IC resident assistants struggle with roles during pandemic

BY ALYSSA BEEBE AND ELEANOR KAY

During the first in-person semester since the COVID-19 pandemic, some Ithaca College Resident Assistants (RAs) have said they feel increased anxiety and stress in their dual roles as both authority figures and students.

Beth O’Neill, assistant director of staff and programs in the Office of Residential Life, said that for Spring 2021, there are 74 RAs on campus and 11 virtual RAs—a new position first introduced in Fall 2020 to accommodate students who chose to remain remote. In Fall 2019, the RA staff consisted of 131 RAs in the upper and lower quadrants, Towers and the Terraces Residence Halls.

The decrease in RAs imbalanced the RA-to-resident ratio, causing some RAs to take on multiple floors or whole buildings.

In the era of COVID-19, more regulations and policies were added that RAs had to enforce.

Changes to the residence halls included alterations to the guest policy and rules to maintain social distance in lounges. Lounges had occupancy limitations posted, and until March 1, students could not have more than two guests in the same room, according to an email sent to students Feb. 17.

“It is the RA’s responsibility to regulate these policies, documenting any violations they come across,” said Junior Resident Assistant David Florentin.

“On the surface level, it’s just to mandate mask wearing and social distancing, but with COVID comes more stress with the residents, more stress with the RAs and more stress with our class,” junior David Florentin, a second-year RA, said.

Giving Day stirs controversy among community

BY JILLIAN BLEIER

Ithaca College Giving Day raised over $1 million amid students, faculty, staff and alumni expressing differing opinions over the college’s major decisions about this academic year.

Giving Day, which took place May 4, raised a total of $1,856,486 from 3,459 donors, according to the Giving Day website. Some campus community members have disagreed over whether Giving Day is justified amid the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) Process, which resulted in the cutting of 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions and the discontinuation of over 20 majors and programs.

Many students and alumni have said they disapprove of the college’s plan and feel that the college has not been transparent in its decisions, and as a result, chose not to donate. Others have agreed that the nature of these cuts highlights the importance of Giving Day this year.

The goal of Giving Day was to encourage online donations in a 24-hour time period, between midnight and 11:59 p.m., from college community members. The first and only other IC Giving Day was in February 2015 and raised just over $700,000. Wendy Kohler, vice president of the Department of Philanthropy and Engagement, said.

The majority of donations come from alumni, friends, families, staff, faculty and local community supporters.

Kohler said the college decided to hold a giving day this year due to giving days being one of the best financial practices in the college industry. Giving days can be especially valuable for colleges and universities looking to engage students and recent alumni in lifetime giving, according to an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education. Written by Emily Haynes, a staff writer for the Chronicle of Philanthropy, Haynes said in an interview that giving days are primarily used to engage small-dollar donors and to keep positive relationships with alumni.

Provost discusses APP with Faculty Council

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

The Ithaca College Faculty Council discussed the second phase of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process and COVID-19 guidelines for Fall 2021 during the May 4 Faculty Council meeting.

The second phase aims to restructure and reorganize the academic programs. La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, said the first phase began in Fall 2020 and involved cutting 116 full-time equivalent (FTE) faculty positions and discontinuing over 20 departments and programs.

Cornish spoke about centralizing the management of graduate programs. She said the college used to have centralized graduate program management, and returning to this style would help ensure the financial stability of graduate programs. Graduate programs at the college were managed under the Division of Graduate and Professional Studies until 2010.

Cornish said she met with the Graduate Council to discuss potential challenges and opportunities that a centralized management style would bring. The Graduate Council is a group that includes the deans of each school and the program chair or director of each graduate program.

It also includes a representative from the Office of the Provost, the Office of Admission and the Office of the Registrar as non-voting members of the council.

There are currently 17 master’s and doctoral degree programs at the college, but five of these programs will be eliminated as part of the APP. Cornish said she hopes to create a position for an associate provost of graduate and professional studies, and in approximately four years she hopes to have a division of graduate and professional education at the college.

“In looking through the archives in my office, I came across white papers about graduate education at the college from 2002, 2007, 2011 and 2015,” Cornish said. “Those white papers were filled with wonderful ideas that I hope that we can act on and implement.”

Cornish briefly discussed changing the dean structure but said details on this restructuring will not be made public.

Donations, Page 4
The Ithacan College students eat in the Campus Center Dining Hall on Oct. 4, 2019. The college is currently developing plans to return some operations to their pre-pandemic state, including dining services.

IMANI TURNER-WELLS/ THE ITHACAN

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Students criticize dining hall food

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

Sophomore Alexis Quivey said she received undercooked chicken and other meat from the campus dining halls. She said she was sick with food poisoning twice during her freshman year.

“I couldn’t eat anything for pretty much two days,” she said. “After that, I didn’t eat at the dining hall for a while.”

Instead, Quivey would take an Uber to Wegmans to buy her own food to eat. She said that, after a while of buying her own food, she decided to try the dining hall food again because the cost of food was too high to keep paying.

She said that, despite not eating from the dining halls, she got food poisoning a second time from dining hall food.

Junior Andrew Becker said he sent an email to the Campus Center Dining Hall (CCDH) despite noticing it was pink on the inside and did not seem fully cooked. Quivey said she assumed it would be safe.

The panel, hosted virtually by Sam Elebiary, ROIID program director, was held May 4 and concluded the Fundamental Film Screening series by Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy, a Pakistani-Canadian journalist, filmmaker and activist, and the Global Fund for Women. Each video features different human rights activists across the globe as they advocate for gender justice.

Vienneau gave an overview of activist organizations addressing gender justice issues and answered questions about activism surrounding gender justice.

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The panel, including Elyse Nepa, cler.

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

Zahra Vienneau, a global human rights activist, joined Ithaca College’s Sexual Violence Prevention Committee to wrap up a month of Sexual Assault Awareness month.

Fundamental Film Screening is a documentary film series by Sharmin Ghah-Chinoy, a Pakistani-Canadian journalist, filmmaker and activist, and the Global Fund for Women. Each video features different human rights activists across the globe as they advocate for gender justice. Vienneau gave an overview of activist organizations addressing gender justice issues and answered questions about activism surrounding gender justice.

The panel, including Elyse Nepa, cler.

had two students in attendance. The other documents in the series are based in Pakistan, Kenya, Georgia and Brazil.

“I think it’s not just with regard to this series and this really important discussion, but in general,” Mauer said. “I’ve observed that it’s easier entry point for folks that I know to take a look at something that’s happening somewhere to some folks that are far away from us.”

However, Vienneau said getting started in activism requires a passion and close connection to the subject.

“The first thing that I always say is that you cannot, you cannot be an activist, on behalf of others,” she said.

Bhaj said activism is collaborative and students need to figure out where they fit in that.

“We can do some kind of social comparisons of, ‘Why am I not doing enough, or, ‘Why aren’t I doing as much as this person?’” Bhaj said. “But instead, feeling like, you know, we’re so lucky and honored to be part of a community of people that are doing amazing work and we can support each other.”

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FROM DONATIONS, PAGE 1

"Offentimes, school administra-
tions will see giving days as a 
way to keep recent grads or students 
involved," said one. "They're kind of like practice for the real thing, which would be like: a mutual gift, a gift of a much larger size, once they're maybe in their 50s, 40s."

