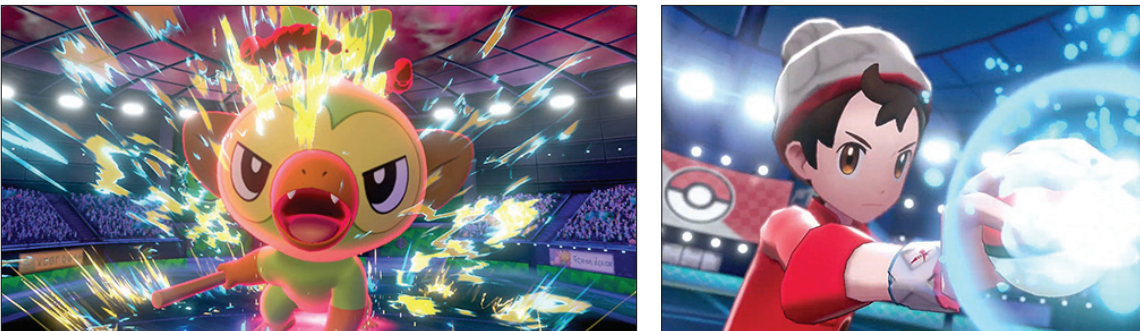
The player is not incentivized to spend any time in the area despite the Wild Area being marketed as one of the biggest changes to the Pokémon formula. The player only spends time in the Wild Area to catch pokémon for their pokédex and participate in Max Raid Battles, a new feature that turns pokémon into kaiju-sized versions of themselves.

Textures are a problem in “Sword” and “Shield,” with the Wild Area being the biggest offender. Most of the textures of objects in the Wild Area seem warped or have a low resolution. Some trees look like brown cylinders shooting out of the ground, and others look like they would fit right into a Nintendo 64-era game.

There is not much to speak of when it comes to story, as the player has zero involvement, watching as it unfolds around them. Game Freak, the studio behind the game, seems to have decided to essentially demote the player to a side character.

Battles are one of the more enjoyable aspects of “Sword” and “Shield” and introduce Dynamaxing, which adds a new layer to the boss battles, called gym battles. This feature allows players to grow their pokémon to the size of buildings during gym battles. Gym leaders will Dynamax their last pokémon, turning the last few turns of the fight into a giant-sized spectacle.

The most enjoyable aspect of gym battles is by far the music. The sound



“Sword” and “Shield” are the newest Pokémon games on the market. The games are available on Nintendo Switch and offer many new functions, but unfortunately, they suffer from restricting issues. COURTESY OF NINTENDO

of the crowd cheering for the player’s pokémon and the fast-paced techno music get the blood pumping as the pokémon face off. Gym battles are staged in soccer stadiums in this generation due to the British influence, adding to the excitement.

Despite the excitement of the battles and the towering pokémon, one of the biggest controversies surrounding the games is that Game Freak cut out over half of all pokémon from the game. The cut pokédex does not directly affect gameplay, but the idea of cutting pokémon from the game goes against the series’ catchphrase, “Gotta catch ‘em all.” Having a favorite pokémon cut from the newest game can be devastating to some fans. Ultimately, the games feel underbaked. Game Freak and Nintendo should have taken more time to truly create the best game possible, but instead, a rushed production and a bland story leaves “Sword” and “Shield” disappointing and mediocre.

CONTACT ALEX HARTZOG
AHARTZOG@ITHACA.EDU

Collaborative album eases into chilled tunes

ALBUM REVIEW: “Chilled Classics” Universal Operations Limited

★★★★☆

BY GABRIELLE TOPPING

Pete Tong, HER-O and Jules Buckley’s new album “Chilled Classics” is a mixture of instrumental songs that tell stories through beautiful vocals. The 18-song album delivers consistently chill and relaxing songs in a multitude of styles.

The music in “Sweet Harmony,” the first song in the album, is upbeat. The chorus is the highlight of the song because of the feelings of resolution expressed by Nina Nesbitt, whose voice is soothing and comforting.

“At The River” shares same the comforting tone as “Sweet Harmony.” The song would be an ideal beach day song because of its relaxing instrumentals. The music is strong and comforting.

“With Every Heartbeat” is a calming and emotional song. The lyrics ask the listener to reflect on their life and decisions. However, “With Every Heartbeat - Full Orchestral Version” is better than the original because the orchestral elements and the vocals of Zara Larsson complement each other well.

The singers in “Chilled Classics” often rely on their lyrics, making “Offshore” an outlier. The song has suspenseful tones

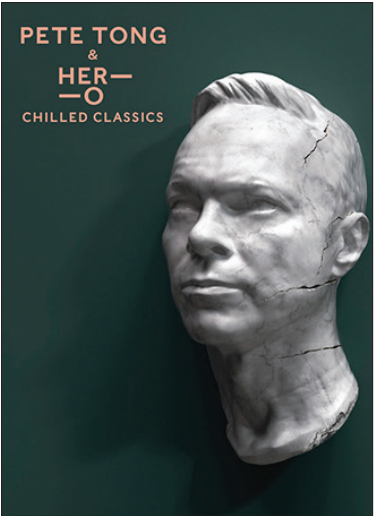
and is absent of lyrics. As a result, the song feels misplaced on the album. “Greece 2000,” unlike “Offshore,” effectively tells a story without lyrics. “Greece 2000” sounds like the beginning of a fight scene between gladiators, and the beats work together to create these movements and illustrate a scene.

