

## Alumni donations start to flatline at Ithaca College

The percentage of alumni donating back to the college decreased from 6.4% in fiscal year 2019 to 6.2% in 2020.

BY OLIVIA STANZL AND  
CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

The rate of Ithaca College alumni donating back to the college is stabilizing after years of decreases — but it is stabilizing at a percentage lower than the national average.

Between 2010 and 2019, the percentage of alumni who donated dropped by about half. In 2010, the rate was 12.2% and in 2019, it was 6.4%. Wendy Kobler, vice president for Philanthropy and Engagement, said the percentage was stabilizing between 6.2% to 6.4%, but for the 2020 fiscal year, the rate was 6.2%. While the national average rate of alumni who donate back to their college is only 8%, Ithaca College still falls below the average. The last year the college had an alumni donation percentage above 8% was 2015.

The college uses initiatives like Ithaca College Giving Day and the Cortaca Jug games at MetLife and Yankee Stadium to encourage students to get alumni, friends and family to donate. During Giving Day there are leaderboards between the five schools and campus organizations to see who can bring in the most money. The college also has different

ALUMNI, PAGE 4

## Recent IC graduation decisions create discourse among seniors

BY SYD PIERRE

Following the recent announcement of the changes to the Class of 2022 May Commencement ceremony and to December Commencement, some members of the campus community have said they feel happy about the changes, while others feel disappointed.

Interim President La Jerne Cornish said in an email to the Class of 2022 on Oct. 25 that the college will hold two in-person Commencement ceremonies on May 22, 2022.

The ceremonies will be held in the Glazer Arena in the Athletics and Events (A&E) Center. One ceremony will be at 9 a.m. and the other at 3 p.m., each with 650 graduates.

Students can pick which ceremony they would like to walk in. Information regarding signing up for a ceremony will be sent to the Class of 2022 in February 2022.

The members of the Class of 2022 will be provided with six tickets for guests, Cornish said in the announcement.



From left, former President Shirley M. Collaod and Catherine Fiore '21 in the Athletics and Events Center at the 2021 graduation.

ARLA DAVIS/THE ITHACAN

Both ceremonies will be for students who are graduating in October and December 2021, and students graduating in May, June, August, October and December 2022 will also be allowed to attend. Senior Chloe Levy said she was disappointed in some of the changes made to the Commencement ceremonies, namely

that students will have to find time to sign up for time slots and that students might not be able to walk at Commencement with their friends.

“I know my friend is graduating technically in December, and she’s going to probably walk at the 3

COMMENCEMENT, PAGE 4

## College sees decrease in students of color

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Upon her arrival to Ithaca College for the first time, freshman Patty McHugh, an Asian American student, said she was confused when she could not find students who looked like her. She said it was her first time seeing the college in-person since the start of COVID-19, and she was expecting to see diversity similar to the photos depicting student life on the college’s website.

The number of students of color at the college have fluctuated over the past five years, according to the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research. Enrollment of Black or African American students shifted from 5.7% in 2017, 5.5% in 2018, 5.7% in 2019, 5.9% in 2020 and 5.5% in 2021. Asian identifying students have remained consistent from 4.0% in 2017, 4.0% in 2018, 4.1% in 2019, 4.0% in 2020 and 3.9% in 2021. Hispanic or Latino student populations, however, have seen an increase from 8.1% in 2017, 8.5% in 2018, 9.3% in 2019, 10.2% in 2020 and 10.1% in 2021.

The college is a predominantly

white institution, with 3,795 white students enrolled during Fall 2021, while there are 1,223 students of color enrolled, according to AIR.

Laurie Koehler, vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Strategy, Nicole Eversley Bradwell, executive director of Admission and Shana Gore, executive director of Student Financial Services said they were concerned by the recent downturn in enrollment of Black, Indigenous and students of color (BIPOC), and that it reflected a national downtrend.

“Ithaca College’s percentage of undergraduate students who identify as BIPOC has been on a gradually upward trend over the past decade,” they said via email. “However, this fall we experienced a slight decline in the overall percentage of undergraduate students identifying as BIPOC.”

College enrollment rates among minority students across the country have seen an increase from 2000 to 2018, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

STUDENTS, PAGE 4

LIFE & CULTURE | page 15

### STUDENTS CREATE INDEPENDENT PODCAST SHOWS



OPINION | page 9

### ITHACA COLLEGE LACKS DIVERSITY IN STUDENT BODY



SPORTS | page 21

### THREE SENIORS LIVE TOGETHER IN TEAM HOUSE

# Experts discuss foreign conflict

BY CLARE SHANAHAN

Experts whose lives have been shaped by the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine engaged in a public conversation about the conflict at “Side by Side: Parallel Histories, Personal Family Narratives + Ideas for Pathways to Peace for Israel + Palestine” on Nov. 2.

The event was hosted by Hillel at Ithaca College and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Muller Chapel and featured experts Uriel Abulof, associate professor at Tel-Aviv University and visiting associate professor at Cornell University, and Nizar Farsakh, chair of the board of the Museum of the Palestinian People in Washington D.C.

The conflict between Palestine and Israel is traced back to the late 1800s, but the modern issues can be traced to 1947 when the United Nations divided Palestine into two states: one Arab and one Jewish,

according to the Council on Foreign Relations Global Conflict Tracker. This sparked a war that established the state of Israel in 1948, and displaced 750,000 Palestinians at the war’s end in 1949 as well as dividing the territory into the State of Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Conflict Tracker said.

Lauren Goldberg, executive director of Hillel, moderated the event. She said this kind of event is important because conversations around the conflict can be extremely difficult, tense and volatile.

“[The conflict is] one of the most complicated and divisive issues of both our time and throughout generations,” Goldberg said.

Farsakh said his family was forced to leave Palestine in the 1960s, but was able to return in 1999 after which he served on a negotiation team for the Palestinian government.

Abulof said the question of where he is from is a complex one, but



Uriel Abulof, associate professor at Tel-Aviv University and visiting associate professor at Cornell University, spoke at the public conversation hosted by Hillel at Ithaca College at Muller Chapel on Nov. 2.

LEILA MARCILLO-GOMEZ/THE ITHACAN

ultimately he would say most accurately that he is from Jerusalem.

Both Farsakh and Abulof said the conversations between Israel and Palestine will not produce a solution unless they are willing to understand the experiences and needs of the opposing group. They said a change needs to happen.

Abulof described his wife’s involvement with Maan Yahad — a group whose name in English translates roughly to ‘Togetherness’

— where people of many different backgrounds in French Hill gather to host events and demonstrations.

“It’s very hard to demonize someone that you chose to go to lunch with,” Abulof said. “I think the key to making things better is people talking respectfully.”

Farsakh said this change can come from a new perspective and initiating conversation between the two sides. “Can we articulate a vision where everyone feels included,

safe and that they are able to influence politics?” Farsakh said.

Following the event, Freshman Jamie Lanza said the event seemed like an interesting opportunity to learn about issues that were important to people close to her.

“I definitely feel like I’ve gained a little perspective from it,” Lanza said.

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## MULTIMEDIA

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### Dance teams battle it out to open for the fall show

The Bureau of Concerts held a dance battle between PULSE Hip Hop Team and Island Fusion Dance Team on Oct. 22 in the Fitness Center.



### A Conversation with Justin Li

Host Frankie Walls talks with Justin Li '21 to discuss his experience as an Asian American filmmaker and his senior thesis which was filmed in Hong Kong.



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# Group emphasizes public health

BY CAROLINE GRASS

The Ithaca College Public and Community Health Student Association (PCHSA) is on its way to becoming a club again after its official status lapsed last year.

During the 2020–21 academic year, the organization’s official status lapsed because upper-classmen members and board members graduated, and the organization no longer had the required 10 active members.

The club was founded by Dorette Ritchie ’14, in Spring 2013. In 2018, the organization had a water bottle drive and shipped them to a community organization that promotes healthy living in Ecuador, but even then, the PCHSA was restarting after years of inactivity and were just getting back on track after getting re-recognized.

The organization has an executive board and almost have the required 10 students who are active members to become a club again, and the organization hopes to educate students about public health issues and help the broader Ithaca community.

Stewart Auyash, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education and advisor of the PCHSA, said public health is about preventing the spread of illness, disease and injury in communities.

“That’s why we’re wearing these masks, right? That’s why



From left, sophomore William Lovejoy, vice president of the Public and Community Health Student Association, and freshman president Mariana Garcia Fajardo are restarting the club.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

we’re taking vaccines,” Auyash said. “That’s all public health.”

Sophomore William Lovejoy, PCHSA’s vice president, said he heard about the organization from one of his professors and decided he wanted to help restart it. He said the executive board met Oct. 12 to discuss how it was going to get the PCHSA started again.

“I thought it [the meeting] went pretty well, we got some ideas going and came up with a presentation to present and edited the constitution and everything,” Lovejoy said.

Auyash said that trying to prevent the spread of disease and illness in communities is

important and part of doing that is from studying data, but another part of public health is raising awareness through education and outreach.

“We look at the data for statistical lives, and try to prevent the spread of disease and illness,” Auyash said. “And then the tricky part and the part that has gained most of the attention to some extent, is delivering the message.”

Manner, style and voice when communicating to a large audience are critical to effectively inform the public, Auyash said.

The Public and Community Health Student Association helps students learn how to be effective communicators and

leaders, Auyash said.

Freshman Mariana Garcia Fajardo, president of the PCHSA, said she became interested in the field of study after the pandemic started while she was in high school.

Garcia Fajardo said she wants the organization to raise awareness about health issues, including but not limited to COVID-19.

“We want to help our community, so we were thinking about doing blood drives and food drives to get our members engaged,” Garcia Fajardo said.

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# Unofficial race wins released

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

Election Day was Nov. 2 and voting occurred across the United States in the first general election since the 2020 Presidential Election where Joe Biden was elected as the 46th president.

Ithaca had multiple races including the City of Ithaca Common Council, Tompkins County Legislature, town councilpersons and town justice.

Residents also had five statewide proposals to vote on which all passed. All results are considered unofficial until all mail-in ballots are counted after Nov. 9.

For the City of Ithaca Common Council, residents elected five democrats in all five wards.

There are 14 districts in Tompkins County, however, only four of the districts had more than one candidate running for Tompkins County Legislature.

The winner for town justice is Jim Salk; town councilpersons are Rich DePaolo, Margaret Johnson and Rob Rosen; City of Ithaca Common Councilperson from Ward 1 is Cynthia Brock, Ward 2 is Phoebe Brown, Ward 3 is Jeffrey Barken, Ward 4 is George DeFendini and Ward 5 is Robert Cantelmo.

For Tompkins County Legislature, Travis Brooks won in District 1, Veronica Pillar in District 2, Henry Granison in District 3, Rich John in District 4, Anne Koreman in District 5, Michael Sigler in District 6, Dan Klein in District 7, Randolph Brown in District 8, Lee Shurtleff in District 9, Deborah Dawson in District 10, Shawna Black in District 11, Amanda Champion in District 12, Greg Mezey in District 13 and Thomas C. Corey in District 14.

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# Sustainability director discusses Ithaca Green New Deal

BY LORIEN TYNE

Members of the Ithaca community engaged in a virtual conversation Nov. 1 on the topic of climate justice and the implementation of the Ithaca Green New Deal. The talk was led by guest speaker Luis Aguirre-Torres, director of sustainability for the City of Ithaca.

The virtual event held over Zoom was part of the college’s Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity (CSCRE) Fall 2021 discussion series titled, “Racism, COVID and Climate Change: Negotiating the Effects of Interlocking Pandemics.” The series focuses on how systemic racism, the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change intersect and the initiatives people are creating to help improve communities, land and resources. For this talk, Aguirre-Torres was joined by 34 other participants including faculty, students and community members.

The first version of the Ithaca Green New Deal was unanimously approved by the City of Ithaca Common Council June 5, 2019. The current version of the deal, which was updated during summer 2021, simplifies its priorities with two focuses: by 2030, Ithaca plans to be carbon neutral as well as ensure everyone in the community benefits from the changes to reduce inequality.

Aguirre-Torres highlighted the importance of building community and intersectionality in the fight for climate change throughout his presentation.

“We can decide that, you know, we have a Green New Deal that’s going to cost \$2 billion,” he said. “We can perhaps redirect not

only 40% but 50% of the benefits to those communities, to climate justice communities, those that have been left behind for a number of reasons.”

Aguirre-Torres directed questions about getting involved with the climate justice plan for Ithaca to the 1000 conversations project.

“What if we were to reveal our sense of identity and what it means to be part of this community around that instead of around the differences?” Aguirre-Torres said. “I really think that’s a way of producing change.”