Kobler said the funds from giving days help students, faculty, staff, and the college overall. After Giving Day concluded, Kobler said alumni showed up ready to give more.

"Joining our alumni in show-
ing their Bomber pride were current students, faculty, fac-
ulty, and other friends and supporters of the college who challenged one another to con-
tribute to impactful programs and initiatives that will have a lasting impact on the institution that they love so much," she said via email.

Keith Kaiser, interim dean of the School of Music, said the School of Music greatly appreci-
ates everyone who contributed to its fund on Giving Day.

"The funds contributed to our Ithaca Fund that support initiatives like tours, guest artist presentations, student travel, music instrument purchases, and other special projects," he said via email. "We continue to be grateful for the support we receive as we work to study and perform music with the goal of making the world a better place for everyone.

Kobler said she does not expect any decrease in alumni donations due to the imple-
mentation of the APP. She said she thinks most people want to help their alma mater and its students, just like they were helped by alumni when they were undergraduates.

The percentage of alumni who donate to back the col-
lege has decreased from 12.1% in 2010 to 6.4% in 2019. The per-
nected of alumni who do-
ated to the college dropped slightly from 6.2% in 2020, Kobler said, which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ithaca College Alumni Against Austerity (AAA) is a group of alumni who aims to inform other alumni about the APP and sup-
port current faculty and staff.

Anni van Rossum ’19, a member of the AAA Facebook group, said she and a lot of her friends from college were not planning on donating due to the elimination of faculty and majors.

"What Ithaca is all about is bringing all these walks of life and bringing out the uniqueness in people," she said. "I think do-
ating to a school that seems to be slowly moving away from that, you are not donating to the Itha-
ca you want to." 

Kasey Stevenson Back ’10 said she graduated from the aging programs in the Depart-
ment of Gerontology, a major that the APP recommended to be cut. She said she will not be do-
ating this year.

"They have decided that my program is not valuable enough to keep it around, for whatever reason that is," she said. "It does not speak to me to donate if they are going to cut the program that I was in.

Alumni in the Facebook group have also expressed con-
cerns over donating with the current administra-
tion.

"I really wish they would engage more with alumni in a positive way," she said. "I was in.

"What Ithaca is all about is making it a little bit challenging for us.

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AK: What inspired you to write this op-ed?
PM: Climate negotiations are happening right now. There was a summit around three or four weeks ago where the energy minister of India said that it’s not enough for wealthy countries to reduce their emissions, but they need to start moving toward net-zero negative emissions. This was the first time someone was actually talking about net negative emissions, which is a direct point to the colonialism and the imperialistic manner in which these countries have been functioning. And so we thought that now was the right moment to write the op-ed because these summits, there are going to be several more. So we could then engage with the conversation that needs to talk about these historical inequalities that have happened so that we don’t keep repeating the same patterns of injustices that we see today.

AK: What are you hoping that readers take away from reading this piece?
PM: I think a deeper reflection of what in justice means in different contexts. And we really wanted to open up the conversation actually about luxury emissions and survival emissions because we don’t really hear those terms in the media and the United States.
COLLEGE BRIEFS

Student engagement office awards faculty and student organizations

The Office of Student Engagement has a series of awards that recognize the hard work, dedication, and passion that student organizations have accomplished during the academic year.

Wheels for Women was awarded the Outstanding Service Organization of the Year Award. Scott Thompson, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies, was awarded the Adviser of the Year Award for the Speech and Debate team.

Junior Caitlin Glastonbury received the Outstanding Executive Board Member of the Year Award for the Mental Health Awareness for Musicians Association.

Black Arists United was awarded the New Student Organization of the Year Award, defined by the Audio Engineering Society received the Student Organization of the Year Award.

The Student Organization Program of the Year was given to IC PT Wellness Club and IC Physical Therapy Student Association for their presentation “Recognize and Refer: Mental Health Awareness in the Clinic.”

College is looking for volunteers for fall semester move-in crew

Volunteers are needed for the move-in crew for the Fall 2021 move-in. Any students returning will take place the week of Aug. 16–20.

The college is anticipating a move-in to the residence halls that looks and feels closer to how move-in is traditionally run. Support from community members is important to make move-in successful.

Volunteers will meet students as they arrive, assist them in unloading their vehicles and deliver their items to their rooms. This will be helpful not only to students, but for keeping parking lots from getting too crowded.

Move-in this year will take place during regular business hours, so the college is asking staff and faculty members who are not already involved in move-in to sign up for shifts during this week. Volunteers are asked to register by 5 p.m. May 14.

Senior cinema thesis screenings to show at Serendipity's Backlot

Spring 2021 cinema thesis screenings will take place at 8:30 p.m. from May 7 to 8 at Serendipity's Backlot. The Backlot is located at the South Hill Business Campus. Students need to RSVP and can be in a group of up to six people.

Students must have a green badge, a recent negative COVID-19 test or a vaccination card to attend. It is recommended that students dress for comfort and warm weather, attend the screening outdoors.

Refundments will be available for purchase at Serendipity, and movies will be available at all times when not seated or eating.

Those who cannot attend in person will still be able to view the film online.

Students can earn service credit by joining graphic novel board

Students can earn a community service credit by joining the Graphic Novel Advisory Board. The class, Professional Development: The Graphic Novel Advisory Board, will be offered for Fall 2021 and will be taught by Katherine Kittredge, professor in the Department of English.

No previous experience with comics or graphic novels is required, and the class is one credit.

On Oct. 21, Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact Paula Larsen at plavens@ithaca.edu.

Theatre arts May session course about dialects has available seats

There are still seats open in the Performing Dialects: Understanding Characters Through Language summer course. The course will be offered for the first time as a part of the May session from May 17 to 28.

The class will be taught by Kathleen Mulligan, professor in the Department of Theatre Arts, in a hybrid format. Students at all experience levels are welcome.

The course will provide practice in identifying specific sound changes in one’s unique idiolect to the dialect of their character.

Students will explore four different dialects in the two-week course.

Full-time undergraduate students have the opportunity to take three credits during summer 2021 at no additional charge.

County reaches vaccination milestone

Martin Stallione, CEO of Cayuga Health System (CHS), addresses members of the Tompkins County Health Department (TCHD) and CHS on April 29 at The Shops at Ithaca Mall to celebrate administering 50,000 vaccinations.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM APRIL 19 TO APRIL 25

APRIL 19

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Terrace 1
SUMMARY: A caller reported suffering severe abdominal pains. The officer reported the caller was physically abusive towards another person. Deputy Chief Tom Dunn responded.

ASSAULT NO WEAPONS USED

LOCATION: Unknown
SUMMARY: Title IX reported third-hand information of a person being physically abusive towards another person. Deputy Chief Tom Dunn responded.

