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 5,229 students — 4,778 undergraduate, 421 graduate students and 40 extramural and exchange students — enrolled in Fall 2021. In Fall 2020, 5,554 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 592 freshmen were enrolled, to Fall 2021, when 1,166 freshmen were enrolled. 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 85% in 2016, 85% in 2017, 87% in 2018, 87% in 2019, 77% in 2020 and 84.2% in 2021.

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 search firm, and the search has not been declared open or closed.

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 and run the search for the college’s ninth president, Shirley M. Collado, before the end of the year.

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 $888,656,855 from $2,531,452,099 in 2020. The budget for fiscal year 2022 is currently set at $822,276,717. The college previously asked departments to cut their budgets 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 COVID-19 pandemic hurt the college’s budget.

Community members ask for transparency

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

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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 interfaith 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 eating deeply for self-right and to sustain that journey,” he said.

Junior Isaac Schneider, president of Hillel at Ithaca College, 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.
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.

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.

“I think this is where we sort of push 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’ve all been 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 so cross over so many ways that they are in touch,” Staub said.

Junior Laci Young said she appreciates having structure for 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.

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, a veterinarian at the Ohio State University, and Suzette Moschetth, 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.

“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 Kopcey, 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 operate medical equipment and with just a minimal level job,” she said.

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THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

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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, commented 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, nonexistent benefits, poor working conditions, low pay and sexual harassment.

“ITSE president Matthew Loeb planned to have the union go on strike Oct. 18 unless a deal with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Televison 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.

Powers said he prompted to create the post because the COVID-19 pandemic has created a perfect opportunity for workers to demand fair 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 from work.

The Park School has over 15,000 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 IATSE 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 employers 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 was essential.

“We’re seeing some alumni 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 5,200 signatures, over 1,900 have already signed.

“On Oct. 7, the IATSE executive board announced a planned strike that, despite her real-life experience of abuse, she is still questioning whether or not to ratify.

“I am not disappointed solely in our local leaders but also in the national leaders of the passive members for not communicating these concerns effectively before negotiations began,” Pender said.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021 NEWS | 3
Koehler said that the college has set a goal to increase the retention rate to 87% within the next two years and to 90% by 2026.

The rate of students who graduated within four years was 72.6% in 2018, 74.5% in 2019 and has remained at 69% for Fall 2020 and Fall 2021. The rate of students who graduated within two 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.

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 unengaged. This was demonstrated in lack of discussions and engagement in his classes.

"It felt like IC, we’re stuck in this trap of this sort of drifting incoming class forcing the administration 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%.

Kena 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 want to grow her professional network 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."

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 public act of 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 the candidate stages.

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 coordinate the search process, while the committee will evaluate the candidates the firm finds.

They said the process includes open forums for the forum is held among 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 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," he said.

Barry said it did not if the search will be open or closed, however, she said it is difficult to have a public, open final 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 Abbard, 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 professorships because of the APP, which he thinks has an effect on the value of the education at the college.

Dean of Students Bonnie Brunt said hoped to see someone who is experienced 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.
Ph.D. candidate discusses inclusion

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Wythe Marschall, 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.

“Even Muslims who are Black don’t get codified…,” said Wythe Marschall, Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University, discussing the lack of inclusion in science.

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.

Marschall spoke virtually to about 21 members of the community regarding the limitations of science, as defined by European and American standards. Marschall 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.

“…and to support a well-informed dialogue,” said Wythe Marschall, Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University, discussing the lack of inclusion in science.

So if science is unitarian transcultural, how do you explain sudden shifts?” Marschall 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 Amara 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 sciences], 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 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.

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. 3. 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.

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.”

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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 comedians?

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. …

SC: 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.

SC: My research looks at the way 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: What was the most important takeaway you found from your research?

SC: The most important takeaway 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 outreach … 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 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? Dependence on this 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’re 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 him at his word. So the ways that religion is summoned into these conversations is really interesting.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021 NEWS | 5

Saham 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.

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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 rodecast pro and how to edit audio using soundtrap. The event is open to all enrolled 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 is 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 zone

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

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 Ivey 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 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 dose 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.

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 LARCYEN OVER $200
LOCATION: 4/5 Tower Circle SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person stole ear buds. Patrol Officer Shawn Lassing 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.

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE
LOCATION: 947 East Green Street SUMMARY: An officer reported a vehicle parked 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 12
CHECK ON THE WELFARE
LOCATION: 104 Hara Brown 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.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
LOCATION: 144 Lewis 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 arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGrave responded.

V&T LEAVING SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
LOCATION: S of 154 Conservatory Drive SUMMARY: A caller reported that a vehicle struck a parked vehicle causing damage and then leaving the area Oct. 11. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGrave responded.