“The Cure & The Cause” is another example of how the tracks on the album rely heavily on the lyrics more than the instrumentals. The vocals by Sinead Harnett give the song a jazzy vibe, which compensates for the lack of complexity in the beat.

The lyrics and music of “Perfect Harmony” juxtapose because the lyrics have a serious tone about children dying whereas the music is almost too optimistic. The vocals by MNEK are powerful and beautiful, captivating the attention of the listener.

Similarly, the songs “Go Crazy” and “Touch Me” both have relaxed rhythms. “Go Crazy,” sung by Todd Edwards, is a lively song with a message of being carefree. “Touch Me” shares a story of being reliant on other people yet embodies strength because of its quick tempo.

“Darkest Days” conveys a deep message through its lyrics while maintaining a pretty sound through its



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music. This song’s lyrics and music can be enjoyed individually and in unison. The vocals by Shungudzo are a pleasing combination of percussive sounds and long vowel sounds.

From relaxing instrumentals to story-filled lyrics and even a surprise rap section in “Born Slippy,” “Chilled Classics” is a universal album that caters to a variety of musical interests.

CONTACT GABRIELLE TOPPING
GTOPPING@GMAIL.COM

Vocals carry jazz album

ALBUM REVIEW: “Pesci... Still Singing” BMG Rights Management

★★★★☆

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

Academy Award-winning actor Joe Pesci returns... to making music? In addition to recently returning to acting for his role in Martin Scorsese’s epic mobster film “The Irishman,” Pesci has come out of a 21-year-long musical hiatus. His new jazz album “Pesci... Still Singing,” is a light listen, and Pesci’s swell, classy voice gives the album personality.

The release of his new album is a return to his first career interest. Originally pursuing a career as a musician, Pesci only got so far before Scorsese cast him as Joey in his 1980 film “Raging Bull.” “Still Singing” is a nostalgic look back on his days as a young musician, as suggested by the album’s title.

While not exactly noteworthy in terms of lyrics or instrumentals, Pesci’s boyish and charming voice separates the album from standard lounge jazz. His charisma and lovable tone stand out against the rapid percussion and boilerplate lyrics. His singing is the highlight of the record, likely an intentional choice when considering his presence in the album as a whole.

Unfortunately, and perhaps expectedly, the album is held back by the interference of Adam Levine, who co-produced some of Pesci’s tracks. Levine’s vocal accompaniment on the tracks “My Cherie Amour” and “Baby Girl”

is unnecessary. Of course, there was potential in this collaboration. However, Levine’s decision appears as a self-aggrandizing career move rather than out of artistic desire.

While Pesci’s vocals carry the record, the album’s length seems unnecessary. Running at almost 70 minutes across 13 tracks, the record occasionally overstays its welcome, particularly with the six-minute song “If I Should Lose You.” For its intent, a shorter and breezier record would have been more consumable and entertaining.

“Still Singing” works. Pesci’s exclusive vocal talent shines through the expendable lyrics and instrumentals. But without Pesci’s talents as a singer, little else keeps the record from being dismissed as white noise.

CONTACT ELIJAH DE CASTRO
EDECASTRO@ITHACA.EDU



COURTESY OF BMG RIGHTS MANAGEMENT

Sharp performances bring edge to film

MOVIE REVIEW: “Knives Out” Media Rights Capital ★★★★★

BY LIAM CONWAY

Which celebrity killed Christopher Plummer in “Knives Out”? Was it Michael Shannon or Jamie Lee Curtis? Perhaps it was Don Johnson, LaKeith Stanfield or Katherine Langford. Maybe it was even Captain America himself, Chris Evans. Director Rian Johnson’s latest film is an old-fashioned whodunit story that pits the wealthy Thrombey family against the famous investigator Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) as he tries to uncover the mystery behind Harlan Thrombey’s (Plummer) murder. The film manages to balance comedy and suspense perfectly.

Off the back of “Star Wars: The Last Jedi,” a film that divided the “Star Wars” fan base down the middle, Johnson is back. Johnson was criticized for writing an unfocused story after “The Last Jedi” was released, but “Knives Out” does not have the same problem. The story is simultaneously old-timey and fresh. The film is masterfully written, as every clue throughout the film comes together for a satisfying conclusion.

Johnson is known for creating a fun atmosphere on set, something that comes across in the antics of the film. The film is a wacky ride that continues the popular trend of intermingling comedy and suspense, perfected by directors like Jordan Peele with “Get Out” or Bong Joon-ho with “Parasite.” While this film is suspenseful in a less serious way than Peele’s or Bong’s, the balance of comedy and drama is still relevant. It’s tough to nail down a signature trait of Johnson’s work. Typically this might mean his vision is unclear, but Johnson’s work is so compelling that his ability to be a chameleon is a skill rather than a weakness.

The film is shot in a way that

makes it feel like the story exists in a heightened reality. The colors pop off the screen, and the environment appears almost too clean to be real. The film’s aesthetic resembles a board game, similar to movies like “Clue” or “Game Night.” The camera also stays on a tripod for much of the film, often panning rather than moving on a dolly, adding to this uncanny feeling. The performances are also heightened to an extreme, which adds to the cartoonish look.