Peyi Soyinka-Airewele, professor in the Department of Politics, asked Aguirre-Torres about how he was able to avoid the issue of gentrification when bringing corporations to communities in Latin America, specifically in Mexico.

“Inclusion on the bargaining table has worked initially, but later we have received feedback that indicates the economically disadvantaged are ultimately displaced after the projects are completed,” Soyinka-Airewele said.

Aguirre-Torres said his work in Mexico may not translate directly to climate justice here in Ithaca, but still said building community here is essential.

“Everybody was helping to build [new houses] and they were learning,” Aguirre-Torres said. “There was a sense of belonging the community had to do with them accepting each other in the type of life and the type of socioeconomic status that they live in. So we needed to change the sense of identity, belonging and bring everybody together.”

Senior Steffani Farquharson asked



Luis Aguirre-Torres, director of sustainability for the City of Ithaca, spoke about the Ithaca Green New Deal at a virtual event focused on discussing climate change.

COURTESY OF THE ITHACA COLLEGE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE, RACE AND ETHNICITY

Aguirre-Torres about his plans to involve the community in conversation about the Ithaca Green New Deal going forward.

“Will these be focus groups with unique communities or an open forum?” she said via chatbox. “What is the city hoping to get from the conversations?”

Aguirre-Torres said that the main way community members can give feedback is through the 1,000 conversations project. He said the purpose of hearing from as many people as possible within the community is to find an emerging complexity. He talked about ways to make Ithaca a sustainable community including energy efficiency, which means using

less energy that will perform the same function; decarbonization, which means reducing carbon emissions through different means; renewable energy; and carbon capture and sequestration, which involve the process of storing carbon emissions that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere.

Aguirre-Torres drove the important intersection of social justice and climate change in each facet of the conversation.

“We can remind people of what a sense of community could be,” he said.

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FROM ALUMNI, PAGE 1

“challenges” like which student, employee and alumni has the most donors and most dollars. Last Giving Day, which was held May 4, 2021, raised over \$1 million. There were 3,459 donors who donated a total of \$1,856,451. The college also plans to hold a Giving Tuesday challenge Nov. 30. In order to generate more alumni engagement, Kobler said the college reaches out to alumni through direct mail and email solicitation.

Linda Sauter Velto '88 said she was a consistent donor to the college but said the changes made by the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process have caused her to question if she wants to continue donating. The APP process began in September 2020 with the creation of the Academic Program Prioritization Implementation Committee (APPIC) and the Academic Program Prioritization Advisory Committee by Interim President La Jerne Cornish.

The college is currently in Phase Two of the APP. Phase One included the ongoing cuts of 116 full-time equivalent (FTE) faculty positions and 26 majors, departments and programs.

Sauter Velto '88, a graduate of the School of Music, said the elimination of the graduate music programs has contributed to her reasons to no longer donate to the college. She said this cut impacts the whole music school, not just prospective students.



Wendy Kobler, vice president for Philanthropy and Engagement, spoke at the State of the College gathering Oct. 5. Kobler discussed the college's plans to distribute a survey to all college alumni.

ASH BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

“It doesn't make the school as attractive,” Sauter Velto said. “It doesn't allow there to be as many graduate assistants to teach the undergrads, and you don't have the graduate students there as examples.”

She said that at the moment, she is still uncertain if she will donate again, but she also said she wishes she saw more communication and outreach to alumni from the college.

Emma Whitford, reporter for Inside Higher Ed, said donations made by alumni fell by about 2% in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, she said Ithaca College beat that 2% decrease despite COVID-19. In 2020, total

donations to colleges fell from \$49.6 million to \$49.5 million. She said even though there was not an increase in donations, it is not necessarily a bad thing.

Stella Rivera '19 said even if she did have the means to donate, she also would not due to the APP process. She said she believes the results of the APP are unacceptable.

“It's also frustrating to see the administration tout that the college is such an amazing school and that they have all these top-rated programs,” Rivera said.

The COVID-19 pandemic may have also impacted alumni's willingness or want to donate, as campuses were closed,

meaning colleges could not host on-campus events for alumni.

Sarah Grunberg '08, former lecturer in the Department of Sociology, said that since she graduated, she has donated back to the college a few times. However, in recent years she said she has not.

“Because of the lack of transparency on both the board of trustees level and the upper administrative level around finances ... I didn't feel like the decisions to cut programs and faculty were fiscally responsible,” she said.

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FROM STUDENTS, PAGE 1

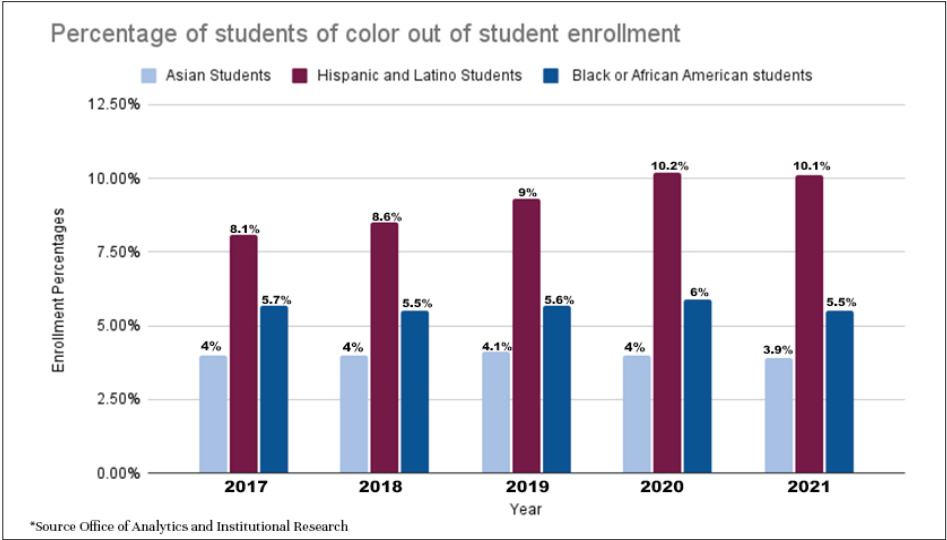
Enrollment of Black or African American students saw an increase from 31% in 2000 to 37% in 2018. Asian enrollment increased slightly from 56% in 2000 to 59% in 2018. Hispanic or Latino enrollment has seen the greatest increase from 22% in 2000 to 36% in 2018. Of Ithaca College's Class of 2025, 23.5% self-identifies as BIPOC. In comparison, 53.1% of Cornell University's Class of 2025 self-identified as BIPOC.

Koehler, Eversley Bradwell and Gore also said Ithaca College was working to further its connections with BIPOC students. Some of the strategies include in-person regional recruitments, campus visits and working with the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities in New York (CICU). The college also plans to eliminate the use of the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile for students applying to enroll in Fall 2022 and only require the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for students.

“After analyzing data, we realized that our financial aid application requirements were serving as a barrier to many students, and disproportionately so to students from populations historically underserved by institutions of higher education — students of color, first generation and low-income household students,” they said via email.

McHugh said she often is the only student of color in her classes, which was completely different from her experience in her home state of New Jersey, where she said she experienced more diversity in the community she grew up in.

“I feel like people are going [to schools] where they think they'll feel comfortable and feel that there will be other people around them that look like them,” she said.



McHugh stressed the importance of educating others on issues students of color face. She said it is important, especially in friend groups, to address any problematic viewpoints that stem from ignorance.

There has been a history of racist incidents at the college. Some high-profile cases include a racially charged incident that occurred in a theater class in November 2019 where Anne Hamilton, former interim lecturer in the Department of Theatre Arts, asked students to write racial slurs on a whiteboard, and in December 2018, a student received backlash after using a racial slur in a video posted to Snapchat. Tom Rochon, former president of the college, stepped down in July 2017 following protests led by the group POC at IC and votes of no confidence from both faculty and students. POC at IC was created in 2015 following racist incidents that occurred while Rochon was president.

Freshman Carolina Cedraschi said she was surprised to hear of the low enrollment numbers of students of color at the college. While Cedraschi said some of her classes had

a more diverse range of students, she also said there were times where she would be the only student of color in a group, like on her soccer team.

“Maybe [students of color] look at this school when they come here and they realize that they can't find the people that they really identify with,” Cedraschi said.

One way Cedraschi said she gets involved with other students of color is through IC Mixed, a student organization which focuses on building community for students who identify as multiracial. She said the club had a positive impact on her time at the college, since it was unlike anything offered when she was in high school.

“Despite the decline in numbers, the college has so many programs that you can truly find yourself,” she said. “Anyone should just try to put themselves out there ... look around to see if you like it and then just try to meet new people.”

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FROM COMMENCEMENT, PAGE 1

p.m. one, even though it's really inconvenient to like our families and stuff,” Levy said. “It's better to know at least we'll get to walk together, than not even get to see each other graduate because I mean, that's just rough. They didn't even consider our feelings and how much time we've spent with all of these people.”

Senior Monica Hammerl said her biggest concern with the changes are also the potential that she might not be able to graduate with her friends.

“My friends and I want to have the same time of graduation, because we'd rather graduate together then have to wait a period to go and see each other graduate,” Hammerl said.

Doreen Hettich-Atkins, executive director of the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life, said that when the college did allow unlimited numbers of tickets, they found the average was six or seven tickets per graduate.

She said the biggest reason the college is splitting the Commencement into two ceremonies is so that students can have more family members attend.

“If we were to only do one, the numbers of family members that would be able to attend would be significantly more limited than it is when we do two ceremonies,” Hettich-Atkins said.

Jack Powers, interim dean for the Roy H. Park School of Communications, said he did not have any concerns with the new structure of the two, in-person ceremonies.

“Over the past few years, we've had split ceremonies — some virtual, some hybrid/in-person — and I thought they went really well, so I don't have any concerns about the new structure,” Powers said via email.

Senior Reed Pollard, president of the senior class, said he is actively involved in the planning process for graduation.

He said he works with the Commencement committee co-chairs to plan the programming and logistics for the event.

“I think it is truly a student-centered approach to a traditional graduation ceremony,” Pollard said via email. “The idea for two ceremonies was definitely a long conversation, but it allows each graduate to have a lot more tickets, so they can share the day with family and friends.”

Pollard said he is aware some seniors are disappointed about the decision to hold the ceremonies in the A&E Center, as opposed to Butterfield Stadium. Typically, Commencement is held in one ceremony outside at Butterfield Stadium.

However, Pollard said he thinks the decision to hold Commencement inside at the A&E Center makes the most sense logistically for the college.

December Commencement Changes

The college previously announced that, beginning in December 2022, students graduating in December would not be able to walk in the following May Commencement ceremony, but has since reversed its decision.

Hettich-Atkins said the college reversed the decision after hearing negative feedback from students and their families.

She said that moving forward, December graduates will be able to participate in the May Commencement ceremonies.

“December graduates will be able to participate in either the May ceremony before their formal graduation or the May ceremony following when they officially complete their degree requirements,” Hettich-Atkins said.

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# SGC discusses making IC a smoke-free campus

BY MEL ANDIA

Ted Schiele, coordinator for Tobacco Free Tompkins and planner and evaluator for the Tompkins County Health Department, met with the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) at its Nov. 1 meeting, to encourage the council to work towards making the college a smoke-free campus.

Tobacco Free Tompkins is part of a statewide network working to create tobacco-free environments as the cultural norm. The college currently prohibits smoking in all residence halls and apartments, dining areas, classrooms, theaters, auditoriums, gymnasiums, the indoor pool area, laboratories, the library, individual offices, college cars and vans, meeting rooms, lounges, balconies, hallways, stairwells, lobby areas, restrooms, elevators, waiting rooms and areas that contain photocopying equipment or other office equipment used in common and all other indoor campus facilities, according to section 2.8.10 of Volume II of the college's policy manual.

The manual defines smoking as the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes and personal vaporizers or other devices associated with vaping.

Schiele said he has been working to make the college become a smoke-free campus for more than 10 years. He began by advocating for smoke-free dormitories, which was ignored by the college. The



The Ithaca College Student Governance Council met with Ted Schiele, coordinator for Tobacco Free Tompkins, at its Nov. 1 meeting. The group discussed how to make the campus smoke-free.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

state then passed a law mandating all college dormitories be tobacco-free in 2012, according to a 2014 report by the New York State Tobacco Free Initiative.

A survey conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse from 2020 found that only 4% of students reported having smoked a cigarette in the past month. The University of Michigan study found that there was an increase from 6% to 22% of 19 to 22-year-olds in college who vaped nicotine at least once in a 30 day period.

