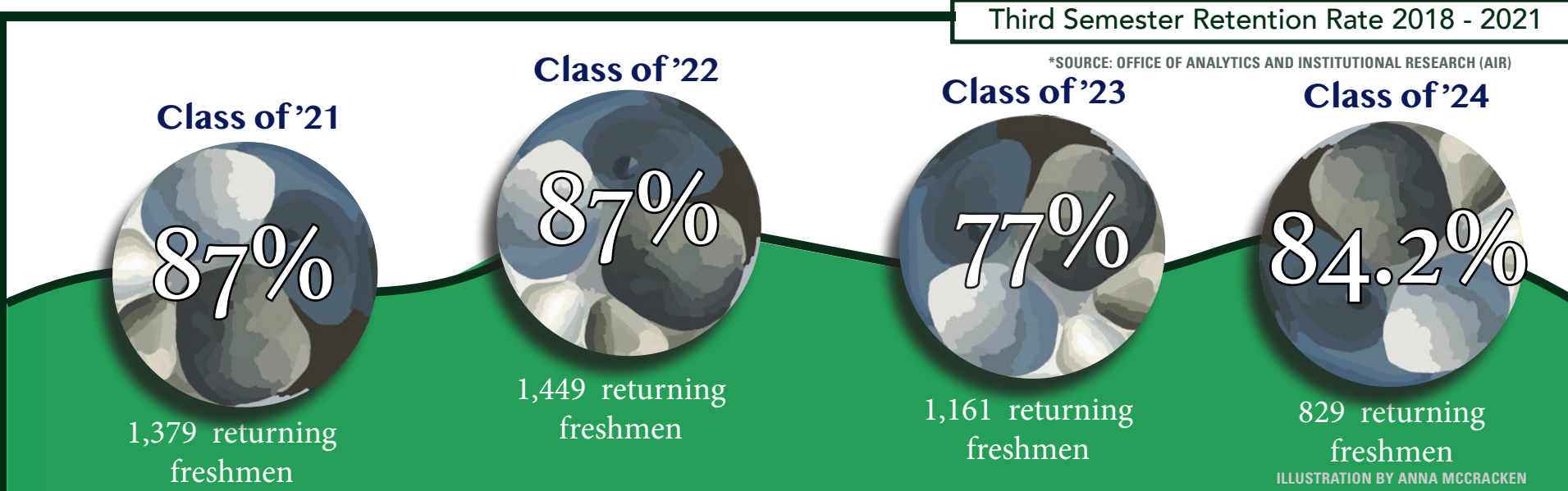


# IC sees slight change in enrollment numbers

Third semester retention rates increase from Fall 2020, but still down from past numbers



**BY SYD PIERRE**

While freshman enrollment at Ithaca College has increased from Fall 2020, campus community members still have concerns about student retention at the college following the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Overall enrollment at the college has been decreasing over the past few years, mirroring

national trends for colleges in the Northeast. According to the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research (AIR), there are a total of 5,239 students — 4,778 undergraduate, 421 graduate students and 40 extramural and exchange students — enrolled in Fall 2021. In Fall 2020, 5,354 students were enrolled at the college. Laurie Koehler, vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Strategy, said the

target enrollment number for Fall 2021 was 4,730 undergraduate students.

Freshman enrollment at the college rose from Fall 2020 when 992 freshmen were enrolled, to Fall 2021, when 1,166 freshmen were enrolled. The third semester retention rate also increased following the significant decrease that occurred because of the pandemic, but the level has not increased to its

pre-pandemic rate. In Fall 2015, the third semester retention rate was 85%, compared to 83% in 2016, 85% in 2017, 87% in 2018, 87% in 2019, 77.1% in 2020 and 84.2% in 2021.

According to a report released by the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) Research Center in early September, data shows a 2.5%

ENROLLMENT, PAGE 4


## COVID-19 pandemic has effects on college’s operation expenses

**BY LORIEN TYNE**

The Ithaca College community is adjusting both to the residual effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the college’s budget and the changes implemented as part of the Ithaca Forever strategic plan to create a more sustainable budget.

The college formally began the process of implementing the Ithaca Forever strategic plan in October 2019. The goals of the plan are to proactively address the national issue of declining student enrollment and to create a budget that matches the new demographics. The plan was launched before the COVID-19 pandemic, but the pandemic accelerated the rollout of changes.

The pandemic caused a decrease in the college’s operating budget. The college’s operating expenses for fiscal year 2021 dropped down to \$188,656,855 from \$231,452,699 in 2020. The budget for fiscal year 2022 is currently set at \$222,276,717. The college previously asked departments to cut their bud-



Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said the COVID-19 pandemic hurt the college’s budget.

ALYSSA BEEBE/THE ITHACAN

gets for the 2019–20 fiscal year because of anticipated lower enrollment numbers.

Tim Downs, vice president of Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said the college is a tuition-dependent institution and that room and board make about 90% of the net operating revenue. Tuition for the

2021–22 academic year is \$46,610 on top of the \$6,868 standard meal plan and a double room cost of \$8,976. Former President Shirley M. Collado said she wanted to move the college away from relying on tuition because of lower enrollment. During the State of the

BUDGET, PAGE 4

## Community members ask for transparency

**BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN**

The Ithaca College chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) is continuing to express the need for transparency in the current search for the college’s 10th president.

The Presidential Search Committee announced Oct. 6 that it picked the executive search firm Isaacson, Miller to use in the presidential search. In response, the AAUP released a statement Oct. 7. The statement listed three concerns it had with the committee and the Ithaca College Board of Trustees. The concerns were: the committee and board rejected the AAUP’s recommendations for shared governance in the search, the committee decided to run the search with the help of a firm and the search has not been declared open or closed.

“While the Board of Trustees is responsible for the selection of the next president, the search process is an optimal moment for the college to model a commitment to principles of shared governance by identifying ways in which all college consti-

ties can contribute meaningfully and deliberately,” the statement said.

Dan Breen, associate professor in the Department of English and president of the college’s AAUP chapter, said using a search firm can potentially be expensive and may not necessarily produce a better candidate. Using executive search firms to search for president or provost positions can cost public universities up to \$100,000 and potentially more.

The AAUP released a statement Sept. 20 asking for transparency in the presidential search along with three principles it wanted the Presidential Search Committee and Board of Trustees to take into consideration during the search. The AAUP asked for the entire search to be held openly, the search be held without the use of a search firm and that committee members be elected rather than appointed.

Breen said he hopes that the board of trustees and search committee come to the decision to hold the search openly. The search for the college’s ninth president, Shirley

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SHOW SEASON**



# IC spiritual leader to leave college

BY JILLIAN BLEIER

Hierald Osorto, executive director for Student Equity and Belonging and Religious and Spiritual Life, will be departing Ithaca College in November after three years of bringing the campus together and supporting students in their identities and beliefs.

News of his departure was shared with the campus community in an Oct. 12 Intercom announcement written by Rosanna Ferro, vice president for Student Affairs and Campus Life.

Osorto accepted a new role as the senior pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His last day at the college will be Nov. 8, according to the announcement.

Members of the campus community have expressed a mixture of sadness and hope in reaction to his departure.

Throughout his time at the college, Osorto also went on to oversee the Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change and the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services as executive director for Student Equity and Belonging.

Osorto said the majority of his work has consisted of ensuring that the college recognizes and supports the religious, spiritual and secular identities of students and working to create opportunities for campus community members to have inter-faith discussions about belonging to multiple identities.

"The students that I've met along the way have demonstrated to me what does it mean to be a resilient citizen and what does it mean to care deeply about justice, alongside caring deeply for self, right and to sustain that journey," he said.

Junior Isaac Schneider, president of Hillel at Ithaca College,



Hierald Osorto, executive director for Student Equity and Belonging and Religious and Spiritual Life at Ithaca College, is leaving the college in November 2021. Osorto was named the college's first director of Religious and Spiritual Life in 2018.

TENZIN NAMGYEL/THE ITHACAN

said Osorto has been a big supporter of Hillel and the Jewish community on campus.

"He's always at all of our events, he always checks in with Jewish students ... a lot of our Jewish students, including myself, see him a lot, because he shows up to our stuff and he supports our stuff," he said. "I think it's really great that we've all been able to work with him so closely."

Osorto said he hopes there will

continue to be a commitment to seeing religious and spiritual life as a core aspect of the college as an institution.

Schneider said he has been able to work with Osorto almost on a daily basis.

Junior Connor Watson said he first started working with Osorto during Spring 2021 when he presented Osorto with an idea for an event discussing the intersectionality of queerness and

spirituality and religion.

He said that finding out Osorto was leaving initially felt like a punch to the gut, but that he feels pure excitement for him now.

"He truly values the wholeness of each individual he encounters, and allows for those individuals to be their whole selves while working with him," Watson said via email.

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## MULTIMEDIA

THERE'S MORE MULTIMEDIA ONLINE. VISIT THEITHACAN.ORG/MULTIMEDIA



### BIPOC Students Celebrate Community

Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) organizations on campus held the IC BIPOC Kickback & Party on Oct. 8 in the Fitness Center.



### Women in Film: "Booksmart" (2019)

Host Sydney Brumfield and senior Sarah Borsari discuss the soon-to-be classic "Booksmart" and all of the moments that made them laugh and cry.



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# Computer science minors to merge

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Some programs in the Ithaca College Department of Computer Science are being renovated to offer more flexibility in course selection for students.

The department is planning to merge its three minors — computer science, web development and game design — under a newly-designed computer science minor. Students under the new minor will be able to continue taking classes that were previously offered under the three minors. Additionally, students seeking more structure could follow a persona — a special concentration within the department. Game design and web development will be making appearances in the personas, along with software engineering, data and artificial intelligence and systems programming.

Toby Dragon, associate professor and interim chair of the Department of Computer Science, said the new minor will be designed to give students the flexibility to create an experience that is unique to them. While admission to the web development and game design minors have been closed for Fall 2021, he said he hopes the program will be available for students by Fall 2022.

“We need to provide an education that gives them kind of a



Ithaca College senior Norman Staub said he is looking forward to changes being made in the Department of Computer Science. The department is planning on merging its three minors into a single minor.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

core understanding ... instead of pushing them into one specific track ... we’re hoping they get some ... choice to explore the kind of computer science that they’re interested in,” he said.

Senior Norman Staub said he welcomes the changes to the department. Staub said he initially wanted to pursue a minor in computer science but instead chose game development as a result of limited availability in classes that were required for the computer science minor.

“I think it’s a great change that they’re all being merged because the minors were so similar to begin with that it didn’t seem worth

it to sort of put a name to each of those minors,” Staub said.

In the future, Staub said he sees himself working in the visual effects industry.

“I chose game development ... because especially now and into the future, those two industries, film and game development, are sort of crossing over in a lot more ways than they ever have,” Staub said.

Junior Laci Young said she appreciates having structure to course selection, but also likes the idea of having more choice in elective classes.

“I think this is where we are given the chance to really

experiment in our field and find the direction we want to go in after school,” Young said.

Young, who said she transferred to Ithaca College from SUNY Broome Community College, in Binghamton, New York, was initially attracted to the Ithaca College Department of Computer Science because of its wide range of courses.

“There are many jobs available with a computer science degree, so I think Ithaca College does a good job at helping us figure out where we actually want to go with it,” Young said.

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# Park supports industry work

BY OLIVIA STANZL

Members of the Ithaca College community have expressed their support for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its territories and Canada.

Jack Powers, interim dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College, announced his support of the IATSE on Sept. 27 on the Park School’s Instagram account. IATSE was founded in 1893 when stagehand representatives met in New York City and pledged to support fair wages and working conditions for all of their members. IATSE began talks of a strike when more and more of their workers were frustrated with low pay, marathon workdays and missed meal breaks, according to the Instagram post. IATSE president Matthew Loeb planned to have the union go on strike Oct. 18 unless a deal with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) was reached before then. The strike was avoided when a contract was created Oct. 16, just two days before the planned strike.

Powers said he was prompted to create the post because the COVID-19 pandemic has created a perfect opportunity for workers to demand fairer treatment. The pandemic allowed people the time to question how they are spending their time. After being home, many found they are happier, and in some cases, making more money from unemployment benefits than their pay through their jobs.

The Park School has over 13,000 alumni in the communications industry around the world. This includes screenwriters, studio executives, directors, editors for photography magazines and more.

“Over the years, we have all heard horror stories about our graduates being asked to work seven days a week, 16–20 hours a day, and not getting a lunch break or a dinner break,” Powers said.

Sophomore Lauren Thier, a television and radio major, said she has always envisioned a life doing what she said she loves most — directing.

“This current crisis in Hollywood is making me question everything,” Thier said. “I know there needs to be change.”