The strongest aspect of the film is the performances given from the star-studded cast. Every performance is phenomenal, but there are four actors who give career-changing performances. Toni Collette gives one of the funniest performances in the film as Joni Thrombey, a woman with a cosmetics company. Colette’s comedic chops and relevant social commentary make her the most memorable of the side characters. Chris Evans has a prominent role in the film. Evans’ portrayal of Ransom Drysdale is shocking and brash as he insults his way through conversations. Ransom could not be more different from the character Steve Rogers, and it’s wonderful to see Evans has not lost his range.

Ana de Armas has one of the most prominent roles in the film, and her performance as Marta Cabrera gives the audience a perfect paragon to oppose Ransom’s renegade nature. De Armas carries the film on her back, and it’s easy to root for her because Cabrera is one of two characters in the film with a strong moral compass.

Benoit, played by Craig, is the only other character with any sense of morality. Craig’s bombastic Cajun private investigator elevates “Knives Out” to new heights. From his absurd



“Knives Out” is a dynamic take on the classic whodunit movie model. The cast and setting are vibrant and impressive.

COURTESY OF MEDIA RIGHTS CAPITAL

accent to his incredible smarts and mysterious behavior, Benoit keeps the viewer’s eyes glued to the screen every time he is on it.

“Knives Out” is a film that continues Johnson’s legacy as a writer and director, proving that there is no genre he cannot master. It is a film about greed

CONTACT LIAM CONWAY
WCONWAY@ITHACA.EDU

Gangster drama boasts captivating storytelling

MOVIE REVIEW: “The Irishman” Netflix ★★★★★

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

When compared to the other films Martin Scorsese has made during his 50-year career, “The Irishman” is his most rewarding. It is a sprawling, subtle reflection on his own career and his frequent collaboration with leading man Robert DeNiro. The film feels like the summation of everything they have built, mastered and created together. It is a thoughtful, three-and-a-half-hour-long study of a gangster working under labor union leader Jimmy Hoffa (Al Pacino).

The film follows Frank Sheeran (DeNiro) through three decades of his life as a mob hitman. He is eventually torn between an alliance with legendary labor leader Jimmy Hoffa and mob leader Russell Bufalino (Joe Pesci). He begins as a small-time truck driver, and his presence in the mob scene grows.

“The Irishman” excels at communicating the impact of being in the mob over a 30-year period. Throughout the film, DeNiro, Pacino and Pesci dial up the aging of the characters ever so slightly scene by scene. While the story

could have been told in a two-hour film, the runtime captures the psychological repercussions of being a lifetime gangster. Scorsese moves seamlessly through this life, toning down his style and emphasizing substance.

Though the film’s moody colors and smooth camerawork are complementary, the cinematography is much more toned down and mature when compared to Scorsese’s earlier films. While some might criticize Scorsese for staying within the gangster genre, this is not a weakness of the film. Rather, it is that familiarity that allows Scorsese to dig deep into the characters.

The most self-reflective theme Scorsese explores is how gangster stories avoid depicting the decline in sanity that would come with living a life of crime. Would hitmen brush off killing people as quickly as they are portrayed to? In “The Irishman,” Scorsese humanizes Frank by departing from the themes of mindless excess that is present in “The Wolf of Wall Street” and “Mean Streets.” This unseen empathy is a breath of fresh air, and the suspense of the film is tenderly spread



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

throughout the runtime.

The score ties the film together, matching the themes and even the aging of the characters. Composer Robbie Robertson crafted an omnipresent theme that is relaxed and steady. As Frank grows more conflicted by his allegiances, the cello gets deeper and slower. As his family pushes him away and he faces isolation in his old age, the score follows.

While the runtime is certainly a commitment, “The Irishman” is a rare film in which every scene is a slow build to something greater. The film is smooth and polished, rolling along with crystal clear intent. The film is a unique and challenging experience, albeit a slow and thoughtful one.

CONTACT ELIJAH DE CASTRO
EDECASTRO@ITHACA.EDU

QUICKIES



COURTESY OF POLYDOR RECORDS

“AMNESIA”
Grace Carter, Polydor Records

Grace Carter’s compelling vocals are the shining strength of “Amnesia.” Although the lyrics teeter on mundanity, the song is catchy, and the background music is captivating.



COURTESY OF CAPITOL RECORDS

“FINALLY // BEAUTIFUL STRANGER”
Halsey, Capitol Records

The intro to “Finally // Beautiful Stranger” may be unexpected of Halsey, but the strums are secondary to her robust vocals. Halsey is known for her lyrics, and they are this song’s exciting foundation.



COURTESY OF TAYLOR SWIFT

“CHRISTMAS TREE FARM”
Taylor Swift, Taylor Swift

The sweet and jolly “Christmas Tree Farm” is simultaneously an instant Christmas classic and a personalized Taylor Swift song. The song dabbles in romance and includes cheerful, jingling bells, and both pair well with Swift’s dulcet vocals.



COURTESY OF CAPITOL RECORDS

“PUT A LITTLE LOVE ON ME”
Niall Horan, Capitol Records

Though the lyrics bog down “Put A Little Love On Me,” Niall Horan’s vocals carry the song. The track’s pop influences are outward, but the conventions are what make it succeed.