The last survey for Ithaca College

students to share their opinions on becoming a smoke-free campus was in 2015. In 2019, Schiele surveyed 2,100 Cornell students, which resulted in a resolution to recommend a two-to-three year process to create a tobacco-free campus.

The senators asked Schiele about his goals for a smoke-free campus.

"I'm wondering what the severity of the consequences would be if a student were to go against the smoke-free campus policy," Freshman Noah Richardson, Class of 2025 senator, said.

Schiele said he wants there to be

trained ambassadors to ask people in no-smoking zones to stop smoking in order to enforce the policies and to have more signs declaring no-smoking areas.

Freshman Vincent Tavernese, School of Music senator, asked Schiele what his ideal smoke-free campus resolution would be.

Schiele said that the ideal is for there to be no smoking anywhere on campus, but that creating a campus with designated smoking areas is more realistic. The college currently has designated smoking areas outside Rothschild Place, Campus

Center, the Center for Health Sciences, the Center for Natural Sciences, the Dillingham Center, East and West Towers, the academic quad, the Textor patio, the Park School of Communications, the Terraces Dining Hall, Towers Dining, Parking Lot F meridian, patio on the East Side of the Circles Apartment community building, the center quad area and the patio between Gardens 25 and 29.

Schiele said his ideal areas would be away from campus and academic buildings, on the edge of the lowest parking lot or up at the Towers parking lot. Junior Austin Ruffino, SGC senate chair, said he is looking for any SGC senators who are interested in co-sponsoring a rewrite of Schiele's bill with him.

"I think we have a couple ideas that I've discussed with some other SGC members ... of ways we might be able to gauge current student interest," Ruffino said. "Maybe [through] something like a survey."

Schiele said that in 2016, he worked with Tim Connors '17, a former SGC senator who also worked with Colleges Against Cancer, to create a bill for a smoke-free campus. The bill was not passed by the SGC.

"I've been on the sidelines of tobacco control over the last 18 months because my job in the health department was consumed by COVID," said Schiele.

CONTACT MEL ANDIA  
MANDIA@ITHACA.EDU

## Television writer shares experience with students

Television writer and producer Dan O'Shannon spent two weeks at Ithaca College as the Roy H. Park School of Communications' 2021 Park Distinguished Visitor.

He has been working in the television world for the past 36 years and is most known for writing on sit-coms including "Cheers," "Frasier," and "Modern Family." O'Shannon worked with interim dean Jack Powers to teach a course to writing for film, television and emerging media students on comedic narrative writing.

He shared his knowledge and experience, as well as creative tools to sustain long-form comedic narratives, with students.

Staff Writer Cecilia Meza spoke with O'Shannon about his motivation and experiences working in the television industry.

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

**Cecilia Meza:** Why did you want to start writing for television?

**Dan O'Shannon:** It started as a kid. I wanted to be funny, I wanted to make people laugh ... I made a lot of jokes, funny faces and fell down a lot and whatever I could to make people laugh, and then I began to understand how to make jokes. Then I did stand-up for a while, but I really gravitated towards writing material for myself and other comics. Then eventually I made my way to Los Angeles and learned how you write for television and I struggled for a while, but then I got work.

**CM:** What is your favorite part of writing for television?

**DO:** I like making people laugh, I like making people feel things and I like the power it gives you ... When you write TV shows it's not just the laughs, it's making people cry, making them hope, making them angry, making them anxious about things that don't even exist. You realize there's a tremendous power in it and through that, you can say things that make people realize that we all do have things in common, that everything isn't just about hating another political party or anything like that, and once you know how to do it you have the responsibility to do it in a way that is productive and helpful to society and not hurtful.

**CM:** Have you ever thought about giving up?

**DO:** Definitely, there are times when it feels disheartening to do it again. You watch the news and you see how much people embrace ignorance now and you think, 'Well why am I working so hard to reach these people, they will only believe what they want to believe?' And then you just do it anyway.

**CM:** But why?

**DO:** When I was young one of the big things that drove me was that I just wanted to prove that I could because I think everyone in my life when I was a kid said "you don't have the talent, you can't do this sort of thing with your life." And so a lot of my drive was, I'll show them, and then one day I realized I'd shown



From left, Dan O'Shannon, television writer and producer, and Jack Powers, interim dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, answer student questions at event.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

them so I had to find a new reason to do it. And what it is for me is that when I was a little kid my home was a rough place to grow up and I escaped into television ... it felt like this invisible voice was saying we're not all like your parents or teachers, we're out here come and find us, and I did eventually find them. Now when I write things I assume that whatever I write will be seen by a few million people and that most of them will forget it pretty quickly, but there will be a couple of people out there and it'll speak to them and say "you're not alone, there's people like you, come and find us," and I think that's the nicest thing I can do.

**CM:** Do you have any advice for people

interested in the entertainment industry?

**DO:** You should be gearing yourself towards creating content. If you are a writer, but you don't feel like producing or directing you find those students who produce and direct, but don't feel like writing and you start working with other people. Make stuff, make stuff, make stuff. Make all your bad movies now, make all your bad videos now and get better, and get better. Create a body of work, create a style, learn what you're doing so that when you land in Los Angeles you have a resume, you have an education, and you have a ton of things you can show.

CONTACT CECILIA MEZA  
CMEZA@ITHACA.EDU

COLLEGE BRIEFS

Registration available for students for housing over November break

The November break housing registration form is open and available on IC Workflow. Students can register to stay in their current Fall housing assignments during the November break period.

Students must register in advance in order to stay for any portion of the break period. The deadline to register is 5 p.m. Nov. 18. Break housing begins at noon Nov. 20.

Limited services are available during break-housing periods. There will be a limited number of Office of Residential Life staff present on campus to handle lock-outs and emergencies. The Office of Public Safety will remain open. Regular services will resume at noon Nov. 28.

Applications for admission hosts now open for interested students

Ithaca College students interested in giving back to the campus community and assisting the Office of Admission with recruiting efforts are encouraged to apply for the Admission Hosts Committee tour guide position.

As an Admission Host, students will be an ambassador of the college who embodies the spirit of the institution.

Admission Hosts are often the first point of contact and a valuable source of information for prospective students. Students must submit their application through the HR Cloud by Nov. 5.

Music forum to host presentation about race in music curriculum

The Ithaca Music Forum will host Philip Ewell, professor of music theory at Hunter College, at 6 p.m. Nov. 12 in Nabenhauer Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public. Ewell will present “White Stories, Black Histories, & Desegregating the Music Curriculum.” Ewell, who serves as director of graduate studies in the music department at Hunter College,

specializes in Russian music theory, Russian opera, modal theory and race studies. His work has been featured in news outlets such as the BBC, Die Zeit, NPR and The New Yorker. He received the 2019–20 “Presidential Award for Excellence in Creative Work” at Hunter College, and he was the “Susan McClary and Robert Walser Fellow” of the American Council of Learned Societies for the 2020–21 academic year.

In August 2020 he received the “Graduate Center Award for Excellence in Mentoring,” and he was a “Virtual Scholar in Residence” at the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music for 2020–21. He recently finished a monograph, “On Music Theory,” combining race studies with music and music theory.

He is also under contract at W.W. Norton to co-author a new music theory textbook that will be a modernized, reframed and inclusive textbook based on recent developments in music theory pedagogy.

Registration still open for students to attend IC Leadership Summit

Each year, The Office of Student Engagement hosts an annual Leadership Summit to provide an opportunity for students to shift their perspectives on leadership, global impact and social change. The 2021 Leadership Summit aims to focus on holistic happiness and what it means to foster happiness within yourself, others and the world.

The Leadership Summit will help students challenge their thoughts through progressive leadership initiatives with a variety of breakout sessions and a keynote address. The summit will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 6 in the School of Business. Registration closes noon Nov. 4.

Students who attend the summit will have the opportunity to earn Student Leadership Institute credit. Students can also get Career Connection Credit through the business school. Students must participate in the



Club rugby team chops down opponents

The Ithaca College men’s club rugby team played the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) team Oct. 30 at Higgins Stadium. The Bombers dressed up in costumes inspired by the movie Braveheart and the RIT team dressed as lumberjacks.

ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

entirety of the Leadership Summit in order to receive full credit.

**Group to host online presentation focused on independent art cinema**

Behind the Screens is a collaboration between the Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival, the new bachelor’s of arts program in Screen Cultures and the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Ithaca College.

Behind the Screens: Conversations Unpacking Cinema continues at 7 p.m. Nov. 9 on Zoom with Brett Bossard ’95, executive director of Cinemapolis. Rachel Schaff, assistant professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, will conduct the interview. Formerly the executive director of the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County, Bossard has more than a decade of nonprofit arts management as well as degrees in screenwriting and popular culture studies.

He has been highly involved in the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and many other community business and arts organizations in the upstate New York region. He is also part of the Sundance Art House Convergence.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM OCTOBER 25 TO OCTOBER 31

OCTOBER 25

**ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE**  
LOCATION: Roadway Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a large amount of water flowing down the roadway. The officer reported a water main break. Facilities responded. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

**MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED**  
LOCATION: 286 Lyceum Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a person having a seizure. The officer reported one person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

**FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL**  
LOCATION: 136 Grant Egbert Blvd  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the alarm activation was caused by burnt food. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

OCTOBER 26

**CHECK ON THE WELFARE**  
LOCATION: N of 113 Campus Center Way  
SUMMARY: A caller reported receiving alarming text messages from a person with suicidal ideations. Sergeant

Don Lyke responded.

**MEDICAL ASSIST/ PSYCHOLOGICAL**  
LOCATION: 125 Textor Circle  
SUMMARY: Officers located the person from a check on the welfare. Officers reported that the person was transported to the hospital under the New York state mental hygiene law. Sergeant Don Lyke responded.

**FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL**  
LOCATION: 181 College Circle  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Environmental Health and Safety reported that the alarm activation was caused by burnt food. Fire Protection Specialist Max Noble responded.

**PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200**  
LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported unknown persons stole toilet paper from multiple bathrooms. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

OCTOBER 28

**SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS**  
LOCATION: S of 134 Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that a person was passed out. The caller believed that the person was

intoxicated. Officers reported that the person was not passed out or intoxicated. The person had fallen while carrying a large item. The person was not injured and declined medical assistance. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

**SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE**  
LOCATION: Flora Brown Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported hearing a person screaming. The officer reported the area was checked and they were unable to located any person in distress. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

**SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE**  
LOCATION: 148 Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported finding items that could be from a person staying inside the building after hours. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

**SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS**  
LOCATION: 334 Grant Egbert Boulevard  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an intoxicated person was having difficulties walking. Prior to the officer’s arrival, the caller reported that the person was no longer conscious. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance and referred

for irresponsible use of alcohol. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

OCTOBER 29

**RAPE 3RD DEGREE**  
LOCATION: Unknown  
SUMMARY: A caller reported third-party information that one person was sexually assaulted. Elyse Nepa, Clery Act and crime prevention coordinator in the Office of Public Safety, responded.

**SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL**  
LOCATION: 116 Flora Brown Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported an odor of marijuana. The officer reported three persons were issued conduct referrals for underage possession of alcohol. Master Patrol Officer Byran Verzosa responded.

OCTOBER 30

**MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED**  
LOCATION: E of 284 Lyceum Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported third-hand information that a person received an electric shock while handling an electronic device. The person self-transported for treatment Oct. 29. Patrol Officer

Mayra Colon responded.

**SCC DRUG VIOLATIONS**  
LOCATION: 286 Lyceum Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported an odor of marijuana. The officer reported one person was referred for violation of drug policy. Master Patrol Officer Jon Elmore responded.