APRIL 20

V&T LEAVING SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

LOCATION: O-Loj
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown vehicle struck a parked vehicle and left the area. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

MEDICAL ASSIST/PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: Terrace 5
SUMMARY: An officer reported that a person was taken into custody under NYS mental hygiene law and transported to a hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

APRIL 21

PETIT LARCENY BETWEEN $50–$99

LOCATION: Garden Apartments SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown person stole clothing from the laundry room. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

V&T LEAVING SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

LOCATION: S-Loj
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown vehicle struck a parked vehicle and left the area. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

APRIL 22

PETIT LARCENY BETWEEN $50–$99

LOCATION: Garden Apartments SUMMARY: Facilities reported that an unknown person took a vacuum cleaner from the area. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

APRIL 23

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: Academic Quad SUMMARY: A caller reported people possibly making graffiti on building walls. Upon arrival, the officer reported that no people were in the area and no graffiti was located. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

APRIL 24

FIRE ALARM/CO/GAS ALARM ACTIVATION-PRIORITY 2

LOCATION: Hilliard Hall
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a CO gas alarm. The officer reported that IFD responded and reported no CO was present. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

SCC COLLEGE REGULATIONS/STUDENT CONDUCT OFFICE

LOCATION: State Route 96
SUMMARY: An officer reported a two-count damage accident. The officer assisted with traffic control until the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office arrived. Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded.

TRESPASS NO DEGREE

LOCATION: East Tower SUMMARY: A caller reported a non-affiliated person on campus without permission. Officer reported that the person was located, issued a campus trespass and ejected the person from campus. Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded.

CHECK ON THE WELFARE

LOCATION: Lyon Hall
SUMMARY: A caller reported feeling depressed. The officer reported meeting with the caller and determined the caller was not a threat to themselves or others. The officer requested the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services contact number and the officer provided contact information.

ASSIST TOMPKINS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LOCATION: East Tower
SUMMARY: Tompkins County dispatch requested assistance locating a person. The officer reported that the residence was checked with negative results. Tompkins County Sheriff’s deputy reported contact was made with the person. Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: Bogart Hall
SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person damaged a bathroom soap dispenser. Master Patrol Officer John Elmore responded.

KEY

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

Full public safety log available online at www.thethecan.org.
Giving Day success comes at an inappropriate time

Ithaca College Giving Day was met with conflicting opinions by the members of the college community in the face of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process. Nonetheless, the event raised over $1 million. It feels disrespectful to ask campus community members to donate when current students, alumni, faculty and staff have raised concerns over the APP and the resulting eliminations. There was little consideration or sensitivity when the college asked the faculty, students and alumni impacted by the cut programs to donate.

Although Giving Day helped organizations, teams and funds raise money to provide students better experiences and opportunities, it is difficult to imagine how these programs are going to look when students do not have their mentors and professors.

Still, despite the challenges of this year, the college raised a total of $1,856,496 from 3,459 donors. The college did not have any issue with having an open flow of communication with its constituents when asking for money for the weeks leading up to the big day. Meanwhile, when some members of the campus community raised their voices and questioned the administration throughout this year, they were met with silence. Where do the college’s priorities lie?

It feels disingenuous that the college thinks money is what will make a fractured community better. There is no denying that this money will help the college, and it is important to give back to the institution so the student experience can be improved. However, the timing of such an effort—one that is in the middle of a pandemic when many are also struggling—seems off. Money may be what draws people into the college, but in reality, it is not what makes them stay. It is the people. Investing in the college is of the utmost importance, but it is hard to do so when it feels like the college is not investing in us.

When Ithaca College cut ties with food provider Sodexo in 2019, students expected to receive better food at a better price. Two years later, students remain disappointed by what they are given.

The intention behind replacing Sodexo was to provide higher-quality and locally sourced food. A petition that circulated among the college community exposed unsanitary and unsafe practices within the dining halls from before Sodexo was replaced. Students have pointed out mold and bugs in their food, mislabeled items and cross-contamination that caused allergic reactions, yet the college acted as though it was doing its students a favor by switching food providers.

Allergen-free and religious diets were given their own stations, so students who have specific needs no longer have to leave campus or rely on dorm room snacks for their next meal. But students are still complaining about the very things meant to have changed.

The bar is incredibly low, and when the food goes just above the bar—even slightly—it is a pleasant surprise. Though dining hall food will never compare to the experience of a home-cooked meal, it should not be unreasonable for students to expect clean and, at the very least, edible food.

With the options of IC Food Court and Ithaca Bakery, some students take any opportunity to not eat dining hall food. Towers Marketplace became a convenient choice for food. Students can use their meal swipes or pay for hamburgers, pizzas and salads. This is ironic considering that moving on from Sodexo was meant to provide students with less processed foods.

When the college transitioned from Sodexo, it did so promising students higher-quality and healthier food. Why is it that students would rather run out of Bomber Bucks than eat at a dining hall they pay for? Sodexo may be gone, but residential students are stuck paying for a meal plan that does not provide adequate taste or convenience.

Students remain dismayed over college food services

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor akohli@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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

ALL LETTERS MUST:
• Be 250 words or fewer
• Be emailed or dropped off by 5 p.m. Monday in Park 220

EDITORIALS

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

MOLLY STANTON/THE ITHACAN

MOLLY STANTON/THE ITHACAN
Student journalism needs to be recognized

BY MADISON FERNANDEZ

This year for World Press Freedom Day, held May 3, there was a renewed push to celebrate local journalists. No, this did not mean addressing race and gender pay gaps for reporters, nor did it involve providing the infrastructure needed to maintain independent local newsrooms. Instead, we got a hashtag---#FollowLocalJournalists.

Twitter launched the campaign with the goal of sharing local journalists’ Twitter handles in order to increase the size of their audiences. A quick scroll through the nearly 200 quotes tweets on Twitter’s announcement about the #FollowLocalJournalists initiative shows a spate of shoutouts to local journalists all over the world. Notably, there are no student newrooms.

Student journalists are consistently left out of the conversation as if our skills are only worthwhile once we earn our degrees. Student journalists are local journalists. The truth is, I’ve learned more from managing and working in a student newspaper than I have in my journalism classes.

Sure, there are plenty of local outlets in Ithaca---some of which I’ve worked at myself and respect immensely---but none of them have the capacity to provide the hyperlocal, critical viewpoint of Ithaca College that The Ithacan does.

I feel encouraged because I worked at The Ithacan. I know that my time at the paper has prepared me for whatever challenges I will encounter as I enter the journalism field full-time.

Follow local journalists, but also support student journalists. It’s time to elevate and celebrate our work.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Park professors continue devaluing students of color

BY AMISHA KOHLI

The Roy H. Park School of Communications prioritizes and celebrates the success of white students while disregarding students of color---aside from those they tokenize.

During my sophomore year, a professor posed my class a question: “Would you work for a media organization that goes against your ethical values?” I said no, and he told me to have fun flipping burgers at McDonald’s. While disrespecting service workers, he also maliciously predicted I would fail in my field because I refuse to work for a company that does not align with my ethics. His remark left me in tears for the next few days. The same professor, and many others, have gotten away with “subtle” racism.

Microaggressions are not singular to Park---students across Ithaca College have protested against this devaluation of color. BIPOC alumni do not want to return to a school that is rife with microaggressions. BIPOC student journalists, like Ithaca College’s student newspaper, are hyperlocal, critical, and have the capacity to provide the kind of coverage students of color---especially BIPOC students---need.

I’m tired of counting on white professors to be my allies. I appreciate their gratitude and kindness immensely, but I hope the college brings in more professors of color for future students.