OCTOBER 13
AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT 2ND DEGREE
LOCATION: All other/other SUMMARY: A third party caller reported a person being harassed via social media. Master Patrol Officer Joseph Upper responded.

OCTOBER 14
FIRE ACTUAL FIRE/ FLAME/IGNITION
LOCATION: 354 Grant Egbert Boulevard SUMMARY: The officer responded to a fire, the alarm was activated. The officer reported that the alarm activation was accidental. Patrol Officer Mark Jones responded.

OCTOBER 15
Criminal mischief 4TH DEGREE
LOCATION: 133 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 Lassing 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 Upper responded.

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

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

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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.
GUEST COMMENTARY

Transfer students need more help

BY MARIA DOBKOWSKI

Edutors 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 dust off their old college sweatshirts, we current transfer students also have great internship opportunities. We saw myself getting denied and discouraged when internship coordinators didn’t even respond and were extremely stressed. When internship opportunities and jobs on top of it can be extremely stressful.

As a transfer student during a pandemic, putting me behind in gaining that one-on-one experience and getting internship opportunities 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 and who are able to meet different faculty or connections in the Ithaca community.

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 could have a lasting impression based on their social media. Another opportunity that the college offers is studying abroad. That is a very important experience and opportunity you don’t 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 anything as important as an internship can be even more difficult.

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.

MINDFUL TALKS

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 about mental health. It is not only a sport, it is our personal struggles.

This summer I witnessed 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, but they struggle in many personal 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 mental health as a college athlete. Lauren Rodrigues 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 community that is struggling.

BY CHEYENNE BLOUT

I know 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 friend told me the marketing department for the company she works for 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 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. And “How much should I keep up with social media?” was a question that came up at a job interview in 2019.

Yes, social media was brought up for a third of my 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 influencers off the top of my head, so I listed one influencer, and two well-known celebrities and answered the reminder questions regarding influencers with a bunch of um’s as I scrambled for answers my brain couldn’t provide at the moment.

I was shocked — especially because it was for a content marketing internship. How much do you choose to show to the world.

My resume somewhat matched the person on their social media.

That is a very important experience and opportunity to boost their experience in their field. Having networking nights could have a lasting impression based on their social media.

Another opportunity that the college offers is studying abroad. That is a very important experience and opportunity you don’t 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.

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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 team that is struggling.
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.

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.

To read the rest of the blog entries head to Thelthacan.org.
ACROSS
1  Campaign for election  ...
6  Taco filling  ...
10  Hence  ...
14  Skinning mecca  ...
15  Flibber, plus  ...
16  Ogle  ...
17  Not silently  ...
18  Opposed  ...
19  Wedding  ...
20  Go over the lines  ...
22  Hockey player  ...
24  Hike out  ...
25  Flat-nested tree  ...
26  Debussy subject  ...
27  Locations  ...
31  Student at Annapolis  ...
33  Very angry  ...
34  Having roughened skin  ...
38  Net surfer  ...
39  Bedding plant  ...
40  Olin or Horne  ...
41  Not feminine  ...
43  Miner’s stake  ...
44  Ice hockey locale  ...
45  Cedes  ...
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  Gauzy fabric  ...
63  “The --- Mutiny”  ...
64  Acid + alcohol  ...
65  Noticed  ...
66  Werner’s feeling  ...
67  Cache  ...
68  Ice flow dweller  ...
69  Tennyson heroine  ...
70  Flood controls  ...
71  Layering a skirt  ...
72  Coffee brookers  ...
73  Easy tasks  ...
74  Itch  ...
75  Praise  ...
76  Harden  ...
77  Vestige  ...
78  Marshall’s group  ...
79  Panache  ...
80  Active sort  ...
81  Barney Stote  ...
82  Artist’s paint  ...

DOWN
1  Top performer  ...
2  Bedtime story  ...
3  “Drops” (hyph.)  ...
4  Why face  ...
5  Went biking  ...
6  Play at full volume  ...
7  “--- kleines Nachtmusik”  ...
8  Munch on  ...
9  In a colder manner  ...
10  Napoleon’s island  ...
11  Kingdom  ...
12  Spirit in a lamp  ...
13  Buy by mail  ...
14  In a cold manner  ...
15  Kingdom  ...
16  Spirit in a lamp  ...
17  Matter, in law  ...
18  Roughly  ...
19  Huge flower  ...
20  Black-and-white snack  ...
21  Not real  ...

