Survivors detail Title IX failures

Members of the Ithaca College community who survive sexual violence face an uphill fight for protections that federal Title IX legislation claims to guarantee.

BY LORIEN TYNE

Emma Taylor '21 said that while they were a sophomore at Ithaca College, they were sexually assaulted. When Taylor went to the Title IX office, an arduous process unfolded that resulted in their alleged assailant being found not guilty, despite the Title IX office having evidence of text messages where he confesses.

Title IX is a federal law passed in 1972 that aims to ensure that all educational programs and activities that receive federal funding are free from discrimination on the basis of sex. One piece of the law regulates how schools handle cases of sexual misconduct.

Taylor is one of many students who have gone to Title IX looking for protection and a way to feel safe while finishing their education. If a respondent wins the hearing, accommodations can be made like removing the accused from classes they share with the survivor or altering housing assignments. Taylor is also one of many students who never won their hearing, never received protection and feels that the college’s justice system has failed them. Title IX Coordinator Linda Koensch said there are currently six open investigations.

After struggling to finish their education at the college, Taylor graduated with a degree in theater arts but now works as a nanny because they said they were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), making an acting career impossible. "I’m terrified of the idea of people looking at me," Taylor said. "I don’t feel comfortable in the career that I got a four-year degree in."

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In 2017, Betsy DeVos, former Secretary of Education — appointed by former President Donald Trump — began to undo guidance made by Arne Duncan, secretary of the DOE from 2009–16, and John King Jr., secretary of the DOE from 2016–17, which had strengthened protections for survivors of sexual misconduct.

Sexual harassment was defined as "unwelcome conduct of sexual nature; it includes unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature," according to the 2011 "Dear Colleague" letter. Under DeVos, what is considered sexual harassment by Title IX was narrowed and is currently defined as "unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it denies a person equal educational access."

The new regulations enacted by DeVos also discouraged reporting, minimized the responsibility of schools to respond to reports and implemented procedures subject to change based on who is leading the United States Department of Education (DOE).

At 10:30 a.m. April 24, the Ithaca Police Department (IPD) responded to a multiple shots fired incident on South Hill according to an IPD press release. The press release said the shots had been heard around 12:30 a.m., about a half-hour before the IPD responded. The IPD responded at the 100 Block of Hudson Street and its intersection with Giles Street.

Responding officers found evidence of one vehicle being struck by gunfire; however, no injuries were reported. The press release also said witnesses reported a dark colored sedan at the scene. The location where officers responded is less than a quarter of a mile from Ithaca College’s campus.

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"If anyone has information about the incident or resides in the area and has surveillance systems that may have recorded the incident, they are asked to contact the Ithaca Police Department at the below methods," the release said. "The investigation is ongoing."
Candidates speak at open sessions

BY JOSHUA PANTANO

In an effort to find a new dean, the School of Business hosted open meetings with the four finalist candidates from April 25 to 28. Sean Reid, former dean of the business school, left the School of Business in 2020 to become provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at Providence College. Reid served as dean from 2015 to 2020. Alka Bramhandkar has served as interim dean of the School of Business for two years.

The first candidate, Murli Rajan, associate dean at the Kania School of Management at the University of Scranton, emphasized his focus on student and alumni connections and an international mindset at the April 25 open session.

“A dean should figure out ways to connect students to alumni,” Rajan said. “To me, that’s critical.”

Students from the School of Business also asked Rajan about increasing student enrollment. Rajan said the goal should be to keep enrollment at the business school above 500. The School of Business currently has 565 undergraduate students enrolled.

The second candidate, William Lamb, is dean for Graduate and Adult Learner Recruitment at EAB, Inc., which stands for “Education Advisory Board.” The company is a provider of consulting services to over 2,100 colleges and universities. Lamb also served as dean of the LaPenta School of Business at Iona College, murata dean of the F. W. Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College and an associate dean at Ohio University.

During Lamb’s open session April 26, he said he wants to help return the college to a state of normalcy amid the COVID-19 pandemic. He questioned the role of the pandemic amid decreasing business school enrollment. In the 2019–20 academic year, the business school had 652 enrolled undergraduate students.

“It’s hard to know because of the pandemic how much of this is a temporary issue,” Lamb said. The third candidate, Michael Johnson-Cramer, is currently a professor of management at Bentley University. He served as dean of business at the McCallum Graduate School of Business at Bentley from 2019 to 2020. Johnson-Cramer also served as the associate dean of faculty at the College of Arts and Sciences at Bucknell University.

When The Ithacan asked Johnson-Cramer about his strategies for connecting with alumni, he said he wanted to prioritize alumni networks.

“I think alumni need to be a part of the learning process,” Johnson-Cramer said. “We’re selling [them] a membership in a community of people who are learning their whole lives.”

A fourth candidate will be introduced April 28. The story will be updated with coverage of the fourth candidate’s open session.

Planned Parenthood Generation Action Promotes Sex Education on Campus

Planned Parenthood Generation Action hosted its “Let’s Talk About Sex” party to educate and encourage discussion around the topics of sex.
BY LORIEN TYNE

Adam B. Ellick ’99, director and executive producer of Opinion Video at The New York Times, has traveled the world reporting and executive producer of Opinion Video team won an Oscar.

BY JILLIAN BLEIER

Ithaca College has announced a new minor in the School of Business — the entrepreneurship and innovation minor. The minor is retroactive, meaning that students who have previously taken classes that fit in the minor can apply them toward the minor even if it has been finalized.

Students create new residential community

By Clare Shanahan

Transgender and nonbinary students have been offered a chance to come together and build community in the new Open Pages Residential Learning Community (RLC) starting in Fall 2022.

When applying for Fall 2022 housing, Ithaca College students going into their sophomore year and above had the opportunity to request placement in the new Open Pages RLC.

Open Pages will be located in West Tower in close proximity to the Center for LGBTQ Education, Outreach and Services, located in the Towers Concourse.

Lori Maurer, director of the LGBT Center, said Open Pages, created by sophomores Jay Barrett, Gwyneth Cole and Cecile Decker, is the first RLC created specifically for non-cisgender-identifying students.

“I’m so excited about this, not just as the LGBT Center director, but remembering my self as a person in college who would have really benefited from this kind of an RLC, but nothing like that existed,” Maurer said. “I don’t think my peers and I would have been able to form that community like this.”