Thier is the current director of ICTV Reports and said she hopes to one day work in Los Angeles or New York City.

She said that while there needs to be change, she understands she has to put in the work to reach her goals.

The “great resignation” is how employees began to quit their jobs in response to COVID-19. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 4 million Americans quit their jobs in July 2021. Powers said change on these fronts were essential.

“We’re seeing some alums decide to leave the industry that they love because of the conditions and the low pay,” Powers said.

A member of the union created a petition on Change.org in support of voting “no” regarding the agreement. With a goal of 2,500 signatures, over 1,900 have already signed.

Carolyn Pender ’07 said in an Instagram post that, despite her real-life experience of abuse, she is still questioning whether or not to ratify.

“I am not disappointed solely in our leaders, but also in myself and other passive members for not communicating these concerns effectively before negotiations began,” Pender said.

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# Students start pre-veterinary society

BY CECILIA MEZA

Although Ithaca College does not have a veterinary program, the dedicated members of the IC Pre-Vet Society aim to help students interested in the veterinary field apply to veterinary school and find shadowing opportunities in the community to achieve their dreams.

The club was originally formed in 2015, but was reinstated for the fall semester under an entirely new executive board. Only 33 colleges in the United States, including Cornell University, have a veterinary program in comparison to the 157 medical schools available. Ithaca College is not one of them.

The scarcity of these schools leads to a competitive applicant pool, meaning applicants need to stand out, and the Pre-Vet Society aims to provide its members with the resources to do so.

The new executive board held its first meeting Sept. 14, but have planned a number of events for the semester. The members held a panel Oct. 12 with two alumni: Morgan Van Dyx, a veterinary student at the Ohio State University, and Suzette Moschettib, program coordinator of Maddie’s Shelter Medicine at Cornell.

The panel was held to give members more insight into veterinary school and the world of veterinary medicine.

Senior Khangelani Mhlanga, president of the Pre-Vet Society, said one of the goals of the club is to establish connections with different organizations and hospitals so that members have volunteer opportunities.



From left, sophomore Bella Suarez, senior Viviana Perez, senior Khangelani Mhlanga and junior Emily Kopecky are all members of the newly reinstated IC Pre-Vet Society.

ALYSSA BEEBE/THE ITHACAN

“There are already fewer options and there’s also a major university on the other side of the hill that’s also looking to get opportunities and so members really benefit from having an established connection,” she said.

Junior Emily Kopecky, treasurer of the club, said that working over the summer as a veterinary assistant at Garden State Veterinary Services, a veterinary hospital in Iselin, New Jersey, was the best experience of her life.

“I learned under the supervision of technicians, I learned how to inject meds, I learned how to place IVs, it was insane how much I learned with only an entry-level job,” she said.

Ian Woods, associate professor in the

Department of Biology and the club advisor, said it is possible to major in anything and still go to vet school as long as the necessary prerequisites are filled.

“All our bio majors are able to get hands-on research experience as part of our bio curriculum, and many of our labs use animals in research, so our pre-vet students have lots of opportunities to prepare and gain skills and experience,” he said. “IC has been highly successful in terms of its students being admitted to vet school.”

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FROM ENROLLMENT, PAGE 1

decline in undergraduate attendance this fall. The report also said undergraduate enrollments at all types of institutions have declined, compared to the same time last fall.

Koehler said the college has set a goal to increase the retention rate to 87% within the next two years and to 90% by 2026. Koehler said fifth semester — first semester junior — retention rate is a large predictor of the overall graduation rate.

In Fall 2017, the fifth semester rate was 77.3%, compared to 74.9% in Fall 2018 and 76.1% in Fall 2019.

“If you had to ask me for one metric that was the best indicator of your success as a college, it would be your graduation rate,” Koehler said. “And we are still in a place where we’re not where I think we can be, given the quality of this institution and the quality of our students.”

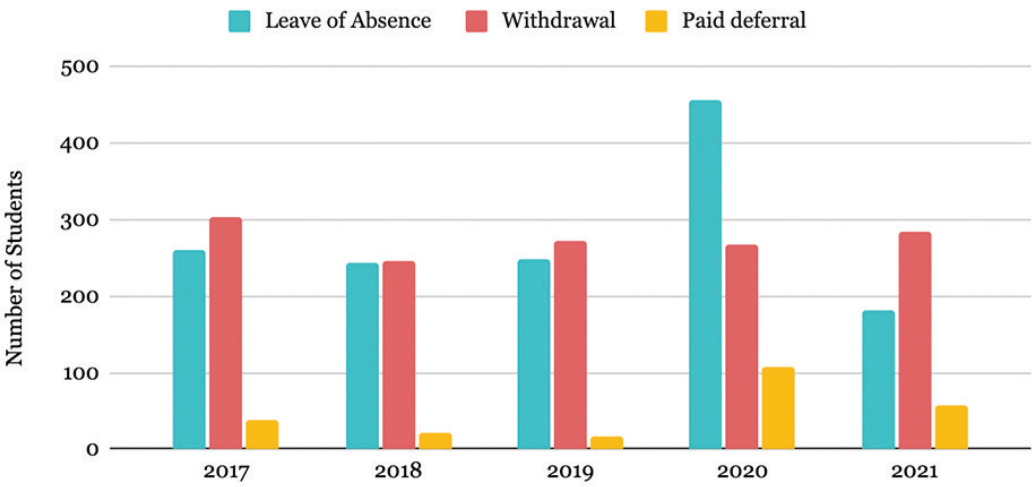
The rate of students who graduated within four years was 72.6% in 2018, 71.6% in 2019 and has remained at 69% for Fall 2020 and Fall 2021.

The rate of students who graduated within five years was 74% in 2018, 76.8% in 2019 and has remained at 76.5 % for Fall 2020 and Fall 2021.

Jay Tagliani, a junior at Boston University, said both he and his roommate decided to transfer to Boston University from Ithaca College in March 2021.

Fall Leave of Absence, Withdrawal and Undergraduate Paid Deferred Students

\*Source: Division of Marketing and Enrollment Strategy



\*Fall 2021 data are as of mid-September, and prior semesters' data are as of the end of the semester

ANNA MCCracken/THE ITHACAN

Tagliani said there was an accumulation of factors that led to his decision to transfer, including housing decisions and dining at the college.

He also said that while his professors at Ithaca College were better than his current professors at Boston University, he felt like the students at Ithaca College were generally unmotivated, which was demonstrated in lack of discussions and engagement in his classes.

“It felt like at IC, we’re stuck in this trap of this sort of dwindling incoming class forcing the admission standards to sort of drop, which led to fewer people applying to IC [and] fewer people committing to IC, which meant they had to drop the standards

even lower,” Tagliani said.

The acceptance rate at the college has been increasing over time and the rate for Fall 2021 is the highest it has been since 1991, where the acceptance rate was 85.6%.

In 2019, the acceptance rate was 64.8%, compared to 68.5% in 2018, 72.7% in 2019, 75.6% in 2020 and 77.7% in 2021.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the average acceptance rate of first-time applicants to private, four-year institutions in Fall 2019 was 49.5%.

Kyra Feick, a fourth-year at Northeastern University, said she transferred after her sophomore year at Ithaca College. Feick, who played field hockey at the college,

said there were many factors that went into her decision to transfer, including that she wanted to live in a city post-graduation and wanted to grow her professional career as a business student. She said the pandemic and the remote Fall 2020 was a large factor in her decision.

“I was thinking about [transferring] a little bit, but I thought it was pretty unrealistic and it was just going to be way too hard to do and actually pull off,” Feick said. “But COVID really put me in perspective that ‘Oh, well, you never really know what the future is like.’ So sometimes it’s OK to take risks and go off the path.”

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FROM SEARCH, PAGE 1

M. Collado, began as an open search but eventually was closed during the final candidate stages.

“The AAUP thinks that’s really essential because generally speaking, morale on our campus among faculty and staff is pretty low as it is, and having an open search process seems like it could be a sort of strong attempt on the part of the institution to start cultivating an atmosphere of trust,” he said. “And in addition, it gives the rest of the campus an opportunity to participate.”

In a statement to *The Ithacan*, David Fleisher ’91, chair of the Presidential Search Committee, and David Lissy ’87, chair of the board of trustees, said search firms are commonly used when looking for leadership positions in higher education.

“We are extremely pleased with the composition of Ithaca College’s search committee, which will bring a tremendous breadth and depth of expertise and perspectives to this critical work,” the statement said.

Fleisher and Lissy said the firm will help to manage and organize the search process, while the committee will evaluate the candidates the firm finds.

They said the process includes open forums the firm is holding with the campus community. There were two open forums held — Oct. 19 and 20 — with the partners from Isaacson, Miller who are working with the college for members of the campus community to share their thoughts on what they are looking for in the college’s next president.

The Oct. 19 forum was held via Zoom while the one held Oct. 20 was in-person in the Emerson Suites. Kate Barry and Karen McPhedran were the two Isaacson, Miller



From left, Kate Barry and Karen McPhedram, Isaacson, Miller search firm partners, and David Fleisher ’91 speak at the open forum event for the current presidential search Oct. 20 in the Emerson Suites.  
KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN

partners who led the forums. About 30 people attended the Oct. 19 forum. Barry said the input given at the forum events will help to create a profile of what the community wants in the next president. The profile will then be given to the committee and then released to the public after committee approval.

Kathleen Mulligan, professor in the Department of Theatre Arts, said she is looking for a president that is committed to the college and will stay at the college while they implement changes. Collado received backlash from members of the campus community who were upset that she was leaving after implementing the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process.

“If you’re going to do it, I think a person needs to be resilient and be able to be in that position,” she said.

Barry did not say if the search will be open or closed, however, she said it is difficult to have a public, open finalist phase of the search.

“The reason for that is the candidates simply aren’t willing to do it,” she said. “It’s not necessarily because they have something to hide, it’s because they’re trying to protect their current institutions.”

Jonathan Ablard, professor in the Department of History, said morale on campus is at a low point. He said he has talked with students who are losing professors because of the APP, which he thinks has an effect on the value of the education at the college.

Dean of Students Bonnie Prunty said hopes to see someone who has experience working in situations with constrained financials.

“It would be really beneficial to have somebody who can demonstrate that they’ve already done some really creative things in a situation where they didn’t have a lot of resources financially,” she said.

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FROM BUDGET, PAGE 1

College meeting Oct. 5, Downs said the total revenue from tuition and room and board was \$211,472,084 in 2019, \$190,142,130 in 2020 and \$137,978,111 in 2021. The total revenue for tuition and room and board for the 2022 fiscal year is expected to be \$182,240,632.

Downs said in an interview that the college is keeping costs for tuition and room and board the same for the 2021–22 academic year. Downs said decreasing enrollment was an issue before the pandemic, but the rise in students deferring and taking gap years during the 2020–21 academic year will result in a longer-lasting financial impact.

“If we didn’t match the budget with student enrollment revenue and kept the expenses the same, we’d be running at a considerable operating deficit every year and we just can’t do that,” Downs said.

The operating deficit for fiscal year 2020 was \$3,446,240 and the deficit for the 2021 fiscal year is \$10,282,639. The deficit for 2022 is expected to be \$2,135,185. The operating deficit accounts for the total expenses the college has in a fiscal year subtracted by the amount of total revenue.

Downs said the administration is continuously looking for opportunities to reduce annual expenditures beyond faculty and program cuts by restructuring the college. He said so far, some of these opportunities have included insourcing services, restructuring majors and departments, reorganizing the responsibilities of staff and faculty, adjusting vendor services and virtualizing hardware servers.

“On top of the strategic plan implementation, the impact of COVID caused the institution to have to make some short-term cuts to minimize the effect of the pandemic,” Downs said via email. “These reductions included no pay increases for two years, the reduction of retirement plan contributions and the delay of capital plan investments.”

Interim librarian Karin Wikoff, who has worked at the college since 2004, said the department has needed to find ways to reduce expenses and shift money around because of its limited budget during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Some of the positions that were eliminated, it was the right call,” Wikoff said. “On the other hand, with some of the positions that were eliminated, we are still trying to sort out what they did and who will do it now.”

Junior Ellen Chapman is a student manager for the library and said the number of library work study positions offered have decreased from previous years. She said this has impacted accessibility for students wanting to use library space and services.

“The library used to be open all day most days, so you could show up to the library whenever you wanted,” Chapman said. “Now, there are so many times when it opens and closes, [that] even though I work here, I don’t totally know.”

Campus members have made repeated comments about the overall lack of communication about the strategic plan and related changes, as well as their confusion about budget cuts related to COVID-19.

“I am hoping we can help dispel some of the mystery or mystique around this because there are a lot of things changing and a lot of things going on and people may start to connect things that are not necessarily connected and say ‘that must be because of expense cuts,’ and most times they’re not,” Downs said.