By Quill Driver Books

SUDOKU

medium

hard

very hard

answers to last issue’s

Create and solve your Sudoku puzzles for FREE.
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The Sudoku Source of “The Ithacan”

WE’VE GOT MULTIMEDIA

CHECK OUR STATUS

PRINT  ONLINE

In print every Thursday
Online daily at www.theithacan.org

DIVERSIONS  THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021
The Ithaca College apiary allows for students to gain experience in the beekeeping world.
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.

“"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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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 Wednesdays 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 a 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, harsher coursework, lack of sleep and excessive criticism. Raychl Smith and Adrienne Seiner, faculty members of the East Carolina University School of Music, studied how students coped with these intense demands. They found that musicians 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 load by assessing the academic lives of musicians with the Carnegie unit, a reference used for measuring the amount of time a student must study a subject.

“We’ve taken a certain schematic for a freshman, with 15 and a half 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 Fuertes is a student at the Whalen School. Fuertes 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,” Fuertes said via email. “I can’t exactly compare one major or one school to another ... I think every area of study has its own types of stress and every individual handles them differently.”

CONTACT MIKE ROSS
MROSS3@ITHACA.EDU

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 cross-country tour 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 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 began over 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.

“People 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 other people’s 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 holds 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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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021
LIFE & CULTURE |13

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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
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, vulgar and respectable version of 007. Gone were the days of on-screen sexual assault, explicit penises and surfing on a tsunami. What audiences ended up with was a more substantial rendition of Bond that kept the cool exoskeleton that made him one of cinema’s most classic characters. That legacy comes to a marvellous close with “No Time to Die,” the 25th film in the series and Craig’s final outing as Bond. Although somewhat disoriented 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 fit up the narrative disaster that its predecessor “Spectre” left behind. The film begins with Bond vacating across the world with Madeleine (Léa Seydoux), the Bond girl for whom he ser- vice 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 terrific performance from a terrific actress. (Rami Malek) has stolen a biologi cal weapon from MI6 in hopes of using it to create a vaingloriously ex plained new world order. What makes Craig’s Bond unique in comparison to his pre decessors 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, mak ing the emotions in “No Time to Die” hard-hitting. Bond in “No Time to Die” ex ists in an 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 per pling 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 spurs of action and humor. All of this takes place with bond’s love, Madeleine, and her daughter being chased down by vengefulness for Sahn. The com plexities of these women and their relationships with Bond are organic and thankfully, avoid kenos. This makes for the first Bond film to shed the series’ unease obsession with over communicat ing 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 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 light ing 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.

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

New horror film boasts tremendous banalities

**MOVIE REVIEW: “Lamb” A24**

**BY SEBASTIAN HUNT**

Valdimar Jóhannsson’s “Lamb” joins the ranks of “Midsummer,” “First Reformed” and “The Witch” as another superbly 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, self-reflexive performances from Rasure 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 progres sively 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 film maker Béla Tarr, that he forces like-minded aesthetics onto his film. While this leads to dazzling cinematography and a beautifully melancholic score, it imposes a surplus of unlikeable pretense onto an otherwise straightforward genre feature. A thick veil of uneavened poignancy is cast over the film which would’ve worked better with a less stereotypically “arty” cadence.

“Lamb” suffers from a tremendously banal script. As a result of the film’s underexplored underpinnings, Jóhannsson’s screenplay nev er justifies its minimalist narrative structure. “Lamb” is an underwhelming film, but it bare 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 or palatable thematic aspirations. This one should’ve been put out to pasture.

COURTESY OF A24

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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 sbbrumfield@ithaca.edu.

**PREFERRED CULTURE**
**New album is a disjointed experimentalism attempt**

ALBUM REVIEW: “Talk Memory” by 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 continuous layering of the tracks, yet it never dissipates. Listeners will need to brace for auditory overload as the bass are few and far between. In each “Talk Memory,” songs start with one instrument playing a loop, 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 5J)” 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 slightly 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 Memory” differ from the song’s original. Looking at the credits, the frequencies are quite sparse — “Overgrown” features guest vocals from RZA while “The Colour in Anything” lists Rick Rubin and Bon Iver as principal 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 “Firemen” end up sounding like their featured artists, in this case a JID song featuring some of Blake’s gregarious background vocals and punchastically 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 unadorned vocals with 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 bounce, new-age synth keys and what sounds like ‘90s’ drumming 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.
The Ithaca College equestrian club has returned to its "main" 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 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.

"Participation was definitely a lot more stagnant," club president senior Lauren 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 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 practices 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, 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.”
THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP

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

**FIELD HOCKEY**

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Rowan Border Battle


**WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY**

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Rowan Border Battle


**WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING**

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

**MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING**

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

*Updated as of Oct. 18
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.

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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.

ELEONOR RAY@ITHACA.EDU
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.