I’ve heard horror stories of BIPOC students being undervalued while working at various ITHV shows and other student media organizations. When my peers started a media organization outside of Park, I interviewed former Dean Diane Gayeski, who is currently a professor in the Department of Strategic Communication, for an investigative story. I asked her how she felt about the nascent organization. She told me it would likely fail and asked why I was writing about it. It feels like Park doesn’t even attempt to hide its biases. I cannot think of a single time where I’ve had guest speakers---including alumni---in my classes, this academic year, who were not white. What message does that send to current students of color? Are the insights of BIPOC not valued for the college to share? Do BIPOC alumni not want to come back because they’ve been constantly devalued by the school?

Park professors go. Instead, the college cut the only woman of color in the journalism department. There are at least six other professors of color who were fired as a result of the Academic Program Prioritization process. I am rightly angry at the college.

It is not enough to see the face of BIPOC alumni not want to come back be---cause they’ve been countlessly devalued by the college to hire professors who practice and teach anti-racism.

I hope the college will encourage open discourse, but we must be ready to face the hatred that is inevitable.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Senior Madison Fernandez is the editor in chief of The Ithacan for the 2020–21 academic year. She discusses the importance of supporting and elevating the work of student journalists in college.

AMISHA KOHLI is a junior journalism major. Contact her at akohli@ithaca.edu.

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021
Retiring with pride but frustration

BY STEPHEN MOSHER

This is my last week teaching at Ithaca College, and what I have been thinking for the last few years is that the college is becoming... less than.

Thirty-three years ago, I arrived at the Center for Climate Justice, a place where I could connect my cross-disciplinary work and coordinate the Sport Studies program. A bonus to this dream job was that Hill Center had a bowling alley just a few feet from my office. I imagined offering my expertise in bowling. Imagine my disappointment when I learned that bowling lanes were to be removed from Hill Center. How is it possible that a location for student engagement and around $12 million of capital could be removed? The only answer I received was, “Bowling just isn’t a part of the future IC experience.”

A few years later — against faculty wishes — two schools were merged into the present day School of Health Sciences and Human Performance (HSHP). And the erosion of physical culture majors and programs — Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Dance, Exercise and Sport Sciences — began. Sport Studies became part of the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences and later teamed up with the Sport Management and Sport Media programs to become our own department.

When I proposed the sport studies degree move from Bachelor of Science to Bachelor of Arts, the HSIP dean responded, “Why would you want that? There’s no value in a Bachelor of Arts.” Then came the tapdowndown decision — with absolutely no faculty input — to eliminate the sport studies major (one of the most racially diverse programs at the college) and send sport management to the School of Business and sports media to the Roy H. Park School of Communications. Just like that, a vibrant, successful program was gone!

Over my three decades in Ithaca, I’ve been fortunate to be involved in remarkable short-term study abroad programs. From 2000–08, I spent three weeks every May in the Dominican Republic and witnessed life-changing lessons from students facing unspeakable poverty. I remember walking through the streets of Santo Domingo and looking at buildings that were to become the Ithaca Caribbean Gym Center, but that never materialized. A few years later, I was on the verge of being the first faculty member in residence for the relocated Center in Antigua. And the plug was pulled.

Perhaps the most telling transformation over my time at Ithaca College is that at the same time the college has committed precious financial resources to enhance “student life” with facilities like the Fitness Center and the Athletics and Events Center, the School of HSHP has diminished or completely eliminated programs focusing on play, sport, physical education and recreation. It seems that without a credentialing system, programs have little value. Everything is monetized. The college seems incapable of appreciating the rewards of simply nourishing the spirit.

Today, we have treadmills and rowing machines so exercisers can plug in their earbuds and workout in solitude, but we don’t have a bowling facility where campus members can gather together and learn an important, lifelong physical skill while having fun and enjoying the company of one another. Bowling remains the most heavily participated sport in the nation, and Ithaca College is... less than.

-- STEPHEN MOSHER is a professor in the Department of Communication Studies. Contact him at smosher@ithaca.edu.

Administration must find alternative to APP

BY SAMANTHA DIFALCO

It’s been just over two months since the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) finalized its decision to move forward with the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process despite widespread and ongoing opposition from members of the Ithaca College community.

This is how the SLT is addressing the concerns of the college community. What remains to be addressed is what the impact of cutting so many faculty members and mentors will have on countless other programs and opportunities. We know that enrollment is decreasing faster at the college than similar Northeast schools and Ithaca College faces a deficit of $24.5 million, but the administration has yet to explain how cutting over one hundred faculty positions — severely limiting opportunities and experiences for students — will stabilize the institution and not lead to a more drastic enrollment decline.

Just the idea of such an initiative could have been the Center for Climate Justice. Climate change is as at the forefront of young people’s minds. Young people gripped by this crisis could have looked to the Ithaca College Center for Climate Justice as a place where they could connect their cross-disciplinary interests and cultivate their studies around fighting the crisis that is theirs to inherit. With the Center for Climate Justice, the college could have been a national leader in higher education in the face of climate change.

The Center for Climate Justice is just one example of a national leader in higher education that could thrive for generations, then it should be supported. I welcome it. Without failure I would not be me. My obsession with planning centered around this idea of success. In my mind, to reach “success” I had to plan every step of the way. I’ve come to realize that I’m successful right now. Success should not be quantified by a job title or dollar amount, but rather your own personal growth. Success should never be an end goal, it should be a current state of mind. I am content with where I’m at in life, so I’m successful. You are too.

Finding peace in the untold

BY SAMANTHA DIFALCO

Most of my life I had a plan. As someone who dreams big, I always knew what I wanted to do and how I would get there: get into a good college, become a reporter; work my way up to CNN, travel the world, make real money (aka six figures or more) and be the first John Turner that pops up on a Google search — I have a quite a generic name if you didn’t know.

This plan has been in motion ever since the fourth grade when I went to school dressed up as a reporter for career day. The plan had been going well until now — for the first time in my life I don’t know what I want to do or what path I’ll take and I’m completely content in that.

When you plan your life step by step, you become a servant to failure. Once failure becomes your master, you become obsessed with what should have happened rather than facing your reality. When I let go of my plans, I no longer feared failure, I welcomed it. Without failure I would not be me. My obsession with planning centered around this idea of success. In my mind, to reach “success” I had to plan every step of the way. I’ve come to realize that I’m successful right now. Success should not be quantified by a job title or dollar amount, but rather your own personal growth. Success should never be an end goal, it should be a current state of mind. I am content with where I’m at in life, so I’m successful. You are too.

For me, letting go of my plan meant I was letting go of control, which made me very uncomfortable, but when we are uncomfortable we are forced to make adjustments.

Now, this is not to say that you shouldn’t be in life. Planning for things like weddings or vacations is required, but considering your entire life — nor is it healthy. Instead of planning, I decided to let go and let Jesus Christ take control of my life, and that’s the best decision I’ve ever made.

Maybe I’ll become a painter or ventriloquist. While these things are unlikely, what I’m sure of is that I’ll no longer be planning out my life. Instead, I’ll be content in the unknowing.
Students welcome the warm weather

Spring brings students outside after months of cold and isolation.

From left, sophomores Kayla Wilkins and Christian Castro watch the sunset at 7 p.m. April 25 from the second-floor balcony of Clarke Hall in Lower Quads.