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# Ph.D. candidate discusses inclusion

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Wythe Marshall, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of the History of Science at Harvard University, spoke to Ithaca College students about the lack of inclusion of scientific knowledge from marginalized communities.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy Seminar, “Defining, Globalizing, and Decolonizing the History of Science: Reflections and Open Problems,” took place Oct. 19 in the Center for Natural Science.

Marshall spoke virtually to about 21 members of the community regarding the limitations of science, as defined by European and American standards. Marshall said the history of science as it is known should become more objective in its explanation of scientific knowledge systems.

He said there were several cases in history in which scientific ideas from marginalized, non-Western communities were often overlooked — like the separation of traditional Chinese medicine, a branch of Chinese medicine which encompasses a range of health and healing practices, from biomedicine, a branch of Western medicine that combines biological and physiological principles to clinical practice.



Eric Leibensperger, assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, moderated a seminar where Wythe Marshall, Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University, discussed the lack of inclusion in science.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

“So if science is unitarian transhistorical, how do you explain sudden shifts?” Marshall asked. “There might be an issue with sort of assuming that there is this one view of reality that we are all just working toward.”

Senior Antara Sen, who helped organize the event, said they enjoyed learning about the ways in which many scientific discoveries have been overshadowed by elitist standards of academia.

“I think that talking about these issues helps illuminate to younger students that

there isn’t just one way to be a scientist,” Sen said. “Science truly is the all-encompassing act of ‘making knowledge.’”

Eric Leibensperger, assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, said he was pleased the seminar was able to draw attention to the impact of colonialism in the field.

“While a lot of what we teach is derived from [Western scientists], there’s a whole wealth of information and knowledge out there that we might not be exposed to and be using to its best ability,” Leibensperger said.

“I think it’s a really powerful message to be able to realize there’s much more out there and that there’s much more that we can do to give credit where credit is due.”

Leibensperger also said that while science is taught in a linear manner, it did not reflect the extent of scientific discovery throughout history.

“There are leaps and bounds; discoveries and all of those things so there are big, monumental moments,” Leibensperger said.

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# Tickets on sale for Cortaca 2021

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

Tickets for the 62nd annual Cortaca Jug game between Ithaca College and SUNY Cortland go on sale for students, faculty and staff Oct. 25.

Tickets will be on sale from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 25, noon to 3 p.m. Oct. 26 and 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Athletics and Events Center concession booth.

All tickets for students, faculty and staff cost \$10 and there is a limit of two tickets per student ID and faculty or staff ID. However, students are allowed to bring an additional ID with them to pick up tickets.

Tickets will not be sold at the game, which will be held at the SUNY Cortland Stadium Complex.

Any remaining tickets after Ithaca College and SUNY Cortland students, faculty and staff pickups will be sold at noon Oct. 31 online.

Sales will be limited to four tickets per transaction and tickets can be picked up at will-call starting at 10:30 a.m. on game day, Nov. 13. Tickets are general admission for first come, first served seating in the general admission section. If attendees leave the stadium early, they cannot re-enter.

Attendees are not allowed to bring food, alcoholic beverages, backpacks, bags, totes, artificial noisemakers, bottles or cans, banners or flags, pets, umbrellas, tobacco or weapons of any kind into the stadium.

The 2020 Cortaca Jug game was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a press conference Sept. 21, the colleges announced the 2022 game will be held at Yankee Stadium.

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# Professor receives award for work on American Muslims

Samah Choudhury, assistant professor in the Ithaca College Department of Philosophy and Religion, has received the first place “Young Scholars Award” from the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), an annual award that recognizes “emerging leaders whose research focuses on American Muslims.”

The ISPU is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization focused on research and education about American Muslims in an effort to provide a better understanding of the community and to support a well-informed dialogue.

Choudhury focused on the stand-up comedy routines of Muslim American comedians, specifically using Aziz Ansari, Hasan Minhaj and Kumail Nanjiani as case studies.

Staff writer Mel Andia spoke with Choudhury about her research.

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

**Mel Andia:** Can you give a brief overview of your work?

**Samah Choudhury:** My research looks at the way that American Muslims ... self articulate themselves through ... humor ... I think there’s this association that people already make ... Muslims are stoic, they’re unfriendly, they’re stubborn, they can’t take a joke. So there’s ... points in our recent history that really undergird this assumption ... The debates that usually follow ... typically seem to boil down to two questions: why is it that Muslims can’t take a joke, and does that mean that Islam is therefore incompatible with modernity.

**MA:** You focused your work on the case studies of Hasan Minhaj, Kumail Nanjiani and Aziz Ansari. Was your focus on male comedians a specific choice or the result of there being few high profile Muslim women in comedy?

**SC:** It’s no accident that it’s these three men. Minhaj was on “The Daily Show” originally, ... which led to the special that he had on Netflix ... Nanjiani starts off on Comedy Central ... And Ansari was on “Parks and Recreation” for many years. ... The high profile nature of these three men is something that hasn’t been mirrored among other Muslim comedians and certainly not Muslim women comedians. ... The comedy world is ... a man’s world. There are women comedians who speak to that effect very eloquently ... but also the fact that there’s a certain type of Muslim [that] I think people want to see and Muslim men seem to embody that myth in a way that women just don’t.

**MA:** What was the most important takeaway you found from your research?

**SC:** The most important takeaways for me are the way we think about and talk about religion and race in the contemporary United States, and that’s what my project is trying to get at. The way that these men perform Islam, embodying themselves as Muslims in their comedy onstage ... is in a way that really blurs the lines between race and religion. ... These men are trying to speak to [the current political climate] trying to understand and combat anti-Muslim hostility in that way. It also ends up reconceptualizing what we mean by religion. Is religion the same



Samah Choudhury, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, recently received an award for her research on Muslim Americans, specifically in the comedy world.

SURINA BELK GUPTA/THE ITHACAN

thing as race or is there something different happening here?

**MA:** Comedians are never described as a “Christian comedian” but for Muslims, they are always presented as a “Muslim comedian” first. Why do you think this divide appears?

**SC:** The fact that we don’t refer to people as “Christian comedians” or even “white comedians,” [means] we’re under the assumption that whiteness is ... a default. Meaning that when we are referring to comedians via their religion, it’s usually with respect to Muslims. Even Muslims who are Black don’t get coded as Muslim comedians. Many people don’t

know this but Dave Chappelle ... is also Muslim ... In the early 2000s he actually took a break from comedy ... to focus on his religion, and he talked about it openly and folks still didn’t want to talk about that. They wanted to talk about whether or not he was doing drugs, was it because he was going crazy, these kinds of things, associations that they would rather make that come out of anti-black racism than actually taking this man at his word. So the ways that religion is summoned into these conversations is really interesting.

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COLLEGE BRIEFS

New podcasting workshop offered as part of digital storytelling series

The Center for Creative Technology (CCT) will be hosting a podcasting workshop at 4:30 p.m. Oct. 21. Participants will be walked through different aspects of creating a podcast, including creating, recording, editing and distributing a podcast.

Participants will learn how to reserve and utilize the Podcasting Room in Job 102, how to operate a Rodecaster Pro and how to edit audio using Soundtrap. The event is open to all interested students, faculty and staff, and is part of the CCT’s digital storytelling series.

Interim provost to hold an hour for all students to share feedback

Interim Provost Melanie Stein will be holding an open office hour for all students from noon to 1 p.m. Nov. 4 at the Provost’s Office, located on the third floor of the Peggy Ryan Williams Center.

Students will be able to meet with her directly to share any suggestions, feedback or concerns. Students requesting accommodations may contact the Provost’s Office at provost@ithaca.edu.

Independent journalist to discuss new book about border zones

The Park Center for Independent Media will be hosting a talk with award-winning, independent journalist, Todd Miller, and author of his book called “Building Bridges Not Walls: A Journey to a World Without Borders.”

The event will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 28 in Textor 101. The event is free and open to the public, and interested individuals can also attend the event on Zoom.

Miller will discuss his new book, which asks whether it is possible to have a borderless world. In the book, he accounts experiences in Guatemala and other border zones and his interactions with the U.S. Border Patrol Agents, deportees, migrants, human-rights activists and scholars.

His work has been published in the New York Times, The Nation, San Francisco Chronicle, Guernica and Al Jazeera English. Miller was the recipient of the 2018 Izzy Award for his contributions to independent media.

In-person meetings resume at IC for alcoholism and addiction support

The South Hill Higher Ground Al-Anon Group, a worldwide 12-step organization, has resumed in-person meetings for alcoholism or addiction support for friends and family members of addicts. Meetings will take place from noon to 12:50 p.m. Wednesdays in the Phillips Room of Muller Chapel.

All students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome to attend. Participants will be asked to social distance and wear a mask.

Office of the Provost accepting honorary degree nominations

Nominations for honorary degrees are due by Nov. 1 to the Office of the Provost. Completed forms will be accepted until close of business and should be sent to MaryAnn Taylor in the Office of the Provost. Honorary degrees will be conferred by the Ithaca College Board of Trustees at May Commencement 2022.

The nomination form is available on the Provost website. The nomination form must be completely filled out upon submission and include rationale and supporting data.

Nominees must possess a record of outstanding personal and/or public achievement, community service, philanthropic endeavors and interest in education and/or humanitarian programs; be known for outstanding scholarly contributions and/or demonstration of some other significant service of benefit to humanity or Ithaca College; and have made outstanding contributions in the private sector of society in ways that harmonize with the heritage, character and mission of the college.



Students have a sweet time at contest

From left, freshmen Keely Crane and Cami Weldon participate in a cupcake decorating contest Oct. 12 organized by the IC Women in STEM club. The club recognizes women in STEM. Crane won first place for her cupcake design.

ASH BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

IC professor to talk climate justice at event for guest scholar-activist

The Park Center for Independent Media, Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival, the Departments of Politics, Physics and Environmental Studies and Science at Ithaca College will be hosting an event to discuss environmental and climate justice.

The event, “A Conversation between Prakash Kashwan and Jake Brenner,” will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 26 on Zoom. The event is free and open to the public.

Brenner, associate professor and chair in the Department of Environmental Studies and Science at the college, will be speaking with Kashwan, political science professor and prolific scholar-activist in the fields of climate and environmental justice at the University of Connecticut, Storrs in Mansfield, Connecticut. He is the author of the book “Democracy in the Woods: Environmental Conservation and Social Justice in India, Tanzania and Mexico” and a co-editor of the journal of Environmental Politics.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM OCTOBER 11 TO OCTOBER 17

OCTOBER 11

PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200

LOCATION: 145 Textor Circle  
SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person stole ear buds. Patrol Officer Shawn Lansing responded.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a medical monitoring device reported a person having a diabetic emergency. The officer located the person and determined the message was in error. The person was determined not to be in medical distress. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

OCTOBER 12

CHECK ON THE WELFARE

LOCATION: 104 Flora Brown Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a person posted alarming messages on social media about harming themselves. The officer reported that the person was located and was not a threat to themselves or others. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

SCC COLLEGE REGULATIONS

LOCATION: 100-300 Block Textor Circle  
SUMMARY: An officer reported that an unknown person drew with chalk

on a walkway. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported being unable to make contact with a person in a bathroom for several minutes. The caller later reported that contact was made with the person prior to the officer’s arrival and that the person was not in need of assistance. Fire Protection Specialist Max Noble responded.

CHECK ON THE WELFARE

LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a person passed out for two to three hours and was incoherent when woken. The officer reported that the person was not in need of medical assistance. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

OCTOBER 13

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: 284 Lyceum Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that marijuana and drug paraphernalia were found during New York state fire inspections. The officer reported that one person was referred for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

V&T LEAVING SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

LOCATION: S of 134 Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported observing a vehicle strike a parked vehicle causing damage and then leaving the area Oct. 11. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

OCTOBER 14

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: 143 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a previous medical issue was causing severe pain and discomfort and requested medical assistance. The officer reported the person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: S of 143-151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown person wrote a vulgar message in dust that was on a vehicle. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

OCTOBER 15

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

LOCATION: S of 123 Farm Pond Road  
SUMMARY: An officer reported observing a suspicious vehicle in the

area. The officer reported that the vehicle has permission to be in the area. Master Patrol Officer Joseph Oppen responded.

AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT 2ND DEGREE

LOCATION: All other/other  
SUMMARY: A third party caller reported a person was being harassed via social media. Master Patrol Officer Joseph Oppen responded.

OCTOBER 16

FIRE ACTUAL FIRE/FLAME/IGNITION

LOCATION: 334 Grant Egbert Boulevard  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported that the alarm activation was accidental. Patrol Officer Mark Jones responded.

ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: 113 Campus Center Way  
SUMMARY: An officer reported a broken window. The officer reported that the damage appeared to be accidental property damage. Master Patrol Officer Joseph Oppen responded.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: 113 Campus Center Way  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown person damaged a glass door. The officer reported

that the glass of the door was replaced by facilities prior to the officer’s arrival. Patrol Officer Shawn Lansing responded.

OCTOBER 17

CHANGE IN THE CASE STATUS

LOCATION: N of 125 Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: An officer reported locating the person that the Ithaca Police Department (IPD) had requested a welfare check completed before this date. The person declined medical assistance and the IPD was updated. Sergeant Don Lyke responded.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: Higgins Stadium  
SUMMARY: An officer reported one person referred for attempting to steal an athletic banner and one person referred for damage to the banner. Master Patrol Officer Joseph Oppen responded.

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

KEY

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





MOLLY STANTON/THE ITHACAN

## EDITORIALS

### Support needed for union in entertainment industry

Ithaca College supports the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its territories and Canada. The IATSE provides support to establish fair working conditions for workers in all arts, media and entertainment.

Over 13,000 Ithaca College Roy H. Park School of Communications alumni work in the entertainment industry. In supporting the IATSE, we support our alumni and contribute to creating better working conditions that many students will be going into after they graduate. The COVID-19 pandemic allowed workers to step back and evaluate the conditions they were working in and how they needed to change. Many workers were working seven days a week for lower wages than they received on unemployment.

The workaholic mindset is something familiar to many students at the college. This mentality is slowly being dismantled in this

generation, but it remains prominent in many competitive fields of work including the entertainment industry. That is slowly changing and many students and professionals are recognizing that while there does need to be hard work, it shouldn't be hard physically or mentally. Students who are studying and working toward securing the exact positions these workers are unsatisfied with and overworked from will benefit from the change the IATSE is trying to implement. The IATSE is currently fighting to ensure conditions improve and workers are paid fair wages for the work they put in. When many Park students envision their futures, there is this common misconception that it is expected from them to put in endless hours of work for low pay to be able to move up. The IATSE recognizes that this is not fair or reasonable and when Jack Powers, interim dean of the Park School, shared his public support for the IATSE, it shed light on the industry for many students who are invested in joining this line of work.

### Fall 2021 enrollment rates shed light on many issues

Enrollment, retention and graduation rates are a reflection of the college's administration as much as it is on students. With the decline in the graduation rate and the decreasing enrollment over the last few years, some light has been shed on the lack of regard on behalf of the administration. The graduation rate in the last few years has been declining — not significantly, but in a constant decline. The number of student transfers and students who have taken a leave of absence has increased. While in part, the pandemic is at fault for some students deferring or taking a leave of absence, some students had unresolved concerns or issues that were brought to light but not addressed by the school. It should be a priority to identify the factors that cause students to transfer or take a leave of absence and address them to their full extent. When the college neglects to address student concerns that it is aware of, it will inevitably lead to

discontentment and a lack of school spirit or pride. Time and time again, students have expressed their disappointment and dissatisfaction with the housing process, the state of some residence halls and the food the college offers in its dining halls.

Enrollment, retention and graduation rates matter because they set the precedent for the school; it contributes to how the school is seen by its students and potential students. Ithaca College is a highly awarded private institution, so there is a certain prestige and reputation that comes with that.

Establishing not just communication but also definite plans of action in the near future to ensure that all students feel they are receiving the education and community they enrolled in, is only the first step the college should take. Instead of lowering standards and remaining content with the current state of the college, the college needs to refocus its efforts in making adequate changes sooner rather than later.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

ALL LETTERS MUST:

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

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send to [ithacan@ithaca.edu](mailto:ithacan@ithaca.edu) or to the opinion editor [gguzman@ithaca.edu](mailto:gguzman@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



GUEST COMMENTARY

# Transfer students need more help

BY MARIA DOBKOWSKI

*Editors Note: This is a guest commentary. The opinions expressed in this piece do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board.*

An issue on campus that may be overlooked right now is the lack of attention given to transfer students at Ithaca College. According to the college website, about 100 students transfer to Ithaca College from other colleges and universities every year.

This is not something that should be taken lightly. I am currently a senior in the integrated marketing communications program. I transferred during my junior year in Fall 2020, and it has been extremely stressful.

Trying to start and finish a major as a transfer student is hard enough, but trying to build relationships and find connections and jobs on top of it can be completely overwhelming.

While watching non-transfer students in my classes already have great internship opportunities, I saw myself getting denied and discouraged when internship coordinators didn't even respond to me. What was the reason? Being a transfer student during a pandemic put me behind in gaining that one-on-one experience and getting internship opportunities



Senior Maria Dobkowski explains why Ithaca College should implement more programs to help support and guide transfer students. She illustrates her own experience being a transfer student at the college.

RICHIE MORRIS/THE ITHACAN

to work with different companies. Being online for over a year also created a disconnect with staff and faculty, which made it harder to reach out with concerns and ask for help.

All these factors and stressors affect my mental health because I'm surrounded by people my age who are way more successful than me and it feels like they are above me with that extra experience.

It's a discouraging environment that can make you feel like you're not good enough. Colleges tend to specifically focus on freshmen, but transfer students are also just as important. Personally, I think

Ithaca College should have a program dedicated to transfer students who may be behind or feeling discouraged.

The college should have opportunities that are only designated for the transfer student program that can help students boost their experience in their field. Having networking nights for transfer students to be able to meet different faculty or connections in the Ithaca community could also be beneficial.

Another opportunity that the college offers is studying abroad. That is a very important experience and opportunity you do not get often. If the transfer student program had a special study

abroad process just for transfer students, this would help eliminate the issue of transfer students being "left behind" and still give them the experience and opportunity to travel the world.

Transferring to a new school can already be overwhelming, but to have to figure it all out in just two years can be extremely difficult and set you up for failure.

By establishing this transfer student program, I truly believe it could help transfer students deal with issues unique to them and help set them up for success.

**MARIA DOBKOWSKI** is a senior integrated marketing communications major. Contact her at [mdobkowski@ithaca.edu](mailto:mdobkowski@ithaca.edu).



## MINDFUL TALKS

ALLIE RICHTER

# Student athletes also struggle

My name is Allie Richter (she/her). I am a freshman here on campus majoring in psychology and minoring in counseling. Helping people with their mental health and creating more awareness around it is something I am deeply passionate about. I am also someone who struggles with depression and anxiety and feel that at times, I can't talk about my journey because of how stigmatized mental health is in our society. That is why I created this column to talk to different people on campus about their journeys with mental health and to show people that they are not alone and that we as a community should talk more about mental health.

This summer as I watched the Olympics and saw Simone Biles step down, needing to take time for her mental health, I began to realize that even gold medal athletes aren't immune to mental illness. We put professional athletes on pedestals and see them as invincible, always working and never dealing with their own personal struggles. From Simone Biles to Michael Phelps, these athletes want to shed light on the reality of being an athlete and that even they are fighting their own battles.

We never question an athlete needing to take time and seek help when they injure themselves physically, but as soon as they need to step away to tend to their mental health, it is perceived that something is wrong with them or that they aren't "tough enough." Athletes shouldn't be viewed as cowardly for seeking help, instead, they should be seen as brave for being willing to get the help they need and take time away from their sport.

I decided to talk with an athlete and one of my friends here on campus about her journey with dealing with mental health as a college athlete. Lauren Rodriguez is a freshman occupational therapy major and plays on the tennis team.

Many, if not all sports have a competitive nature to them, and this is what often causes the pressure athletes feel. Lauren said how she feels pressure, "Not only on myself but also pressure from my teammates, coaches and family to do well."

She continued to say how this also tends to affect her self-confidence and comparison since a lot of her sport is comparing herself to her teammates. This is an aspect that I didn't even think of when talking to her about being a student-athlete. Not only do the athletes put pressure on themselves, there are also so many other aspects of their lives that add to this pressure.

If you are an athlete, reach out to your teammates and let them know that you are there to support them.

That small gesture can do so much for a teammate that is struggling.

**MINDFUL TALKS** is a column on mental health, meant to destigmatize and educate. **ALLIE RICHTER** is a freshman psychology major. Contact her at [arichter@ithaca.edu](mailto:arichter@ithaca.edu).

GUEST COMMENTARY

# Social media impacts the hiring process

BY CHEYENNE BLOUT

I knew that hiring managers would probably look at my social media sites before hiring me, but I didn't know that job candidates could have a lasting impression based on their social media.

When my mom told me the marketing department for the company she works at decided to go with one candidate over another due to her following on Instagram, I was shocked — especially because it was for a digital marketing specialist role. Maybe it proved that she was able to attract an audience and establish her own personal brand, but I was taught that the main reason for hiring managers to skim through your social media sites was to make sure the person on your resume somewhat matched the person you choose to show to the world.

I think it's important to keep up with social media to an extent. But "How much should I keep up with social media?" was a question I found out the hard way ... during a job interview. Yes, social media was brought up for a third of my job interview time. It was then that I realized how important one's knowledge of social media sites could be, especially for a job in digital marketing or any marketing job. In this case, it was for a content marketing internship at Terakeet. The interviewer asked what three influencers I felt were doing well on Instagram, why I liked them, what they do, etc. I wasn't prepared to come up with three



Senior Cheyenne Blout discusses the importance of your social media and encourages students to think about how hiring managers may perceive them based on their personal accounts.

KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN

influencers off the top of my head, so I listed one influencer, and two well-known celebrities and answered the remaining questions regarding influencers with a bunch of um's as I scrambled for answers my brain couldn't provide at the moment. It was safe to say that I didn't get the internship, but I learned the importance of utilizing social media as a tool, not entirely as something to do for fun.

It's also important for us to acknowledge that when applying for a job, social media sites are open and available for hiring managers to look through and the main control that we have over this is to either make the

social media account private or not have one at all. I think that it's a great opportunity to use class homework as a way to improve our professional profiles, especially a LinkedIn page because it can provide students an easy place to connect to companies, individuals, and even alumni who, for the most part, are more than happy to talk with fellow students and even help them out with their job applications.

**CHEYENNE BLOUT** is a senior integrated marketing communications major. Contact her at [cblout@ithaca.edu](mailto:cblout@ithaca.edu).



# What I Wish I Knew...

This week, our seniors responded to the prompt, “What is your experience with roommates at IC?”



When August rolled around, I moved into my room in Rowland Hall, high off the move-in excitement, but also so afraid of what college life had in store for me. Luckily, Frankie’s high school was a boarding school, so she had already grown accustomed to having a roommate and living away from home. It made me feel better to know that at least one of us knew what we were doing. Frankie and I began spending most of our nights in the Rowland lounge, where we became friends with other residents of the building and where we made many memories that we still share stories of today. After spending long nights in the lounge, Frankie and I would go back to our room, turn off the lights, and talk for hours. Frankie and I became an iconic roommate duo. We would attend each other’s club events and performances and yell, “THAT’S MY ROOMMATE!” at the top of our lungs to show how proud we were of each other. Sadly, things got complicated as our friend group became larger and outside circumstances put a strain on our relationship. It took some time, but Frankie and I were able to work things out. After our first year, Frankie and I both became residential assistants, and we became close again through the position. While having my own room can be really nice, I often find myself missing our late-night talks and how our room constantly had music playing. Frankie and I are not the same people we were at summer orientation, but I like to think that younger Steph and Frankie would be proud of the people we have become. I know I will always be proud to call Frankie my roommate.

College roommates were probably the only thing I wasn’t worried about before coming to Ithaca College. You win some, you lose some — just coexist and keep it moving. That was my mentality when I started, and I’d blame a lot of that on my past experiences. Fun fact, my only official college roommate is Steph Fine, and she’s also blogging this week, so I’m curious how ours will compare. During my freshman orientation in June 2018, I met Steph, a really cool woman who was majoring in occupational therapy. Steph and I were, what some may jokingly call, perfect roommates. We had so many late-night study sessions, late-night talks, midday floor naps and so many funny Snapchat memories that we still send to each other now. There was this moment where we fell out of sync, and it got to a point where I wasn’t sure if we’d ever get back to the way we were. It was a whole ordeal, we needed residential assistant mediation, and there was a week where we were ignoring each other. Honestly, it was a lot to deal with. We were each to blame in different ways, and it was a good lesson on communication. But I gladly can say that she was my best friend then, and now she’s a friend I can still depend on when I really need her. And now I live in an apartment with three of my friends and my biggest concern is making sure my roommates unload the dishwasher and give me a ride to school.