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Ithaca College community in
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NEWS

Happy Holidays from OEMS:
The Office of Energy Management &
Sustainability wishes the IC community
a happy and safe holiday season. Before
taking off for break, don't forget to
power down and unplug all
non-essential electronics and turn down
thermostats. If you're planning to travel
this holiday season, consider offsetting
your carbon emissions to benefit
members of the local Ithaca community.
Offsets are voluntary donations that
help fund greenhouse gas emissions
reduction projects, which diminish the
impact of your own travel emissions.
Learn more or purchase an offset at:
fingerlakesclimatefund.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fridays, 4 PM, Terrace Dining Hall
Join IC Environmentalists & the Eco Reps
for Stop Wasting Ithaca's Food Today (SWIFT)
every Friday at 4 PM. Volunteers package
leftover food into individual meals to donate
to local food pantries. Volunteer shifts are
short, fun, and rewarding!

Feb. 4th, 11:30 AM, Emerson Suites
Ever noticed that you never see misshapen
strawberries, double carrots, or bruised apples
at the grocery store, meanwhile 37.2 million
Americans are food insecure? Show ugly food
some love and learn how you can combat
food insecurity and the climate crisis.



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

NEW ISSUE
EVERY THURSDAY



THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 2019 THE ITHACAN VOLUME 87 ISSUE 9
ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

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 pro-
dominantly liberal institution, the
community is not immune to labor
rights issues.
"One of the things that ... I re-
ally want to touch on is the idea of
working for liberal organizations
and how their image of being a lib-
eral 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 union's
first local 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 plans for its contract renewal
in 2020, other panelists included
senior Alex Gray, who spoke about
compensation for resident assistants
at the college; Kerrie Gordon, a
worker at local supermarket Green-
Star, who spoke about the student's
unionization effort; David Hanner, a
graduate student at Cornell Universi-
ty, who discussed graduate students'
unionization; and Nicholas Medina-
na, a local worker who attempted to
form a union at S'Genetics, his place
of employment. Approximately 30
people attended, including members
from the community, faculty, staff
and students.
Ellen David Friedman, a local
activist who moderated the discus-
sion, commented on the low turnout
at the event.

LABOR, PAGE 4

Board of Trustees discusses
strategic plan implementation

BY ASHLEY STALMECKER
The Ithaca College Board
of Trustees visited the col-
lege for its Fall 2019 meeting
from Oct. 23 to Oct. 25. At the

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
Dreamers were raised and educated in
this country as Americans," the brief said.
"Yet, until DACA was announced in 2012,
they lived under the threat that due
to past legislation to protect Deferred

Members of the Ithaca community protest unfair working conditions for GreenStar workers during a
picket Sept. 15. Employees from other local businesses are also in the process of forming unions.
WISOL BAE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

VALUING OUR WORK!
HONK FOR WORKERS RIGHTS
UNION BUSTING IS DISGUSTING
\$13.54 IS NOT A LIVING WAGE

OVERCOMING OVERUSE

Freshman swimmer shines despite long-term injuries

Freshman Jane Pfeufer is the fastest sprint freestyle swimmer on the Ithaca College women's swimming team this year. She is also dealing with two injuries.

TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN

BY CONNOR GLUNT

Freshman swimmer Jane Pfeufer rarely finishes practice without experiencing pain in her hips and her knees. However, her injuries do not slow her down in the pool, and she has established herself as one of the quickest athletes on the Ithaca College women's swimming and diving team.

Pfeufer, who is from Georgia, was a state champion in high school in the 4x100-yard freestyle relay. She currently holds the fastest time on the college's swim team in both the 50- and 100-yard

said it would not sit right with her to slow down when she sees her teammates pushing through the same level of pain, some dealing with even worse ailments.

"Angelina Domena is really injured, and every time I say something hurts, she's like 'Go to the athletic trainer,'" Pfeufer said. "Morgan Hoffman-Smith, who's another one of our top swimmers, is also injured right now, and just seeing her perform well and be injured pushes me like 'I can do that even though I'm struggling with pain right now.'"

A recent study conducted by researchers at the University of Pittsburgh found that moderate levels of exercise can actually improve the healing process for overuse injuries, especially tendinitis. Pfeufer sees the athletic trainers to complete a physical therapy regimen most days on top of her regular practices to ensure that she is healing properly.

Domena, a senior on the team, deals with chronic shoulder pain. Pfeufer said Domena has helped her get treatment and kept her in the pool. The pair have also developed a bond that started at the beginning of the season. Domena said she and Pfeufer push each other during the rehabilitation process and help each other become the best swimmers they can be.

"I'd say she's like my little buddy," Domena said. "I see her more as a sister. When the freshmen were first introducing themselves, I just felt a connection with Jane. We're able to push each other through practice because she is such a talented athlete. I use her to push me, and I know she comes to me for support and to ask questions."

Domena said that Pfeufer is the team's "secret weapon." Her start to the season has even exceeded expectations from some of her experienced teammates.

"You would never guess that she's this insanely talented athlete, but when she gets in the pool, she just shows you what she's got," said Domena. "I think 'silent hard worker' is definitely a really good way to describe Jane because she would never brag about how talented she is or say how successful her high school season was. I think she's extremely humble, and she takes under her wing whatever the coaches ask of her and whatever us leaders on the team ask of her."

Pfeufer said that even she has surprised herself with her results so far. She said that she has already come close to beating her high school personal records but that

her priority right now is trying to get back to 100% health.

Domena said she is excited to see what Pfeufer can do when she heals up. As someone who's dealt with pain for the past five years, Domena said, she can relate to just how grueling the recovery process can be.

"I guess just having an injury just makes you push through the hardships and the bumps in the road and makes you mentally stronger," Domena said. "I think once she is healthy and doesn't have to deal with these injuries on a daily basis anymore, she'll be able to take that mental strength and physical strength that she's had to put into rehabbing her injuries into training."