Maurer said the idea and the majority of the work that went into the creation of the RLC came from the student team.

Barrett said West Tower was chosen largely for its ability to provide gender-neutral rooms and elevator accessibility for disabled students as well as because of its close proximity to the LGBT Center.

Barrett said the name Open Pages is two-fold; it references a metaphor to writing one’s own story, while also being discreet for students who may not be comfortable writing for students who may not be comfortable

against the West for decades. That same playbook is being used hour by hour in the digital landscape right now in the war in Ukraine. I think the film is probably more illuminating today than it was when it was published. … So, I think that’s a pretty special project and it was nominated for two Emmys, which was nice at the time, but I think the true reward was the continued relevance of a big project.

LT: What is the one true thing that guides you in your journalistic life and in your life?

AE: I would say curiosity, caring about — when I say caring, I mean empathy and the desire to seek knowledge — people who are not like me and people who are in different situations that might not affect me, but still wanting to understand their joy and suffering and pain is a big part of being a journalist. And when I say a journalist, I mean the DNA of a journalist and the passion and the thing that you worry about when you go to bed and the thing that wakes you up early in the morning.

LT: You’ve talked about getting your first major scoop while writing for The Ithacan. I was wondering how those beginning moments of journalism have impacted your career.

AE: Well, I would say that the stories I broke when I was a student at Ithaca created a conversation that didn’t exist on campus. That provided a very stark lesson to me that the power of publishing can change the public conversation. When you have a public conversation, there’s the possibility of different outcomes and actions. So, it gave me a taste or a foretaste of the power of publishing and accountability journalism and it was also really fun. And it was like, ‘I think I’d like to do this for a lot more years.’

Contact Lorien Tyne

ltyn@ithaca.edu
Ithaca College Giving Day raisers in record cash

BY CLARE SHANAHAN

The Ithaca College community expressed mixed reactions to the annual 24-hour Giving Day fundraiser April 26. Some were frustrated by promises of materials like spam emails, while others enjoyed the opportunity to support specific organizations they care about at the college.

This year, the 24-hour giving time hosting the fundraising event and over $2.2 million was raised from 4,794 donors, the highest amount raised by the college in one day. Wendy Kobler, vice president in the Division of Philanthropy and Engagement, said Giving Day received a 59% increase in donors and a 20% increase in donations over last year’s $1.5 million raised. Donors were able to select how their money would be allocated among departments and programs across the college’s academic programs, financial aid and the general annual fund.

Kobler said the 24-hour Giving Day campaign was a successful fundraiser because it unites the campus community. Throughout the day, events were held across campus to promote Giving Day. The library raised $20,001 from 43 donors. Jennifer Hochberg Toller ’97 said she received nine emails on Giving Day asking her to donate, which she said was frustrating and insensitive to alumni like herself facing financial struggles.

“There’s a lot of people hurting and I think it’s important that we have the ability to meet the real need of the people,” Hochberg Toller said. “I know, yes, they have a job to do, but I feel nine emails and from various parties was excessive.”

The Title IX office is saying ‘we have more policy in place, we are taking these cases seriously, we have a great staff model policies, we are taking these cases seriously, we have a great staff,” Brown said. “Even if the Title IX office is saying ‘we have more policy in place, we are taking these cases seriously, we have a great staff,” Brown said. “This is the college’s third time hosting Giving Day because it unites the campus community and great resources,’ it still doesn’t seem to create an environment where students are feeling satisfied about the process.”

To receive confidential support regarding domestic or sexual violence, individuals can contact the Tompkins County Advocacy Center at 607-277-5000.

CONTACT CLARE SHANAHAN
lshanahan@ithaca.edu

The 2022 Ithaca College Giving Day set the Giving Day record, bringing in over $2.2 million after being advertised heavily. The campus community had mixed reactions.

CONTACT LORIEN TYNE
ltyne@ithaca.edu
BY OLIVIA STANZL

The Park Center for Indepe-
dent Media (PCIM) held its 14th annual Izzy Award cer-
emony April 26 via Zoom where independent media outlets and journalists were honored for their work.

The PCIM awarded journalist Greg B. Smith and Jenni Monet, newsrooms Better Gov-
ernment Association and Block Club Chicago, and journalism group The International Con-
mittee of Investigative Journalists. About 140 attendees were pres-
ent.

Jeff Cohen, founding and former director for the PCIM, introduced Smith, who exposed 5,000 public housing apart-
ments that contained lead paint, even though the buildings were previously cleared of contamin-
ação. Smith’s work allowed New York City’s Housing Authority to receive millions of dollars to address the health and safety emergencies the management was causing, including ones caused by lead paint.

“This series was horrifying, not just in the harm that it ex-
posed, the harm to children, to families from lead paint of those living in public housing,” Cohen said, “but the harm caused by the decep-
tions and cover-ups of the New York City Housing Authori-
ty. And also horrifying is that this neglect persisted for years, even generations.”

In 2012, Smith began an investigation which focused on the management of public housing. His work led him to un-
cover many cases of neglect. During his investigation, he be-
gan to work at The City.

“If I had continued to stay in mainstream media … I would never have been able to write that story,” Smith said. “It would never have been the light of day, of no way. … Right now, in New York City, the presence that that public neglect persisted for years, even generations.”

“At the Ithaca College Student Gover-
ernment Council’s (SGC) April 26 meeting, Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Ad-
ministration, spoke to the council about the college’s financial health. Declining enrollment and retention rates have led the college to rethink its financial system and put a higher emphasis on income diversity as means to prevent tuition hikes. At the April 25 meeting, Downs gave a five-slide presentation to the SGC on the financial situ-
ation of the college.

“The questions [I get] are very common to me,” Downs said. “That, to me, is very important because there are so many people that are making investments in renewables,” Downs said. “I’m wondering what your goals and the Senior Leadership Team’s to become carbon neutral as early as 2030.”

Downs said his approach to divestment from fossil fuels aims to be as strategic as possible.

“There are a lot of companies in fossil fuel that are making investments in renewables,” Downs said. “That, to me, is very important when we want to divest.”

College Credit Rating

Junior Senate Chair Austin Ruffino asked Downs about the Ithaca College Green New Deal, which the SGC passed in Spring 2021.

“One of the goals of that bill was to ask or recommend that the Senior Leadership Team divest from fossil fuels,” Zampetti said. “I’m wondering what your goals and the Senior Leadership Team’s to become carbon neutral as early as 2030.”