OCTOBER 31

**SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS**  
LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a highly intoxicated person who was passed out. The officer reported that the person was conscious. The officer referred one person for irresponsible use of alcohol. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones 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  
N – North  
S – South  
E – East





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**Students express concern over theater arts department move**  
By Syd Pierre | Oct 26, 2021

FALL 2021  
Sports Preview

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# DIVERSIONS

8

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021

## crossword

By Quill Driver Books

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21						22				
23			24							25				
			26				27	28				29	30	31
32	33	34				35				36				
37						38				39				
40						41				42				
43				44						45				
		46	47					48				49	50	51
52	53					54	55				56			
57						58				59				
60						61				62				
63						64				65				

### ACROSS

- 1 Turnstile  
5 Deficiency  
9 Watched secretly  
14 Reproaches  
15 Fitzgerald or  
Raines  
16 Knight's weapon  
17 Sappho's verse  
18 Castle defense  
19 Bizarre  
20 Prepare to fire  
21 Gourmet  
23 Snacker's delight  
25 Not now  
26 "Have you ---  
wool?"  
27 Not home  
29 Blacken  
32 Male relative  
35 Oil or coal  
36 Salary deduction  
37 More than a  
snack  
38 Save (2wds.)  
39 --- Ness  
40 Sidekicks  
41 Med. plans  
42 Desires  
43 Delhi address  
44 Ally opposites  
45 Cat or turkey  
46 Type of sausage,  
briefly

- 48 Eco-conscious  
wrap (2 wds.)  
52 Worthy of praise  
56 Ait, on the Seine  
57 Precise  
58 War god  
59 Gambling stake  
60 Parish donation  
61 Soften  
62 Judge  
63 Herd member  
64 Back talk  
65 Woeful cry

- 28 Mazes  
30 Bank dep.  
31 Gridiron shouts  
32 Referees  
33 Within sight  
34 Adjust a  
measuring  
35 Seethe  
36 Circus hoop  
hazard  
38 Passport  
requirement  
42 Stir-fry pans  
44 Less lean

- 45 Jeers at  
47 Nouveau ----  
48 Aluminum wraps  
49 Last  
50 Very  
51 Terrible smells  
52 New York team  
53 Freeway ramp  
54 CD- ----  
55 Concept  
59 Japanese pearl  
diver

### DOWN

- 1 React to a pun  
2 Video companion  
3 Crawls with  
4 Slalom run  
5 Tart  
6 Onward  
7 Laird's  
household  
8 Green Hornet's  
valet  
9 Watery  
10 Hesitate  
11 Objective  
12 Light brown  
13 Forest grazer  
21 Film  
23 Where Rome is  
home  
24 Dormitories  
27 Gas guzzlers

### last issue's crossword answers

W	E	L	D		N	O	R	S	E		J	O	S	E	
E	R	I	E		O	R	I	O	N		E	G	A	D	
T	A	L	C		I	C	O	N	S		T	E	R		
S	T	Y	L	I	S	H				U	N	S	E	A	T
			A	R	E	A	S		E	E	K				
S	T	A	R	E		R	O	B		S	I	T	E		
U	R	G	E		O	D	D	E	S	T		A	P	T	
N	A	I	R	O	B	I		A	U	S	T	R	I	A	
S	I	L			T	I	S	S	U	E		H	E	C	K
		L	E	F	T		T	A	J		P	A	S	S	E
			L	E	D			C	O	M	E	T			
T	E	N	U	R	E				L	U	R	C	H	E	D
O	M	I	T			P	L	E	A	S		H	A	V	E
L	I	N	E			O	A	S	I	S		E	L	I	A
E	R	O	S			T	O	P	S	Y		R	O	L	L

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## sudoku

medium

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

hard

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

### answers to last issue's sudoku:

easy

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

medium

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

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MOLLY STANTON/THE ITHACAN

## EDITORIALS

### Alumni need their opinions to be heard by the college

Alumni donations to Ithaca College have decreased in the last few years; we can assume in part, because of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process and the choices the administration has made for the last few years. The college’s average donations from alumni are below the national average. On average, colleges receive upwards of 8% or more in donations, while Ithaca College has remained at around 6.2%. Students and faculty alike have been concerned and frustrated with the college’s lack of transparency or communication. So, it comes as no surprise that the alumni — who are already disconnected from campus more than any other group — have reservations about donating because of the APP. With the second phase undergoing, the entire community has not recovered from, and will probably not get over, the firing of over 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions and the discontinuation of 26 majors, departments and programs.

Just as current students and faculty deserve more from the administration and the Ithaca College Board of Trustees, so do our alumni donors. The college has a responsibility to communicate how its finances are handled and how the donations affect the college — a responsibility it has time and time again failed to uphold. Sounding like a broken record, it’s crucial that the administration take the time to communicate, clearly illustrate the plans it has and be completely transparent in regards to the college’s finances. The college is now seeing the consequences of not doing so — for months the college community has argued for transparency and to have an opinion on what is best for the college.

The college would receive more alumni donations if the board of trustees and the administration addressed concerns — the longer they take to mend the relationships with current students, faculty and alumni, the harder it will be to build trust or a sense of community down the line.

### BIPOC students on campus deserve to have a safe place

The vast majority of students and faculty at Ithaca College are white. Any Black, indigenous or person of color (BIPOC) applying to the college will look up the college and see that there is a low number of BIPOC students at the college — only 23.5% of students in the Class of 2025 identify as BIPOC. The college has been known to disregard racist or problematic professors in the past, and in terms of the student body, there are quite a few students who carry bigotry or racist sentiments and actively get away with making the community an unwelcoming environment for BIPOC students.

Many students at the college have had to take on the role of being the ones to correct and hold accountable their peers and professors. It should not be their job to do so, but the college has failed to properly address these situations and ensure that the students, faculty and staff recognize that blatant racism and the disrespect of other students is

unacceptable. The college can use the platforms and programs already established at the college — including the First-Generation Center, the vast number of BIPOC groups and organizations like the Students of Color Coalition, IC PODER, Sisters2Sisters, Brothers for Brothers, IC Mixed and the Asian American Alliance — and elevate these organizations and the students and give them a larger platform on campus. In addition to student enrollment, there needs to be more diversity within the faculty in all departments.

Students of color need to have a voice and a place to share their feelings when such racist incidents occur, and the college should listen to these students and take action when it is necessary.

In the past *The Ithacan* has been complicit and contributed to the pain that has been done to the students of color on campus. We acknowledge and apologize for the harm the paper has done, and *The Ithacan* is actively holding itself accountable.

### 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



CHECKMATE

CHESS CABRERA

Help offered for survivors

All of the resident assistants (RA) had to come onto campus early for pre-fall semester training between Aug. 10 and 13 in preparation for residents to begin move-in on the weekend of Aug. 15. Day three of training was focused on aid — everything from how the Clery Act makes RAs mandated reporters, to how to go about conflict resolution between roommates. The third day of training left a strong mark on me for a different reason though — that reason being knowledge about the Advocacy Center.

The Advocacy Center is a provider of domestic and sexual violence services within the Tompkins County area. Despite being an off-campus resource, it is strongly correlated with Title IX and is available to students in the Ithaca area. It has services for anyone who was a victim of incest or childhood sexual abuse, victims of sexual and domestic violence and victims of sexual assault, as well as services and resources to the friends and family of those victims.

The reason that the Advocacy Center has stuck out to me so deeply and severely is the fact that I had only learned about it, almost exactly six months from when I was in a dangerous situation. Due to the pandemic pushing the resource to be almost entirely virtual, I knew it was difficult to market the Advocacy Center and all of the services it has for victims — but I couldn't help but feel an immense sense of grief over learning about something "too late." Here it was: a confidential resource, where I had access to someone completely neutral to me be there for a SANE exam — an evaluation given by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner who has received training to provide comprehensive care to victims of sexual assault and able to conduct a forensic exam — and could walk me through all of the options I had, whether or not I wanted to go forward with a court case and aid me with whatever next steps I chose on my own terms. As much as I want my students to come to me about an event that happens in their life, I understand that it may be uncomfortable when you know that the person you're talking to has to report the incident on their end, and even more difficult when that person sees you almost every day. I've learned that getting help months after the fact is better than never getting help at all. I have been utilizing the Survivor's Group offered by the Advocacy Center to share my story and coping mechanisms with people who have gone through similar experiences and work through our paths to healing together.

For more information on the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County, go to [www.actompkins.org](http://www.actompkins.org) or call the hotline at (607) 277-5000.

CHECKMATE is an informative advice column. CHESS CABRERA (he/she/they) is a sophomore documentary studies and production major. Contact them at [ccabrera@ithaca.edu](mailto:ccabrera@ithaca.edu).

GUEST COMMENTARY

IC athletes need better food options

BY JOSEPHINE HOLMAN

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

Having good nutrition is one of the most important aspects of training. At least that's what all student-athletes hear when they attend one of the four mandatory nutrition program sessions.

During these sessions, athletes are advised to eat healthily and have balanced diets, which involves eating the right number of calories, eating the right kinds of foods and making sure to not overeat or undereat. Athletes are advised to eat a plate of vegetables, proteins and carbs all in one meal, and between 1,600 and 2,000 calories a day to fuel for daily training.

As a junior on the swim team, I can say that achieving a balanced, nutritious diet as a student-athlete with a meal plan is extremely difficult. For me, the biggest meal of the day when I feel the hungriest is after practice, especially in the middle of the season when our training is at its peak. I never knew if I was actually going to enjoy the food or be disappointed by the options that it offered. My freshman year, the dining hall was lacking so much in options



Junior Josephine Holman argues for nutritious options in dining halls for student-athletes. As an athlete herself, she explains the importance of a good diet for athletic performance.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

that I was stuck eating a salad every night, which by itself is not enough for a post-practice dinner. This, if anything, is detrimental to training because there isn't a sufficient amount of the right types of foods to help the body recover after a day filled with hours of intense training. Not eating the right types of foods after training can lead to both short and long term effects like fatigue during practices, insufficient muscle recovery and much more. Eating enough of the right types of foods is especially important before competitions so that you can make sure to have enough energy to perform well. One way dining halls can be more accommodating

to student-athletes is by simply adding more nutritious options. Student-athletes should not feel like they don't have healthy options for meals, in addition to not being responsible to create healthier options on their own, especially when dining plans are mandatory for underclassmen. If there are not enough balanced, healthy options, students are paying thousands for a meal plan that does not support the diet they should have as athletes.

Even with the current retail dining available on campus, meal plans only come with a limited number of Bomber Bucks. Once Bomber Bucks run out, the food must be paid for out-of-pocket,

which may be difficult for some students to support depending on their financial situation. Besides creating more options in the dining halls, additional retail dining could be added in places like the Athletics and Events Center, that offer healthy food and are more accessible to student athletes. While there are always alternatives that you can do yourself, that shouldn't always be the route to take. Would you want to work out for hours and leave the dining hall still feeling hungry?

JOSEPHINE HOLMAN is an integrated marketing communications major. Contact her at [jholman@ithaca.edu](mailto:jholman@ithaca.edu)

GUEST COMMENTARY

Student concerned over college's finances

BY NICOLE MURACE

The troubling leadership issue at Ithaca College is something I didn't realize even existed until the beginning of Spring 2021 when I found out one of my favorite professors, Fae Dremock, assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Studies and Science, wouldn't be returning after Spring 2022. I struggled to understand how the administration could let such a wonderful addition to the college go, but I understand now. Members of the campus community are required to wear masks indoors, but not outside. Students are not required to get weekly COVID tests, and professors are not required to be vaccinated.

As one of my professors phrased it, we should be going about our lives on campus as if everyone has COVID all the time, because they might, and we wouldn't even know. The bandage the school has put on it is the daily health screenings.

To enter the dining halls, I must answer four questions that can easily be answered by whoever checks the badges just by looking at me. If the only thing this school is implementing to keep us safe from a pandemic are four questions that can be falsified easily, how are we supposed to feel safe? A better solution to keeping students safe would be mandatory, regular testing. This strategy, which was used in Spring 2021, was much more reliable and effective than the daily health screenings.



Sophomore Nicole Murace describes her many concerns with the college's finances and how the administration is handling student and faculty concerns and questions.

KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON / THE ITHACAN

Roughly 85% of faculty and staff are vaccinated. Faculty and staff are not required to be vaccinated even though students are. Students are supposed to be the college's number one priority. So why does it feel as though our college's leadership isn't doing everything in its power to keep us safe from COVID-19 and better our education by holding onto brilliant professors? I would like to very clearly state that I do not wish to leave this school. I simply would like to stop paying around \$64,091 to watch my school fall apart before my eyes.

I don't think that should be too much to ask. I want to feel confident in my decision to attend this college. Decisions regarding the school's finances, staff cuts, COVID-19 precautions and the search for a new president should be an open conversation within the community. At the very least, decisions shouldn't be kept a secret. We deserve to attend a college that is transparent about its finances and decisions regarding the well-being of students. NICOLE MURACE is an environmental studies major. Contact her at [nmurace@ithaca.edu](mailto:nmurace@ithaca.edu).

# What I Wish I Knew...

This week, our seniors responded to the prompt, “What is your experience post virtual learning?”