STEPHANIE FINE

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN



FRANKIE WALLS

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

Roommates really shape your collegiate experience — they are the first person you see in the morning and the last you see at night. For the first couple weeks of your freshman year, roommates are the people that you rant to about how your 8 a.m. classes are brutal and the people that you end up finding your way through that first year with. If it hadn’t been for my freshman year roommate, I wouldn’t have met any of my current roommates. Sure, you want to find someone with similar interests as you, but you also want to find someone who can introduce you to new people who share differing interests, beliefs and backgrounds than you. Having someone to push you to try that new restaurant or to join that club makes the experience that much more enjoyable once you are a senior looking back. There is so much pressure in becoming best friends with your roommate right off the bat. I know going into my first year, my older friends or those who had already been at school for orientation seemed as though they were automatically attached at the hip with their roommates. My suggestion to people going into the whole roommate adventure is to go in with a clear mind and to not have any expectations for it. Let the relationship grow organically and be open to the possibility that it might not work out. Opening yourself up to a new person who’s going to be with you almost every minute of every day is scary, but going in with an open mind and heart and always keeping safe boundaries for yourself to grow will make the experience that much sweeter.

To read the rest of the blog entries head to [TheIthacan.org](https://TheIthacan.org).



ALYSSA SPADY

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

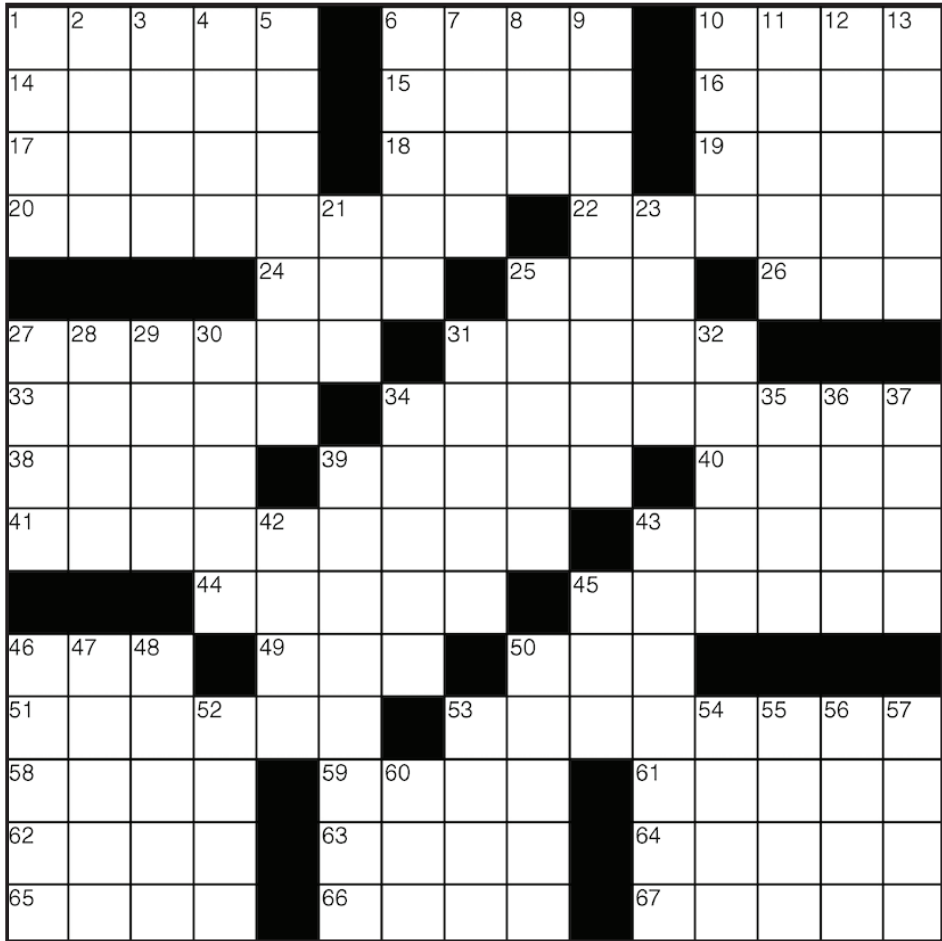




# DIVERSIONS

## crossword

By Quill Driver Books



- ACROSS
- 1 Campaign for election
  - 6 Taco filling
  - 10 Hence
  - 14 Skiing mecca
  - 15 Fibber, plus
  - 16 Ogle
  - 17 Not silently
  - 18 Opposed
  - 19 Wedding ---
  - 20 Go over the lines
  - 22 Hockey player
  - 24 Hire out
  - 25 Flat-needed tree
  - 26 Debussy subject
  - 27 Locations
  - 31 Student at Annapolis
  - 33 Very angry
  - 34 Having toughened skin
  - 38 Net surfer
  - 39 Bedding plant
  - 40 Olin or Horne
  - 41 Not feminine
  - 43 Miner's stake
  - 44 Ice hockey locale
  - 45 Cedex
  - 46 Frontier's --- Carson
  - 49 No, to a laird
  - 50 Permanent marker
  - 51 Trouble brewing
  - 53 End
  - 58 Kind of control
  - 59 Chits
  - 61 Asian capital
  - 62 Porpoise relative
  - 63 Robins' bills
  - 64 Acid + alcohol
  - 65 Noticed
  - 66 Winner's feeling
  - 67 Cache
  - 27 Deep purple
  - 28 Sax-playing Simpson
  - 29 Rosary beads
  - 30 Roughly
  - 31 Huge flower
  - 32 Gauzy fabric
  - 34 "The --- Mutiny"
  - 35 Ice floe dweller
  - 36 Tennyson heroine
  - 37 Flood controls
  - 39 Layering a skirt
  - 42 Coffee brewers
  - 43 Easy tasks
  - 45 Itch
  - 46 Praise
  - 47 Harden
  - 48 Vestige
  - 50 Marshal's group
  - 52 Panache
  - 53 Mince
  - 54 Hold out
  - 55 Till
  - 56 Active sort
  - 57 Blarney Stone
  - 60 Artist's paint
- DOWN
- 1 Top performer
  - 2 Bedtime story
  - 3 "Oops!" (hyph.)
  - 4 Wry face
  - 5 Went biking
  - 6 Play at full volume
  - 7 "--- kleine Nachtmusik"
  - 8 Munch on
  - 9 In a cold manner
  - 10 Napoleon's island
  - 11 Kingdom
  - 12 Spirit in a lamp
  - 13 Buy by mail
  - 21 Matter, in law
  - 23 Black-and-white snack
  - 25 Not real

### last issue's crossword answers



WE'VE GOT MULTIMEDIA

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## sudoku medium

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

### very hard

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

### answers to last issue's

#### medium

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

#### hard

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

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## Ithaca campus buzzes with excitement for Bee Festival

The Ithaca College apiary allows for students to gain experience in the beekeeping world

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANNA MCCrackEN

PHOTOS BY BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN

**BY MADDY MARTIN**

Baggy white bee suits were passed around to Ithaca College students and community members Oct. 10 as the Ithaca College apiary opened for tours at the Bee Fest. Outside the apiary fence, visitors spent time wandering through the pollinator garden, playing nature bingo for honey sticks and making bee houses out of tin cans.

The festival was organized by senior Ana Maria Arroyo, juniors Bethany Holland and Julia DiGeronimo as well as other students

taking Jason Hamilton's — professor in the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences — class, Ecological Applications: The Nature and Necessity of Bees. The festival gave visitors the opportunity to explore the pollinator garden, tour the beehives, purchase honey products and paint bee houses.

The college's apiary is maintained by Hamilton, his students and scientist in residence, Emily O'Neil '21. Hamilton said the apiary is the only undergraduate educational apiary in the country and creates a unique opportunity for students to work with bees and learn about the basics of beekeeping.

"When you first get in [the apiary], put on the suit and everything, it's so nerve-wracking because you're so afraid you're gonna mess it up," Riley Burns, a sophomore environmental studies major, said. "You hear about how sensitive the hives are,

how they'll swarm sometimes, how they will sting sometimes. It took a lot of build-up for me to go in there."

O'Neil led several tour groups into the apiary throughout Bee Fest. Prior to graduating, O'Neil was the head beekeeper at the apiary. Now she works as a staff scientist for the Best Bees Company and uses the college's apiary for research.

O'Neil said she was first introduced to beekeeping during her freshman year when she was given a tour of the apiary during a class.

"That was the first time I had ever seen bees," O'Neil said. "I didn't really know beekeeping was the thing. [Hamilton] gave us a frame of honey and it was the coolest thing ever because we just walked around eating honeycomb, and I got hooked."

Denise O'Leary '17, a local beekeeper who worked as the head beekeeper at the college when she was a student, attended Bee Fest. O'Leary recently received her Master Beekeeper certification through Cornell University and is working on creating her own business called Honey Moon Flower Lab. Honey Moon Flower Lab, O'Leary said, will be an educational business run out of her two apiaries located in Odessa, New York, on her partner's family's land and Hampshire, New York. O'Leary said she hopes to raise bees that are acclimated to the Finger Lakes region and help other beekeepers get their start in the field.

"Beekeeping is a meditative experience," O'Leary said. "When you're in a hive, you're having to pay attention to so many things, and it's so easy for me to get out of my head and just focus on the bees."

O'Leary said she is currently mentoring several beekeepers around the Ithaca area. Among them are hobbyist beekeepers Jennifer Irwin and John Stiteler. Irwin met O'Leary when they worked together at Just A Taste, a local

restaurant. Irwin said O'Leary convinced her to start beekeeping when she was over for a visit and noticed Irwin was watching a group of bees buzzing over her flowers.

Irwin has two beehives in her backyard and says she learned everything she knows about beekeeping from O'Leary.

"It's been great having [O'Leary] here to help me with all of the million billion questions of 'What does this mean? What does that mean? Oh, you're looking at this,'" Irwin said. "We usually open the hives together. I'm just now getting comfortable with opening them on my own," Irwin said. "I feel like I can interpret what they're doing, but I need help. I'm getting better at it."

Stiteler has kept bees in his yard for over 20 years and said he got in contact with O'Leary about two years ago for help with his beekeeping after hearing his neighbors praise her knowledge.

Stiteler said when his wife died a year and a half ago, O'Leary asked him if he told the bees about her death.

"She told me about this custom in Europe and the British Isles where if there's a death in the family, especially the death of the beekeeper himself or herself, or if there's a birth in the family, you go and tell the bees," Stiteler said. "Because it's not a good thing to have the bees feel like they've been left out of things. And also, bees fly up to heaven. So, they're a connection. I still get a little choked up when I think about telling the bees about my wife's passing, but it really helped me a lot."

*Elijah de Castro, assistant life and culture editor, contributed reporting to this article.*



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Senior Ana Maria Arroyo (top) gives a tour of the beehives, junior Mattix Lufrano (bottom left) and senior Bailly Mack (bottom right) search around the apiary for bugs while playing bug bingo Oct. 10 at Bee Fest.

BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN



# CULTURED

The Life & Culture editor’s recap of current mainstream and alt culture

Compiled by Eva Salzman



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“I was born queer. I was born gay, and I was effeminate. And it was always the torment, like, having to go to school every day; ‘So what’s gonna happen today?’”

Billy Porter  
on his childhood struggles with understanding his queerness and identity

## SPOTLIGHT

Adele’s “Easy On Me” tops BTS to break Spotify record

With the announcement of her upcoming album, “30,” came Adele’s latest single “Easy On Me,” released Oct. 15. By the end of the day, the track — Adele’s first single since 2016 — broke the Spotify record for most global streams in a day, the streaming service announced in a social media statement. In breaking the record, the artist topped BTS’ “Butter,” which previously held the title after garnering more than 20.9 million streams May 23. “Easy On Me” earned 24 million streams in its first 24 hours, leaving fans and critics alike with high hopes for what is to come on the Nov. 19 album release date. “30” is predicted to center on Adele’s divorce from her ex-husband Simon Konecki, which was finalized in March 2021 after the two had been separated for two years. Adele told “Vogue” that the album is an attempt to explain her divorce to her 9-year-old son Angelo when he’s older.



## THIS WEEK IN POP CULTURE HISTORY

Oct. 19, 2018

The 2018 addition to the “Halloween” franchise, also titled “Halloween,” was released Oct. 19, 2018. Though it lacked an original title, the film earned \$77 million at the box office, breaking the record for a horror movie starring a female lead and making the biggest debut of any film with a female lead over the age of 55.

“Halloween” (2018) starred the original final girl and fan-titled “Scream Queen” Jamie Lee Curtis in her seventh “Halloween” film franchise appearance.

Additionally, the film marked the 10th-biggest debut ever for an R-rated release with “Halloween” having the fourth biggest Friday through Sunday launch for an R-rated title.