Downs said his approach to divestment from fossil fuels aims to be as strategic as possible.

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College Credit Rating

Junior Senate Chair Austin Ruffino asked about the college’s credit rating. Downs said Moody’s — a financial services company and credit rating agency — has given the college an A2 credit rating. Downs said he will be calling a rater from Moody’s during the week to discuss credit ratings.

“We are in a really good shape,” Downs said. “I will tell you. I’m going to watch out over the next few years because as our oper-
ing budget goes down, we’re going to look at our metrics to make sure [that if we] are going into debt, does borrowing hurt us?”

However, the accuracy of credit ratings from Moody’s are to be questioned. In 2017, Moody’s paid a $864 million penalty to the United States Department of Justice for knowingly giving high credit ratings to risky securities in the lead up to the 2008 finan-
cial crisis. Downs also said the college is a customer of Moody’s loan department. This could be a conflict of interest for Moody’s and an issue for the college, as it is purchas-
ing both credit ratings and loans from the same company.

Prioritization of Majors

Freshman Noah Richardson, legal stud-
dent and Class of 2025 senator, asked Downs about how different majors will be affected by ongoing financial changes. Richardson said students in majors with lower registration rates are concerned their majors might be more impacted financially compared to majors with more students.

“The student perception — especially with the freshmen — is that there is a little bit of a bias in favor of the majors in physical therapy and communications and basically everything that’s in Park,” Richardson said.

“Are there going to be majors that are a bit more likely to receive aid than others? Student perception needs to be addressed.”

“I appreciate that because whether it’s right or wrong, it doesn’t matter, that’s the perception,” Downs said. “That being said, what I will say is the programs that are growing are going to get the resources. That’s just the reality … we have to be invested in those areas that are growing.”

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College hosts awards ceremony for presentations of all media

The 43rd Ithaca College Annual Awards Ceremony was held on April 11 and 12 at the 25th anniversary of the James J. Whalen Alumni Center. Students presented their work through multiple forms, like performances, talks and poster presentations. Within two days, 10 students were recognized as award winners between two categories: oral presentation and poster presentation. The oral presentation winners for the first day of the symposium were junior Melanie Sepulveda-Rodrigo, Farad Fashion: Overcoming the Fashion; and seniors Megan O'Reilly and Alison Lipton: BLM — Not a Risk Factor for Mental Health: A Critically Appraised Topic. The poster presentation winners for the first day were senior Michelle Pet and juniors Cameron O'Leary and Isaac Perez. Resilience and Optimism: Gender and Race.

The second day oral presentation winners were senior Cameryn Gesme: The Benefits of Aquatic Therapy in Conjunction with Land-Based Physical Therapy for Rehabilitation after Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Case Series; and seniors Megan O'Reilly and Alison Lipton: BLM — Not a Risk Factor for Mental Health: A Critically Appraised Topic. The poster presentation winners for the second day were seniors Haley Ashoff: Effect of Introversion on Coping With Stress; and senior Tiffany Egbert: Driving in the Outpatient Setting: A Case Study. Marissa Hobbs: Cardiorespiratory Fitness and Strengthening Rehabilitation of a Long COVID-19 Patient: A Case Report; and Miranda Lape: Deaf Music Engagement.

College to offer awareness course about autism for fall semester

The Understanding Disability (BS1 1250) course is being offered Fall 2022 by the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies. The course covers a wide spectrum of intellectual and emotional impairments within the autism spectrum disorder. The course also discusses self-advocacy, habilitation, and current barriers for people with disabilities and current trends in educational and community service for people who have disabilities. The course will include interactive speakers. Individuals with questions can contact Jesse Kanowitz-Tonjes, assistant professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, at jkanowitz@ithaca.edu.

Two associate provosts hired to start new positions in July

Stacia Zabansky will become the associate provost for academic programs and Benjamin Murdick will become the associate provost for faculty affairs July 1.

Zabansky is the current senior associate dean for curriculum and undergraduate programs in the School of Humanities and Sciences. Murdick is the current associate dean for the School of Humanities and Sciences.

College offers a class on sports during the summer semester

The International Sport (SMGT 2100) course covers topics like the Olympics, global soccer and why sports are popular in different parts of the world. It completes the social sciences requirement for the identities theme and the Integrative Core Curriculum diversity credits.

The course will be held May 31 to July 1 and it will be asynchronous. Individuals with questions can contact Rachel Madsen, associate professor in the Department of Sport Management, at rmadsen@ithaca.edu.

De-stress week relaxes students before final exam period starts

Stop and Breathe Week, a JD Campus initiative, highlights de-stress campus programs from April 5 to May 6. The initiative will have a table set up in the Campus Center during Stop and Breathe Week. Programs who are interested in being named in the lineup or have questions can email Britany Wätters, administrative assistant in the Office of Student Engagement, at bwatros@ithaca.edu.

Event to honor LGBTQ+ seniors and allies scheduled for April 29

The Rainbow Reception, an event to celebrate Ithaca College’s LGBTQ+ and allied graduating seniors and graduates, will be held at 5 p.m. April 29 in Emerson Suites in the Campus Center.

Students will receive rainbow honor cords for graduation but must RSVP. Students who are unable to attend the reception can reserve their cords. Individuals requiring accommodations can contact Luca Maurer, interim executive director of Student Equity and Belonging and the director for the Center of LGBT Education, Outreach and Services, at lmaurer@ithaca.edu.

Course in May explores dialects for stage and film performances

The course called Performing Dialects: Understanding Characters Through Language (THEA 13800-01) is being offered by the college during the May summer session. The course introduces students to the study and practice of different linguistic dialects in social and cultural contexts.

The course focuses on the role of dialect in the formation of identity and character within theatre, film and television production. Individuals with questions can contact Kathleen Mulligan, professor in the Department of Theatre Arts, at kmulligan@ithaca.edu.

First-gen seniors enjoy final celebration

From left, Geselle Dominguez, the program coordinator for the Center for Inclusion Diversity Equity and Social Change, and junior Laura Avila, vice president of the First Generation Organization, celebrate first-generation seniors.