From left, sophomores Sydney Alfano, Elise Hoerbelt and Marie Plouffe do homework by the fountains April 27.

Freshman Jose Cruz lays in the sun April 27 outside of the Hammond Health Center.

From left, freshmen Tyler Hanna and Delaney Judson set up their hammocks and lounge in the shade April 27 outside of the Hammond Health Center. The warmer temperatures brought students out onto the Campus Center Quad.
Juniors Raelene Ford and Christian Maitre browse for air plants and handcrafted goods April 24 at the Ithaca Farmers Market at the Steamboat Landing Pavilion.

From left, freshmen Rachel Hollis and Avery White watch the Pink Moon on April 26 on the Campus Center Quad. This lunar event was the first of two supermoons occurring this year.

Sophomore Kristen Stefanick does an ollie while practicing skating skills April 24 on the Lower Quads Tennis Courts.

From left, junior Kassandra Medina and freshman Evan Uttamchandani pass a volleyball April 27 on the Campus Center Quad. The Quad is a popular spot to relax and play lawn games.

Freshman Liam Kirby attends his Hollywood and American Film class outside April 27 on the Campus Center Quad.

From left, freshmen Rachel Hollis and Avery White watch the Pink Moon on April 26 on the Campus Center Quad. This lunar event was the first of two supermoons occurring this year.

Juniors Raelene Ford and Christian Maitre browse for air plants and handcrafted goods April 24 at the Ithaca Farmers Market at the Steamboat Landing Pavilion.
crossword

By United Media

ACROSS
1 Cold feet 5 Team cheer 8 Weather system
11 Dig deep 12 Inventor — Whitney
13 Stein filter 14 Alpha opposite 15 Vowed
17 Horace color 18 False 20 Grad-school exam
22 Damage superficially 23 Work doggedly
29 Danson or Kennedy 31 Nest-egg letters
32 Fluctuates (hyph.) 35 Whites' counterparts
37 Impress deeply 38 Motel amenity 41 Wynn or Lopat
42 Scheme 44 Curtain hanger 46 Rowboat
50 Gerovino was one 53 Rate 54 Automatic rifle
57 Dainty 59 — Beta Kappa 60 Cooper's channel
63 Sailor's word 64 Gentlemen
65 — Whitney

DOWN
1 Long bone 2 "Maria —” 3 Dow Jones fig.
4 Swing a scythe 5 Do again 6 Charm
7 Scurried along 8 Fail to maintain the pace
9 Bravo, in Spain 10 Meld 11 Non-flying bird
12 Inventor — Whitney 13 Stein filter 14 Alpha opposite
15 Vowed 16 Salon styles 18 False
19 Sz. option 20 Grad-school exam 22 Damage superficially
23 Work doggedly 24 — — Whitney
27 News agcy. 28 Fail to maintain the pace
29 Danson or Kennedy 31 Nest-egg letters
32 Fluctuates (hyph.) 35 Whites' counterparts
37 Impress deeply 38 Motel amenity 41 Wynn or Lopat
42 Scheme 44 Curtain hanger 46 Rowboat
50 Gerovino was one 53 Rate 54 Automatic rifle
57 Dainty 59 — Beta Kappa 60 Cooper's channel
63 Sailor's word 64 Gentlemen
65 — Whitney

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Peter Johanns, associate professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, films a TikTok in Studio B in the Roy H. Park School of Communications. Johanns posted his first TikTok, “Tru-den Pen-ris,” on Oct. 30, 2020. The video received over 580 comments.

Peter Johanns, associate professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, is surprised to see that his professor performance class. He said he was positions social media can offer. "Tok to show students the talent of places." Johanns posted his first TikTok account and went viral.

Johanns posted his first TikTok — the "Tru-den Pen-ris" video — Oct. 30, 2020. The comment section of the video was flooded with over 580 comments of users laughing at the costume and voicing their own political opinions. "I came up with the concept of a 'Tru-den Pen-ris' Halloween costume that kind of played off the Trump and Biden election," Johanns said. "I thought that people would fight over it in the comments. ... I was correct in that assumption."

After the success of his first video, Johanns made approximately 18 more TikToks wearing his popular "Tru-den Pen-ris" shirt — in many of which he sports a pair of tiny denim shorts. He said many of his first few videos were of him asking viewers questions about voting and following the progress of the election. The completion of the "Tru-den Pen-ris" series Nov. 26, 2020, after the presidential election season ended.

Johanns said he is currently teaching a broadcast performance course. The class is focused on preparing students to be on-air talent for television news, sports and entertainment. He said the success of his TikTok has encouraged Johanns to broaden the content of the class.

Johanns hopes to use his experience with TikTok to show students the talent positions social media can offer. Junior Justin Wilkins is a student in Johanns’ broadcast performance class. He said he was surprised to see that his professor had a TikTok, but also said it was on-brand for him. "I think it’s pretty funny," Wilkins said. "Out of all the television-radio professors, it had to be Peter. He’s very well known in the program for being a funny but very helpful professor at the same time."

Senior Annie Brunner is another student in Johanns’ broadcast performance class. She said she realized that her professor had a TikTok while scrolling through her TikTok. For You Page — an endless scroll of recommended videos based on content a user has liked in the past. Shortly after his political series, Johanns began making videos with his 11-year-old son. He said these videos were scripted skits, often involving a situation in which he gives “bad parenting” advice. Johanns said the skits include pranks on his son, most of which are planned beforehand. "I typically come up with the video ideas on my own," Johanns said. "I usually run the script by him and he’ll make changes if he doesn’t want to say something. He’s a very good sport about it."

In one of his most recent TikToks, Johanns tells his son that he hid 12 Easter eggs in a field. He stated that if his son found all of the eggs, he would give him $100. Turning back to the camera, Johanns whispers that he only put 11 eggs in the field.

"I make two types of videos," he said. "I either do something that is funny and absurd with my son or sometimes I’ll try to think of something that I know that will polarize people and get people to fight in the comments." Johanns said many people take the sarcasm and “bad parenting” humor of the videos to be serious. As a result, he has gotten many hate comments on some of the videos.

"I would like to think that most people get my sarcasm, dry and even dark humor at times," Johanns said. "But I have also seen that there are plenty of people who don’t quite get it’s a joke." Johanns said he is using the videos he creates as qualitative research on the creation and distribution of comedic content on TikTok.

"I’m doing this under the guise of a research project too," Johanns said. "I want to understand audience engagement and audience manipulation. I want to see how I can get people engaged in a video by using my own special sense of humor."

According to Admiral Media, the average adult in the United States spends approximately 41 minutes watching videos and 75% of worldwide video viewing takes place on mobile apps. With all of the videos on TikTok, something has to set the best apart from the rest.

A study from Business of Apps explained that audiences are more responsive to content that quickly communicates the message or grabs attention. This places an emphasis on creative storytelling in order to capture the audience’s attention in seconds.

Junior Jack Culkin has taken two classes with Johanns, Television Production and Direction and Advanced Studio Production. He said Johanns’ TikToks have increased his confidence as on-air talent. "The amount of confidence he has put himself out there in front of hundreds of thousands of people is something that I see as inspirational," he said.