Head coach Paula Miller said she is also looking forward to the end result once Pfeufer is healthier. Miller said she has had many swimmers before Pfeufer who chose to continue swimming competitively despite injuries. She said Pfeufer is the type of athlete who pushes through no matter what to lead the team.

"Just like many athletes have been

doing for many years, they're able to work through pain and adversity," Miller said. "They're very determined, that's a personality trait. That's what I see in her as a swimmer. Regardless if she's not feeling well, she's still going to do the work. She still has goals. She's still going to get where she wants to go."

Miller said she does not believe any level of success is off the table for Pfeufer. She said she believes individual championships, team records and making the national championship are all possible. Pfeufer said she is more invested in the team's success this year than her own.

"I would love to see some super strong performances at Liberty Leagues," Pfeufer said. "We're up on top. There's a couple of teams that may be close to us. ... They're a threat, but not anything we can't handle."

CONTACT CONNOR GLUNT
CGLUNT@ITHACA.EDU



Pfeufer has hip impingement and knee tendinitis that cause her chronic pain.

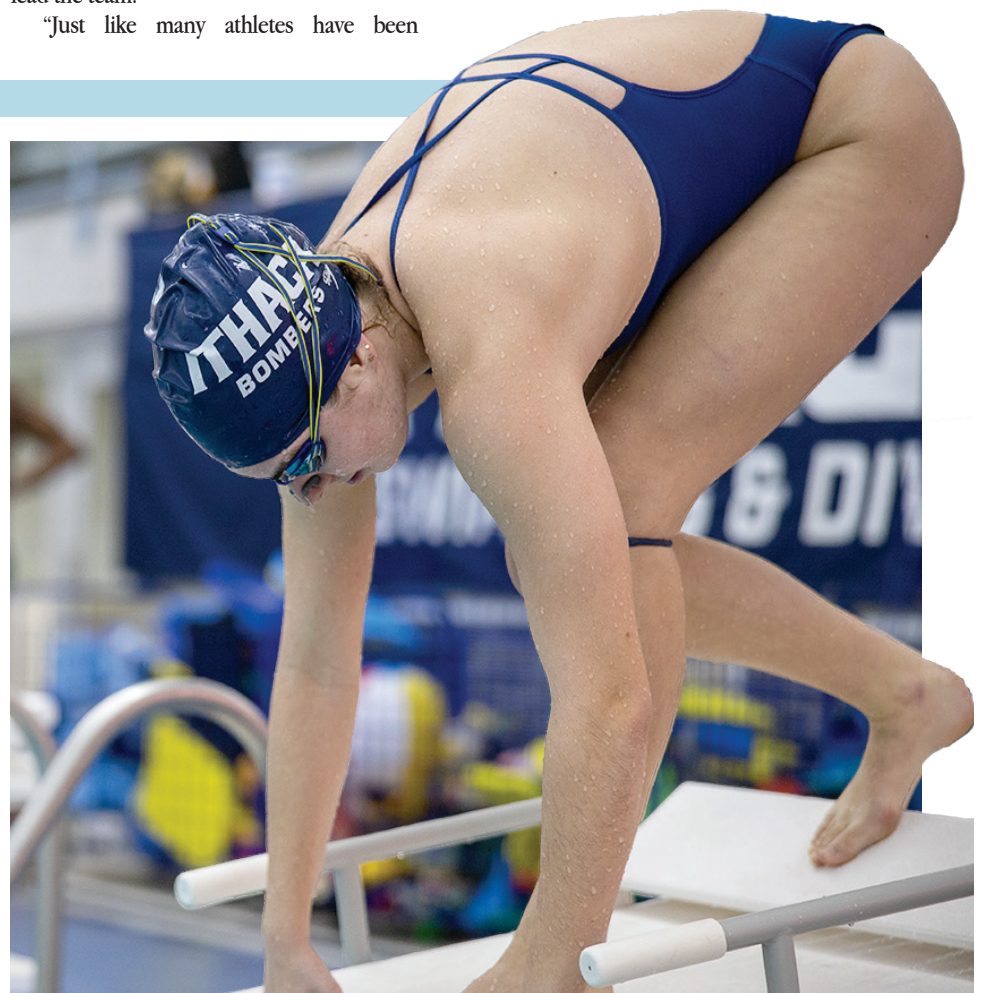
TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN

freestyle. She also regularly sees the athletic trainers to receive treatment for hip impingement and tendinitis in both of her knees.

"My hip pain started my freshman year of high school, and it's just continued," Pfeufer said. "My knee pain was senior year of high school, and I still have both of those."

Hip impingement occurs when the ball of the hip does not fit the socket, resulting in wear and tear of the joints that can also lead to arthritis. This prevents Pfeufer from swimming breaststroke because of the hip motion used. Knee tendinitis is an inflammation of tissue that usually occurs when athletes increase the intensity of their training and workouts, which leads to persistent knee pain.

Pfeufer said she does not see her pain as an excuse to take extra rest but a reason to work even harder. The women's swim team is currently 6-0, its best season since its undefeated campaign in 2016-17. However, the team has been plagued by injuries since the beginning of the season. Pfeufer



Pfeufer prepares to dive into the pool during a swim practice Dec. 10. She races in freestyle and backstroke sprint events for the swimming and diving team.

TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN



Freshmen Madison Martinez and Katharine Downey run with Colgate sophomore Sarah Silverman in the 500-meter dash at the Greg Page Relays on Dec. 7.
BEJIN PHILIP BENNY/THE ITHACAN

THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP

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

WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Ava Lowell	2nd	3-meter diving	414.65
Morgan Hoffman-Smith	10th	500-yard freestyle	5:11.06
Emily Vandersleen	14th	50-yard freestyle	24.86
Liv Schlackman	14th	400-yard IM	4:46.03
Jess Ford	8th	100-yard butterfly	59.05

NEXT MEET: Noon, Jan. 18, at the Henry Kumpf Invitational in Troy, New York

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Stanley Zaneski	4th	50-yard freestyle	21.23
Spencer Brownwell	9th	200-yard IM	1:59.23
Ethan Godfrey	3rd	1-meter diving	460.05
Andrew Mikhailichenko	9th	400-yard IM	4:20.56
Nate Bartalo	5th	100-yard butterfly	51.23

NEXT MEET: Noon, Jan. 18, at the Henry Kumpf Invitational in Troy, New York

WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Tia Jones	7th	60-meter dash	7.74
Sarah Rudge	3rd	3,000-meter run	11:00.50
Parley Hannan	1st	5,000-meter run	16:56.83
Samara Herzog	6th	60-meter hurdles	9.47
Estelle Yedynaj	5th	High jump	1.55m

NEXT MEET: 10 a.m., Jan. 10, at the Spartan Regional at Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex in Staten Island, New York

MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Dominic Mikula	1st	Pole vault	4.81m
Andy Frank	2nd	300-meter dash	35.69
Daniel Monchek	8th	60-meter hurdles	8.60
Matthew Tai	5th	60-meter dash	7.10
Rob Greenwald	3rd	High jump	1.95m


NEXT MEET: 10 a.m., Jan. 10, at the Spartan Regional at Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex in Staten Island, New York

WRESTLING

NAME	WEIGHT CLASS	PLACE
Logan Ninos	125 lbs	5th
Travis Jones	133 lbs	4th
Austin Whitney	165 lbs	1st
Jordan Wallace	174 lbs	1st
Dalton Elias	HWT	6th


NEXT MEET: Noon, Dec. 14, at the Ithaca Tri-Meet in Ben Light Gymnasium

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL




80—47

ITHACA DEC. 6




BARD




69—58

ITHACA DEC. 7




VASSAR




?—?

ITHACA DEC. 10




ROCHESTER

MEN’S BASKETBALL




85—68

ITHACA DEC. 6




BARD




103—80

ITHACA DEC. 7




VASSAR



?—?

ITHACA DEC. 10



ROCHESTER



Judges hold up scores during the diving portion of the Ithaca Bomber Invitational on Dec. 6. Junior Ava Lowell took second place on the 3-meter board for the Bombers.

TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN

*Updated as of Dec. 11

Soccer star speaks about career and equality

BY EMILY ADAMS

Professional soccer player Carli Lloyd has won two World Cups and two Olympic gold medals with the United States Women's National Team. She took her talents off the field and onto the stage Dec. 6 at Cornell University, where she spoke about her career, gender inequality in soccer and her retirement plans.

The talk was run by the Cornell University Program Board and moderated by Lawrence Glickman, Stephen and Evalyn Milman Professor in American Studies at Cornell. Glickman teaches a course about sports and politics in U.S. history at the university.

Lloyd began her talk with a chronology of her childhood and pre-professional soccer career. Glickman asked her about experiences referenced in her memoir, "When Nobody Was Watching: My Hard-Fought Journey to the Top of the Soccer World." Lloyd recalled kicking a soccer ball against a curb thousands of times to practice her shot.

"I had such a passion for [soccer] immediately," she said. "I was outside all the time playing all these other sports, but there was something about soccer. There was something about that ball."

The importance of work ethic was a theme throughout Lloyd's talk. She said that early in her career, she had poor character and very little drive. However, she said, that all changed after she was not chosen for the under-21 national team roster for the 2003 Nordic Cup Tournament. She said she considered quitting soccer but ended up working with James Galanis, a trainer who changed her mentality.

"We sat on the bleachers and he talked to me about my goals, my dreams," Lloyd said. "He asked me

what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, and I said 'I want to play.' He said that what makes all these amazing athletes special is the work when nobody is watching, and that's now the title of my book."

The event was attended by several local youth soccer clubs, the Cornell women's soccer team and members of the Ithaca College women's soccer team, including head coach Mindy Quigg. Quigg said she will be able to apply many aspects of Lloyd's philosophies to her own team.

"The biggest takeaway that I can relay to the women on my team is that I often hear a lot of talk about confidence," Quigg said. "She was saying that confidence is all about preparation — the work you do when no one is watching — so if you're not confident, prepare harder and train harder."

“It’s nice seeing that there’s a person to this crazy superstar.”
— Maddie Jacobs

Many nonathletes also came to see Lloyd speak, including Ithaca College junior Maddie Jacobs. Jacobs said she especially enjoyed hearing the Lloyd discuss the challenges and failures



Carli Lloyd waves to the crowd as she walks onstage Dec. 6 at Cornell University's Bailey Hall. Lloyd plays soccer for the United States Women's National Team and is a two-time Olympic gold medalist.
JILL RUTHAUSER/THE ITHACAN

behind her success.

"You see her as a player in the media, but we kind of got an insight into her personal life and struggles and how she deals with that," she said. "That was really cool because you don't really get to see that in interviews. It's nice seeing that there's a person to this crazy superstar."