When classes started to move online, I was making the trip back from my study abroad program in Rome. When COVID-19 hit, it was worse in Italy than the United States. My stubborn self, already angry about ending my time short, thought I could just go back to normal school in Ithaca after a few weeks, back to my normal sophomore year. Sadly for me, that was far from reality. Before I went abroad, I finally found my place within the first semester of sophomore year. Leaving at the end of that semester and going abroad was surprisingly challenging for me, even though going abroad was a goal of mine before coming to college. I was so angry at the world on my plane ride home that March. For the rest of that semester and the following fall, I learned almost nothing online. My professors were teaching from Italy and giving out A's solely for showing up. During the following semester, I was online through Ithaca College. I still learned nothing. Every test was open and I was barely awake during most classes, especially the ones I would attend while sitting in bed. Surprisingly enough, I made it through that semester and actually got good grades. I can pat myself on the back for that even if I used my notes, right? After almost three semesters online, I was so relieved to hear we were fully on campus. It's my last year at school, and I want to have this year feel as normal as possible. I am now able to relive my sophomore year self, at Moonies of course, and hug those I missed during our year-long hiatus. School is more draining now, given I actually have to pay attention. But the feeling of being an actual student makes up for it.

Once classes came back online, I felt like my old self, but that soon wore away as burnout settled in. Students and faculty alike were thrown, all navigating the world as it seemed to be unraveling in front of us together. The non-stop nature of it really wore me down, and I was forced to push myself to step away from school or journalism and spend that time on something fun that I truly enjoyed. I was able to sit in a classroom and still had the ability to stay home from class and take it online if I wasn't feeling like myself that day. Fast forward to this fall semester and things have changed once again. Everyone is back and at times, it seems as though everyone thinks we're back to normal. For some reason, being back in person full time feels more draining than before. For nearly two years, we prioritized ourselves by taking naps during the day or in between classes, making sure we actually ate three meals in the day and when the world felt like too much, we stopped and asked for help or for empathy and extensions. Now, students aren't willing to just push aside our well-being for an assignment. We have forgotten that we just went through some of the most traumatic events in our lives as a campus community. It's frustrating to see all that empathy and compassion just disappear into thin air. We're still living during a pandemic, and it's imperative that we all take a step back and rethink the way we do education.



EMILY  
GUDERIAN  
ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

Something that I never thought I would have to experience was an entire semester where I took my classes online. I have one or two learning disabilities, and I honestly suck at paying attention and remembering assignments as is. Then came the dreaded COVID-19 semester that truly almost got me to quit college at one point. I was going through much loss and grief, so being on camera for hours on end was already not my favorite. Now I have to add in the fact that EVERYTHING was online. The readings were online, the announcements, the homework, the class discussions ... I was on my computer for so many hours I started getting major migraines. It sucked, like really bad. I truly thought in the beginning that online school wouldn't be so bad. Then I remembered I haven't been home from school since I was 13. Here's the part of the blog where I throw in the fact that I went to boarding school (which I'm pretty sure I say every week.) Going to boarding school and having independence from my family at such a young age also added into the growing pains of working from home. I needed to separate my work life, school life and home life. My family didn't really understand the fact that I was in school and would bother me a lot during lectures.. Then of course, I had a job, because who needs self care? There's something funny about the workaholic/always-on-your grind mentality, because no one tells you to slow down until you've already burnt yourself out.



ALYSSA  
SPADY  
ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

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



FRANKIE  
WALLS  
ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN



# Halloween spooks the IC community

During this Halloween season, and with most of the students back on campus this semester, there were festive events held around campus throughout the week of Halloween. There was a Fall Fest at South Hill Elementary School that had food, music and concessions. There was also a trick-or-treating event where residents at the Circle Apartments passed out candy, a photo booth in the Roy H. Park Hall and many other fun and spooky events.



These two not-so-spooky ghosts glided from apartment to apartment dressed in sunglasses and bows Oct. 24 at the Circle Apartments Autumn Fest.  
SURINA BELK-GUPTA/THE ITHACAN



Lucas Whalon, 3, lights up the trick-or-treating path in his fire truck costume Oct. 24 around the Circle Apartments. Whalon showed off the lights and sirens built into his costume.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN



Junior Rhiannon Augustine was one of many student participants in the Circles Community Faculty and Friends trick-or-treating event. Augustine and her roommates also participated in the Circles door decorating contest, taking second place for their door decorations.  
ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN

VIEW



The Circles Community Center served as a small pumpkin patch for attendees to pick a pumpkin to paint. Olivia Croatto, 5, painted her pumpkin with rainbow colors at Autumn Fest on Oct. 24.

ABBEY LONDON/THE ITHACAN



Senior Lauren Reid, founder of Lauren's Face Sketches, displayed her work which ranges from charcoal drawings to oil paintings at Fall Fest on Oct. 24.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN



From left, junior Addison Knapman, seniors Hallie Arbutal Jacoby, Gabrielle Kuker, Madeline Thomas and sophomore Noah Strathmann pose in front of a blow-up Halloween decoration Oct. 29 at an IC After Dark Halloween event outside of Clark and Klingenstein Lounges.

BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN



From left, juniors Mia Loretto and Caroline Sabel roll out their dough before braiding their Challah at ChallahWeen on Oct. 28.

RICHIE MORRIS/THE ITHACAN



From left, South Hill residents Arden Mlynarczyk, Vincent Williams and Sarah Roberson entered Williams in the children's costume contest at Fall Fest on Oct. 24 at South Hill Elementary School.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

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Campus community reacts to Collado's departure

By Caitlin Hottelmann | Aug 26, 2021

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## STUDENTS USE PODCASTS AS MEDIUM FOR EXPRESSION

IC students begin hosting podcasts independent of school organizations



COURTESY OF GABE BALTIERRA



COURTESY OF JACK DIBITETTO



TAKEN FROM SPOTIFY

BY EMMA KERSTING

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, sophomore Daniel Fox has shared his predictions for upcoming sports games through discussions with his friends from high school over Zoom. These discussions are recorded and later published as episodes of “Who’s on Top,” Fox’s independent podcast.

Ithaca College students can host podcasts at *The Ithacan*, VIC and WICB radio and more media organizations on campus. However, some students like Fox produce podcasts on their own, with no affiliation to campus organizations. Podcasting, especially among young people, was trending upward even before the pandemic. According to Voxnest, podcast listenership increased globally by 42% when the pandemic began. Morning Consult found that Generation Z reported a 31% increase in pandemic-era podcast listenership, the largest demographic increase found.

Fox is also one of the producers of “Who’s on Top,” which his friends from high school created. The show has been running since December 2019 and has 82 episodes. In each episode, Fox and his friends talk

about predictions of different games based on how anticipated they were. There needs to be enough content for Fox and the other hosts to talk about in order to fill an episode. At first, “Who’s on Top” was hosted by four of Fox’s friends, but he joined in September 2020. Since the pandemic, episodes of “Who’s on Top” have been recorded over Zoom. Fox says production for the podcast is a team effort between his high school friends; either he, Jacob Kasdan or Jeremy Giles edits the recordings. Ori Ben-Ari adds music and Elis Gordon publishes the finished episodes on Spotify.

Fox said one of the main challenges of producing “Who’s on Top” is scheduling, because all of the members of the team attend different colleges. While some episodes might be missing a team member or two, Fox said he is optimistic because the podcast keeps him in touch with his friends from high school.

“I love it because it’s a way to connect with my friends, where we can just meet once a week and talk about sports,” Fox said.

Fox’s laid-back approach and use of Zoom to record episodes comes at a time when it is easier than ever to start a podcast. The cost of a vocal microphone is \$15 and editing software is pre-installed on many computers.

Additionally, the internet allows for accessibility to guests and audiences. This has provoked the creation of 2 million podcast shows.

For Ithaca College students, the Center for Creative Technology (CCT) hosted a podcast workshop Oct. 21 on the production and overall process of creating a podcast. The workshop discussed the three processes of podcast production: pre-production, production, post-production and distribution. These processes include the scripting, recording and distribution of a podcast episode. The workshop also showed how the CCT’s recording and mixing equipment works. Students and staff are able to reserve the recording studio in CCT and request assistance from the staff if they are unfamiliar with the technology.

Junior Gabe Baltierra is the host and producer of “The Next Chapter,” a podcast focusing on mental health awareness. The



Junior Gabe Baltierra edits an episode of his podcast “The Next Chapter,” which focuses on mental health awareness, in his makeshift studio on campus.

MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

show is relevant, as 95% of college counseling directors believe mental illness is a growing problem on campuses. “The Next Chapter,” which began in September 2020, is recorded and published weekly and has 113 episodes.

“When I created this show, I had the goal to help people,” Baltierra said. “I have OCD, and I have had it since I was very young, so that is one of the main reasons I started ‘The Next Chapter’ podcast, to be open and get that conversation going.”

Baltierra first became interested in creating podcasts his first year at the college and has taken part in several podcasts on topics like sports and travel. Baltierra said he writes, records and edits each episode on his own, although at times, editing is time consuming.

Sophomore Jack DiBitetto is one of the hosts of “The Everything Geek Podcast,” which focuses on entertainment like movies, comics and TV shows. DiBitetto said he started the podcast his sophomore year of high school with a friend after noticing that different opinions from the hosts of entertainment podcasts he listened to.

The hosts of “The Everything Geek Podcast” only produce episodes when they are

both home from college, usually over the summer or winter breaks between semesters. So far, the show has 37 episodes.

Episodes consist of the hosts watching a movie, like Zack Snyder’s “Justice League,” followed by a recorded discussion; guests on the show are typically friends of the hosts. DiBitetto said he has strengthened his editing and producing skills since coming to college.

“Every time I come back home, there’s something new that I can bring to our show like, ‘Oh, I learned this in the editing room,’” DiBitetto said. “Even though I’m a big part of the podcast, I couldn’t do it without Anna [DiBitetto’s co-host]. I think recording [over Zoom] just wouldn’t be the same.”

Baltierra said a typical episode takes about two hours to edit, but the process and the end product is something he enjoys making.

“I love to talk, especially about mental health awareness,” Baltierra said. “I love talking about that topic, and a podcast is a great place to do that. It’s just you and the microphone, it’s actually very relaxing.”

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY ABBEY LONDON



# CULTURED

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

Compiled by Elijah de Castro



## QUOTE<sup>OF</sup>THE WEEK

“[We] were told hip-hop was a fad ... Much like punk-rock, it gave us this anti-culture, this subgenre. And there were heroes in it.”

JAY-Z  
recalling the early criticisms of the hip-hip genre at his recent induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.



## SPOTLIGHT

### Will Ferrell turns down \$29 million deal for ‘Elf’ sequel

Actor Will Ferrell revealed Oct. 28 in an interview with “The Hollywood Reporter” that he turned down a \$29 million offer for a sequel to the 2003 Christmas movie “Elf.” The first film, directed by Jon Favreau, received critical acclaim and grossed over \$223 million at the box office. Since its release, it has been labeled as a modern Christmas classic. The original film told the story of Buddy, an orphan who was raised in the North Pole by Santa’s elves. Buddy goes on a journey to find his father in New York City. A sequel to the film was already written, but when Ferrell was told he could reprise his role as Buddy, he said he chose to decline the offer because he didn’t want to tarnish the legacy that the original film has left behind. “I would have had to promote the movie from an honest place, which would’ve been, like, ‘Oh no, it’s not good. I just couldn’t turn down that much money,’” Ferrell said.



## THIS WEEK IN POP CULTURE HISTORY

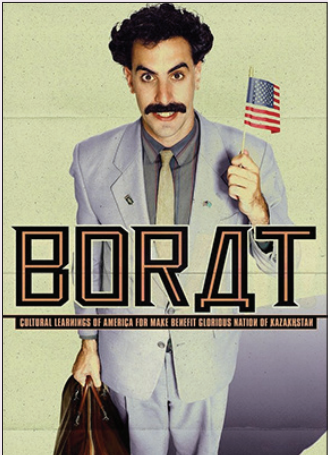
Nov. 3, 1954

The first Godzilla movie was released in Japan, under the title “Gojira.” The film is considered one of the best monster movies in film history, getting praise for creature design and practical effects. To create Godzilla, the film pioneered a new form of special effects called “suitmation,” where a stuntman wears a suit while interacting with miniature sets. The original design for Godzilla was going to have the monster look like a whale or a gorilla, as the name “gojira” combines the Japanese words for “whale” and “gorilla.” The film spawned a movie franchise with 36 follow-ups, and in 1956, the film was heavily re-edited for American audiences and called “Godzilla, King of the Monsters!”



Nov. 3, 2006

The famous mockumentary “Borat,” was released in 2006 and starred Sacha Baron Cohen as Borat, a Kazakh journalist who goes to the United States to make a documentary about the lives of Americans. The film was highly controversial upon its release, as it made fun of all aspects of American culture and tricked the people Borat interviews in the film into revealing the worst parts of themselves. The film has won numerous awards and has been highly influential in pop culture. In 2020, a follow-up was released, called “Borat Subsequent Moviefilm,” which satired the presidency of Donald Trump and modern American culture.