Jack Powers, interim dean for the Roy H. Park School of Communications, said Johanns’ experience as a TikTok creator has been important to students preparing for on-air positions. "If a student wants to make it as on-air talent, it’s imperative to understand that the primary goal is to build an audience," he said via email. "Johanns said the TikTok videos he produced have recently accumulated over 107 million views, 16 million likes and earned him over 6.4 billion followers from around the globe."

When I had 18,000 followers I was like ‘Oh wow’ and then it just kept growing," Johanns said. "... It’s fun and amusing that I have engaged people not only in this country but from around the world. I get comments from Brazil, Germany, Ireland, Russia and all sorts of places."
Senior creates paranormal video game visual novel

BY KATHERINE KROM

In the video game, “Pavonia Parano...
Politician disturbs readers withkitschy portrait book

BOOK REVIEW: “Out of Many, One” Penguin Random House

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

While this review will bring up the age-old question of whether or not one should separate the art from the artist, this criticism will not just be of the artist. This is because former President George W. Bush’s new book of paintings, “Out of Many, One: Portraits of American Immigrants,” contains a whole new generation of artwork made by an even more awful person. There is no other way to say it — everything about this book is bad.

Bush began writing and painting “Out of Many, One” in 2019 as a “reminder” of the contributions that immigrants have made to American society. Featuring kitschy paintings and weird stories of American immigrants, “Out of Many, One” contains abysmal art created by an even more awful person. There is no other way to say it — everything about this book is bad.

Bush’s book was a complete disservice to the story of immigration. The book’s introduction, “The United States is a nation of immigrants,” contains a whole new generation of artwork made by an even more awful person. There is no other way to say it — everything about this book is bad.

Readers of Bush’s book are completely justified in not liking it. Bush’s presidency did not produce favorable outcomes for immigrants. Bush founded Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) which has forced immigrants into slave labor, raised the homes of thousands of immigrants and separated children and their parents. Bush also signed the REAL ID Act into law drastically curtailing habeas corpus for immigrants, which ed children from their parents.

The book’s introduction, “The United States is a nation of immigrants,” contains a whole new generation of artwork made by an even more awful person. There is no other way to say it — everything about this book is bad.

The format of Bush’s book is simple — Bush shows readers an oil portrait he made of an American immigrant and follows it up with several pages telling the story of the immigrant. It’s a fine idea for a book. However, the fact that it comes from a member of the Bush family is bizarre and pretentious, and the oil portraits are neither savagely nor pretentious.

Bush’s book was advertised for the paintings, which — by any classical art standards — are on the level of artwork made by a high school senior with a high self-esteem. Poorly blended and unintentionally crass, the only reason that Bush’s paintings would be picked up by a publisher is that yes, a former president painted them.

Disturbingly, one of Bush’s biographies is of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who served from 1973 to 1977. Bush’s goofy painting of Kissinger is one thing, but when he begins praising Kissinger’s legacy, the effect is nothing short of horrifying. Bush’s description ignores that Kissinger’s legacy includes the secret bombings of Cambodia that killed over 50,000 Cambodians and supporting the 1971 genocide in Bangladesh.

“Out of Many, One” seems like an attempt to win back liberal circles rather than a tribute to immigrants. Unfortunately, it has worked, and in recent years Bush’s approval rating among Americans and Democrats has risen above 50%. The reality is that Bush’s legacy for immigrants is no different than former President Donald Trump’s. The only difference is that Trump was shameless and intentional with his attacks on immigrants.

CONTACT ELIJAH DE CASTRO
decastro@ithaca.edu

“Out of Many, One,” is an unsavory collection of portraits and biographies of American immigrants.

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Netflix comments on social media

**BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO**

Movie producers and directors are always looking for current trends to make a film about. As a result, Netflix has begun to make documentaries about the influence of social media on an increasingly present part of daily life.

With varying degrees of quality, these films attempt to make sense of the virtual social media Wild West that has emerged over the past 10 years. "Fyre," a Netflix documentary released in January 2019, chronicles the story of the now infamous Fyre Festival, a fraudulent music festival in the Bahamas. However, its conclusion is that the festival never could have happened without social media promoting the influencer lifestyle that has taken the world by storm.

Netflix also released "The Great Hack" later that year, which breaks down the Cambridge Analytica data scandal, where the exceedingly tidy political consulting firm illegally harvested the data of millions of Facebook users. This data was then used by former President Donald Trump's 2016 election campaign to manipulate online social media users into voting for Trump.

The film follows Brittany Kaiser, a whistleblower behind the scandal, Kaiser, who was an employee of Cambridge Analytica, explains to viewers how the mass harvesting of data allowed the firm to create "psychological profiles" of every American voter with a Facebook page. Voters in swing states were then targeted with specialized Facebook ads that were designed to stir fear.

"The Great Hack" raises questions about civil liberties in the 21st century. If Cambridge Analytica can so easily access and use data to manipulate voters, how many other internet companies have done the same?

In September 2020, Netflix released "The Social Dilemma." While "The Social Dilemma" expresses concern with the influence of social media on democracy, its most profound discussion is of the personal effects social media has on individuals.

The film features interviews with design ethicists Tristan Harris and Aza Raskin, who explain to viewers how the rise of social media as a weapon of seduction. Spread across the world is Outworld, a realm where evil baddies gather under the rule of warlock Shang Tsung (Chin Han). Finally, Netherrealm basically just exists as Hell. Every once in a while, these three realms converge in a fighting tournament where the winners gain favor from the gods and build power to eventually take over the other realms.

However, McQuoid's "Mortal Kombat" lacks one of the key pieces of this puzzle: an actual tournament. The film instead follows newcomer to the universe Cole Young (Lewis Tan) as he trains to protect Earthrealm alongside franchise veterans like Jax (Mehcad Brooks), Sonya Blade (Jessica McNamee), Liu Kang (Ludi Lin) and others. Focusing on a bland newbie like Cole allows the other characters to explain the world's logistics to him in stale monologues. Anyone already invested in the lore would not care to have it poorisly rejuvenated, and no one unfamiliar with the material will want to care. "Mortal Kombat" is an odd combination of all of the above, failing to appeal to how to appeal to its established universe.

"Mortal Kombat" works best when playing the games. Guessing how the film earns its R rating would be easy: showers any moment of violence with flowing rivers of ruby-red, computer-generated blood. The effect of making every punch, kick or stab end with an amount of blood equal to the elevators in "The Shining" leaves people asking, "Does the human body even contain that much blood?"

"Mortal Kombat" is an odd combination of all of the above, failing to appeal to its established universe. The action of "Mortal Kombat" generally proves to be excessive, but is often enthralling with its creativity — easily the film's stand-out feature. In "Mortal Kombat," all of the good unfortunately only highlights the bad. When the boring presentation gets combined with the plot's lack of propulsion, it can quickly turn frustrating to watch.

"Mortal Kombat" alternatively betrays the near-death experience with Seyfried's, as the two compliment each other with a great chemistry and mindset for quite some time.

This is a supernatural horror story, but is often enthralling with its creativity — easily the film's stand-out feature. In "Mortal Kombat," all of the good unfortunately only highlights the bad. When the boring presentation gets combined with the plot's lack of propulsion, it can quickly turn frustrating to watch.