ARIANA GONZALEZ/THE ITHACAN

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM APRIL 11 TO APRIL 17

APRIL 11

SAFETY RELATED OFFENSES

LOCATION: Terraces; general area

Flora Brown Drive

SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person placed a plastic bag over a spitballer keg. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety reported the area checked and with no violations found. Enoch Perkins, fire protection specialist in the Office of Safety, responded.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF/THREATENING

LOCATION: 117 Alumni Circle

SUMMARY: Sergeant Bryan Verzosa responded to the call.

APRIL 12

MEDICAL ASSIST/PT/PHYSICAL MEDICAL ASSIST

LOCATION: 406 Grant Egbert Blvd.

SUMMARY: Caller reported having suicidal ideations. Sergeant Don Lyke reported a person was taken into custody under New York state’s Mental Hygiene Law and transported to the hospital by ambulance.

APRIL 13

MEDICAL ASSIST/PT/PHYSICAL MEDICAL ASSIST

LOCATION: 424 Grant Egbert Blvd.

SUMMARY: Caller reported having an allergic reaction. Officer reported the caller was transported to ambulance by hospital. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa responded to the call.

APRIL 14

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

LOCATION: 117 Alumni Circle

SUMMARY: Caller reported a request on the welfare for a person that they had not had contact with for over a week. Officer reported the person was located and was advised to contact the caller. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

APRIL 15

LARCENY FOURTH DEGREE/ OVER $1000

LOCATION: 100 Block Lynxum Drive

SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person stole a catalytic converter from a vehicle. Patrol Officer Bruce Hall responded.

APRIL 16

LARCENY FOURTH DEGREE/EXCISION

LOCATION: 406 Grant Egbert Blvd.

SUMMARY: Caller reported a person actively damaging Ithaca College’s property in a person’s own dorm. Officer reported the person was referred for criminal mischief. Patrol Officer Bruce Hall responded.

APRIL 17

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF/ FOURTH DEGREE

LOCATION: 416 Grant Egbert Blvd.

SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person damaged a toilet paper dispenser. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

V&T – Vehicle & Transportation

SCC – Student Conduct Code

V&T – Vehicle & Transportation

FIU – Fire Investigation

SCC – Student Conduct Code

V&T – Vehicle & Transportation

APRIL 1

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF/ FOURTH DEGREE

LOCATION: 117 Alumni Circle

SUMMARY: Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

IFD – Ithaca Fire Department

First-move-in volunteers needed to register online by May 20

The college is recruiting faculty and staff to assist students move-in for Fall 2022 from August 14 to 19. Volunteers will greet students and assist them in moving belongings from students’ vehicles to their dorms. All faculty and staff have been asked to assist with the move-in process. Individuals with questions can contact Karen Wallis, executive assistant in the Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life, at kwalls@ithaca.edu.

APRIL 13

SUGGESTED PERSON

SUMMARY: Caller requested a check on the welfare for a person that they had not had contact with for over a week. Officer reported the person was located and was advised to contact the caller. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

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APRIL 1
Students must weigh limitations of Title IX policies

T
he collegiate justice system continues to fail students as non-comprehensive policy succeeds and supportive representation from the Title IX office remains in question.

Failure is an inherent part of seeking justice within the legal system. However, when it comes to the benefits and limitations Title IX can afford students, critical evaluation of their needs and possible options must be heavily considered. When dealing with matters of non-consensual events, the inability to comprehend and consent to legal policies due to a lack of understanding lays bare the contradiction within our legal systems.

While the Title IX office does try to offer support for all students across campus, it may not be the support desired or required for every student and their individual experience. The option to have Title IX policies should remain intact, but the speed at which students decide to use them must be slowed and properly understood. Whether the student chooses to use them or not is up to the student. Whether the student decides for their story to be a recorded number for an institutional statistic should be their choice. Before approaching the Title IX office with such delicate, intimate matters, students who experience sexual violence must ask themselves, “Will this help or hurt my situation? Am I mentally strong enough for potential legal action, reliving trauma, gathering sufficient evidence of sexual misconduct and the possibility of not winning my hearing? Is the courtroom the best place for me to heal?” Survivors should never be made to feel victim to the reality of a police investigation and unsupportive policies.

The Title IX office currently has only two main staff members — Title IX Coordinator Linda Koenig and Leonardo Wise, Title IX investigator and prevention specialist — and the demand for educational opportunities remains high. A larger Title IX staff would allow the office to facilitate more dialogues on campuses as demystifying sexual violence against all bodies is essential to survivor advocacy. Creating room for the LGBTQ+ community and communities of color at the same rate as their cisgender, straight or white peers, will enhance levels of comfort and confidence when engaging in the taboo.

While educational opportunities for understanding that many experiences outside the typical definition of sexual assault exist, the conversation doesn’t stop at what counts as sexual misconduct and to whom it occurs. All Title IX policies are made available to the public, but the college does little to promote visibility around these policies. Section 2.1.4 Reporting Sexual Misconduct of the Title IX policy manual states: Officials With Authority (OWAs) as defined by Title IX, are required to report incidents to the Title IX coordinator. OWAs include the Title IX office, Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, Office of Public Safety, Office of Residential Life, Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life and the Ithaca College Senior Leadership Team. While this information is publicly available, it is not easy to locate. A student who is in distress after experiencing sexual assault may not always be in the right mental state to decode the policy manual or scour the college’s website, and could easily disclose their experience to an OWA, who would have to report to Title IX against the student’s will. Students who face the unfortunate reality of reporting or being required to report an act of sexual misconduct deserve the space and time to process and heal their current reality versus the reality of what legal proceedings would mean to their individual experience. The college must do better to support survivors who can have a comprehensive understanding of their choices. After all, failure of choice and consenting without full understanding is at the center of each Title IX case — inaction to educate on policy is a cruel way to exacerbate what should have never occurred in the first place.

The failures of Title IX are the fault of the system it must operate within. Legal jargon and a formal environment are not conducive to supporting students. And when looking toward alternative options based on restorative justice to humanize the process, the restrictive space federal regulations place on Title IX becomes a barrier. Perhaps there will never be a perfect way to handle sexual assault cases within Title IX and the legal system. Students should continue to find support from services like the advocacy forg...
by Michael Trotti

Two things I love about Ithaca College: my faculty colleagues — so dedicated to their students, so accomplished and so caring of each other. I am humbled to be among them. And our students, bringing goodwill and hard work and a collaborative spirit to our classrooms, labs and performance spaces. The “community” on the locals, even many working at that other institution on that other hill, see the college as “their” school. Students are a joy to have in the community. (Just last week a local said to me this, and it was not the first time.) I feel privileged to be here. Yet it has been a hell of a few years to be in this community.