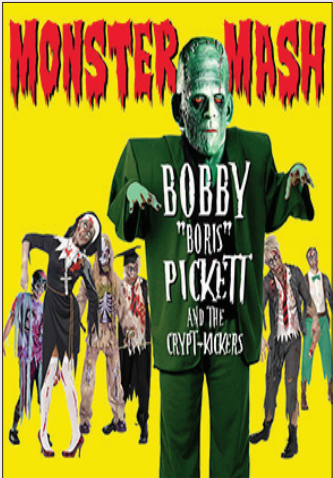


Oct. 20, 1962

Though it was released in August 1962, Bobby “Boris” Pickett and Leonard Capizzi’s song “Monster Mash” rose to number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart Oct. 20, 1962.

A full-length album, “The Original Monster Mash,” was released later that year featuring 15 other songs like “Blood Bank Blues,” “Monster Minuet” and “Transylvania Twist.” Though the original single was a hit both casually and commercially, the BBC banned “Monster Mash” from airplay because it thought it was “too morbid.”

However, there are successful cover versions of “Monster Mash,” including versions by the Beach Boys and the Misfits.





# Whalen students organize mental health group

BY MIKE ROSS

Between standard academic responsibilities and personal life, students in the School of Music are required to follow a very strict schedule to ensure no practice time is wasted. Luckily, there is a place on campus that busy musicians can turn to in order to take a much needed moment for themselves.

Every other Thursday on the second floor of the James J. Whalen Center for Music, the Mental Health Awareness for Musicians Association (MHAMA) hosts a musicians' wellness circle in Whalen room 2328, where music students can meditate, draw, write and reflect to alleviate the stress of being a musician. The event is hosted by MHAMA president senior Gavin Tremblay and treasurer senior Erin Smith, both of whom are musicians themselves.

Tremblay said this year the association aims to play a more prominent role in the music school community by hosting a variety of events and continuing events that have been successful in the past.

The wellness circles were Tremblay's idea, beginning the fall semester of last year via Zoom with "Wellness Wednesday." Wellness Wednesday had low attendance, which Tremblay said he thinks was due to the fatigue students experienced being on Zoom all day.

"We focus on giving students a break from the academic side of their education," Tremblay said.

"[It's] very strictly non-academic."

The musicians' wellness circles also operate based on themes and topics chosen by MHAMA's officers. On top of giving students a place to relax, MHAMA also invites guests to lead meditations, reflections and discussion at the end of sessions.

The officers said there is a large number of music faculty and Center for Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) staff who offer valuable insight during their meetings. A huge part of MHAMA and the wellness circles is not only providing a space to heal musicians' mental health, but advocate for it.

The mental health of music students is a concern at colleges and universities across the country. Burnout in music students can occur for multiple reasons, like performance anxiety, perfectionism, heavier coursework, lack of sleep and excessive criticism. Raychl Smith and Adrienne Steiner, faculty members of the East Carolina University School of Music studied how students coped with these intense demands. They found that music majors report higher rates of anxiety and depression than the general undergraduate population, East Carolina News shared in an article.

Smith said she and Tremblay want to prove what they preach in regards to Whalen's overwhelming course loads by assessing the academic lives of musicians with the Carnegie unit, a reference used for measuring the amount of time a



From left, seniors Gavin Tremblay and Erin Smith began musicians' wellness circles to give students in the School of Music the chance to take time off their intense, stressful workload to take care of their mental health.

KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN

student must study a subject.

"We've taken a certain schematic for a freshman, with 15 and a half credits, and figured out all the credit hours that are required of you in a week," Smith said. "We showed it to Ron Dow at CAPS and he was like, 'You could sustain that for maybe a week, after that it's damaging.'"

Ron Dow is a licensed clinical social worker and staff member at CAPS. Dow said the majority of student musicians, or any artists, do not experience severe mental illness, though he said the busy

schedules and high-intensity situations involved with being a musician are not beneficial.

Music students usually take between 15–18 credits during a semester, but music courses like Aural Skills and Fundamentals of Music Theory — both of which require extensive preparation and homework — are only one to two credits. So, the amount of courses that a music student takes can add up quickly.

Senior Zoe-Marie Fuentes is a student at the Whalen School. Fuentes says she is taking nine classes for

a total of 17.5 credits, and highlights the stress that often comes with this amount of work.

"I think that being a Whalen student is incredibly stressful, and there are so many factors that feed into this," Fuentes said via email. "I can't exactly compare one major or school to another ... I think every area of study has their own types of stress and every individual handles them differently."

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# Activist visits IC for lecture on Jewish-Ethiopian history

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO & LORIEN TYNE

On Oct. 12, Ethiopian-Israeli social media influencer and activist, Ashager Araro, began her tour across American college campuses at the Muller Chapel at Ithaca College. Araro advocates for Jewish Ethiopians, who she says have historically been excluded from discussions of Jewish history.

The event was the first in the Homburger Jacobs Contemporary Jewish Issues Lecture Series, which is being hosted by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life. The new series aims to address the recent rise in antisemitism across America and Europe by educating the campus community. Araro's visit was the first on a multi-college tour she will be doing across college campuses in the United States.

Araro discussed the history of Jewish Ethiopians who have lived in the region for over 2,000 years and have faced religious repression and forced conversion.

"If you're gonna remember one thing from this lecture, it's the fact that a lot of times when people look at me and see my identities, they ask me to choose — Jewish or Black," Araro said. "I refuse to choose."

Araro has over 36,000 followers on Instagram and over 24,000 on Twitter. Her online advocacy includes posts about the history of Judaism in Ethiopia and her experience with both antisemitism and anti-Black racism.

Max Kasler, the springboard innovation fellow for Hillel at Ithaca College, said the organizers knew they wanted to bring a speaker to campus to discuss Israel, so they talked to Hillel International — the world's largest Jewish campus organization. Eventually, Hillel International decided to organize a campus tour for Araro.

Kasler said seeing Araro speak was powerful to him. Kasler said about 100 people attended Araro's speech.

"I've learned about the Ethiopian Jewish community before," Kasler said. "I lived in Israel for a year and so I got to experience it a little bit while I was there because I did learn about the Ethiopian Jewish community while I lived in Israel."

Sophomore Noah Kamens, engagement intern for Hillel at Ithaca College, said for this event, the goal was to get as many people to come as possible, regardless of religious affiliation.

"I made a point to make sure that everyone was invited and everyone was included," Kamens said. "This is something that should not just be a conversation for Jews. It should be a conversation for Jewish allies and for all people."

In her lectures and in her online advocacy, Araro has said the concept of Zionism — the idea that a Jewish nation-state should be re-established in Israel — is often misinterpreted. Araro, who served in the Israeli special forces, said she is open to hearing



Ashager Araro is an Ethiopian-Israeli social media influencer and activist who recently began her tour across America visiting college campuses to educate students on the history of Jewish Ethiopians.

KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN

other peoples' stories and believes that the Israel-Palestine conflict is a more complicated situation than the way it is depicted.

Eliel Safran, vice president of Hillel at Ithaca College, said she has been looking forward to hearing Araro's presentation for a while.

"She is right that you don't hear about Ethiopian Jews a lot," Safran said. "I'm so glad that education about Ethiopian Jews is something that's not just being had in Israeli society, but also something that's being held in American society."

Araro said that as she begins her tour across the country, she is excited for what the future hold for her, but is unsure of where it will lead her. Araro said most of her success as an influencer happened during the pandemic.

"I don't know what the future holds for me," Araro said. "I wish that my page will be a source of knowledge for people to learn more about the Jewish community, about Israel and putting nuance into issues [and] rather than talking over people, talking to people."

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# Action film fans include women

BY SYDNEY BRUMFIELD

If I asked you to guess what you think the most popular movie genre amongst women is, it is safe to assume your answer would be something along the lines of romantic comedies. Romantic comedies are so heavily associated with the female viewer that they have become synonymous with the phrase “chick flicks” because as a society we know what women want by now, right?

A survey conducted by Fandango begs to differ, finding that the most popular film genre for women is actually action. A breakdown of the popularity of film genres between both male and female viewers found that the genres of action and adventure are popular with over 90% of men and over 85% women.

Despite the widestream appeal of action movies to all viewers, weak female characters and the male gaze — a practice in film which suggests a sexualized way of viewing that empowers men and objectifies women — lives on.

There are scientific reasons for an individuals’ enjoyment of an action movie that exist outside of the sexualization of its female characters. Action movies that have high-intensity fight sequences and larger-than-life stunts cause the viewer to feel short-term excitement.

Action movies are capable of making audiences have physical reactions to the stunts on screen as well. There is nothing more exhilarating than watching a hero burst through walls and jump from roof tops.

The fact that our brains are wired to love the thrill of this genre makes it that much harder to acknowledge and criticize the tropes that have become synonymous with it. Yes, the objectification and hyper-sexualization of female characters can be found across all genres, but it is inherently obvious in action films. Action films like the “Fast and Furious” franchise, the “Dark Knight” trilogy and the never ending stream of “Mission: Impossible” movies are just the start of a very long list of action films that utilize the male gaze.

Studies have shown that women enjoy the rush of on-screen chaos and mayhem as much as men do, so why do these films continue to be targeted towards male viewers?

This is most likely because those making these films are men. In 2020 women composed 18% of directors, 17% of writers and 21% of executive producers working on the top 250 grossing films of 2020.

None of this accounts for the fact that film has little to no representation, either in front of or behind the camera, for individuals who do not adhere to the gender binary, leaving 1.2 million Americans out of this conversation. The most direct solution to even begin to tackle this problem is hiring diverse groups of people to create action films. Allow women seats at the writer’s table.

Even though there is clearly a large percentage of women who love to watch action films as they currently are — sexism and objectification included — that doesn’t mean that the genre should remain static.

**POPPED CULTURE** is a weekly column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Sydney Brumfield is a junior writing major. Contact her at [sbrumfield@ithaca.edu](mailto:sbrumfield@ithaca.edu).

# 25th Bond film is sleek and intense

MOVIE REVIEW: “No Time to Die” United Artists Releasing



BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

When Daniel Craig began his tenure as James Bond back in 2006, the biggest change he and the filmmakers brought was the creation of a more realistic, vulnerable and respectable version of 007. Gone were the days of on-screen sexual assault, exploding pens and surfing on a tsunami. What audiences ended up with was a modern rendition of Bond that kept the cool exoskeleton that made him one of cinema’s most classic characters.

That legacy comes to a marvelous close with “No Time to Die,” the 25th film in the series and Craig’s final outing as Bond. Although somewhat distended in its second act, “No Time to Die” wraps up this generation of the Bond series with a bow and sends it off to a bright future.

Unfortunately, the beginning of “No Time to Die” spends too much time trying to fix up the narrative disaster that its predecessor “Spectre” left behind. The film begins with Bond vacationing across the world with Madeleine (Léa Seydoux), the Bond girl for whom he left service at the end of “Spectre.” Eventually, Bond’s honeymoon is ambushed by enemies from his past. Five years later, Bond is brought back into action by Nomi (Lashana Lynch), MI6’s new 007. A terrorist named Lyutsifer Safin (Rami Malek) has stolen a biological weapon from MI6 in hopes

of using it to create a vaguely explained new world order.

What makes Craig’s Bond unique in comparison to his predecessors is the deep, personal ties between Bond, the women he dates and the villains he faces. Understanding this, “No Time to Die” packages together four movies worth of grief and explores the psychology of an aging and veteran Bond, making the emotions in “No Time to Die” hard-hitting.

Bond in “No Time to Die” exists in a changing world. The new 007, Nomi, is cooler, faster and younger than Bond. As the Bond series’ first female 007, Nomi brings a completely new flavor to the role of 007, brought to life by a perplexing performance from Lynch. The film also sees Ana de Armas as Paloma, a deadly yet goofy young CIA agent who Bond crosses paths with in some fun spurts of action and humor. All of this takes place while Bond’s love, Madeleine, and her daughter are being chased down for vengeance by Safin. The complexities of these women and their relationships with Bond are organic and thankfully, avoid tokenism. This makes for the first Bond film to shed the series’ insecure obsession with overcommunicating its masculinity.

Despite all of the emotions, new characters and conclusions, “No Time to Die” never forgets to be an action movie. Sequences like the opening chase in



Emotional, intense and above all fun, “No Time to Die” is a great ending for Daniel Craig’s time playing 007, one of cinema’s best characters.

COURTESY OF METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Matera, a bar shootout in Cuba with Paloma and a forest gunfight in Norway are forceful and often extremely intense. Made even better by crisp sound design, the use of IMAX film cameras and a commitment to top-notch lighting and set design, “No Time to Die” is as visually intriguing as Bond himself.

Overcoming all the odds — six release dates, \$900 million in sunk costs and a leading man

who desperately wants out — “No Time to Die” is an extremely well-handled conclusion for Craig’s time as Bond. Although a handful of rigidly conservative fans may have tanked hopes of Idris Elba taking over as Bond, Craig’s time as Bond has left the series in a better place than where he found it.