"Mortal Kombat," directed by Shari Berman ("The Quest") illustrate similar stories about mortal arts tournaments working on the big screen by embracing their goofiness. Escewing the testing of might the franchise is known for, "Mortal Kombat" alternatively decides to test patience.

"Mortal Kombat" alternatively betrays the near-death experience with Seyfried's, as the two compliment each other with a great chemistry and mindset for quite some time.

The living should certainly be feared more than the dead in the new horror thriller "Things Heard & Seen," directed by Shirley Siergier and Robert Pulcini. When George Claire (James Norton) is offered a teaching position at a small college in upstate New York, he moves his family into a large, 19th-century farmhouse. His wife, Catherine Claire (Amanda Seyfried), and daughter, Frances Claire (Ana Sofia Heger), attempt to make their new house a home. But this is quite a difficult task when, along with crown molding and high ceilings, they get a house haunted by restless spirits.

"Things Heard & Seen" is a new approach on the familiar horror-tropes of a family getting more than they bargained for when spirits accompany their new home. Rather than the spirits tormenting the cookie-cutter family, they bring out the toxic undertones that are ripping in George and Catherine's marriage. George's constant negativity and presumptuous behavior toward his wife is only heightened by the presence of evil spirits. As stated in the film, "An evil spirit will only commune with an evil doer... and only remember evil in the house where it is welcome." To viewers familiar with the fear that typically accompanies a haunted house, it is refreshing to see that a human's foul qualities are far more wicked than the spirits. At the beginning of the film, Berman and Pulcini do an excellent job of building suspense with jump cuts, electrical howlers and low lighting. The audience watches on the edge of their seats, instinctually being scared by the cinematography and jump scares that are prominent throughout the first half of the film. During the second half, these visual effects no longer carry the same impact. As Catherine's perception of the spirits changes once she learns more about them, so do the audience's. The effects that represent the presence of an apparition now bring comfort rather than fear.

The mystery surrounding the spirits is exceptionally executed. Berman and Pulcini created compelling and grounded characters that make the audience want to better understand their circumstances to gauge if they will move in the story along. It is only after out of a alive. This film exemplifies the range that Seyfried has. She gives a solid performance, playing a very complex woman. Catherine has abandoned her work and life back in Manhattan to support her husband. Seyfried does a brilliant job of showing the audience the impact of such decisions on a woman's life, as has been an accepted societal mindset for quite some time.

Norton also delivers a great performance as the manipulative and abusive head of household. This performance differs greatly from Norton's most popular role as John Brooke in Greta Gerwig's "Little Women" (2019). Norton's performance is a solid pairing with Seyfried's, as the two complement each other with their polarized roles.

This is a supernatural horror story, but the real horror lies in the marriage between George and Catherine. Their relationship exemplifies at what lengths women — more so in the 1980s when this story takes place, but still today — are expected to abandon their individuality and ambitions for men. The film asserts modern-day femininity on the popular narrative of the loyal housewife.
Sophomore Taylor Volmrich practices April 29 with the Ithaca College women’s crew Varsity Eight boat, which won the Liberty League Championship. Volmrich is from Park City, Utah, and was considering joining Division I and Division III programs before talking to head coach Becky Robinson and committing to the college.

BY JACK MURRAY

For three athletes in the Ithaca College rowing program, the tame and controlled conditions of Cayuga Lake differ greatly from their rowing origins on the Jordan River in Utah, over 2,000 miles west of South Hill.

The Ithaca College rowing teams typically look to recruit from regional areas with a rich tradition in the sport, like Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York. However, junior Zoe Foster, sophomore Taylor Volmrich and freshman Wesley Hoglin broke this trend, with all three being from Utah. Foster is from Salt Lake City, and Volmrich and Hoglin are from nearby Park City. All three rowers have connections to the Utah Crew program, a nonprofit rowing organization that provides 13–18-year-olds in Northern Utah with recreational or competitive rowing opportunities.

Foster and Hoglin compete for the men’s team. Foster serves as the coxswain and Hoglin is a rower. Volmrich rows for the women’s team. None of the rowers are currently in the same boat, as Foster is a member of the men’s top Varsity-8 boat and Hoglin participates in the second Varsity-8 boat. Volmrich competes on the top Varsity-8 boat for the women’s team.

Women’s rowing head coach Becky Robinson said cultivating a relationship with the Utah Crew program is appealing. The Utah Crew program was formed in 2004 and has trained over 100 rowers. Some have been sent to row at Division I colleges like Cornell University, Stanford University and Harvard University.

“Utah is a location where there’s this pocket of a couple high school rowing programs and there aren’t that many colleges nearby,” Robinson said. “So, having a connection to these clubs is really great because if those high schoolers want to row in college, they really need to look beyond staying close to home.”

Foster was the first of the trio to enroll at the college, but her journey began with disappointment. Foster, who has Marfan Syndrome — a genetic disorder that affects the connective tissue and causes overly flexible joints — was not cleared to row at the collegiate level. This led to her pursuing the role of a coxswain, which requires providing directions and guiding the boat.

“I started reaching out to the schools that I had gotten accepted to about their coxing positions and reached out to [men’s rowing head coach Dan Robinson] about coxing for their men’s team, and he completely just took me in,” Foster said.

Volmrich headed to South Hill the next year after looking into rowing, and ultimately decided to commit to the Bombers when Foster put her in contact with Robinson during the 2019 crew season.

“One of the big deciding factors was actually when Zoe was … with [Becky Robinson] in Georgia on the team’s spring training trip,” Volmrich said. “Becky said to Zoe, ‘Well Taylor could go to a Division I school and sit in the [fifth varsity boat] … or she could come to Ithaca, and I could make her an NCAA champion.’”

Hoglin heard about the college from a conversation with Volmrich and said their discussion sparked the idea of coming to South Hill.

“I first heard about Ithaca from Taylor because we went to high school together and we actually were in the same weightlifting class,” Hoglin said. “She told me about Ithaca and she held it in high praise. She was the first one to plant the seed in my head.”

Both Foster and Hoglin knew of Volmrich prior to enrolling at the college but were not introduced to each other until they were both at the college in January.

This was because Hoglin did not join the Utah Crew program until his junior year of high school, when Foster was a freshman for the Bombers.

Hoglin said having teammates from his general area, especially when his home is across the country, made his transition to the college easier.

“Just being able to have someone like that to confide in is very helpful,” Volmrich said having teammates who have the same background as herself shows how the sport is developing in Utah.

“I think that being able to appreciate that and also understand how hard some people have it, to get access to rowing, is a good way to round out the experience,” Volmrich said. “I had to be really dedicated to the sport to drive 45 minutes and then drive 45 minutes home six days a week … Now, being five minutes from the boathouse is a really good experience and I’m really grateful for it.”

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The Bombers Roundup

The Ithaca women's track & field team practices on Feb. 27 inside the Athletics and Events Center. The program is ranked second in Division III.

The Ithacan provides a summary of the Bombers' 2021 spring season.