COVID-19 — whether a thing. Professors are strategizing with each other (as are staff) about how best to help students cope, rebound from the difficulties that online learning forced the world into, and more. And Ukraine, and political fragmentation with its defici  cits in civil discourse. And echo chambers like no human society has ever before created, feeding political fragmentation with its irrational, and self-centered. For- ten be forgotten. Do good anyway. Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

If she were with us in 2022, she might have added something like: “Your echo chamber might tell you it is hopeless, bleak, and you should respond with out- rage. Turn down the volume on that echo chamber and build your community anyway.”

If this quote is not for you, find the one that is and put it some- where you’ll see it. Just remember that we have 6,000 people in this community trying to find our way through the messiness of 2022, and there is a wellspring of goodwill and hope and support around you, and the more you share, the more you have. In exactly the same way, but in the other direction, so are fear and distrust. We can choose to share either. Let’s pick goodwill.

Michael Trotti, associate professor in the Department of History, feels this year’s events weighing heavily on all and offers up a supportive reflection urging the campus community to continue building meaningful connections.

Brendan Irmocevich (’21)

In times of war and COVID-19, reflection of support is vital

By Eden Strachan

“The creation story behind ‘Black Girls Don’t Get Love’

On Valentine’s Day, February 2022, “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” was released as a children’s book on Amazon, made for middle-school and high-school-age students. Zoe, the book’s main character is used to rep- resent and magnify the shared experiences of Black girls across the country who regularly face microaggressions and other defini- ing moments that force them to become the “strong Black woman” trope so strongly admired.

The goal of “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” is to use storytelling to foster community among women and girls of color. On the book’s release, the “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” team did this through a photo series and used social media to document the sto- ries, experiences, and art of color, many of them from the Ithaca College community. The “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” team also hosted a book launch party presented by the IC Umaima Black Student Union where over 70 people, including young girls from the Southside Community Center Black Al- chemist group, listened to a staged reading of the “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” book, performed by actors from the Ithaca College Department of Theatre Arts.

Upon the arrival of the Black Alchemist group, my team and I honored the girls with roses and taras to make sure they felt seen and celebrated at our event. Right now, our team is working with the PGR Foundation, Inc. in Syracuse to plan a staged reading of the “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” book, performed by actors from the Ithaca College Department of Theatre Arts.

In addition to creating a safe space for women and girls of color, we are also intentional about fostering dialogue with our non-Black, Indigenous people of color-identifying community members because we believe to be most effective in our work, we must all grow and heal together.

We have a lot of work to do, but we are proud of the community we are building and are grateful for those who are a part of it. Working together, we’re hopeful that someday soon, #blackgirlsdontgetlove.

Eden Strachan

#blackgirlswillgetlove.
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sudoku

easy

medium

very hard

answers to last issue’s sudoku:

ACROSS
1 Skiing mecca
5 Hard wood
8 Lazy one
13 Gluck of opera
14 Clean the deck
16 Sporty car
17 Hop
18 Polynesian carving
19 Show host
20 Physics unit
21 Welds
22 Delighted in
23 Furtiveness
25 Large family
27 Bring action
28 Postponed game
31 Stray calf
34 Fooled with
35 Young lady, slangily
37 Annexes
38 Came upon
39 "HawkEye"
40 Yale grad
41 Extinguish
42 Wood nymph
43 Lack
45 Shake a finger
46 Hiker’s trail
47 Flew
51 Bitter
54 Pointless
56 Sonnet kin
57 Rain’s ice pellets
58 Robin’s domain
59 Quite similar
60 Walk slowly
61 Attendance
62 Jiffies
63 — nova
64 Golf terms
65 Gambling stake

DOWN
1 Dalls
2 Warm
3 Picture
4 Swimmer’s unit
5 Discerning
6 Rustle
7 Ocean
8 Reykjavik’s nation
9 Hooded cloak
10 Fortune
11 Fencer’s blade
12 Tall grass
15 Miami’s — Bay
21 Chimney pipe
24 Defects and all (2 wds.)
26 Told a whopper

28 Shake awake
29 Not pretty
30 Mock fanfare (hyp.)
32 32
33 Smooth-tongued
34 Handling
36 Schoolboy
38 Typeface
39 Medea sailed on her
41 — Scrolla
42 Broad valley
44 Tanker mishaps
45 Snowy period

last issue’s crossword answers

261x1055

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45 Snowy period
The lights dim and spotlights are on the shirts at the event.

Throughout the day, his class mimics how major convention companies run. "We run a show that’s highly professional, so the demands are high," Catto said. "All the work that students have been doing is surprising and it’s also very rewarding." Tickets for adults were $20 for both days, while tickets for students and faculty were only $10 for both days. In addition, tickets for children ages 7–12 were $5, while children 6 years old and under were allowed free admission. All attendees that purchased tickets prior to April 20 were awarded a "swag bag," which included free comics and stickers.

This was the first time in two years that Ithacon was held in person. Ithacon 2020 was canceled due to COVID-19, and Ithacon 2021 was held via Zoom. "We had a huge reach beyond people who could physically come and a lot of the fans really wanted to experience the conversations and activities that we had," Catto said.

Fantasy Comics is a small comic book retailer based in Albany, New York. It is owned by comic book enthusiast Bert Putnam. Putnam said he has been going to Ithacon since 1982 and said it is nice to be back and see everyone after a year off. "I’m reconnecting with my old friend Bill Turner, who is the original organizer of the show, and he and I go way back to the ‘70s," Putnam said. "That’s the most special thing, but it’s been a great show with lots of good guests and lots of different vendors." The convention took place in different areas of the Campus Center. Both Klingenstein and Clarke lounges held panels where comic book writers and editors spoke about their careers and gave advice about the comic book industry.

The convention welcomed Will Dennis ’89 as Ithacon’s guest of honor. Since graduating from Ithaca College, Dennis has served as a group editor for Warner Bros. DC Vertigo division and, over the years, has edited some of its most acclaimed titles, including "100 Bullets," "Scalped," "Joker" and many more. In a panel moderated by junior Nick Lapigno, Dennis spoke about his career and what it is like to be back at the college for Ithacon. "It’s nice to go to Ithacon because it’s smaller and it’s more about comics," Dennis said. "I’m used to going to lots of big shows in San Diego and Chicago. So, it’s kind of fun to go to a small show and being an Ithaca native allows for a nice combination of a trip to see family that still live here."