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# New horror film boasts tremendous banalities

MOVIE REVIEW: “Lamb” A24



BY SEBASTIAN HUNT

Valdimar Jóhannsson’s “Lamb” joins the ranks of “Midsommar,” “First Reformed” and “The Witch” as another superficially pleasing, thematically shallow attempt at genre-infused arthouse fare, courtesy of A24. It is not so much an art film as it is an artifice film — only remotely gesturing at the sorts of complex themes that might’ve informed a similar story if done by a superior director.

“Lamb” is a horror film set in rural Iceland. It follows a pair of childless farmers — Maria (Noomi Rapace) and Pétur (Björn Hlynur Haraldsson) — as they maneuver a life of boredom and barnyard maintenance. One fateful night, Maria and Pétur deliver a half-lamb, half-human newborn in their sheep barn. They resolve to adopt the creature and raise it as their own, but their decision inadvertently triggers hostile reactions from the unnatural forces behind its conception, which threaten to spoil the couple’s happiness.

“Lamb” is overall a disappointing film,

presenting itself as an inspired meditation on parenthood, but ultimately failing to engage with those ideas in a nuanced manner. However, credit must be given to its greatest strength — the titular creature itself. The creature represents a remarkable marriage of practical effects, CGI and a performance from one very talented, real-life lamb.

At the crux of this central image are a pair of terrific performances from Rapace and Haraldsson. They manage to play the increasing absurdities throughout “Lamb” completely straight in the face. The viewer never doubts the legitimacy of what they are seeing on screen, even as the film grows progressively more fantastical.

What ultimately hinders “Lamb” from reaching its potential is an incongruous narrative approach. Jóhannsson is so keen on remaining stylistically reverent to the slow-burn, methodical sensibilities of his main influence and mentor, Hungarian filmmaker Béla Tarr, that he forces like-minded aesthetics onto his film. While this leads to dazzling cinematography and a beautifully



“Lamb” is A24’s latest take on the horror genre that should have been put out to pasture.

COURTESY OF A24

melancholic score, it imposes a surplus of unlikeable pretense onto an otherwise straightforward genre feature. A thick veil of unearned poignancy is cast over the film which would’ve worked better with a less stereotypically “artsy” cadence.

“Lamb” suffers from a tremendously banal script. As a result of the film’s underexplored underpinnings, Jóhannsson’s screenplay never justifies its minimalist narrative structure.

“Lamb” is an underwhelming film, but it bore the potential to be much better. There is a powerful story about loss, identity and parenthood festering somewhere, but it’s saddled with a filmmaker without a honed style or palpable thematic aspirations. This one should’ve been put out to pasture.

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# Album has unnecessary features

ALBUM REVIEW: "FRIENDS THAT BREAK YOUR HEART" James Blake ★★☆☆☆

BY JACKSON NOEL

Albums packed with sappy love songs are such an established framework for pop music that electro-R&B artist James Blake already has two of them under his belt. What more can there possibly be to say on the topic of romance, heartbreak or passion? On "Friends That Break Your Heart," Blake's fifth studio album, the digital-age crooner chooses to mine the same vein that produced his best work many years ago, only to find it has run dry.

The formula for Blake's music has shifted over the course of his discography. His excellent, self-titled debut album established Blake as caught somewhere between the glitchy disjunction of electronic music and conventional arrangement of pop music — accompanied by his distorted, ghostly auto-tuned vocals. By now, all that remains is Blake's heavenly singing voice, now occupying melodies set to a generic pop tune with the occasional electronic musical styling. Seeing Blake become increasingly unsophisticated and unambitious over time is disappointing for any artist who was once seen as cutting edge.

Perhaps the reason for this change is in the company Blake

keeps. Looking at the credits for his first three albums, the names are quite sparse — "Overgrown" features guest vocals from RZA while "The Colour in Anything" lists Rick Rubin and Bon Iver as primary collaborators. These names served mainly supporting roles on one or two tracks. It was not until his 2019 album "Assume Form" that the producer/singer began working alongside artists like Travis Scott, Metro Boomin and Daniel Lopitan of Oneohtrix Point Never. These collaborators introduced trap-influenced drumming and mood-first songwriting to his catalog, creating an atmosphere-heavy persuasion that plagues "Friends That Break Your Heart." Some tracks like "Frozen" end up sounding like their featured artists, in this case a JID song featuring some of Blake's gorgeous background vocals and painfully simplistic structure. The same can be said for even the album's best track, "Coming Back," which features SZA effectively commandeering the song while Blake mostly hides back in the mix.

Almost every track on the 12-song album displays perfectly what does and does not work about "Friends That Break Your Heart." The song "I'm So Blessed You're Mine" combines Blake's unaltered vocals with



As James Blake's music grows in popularity and appeal, Blake has to sacrifice his authenticity to feature artists of similar levels of fame.

COURTESY OF REPUBLIC RECORDS

a chorus featuring his voice so warped it sounds completely alien. His voice is built around some of the most experimental production on the album with bouncy, new-age synth keys and what sounds like Teslas driving through the sound barrier. However, repetitive lyrics neutralize any character to the song, leaving it ultimately lifeless. One can only stand to hear the phrase "I'm so blessed you're mine" so many times. Compelling ideas are present in small

doses on this album, but none of them seem followed through to their conclusion.

Blake in his purest form is still an emotionally potent artist. Unfortunately, this album does not find Blake working with his strengths. Mileage for this album will depend on how many times the listener can hear the same love song over and over again.

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# New album is a disjointed experimentalism attempt

ALBUM REVIEW: "Talk Memory" BADBADNOTGOOD ★☆☆☆☆

BY SYDNEY BRUMFIELD

The sounds of experimental pop and jazz battle each other for dominance in the ensemble BADBADNOTGOOD's new album "Talk Memory." Though it comes across as futuristic and eccentric at first, the continuation of annoyingly repetitive melodies might make a listener never want to talk about the memory of this album again.

The album's opener, "Signal From the Noise" is nothing more than jumbled noise, like none of the ensemble members are on the same page. The song is borderline anxiety-inducing as it continues to build its layering of the tracks, yet it never dissipates. Unfortunately, listeners will find themselves just waiting for the track to end. Rather than creating a full blend of sound with their instrumentals, "Signal From the Noise" sounds like when a high school concert band is left alone in the auditorium with no supervision.

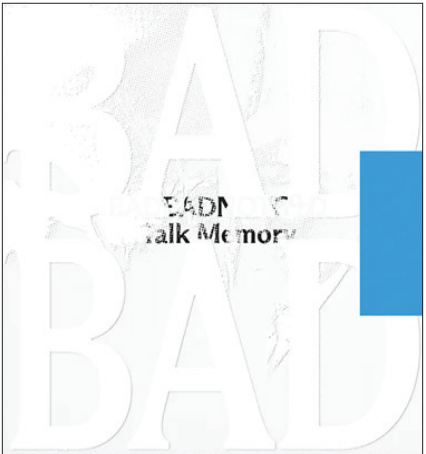
There is very little distinction between each song apart from the silence that comes in as the album moves to the next track. Listeners will need to brace for auditory whiplash as each new song comes out of nowhere and ends without warning. On

"Talk Memory," songs start with one instrument playing a rhythm, followed by two more with their own special flares, until finally all of the instruments continue to fight for dominance. Each track sounds just as disjunctive and overwhelming as the last, much like an amateur musician's first composition.

By the halfway point of "Talk Memory," it sounds like the same two songs have been playing on a loop. The general ambience of this album is just one big aimless jazz session recording that would play at an independent coffee house because it's too edgy for Starbucks.

Though the song "Unfolding (Momentum 73)" attempts to create a dream-like sequence for listeners with successfully blended tones and layered strings over chimes, it all comes to a crashing halt when an overbearing saxophone enters the mix. The song quickly grows old and exasperating. The saxophone and keyboard trade off parts as they continuously run up and down the same scale throughout the song's entirety. When the saxophone begins its solo, it sounds like the player's first time improvising.

The bass lines of songs on "Talk



BADBADNOTGOOD's album "Talk Memory" is a chaotic attempt at experimental jazz.

COURTESY OF XL Recordings

Memory" are possibly the album's only redeeming quality. Unfortunately, the moments where listeners can appreciate the bass are few and far between. In each "Talk Memory" track, BADBADNOTGOOD never manages to create a palatable mix of instruments that allows for each performance to shine through.

Upon reaching the end of "Talk Memory," listeners can expect a migraine followed by the need to sit in silence for the unforeseeable future. There is not a time when listening to "Talk Memory" feels right. The album is uncomfortable to listen to in a group of sober people, but concerning to listen to alone.

Time spent doing literally anything else is better than taking the time to listen to this album.

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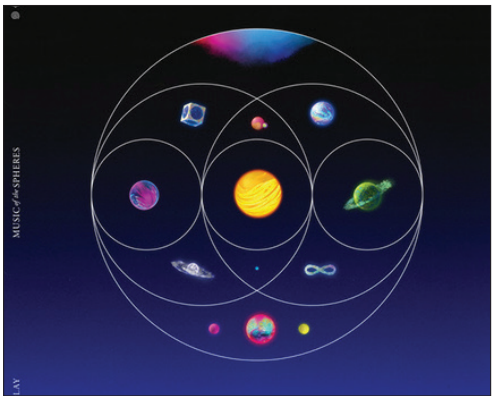
## QUICKIES



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA

"EASY ON ME"  
Adele

Adele announced her upcoming album with the heartbreaking single "Easy On Me." The track's highlights lie in the singer's powerful vocals and vulnerable lyrics. If Adele's return to music proves anything, it is that she has matured greatly in her years away.



COURTESY OF PARLOPHONE UK

"LET SOMEBODY GO"  
Coldplay, Selena Gomez

If you're prepared to cringe, listen to "Let Somebody Go." The track begins with weirdly intimate vocals from Chris Martin and is followed by an overly pitch-corrected Selena Gomez. The song is a generally awkward and scrappy listen.



COURTESY OF LVRN/INTERSCOPE RECORDS

"EX FOR A REASON"  
Summer Walker, City Girls

If you put the beat from any City Girls song under the average lyricism of Summer Walker, you get "Ex For A Reason." Though an exciting collaboration, the track is nothing new to the table.



COURTESY OF SUMMER'S OVER

"SUMMER'S OVER"  
Jordana, TV Girl

Though the production and use of vocal filters may lead listeners to think this is like the average TV Girl track, "Summer's Over" features the airy vocals of Jordana and a laid-back guitar line. With lighthearted lyrics and a pleasant guitar melody, the track is an outlier in TV Girl's discography.



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Campus community reacts to Collado's departure

By Caitlin Hottelmann | Aug 26, 2021

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# ITHACA COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN CLUB HORSES AROUND

The return to normal practices spurs the fall show season for the Ithaca College equestrian club

ONLINE



Senior Lauren vonStetten, president of the Ithaca College equestrian club, rides River the horse Oct. 13 at If Only Farm in Freeville, New York. The club competed in its first meet of the fall show season Oct. 16 at the RIT doubleheader tournament in Rochester, New York. Its next show is Oct. 24 at Cornell University.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

BY TOBIAH ZBORAY

The Ithaca College equestrian club has returned to its “mane” season after spending last semester away from the riding arena, unable to meet in person and forced to hold team bonding exercises online.

The equestrian club is a group that rides

vonStetten said. “We tried to do Zoom bondings every month, but there definitely was a lot lower participation for that. Most of the girls on the team just want to ride.”

Now that the college has allowed for clubs to meet in person again, the club has begun to move its focus to its upcoming show schedule. However, the club still has to work around

COVID-19 protocols. Despite these hurdles, vonStetten said the club has not had to alter as much in regards to following COVID-19 protocols as other club sports have had to.

“We haven’t had to do that much at [If Only Farms],” vonStetten said. “It’s basically outside, so we can stay pretty distanced.”

Junior club secretary Sarah Cashton said another reason that the club has been able to work with COVID-19 protocols so well is not only because of the barn that it uses, but because of how its practices run.

“We’re socially distanced by the nature of the sport,” Cashton said. “If we’re within six feet of each other while on a horse, we have a bigger problem than COVID. By nature, it’s pretty COVID-safe.”

Although the club

can work safely while riding at its barn, everyone still has to operate with precautions when the team competes.

Now that the team has returned to in-person meetings, it has been able to hold a regular schedule.

However, the club still has not been able to do full team practices this semester. This dilemma has less to do with COVID-19 protocols and more to do with the number of people in the club.

“We ride at a barn that doesn’t have as many horses as we have riders,” vonStetten said. “Our lessons are smaller, so it’s not like a full team practice. So we usually have three to four girls in a group, and they’ll ride once or

twice a week.”