Men's Track & Field

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dom Mikula</td>
<td>Field Performer of the Week</td>
<td>3/29, 4/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalen Leonard-Osbourne</td>
<td>Track Performer of the Week</td>
<td>3/29, 5/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Oczkowski</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Tobia</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Frank</td>
<td>Co-Track Performer of the Week</td>
<td>4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Greenwald</td>
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<td>3/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>5/3</td>
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Women's Track & Field

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logan Bruce</td>
<td>Track Performer of the Week</td>
<td>4/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katelyn Hutchinson</td>
<td>Track Performer of the Week</td>
<td>4/26, 5/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ariyanah Bernard</td>
<td>Field Performer of the Week</td>
<td>4/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samantha Healy</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Altonen</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parley Hanann</td>
<td>Track and Field Rookie of the Week</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Track Performer of the Week</td>
<td>3/29</td>
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Men's Crew

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Eight: Boat of the Week</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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Women's Crew

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Eight: Boat of the Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Varsity Eight: Novice Boat of the Week</td>
<td>4/19, 4/26</td>
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Men's Tennis

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minos Stavrakas</td>
<td>Singles Performer of the Week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doubles Performers of the Week</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>3/29</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doubles Performers of the Week</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deon Kraft</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>5/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicolas Luis</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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Women's Tennis

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<tr>
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<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Spisito</td>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>4/12</td>
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Liberty League Tournaments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>May 12 and 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>May 12 and 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Lacrosse</td>
<td>Lost in semi-finals to Saint Lawrence University on May 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Lacrosse</td>
<td>Placed 2nd with a loss to William Smith College on May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Golf</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Track</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Crew</td>
<td>2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Tennis</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Tennis</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
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Baseball: May 12 and 15
Softball: May 12 and 15
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Women's Golf: 1st Place
Men's Track: 1st Place
Women's Track: 2nd Place
Men's Tennis: N/A
Women's Tennis: N/A
Lacrosse player scores career year

BY DEVAN ADEGBILE

When the Ithaca College women's lacrosse team had its 2020 spring season canceled, senior midfielder Jacqui Hallack's work ethic didn't let her take time off. Hallack trained from April to December in 2020, by herself for the most part, and is now headed off with her having her best season as a Bomber this spring.

Last year, Hallack paced the club with 26 draw controls and led the Bombers with 24 points on seven goals and two assists. This season, Hallack followed up her performance by scoring 66 goals and tallying 13 assists through 15 games. She has earned Liberty League Offensive Player of the Week four times, Liberty League Offensive Player of the Year and Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWCLA) Player of the Week.

She opened the season with 11 draw controls against SUNY Cortland on March 17 and nine points on seven goals and two assists, matching a career-high. Hallack said having early success just made her hungry for similar results throughout the season.

"I always want to keep striving for more," Hallack said. "I want to get that recognition again, I want to get an All-American recognition."

Hallack currently sits at third in career goals, ninth in career points and has the third-most goals in a season in program history. Hallack has always been productive during her time playing with the Bombers, winning Liberty League Co- Rookie of the Year in 2018, and has made two All-Liberty League First Teams as well as the IWCLA First Team All-Empire Region.

Head coach Karrie Moore said Hallack sets a great example to the rest of the team and holds people accountable for their performance on the field and life off the field.

"In the absolute best way, she is confident in her ability, she is really hard-working, she is a great leader and teammate," Moore said. "It is easy for her teammates to respect her because she is so competitive, she has earned the street cred to hold people accountable."

Hallack's positive attitude on the field has earned special admiration from many of her teammates, including senior midfielder Megan Motkowski.

"She is one of the hardest working lacrosse players I have ever played with," Motkowski said. "She wants to succeed in everything and she works so hard to make sure that she does."

Hallack's productive career this year led to the team having a 12-1 record and a Liberty League championship appearance. As the end of Hallack's collegiate career approaches, she said she wants to end it by going far in the NCAA Tournament this year. Hallack says her goal for the team was greater than just winning the conference.

"I feel like right now we have the skill and ability on this team and the athleticism to make a run in the NCAA tournament, the biggest thing is to always play as a team and not let the competitor ouplay us," Hallack said.

Football team competes in spring game

BY TOMMY MUMAU

The Ithaca College football team returned to action in front of a crowd of Bombers fans in an intrasquad spring game April 30 under the lights at Higgins Stadium.

The scrimmage was the first game action for the squad since it competed in the ECAC Axe S. Bushnell Bowl against Washington & Jefferson on Nov. 23, 2019. The team's 2020 season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contest felt similar to a late-autumn matchup as the Bombers played through rain and cool temperatures. The team did not keep score or divide the game into quarters, but simulated in-game situations by having the Bombers' offense and defense compete against each other.

Sophomore quarterback A.J. Wingfield said he enjoyed getting back on the field and showcasing what the team had worked on over the course of its practices this spring.

"We had a ton of butterflies, but it was so awesome that all of our hard work from the spring finally got to pay off tonight," Wingfield said.

Head coach Dan Swanstrom said his squad did not keep score or divide the game into quarters, but simulated in-game situations by having the Bombers' offense and defense compete against each other.

"[The coaches] did a great job preparing us, and to be able to go out and execute through the first group to the last group, everybody did a great job," Swanstrom said. "It was a lot of fun to see everybody compete."

The program feared the end of training, but the team will return in August for its first regular season in nearly two years.

Coach resigns after one year

BY ARLA DAVIS

Sean Burton '99, Ithaca College men's basketball head coach, resigned from his position April 26, effective immediately.

Burton led the Bombers as head coach for one season. The announcement, released April 26, did not include a reason for his resignation. Burton worked as the assistant coach to former head coach Jim Mullins from 2015 to 2020 after playing for the team from 2005 to 2009. During the 2019-20 season, Burton helped lead the team to a Liberty League championship and a first-round win in the NCAA tournament.

Prior to returning to South Hill, he coached at Babson College and Uxta College.

Former guard Sklar Simon said he and the team found out about Burton's resignation in a meeting with Susan Bassett, associate vice president and director of the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics and Athletics, followed up with Burton afterward.

"I reached out to him a day or two later and just thanked him for everything," Simon said. "I know he has a lot going on outside of our knowledge at times, so I just really hope the best for him . . . When I reached out, he was adamant about wanting to do well and hoping that my personal and team goals are achieved in the future."

As a player for the South Hill squad, Burton was a two-time All-American and is third in all-time scoring with 1,736 points. He also is second in career assists and assists per game, third in career scoring average and 3-pointers made and fifth in steals. Burton played professionally in the Iceland Express Basketball League. He was inducted into the Ithaca College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.

The college plans to launch a national search for a new head men's basketball coach immediately. Burton did not have an assistant coach this season other than student assistant coaches, first-year graduate student Sebastian Allderete and senior David Aiello.

Bassett said she is aiming to have a new coach hired by mid-June and that the college is looking for someone with excellent knowledge of the game and a track record of success at the college level. She added that the next coach must have a commitment to recruiting players that will excel academically and athletically.

"We feel that [former head coach] Jim Mullins and Coach Burton established a really strong foundation of success over these last few years with winning the Liberty League championship and last year making the NCAA tournament," Bassett said. "We're looking at that as a foundation that we want to continue to build, and the trajectory of the program is strong. I know the current and future Bombers are really committed and excited to continue to compete at a very high level."
Junior Malaya Press plays the trombone at Ithaca College Trombone Troupe’s final concert May 2 at Ford Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music. Trombone Troupe members followed COVID-19 safety protocols by social distancing on the stage and wearing altered masks that allowed them to play their instruments.