Lloyd also addressed political issues of sports, from the financial demands of competing to gender inequality. Lloyd grew up in Delran, New Jersey, and said her family did not have much money when she was competing on the youth soccer circuit. Lloyd said it can be challenging for lower-income families to support a child playing high-level sports.

"The most important thing is that you create your own environment,"

she said. "You could pay to play on the best team and have the best trainer and the best cleats, but that isn't going to propel you to become successful. You have to have that passion, and it is costly, but you have to want it."

In her professional career, Lloyd has been a strong advocate for equal treatment of women in sports. In 2016, she wrote an op-ed for The New York Times after she and four teammates filed a wage-discrimination complaint against U.S. Soccer. She said one of the biggest challenges has been the demands on her and her female colleagues outside of competition.

"None of us on the national team need another job, but we have to work 20 times harder off the field, which shouldn't be the case," Lloyd

said. "We're trying to take on every opportunity we can and get ourselves out there. It's a whole different world than the men's game, and it's hard to balance a lot of things off the field."

Junior Emma Fruhling, a goalkeeper for the Bombers' women's soccer team, said it was exciting to hear Lloyd speak because she considers her a role model.

"Carli Lloyd has always been a big inspiration for me," Fruhling said. "She's someone who's drive and passion has always been very clear from the start. As a soccer player, hearing her speak and hearing about her journey is just really inspiring and can help you in any path of life."

CONTACT EMILY ADAMS
EADAMS3@ITHACA.EDU

Equestrian team remembers long-time assistant coach

BY LAUREN WHITE

On Nov. 16, Susan Lowe, lifelong equestrian and trainer of the Ithaca College Equestrian Team, died after a tough battle with cancer. Lowe was the owner of If Only Farm in Freeville, New York, where the team trains and spends quality time.

Lowe and her husband founded and built the farm in 1979, and they welcomed the equestrian team to train on the farm in 2002. Head coach Audra Ravo-Putnam '05 started coaching the team in 2006, first as an assistant for four years, and now she has been the head coach since 2011. Ravo-Putnam said the program was established in the 1960s and shut down a few years later but was reinstated around 1997.

"If [Lowe] hadn't allowed us to use her horses and her facilities, the program wouldn't have grown nearly to what it is today," Ravo-Putnam said. "She opened up essentially her home to us to ride at. ... Now we have between 25 and 30 riders on the team every year, and we are in the top few teams in the region every year. We send kids to nationals, which we had never done before."

The team typically begins training within the first few weeks of the fall semester and rides until mid-April. Riders of all levels are encouraged to try out at the beginning of the season, and the team usually consists of a variation of training-only riders and competitive show riders.

Ravo-Putnam said that when she became the head coach, Lowe took over an assistant coaching position in addition to being the farm and horse owner for the club. Ravo-Putnam said that though Lowe was a tough trainer, she had a heart of gold.

"She basically was like their grandmother," Ravo-Putnam said. "They saw her tough side, but then they realize that it made them a stronger person as well, not just riding but as a person in general."

In terms of her training and coaching techniques, Ravo-Putnam said Lowe was always praised for her horsemanship and teaching her students how to truly be horse people and how to value and put the horse first.

Due to the aggressive stage of cancer Lowe was battling in her final weeks, Ravo-Putnam said, her passing still seems surreal because of the quick decline of her health.

"It's still sort of a shock. We keep thinking that she's just going to walk in the barn door again," Ravo-Putnam said.

Ravo-Putnam said that the team will continue to train at If Only Farm and that the program will run exactly the same as she thinks Lowe would have wanted it to run.

"Luckily, she put a really good support system in place over the last 20 years," Ravo-Putnam said. "She has a lot of amazing people there, myself included, trying to run the facility how it was, but, obviously, it's a huge void to not have her there."

Lauren Bovenzi is a senior equestrian and the current president of the club. Bovenzi said the club could not have functioned without Lowe and her horses and farm. She said that Lowe made If Only Farm feel like a second home to the riders and that the environment was extremely welcoming and inclusive.

"Horse people just love horses," Bovenzi said. "Being at the barn, it's like a home away from home. It's like an escape and a place to be happy and not thinking about school."

The team rides outdoors in any weather



Susan Lowe, coach of the Ithaca College Equestrian Team, founded If Only Farm in Freeville, New York in 1979. The equestrian team began training there in 2002.
COURTESY OF GENEVIEVE DECLERK

conditions, and Bovenzi said that on cold days, Lowe would bring out a Crock-Pot of warm soup for the team and invite members to her home on the farm.

Alongside her warm demeanor, Bovenzi said, Lowe ran a tight ship and held the team members accountable for both their duties on the farm and as individual riders during training.

Olivia Riggio '19 was on the equestrian team during her four years on South Hill. Similarly to Bovenzi, Riggio said Lowe had a very fiery personality and challenged the team in the best way possible.

"She didn't really fall for lack of effort or lack of respect," Riggio said. "She was one of those old-fashioned equestrian trainers who definitely

demand a lot from her riders because she just lived horses."

Riggio said that though Lowe was tough, she was equally loving.

"Everything she did came from a place of love," Riggio said. "When she was tough on us, it was because she wanted us to do our best."

Both Riggio and Bovenzi said the team is extremely grateful for Lowe's generosity and the community that she was able to give it.