All of the main action took place in the Emerson Suites. The room was filled wall-to-wall with vendors selling items from old school Marvel and DC comics to wands and potions from the Craft Fox and special edition Pokémon cards. At noon, Ithacon staff told people to make a pathway for the highly anticipated Cosplay Runway. Presented and hosted by DJ Tori Vee from Washburn Entertainment, the Cosplay Runway is a non-competitive event where cosplayers can strut across Emerson Suites, showing off their costumes. Cosplayers were allowed to walk alone or in a group. "This has grown so much," Vee said. "There’s so much cool stuff. So it’s awesome to see it grow over the years."
Brittany Broski visits IC campus for student Q&A

BY M MINTON

Students excitedly line up in front of Emerson Suites with tickets in hand. Once they enter the room, seats begin to fill up to full capacity until the show finally begins. Fans chant and scream in anticipation for Brittany Broski as she takes the stage, happily greeting the audience. Initially, the venue was not fully packed as the organizers had to honor of reaching the initial $4,000 goal.

Sophomore Keenan Griebel coordinated this year’s event. A member of VIC since freshman year, Griebel wanted to become the 50-Hour coordinator to feel closer to IC’s community.

“Every time that we are living in, it’s important to support not only them but the Black community around us,” Griebel said.

To prepare for the marathon, the DJs, alongside Griebel, took a trip to Southside Community Center, located on S. Plain Street in Ithaca to bond with community members and to see the value Southside brings to Ithaca.

Griebel said that while there, they were welcomed with open arms and received a tour of the facility. The building featured murals of Black activists and leaders, along with photographs from Southside’s history.

“It’s nice to feel closer to the community, it’s easy to get isolated on South Hill,” Griebel said. “I’m trying to help out the community that housed me when I attended college.

Local businesses and organizations that sponsored this year’s event included the Alley Cat Cafe, Buffalo Street Books, ICT Executive Staff, Dewitt Mall and IC Sports Media, to name a few. Genova said the mission of the 50-Hour Marathon is not only to provide grants for nonprofits but to show what Ithaca truly has to offer, as well as to create an event that brings people together.

Southside Deputy Director Kayla Mathos said Southside Community Center has been an active part of the Ithaca community for 88 years. It was founded in 1934 by the Frances Harpers Women’s Club and is now led through Ithaca. The women wanted to create a safe space where the Black residents of Ithaca could feel at ease.

Originally, Southside Community Center offered Black residents healthcare services, a recycled bike program, a school, a barbershop and apartments within its facility. As time passed, it developed other initiatives and different programs to fit the community’s current needs but has stuck to its origin of being a multipurpose organization.

Today, Southside Community Center offers afterschool programs, summer camps, educational guest speakers, girls groups and a food pantry and hosts annual events like Juneteenth and Freedom Ride, Argentine Festival and Juneteenth celebrations.

Mathos said the bulk of the money donated from the marathon will go toward Southside childcare programs. These programs are provided free of charge for children and their families.

The afterschool program provides children with healthy snacks and dinner, help with their school science projects, teaches them their knowledge and martial arts classes to teach them the value of self-control.

“During the summer, Southside Community Center operates two different camps. In the general day camps, kids go on field trips to state parks, water parks and the science center and participate in engaging extracurricular activities.”

“I hoped [this event] raised more recognition for the Southside Community Center and gets more people engaged in the local community around us,” Curtin said.

“It really was a lot of fun,” Feeney said. “I really appreciated the opportunity to get to know the people who work there and the people who come there.”

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From left, junior Arlo Catanzaro, seniors Trisha Curtin and Michael Memis and sophomore Gus Genova host the VIC Radio 50-Hour Marathon fundraiser to benefit the Southside Community Center.

THOMAS KERRIGAN@ITHACA.EDU

From left, senior Becca Feeney is the chair of the special events committee for SAB. She said that after holding events like plate smash-bing and drag queen bingo this past semester, SAB knew they wanted to do something big for their comedy event. As a proud alum of Texas A&M University, Broski has also visited other colleges, like the University of Miami, St. Lawrence University and Georgia State University.

“I love that her content is very real and authentic and real, which makes her a valuable addition to the community around us,” Curtin said.

“We contributed more money to [this event] and when we were given the list of acts, Brittany Broski was the one that stuck out,” Feeney said.

Winegard said Broski keeps everything authentic and real, which makes her a valuable presence on social media.

“I love that her content is very real and vulnerable, it’s refreshing to see someone with a platform who doesn’t just go after views and followers and money,” Winegard said.

Ward said she felt that the event went really well and enjoyed the atmosphere surrounding it.

“I enjoyed listening to [Broski] talk about her experiences with social media and also just moments where she was being goofy,” Ward said. “Everyone there seemed to be enjoying themselves and it was really fun but lasted back at the same time.”

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Pedro Pascal shines in new buddy film


Lyrical legend Pusha T cooks up a solid project

BY MIKE ROSS

While many hip-hop fans are knowledgeable enough to label Pusha T as one of hip-hop’s greatest lyricists, most aren’t too familiar with the rapper’s solo discography. Having primarily known Pusha T from his features. His new album “It’s Almost Dry” is a reminder to the hip-hop community why Jay-Z and Pharrell Williams, some of Pusha’s earliest collaborators, still love working with him after all these years.

“It’s Almost Dry” has received much anticipation because of its shared production by West and Williams. Each artist has signature styles, which could’ve made the album lose its cohesion. Luckily, the two legendary producers made it clear that they are still creating beats for a reason. The two artists cooked up a collection of instrumentals that grace the album. Highly, the soundscapes are thick and perfect to experiment with his bars.

Songs like “Diet Coke” and “Dreamin’ Of The Past” provide the record with an old-school R&B vibe. Pusha and the two producers exec on, while “Scrape It Off” gives the album a brighter, more modern edge. While none of the record’s 12 tracks particularly stand out, West and Williams never disappoint on a Pusha T project.

Pusha T’s verses remain in the spotlight, as if the producers knew to make beats that wouldn’t overwhelm the listener. This is Pusha’s approach. The lyrical quality of the project is obvious considering Pusha’s status as a rhymesmith. Listening to Pusha T rap is a really engaging experience. He’s an astounding storyteller, always finding an interesting way to get points across while firing shots and giving expert advice along the way.