# Campus a cappella groups return to the stage

BY M MINTON

Upon stepping into a vast concert hall, lights dim with just a few illuminating a group of singers. With no instrumentals to accompany them, the audience only hears the voices of the group while they begin their musical performance. These vocal performances mark the return of Ithaca College a cappella groups to in-person showcases. Instead of the tinny, static audio of Zoom concerts, the powerful vocals of the groups fill up concert halls full of people.

There are five main a cappella groups at the college; Premium Blend, Tone Cold, Voicestream, Ithacappella and Pitch Please. Ithacappella is the Ithaca campus' only all-male-identifying a cappella group and Premium Blend is the school's only all-female-aligned a cappella group, while the other groups are all-gender inclusive.

The newest addition to the school's a cappella community is Tone Cold, a co-ed group, which started officially programming and auditioning in Fall 2020.

Junior Allison Lewis, music director and founder of Tone Cold, said the group focuses heavily on collaboration by bringing different people together, including those who aren't singers. Some of the main events include hosting karaoke nights, game nights and open rehearsals where anyone can come listen to the group rehearse and sing along.

"We love to have as many people as possible involved in putting

together our concerts, from arrangers and choreographers to graphic designers, photographers and social media gurus," Lewis said.

Fall 2021 is the group's first semester holding in-person events. Lewis said the group has grown used to video auditions, Zoom calls and online showcases but is excited to finally be able to perform on campus, with its next performance to be hosted at 7 p.m. Dec. 5 in Emerson Suites.

Senior Burke Hutchinson, president of Voicestream, said the group offers a place for voices of all kinds and for people of all genders. The group has been preparing for its upcoming performance after welcoming in-person rehearsals once again.

"Some of the other groups were able to maintain a lot of their attendance, and to continue to make music together [during the pandemic], but Voicestream did have a particularly tough time having members come to rehearsal," Hutchinson said.

Junior Samantha Frieri, president of Premium Blend, said she is excited to be back in person and get back to some normalcy while also trying new things — something that being virtual has taught the group.

"It's really exciting to be getting out there again ... informing people about us and the rest of the a cappella community," Frieri said. "We all try to support each other as much as we can."

Frieri said the number of people accepted into the group each year varies between 14 and 18 people, and similarly to most of the



The Fall Fest on Oct. 24 included a performance of live music from Premium Blend, Ithaca College's only all-female-aligned a cappella group, which sang several songs for the crowd of attendees.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

other a cappella groups, it is determined by auditions at the start of the academic semester.

Ithacappella is the oldest a cappella group on campus, founded in 1996. In the past, the group has helped to raise money for The Trevor Project, the Born This Way Foundation and the Ali Forney Center in New York City.

Junior Christian Castro, president of Ithacappella, said the group regularly tours, competes and performs for elementary schools. Castro said the shift to a virtual setting during the pandemic was hard on Ithacappella,

as the group's energy began to fade.

"We call it the 'Forgotten Year' because we don't believe it actually happened," Castro said. "Nothing happened, pretty much ... when we finally could meet in person, it was more about building those connections again."

Sophomore Lily Greco is one of the newest additions to Pitch Please, the college's only non-audition based a cappella group. Greco said joining the group has been one of the best experiences she has had so far in college.

Greco also said Pitch Please is close with all of the other a cappella

groups on campus. Greco also participates in the e-board meetings for Pitch Please. Greco said the meetings help to keep communication flowing between the different groups and members, especially when discussing budgeting, song selections and upcoming concerts.

"We help each other out during each other's concerts," Greco said. "I'm definitely looking forward to our concert ... I can't wait for everyone to see the work we've been doing."

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# Chinese cultural club hosts the Mid-Autumn Festival

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

On Oct. 29, about 100 students gathered in the IC Square to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival — also called the Moon Festival — a traditional celebration from Eastern Asia, particularly China. Food, music and performances from their respective areas of Eastern Asia were highlights of the celebration.

The event was hosted by the Ithaca College Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA), which promotes Chinese culture and community on the college's campus. While the event was canceled last year, it has happened for multiple years before.

Junior Jingwen Ou, president of the CSSA, said the event aimed to give the college community a taste of traditional Chinese culture. Ou said the group also plans to hold a celebration for the Chinese Lunar New Year.

"The Mid-Autumn Festival is a celebration of the full moon," Ou said. "[It's about] coming together as family and friends in China. It's a holiday that's celebrated very widely in China, by pretty much everyone. That's why we have all these performances and invited everybody and [got] the mooncakes and it's really just about coming together."

In Chinese culture, the full moon is a symbol of peace, prosperity and reunion. The moon is considered full on the 15th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar, which is when Mid-Autumn Festival is celebrated. Mid-Autumn Festival

usually has mooncakes — a Cantonese delicacy typically made with bean paste and egg yolks — which were served at the event. Other areas of Asia celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, like Taiwan, Vietnam and South Korea.

Sophomore Inbaayini Anbarasan attended the event and said being able to celebrate the festival reminded her of Mid-Autumn Festival celebrations she experienced when she grew up in Singapore.

"It's so fun," Anbarasan said. "I'm from Singapore, and I went to all of these celebrations in Singapore also, and I haven't been to any in a solid three years. It's been really nice to come back to one of these and just celebrate culture. I'm a very culture-oriented person also, so it's really nice to see people having fun and spreading their culture."

Anbarasan said the event is important to her as a person of color, as well as someone who grew up celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival in Singapore.

"I really like this because as a person of color at a PWI [predominantly white institution], I often find myself not as represented as I'd like myself to be," Anbarasan said. "Going to these kinds of events really means a lot because the minorities are being heard, and it really means a lot to me, so it's really nice."

Freshman Alvin Yang is a member of CSSA and said he was happy that the turnout for the event was much higher than he expected. Yang said events like the Mid-Autumn Festival are



Senior Nelson Wu performs the diabolo at the Mid-Autumn Festival on Oct. 29. The event is held annually and is hosted by the Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

important for the college community as they expose the student body to new culture.

"We [CSSA] have Chinese music and a lot of things that are served such as Chinese food as well as a lot of culture that we might otherwise not come across in our daily lives," Yang said.

There were multiple music performances at the festival. Junior Qilei Huang and sophomore Selena Forlenza performed "Big Fish & Begonia," which is a combination of Eastern and Western Chinese music. Senior Michelle Pei said sharing Chinese and Asian culture with Americans has become important

in recent years.

"I think generally when it comes to ethnic-centric events, I find that Americans tend to be a bit hesitant to enter our spaces for very understandable reasons," Pei said. "But honestly, the thing that I love most is to be able to share my culture and after everything that's happened over the past two years, I find that this event has only taken up a more important meaning."

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# Newest ‘it’ stars rule the screen

BY AVERY ALEXANDER

All celebrities are famous for a reason, whether it be for their talent, their money or their scandals. However, there is one group of celebrities that occupy a very special place in public consciousness — “it” girls and “it” guys.

There isn’t a concrete definition of what an “it” girl or guy is, but it can be boiled down to a couple of crucial components. Generally, they are considered to have major sex appeal and they typically have personalities that audiences find endearing. While these “it” girls and guys may be popular for other reasons like their talent or influence, they tend to be memorable and it’s this appeal that is a major reason for their popularity.

But who exactly qualifies as an “it” girl or guy? They can be actors, models, fashion icons, musicians or royalty — virtually any kind of celebrity goes. Hollywood and the music industry, however, tend to have the most identifiable “it” girls and guys. Currently, I think the most definitive “it” guy of Hollywood is Timothée Chalamet.

Anybody who follows pop culture in any capacity should know that name. Chalamet earned his fame with the film “Call Me By Your Name,” a movie that made a serious mark on pop culture. Since then, the actor has been popping up everywhere from “Beautiful Boy” to the “Little Women” remake to the recent “Dune” remake. He’s even been cast as a young Willy Wonka in the upcoming origin film “Wonka.”

As for this generation’s current “it” girl, I think it’s fairly obvious who is embodying that role right now. That person is none other than former Disney star Zendaya. She was a childhood star, but she’s maintained her influence in Hollywood with movies like “The Greatest Showman,” the Marvel Cinematic Universe Spider-Man films and “Dune” in which she plays Chalamet’s love interest. She’s become an icon, embodying everything audiences associate with beauty, grace and talent.

These two actors are either who people want to be, or who people want to be with — sometimes even both. They’re just modern recreations of the Monroes and the Presleys of our cultural history. And while it seems that the role of an “it” girl or guy is fairly harmless — merely a person for fans to feverishly pine after for a few years — I fear that there is a dark side to this pedestal.

There is an inherent tragedy to being an “it” girl/guy. There is a laundry list of “it” celebrities who have suffered tragic downfalls. Recent “it” celebrities like Lindsay Lohan and Britney Spears have had public struggles with mental health and addiction. Needless to say, there seems to be a common, unsettling thread connecting many “it” celebrities.

This is not to say that celebrities like Chalamet and Zendaya are doomed to end like the “it” celebrities that have come before them, but the pressure of becoming not only famous, but the cultural icon of one’s generation, can’t be an easy thing to shoulder.

**POPPED CULTURE** is a weekly column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Avery Alexander is a senior English major. Contact her at [aalexander2@ithaca.edu](mailto:aalexander2@ithaca.edu).

# ‘Dune’ worthy of sanding ovation

MOVIE REVIEW: “Dune” Warner Bros. Pictures



BY ANTHONY DE LAPÍ

Adapting books to film can be a difficult task. There is no greater example of this than Frank Herbert’s sci-fi novel “Dune.” David Lynch’s attempt in 1984 and a SyFy miniseries in the early 2000s both led to mixed results. For a while, the story about noble houses in feudal outer space warring for the desert planet Arrakis and its life-enhancing crop, Spice Melange, seemed impossible to adapt. With “Dune” 2021, “Blade Runner 2049” director Denis Villeneuve takes a crack at it and becomes the first filmmaker to successfully do justice to Herbert’s 800-page epic.

The plot of the film tells the first half of the book, “Dune,” following the journey of Paul Atreides (Timothée Chalamet) and his family, who acquire Arrakis by decree of the Padishah Emperor, and attempt to control the desert planet. However, betrayed by House Harkonnen and the Emperor himself, Paul and his family must learn to survive on the desert planet. Over time, they gain the trust of the nomadic Fremen and make plans to retake Arrakis.

With a large tale like “Dune,” splitting the book in half allows for character and world development in a reasonable time frame. The film handles the heavy exposition of the novel well, showing through the characters rather than telling the audience.

“Dune” is an amazing visual experience since Villeneuve is an expert at creating grand, eye-grabbing pieces through film. Every scene or shot in “Dune” can be seen as a work of art in itself, from the castles to the designs and scale of the spaceships to the power and might of the Shai-Hulud sandworms roaming the dune seas.

The score composed by Hans Zimmer — whose portfolio contains soundtracks for dozens of classic films — is once again powerful and causes an emotional reaction in the viewer. The intense human chanting and instrumental attacks throughout the pieces make the viewer feel part of a world beyond the stars.

While the complex narrative of “Dune” is laid out well in this film version, the buildup to an important and impactful betrayal between the ruling families could have been far better.

“Dune” is a perfectly cast film, with the representations of Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson), Duncan Idaho (Jason Momoa), Gurney Halleck (Josh Brolin) and Leto Atreides I (Isaac) adding depth and personality to the original characters from the book. It is fleshed out in a way that allows the characters to jump right off the pages.

The villains of “Dune” are menacing and ruthless. However, their development is not as strong as that of the protagonists. The lack of the antagonists on screen weakens the overall conflict in the movie, with the viewer only seeing glimpses of the monstrous Baron Vladimir Harkonnen (Stellan Skarsgård) and the cruel, barbarous Glossu Rabban (Dave Bautista).

“Dune” is a grand story with legendary visuals and a powerful score. Performances are well done but not groundbreaking, and the narrative is weak in some areas. Despite its flaws, “Dune”



Denis Villeneuve’s attempt at adapting Frank Herbert’s 800-page novel, “Dune,” is a success, both in its visuals and its narrative. COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

lays the foundation for a great sequel, setting up prophecies and armies for an even greater crusade through the stars. With the direction taken by Villeneuve in this film, this series can become a faithful, entertaining adaptation of Herbert’s “Dune” saga. The spice will flow with this sci-fi epic.

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# Latest Wes Anderson flick is yet another tedious mess

MOVIE REVIEW: “The French Dispatch” Searchlight Pictures



BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

If “The French Dispatch” does anything right, it proves that Wes Anderson will never change his style. This at least gives audiences a chance to do some personal reflection on if showing up for his next film is worth it.