"She was like the glue holding us all together," Bovenzi said.

CONTACT LAUREN WHITE
LWHITE6@ITHACA.EDU

Freshman wrestler takes down competition

Freshman Travis Jones has found his groove with the Ithaca College wrestling team even though he has only been a Bomber for a few months. Jones received Empire Collegiate Wrestling Conference Rookie of the Week honors twice in the past four weeks.

Jones currently has a season record of 12–2. He earned his most recent conference recognition after he went 5–0 and finished in first place in the 133-pound bracket at the New York state championships Nov. 24. He was first named Rookie of the Week after taking third in the 133-pound bracket at the Bombers’ season-opener and is one of only two wrestlers on the squad to receive a conference honor so far this year.

Staff writer Connor Wood sat down with Jones to discuss his early success and his goals on the mat this season.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Connor Wood: How beneficial has it been to get your freshman year off to a hot start?

Travis Jones: It has been really great because most people’s freshman season is when they take “a lot of lumps” as my mom would say, and you get beat on a lot. Thankfully, I have not experienced a lot of that, which is great because like I said, it builds a lot of confidence and helps me keep on building and rolling the momentum that I already have now.

CW: How has your early success given you confidence as the season progresses?

TJ: It has given me a lot of

confidence because being a freshman, it is scary heading into my first college matches, so now that I had found my footing and have been winning some good matches, I believe in myself more. It’s not that “I’m just a freshman. I can’t do this.” It is now “It does not matter. I just have to do my best.” I have trained hard enough, and I am confident in my own training, and being a freshman does not mean anything anymore.

CW: What do you do to prepare for competition?

TJ: I do not listen to music like most people. I just clear my head as much as possible. I usually get pretty nervous before matches, so one thing [assistant coach Tyler Daffinee] told me that really helped is instead of focusing on anxiety, just think about how I can stay in good position, how do I do things right, how should I do this thing, so that’s kind of what goes through my head before a match, and then I go out there and do my thing.

CW: How is college competition different than that of high school?

TJ: Everyone in college is good. In high school, you could have matches where you are facing someone who has never wrestled before, and you just throw them around. But it is college now. Everyone has been doing this since middle school, and for some like me, since they were six years old. So you’re not going to go out there and just completely beat someone up. Every win is earned, so the competition level is definitely a lot higher across the board.



Freshman Travis Jones takes down freshman Luis Hernandez during practice Dec. 10 to prepare for the Ithaca Tri-Meet against SUNY Oswego and Jamestown Community College on Dec. 14.
QUENTIN BOWDEN/THE ITHACAN

CW: What’s been your toughest test while adjusting to being a Bomber?

TJ: My toughest test is just adjusting from my senior year of high school when I was one of the best people on my team to now where I am in a room full of wrestlers who are, at least in the beginning, so much better than me.

CW: Who do you look up to on the team?

TJ: The teammate I look up to most is Sam [Schneider]. He is a great leader and the team captain, and he has a lot of good wisdom.

Also, Jordan Wallace — he is really good. One time, I was nervous before a match, and he gave me a really good talk. After that, I was so fired up and was ready to step on the mat.

CW: What do you consider your greatest strengths as a wrestler?

TJ: My ability to ride on top has been a strength of mine ever since I was in middle school. Just wrestling on the mat in general because when I was in middle school and younger, I was always bad on my feet, so I

have compensated that by wrestling really well down on the mat. I think just years of wrestling that style really helps me a lot now because it is starting to pay off.

CW: What are your personal goals for the 2019–20 season?

TJ: Everyone’s goal is to be a national champion, but I think I would be satisfied if I am an All-American and finish in the Top 8. Of course, if I can be a champ, that would be awesome.

CONTACT CONNOR WOOD
CWOOD@ITHACA.EDU

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THE BUZZER

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



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

ETHAN GODFREY, DIVING

Freshman diver Ethan Godfrey qualified for the NCAA championship on the 1-meter and 3-meter boards at the Ithaca Bomber Invitational on Dec. 6 and 7. He placed second on the 1-meter and third on the 3-meter.

TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN



COMPETITION OF THE WEEK

WOMEN'S TRACK, GREG PAGE RELAYS

Senior Parley Hannan was named MVP of the meet, and freshman Tia Jones broke the school record in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.63 Dec. 7 at Cornell University. Jones is currently ranked No. 1 nationally.

BEJIN PHILIP BENNY/THE ITHACAN

EVENTS TO WATCH

8 P.M., DEC. 10, IN ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Both the Ithaca College and University of Rochester men's basketball teams have only one loss so far this season. The Bombers are coming off their highest scoring game since 2017.



ITHACA

at



ROCHESTER

NOON, DEC. 14, IN BEN LIGHT GYMNASIUM



ITHACA

at



OSWEGO



JAMESTOWN CC

The wrestling team will face off against SUNY Oswego, an East Coast Wrestling Conference rival, and Jamestown Community College when they host the third annual tri-meet.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Having an injury just makes you push through the hardships and the bumps in the road and makes you mentally stronger.

– ANGELINA DOMENA
WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING





From left, junior Noah Lindsay, senior Jordan McMahon and junior Nicholas Muscara perform “Boys,” choreographed by sophomore Alyssa Carbonell, at IC Unbound Dance Company’s Elevate performance Dec. 8. IC Unbound, Ithaca College’s longest-running dance company, includes approximately 50 dancers and choreographers.

CHLOE GIBSON /THE ITHACAN