Pasha T is no stranger to throwing shade, the most notable example being “The Story of Adonai,” his brutal Drake diss track from 2018 in which he took the liberty of revealing the identity of Drake’s son to the world. Luckily, Pusha chooses peace for the majority of the record while still keeping the younger generation in their place with bars like “Seein’ you rappin’ apply for the stimulus / Livin’ a lie but die for your images.”

The room “Neck & Wrist” and “I Pray For You” are the album’s standout tracks, as they seem to be the most realized on the album’s creator. The lyrical quality of the project is obvious considering Pusha’s status as a rhymesmith. Listening to Pusha T rap is a really engaging experience. He’s an astounding storyteller, always finding an interesting way to get points across while firing shots and giving expert advice along the way.

Pusha T returns with more impressive wordplay and fitting production. Like Pusha T’s previous album, “Daytona,” “It’s Almost Dry” surpasses even that record.

Features of the album’s standout tracks include Talib Kweli, Roddy Ricch, and side projects with Nipsey Hussle’s Eazy. The song, which functions as the album’s closer, features the same powerful atmosphere as the music from the show. Pusha T has clearly put much energy into this project. Complex named Pusha T the best rapper of all time after the release of his 2018 album “Daytona” (which Complex also named Album of the Year), and Pusha claimed in an interview that “It’s Almost Dry” surpasses even that record.

Between press, social media presence and attention to detail, “It’s Almost Dry” is Pusha T’s big comeback. But it feels like it’s missing something. Outside of its standout tracks, the replay value of “It’s Almost Dry” feels significantly low. While still enjoyable, many of tracks are worthy of wanting more or listening to again. Even so, Pusha T’s latest project excels in everything it needs to and further cements the artist’s status.

Quickies

Daniel Caesar teams up with BADBADNOTGOOD for “Please Do Not Lean.” The track is emotional and poetic, but this repetition does not detract from the song’s quality.

Megan Thee Stallion proves her talent as a rapper in her new track, “Plan B.” The song is a fun, crowd-pleasing movie, “The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent” is just the one to go for. Even if it is just so they can admire the unbelievable weight of Pedro Pascal’s massive talent.

Alternative R&B singer Ravyn Lenae is back with her latest single, “M.I.A.” Lenae’s unique, breathy vocals over ethereal instrumentals and a pulsing, danceable beat make the track a standout in her discography.

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070 Shake puts listeners in a trance with his new track, “Skin and Bones.” Hypnotic synths drone underneath 070 Shake’s pulsing vocals for a dreamy, dreamlike atmosphere that makes the track hard to resist.

CONTACT OF REPUBLIC RECORDS

Please Do Not Lean
BADBADNOTGOOD

Daniel Caesar
Please Do Not Lean

Megan Thee Stallion
Plan B

070 Shake
Skin and Bones
When freshman Alexia Michitti was in seventh grade, she was cut from her middle school basketball team. It was the first time she felt that she and her parents had the option to feel sorry or attack the world. “During my mom’s pregnancy, they didn’t see anything that needed to be brought to attention,” Michitti said. “When I came out, I rocked the world, which is the way I like to put it.”

Since then, Michitti, who is on the Ithaca College women’s soccer team, has become a voice for athletes with disabilities and has had the opportunity to work with the U.S. National Amputee Soccer Team. In Fall 2021, she was introduced to adaptive sports, also referred to as parasports. Adaptive sports are played by athletes who have different types of disabilities with many established leagues and organizations representing these athletes, like the Paralympic Games.

Ellen Staurowsky ’79, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences, and Studies, connected Michitti with the world of adaptive sports. Staurowsky began working with disability in sports when she was in high school, where she worked with a local Special Olympics group. Through her work in parasports and through her students, she has maintained connections during her career.

“The experiences of trying to learn how to best serve [students with disabilities] has been something that has been a lifelong work for me,” Staurowsky said. “Our students come in with so many different experiences and different ways of living. I think we’ve been able to be an active part of the team and our program.”

For amputee soccer, the players on the field play with one leg on a platform, while the goalies play with one arm. Although Michitti plays forward in college, she plays goalie for the New England Amputee Soccer Team, Lucy’s right arm into her jersey. New England won the game by a score of 3-2. Despite the loss, Michitti said the experience of the game was still positive, being an 18-year-old woman playing with and against male. “I was the only woman on the field, which was amazing,” Michitti said. “I had 35-year-old men shooting at me. Although they have one leg, you would be amazed at how strong their shots are.”

“Our ultimate goal in life is to break the divide between athletes with and without disabilities, like the Olympics and Paralympics,” Staurowsky said. “Seeing what’s limiting people from reaching their full potential and to the level of competing with those who don’t necessarily have a disability.”

Michitti sees herself doing that now in college, playing mostly alongside athletes without disabilities as she always has. One of her biggest challenges in collegiate soccer was strength training. But with the assistance of new prosthetics and strength coaches, she has learned to bench press and do pull-ups — things she could not do before college without the prosthetics.

“Her performance and hard work when she is with the team. She takes full advantage of every opportunity and is very focused in everything she does, both on and off the field. Michitti is enjoying her time at the college, majoring in sport management. Through she is unclear of the exact route she wants to take, she said she wants to be involved at the Olympic and Paralympic level to bridge the divide between athletes with and without disabilities.

“Whatever [amputee soccer] demonstrates is that when people watch this game, it’s not people playing soccer with disabilities, it’s people playing soccer with different ability,” Lamberg said.

Michitti said she is unsure where her career may go, but she plans to continue playing amputee soccer and breaking barriers in the world of sports to become an advocate for others.

“There is no challenge that she has faced that she’s not addressed head-on,” Staurowsky said. “[She’s] just been so committed to making life better for other people.”

For amputee soccer, the players on the field play with one leg on a platform, while the goalies play with one arm. Although Michitti plays forward in college, she plays goalie for the New England Amputee Soccer Team, tucking her right arm into her jersey. New England won the game by a score of 3-2. Despite the loss, Michitti said the experience of the game was still positive, being an 18-year-old woman playing with and against men. “I was the only woman on the field, which was amazing,” Michitti said. “I the opportunities are there. “My ultimate goal in life is to break the divide between athletes with and without disabilities, like the Olympics and Paralympics, kind of meshing them together,” Michitti said. “Seeing what’s limiting people from reaching their full potential and get to the level of competing with those who don’t necessarily have a disability.”