After returning to animation in 2018 with “Isle of Dogs,” Anderson induces audiences into another boredom-coma with “The French Dispatch,” his love letter to both journalism and France. The film is a storybook telling of three articles published by the Kansas-based publication, “The French Dispatch Magazine,” after the sudden death of the paper’s editor-in-chief (Bill Murray). The first two articles tell the story of stock Anderson characters — the insane artist in prison (Benicio Del Toro) and the manifesto-writing, French student (Timothée Chalamet).

The third chapter is about Roebuck Wright (Jeffrey Wright), one of the few interesting characters in the movie and a man recounting a dinner he had with the Commissaire of the Ennui police force.

It feels like Anderson hasn’t realized yet that the result of his style being all about rigid presentation and stilted dialogue is a hollow experience.

For the cast, Anderson assembles some of the finest living actors — Adrien Brody, Tilda Swinton, Frances McDormand, Benicio Del Toro, Bill Murray, Timothée Chalamet and Léa Seydoux, among others — only to give them unclear, inconsistent direction.

Chalamet’s performance is especially bad, likely because his natural acting style is very expressive. In “Call Me By Your Name” and “Beautiful Boy,” respective directors Luca Guadagnino and Felix van Groenigen liberalized Chalamet’s performances, allowing him to emote the lives of young men in his own way. In “The French Dispatch,” Chalamet appears flatout confused, as his character is poorly written and the direction he receives is far too arty.

Even the visual aspect of “The French Dispatch” is a letdown, which is unusual, as one of the few reliable things about Anderson was that he had something to say visually. A shot



“The French Dispatch” is overly stylish and lacks any sort of depth from Wes Anderson. COURTESY OF SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

in the middle of the movie features the camera operator messing up a pan, raising the question of if Anderson even bothered to ask for another take.

It’s all just a mess, brought together under a haughty guise that because nothing makes sense, it’s on the audience to roll up their sleeves and find some sort of meaning. Which, if history says anything, Anderson fans will always do.

“The French Dispatch” is a perfect example of the failures of modern art. It looks nice and has its own personality. However, in terms of substance, the film leaves everything else up to the audience. Once again, Anderson has oversubscribed to the philosophy of “the beauty is in the eye of the beholder.”

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# Elton John’s latest fuses genres

ALBUM REVIEW: “THE LOCKDOWN SESSIONS” EMI Records



BY STEPHANIE MONTEIRO

Recorded in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Elton John’s 32nd album “The Lockdown Sessions” is a spectacular collage of collaborations with some of music’s biggest names.

Featuring artists like Dua Lipa, Nicki Minaj, Young Thug, Charlie Puth, Gorillaz, Miley Cyrus, Brandi Carlile, Stevie Wonder and Stevie Nicks, the recording sessions were done under strict health and safety regulations. In a statement explaining the project, John said he stepped out of his comfort zone several times throughout the making of “The Lockdown Sessions.” He added that the album consists of diverse material that is completely different from anything that he is known for.

John demonstrates this with the inclusion of different genres in the second track of the album “Always Love You.” The song begins with a rich piano ballad, then switches into a trap beat where Young Thug and Nicki Minaj present simple verses with satisfying rhythms. Minaj’s verse is performed over lovely R&B-style vocals.

Young Thug’s lightly sung melody in “Always Love You” plays a heavy role in making sense of Elton John’s place in trap music; this is one example

of how “The Lockdown Sessions” finds new ways to unify John with these varying genres.

“The Lockdown Sessions” emanates an overall positive energy. Some examples of this message of optimism are the high-energy, electronic dance songs like “Cold Heart,” “It’s a sin,” “Orbit,” “Stolen Car” and “Beauty in the Bones.” These songs also have a commonality of intricate production and rich use of the piano and different synthesizers. The songs “Learn to Fly,” “Chosen Family” and “Nothing Else Matters” consist of uplifting lyrics about overcoming obstacles and having faith in one’s own strength and perseverance. “Simple Things” is another example of John re-defining a genre to amalgamate his sound with something unrecognizable to his fanbase.

The masterful production value of “The Lockdown Sessions” is sometimes forgotten when unrefined, unexciting lyrics are sung in tracks like “Beauty in the Bones” and “Chosen Family.” “Chosen Family” is a dynamic track featuring Rina Sawayama that carries a compelling message about how one’s family does not need to be restricted to who is blood-related to a person.

Despite the relatable message that certainly came from



On his 32nd album “The Lockdown Sessions,” Sir Elton John offers a post-lockdown treat filled with musical complexities.

COURTESY OF EMI RECORDS

John’s own personal experience being estranged from his parents for multiple long periods of time, the lyrics on “Chosen Family” are obvious and somewhat shallow; “So what if we don’t look the same?/We been going through the same thing/Yeah, you are, you are/My chosen, chosen family.” The same unprofound lyrics are repeated five times with only two short verses in the entire song.

John, Watt and the other collaborators of “The Lockdown

Sessions” have found a way to make John’s musical style stunningly cohesive with all of the sundry genres integrated throughout the album. The fluency of this album is jarring, as John thoroughly embraces rap, country, rock and gospel in “The Lockdown Sessions” and, at this point, it seems implausible for there to be anything Elton John can’t do.

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# Lana Del Rey’s new album is dynamic and powerful

ALBUM REVIEW: “Blue Banisters” Interscope Records



BY DARIENE SEIFERT

Just seven months after the release of “Chemtrails over the Country Club,” Lana Del Rey has already released her eighth studio album, “Blue Banisters.” The singer-songwriter keeps her usual themes of Americana melancholia, but adds a newfound beauty with experimental sound and vocals. While “Blue Banisters” did not get as much promotion as “Chemtrails,” this is a defining milestone in Del Rey’s discography.

The title track is a lovely tribute to the women in Del Rey’s life who helped her overcome her fears. The song begins as a low-spirited ballad, but transitions into a story of hope. Even though the only instrumental is a piano, Del Rey’s voice is the main focus — a pattern that continues for the rest of the album. Del Rey entwines sharp, terse vocals for the verses and elongates them elegantly in the chorus.

The singer has put together an album where each song exists in its own world, yet somehow, they all fit perfectly as a whole. “Nectar of the Gods” opens with a chorus of humming vocals followed by a plucky acoustic guitar accompanying Del Rey as she

sings about her volatile romance. This mesh of contrasting sounds surprisingly works well together. “Living Legend” also opens with similar instrumental, but metamorphoses into a beautiful love song, showing how expertly resourceful Del Rey is.

Once again, Del Rey explores and mixes different tones to a wonderful effect. Vulnerable vocals echo in “Arcadia” as Del Rey expresses her love for the town and how it is her escape from the harsh spotlight of fame. She also cleverly uses simile within her lyrics: “All roads that lead to you as integral to me as arteries / That pump the blood that flows straight to the heart of me.” The soft piano ballad of “Arcadia” surprisingly transitions smoothly into “Interlude – The Trio,” an epic instrumental. It interweaves Italian composer Ennio Morricone’s piece of the same name with intense trap beats.

While “Dealer” and “Thunder” are completely distinct from each other, they display Del Rey’s vocals at their peak excellence. Del Rey is known more for her gloomy, alto tone, but here her range goes above and beyond the expected.

“Sweet Carolina” is a gorgeous and beautifully poetic closing track. A dedication to Del Rey’s sister and newborn niece,



Lana Del Rey’s lyrics and vocals are her best yet on “Blue Banisters.”

COURTESY OF INTERSCOPE RECORDS

the song perfectly encapsulates the singer’s lyrical and vocal prowess. It’s rare for Del Rey to sing outside of her usual themes, but this is a welcomed change. Like in “Dealer,” her vocal range is immaculate. As she hits difficult high notes, it creates a heavenly reverb. There is a glowing joy that resonates in the singer’s voice: “I’ll always be right here / Closer to you than your next breath, my dear.” It’s a gentle and stunning finale to the album.

Lana Del Rey has revealed another layer of her impressively distinct talent. Her vocals have never been more dynamically powerful than on “Blue Banisters.” The fifteen tracks of her latest record feel like a musical poetry book, as each song offers artistically crafted audio and atmosphere.

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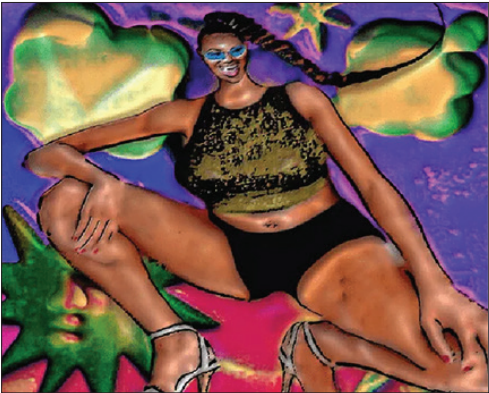
## QUICKIES



COURTESY OF 300 ENTERTAINMENT

“EAT IT”  
Megan Thee Stallion

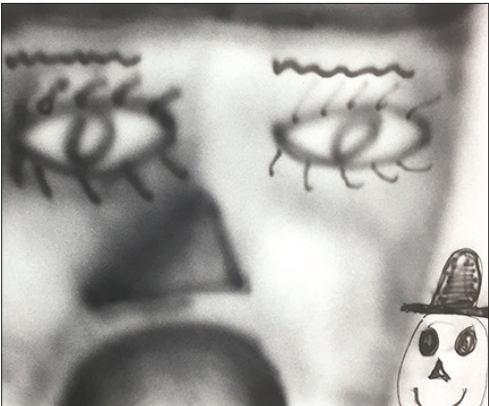
Although the cover art for this track’s album looks gimmicky, Megan Thee Stallion, is back with intense yet catchy content. Despite the track’s empowering lyrical sentiment, it brings nothing new to Megan’s discography, as the beat sounds recycled.



COURTESY OF CLBN LLC

“CHARMANDER”  
Aminé

Alternative-rap artist Aminé gets creative in his latest single release, “Charmander.” The artist finds a new flow over a glitchy, looped beat and pitched vocals and further pushes the bounds of his discography.



COURTESY OF SLOW PULP

“SHADOW”  
Slow Pulp

Fans of beabadoobee can come together over the single “Shadow.” The bubblegum-grunge era can be heard in a cheesy guitar melody that plays over the edgy, but sweet vocals.

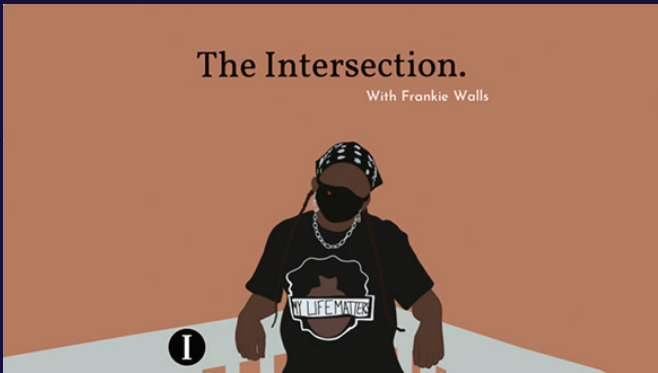


COURTESY OF REPUBLIC RECORDS

“TELEPATH”  
Conan Gray

Someone tell Conan Gray that the potential for over-produced, cheesy pop hits is well beyond exhausted before he decides to release another one. “Telepath” is catchy at best, but its reused themes and beat make it just another drop in the over-saturated pop industry bucket.

# INTRODUCING OUR PODCASTS



## The Intersection with Frankie Walls

Throughout this series, host Frankie Walls will connect with members of the Ithaca College community to discuss how their identities make up who they are in the world and within the community. Life experience, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and so much more shape who we are and who we wish to be in the world.

## How IC Sports with Arla Davis

How IC Sports is a podcast about Ithaca College sports and student-athletes. Each episode, host Arla Davis sits down with athletes across campus to discuss their experience as a student-athlete.



## Deja View with Sydney Brumfield

Each week, host Sydney Brumfield watches and analyzes new releases and compares them to the classic movies that influenced them.

## Re:Mixing with Eva Salzman

In Re:Mixing, a music analysis and criticism podcast, host Eva Salzman asks guests to create a playlist with songs that represent some part of who they are.



# Gaining home-court advantage off campus

Senior women's basketball players live together in team house



From left, seniors Lindsey Albertelli, Melissa Buxton and Cara Volpe live together off campus at the women's basketball team house.

ASH BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

## BY TOBIAH ZBORAY

On the basketball court, the Ithaca College women's basketball team has the chemistry, camaraderie and cohesiveness of a championship team. But, the team does not only foster its connection in Ben Light Gymnasium — the team has bonded at the off-campus house where three of the team's seniors live.