The smaller group practices have allowed the team to work with its riders more on their talent level, something that vice president senior Sonia Alfandre said the club has appreciated this fall.

“We’re split up based on availability and our level,” Alfandre said. “So Audra [Ravo Putnam], our coach, will assess everyone’s level and try to group us based on that, and so we can just mostly ride with our level and our availability.”

For the members of the club, the resumption of a full practice schedule has meant a sizable time commitment not just in practicing, but also in taking care of the horses at the barn.

“In general, breaking down the time, we have hour long practices typically. And then we get there a half hour before to clean up the horses and get them ready for the lesson, and then we’re there for a half an hour afterwards,” Cashton said. “So it’s a pretty big time commitment. It’s a three-hour chunk of time from when we leave campus to the time we get back.”

That time spent at practice for the club has been used to get ready for the fall schedule of shows, which is a return to the club’s normal schedule. Alfandre said the club was able to use the experience it gained during its practices this fall to start its show season.

Freshman Anna Riley, Alfandre and vonStetten took first place at the RIT doubleheader tournament Oct. 16. The display was good for a fourth place finish, earning the club a white ribbon for the weekend tournament.

The weekend provided an opportunity for new members of the club, giving them their first experience of an IHSA show. Riley said the opportunity to compete was exciting for the new members of the club.

“It was a really fun time,

and I’m so happy to be part of a team with such a great community,” Riley said. “This weekend was a really great experience as my first IHSA show.”

Following the struggles that online meetings and no team practices presented to the club in the spring, the show was a step back to normalcy for the team.

Alfandre said the tournament gave the club an opportunity to show what it has been able to do in its return to practice, as well as helping to build team character, something it struggled with during the spring.

With its first show now out of the way, the club has begun to move past the struggles of last year and are ready to compete going forward.

“After a tough last year, we’re happy to start this one on a great note,” Alfandre said. “We’re looking forward to the rest of the season.”

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Freshman Taylor Hagquist rides Jersey the horse Oct. 8 at If Only Farms in Freeville, New York in her first year with the equestrian club.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

horses competitively at Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) shows. During the fall show season, the club will attend six shows, and started its season Oct. 16 at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York.

The return of in-person activities for the club is different from last semester, when it was forced to host all its meetings online. The club was unable to ride together or have a guided team practice, and members tried to stay in touch during the spring 2021, but found it difficult to bond as a team online.

“Participation was definitely a lot more stagnant,” club president senior Lauren



Senior Sonia Alfandre, vice president of the equestrian club, rides Max the horse Oct. 8 at If Only Farms in Freeville, New York.

ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN






# THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP


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

Senior Victoria Sestito protects the ball in the Ithaca College field hockey game against SUNY New Paltz Oct. 12 at Higgins Stadium. The team is 12–3 in the season and 5–0 in conference play.  
MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

## FIELD HOCKEY




0-3  
L




ITHACA

OCT. 12

NEW PALTZ




1-0  
W




ITHACA

OCT. 17

RPI



1-0  
W



ITHACA

OCT. 15

VASSAR

RECORD: 12-3

## MEN'S SOCCER



1-1  
T



ITHACA

OCT. 15

SKIDMORE



2-1  
W



ITHACA

OCT. 16

UNION

RECORD: 7-4-4

## WOMEN'S SOCCER



1-2  
L



ITHACA

OCT. 15

SKIDMORE



3-2  
W



ITHACA

OCT. 16

UNION

RECORD: 10-3

## FOOTBALL



17-0  
W



ITHACA


OCT. 16

ST. LAWRENCE


NEXT GAME:  
2 p.m. Oct. 23 against  
Buffalo State  
in Ithaca

RECORD: 6-0

## VOLLEYBALL




1-3  
L




ITHACA

OCT. 13

RIT




0-3  
L




ITHACA

OCT. 16

JUNIATA



3-1  
W



ITHACA

OCT. 16

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT

RECORD: 12-10

## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Benjamin Tiber	33rd	26:05.8
Danny Jagoe	39th	26:16.8
Patrick Bierach	61st	26:47.7
Timothy Cook	81st	27:10.7
James Hughes	90th	27:17.4

Rowan Border Battle

NEXT RACE: 11 a.m. Oct. 30 Liberty League Cross Country Championship in Saratoga Springs, New York

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Rachel Rose	37th	23:35.2
Lauren Lobdell	53rd	24:01.7
Julia Tomanovich	70th	24:16.5
Paloma De Monte	87th	24:30.4
Meredith Garrity	111th	25:03.7

Rowan Border Battle

NEXT RACE: 11 a.m. Oct. 30 Liberty League Cross Country Championship in Saratoga Springs, New York

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Morgan Hoffman-Smith	1st	1000-yard freestyle	11:12.42
Emily Shorb	2nd	1000-yard freestyle	11:20.28
Morgan Hoffman-Smith	1st	500-yard freestyle	5:26.97
Erin Kiley	2nd	500-yard freestyle	5:37.37
Ava Palfreyman	1st	200-yard freestyle	2:04.39

NEXT MEET: 2 p.m. Oct. 30 at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Ben Young	1st	100-yard freestyle	49.78
Matthew Stevens	1st	1000-yard freestyle	10:14.28
Reilly Kleinhenn	2nd	1000-yard freestyle	10:53.02
Matthew Johnston	1st	200-yard freestyle	1:49.52
Dylan Haraden	2nd	200-yard freestyle	1:58.78

NEXT MEET: 2 p.m. Oct. 30 at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York

\*Updated as of Oct. 18



# Field hockey team climbs conference standings

BY ROCCO DI MAIOLO

After dominating in-conference play and going on a historic winning streak in the middle of the season, the Ithaca College field hockey team is firing on all cylinders going into the Liberty League postseason.

The Bombers are 5-0 in the Liberty League play with an overall record of 12-3. Midway through the season, the team recorded seven straight wins for the first time since 2000. The team has been able to generate offense well, scoring 27 goals, while the defense has allowed only 11 goals. The Bombers have a forward line that plays a huge role in their offensive success, consisting of seniors Morgan Mullen and Samantha Horowitz and freshman Natalie Descalso. Out of the 27 goals scored, the trio has a combined total of 15 goals.

After the Fall 2020 season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the team was focused on making a strong return to competition. Horowitz said she did not feel anything specific had to be altered coming into the season. She said the team's ambition to come back for the first time since September 2019 was the biggest motivator to come together and work toward success.

"We all just had to put in the work on our own time," Horowitz said. "It was a lot of personal dedication and everyone wanting to do it for the team and not just for themselves."

Despite the team's success so far,

senior midfielder Jaqueline Mirabile said she feels it is important to continue to take that approach as she understands the team is still a long way away from its ultimate goals: winning the Liberty League and NCAA championship.

"[We] don't look at rankings," Mirabile said. "[We] don't let the opponent get in our head, and we're just focused on attacking that opponent and then looking for the next."

Junior striker Elizabeth Pillow said the team knows how to stay confident in tough moments.

"This team is so special," Pillow said. "Obviously, the Liberty League championship is on our mind, but I think we're all very focused on the day-to-day and seeing what we can do that day."

Another factor that has helped the team has been its depth. Mirabile said everyone has contributed this season in one way or another.

"It's great because anyone can step up anytime," Mirabile said. "We're all super confident in each other and trust one another and ourselves and our coaching staff so that's definitely crucial for us."

This year marks the fifth season in charge as head coach for Kaitlyn Wahila. She said she held class year meetings in the preseason and spoke extensively with her upperclassmen about maintaining a tight-knit team culture.

"I think that the confidence right now is coming from our senior class," Wahila said. "The meeting



The Ithaca College field hockey team is 12-3 with two games left in the season. The team recorded seven straight wins earlier in the season, the program's longest win streak since 2000, and is undefeated in Liberty League play.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

with the senior class was, 'The energy you guys bring and the connections you're gonna make and be able to make with the juniors, sophomores and first years is really going to be super vital to the heartbeat of what we're going to do and to trusting the process.' They have done that. They have created really strong relationships with the first years, sophomores and juniors, and that makes a big difference."

In her first season with the team, Descalso said the juniors and seniors have helped her and the rest of her classmates become integrated

into the program.

Descalso has been one of the many underclassmen to make an instant impact on the team. With the team clinching a spot in the Liberty League Championship with its win against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Oct. 17, the team has its sights set on more than just a good regular season.

"Even though the season is winding down, I believe we are far from done," Descalso said. "I 100% believe this team can finish first in the league and win the Liberty League championship. To go even further

than that, I think we can make it into the NCAA Tournament for a shot at the national championship."

The Bombers have two more games to play as they will look to finish the season undefeated in the Liberty League before heading into the conference playoffs. They will host St. Lawrence University at 4 p.m. Oct. 22 and will hit the road one last time to face Skidmore College at 3 p.m. Oct. 24 in Saratoga Springs, New York.

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# Women's basketball team adds former head coach

BY TOMMY MUMAU

As the Ithaca College women's basketball team begins its preparation for the upcoming season, the program has added a familiar face to its coaching staff. Jim Mullins, longtime men's basketball head coach, will make his return to the bench this winter, serving as a volunteer assistant coach on the staff of the women's team.

Dan Raymond, head coach of the women's basketball team, presented the idea to Mullins at a staff picnic in the beginning of the summer. Raymond said that once he extended the offer, it was clear that the 23-year Bombers' head coach was eager to make his return to the sidelines, following his retirement at the end of the 2019-20 season.

"As soon as I mentioned it to him he was all in," Raymond said. "He was very excited to get re-engaged as a coach, and specifically with our program."

Mullins echoed a similar sentiment, saying the decision required little consideration due to his desire to get back to coaching.

"There really wasn't much to think about," Mullins said. "I was pretty excited about the opportunity and I think I probably called him back within two days or something like that. I told him, 'I'm in.'"

Raymond and Mullins both expressed that there was uncertainty about the ability to hire an assistant coach, due to budget concerns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Raymond said he initially asked if the coach would be interested in helping as a volunteer

assistant coach because of the experience that he felt Mullins could bring to the table.

"I've been around Coach Mullins for over 20 years so I know him very well, and I know how passionate he is about coaching," Raymond said. "The one thing that I think stands out to me more than anything else with [him] is his knowledge."

Mullins also noted that it is common for coaches to find their way back on the sidelines in a volunteer assistant role. Currently at the college, former men's soccer coach, Andy Byrne, has returned as an assistant for the women's soccer team and former baseball head coach, George Valesente, is assisting his former club.

Mullins' passion and knowledge for the game translated to an illustrious coaching career with the men's basketball team, in which he became the program's winningest coach all-time with a record of 353-264. During his time at the helm, the squad made six trips to the NCAA Tournament and posted five 20-win campaigns. Prior to the team's decision to join the Liberty League, the Bombers' success on the court helped Mullins earn Empire 8 Coach of the Year in three seasons.

First-year graduate student and guard Megan Yawman said the team is looking forward to working with Mullins this season.

"He's obviously been successful in his decades of coaching here," Yawman said. "So, I think people respect his 'street cred' and respect where he's come from and know that



From left, Dan Raymond, head coach of the Ithaca College women's basketball team, and volunteer assistant coach Jim Mullins watch a practice Oct. 19 at Ben Light Gymnasium.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

he knows the game well, and he knows how to win and that he's there in full support of our program."

In this new role, Mullins will mostly be coaching the team on the defensive side of the ball. Raymond said the team also hired Jordan Beers '18 as an assistant coach, who will work on the team's offensive strategy. She also served as a student assistant coach for the women's team during the 2019-20 season.

"It's a unique situation that I've never really been in, as far as having actually two assistant coaches," Raymond said.

Mullins began his new position Oct. 17 as the team held its first practice of the season at Ben Light Gymnasium. Yawman said that even though the coach is still becoming acquainted with his new team, he is already contributing

to the team's preseason preparation.

"He wasn't too vocal today," Yawman said after the team's first practice. "Just because I think he's trying to figure out his role and how he's going to help out. But he had a lot of good feedback."

Raymond said he has also been impressed by Mullins early on and believes that his presence on the sidelines will make a positive impact on the group.

"I think his engagement was very positive," Raymond said. "I think the players accepted him very well, and his feedback that he was providing to them. So I see it as a very positive experience for all of us."

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Junior Ethan Godfrey dives at the men's swimming and diving team's first meet of the season against The College at Brockport and Buffalo State on Oct. 16 at Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium. Godfrey participated in the men's 1- and 3-meter diving events, scoring 283.50 and 294.30 respectively. The team's next meet is at 2 p.m. Oct. 30 in Troy, New York, against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

LAUREN LUBENOW/THE ITHACAN