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Junior goalie makes the most of opportunity

BY AIDAN CHARDE

For nearly three years, junior Ryan LaForty, goalkeeper for the Ithaca College men's lacrosse team, did not start a game at the net. After a midseason switch March 2, LaForty got the opportunity he was waiting for.

LaForty filled in for senior goalkeeper Connor Thornton, who started every game in 2021. After Thornton let in 10 goals in the first quarter of a loss to Lycoming College in that game, which was the first time he had seen action since April 2021, LaForty played three quarters and in just 10 more goals against the No. 7 ranked team in the country.

LaForty said it was a good feeling, but it was exciting for him to get an opportunity to step on the field and show what he's been working on all these years. Since then, LaForty has not looked back. The team won seven straight games after the loss to St. John Fisher, and through 14 games so far this season, he has saved more shots than he allowed in all but four games, with all four being ranked opponents.

LaForty said the win streak helped build his confidence while still getting used to his new role. Though the streak eventually ended in a close game to St. Lawrence, LaForty said he felt ready for the rest of the season.

"My first start, getting a win was very nice," LaForty said. "Keeping that going for those seven games was a very good feeling, but it was definitely hard to keep it going." Joe Solomon, an assistant coach for the team who works with the goalkeepers, said that LaForty was hard not just because of the job on the field, but because there can often be false information that he can do it. But he said that the players knew the business of the sport and that the coaches make changes in order to field the best possible team.

"There's only one spot, everybody else has three," Solomon said. "It's very competitive. But when you have to put your hand up when you're not ready, they're very supportive. . . . They want each other to do well, ultimately, whoever plays in the game, they just want the team to do well.

" Thornton said he has no hard feelings toward his teammate. He said that losing his spot was a difficult situation to get through, but he still good friends with LaForty and wants to see him succeed. "I can't lie, it's not easy," Thornton said. "I've had to mentally reconcile that a lot and just deal with it, and at the same time be really supportive. At the end of the day, it's a team sport, and I love [LaForty] to death. He's a great kid." Long credited Thornton and sophomore Charlie Paras, the other two goalkeepers on the roster, for being motivating presences to LaForty. Long said LaForty could have easily been the one in the game to let in 10 goals in one quarter, so he hopes his goalies know enough of the backups can take over.

"Without guys breaking down your back, you're going to get complacent," Long said. "You can't get complacent in goal, or you're not going to be in there much longer." LaForty and the rest of the team have just one more regular-season game that will decide their playoff fate. The team is currently tied in Liberty League standings with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, so the winner of their matchup April 30 will decide who plays.

Regardless of how many more games the team plays, Long said he has been impressed with how LaForty has played this season.

"I don't think he's had a bad game," Long said. "He sees a lot of shots, makes some really great saves, so I think he's making up for a lot of lost time.

IC football team sponsors bone marrow drive

BY DANIEL KING

On April 22, several members of the Ithaca College football team walked around the Campus Center and attempted to recruit members of the campus community to get their cheeks swabbed for Be The Match Bone Marrow Drive hosted by the football program.

Be The Match and the Andy Talley Bone Marrow Foundation partner with football programs around the country to help raise awareness to recruit blood stem cell donors. Having a wide pool of stem cell donations are important because matches for individu- als are usually found within their own ethnic group, so the more people that take the swab means the chance of finding a donor goes up. Attendees are used to help fight cancers and blood-related diseases. If a person is a match, bone marrow will then be taken from them and then go to the person in need of this form of treatment.

The event took place in the Emerson Suites and was run by a rotating shift of play- ers who were responsible for the event. The 157 players on Ithaca's roster attended and swabbed themselves for the cause. The last time the program hosted a bone marrow registration event was in 2019. Before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to that, the football program held this event annually, dating back to April 2011.

"Our players understood the gravity and the power of something like this, how it can affect someone even if you just don’t know who it’s going to be,” head coach Michael Toer- per said. “But somebody’s going to have a direct effect on someone else’s life. You really can’t ask for a better opportunity, as a citizen, as a human being.”

Toerper, who is the new head coach of Be The Match when he was a coach at Johns Hopkins University, where he registered himself for the bone marrow registry, Ithaca College also hosted the event during his stint as defensive coordinator from 2017 to 2019.

"It’s gonna be very rare for you actually to be a match,” Toerper said. "But if you are, what an opportunity for you and for that person. In your life, you really can’t ask for a better opportunity, as a human being.

Now two years removed from its last event, the team was excited to once again work with the organization. Mike Hatcher, who was promoted to be the team’s associate head coach for the 2022 season April 21, said the event has been in the planning process since earlier this year.

"They contacted us in February about signing up for the event, and we were able to lock that date and that time in," Hatcher said. "From there begin the process of informing and educating our players what the foundation is.”

Junior defensive back Mikey Porter was one of the members of the foot patrol team that helped raise awareness for the event by walking around the Campus Center and talk- ing with individuals about the event taking place. Porter said the team was excited to help run this event and possibly make a differ- ence in the community. "I feel like it's an opportunity to give back and help someone," Porter said.

"This is an opportunity for us to be men of action," Hatcher said. "That's something when Coach Toerper got here. We talked a lot about that with the players and really having this holistic approach to our program where our guys are engaging in community service opportunities, which is one of the premier opportunities to do that." Sophomore defensive lineman Gio Fabi echoed the statements of his coach, under- standing the impact of giving back to the community that gives so much to the pro- gram. Though it is only his second season with the team, he acknowledged his position at the college and for him and his teammates to be role models to others by holding events like this.

"[The community members] come out and support us every Saturday,” Fabi said. “No, I think it’s only fair that we support them in any way that we can.”

Michael Toerper, head coach of the Ithaca College football team, along with over 80 football players, hosted a bone marrow drive April 22 in the Emerson Suites.

BY AIDAN CHARDE

Calysta Dommich-Robinson/The Ithacaer
From front, junior Meg Siergiey and members of Ithaca College's Defy Dance Company dance during their performance “Flair,” which was held at 8 p.m. April 22 in the Emerson Suites. The company, which was created in Fall 2016, has a repertoire that includes ballet, jazz, hip-hop and contemporary dance routines.