Currently, three seniors — Lindsey Albertelli, Melissa Buxton and Cara Volpe — on the women's basketball team live in the house. For the team, the house means more than just a place for some of its players to live. For many student-athletes, living with their teammates provides a place for the team to get together with limited space on campus.

The house also holds sentimental value, because Albertelli said it has been a part of the basketball team for six years.

"The ability to live off campus gives the ability to have a space where you can have the entire team over," Albertelli said. "You can't really have

an entire team in the dorms, so being able to live off campus gives us the ability to have team events."

Buxton said the group enjoys the responsibility of organizing team gatherings.

"We love hosting team events at the house," Buxton said. "Our most recent one was a bake-off. We randomly generated teams and groups, and then everyone had to bake something, and we all tried it and voted. So, I thought that was really fun."

For the women's basketball team, the house represents not only a place for current players, but also as something to talk to potential recruits about. In recent years, the team has used the house as one of its selling points to some recruits when they visit the college.

Freshman Jillian Payne was a senior in high school at the time when she first met the team and visited the house. Payne recalled her impression of it was that the house had everything a college student could ask for.

"Being at [the team house] every weekend has given not only me, but all of the first-years on our team an opportunity to get very close with our team," Payne said.

For former members of the team who lived in the house, the house is not forgotten. Former players visit nearly any time of the year, but, Alumni Weekend is typically a popular time.

Cassidy O'Malley '20 returned during this year's Alumni Weekend and said it brings back memories of her time in college and living at the team house her junior and senior years.

"It's super funny to see how everyone uses the space differently," O'Malley said. "For instance, the girls that live downstairs right now are way more into decorating the place than we were."

For the three seniors currently living at the house, being there has been a good experience for them and has provided them with fun memories of team events.

"Living with the girls on the team has made it a great place to host everyone for numerous events," Buxton said. "We get to know each other past basketball because this team is much deeper than that. I know we will all be friends forever and return back to Ithaca College and continue to support the program."

*Sports Editor Connor Glunt contributed to this story.*

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The three seniors moved in during their junior year and have hosted team events like bake-offs, movie nights and team gatherings.

ASH BAILOT/THE ITHACAN



# THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP

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

The Ithaca College volleyball team defeated SUNY Oneonta in a 3–0 sweep Oct. 29. The team will take on Clarkson University Nov. 5 in the Liberty League Championships.

MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

## MEN’S SOCCER



1-0

W



VASSAR

ITHACA

OCT. 30



0-0

T



RIT

ITHACA

OCT. 27

RECORD: 8-5-5

## WOMEN’S SOCCER



1-0

W



VASSAR

ITHACA

OCT. 30



3-2

W



RIT

ITHACA

OCT. 26

RECORD: 13-3

## FIELD HOCKEY



2-1

W



ROCHESTER

ITHACA

NOV. 3

NEXT GAME:  
TBD Nov. 6 against  
Vassar College  
in Ithaca

RECORD: 14-4

## VOLLEYBALL



2-3

L



CORTLAND

ITHACA

OCT. 27



3-0

W



ONEONTA

ITHACA

OCT. 29



3-2

W



BROCKPORT

ITHACA

OCT. 30



0-3

L



NYU

ITHACA

OCT. 30

RECORD: 16-12

## WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Morgan Hoffman-Smith	1st	1000 Yard Freestyle	10:58.32
Emily Shorb	3rd	1000 Yard Freestyle	11:12.86
Emily Vandersleen	1st	50 Yard Freestyle	25.17
Ava Lowell	1st	1 Meter Diving	264.30
Eliana Wallock	2nd	1 Meter Diving	249.60

Meet at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

NEXT MEET: 1 p.m. Nov. 6 against SUNY Cortland in Ithaca

## MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Ben Tiber	3rd	25:53.4
Danny Jagoe	8th	26:01.5
Patrick Bierach	20th	26:25.4
Tim Cook	27th	27:08.5
James Hughes	36th	27:26.9

Liberty League Cross-Country Championships

NEXT RACE: Noon Nov. 13 NCAA Regional Championship at Letchworth State Park in Mt. Morris, New York

## WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY

NAME	PLACE	TIME
Jillian Shea	11th	24:27.3
Rachel Rose	12th	24:31.9
Lauren Lobdell	14th	24:38.8
Lindsay Scott	15th	24:43.4
Paloma De Monte	17th	24:48.8

Liberty League Cross Country Championships

NEXT RACE: Noon Nov. 13 NCAA Regional Championship at Letchworth State Park in Mt. Morris, New York

## MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NAME	PLACE	EVENT	TIME/SCORE
Matthew Stevens	1st	1000 Yard Freestyle	10:15.14
James Collishaw	1st	200 Yard Freestyle	1:45.86
Jack Wadsworth	1st	100 Yard Backstroke	50.29
David Schurter	2nd	100 Yard Backstroke	55.03
Ethan Godfrey	1st	3 Meter Diving	290.62

Meet at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

NEXT MEET: 1 p.m. Nov. 6 against SUNY Cortland in Ithaca



Senior Megan O'Reilly advances the ball in the Ithaca College women's soccer team's 1–0 victory against Vassar College Oct. 30. The team posted a 13–3 record this season.

\*Updated as of Nov. 3

BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN

# Assistant coach prepared for his first season

**BY NICOLAS ROSADO**

Just four months after Ithaca College hired a new men's basketball head coach, another fresh face is joining the Bombers' coaching staff. Conor Dow was announced as the newest men's assistant basketball coach Oct. 4, joining head coach Waleed Farid on the bench.

The position was left empty after former head coach Sean Burton was promoted from assistant coach April 10, 2020. Dow comes to the college with an impressive coaching resume that includes stops in the NBA and NBA G League. He most recently coached in the Canadian Elite Basketball League with the Saskatchewan Rattlers, serving as the assistant coach starting in April 2021 before being promoted to interim head coach in July 2021.

Dow said he believes his wide array of experience will be a huge help to the players. In particular, he said he plans to make use of his experience as a video intern with the Dallas Mavericks to aid the Bombers in being better prepared to hit the court with the most knowledge possible.

"We're doing a lot of teaching via film," Dow said. "Whether that be film of other players, film of other teams' concepts on us like we're doing today. [So] being able to teach through film has been new for our guys both individually and as a team."

Dow said the adjustment to South Hill has gone well and he has enjoyed coaching with Farid.

"I'm loving it," Dow said. "We have a really great group of guys in the locker room. [Farid] is awesome to work with. He's one of my favorite guys I've ever worked with."

The two have been working together for a month, but Farid said he and Dow are already on the same level with each other. He said they are similar in their drive and work ethic, and understand what it takes to lead a successful college team.

"I think we complement each other well because we're two guys who love the game of basketball," Farid said. "We're always trying to figure out how we can be better. We're also guys who aren't shy about putting in work, getting on the court with the [players] and doing all the extra work that we think is necessary for our program to be successful."

Not only is Dow enjoying joining and working with Farid, he is also already creating a special bond with the players. Dow said he has been impressed with the work ethic of the team early on in the season, and even finds himself feeling a family-type atmosphere in the gym.

"I'm already seeing it," Dow said. "Like, we have guys that I'm not setting up any workouts and they're hitting me up to work out, and we're on the court every day by 7 a.m. Coach Farid doesn't just preach family to preach family. It really is a family atmosphere, and I can't say enough positive things about our group of guys."

Members of the Bombers' squad



The Ithaca College men's basketball team announced the hiring of Conor Dow as an assistant coach Oct. 4. The coach spent time in the NBA and NBA G League before joining the Bombers' staff.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

like sophomore guard Blake Haber said they also have enjoyed the arrival of Dow to South Hill.

"I think it's great, he has a lot of good experience," Haber said. "Just a really good guy to have around. He works out with us, he's very knowledgeable about many things and he's been around, so it's just a really good resource to have."

Haber said he believes that Dow has been accepted by the team in the early going, explaining that Dow and Farid have two styles of coaching that pair strongly together.

"I think he fits in with us pretty well," Haber said. "There's a good difference between Coach Farid and him. I think we've been very receptive of him."

Although he was hired shortly before the preseason started, Farid said Dow has been able to connect with the players swiftly. Even with being in the position for only a month, he said players constantly meet with Dow and text him for extra work.

"He does a good job of bringing positive energy to every conversation he's in, and our guys have gravitated towards him pretty quickly," Farid said. "He's done a really good job of building relationships with our guys and building that trust. That's hard to build, to be honest, that's not an easy thing to do. He's done that really well."

As the assistant coach, Dow said his goal is to help Farid in any way he can. With that approach and style, he said he thinks that will help the team reach its ceiling.

"Whether [our potential is] a Liberty League Championship, national championship or a .500 team, I'm not really sure yet," Dow said. "We're working with these guys, but whatever the best we can be is, I want to help us get there."

*Sports Editor Connor Glunt contributed to this story.*

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# Spectators not permitted at wrestling tournament

**BY CONNOR WOOD**

The Ithaca College wrestling team will start its 2021–22 season Nov. 5 with the Ithaca Invitational, but the stands in the Ithaca College Athletics and Events (A&E) Center will be empty. While wrestlers would like their friends and families to watch their return, the team is focused on starting its season strong.

Prior to the Ithaca Invitational on Nov. 5 and 6, Ithaca College Athletics announced Oct. 27 there will be no spectators permitted for the event held at the A&E Center. The wrestling team did not compete in 2020–21 because its season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ithaca Invitational is the team's first competition since the NCAA Mideast Regionals on March 1. Susan Bassett, associate vice president and director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreational Sports, said the decision was made due to the size of the tournament and the number of student-athletes who will be attending the invitational.

"The invitational is traditionally the opening competition of the year for the programs that attend," Bassett said. "There will be close to 300 athletes in the facility. So between the need to set up for seven competition mats that are going through the day on Friday and six on Saturday, that takes up a lot of space in the facility."

Bassett said Marty Nichols, wrestling team head coach, wanted to ensure that all 11 programs scheduled to attend could.

"We were in constant consultation with Marty, and he was reaching out to colleagues to talk about how we could manage the event," Bassett said. "His priority was to allow a full complement of athletes to compete, so we decided it was in the best interest of the safety of the participants and coaches to eliminate spectators from the event."

Nichols said his team is focused on preparing for the tournament and is not worried about the empty seats at the A&E Center.

"They are going to be excited," Nichols said. "We have not competed in a while, and that intensity level from someone from a different school is difficult to replicate anywhere else."

While there are no spectators allowed, Nichols said the wrestlers involved in the invitational are not required to wear masks while competing by NCAA policy.

Senior wrestler Matt Griffin said having no fans or spectators at the event is going to be an unusual atmosphere compared to past events. Griffin added that he and his teammates will need to drive the energy of the event.

"I think it is going to be more like a scrimmage feel rather than a tournament feel which is going to be different," Griffin said. "It is going to be big for our teammates to step up and really make sure we are doing what we are supposed to and create some noise for our teammates on the mat."

Nichols said since the competition on the mats is going to be the same as it was in the past, he does not expect the environment



From left, Tito Colom '20 faces a wrestler from Wilkes University Feb. 8, 2019. Ithaca College Athletics is prohibiting spectators at the Ithaca Invitational on Nov. 5 and 6, 2021.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

to be any different either.

"They are not going to be focused on the lack of people in the gym at all," Nichols said. "They are focusing on their own matches, and they have plenty of teammates there to cheer them on as well. It is really just business as usual."

The college is host to two other events for wrestling during the season, the Empire Collegiate Wrestling Championships on Jan. 15 and the Ithaca Duels on Jan. 29. Bassett said the athletic program intends to allow spectators to these events held on the college's campus.

"We will revisit each situation and event as they arise," Bassett said. "Our hope and plan at this point is to be able to permit spectators at all future wrestling events."

Griffin said the team is hopeful to have spectators at future events to help give them the momentum to potentially push towards a national championship.

"All athletes, we love to perform and put on a show, especially wrestling," Griffin said. "It would motivate us tremendously to have our friends and families there to support us, so maybe it is a good thing we do not have spectators for the first tournament so we do not take it for granted, so that when we do have our friends and family there, it is that much better."

*Sports Editor Connor Glunt contributed to this story.*

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From left, junior Kelsey Roy and Shamrock, an Ithaca College Guiding Eyes forThe Blind (GEB) dog-in-training, dressed up as construction workers for the GEB Halloween Parade on Oct. 31 in front of the library. The dogs went to a puppy play event after the parade inTextor Hall room 101 where students could meet and pet the dogs.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN