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ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

After saying that she would freeze her salary, President Collado's compensation increased

BY ALEXIS MANORE AND ELIJAH DE CASTRO

Despite claiming multiple times that she froze her salary for the 2019-20 fiscal year, former Ithaca College President Shirley M. Collado's monthly base compensation increased by \$1,039 to \$41,174 per month, according to the most recent Form 990, a federal finance document.

Additionally, the 2018–19 and 2019–20 Form 990's say that Collado's "other reportable compensation" increased from

FILE PHOTO, IIIUSTRATION BY MALIK CLEMENT

\$1,385 in 2018–19 to \$96,019 in 2019–20. Collado served as president from July 2017 to August 2021, the shortest tenure out of the college's 10 presidents. Collado stepped down in July 2021. Collado brought now-President La Jerne Cornish to Ithaca College to serve as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, and she was later promoted to provost and executive vice president.

These increases occurred as she led the college through a pre-pandemic financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. As a part of the five-year strategic plan, Ithaca Forever, the college commenced the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) - an austerity measure that Collado and Cornish called "transformative change." Despite protests, the 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions and 26 departments, programs and majors are in the process of being eliminated.

It is unclear if Collado's compensation increased, decreased or stayed the same during the 2020-21 fiscal year, as the Form 990 for that year will not be released until

July. However, Collado said in a March 2021 interview with The Ithacan that she took a pay cut during the 2020–21 fiscal year.

For the 2019–20 year, Collado's base compensation was \$487,853. Her bonus and incentive compensation was \$0 and her other reportable compensation was \$96,019. Collado's total reportable compensation was \$583,872.

Part of Collado's imputed income benefits employees receive that are not

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Survivors of sexual violence IC reacts to SCOTUS and allies march into Ithaca

BY CLARE SHANAHAN AND OLIVIA STANZL

"Claim our bodies, claim our rights, take a stand, take back the night," Ithaca College students chanted April 29 as they marched to The Commons for the 43rd annual Take Back the Night (TBTN) march and rally in Ithaca.

TBTN is an international foundation and movement against sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and sexual assault. The Advocacy Center of Tompkins County has hosted TBTN events since 1979. At the 2022 event, three marches began at 6:15 p.m. at Ithaca College, Cornell University and the Greater Ithaca Activities Center. The marches convened at 7 p.m. on The Commons where about 70 people, from children to older adults, gathered for a rally featuring survivor speak-out sessions, performances and a vigil. Representatives of IC Strike led the march of about 25 people from Ithaca College to The Commons and provided signs and led chants for marchers. IC Strike is a student organization at the



draft to overturn Roe

BY ALEXIS MANORE AND ELIJAH DE CASTRO

Despite long-standing legal precedent and public opinion, the United States Supreme Court intends to overturn Roe v. Wade, a landmark piece of civil rights legislation that made access to abortion a constitutional right. On May 3, the Ithaca community gathered in protest.

According to an initial majority opinion draft leaked to Politico, the Supreme Court is planning to overturn Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey in the coming months, returning abortion legislation to the jurisdiction of individual states. Chief Justice John Roberts verified the authenticity of the draft opinion May 3. The draft decision was authored by Associate Justice Samuel Alito, a conservative judge whom former President George H. W. Bush nominated to the court. Justices Clarence Thomas, Amy Coney Barrett, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh have joined Alito in the decision, according to Politico.

any constitutional provision."

Roberts has yet to vote, but regardless, the conservative justices hold the majority on the court and on the draft decision. However, Roberts did note that because it is a draft, it could change before the final ruling, which is set to be released in June.

Since Ithaca College is located in New York - which has codified the protections in Roe v. Wade into law the campus community will likely still have access to safe and legal abortion. However, at least 23 states, including Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Utah, Idaho and more, have laws banning abortion that preceded Roe v. Wade already on the books or have trigger laws that will go into effect once Roe v. Wade is overturned. The leak ignited both outrage and celebration from thousands of people across the nation. Many gathered to protest the draft decision and to show their support for Roe v. Wade, including in Ithaca.

Laura Lewis, acting mayor of the City of Ithaca, gives a speech April 29 on The Commons during the Take Back the Night rally. **BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN**

college created to raise awareness, promote change in the campus community regarding sexual assault and violence, and provide support to survivors and allies.

"It's Sexual Assault Awareness Month, so this is a good way to kind of set off the month but remind people that this is an ongoing issue and it's not just contained to one month," senior Sarah Moon, co-president of IC Strike, said.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is honored in April, and at the college, events were hosted by clubs and campus organizations,

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"We hold that Roe and Casey must be overruled," Alito said in the draft decision. "The Constitution makes no such reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by

About 100 members of the Ithaca community gathered at the Bernie Milton Pavilion on The Commons to rally in support of the right to an abortion. Protestors held signs that read

ROE V. WADE, PAGE 4

LIFE & CULTURE | page 11 ISLAND FUSION **HOSTS ANNUAL DANCE SHOW**





SPORTS page 17 BRONX BOMBERS **CALL UP FORMER** ITHACA BOMBER

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Kendall Day party proceeds with risk

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

As the 2021–22 academic year comes to a close, Ithaca College students looking to celebrate are being encouraged by the college to celebrate responsibly because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kendall Day is a tradition that started in 2008 by students. On this day, students gather on Kendall Avenue for large house parties on the weekend before finals. This year, the celebrations fall May 7.

Samm Swarts, assistant director for Emergency Preparedness and Response, said his office is acting proactively to make sure students stay safe while celebrating. While the current COVID-19 alert level is low risk, the college currently has 19 total active cases. As of April 27, Tompkins County is now classified as a high-transmission area, with residents being encouraged to wear masks while in public settings. COVID-19 numbers are lower than earlier in the year, with January seeing a spike in up to 361 new positive cases. In 2021, students were discouraged from participating in gatherings like Kendall Day due to COVID-19. Prior to student departure for winter break in December 2021, a surge in COVID-19 cases was linked to Santacon, a large gathering of unmasked partygoers celebrating the holidays Dec. 11. Following the surge, the college raised its alert to "Orange: Moderate Risk," which shut down social gatherings and closed shared on-campus spaces. After lowering its alert to "Green: Lower Risk" Feb. 4, the college lifted

indoor mask mandates March 4. The college is offering several events to celebrate the end of the academic year. The IC Kicks Back event will take place May 6 and feature a performance by



Ithaca College students gather for the annual Kendall Day in May 2015, which always occurs the weekend before finals.

Christian French, an American pop singer, on the Campus Center Quad from 3 to 9:30 p.m. Campus Center Dining Hall will also host its annual IC Community Brunch on May 7. The college also held a virtual gathering May 2 to discuss ways for off-campus students to be mindful of their health and the surrounding community in their celebrations. Bill Kerry, executive director of Public Safety and Emergency Management, said FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN students can expect local authorities along Kendall Avenue and the surrounding areas to make sure the event runs smoothly, like on past Kendall Days.

"Kendall Day grows so quickly," Kerry said. "[Police] will help when not asked if they see someone who's having any kind of medical condition ... or if someone's injured themselves."

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Campus life VP to step down

BY SYD PIERRE

Rosanna Ferro, vice president for student affairs and campus life at Ithaca College, is stepping down from her position and will leave June 24, 2022.

In a May 3 email to the college community, President La Jerne Cornish announced that Ferro will become the Chief of Education at College Track, an organization that aids students in confronting systemic barriers as they complete bachelor's degrees. Cornish said that current Dean of Students Bonnie Prunty will serve as vice president for student affairs and campus life through 2024, during which a search will be conducted for the position.

The email said Prunty has appointed Marsha Dawson as the next dean of students. Dawson is currently the director of the Offices of Residential Life and Student Conduct & Community Standards. Cornish said the college will be conducting an internal search to fill Dawson's current position which could begin as early as this summer.

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Rainbow Reception Held for LGBT Students

On April 29, Ithaca College held its annual Rainbow Reception for LGBT seniors to received their rainbow cords that are worn at graduation.



THE ITHACAN

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'Deja View' - "Monthy Python and the Holy Grail"

In episode 5 of her series focusing on the genre of comedy host Sydney Brumfield sits down with junior Sara Borsari to talk about the sub genre of Parody with the 1975 cult classic "Monty Python and the Holy Grail."





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Four Park dean finalists visit IC

BY LORIEN TYNE

Faculty, staff and students at Ithaca College attended open sessions between May 2 and 5 to speak with the four final candidates for dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

The current interim dean is Jack Powers who assumed the position at the start of the 2020–21 academic year. Powers became interim dean after former dean Diane Gayeski stepped down from her position at the end of the 2019–20 academic school year.

Each candidate talked with the campus community in person and on Zoom during two one-hour open sessions; one for faculty and one for staff and students.

The first candidate, Virginia McDermott, dean of the Nido R. Qubein School of Communication at High Point University, held her open sessions May 2. McDermott said she wanted to work on more effective advertising for the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College.

She highlighted that students create valuable media and products for recruitment.

"My job is identifying what's happening in the school of communication that needs wider recognition," McDermott said.

McDermott said that while she may not be an expert in all of the majors offered, she does have a wealth of experience in managing a school.



Junior Camille Ealey, television and digital media major, works in the dean's suite in Roy H. Park Hall. The four dean finalists met with the campus community in open sessions.

"I'm actually not a journalist," McDermott said. "I don't know how to run a camera. But what I know how to do is support people who know how to do that."

The second candidate, Karen Loop, associate dean and professor at Columbia College Chicago, introduced herself to the campus community May 3. She said a great way to keep alumni engaged with Ithaca College is through mentor programs like the one she built at Columbia College, where all the students have an alum mentor.

"I think alumni engagement is so important on so many levels, not only in terms of fundraising, but the opportunities it creates for students," Loop said.

The third candidate, Paul Mihailidis, professor of civic media and journalism and assistant dean in the School of Communication at Emerson College, came to Roy H. Park Hall at Ithaca College May 4.

He said he works to find new programs to challenge students and build the competencies needed to make students stand out. Mihailidis said the room for growth and new opportunity is one reason why he wants to work at the college.

"To me that's a challenge that I'm increasingly interested in taking on." Mihailidis said.

He also mentioned creating a

community where staff, faculty and students feel comfortable and like they have the support they need.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

"Any successful community is only as strong as how the community members feel a part of it," Mihailidis said. "The effort has to be made to create that community and I do see that as a dean's core responsibility."

The last candidate, Amy Falkner, will introduce herself May 5. Falkner has been the interim dean of the Newhouse School of Public Communications since April 2019.

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Survivor talks at Hillel event

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

At the age of 85, Hannah Wechsler is one of the few older adults still alive who survived the Holocaust — and are willing to talk about it.

On May 3, Hillel at Ithaca College brought Wechsler and her story to about 150 members of the campus community who gathered at Muller Chapel to hear from Wechsler via Zoom.

Wechsler has told her story thousands of times — to children, teenagers and college students across America.

Junior Julia Ganbarg, vice president for engagement and outreach at Hillel, said she grew up hearing about Wechsler's life. At Ganbarg's temple in New Jersey, Wechsler has been a Hebrew school teacher since 1972.

"What was so surreal about tonight was being able to watch all the people in the room hear her story for the first time and see how they were reacting," Ganbarg said. "She's an incredible woman. She has an incredible story."

Wechsler was born in a small Polish town in 1936 to a Jewish family. When the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, Wechsler said she and her family hid for six weeks in the cellar of a barn with the help of a Polish family. Eventually, neighbors became suspicious and Wechsler's family was taken by Nazis.

"The place where the Germans collected us was like no man's land," Wechsler said. "We were exposed to anybody's mercy. Anybody who would stop by us could see us, could kill us, could shoot us. Anybody could do anything that they wanted to us."

Junior Isaac Schneider, president of Hillel at Ithaca College, said the event held incredible urgency, as time is running out for people to hear from those who lived through the Holocaust.

"I think it's really easy for people, for students, I should say, to get into this idea of 'the Holocaust happened a long time ago,' but we're only 77 years out,"Schneider said.

The Nazis deported Wechsler's family to the Kraków ghetto. Wechsler said her mother then snuck out of the ghetto to get falsified documents that could help save Wechsler's family.

"If she got caught, she was killed," Wechsler said.

Although Wechsler's family was briefly able to survive by posing as Christians in Hungary, they ended up getting caught and sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Wechsler said she and her mother were then separated from the men in their family.

"Auschwitz was a place that hell could not describe," Wechsler said. "In Auschwitz I got a new identity — 88987. ... It is very hard to explain how the air in Auschwitz was filled with fear, anger and hunger. It was horrible."

Commencement lacks COVID restrictions

BY JADYN DAVIS

With the Ithaca College's Class of 2022 Commencement ceremony under three weeks away, some members of the Class of 2022 have expressed their thoughts on the lack of COVID-19 measures at this year's Commencement.

The 2022 Commencement will be held indoors at Glazer Arena in the Athletics and Events Center and guests will be allowed to attend the ceremony in person for the first time since 2019. Samm Swarts, assistant director of Emergency Readiness and Preparedness, said the commencement organizers hope to offer an event with little to no COVID-19 restrictions in place. In previous years, Commencement has been held outdoors at Butterfield Stadium. David Prunty, executive director of Auxiliary Services, said Commencement will be held indoors this year largely because of the accessibility the A&E Center provides.



"The Glazer Arena provides better services, including air conditioning and adequate restroom facilities," Prunty said.

As COVID-19 restrictions have loosened, some students have voiced their concerns about the lack of restrictions at this year's Commencement.

Senior Kellie Swensen said they created a petition called "We deserve a COVID-safe Commencement" in light of the Tompkins County Health Department's health advisory released April 27, which strongly recommended masking in public spaces. Despite the petition being created May 1, 177 people have signed it.

"It's going to be crucial to gain support

The 2022 Commencement will be held indoors at Glazer Arena in the Athletics and Events Center and guests will be allowed to attend the ceremony in person.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

quickly in the upcoming weeks because it's going to take a significant number for the leadership to do anything about it," Swensen said.

Swensen said they are not sure if they will be attending Commencement because they have a chronic illness and do not feel safe with the lack of restrictions.

"It's so incredibly unfair to be put in a position to decide whether we'll be able to celebrate amongst the people we care about," Swensen said. "It shouldn't be a choice we have to make because we are just as deserving to walk across that stage as everyone else is."

Swarts said the Office of Public Safety and

Emergency Management will continue to look at the latest guidance from Tompkins County and New York state.

"We need to remember that COVID-19 has changed drastically from where we were two years ago," Swarts said. "I want to recognize that many folks still are not comfortable with our current circumstances and we must respect those individuals. We will have an ample supply of KN95 masks available at commencement ceremonies for individuals who would like an upgraded, high-quality mask."

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Wechsler credited her survival to her mother, who she said would not give in to the treatment they received while imprisoned.

"Why did I stay alive?" Wechsler said. "My mother. She never gave up. She never gave in."

After Wechsler told her story, she took questions from the crowd. Sophomore Sam Isle asked Wechsler if her experiences during the Holocaust affected her relationship to God and religion.

"I was not in the business of believing," Wechsler said. "I was in the business of being grateful for being able to survive with a mother. God was not in my heart. At the time I was a little girl. What did I hope from God? God is as good as we want to see him."

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FROM SALARY, PAGE 1

part of their salary — included a cleaning person, a leased vehicle and the personal use of housing, according to the 2019 Form 990.

For the 2018–19 year, Collado's base compensation was \$477,120, her bonus and incentive compensation was \$0, and her other reportable compensation was \$1,385. Her total reportable compensation was \$478,505.

The Ithaca College Board of Trustees is responsible for setting president's compensation. In addition to salary, the president's compensation also covers the use of a car, expenses related to a home office, two club memberships for college business and the standard benefits package.

A May 22, 2019, message from Collado and the board of trustees regarding the fiscal year 2020 budget stated that the president, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and each of the five deans would not receive a salary increase for the 2019–20 fiscal year.

Additionally, in a set of October 2020 comments to *The Ithacan*, Dave Maley, director of public relations and college communication, claimed that Collado and other college leadership had frozen their salaries for the 2019–20 fiscal year.

"To clarify, President Collado and members of her senior leadership team did not take a salary increase from 2018–19 to 2019–20 or to 2020–21, and in fact they took a voluntary salary



reduction for 2020–21," Maley said via email.

Collado also said in a March 2021 interview with *The Itha-can* that she and other members of the SIT froze their salaries during 2019–20.

"Members of the Senior Leadership Team last year and the year before took decreases and no increment," Collado said in the interview. "And the year before that, we did not take an increase and really upheld the need to provide increases for everyone else who's employed at the college."

Collado has not responded to a request for comment.

When asked if Collado and other leadership had their pay frozen for the 2019–20 fiscal year, Maley said the pay freeze did occur during that year.

"For the president and for

any members of the SLT who were at the college for the entirety of 2018 and 2019, any differences in base compensation for them from those two years has solely to do with calendaryear timing differences in the pay periods for those years," Maley said via email. "The college operates on a semi-monthly payroll schedule for exempt positions (non-hourly)."

During the time that Collado's base compensation increased, the college had entered a financial crisis before the COVID-19 pandemic had even begun. By February 2021, Collado's administration approved deep faculty cuts. Protests on campus followed.

Senior Kellie Swensen is a leader of Open the Books, a coalition of students, faculty and alumni who have been calling for increased financial transparency from the college. Swensen the administration may never be able to regain community trust.

"I think the primary effect this leaves behind is [that] the trust between the leadership and everyone else is fundamentally broken," Swensen said. "I don't know how you repair that. That's not an easy thing to fix. There's no one thing that they can say that is going to make that problem go away. There's a gradual process that has to happen to rebuild trust. I don't know that that can happen with the current leadership that we have."

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FROM TBTN, PAGE 1

including Planned Parenthood Generation Action, the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management and the Sexual Violence Prevention Committee as well as the Advocacy Center.

Moon said this year's TBTN event was particularly important because it was in person for the first time since 2019 and has the power to reunite the community toward a common cause. As an homage to the event's in-person return, the TBTN theme was "the power of community."

Heather Campbell, executive director of the Advocacy Center, said the COVID-19 pandemic put people at greater risk of sexual and relationship violence by isolating them from support systems and isolating survivors with dangerous individuals. Campbell said in 2021, the Advocacy Center received 64% more calls on its hotline and served 30% more survivors across all programs than in 2019.

"The past two years, survivors have also been coming to us with situations that were more urgent, more complicated and more dangerous," Campbell said.

According to the Council on Criminal Justice, a study from February 2021 found an 8.1% increase in domestic violence in the U.S. during the COVID-19 pandemic after lockdowns were imposed.

A main portion of the event was the Survivor Speak Out, which gave survivors and allies the opportunity to share their experiences with the event's topics.

Speakers and performers presented from the Bernie Milton Pavilion on The Commons in front of t-shirts made for The Clothesline Project. Naomi Barry, adult community educator at the Advocacy Center, said the shirts were made by local survivors over the last thirty years.

"The Clothesline Project is really a way for survivors to express their experiences of violence and kind of 'handle their dirty laundry," Barry said.

The shirts mainly featured writing, including "Girls sexually abuse girls" and "I'm as free as a bird and this bird you can not cage."

Freshman Abbey Hall said she decided to attend the event because in her own social circles, she has seen sexual assault and unhealthy relationships.

"I think that a big thing for me is I never had education from my family or my school [on] how to speak up when you feel like you've been in a situation where you have been assaulted or where you have been invalidated," Hall said.

Sophomore Sophia Testani attended the event and said hearing other survivors speak out about their experiences was her favorite portion of the event. In Fall 2021, Testani was sexually harassed at the college and went through a semester-long process with Title IX.

"Just getting to hear [the survivors'] stories and listening to people who were brave enough to share their stories ... was just really empowering," Testani said. Laura Lewis, acting Mayor of Ithaca, delivered a proclamation that recognized the power structures that leaves groups vulnerable to sexual violence and the need in the Ithaca community to support survivors, especially those from marginalized groups. "It is through community that folks creatively support one another and attend to each other's pain when systems fail, when needs are high and safety is in question," Lewis said. "And whereas Take Back the Night is a time of celebrations, triumphs and struggles, where all people can support survivors' strength and courage as we work to change the culture that perpetuates domestic violence."

FROM ROE V. WADE, PAGE 1

"Abortion is a human right" and "Not your body, not your life, not your business."

Leslie Danks Burke, a local political organizer and candidate for the 53rd New York State Senate district, said she has fought for abortion rights for so long that she could see the overturning of Roe v. Wade coming — it was no less a punch to the gut.

"Abortion does not end when it's illegal," Danks Burke said. "What changes is how many more girls, women, trans women [sic], will die from it. ... Make no mistake about it — this is a crushing blow."

Reporting by The New York Times shows that if Roe v. Wade were to be overturned, the number of abortions that occur in the United States would only fall by 14%. Those seeking abortions in states where it is illegal would then have to turn to the black market or perform an



From left, Marion Karin, Alene Wyatt and Maryann Magro, join the rally May 3 on The Commons, protesting an attack on abortion rights from the Supreme Court. EVA SALZMAN/THE ITHACAN

abortion themself, which is dangerous.

Amicus briefs filed by reproductive justice organizations in support of the Center for Reproductive Rights' challenge of Mississippi's abortion ban, found that bans on abortion disproportionately harm people of color specifically Black and Indigenous people, LG-BTQ+ people, people with disabilities and people with low-income backgrounds.

Senior Adele Gulino is the social media manager for IC Planned Parenthood Generation Action, a group on campus that advocates for reproductive freedom. Gulino said that while she was disappointed to hear about the decision, she and other members of the group expected it.

"This is something that we [the club] has been talking about for a long time," Gulino said. "It came as a surprise because I think all of us were anticipating what's going to happen in the summer. It came so quickly."

Gulino said she hopes members of the campus community do not forget about Southern states, where women face greater poverty rates than other areas of the country and will be most impacted by the legislation change.

"You cannot write off the South as a place because there are people there that need access to safe abortion," Gulino said. "Not everyone can just go to New York."

Junior Claire Thompson is from Houston, Texas, where abortion has become almost entirely banned. Thompson said that in states in the South, there is a different perspective on abortion that is influenced by religion.

"I was raised in the Southern Baptist Church," Thompson said. "It does sound terrible to say that people are killing babies. If that was what was happening, I'm sure that we should put an end to it. But, you know, that's just not really the case."

In a statement provided to *The Ithacan*, Ithaca College Republicans endorsed the position that Alito took in the draft decision.

"We hope these changes will result in the conservation of countless innocent human

lives otherwise scheduled for slaughter," the statement said.

The organization also condemned Politico's decision to leak the documents and labeled it as an act of intimidation in an attempt to force the justices into changing their position.

"Life is the single most precious gift given to us by our Creator, and every institution of government has a sacred duty to protect it," the statement said.

Thompson said that while she is hopeful that young people will be educated on the issue, she believes the discussion around abortion rights should already be settled.

"This is something that our grandmothers won for us," Thompson said. "This is something we shouldn't have to worry about. People don't get abortions for fun. People get abortions because they need them."

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Faculty Council talks benefit cuts

BY OLIVIA STANZL

The Ithaca College Faculty Council met May 3 for its final meeting of Spring 2022 to discuss employee benefits, elect the executive committee for the 2022–23 academic year, confer degrees and meet with President La Jerne Cornish.

Members of the council were able to share their concerns and questions about the changes made to their dental plan that was enacted this year, elected the executive committee and hold an executive session for about an hour.

Hayley Harris, vice president in the Office of Human Resources and Planning, presented on the changes made to the college's dental plan for 2022.

The college's Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee (FSBC), Harris' benefits team and partners like Aetna, a managed healthcare company, and the National Financial Partners Corporation, an insurance company, consult the Office of Human Resources on decisions regarding benefits.

Harris said that at the end of Spring 2021, her team and partners recommended that the college reduce certain coverages for network dentists by 10%.

The college also changed the amount it was reimbursing employees for using services outside of the network.

Harris said that while salary is the largest portion of the



Photo taken in 2017. At its May 3 meeting, the Ithaca College Faculty Council discussed changes made to the college's faculty and staff dental plan for Fall 2022, resulting in cuts.

Office of Human Resources budget - at 50% - faculty benefits are second at 15%.

In an email sent to the college's faculty and staff March 25 that was obtained by *The Ithacan*, Harris said the prior structure of dental benefits was not a good use of the college's resources.

According to Harris' presentation, the components of the benefits budget include \$12.5 million for medical plans, \$1.2 million for dental, vision, life, accident and long-term disability insurance; \$5 million for the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, \$3 million for tuition remission, and the remainder include benefits like flu shots, unemployment and workers compensation.

Harris said that after making the changes for the dental plan, the reimbursement amounts for out-of-network services aligned with reimbursements for the in-network services. She said what the out-of-network dentists were charging was significant.

Charis Dimaras, professor

in the Department of Music Performance, said it is difficult for the college to run smoothly day-to-day if professors are out sick for dental related issues because they were unable to get the care they needed.

"If you're sick, or if you're faltering, or if you can't eat and if you can't teach, then I don't think you're very worried about what will happen in your retirement in 30 years," Dimaras said.

> CONTACT OLIVIA STANZL OSTANZL@ITHACA.EDU

SGC announces election results

BY LORIEN TYNE

The Ithaca College student body has elected IC United and seven senators to the Student Governance Council (SGC) for the 2022–23 academic year.

The polling period was open April 28 and 29. The student body elected senators to seven out of 25 senate positions. The remaining positions, as well as the Class of 2026 senator position, will be open to run for during the Fall 2022 elections.

IC United was the only slate that ran for the executive board and has been elected.

Junior Grace Madeya will be the new president of the student body, junior Soumyaa Joshi will be vice president of campus affairs, junior Tessa Kurtz will be vice president of academic affairs, junior Maxwell Powers will be returning as vice president of business and finance and sophomore James Zampetti will be returning as vice president of communications.

Sophomore Nick Viggiani will be returning as a Class of 2024 senator. Junior Himadri Seth will be returning as the international senator. Junior Maya Scriven will represent one of five available positions for senator-at-large. Freshmen Hannah Ahmed and Noah Richardson ran unopposed for the two Class of 2025 senator positions and were both elected. Junior Harley Grossman is returning as the School of Humanities and Sciences senator.

Sophomore Alexa Rahman will be the senator for the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. The second candidate, freshman Vincent Tavernese — the current senator — gave a platform presentation but had to drop out of the race.

CONTACT LORIEN TYNE LTYNE@ITHACA.EDU

SGC discusses plans for Fall 2022 at final meeting

BY LORIEN TYNE

During Spring 2022, the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) passed just one bill, but at its May 2 meeting, discussed its goals for Fall 2022, which do not center around bills.

The SGC appointed junior Lila Weiser to chief of staff and junior Austin Ruffino was the only candidate who ran for senate chair. Ruffino held the position of senate chair for the 2021–22 academic year. Both of these positions are separate from the SGC elections because they are internally appointed by the elected senate and executive board. As part of the internal election, Ruffino answered questions about student engagement and the president unfilled and to delegate the president's responsibilities instead. So far this spring semester, the SGC has passed one bill, called the All-Gender Bathroom Bill, which proposes adding at least one gender-neutral bathroom to all academic buildings.

Ruffino said that because bills are so often passed over by the college, the SGC has been focusing on building relationships with campus partners.

"Asking for things becomes a lot easier rather than reading a big scary bill like we're trying to attack someone," Ruffino said. "Those are things that don't need bills but have the potential to make a lot more positive change. So I'm less focused on the number of bills and specifically what those



quantity of bills passed in Spring 2022.

The Ithacan asked Ruffino why the SGC passed so many fewer bills than the year before and what he would like to do to increase productivity.

"The main thing I would attribute [fewer bills] to is focusing on still doing work but recognizing that bills aren't always the most effective way to do that," Ruffino said. "So, if you take a look at the bills we passed last year — half of which I wrote — most of them were just like tiny little amendments and little bills that we would send off and then whoever we sent it to, would say no, and then that would kind of be the end of it."

In the 2020–21 academic year, the SGC passed 45 bills. The SGC passed four bills during Fall 2021, two of which were during former President junior Deontae Guy's time in office. Guy was elected to serve throughout the 2021–22 academic year but resigned from the position in November 2021. Afterward, SGC decided to leave the position of

bills are doing."

During the spring semester, the SGC hosted staff and faculty members to speak at each of its weekly meetings. The executive board and senate would use the meeting as an opportunity to ask questions toward the guests' area of responsibility at the college and discuss how the SGC could provide support.

Sophomore James Zampetti, vice president of communications, asked Ruffino how he plans to improve student engagement. During Spring 2022, eight of 25 senator positions were filled and so far just seven senators have assumed their positions for the 2022–23 academic year.

"I think it's no secret that senator engagement was a bit low last semester and we didn't have much retention," Zampetti said. "How do you plan to shift that to kind of increase membership?"

Ruffino said one way he already worked to make the SGC more accessible to students is by increasing flexibility for senators with



In an internal election May 2, the Student Governance Council appointed junior Lila Weiser to chief of staff and junior Austin Ruffino ran for senate chair unopposed.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

committee requirements. All senators were required to be on two committees, but because some committees had larger time commitments than others, Ruffino said the requirement was changed to be more based on overall engagement.

"If you don't have enough people, they get overworked so they have to leave [SGC] and then that's sort of a cycle and it's very hard to break," Ruffino said. "We just want to make sure we are giving each individual senator the freedom to serve their community as they think is best fit."

Engagement within the student body regarding elections has been another concern in recent years. A total of 122 student voters participated in the SGC election out of 4,886 students — according to the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research — which is 2.4% of students. In the 2018–19 academic year, 1.1% of students voted, 7.7% voted in the 2017–18 and 2016–17 academic years and about 18.9% in the 2015–16 academic year.

President junior Grace Madeya said she is looking forward to beginning Fall 2022 with the new group of SGC members.

"I know IC United is really looking forward to focusing on strengthening our community, getting more communication, being more visible with students and really improving academic accessibility on campus," Madeya said.

> CONTACT LORIEN TYNE LTYNE@ITHACA.EDU

COLLEGE BRIEFS

ICC Astronomy course offered online during summer session

The course, called Stars, Galaxies and the Universe (ASTR 17500), is being offered during the May summer session. The introductory course will be held asynchronously online and satisfies the Natural Sciences perspective for the Integrative Core Curriculum in the Inquiry, Imagination and Innovation and Identities themes.

Those with questions can contact Luke Keller, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, at lkeller@ithaca.edu.

Course offers community service and credit course in Fall 2022

The Graphic Novel Advisory Board is being offered once a week in Fall 2022. Students will earn 1.5 credits and have community service opportunities.

The course includes reading and reviewing graphic novels, running literacy-based community programs and giving presentations on special topics and innovations in comics.

The course will be offered from 10:50 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. Thursdays and individuals with questions can contact Katharine Kittredge, professor in the Department of English, at kkittredge@ithaca.edu.

College hosts annual brunch May 7 for community members

The Annual IC Community Brunch will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 7 in the Campus Center Dining Hall.

The meal is free to all community members with an Ithaca College ID card regardless of whether or not they have a purchased meal plan. Individuals should bring their college ID to check into the event.

Research study is recruiting people with Parkinson Disease

Physical therapists at Ithaca College are conducting a research study on the impact of telehealth exercise courses on people with idiopathic Parkinson disease.

Participants must be diagnosed with idiopathic Parkinson disease, be capable of walking safely without help, be vaccinated against COVID-19 and have access to a device that will host Zoom.

Participants will receive eight weeks of

exercise instruction via Zoom and sessions will be held for one hour twice per week. Before and after the program, participants will be tested at the college to assess their balance, coordination, walking and endurance.

Individuals with questions or looking for information about the program can contact Sarah Fishel, associate professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, at pdresearch@ithaca.edu.

Club matches donations made to local Habitat for Humanity

The Ithaca College chapter of Habitat for Humanity is matching donations made by members of the college community to the Habitat for Humanity of Tompkins and Cortland Counties.

The nonprofit organization raises money to create affordable housing for families in need. People who donate can send a screenshot of the donation to ithacah4h@ gmail.com to have their donations matched.

Interim dean receives award for upcoming academic year

Alka Bramhandkar, interim dean for the School of Business, was awarded by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Program as a Fulbright U.S. Scholar for the 2022–23 academic year.

Bramhandkar is the third professor from the School of Business to receive the distinction in recent years. Bramhandkar said with this honor, she will develop and deliver a course in sustainable business management at the Universidad Del Desarrollo in Santiago, Chile.

College offers Simpsons course online during the May session

The course, called Communication, Culture and Rhetoric (CMST 12000), gives students the opportunity to investigate the rhetoric of "The Simpsons" by watching the show.

Students will be able to learn how the cartoon addresses important issues including consumerism, sexuality, politics and inequality.

The course fulfills credit requirements for the Integrative Core Curriculum in the Self and Society theme.

Terraces Tie-Dye event on May 7 open to the campus community Terrific Tie Dye in Terraces will be held



Human pyramid takes on the quads

Members of Ithaca College Circus Club (ICircus) perform at the Fairy Tales End of the Year Circus Showcase held at 4 p.m. May 1 on the Campus Center quad. ICircus creates a relaxed environment for community members to do circus arts. ANA MANIACI MCGOUGHW/THE ITHACAN

from 2 to 4 p.m. May 7 in the lounge on the second floor of Terrace 5 to give campus residents a safe and substance-free activity over the weekend.

The event will have tie-dye materials, music and food for free, but community members are also encouraged to bring their own items to tie-dve.

Students who would like a t-shirt to dye should RSVP to the event on Engage. Students with questions or requesting accommodations can contact junior Jenna Gaglione at jgaglione@ithaca.edu.

Student volunteers requested for IC Bigs Saturday Program

The Ithaca College Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) club is partnering with the Tompkins County BBBS chapter May 7 to support children waiting to be matched with mentors through the program.

Volunteers will be transported to the Ithaca Youth Bureau to spend time with local children doing planned activities. People interested in volunteering should contact the club at ithacabigs@gmail.com.

Center for IDEAS hosts awards ceremony for students of color

The Seniors of Color Leadership Awards ceremony will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. May 21.

The Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change (IDEAS) will award graduating seniors based on involvement, academics and service.

The event will be held in Ford Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music. There will also be a livestream available. Individuals with questions can contact the Center for IDEAS at ideas@ithaca.edu.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG SELECTED ENTRIES FROM APRIL 18 TO APRIL 24

APRIL 18

ACCIDENTAL FIRE ALARM

LOCATION: 111 College Circle SUMMARY: Simplex reported that a fire alarm went off. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) reported that the alarm was activated by burnt food. Charlie Sherman, fire and building safety coordinator for EH&S, responded to the scene.

unknown group of people were making alarming threats and statements on a social media platform. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/ NO DEGREE

LOCATION: 151 Tower Skyline Drive

accidental. Sergeant John Elmore responded to the scene.

APRIL 21

SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS

LOCATION: 143 Tower Skyline Drive

reported one student was referred for failing to leave a building during a fire drill. Charlie Sherman, fire and building safety coordinator for EH&S, responded.

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

LOCATION: Grant Egbert Blvd.

information for a vehicle involved in an accident off campus. Security Officer Jimmy Martinez responded.

APRIL 24

PETIT LARCENY UNDER \$50 LOCATION: 113 Campus Center Way

CRIMINAL TAMPERING/ THIRD DEGREE

LOCATION: 406 Grant Egbert Blvd. SUMMARY: During a fire drill, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) reported a smoke detector was covered with a bag. One person was referred to the Office of Student Conduct for criminal tampering. Charlie Sherman, fire and building safety coordinator for EH&S, responded.

APRIL 19

AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT/ SECOND DEGREE

LOCATION: All other/other SUMMARY: A person reported an SUMMARY: Caller reported a known person made unwanted sexual advances. Master Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

APRIL 20

ACCIDENTAL FIRE ALARM

LOCATION: 146 Conservatory Drive SUMMARY: Simplex reported that a fire alarm had been set off. An officer reported that the alarm activation was accidental and caused by steam. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded to the scene.

FIRE ALARM/ **UNDETERMINED CAUSE**

LOCATION: 116 Flora Brown Drive SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the cause for the alarm was unknown but was able to determine the alarm was

SUMMARY: Caller reported three people vomiting in a bathroom. Officer reported the people were ill due to ingestion of edible marijuana. All people declined medical assistance. Patrol Officer Bruce Hall referred three students to the Office of Student Conduct.

WELFARE CHECK

LOCATION: 123 Tower Skyline Drive SUMMARY: Caller requested a welfare check for person who was upset and unable to attend class. Officer reported person is not a threat to self or others. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded to the call.

APRIL 22

SCC FIRE SAFETY RELATED OFFENSES

LOCATION: 110 Flora Brown Drive SUMMARY: The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) SUMMARY: Officer reported the driver of a vehicle was acting suspicious. A vehicle identification check showed the vehicle plate was previously reported as stolen. The officer made contact with the owner and verified vehicle information. Sergeant John Elmore responded.

APRIL 23

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

LOCATION: 116 Flora Brown Drive SUMMARY: Patrol Officer Bruce Hall reported an unattended Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit bus. Hall reported attempts to contact supervisor were unsuccessful.

ASSIST ITHACA POLICE DEPARTMENT

LOCATION: 122 Farm Pond Rd SUMMARY: Ithaca police requested SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person cut a lock and stole beverages. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded to the scene.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF FOURTH DEGREE

LOCATION: 286 Lyceum Drive SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person damaged the door of a washing machine. Sergeant Don Lyke responded to the call.

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

KEY

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

OPINION

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022





JAKE-CLARK. TUMBLR

7

"DAILY STRUGGLE" BY JAKE CLARK

EDITORIAL

Overturning Roe v. Wade will have serious impacts

n Monday night, an unprecedented Politico leak of a draft opinion indicating that the United States Supreme Court has voted to overturn

Roe v. Wade - undoing nearly 50 years of access to abortion as a constitutional right continues to usher in a wave of responses and reactions.

Twitter recorded some of the nation's first reactions to the news. Comedian, writer and actress Tocarra Mallard tweeted at 9:29 p.m., "Forced birth in a country with the highest maternal mortality rate, no paid maternity leave, no universal, subsidized child care, no continued birth parent care and frequently inaccessible mental health care."

the ground making their response known as the debate of "pro-choice vs. pro-life" resurfaced as a main topic of discussion on college campuses.

In Ithaca, the community rallied in support of abortion, vehemently opposing a forebording future of regression and illegal abortions. At the protest, it was made clear that we are indeed a lucky campus community because Ithaca College is located in New York — a state protected by the Reproductive Health Act, which permits abortions after 24 weeks and places the decision of when a woman's life or health is at risk in the hands of doctors rather than the government.

This means we will be seeing an influx of people traveling to New York to seek abor-Antiabortion activists tweeted under tion care because at least 23 states have laws or policies in place that could restrict or ban abortion if Roe v. Wade is overturned. Post-Roe in states that do not explicitly secure or protect the right to legal abortions would mean trigger laws would immediately go into effect.

popularity, represent in unprotected states.

"They express a legislative intent to ban all or most abortions as soon as it's legally and constitutionally possible to do so," Ziegler said to PBS.

However, it is only those who have access to resources needed to travel and seek treatment that will be afforded proper healthcare. The Supreme Court's expected ruling would specifically affect people in Southern and Midwestern states who lack the means to travel to other states: family responsibilities, housing, work situations and access to transportation are oftening binding factors that must be considered.

Abortion is not just a gender issue, it's a class issue too. Historically, it affects those with the fewest resources — the poor, young. Black, trans-identifying and Appalachian people. Antiabortion laws are a crushing blow for equity. Which brings into question the response issued by Ithaca College Republicans to The Ithacan praising Justice Alito's opinion to overturn Roe v. Wade.

conservation of countless innocent human lives otherwise scheduled for slaughter... Life is the single most precious gift given to us by our Creator, and every institution of government has a sacred duty to protect it."

This statement was received hours after students and community members gathered on The Commons, collectively standing in pro-choice solidarity, chanting "Not the church, not the state, people must decide their fate."

The Ithaca College Republicans statement is misguided and ill-informed. If Roe v. Wade is struck down, abortions will not end; safe abortions will end. Those who find themselves with an unwanted pregnancy will seek out alternatives to a medical abortion - they will resort to illicit markets or even perform abortions on themselves - all of which can lead to mismanaged procedures and serious health issues. Putting countless people's lives at risk is far from pro-life. Ithaca College Republicans fail to see that our future is not inevitable - the future is being constructed deliberately, as we speak. This is a fight that has been won before, and it is a fight we must win again.

hashtags of #ProLife and #ProLifeGeneration, making demands to "choose life" and #ProtectTheUnborn.

The day after the leak, a shift in attitude had occurred and a sense of urgency in cities across the country dispelled. While social media sustained tension, activists took to the streets. Demonstrators on both sides of the abortion issue found themselves on

Mary Ziegler, a law professor at Florida State University, explains what these so-called trigger laws, which are gaining

"This reconsideration is long overdue ... We hope these changes will result in the

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

ALL LETTERS MUST:

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

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

ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

- Convey a clear message
- Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject
- Be between 500–650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor

GUEST COMMENTARY



BETWEEN THE SHEETS DAD E. LONG LEGS

Going on a trip to self-discovery

My first experience with psychedelics came at a unique time. It was about one month after a short-lived relationship came to a painful end and just weeks after a new relationship had begun. At the same time, the pandemic — which had put me and many other single people in a years-long vacuum of dating opportunities — had begun to fade but had changed my career goals.

So, by November 2021, I was ready for the deeper perspective that people close to me told me mushrooms could provide. So, with three close friends, I did four grams of psilocybin mushrooms, which is a considerable amount for a first trip, given the recommended size for a first dose is between 1–2 grams. I tripped with an open mind, but six months later, I realized that I was looking for answers to questions about the purpose of sex and romance. Trying to describe the experience would be ineffectual and, to a certain extent, impossible. However, I can describe the effect that it has had on me since.

Ever since I was a young boy, I have always been a romantic. While life experiences, puberty and time have changed my exoskeleton, the deepest part of me has always been a staunch believer in romance — to love and to be loved.

What I felt when I did psychedelics did nothing but affirm the place of romantic love in my life. However, it changed my relationship with sex. Prior to my first trip, I thought of sex as the way to express romantic love. What I realized in the months that followed: sex is an expression of love. And romance is just one of many forms of love that can be expressed through sex. Since taking mushrooms, sex to me has become a way to share love with a friend, a romantic partner or something in between.

 $Additionally, I now find \, myself \, consistently$ disappointed by the way straight men around me view sex as a means for satisfying their urges - and women as the way to get them there. While I do not necessarily consider being straight a prescriptive way to characterize my sexual identity, I have been attracted to women my whole life. For me, all it took to understand my relationship with sex was a heavy dose of mushrooms. However, for many people, their path to understanding sex can take an entire lifetime, if they are fortunate enough to understand it at all. Psychedelics taught me about the purpose of sex. However, the lessons that psychedelics can offer differ person to person, which is why it makes me happy that they are slowly being accepted as a safe therapeutic and recreational drug. This is not to say psychedelics are for everyone. In the final hours of the trip, I experienced fear and grief and felt death like never before. Having three trustworthy friends by my side helped keep me safe and sane. By the time the experience had fully settled, what mushrooms taught me about sex, love and romance - among a grab bag of other things — is something I will never forget.

Abuses of power cannot be rewarded

GUEST COMMENTARY

BY IC OPEN THE BOOKS AND IC ALUMNI AGAINST AUSTERITY

Luvelle Brown has been a member of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees since 2018 and has been superintendent of the Ithaca City School District (ICSD) since 2011. He has also allegedly abused his son and misused his power as superintendent. His term on the board ends May 31, 2022, but he may

As a community, we cannot allow Brown to be reelected.

-IC Open the Books and IC

Alumni Against Austerity

be reelected for up to two additional three-year terms according to the board of trustees' bylaws. As a community, we cannot allow Brown to be reelected for any additional terms on our board of trustees, and the larger Ithaca community should strongly reconsider his position as superintendent of ICSD.

The board of trustees and the

ITHACA COLLEGE: SAY NO TO LUVELLE BROWN RE-ELECTION

IC Open the Books and IC Alumni Against Austerity are organizations that formed in opposition to the Academic Program Prioritization process. Collectively they voice concerns about the board of trustees. COURTESY OF STELLA RIVERA

Senior Leadership Team have enabled individuals with a history of abuse and have routinely put these individuals in positions of power at our institution. Whether they be presidents, members of the board or students carrying out abuses, the college has a pattern of protecting abusers rather than survivors of said abuse.

IC Alumni Against Austerity and IC Open the Books have been working to make the college community aware of Brown's alleged abuse and demanding his resignation. In February 2022, the groups worked together to create a petition demanding that Brown step down from his position as trustee. It has received 304 signatures as of April 27.

It is time for Ithaca College leadership to stop enabling and rewarding people who abuse their positions of power. If those in power at this institution fail to address the abuses committed by Brown, it sends the message that abuse is acceptable at any level. Now is the time for it to end. In order to finally begin protecting survivors instead of their abusers, the college must take steps to hold Brown accountable and end the culture of abuse the college has been perpetuating.

We demand that the board of trustees are fully transparent when making the decision about Brown's reelection and they inform the campus community of their decision once it is made.

IC OPEN THE BOOKS AND IC ALUMNI AGAINST AUSTERITY are coalitions at Ithaca College. Contact them at icalumniagainstausterity@gmail.com and studentsforlaboraction@gmail.com.

Trans and queer stories are vital to sex-ed

GUEST COMMENTARY

BY ANNIE PENA-CASTELLANOS

During my teen years, I wondered if other people were questioning their own gender and sexual identity too. Was I crazy?

Throughout the 2021-22 academic year, I devoted myself to looking into sex education and how it's taught throughout social institutions like school, religion and the home. I found a trend wherein these social institutions did teach sex education but in a very heteronormative way. I wanted to know how queer and trans people experienced sex education while growing up and questioning their own identities. I interviewed eight nonbinary/trans people who were able to reflect and talk about their experiences within these institutions while learning such a heteronormative curriculum. By the end of these interviews, they had all answered my question: no. I wasn't crazy. They also taught me all the other issues that come up when other identities aren't being represented in an accurate way. Many trans and queer people are very much left in the dust when it comes to understanding or knowing what resources are available to them. During sex education courses, it is expected that people will be having sexual relationships with people of the opposite gender — but that isn't the case for everyone. Many teens and young adults have been coming out and starting to identify as transgender or queer in the most recent years. So when all they learn about is penis and vaginal penetrative sex in school or are exposed to depictions of heterosexual relationships in school or media, they feel like they have to identify as cisgender or heterosexual because that is the only information that is easily accessible to them.



Senior Annie Pena-Castellanos has been conducting an independent study on trans-identifying people and their experiences with sexual education since Fall 2021 — they share their findings.

BETWEEN THE SHEETS is an anonymous sex column of stories from Ithaca College students. Contact *The Ithacan* at ithacan@ithaca.edu.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

This creates not only individual issues, but serves as a public health issue among the LGBTQ+ youth for many reasons: they won't know what resources they can use within same-sex relationships to ensure that they protect themselves or their partner(s) or even where they can access these resources safely without feeling judged for their identity. This can also make it hard for people to understand consent and the importance of giving and receiving consent before engaging in sexual relationships with their partner(s).

It can also unknowingly promote homophobia and transphobia. Since students who do identify within the binary have very little exposure, they will tend to have a narrow way of viewing their peers who don't, which ends up harming queer teens since they have the potential to internalize that homophobia or transphobia. This internalization can appear as making decisions that seem unsafe or harmful to themselves, like going on dating websites at a very young age or not understanding when a relationship is inappropriate or borderline abusive.

This study wasn't only conducted to help me get my questions answered, but to bring the inequalities to light, like not having the information to make informed decisions on their bodies and their relationships. Although there have been active efforts by administration and teachers, there has also been a huge pushback on trans and queer conversations. This topic has been researched many times in hopes of seeing the perspectives of queer and trans folks in order to make advancements toward a more inclusive society. But in order to see the change, people have to keep fighting the battle to normalize these queer experiences.

ANNIE PENA-CASTELLANOS (they/them/theirs) is a senior sociology major. Contact them at apenacastellanos@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

IC harms survivors by not holding abusers accountable

BY ALEXIS MANORE

This year, The Ithacan has focused its reporting on accountability. Throughout the semester, the staff and editors have dedicated hours to reporting, writing and editing stories about the abuses that go unchecked at Ithaca College.

The Ithacan has written about Luvelle Brown, a member of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees who has committed abuses of power; Student Financial Services, which has been lacking in its communication with - and support for - students; the Sports Media program, which has neglected to support the few women in the program; and the structures that allow for students to get away with committing acts of sexual violence.

While some of the groups that The Ithacan reported on have worked to make changes and to improve for the students' sake, the majority have continued to allow for the injustices to continue. While I understand that change, especially systemic change, cannot be made in a day, it seems as if no effort to improve or reform has been made at all – especially regarding Brown's position on the board of trustees and the issues that students voiced with the Title IX office.

As a survivor of both sexual harassment and sexual assault, it has been extremely disheartening to see how the college has supported and enabled abusers and offered minimal support to survivors.

The fact that Brown, the superintendent of the Ithaca City School District and member of the board of trustees, has been allowed to retain his position of power despite credible allegations that he abused his child and misused his power as superintendent serves as an example to students that members of the college community can get away with committing abuses without consequence. This lack of accountability is dangerous - it is normalizing violence and abuse.

How are survivors like myself supposed to feel safe on a campus that clearly does not hold abusers accountable? This knowledge is the reason why many never report their experiences with assault to the college. I applaud the courage of those who do report to Title IX, but I have heard more instances of investigations finding the accused innocent than the accuser winning their case. This leaves survivors powerless and even more traumatized than they already were.

The Title IX office has its own limitations; there is only so much



for Counseling and Psychological Services and the Hammond Health Center to provide prompt and effective support to survivors, it is on the college to make its campus a place where abusers are held accountable and a place where do not care about their students.

One way that Ithaca College can prove that it does not support abusers is by not reelecting Brown to the board of trustees. Brown's first term on the board ends May 31, and he could be reelected for up to two additional three-year terms as per the board of trustees' bylaws. If Brown is reelected, it will be clear that those in power at the college

The college needs to be a safe place for all of its students. It is an unfortunate reality that sexual violence will continue to occur, but the best that the college can do is to provide effective support for its students and make it clear that it does not tolerate abusers.

ABBY BRADY/THE ITHACAN

ALEXIS MANORE (she/her) is a senior and the editor in chief for The Ithacan. Contact her at amanore@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

In these times, imagining potential futures is necessary

BY ZAHRA SANDHU

We are living in times of war, pestilence, death, government bans on our bodies and expectations to either match or succeed the productivity of economic exponential growth.

When our bodies no longer operate as bodies but rather as vessels moving through the delusions of the everyday, how are we expected to live without acknowledging the despair constantly demanding our attention, continually shocking our bodies awake?

Why do some have to fight a war in order for us to live? Why must poverty mean our economy is working?

We can say it's the luck of the draw, the lottery of birth. But that doesn't tell what this inventory is.

- Gramsci begs the questions:
- What are these traces? Who and what is stabbing at me?
- Who and what is it I am stabbing at? Who and what stabbed those stabbing
- at me?

"

Why must poverty mean our economy is working? We can say it's the luck of the draw, the lottery of birth.



us anything.

Life in the midst of death is hard to reconcile. But we can try.

I turn to the tangible when faced with the existential: art, writing, theory and music are not clichés when searching for an understanding - to find a pattern in the disorder of today.

Decoding the patterns of each historical moment we are forced to live through and the ones that have come before us is an unveiling of the fragmented human before it can make us whole. Antonio Gramsci, in his Prison Notebooks (1929-1935) makes this point: "The starting-point of critical elaboration is the consciousness of what one really is, and is 'knowing thyself' as a product of the historical processes to date, which has deposited in you an infinity of traces, without leaving an inventory ... therefore it is imperative at the outset to compile such an inventory."

And life is little more than figuring out

But that doesn't tell us anything.

- Zahra Sandhu

We have been recruited to fight wars that we don't know we are fighting. One way we can start understanding today is by looking back to yesterday.

Once we gaze into the past, we start combating an erasure of history and imagining a tomorrow; we start to see where an individual's freedom is accessed. I think of this as the process of undoing, and in this we are tasked in not forgetting.

I come up against the same questions of battling futures in Thucydides' "Melian Dialogue." The Melians refuse to join the Athenian empire. In urgency, the Athenians Senior Zahra Sandhu, opinion editor for The Ithacan, reflects on the realities of today and how it is helpful to factor the past into the present while moving toward an informed future.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

attempt a persuasive conversation of submission. The Athenian's claim that 1. justice only applies when the opposing parties are equal and 2. when there is an inequality of power, justice is irrelevant and only power matters. The Melians see their options as either war or slavery, and their motto might suggest "Live Free or Die."

Jose Muñoz's seminal text "Cruising Utopia: The Then and There of Queer Futurity" (2009) suggests a way forward: "To participate in such an endeavor is not to imagine an isolated future for the individual but instead to participate in a hermeneutic that wishes to describe a collective futurity, a notion of futurity that functions as a historical materialist critique."

Muñoz recognizes that freedom is potential itself.

History shows that birds must fly, hunter-gatherers must move, and modernity must invest. The next step is for the imagination to imagine: the potential to imagine liberation and not assimilate to the hard edges of the definitions we are allowed. When the collective pushes for utopian possibility, freedom in today is found.

In times of overwhelming despair, we must try to reimagine life in the midst of death.

ZAHRA SANDHU (she/her) is a senior and the Opinion Editor for The Ithacan. Contact her at zsandhu@ithaca.edu.

PERRY



Saturday June 18 Suppose Suppose

DJ DOUBLE TIGER

TRIBUTE

LIFE & CULTURE

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

IC dance group presents vibrant "Escape to the Islands" showcase



April 30, the Island Fusion Dance Team held its end of the year showcase "Escape to the Islands" in the Emerson Suites. Since the beginning of COVID-19, this was the first showcase for many veteran members of the team. The team performed 20 original hiphop, Caribbean, Spanish and Afrobeat dance numbers.

BY MIKE ROSS

Crystal-clear waters reveal a group of friends enjoying a sunny paradise. From the tranquility comes scenes of intensity and drama as the same friends fight one another. The cinematic trailer for "Escape to the Islands" has already been seen by 1,155 people online, and as the trailer's music boomed across the Emerson Suites, the wait for the showcase was over.

The Island Fusion Dance Team held its annual showcase "Escape to the Islands" April 30. The group performed 20 originally-choreographed dance numbers it had practiced throughout the year. The Island Fusion Dance Team, founded in 2014, is Ithaca College's first and only Afro-Caribbean dance team. Despite the focus on Afro-Caribbean music, the group also performs hip-hop and Spanish dances.

Senior Malaika Dacelus is the co-president of Island Fusion with senior Ariagnna Abreu-Garcia. In 2019, Dacelus's sophomore and junior showcases were all canceled because of COVID-19, making "Escape to the Islands" her very first.

Dacelus said her initial interest in joining the group stemmed from watching her friends perform, as well as her history as a cheerleader in high school.

"I had a couple of friends on the team in Fall 2018, so I went to their showcase and absolutely loved the show," Dacelus said. "They had great energy, and their moves

the team's executive board.

"Along with being co-president, I'm also the official choreographer of Island Fusion," Dacelus said. "Being a senior, I didn't have time to make all of the dances we had. Luckily, my [executive board] was great enough to choreograph dances with the songs they pitched, which I really appreciate."

Sophomore Nour Elshikh said he had the opportunity to choreograph a hip hop style dance number for the showcase to Kendrick Lamar's 2012 hit "m.A.A.d city." The performance was the show's opener, and saw two teams of dancers challenging one another, reminiscent of the first "Escape to the Islands" trailer.

"Choreographing 'm.A.A.d City' has to be one of the hardest things I've ever done," Elshikh said. "Even though I was inspired while making the dance, I ended up stuck at some points and didn't know what to do. I have choreographed before, but not to this extent where I would perform the dance in front of a large audience. I'm just glad everything turned out great."

"Escape to the Islands" was performed in order of genre, split up by guest performances and a 15-minute intermission. The genre sections of the show included hip-hop, Caribbean, Spanish and Afrobeat, as well as a "sexy" section which used songs from different genres. Guest performances included Ithacapella, Premium Blend, Katalyst and others.

was choreographed by multiple members of members between acts, introducing each section of the showcase and guest performer.

> Dacelus said that Island Fusion had practice for three to four hours a day for 14 days straight leading up to the night of the showcase.

"Finally being able to share what we have been working on was very bittersweet for me," Dacelus said. "Island Fusion has been through so much this year, but we all pushed through and our end product is so amazing and creative."

Sophomore Viviana Morales said she joined Island Fusion in February 2022 after being persuaded by friends who were already on the team. She said being a part of the team quickly became an exciting way for her to ease the tension of her student life.

Elshikh said the show's theme stemmed from a change in perspective which led team members to prioritize their ideas, regardless of the critical opinions of others.

XIAOYI ZHANG/THE ITHACAN

"At first, we wanted to come up with an idea that could really make a name for ourselves," Elshikh said. "We later realized that we shouldn't worry about others and that we should focus on ourselves and what we want to represent. Escaping to the islands shows people we're focused on getting to our roots and freeing ourselves from the prison of what others think we should be.

Island Fusion reached out to content producer junior Steven Howard Jr. about creating the videos for the team.

Howard said Island Fusion worked effi-"Joining Island Fusion helped me escape ciently on the trailers and paid attention to



were incredible to watch.

While the group's co-presidents led and oversaw preparations and performance ideas for the show, "Escape to the Islands'

Ithaca College junior Shevori Gene and Cornell University senior Jair Myree hosted the event. The two hosts engaged the crowd with skits and fun facts about the team



presidents this year, the entire team had major roles in choreographing the event. XIAOYI ZHANG/THE ITHACAN

IC's Katalyst K-Pop Dance Company shared the stage with Island Fusion during its showcase as guests. Island Fusion will perform at Katalyst's showcase May 6. XIAOYI ZHANG/THE ITHACAN

from the stress of classes and bond with people who might feel the same," Morales said. "It helped me reach a side of myself that I never thought was within my limits. Being a part of the team this year was really eye opening."

As promotion for the event, Island Fusion posted three short cinematic trailers on its Instagram account.

The trailers set up a cohesive plot that continues into the showcase, in which a group of prisoners and police officers connect through dance and, as the show's title suggests, flee to an island paradise.

"Our team manager Jaevon Williams thought of a prison break theme, we went with that and put an Island Fusion twist on it," Dacelus said.

detail in order to bring their theme to life. "We started working on the trailers on April 1, it was a two-day process," Elshikh said. "It was nice, we had to push through the cold, but we were able to complete the

scenes in a total of five to six hours.'

While the group has been working toward the showcase for months, the year isn't over for them yet. Island Fusion will be making a guest appearance at the Katalyst K-Pop dance group's showcase May 6.

"I'm so proud of all the hard work that was put into each dance and all of the energy each dancer came with," Morales said. "I think 'Escape to the Islands' really captured what Island Fusion is all about."

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CULTURED

The Ithacan's recap of current mainstream and alt culture Compiled by M Minton

QUOTE OF WEEK

"My sexuality is really important to me in terms of existing, knowing that I'm important. I'm as important as anyone on the planet."

GOLDA ROSHEUVEL, on being discouraged from publicly coming out as gay by a director.



SPOTLIGHT Tesla CEO nears a deal to buy out Twitter

After Tesla CEO Elon Musk made what The New York Times called an "unsolicited bid to buy Twitter" for \$54.20 a share, Twitter adopted a "poison pill." This barrier was a force of action put in place to stop Musk from claiming shares of their company. However, just under two weeks later, Musk struck a deal to buy Twitter for about \$44 billion. Editorial board member Greg Bensinger called the prospect of Musk's Twitter to be a scary place in an opinion piece he wrote. Female Twitter users, in particular, ought to worry about whether Mr. Musk will bring his apparent disdain for women to the company he is about to own," Bensinger said. The American Civil Liberties Union tweeted online, "We should be worried about any powerful central actor, whether it's a government or any wealthy individual — even if it's an ACLU member — having so much control over the boundaries of our political speech online."



THIS WEEK IN POP **CULTURE HISTORY**

May 4, 1979 "May the Fourth be with You" – or "Star Wars Day" has its roots in England. The term was said to have first been used May 4, 1979, in "The London **England News.**" Margaret Thatcher had just taken



her role as Prime Minister and an advertisement in the paper said "May the Fourth Be with You, Maggie. Congratulations." This was two years after the release of "A New Hope" in 1977.

Since then, the first formally organized event for the unofficial holiday occurred in 2011 in Canada. It has been celebrated by The Walt Disney Company every year since 2013, including special events at their theme parks in California and Florida. As the day began to gain popularity, Lucasfilm took a bigger role in promoting the unofficial holiday by sponsoring events, ultimately reminding audiences of the love they have for the "Star Wars" brand.

May 1, 1941 "Citizen Kane," which is widely considered to be one of the greatest films of all-time, made its feature debut at the well-known **RKO** Palace Theater on May





American public Sept. 5, 1941, and ended up being a failure at the box office despite favorable reviews and nine Oscar nominations. The film won the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay for writers Herman J. Mankiewicz and Orson Welles, but Welles was booed at the ceremony. The film stirred controversy months before its theatrical release for its portrayal of Charles Foster Kane, widely considered to be a condemnation of publishing giant William Randolph Hearst. However, upon re-release of the film years later, "Citizen Kane" began to gain new fans before eventually becoming a staple of film history.

HiFashion Studios makes a return to the runway

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

All eyes are on center stage as the lights dim in Ithaca College's Emerson Suites and the first pair of models walk out in confidence for the HiFashion Studios' runway show. The theme song from "The Nanny" blares through DJ Washburn's speakers as the crowd erupts in cheers.

HiFashion Studios (HFS) hosted its first fashion show in over three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic April 28 in the Emerson Suites. Titled "The Network," the runway brought together looks inspired by four different TV shows: "The Nanny," "Sex and the City," "Saved by the Bell" and "Euphoria." Each show was chosen for its impact on fashion throughout the decades.

HFS is a student organization that simulates the professional and demanding environment of the fashion industry. The organization is split up into different departments: creative, photo, video, events, wardrobe, design, social media, hair and makeup; all of them come together to work on photoshoots and one themed runway show each semester. "The Network" was the organization's first runway show since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For each theme, 21 models walked the runway wearing outfits inspired by each show. From the casual but stylish schoolwear of "Saved by the Bell" to the glitz and glamor of "Euphoria," each look embodied the aesthetics of their respective show – mixing bold fur jackets with pastels and denim.

Chris Washburn '08, better known by his stage name DJ Washburn, spun the familiar theme songs of the shows along with remixes of popular songs, like "God is a Woman" by Ariana Grande and "Wrecking Ball" by Miley Cyrus, to engage the crowd.

For senior Sydney Scheck, president of HFS, she said the experience of putting on her first show was both nerve-wracking and exciting.

Scheck joined the club her freshman year, where she started out on the makeup team — gradually working her way up to her current position.

"It literally felt like I was on a rollercoaster because I was so overwhelmed with so many emotions," Scheck said. "So it was really special to [see] our last show and to see [the crew] do it. ... I'm just really proud of them for pulling it off and doing everything they needed to do."

Between coordinating photoshoots and planning a show, Scheck said managing HFS can get complicated at times. However, Scheck said she is thankful for the team at HFS that helped make the show a success.

"You kind of have to do everything all at once," Scheck said. "That's why the team effort is so important because we literally couldn't do any of it without them or else we'd be drowning in all of this work that gets put in."



Freshman Shina Mitchell walks down the runway April 28 during HiFashion Studios' "The Network" event in the Emerson Suites. Students modeled looks based on shows like "Sex and the City" and "Euphoria." BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN

Senior Chelsea Deegan, vice president of HFS, also said that while the work was tough, seeing the finished product come together made it all worth it.

"Making sure that we had all our models in one place at one time, ready to focus and go [was stressful]," Deegan said. "But then once they all came together and everybody had their focus, it was beautiful watching them all come together."

Senior Ash Schimkus was one of the models in the event — modeling looks from "The Nanny" and "Saved by the Bell."

"I wasn't expecting the crowd to be as responsive," Schimkus said. "It was a really great surprise. ... I didn't really think about it because I was just too nervous that I [was only] thinking about walking. It actually made it a lot easier to have such a big reaction from the crowd."

For Schimkus, who joined HFS this semester, the experience of rehearsing for the show was rewarding.

They said that while the fast-paced rehearsal was intense at

times, it was always a positive environment where the most important thing was to have fun.

"It was extremely liberating to be able to experience that and be joyful," Schimkus said. "I think it was just ... the last step of me adjusting to this transition that I've been through. And I'm very thankful they sent me in, even though I was nervous about walking. Having that [experience] was actually something that I needed, in a way."

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Ithaca prepares for upcoming Pride Week events

BY M MINTON

The Downtown Ithaca Alliance (DIA) will be hosting pride week for the very first time this upcoming summer. As the temperatures rise and the academic school year comes to a close, the DIA is readily preparing for the festivities.

From June 26 to July 3, DIA will be organizing their very first Pride Week. The DIA, founded in 1997, is a non-profit organization in charge of development, promotion, revitalization and management of Downtown Ithaca. According to its website, the DIA's mission is to work towards a more inclusive and representative town by effectively addressing issues that face the community and its surrounding neighborhoods. Pride Week will contain a series of events, including drag performances, dance parties, a documentary screening at Cinemapolis on the anniversary of Stonewall on June 28, 1969, and educational opportunities including a book club launch to discuss gender transition. Participating local vendors include Red Metal Jewelry, Via's Cookies and Sciquatic Arts among many others. Pride Month is a celebration that honors the ongoing battle for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer-identifying individuals. Following the Stonewall riots, gay rights activists proposed the idea of a march. The marches were a series of demonstrations by the LGBTQ+ community - led specifically by trans women of color – responding to a police raid at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village. A year later on June 28, 1970, the first march occurred in New York City, inspiring

other members of the LGBTQ+ community along with allies across the country to also march alongside them.

Gary Ferguson, executive director of the DIA, said the DIA is excited to launch a new initiative of hosting and organizing Pride Week for Downtown Ithaca.

"The Downtown Ithaca Alliance is excited to ... help celebrate Pride Week here in Ithaca and Tompkins County," Ferguson said via email. "This is a great opportunity for both local residents as well as visitors from throughout the northeast wishing to explore and experience our community."

Danny Palmer, assistant director of special events of the DIA, said he is heavily



involved in organizing the Pride events by strengthening community connections and working together with the other team members. Palmer said that while he originally worked with community groups in Rochester, Ithaca is a uniquely passionate and present community.

"The level of community involvement and interaction here and the truly person-based style of festival celebration definitely drew me in," Palmer said.

Pride Week will open June 26 with a virtual author event held on Zoom, featuring local transgender author Elliott Deline, along with an in-person kick off at Buffalo Street Books on the same day.

Deline's books include "Refuse" and "Show Trans," and his essays and excerpts have been featured in The New York Times. Palmer said that Deline's writing is heavily influenced by his own experiences with being transgender.

"[The Downtown Ithaca Alliance] wanted

The Downtown Ithaca Alliance will host Pride Week from June 26 to July 3, with events including drag performances, dance parties and documentary screenings. COURTESY OF MANIC PHOTOGRAPHY

to highlight folks from the [LGBTQ+] community who are producing art and work that depict a wide variety of experiences and explore where we have similarities and where there are differences in experiences," Palmer said. "Elliott's deeply personal storytelling is a great representation of one such perspective of individual experience and powerfully colors his fiction, making it deeply relatable."

Darlene Wilber, communications and grants development director of the DIA, helps to promote the Pride event, develop its external communications strategy and handles media inquiries. Wilber said that since this is the DIA's first Pride event, she hopes the Ithaca community will check out all of the opportunities they have to offer.

"[Our event] stands out because it will provide educational and entertaining opportunities," Wilber said. "Ithaca is diverse and inclusive; we here at the Downtown Ithaca Alliance value and support the [LGBTQ+] community. Organizing and promoting pride is one way to help demonstrate our support of the [LGBTQ+] community."

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Ambitious viking epic falls slightly short

MOVIE REVIEW: "The Northman" Focus Features

BY M MINTON

Robert Eggers' films "The Witch" and "The Lighthouse" are two of the most refreshing horror films in the recent wave of unique and innovative directors taking on the genre. For his third feature, Eggers takes on the viking epic genre with "The Northman," producing mixed results in spite of its ambition.

"The Northman," which is based on the Scandinavian story "Amleth" that went on to inspire Shakespeare's "Hamlet," follows young Prince Amleth (Oscar Novak) as he watches his father be brutally murdered by his uncle and witnesses his mother (Nicole Kidman) get kidnapped. The story then jumps two decades forward in time as Amleth (Alexander Skarsgård) raids Slavic villages as a viking. However, he has not forgotten the trauma of watching his parents vanish in front of his eyes, as he vows to save his mother, kill his uncle and avenge his father. The anger and pain that he feels from his trauma often takes him to violent lengths to keep his vow.

There are many exhilarating sequences in "The Northman" that demonstrate Eggers' craft as a director, helping to situate the audience into the film's setting of 10th century Iceland. The action sequences throughout are gripping to watch, conveying the brutality of the time period perfectly. After the film's inciting incident, there is a terrific long sequence that follows the time jump. The audience sees Amleth raid a village that very closely mirrors Amleth watching his own parents be ripped away from him as a kid.

However, from this sequence all the way until a major plot twist gets revealed toward the end, "The Northman" feels like another basic revenge story and takes its sweet time to tell the viewer why it's not just that. While Eggers' previous work features masterfully slow build-up that helps to create the tone of those films from scene to scene, "The Northman" does not carry that same momentum to keep the audience interested in its 137-minute runtime.

"The Northman" features a strong cast, helping to bring to life the story of the film. Primarily, musician and artist Björk's memorable take on the Seeress Witch and Willem Dafoe's terrifying turn as Heimir the Fool are easily some of the highlights of the whole film. Skarsgård in the lead role does an excellent job, even when his character ends up feeling flatly written. The way that Skarsgård is able to physically convey his character's outward anger at the world and his fixation on his



Alexander Skarsgård takes on the role of a village raider in a beautifully filmed but disappointing Robert Eggers film. COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

vow are stunning to watch.

"The Northman" is certainly an interesting film and one that deserves to be watched in theaters for its craft. However, it cannot decide if it wants to be a traditional revenge story or a more surreal and fantastical story about generational trauma, the final product feeling at times like a confusing hodgepodge of many ideas. Eggers has publicly admitted that there was studio interference, as early test screenings from audiences found an earlier cut of the film to be too confusing to follow. The effects of the studio edit are evident in the final theatrical cut.

Although the film can be appreciated and leaves the viewer with a lot to chew on, perhaps the miracle that such an ambitious epic exists at all is more fascinating than the experience of actually watching it.

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New Future album finds itself stuck far in the past

ALBUM REVIEW: "I NEVER LIKED YOU" Freebandz $\star \star \star \star \star \star \star$

BY NATALIE TRIBIANO

Notorious for his womanizer tendencies and promiscuous lifestyle, Future has established himself as the pinnacle of toxic masculinity. The Grammy Award-winning artist knows exactly what his fans want from him: tracks simmering with his signature toxicity just in time for summer. His most recent project, "I NEVER LIKED YOU," truly delivers great beats, quotable lyrics and a versatile composition, but also proves lackluster at times. When asked what fans should expect from the album, Future told GQ, "I'm putting myself out there. Sharing my lifestyle with the world. Sharing my pain with the world. Sharing my ups, sharing my downs with the entire universe." With a stylistic range different from his other releases, "I NEVER LIKED YOU" does just that. Ranging from slow, emotional croons like "LOVE YOU BETTER" and "BACK TO THE BASICS" to more of his trademarked raunchy bars like "MASSAGING ME" and "GOLD STACKS," Future proves his versatility as an artist while also staying true to the saucy persona his fans know and love. With 16 songs and clocking in at only 48 minutes and 43 seconds, "I NEVER LIKED YOU" lays out Future's past relationships and sexual endeavors. Featuring some big-name artists like Kanye West, Gunna, Kodak Black, Young Thug, Tems and Drake, "I NEVER LIKED YOU" has a few truly notable tracks that are catchy with solid lyrics.

Future opens with the track "712PM" and goes off hard with bars about his world of Mercedes-Benzes and Cartier watches while paying tribute to his criminal past, "Let the door swang, swang the door open, smell cocaine/ Trafficking drug money and trap out this one lane." Kanye absolutely steals the show and stands out on the album with his verse on "KEEP IT BURNIN," rapping with intensity and emotion. The cheeky "FOR A NUT," featuring Gunna and Young Thug, offers some vulgar and quite shocking, almost comical, lyrics from Young Thug about butts and diamonds. This line sparked an array of memes on Twitter, with users ranging from feeling hysterical to disgusted. While the track itself isn't terrible, the cringey hook that Future opts to play on loop makes the piece a bit painful to listen to.



Future drops a familiar album true to his notoriously toxic player persona.



Writers grapple with digital fame

BY MADDY MARTIN

When I was a kid, my favorite authors were names to look up in the library and black-and-white pictures on the jacket of a book. If I was lucky, maybe there would be a Q&A in the back of the book, or I could find a singular interview with them on YouTube. Regardless, if I saw any of my favorite authors in public, I wouldn't be able to recognize them.

Now, almost any author can be found on social media, making daily Twitter or Instagram posts, filming YouTube blogs or even streaming video games on Twitch. Authors are celebrities with faces; social media is the most powerful advertising tool for publishers and book publishing is forever changed.

For the past two years, Brandon Sanderson, author of the popular "Mistborn" series and many other fantasy novels, has posted multiple videos a week on his YouTube channel, primarily focused on promoting his books and giving advice to aspiring authors. Last month he broke the record for the most-funded Kickstarter by raising \$41 million for the publication of four secret books he wrote while in lockdown that his publishers were not expecting to receive.

Like many other celebrities, authors primarily post on social media for marketing purposes to gather more attention for their books and to engage with their audience. Publishers often expect authors to market themselves after making a book deal. After all, if an author has a big audience, then so does the book.

Xiran Jay Zhao is a rising star in the fantasy genre whose debut book, "Iron Widow," made it to the New York Times Best Seller list last year. Zhao worked for eight years to get published, but their novel was not projected to be a big release by publishers. Last year, prior to their book being published, Zhao started a YouTube channel where they posted videos about the portrayal of Chinese culture in the media, and through this, they built up an online presence that propelled their writing career. Due to the support from Zhao's online audience, "Iron Widow" debuted with high sales. As Zhao put it, "I memed my way to the bestseller list," by posting memes and information about their book on Twitter. While social media gave Zhao's writing career a chance to flourish, online spaces have proven to be a double-edged sword for other authors. In a column published on BookRiot, Tirzah Price, author of "The Jane Austen Murder Mysteries," spoke on how many authors are unprepared for the demands of fans on social media and the parasocial relationships they are required to maintain. Price said she has not only had fans ask her personal questions, but one asked for her specific location after she posted a picture taken by a lake and was able to guess a location very close to where she was.

Drake and Future come together for two songs: "I'M ON ONE" and "WAIT FOR U," featuring Tems. The pair rarely misses, and their chemistry in both of the pieces rings true. "WAIT FOR U" also included female Nigerian artist Tems' smooth vocals. Fans of Tems were worried that the beloved artist would become tainted with Future's toxic image and lyricism, but Tems' verses are actually quite clean and melodic. "WAIT FOR U" stands out among the other songs, with pleasing vocals and fluid bars, and is a more emotionally centered debut from Future, with lines like "You pray for my demons girl/ Every time I sip on codeine, I get vulnerable." This reveals a softer side of Future typically absent from his previous drops, toning back on the abrasive toxicity.

The album is exactly what listeners have learned to expect from Future, but it is starting to feel overdone. At 38 years old, how long can he serve this toxic, game-playing, misogynistic character and still be taken seriously? Overall, though, "I NEVER LIKED YOU" is not a bad record. It offers a few replay-worthy tracks and notable bars but also cheesy lyricism and a redundant sound. Future may want to reconsider diverging from his toxic lover-boy script for once in hopes of offering fans something new.

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In many cases, social media has made it so authors aren't just authors. They are streamers, YouTubers and Instagram bloggers.

POPPED CULTURE is a weekly column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Maddy Martin is a senior writing major. Contact her at mmartin5@ithaca edu.

DIVERSIONS THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

crossword

By Quill Driver Books

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last issue's crossword answers



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hard

answers to last issue's sudoku:

easy

OUR

STATUS

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In print every

Thursday

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SPORTS

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022



BY TOMMY MUMAU

During his three seasons with the Ithaca College baseball team, Tim Locastro established himself as a force on the basepaths. Now, he takes the field 227 miles away from South Hill: Yankee Stadium.

Locastro is currently in his sixth season in MLB and his second with the New York Yankees. The outfielder is in the midst of his third stint with the organization after signing with the club as a free agent March 13, 2022. He was traded from the Los Angeles Dodgers to the Yankees on Nov. 21, 2018, but was designated for assignment Jan. 14, 2019, and did not appear in a game. After spending three seasons with the Arizona Diamondbacks, Locastro was traded to the Yankees on July 1, 2021, and appeared in nine games last season. His season was cut short when he leaped to make a catch in a game against the Boston Red Sox on July 17, 2021, and tore his ACL when landing. Locastro was then claimed off of waivers by Boston on Nov. 5, 2021, but he then elected free agency Nov. 30, 2021.

The outfielder then returned to the Yankees just three days after the MLB lockout ended, signing a one-year contract. Locastro began the 2022 season just below the MLB level in AAA with the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders and was called up to the major league club April 17. Being raised in Auburn, New York, Locastro said he has enjoyed the opportunity to play for his childhood team.

"Growing up, you come to this ballpark and the old Yankee Stadium and that's your dream and that's your goal as a kid," Locastro said. "Now you're living the dream. It's surreal, but it's exciting because you want to help this team win baseball games. As a kid growing up, all you want to do is have the Yankees win games and the goal is still the same right now."

Prior to manning the outfield for the Yankees, Locastro made an impact on South Hill as the team's shortstop before leaving for the draft after his junior season. Cooper Belyea '15, current assistant coach for the college's baseball team, said he has been impressed by his former teammate's accomplishments.

"It's been awesome to follow him ever since he heard his name on draft day and it's been really fun to kind of follow his career and see him climb the ranks," Belyea said. "It's been fun to watch a former teammate and friend live out his dream, and obviously being with the Yankees makes it that much more special."

Locastro had appeared in 14 games with the Yankees this season before the team's game against the Toronto Blue Jays on May 4, after earning a call-up by hitting .313 with a .421 on-base percentage in five games with the RailRiders. George Valesente '66, former head coach of the college's baseball team, said he is proud of Locastro's efforts.

"I'm so excited for him, he's certainly very well-deserving," Valesente said. "He always worked very hard when he was here, and he just kept improving all the time. [He is] mentally strong, very mentally strong, pushes himself to get the most out of [himself]."

Throughout his career, Locastro has established himself as a threat to steal each time he reaches base. He successfully stole bases in each of his first 29 career attempts, which stands as the MLB record for the most consecutive stolen bases to begin a career. The Yankees have relied on Locastro's speed during his appearances this season, entering as a pinch runner in seven contests before the team's game May 4.

Locastro's first stolen base of the season played an integral part in the Yankees' 5–4 comeback victory against the Cleveland Guardians on April 23 in the Bronx. He entered the game as a pinch runner at first base as the club trailed by a run in the bottom of the ninth inning. Locastro promptly swiped second base to get into scoring position and



Tim Locastro has made his mark in MLB as a stolen base threat. He set an MLB record with 29 stolen bases without being caught to start his career.

COURTESY OF NEW YORK YANKEES

later came around to score on a double to knot the game at 4–4. The team went on to win the game later that inning on a walk-off RBI single by Gleyber Torres.

Yankees' manager Aaron Boone said in his postgame press conference April 23 that he was impressed by Locastro's ability to stay ready and make an impact when he was called upon to be a pinch runner.

"That's one of his big roles right now," Boone said. "We were going to be aggressive in that situation, and [Locastro] does a great job of making sure he gets a good jump and steals a big bag there to give us an opportunity to tie that game. Again, ready to go, prepared, knowing the matchup and a great job by [Locastro]."

Locastro's speed has always been a key part of his game, stealing 52 bases in his 58 collegiate attempts. He swiped 40 bags in his junior season alone, setting the single-season program record. Valesente said Locastro's family," Shirley said. "Tim came on a Zoom meeting with us and obviously, he just kind of shared his words of wisdom and it was awesome to hear."

Locastro said he is grateful for the support he has received from role models throughout the stages of his baseball career. These figures include members of the the college community like Valesente and T.J. Gamba '89, his baseball coach at Auburn High School.

"All of the coaching staff at Ithaca, my coach from high school, who went to Ithaca, actually, ... every single person along this way has helped me, and I wouldn't be here without every single person," Locastro said.

Gamba said that as Locastro's high school coach, he believed the speedster had the potential to take his talent to the next level. As a former Bomber, Gamba helped Locastro during the college selection process, as he was confident that Valesente and the rest of the staff could help elevate his game



Following the conclusion of the MLB lockout, Locastro re-signed with the Yankees and was assigned to the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders to start the season.

COURTESY OF NEW YORK YANKEES

quickness on the basepaths was apparent from the time he stepped on campus.

"We knew he had pro potential," Valesente said. "The one characteristic when he first came here is he had just outstanding speed and base running instincts. ... He just kept each year, seemed to be getting better and better and [had] more understanding of the game and how it's played."

Locastro also posted a .436 batting average and set a single-season team record with 71 runs scored in his junior year. These credentials helped him earn Empire 8 Player of the Year and All-American honors prior to being drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in the 13th round of the 2013 MLB Draft.

Despite being nine years removed from his last at-bat with the Bombers, Locastro still stays connected to the program today. Senior Buzz Shirley, first baseman and pitcher, said Locastro's story has served as an inspiration for him and his teammates.

"Being an Ithaca College Bomber, we're

"I knew that if he went to Ithaca, he would develop and he'd have every bit of a chance, professionally speaking, in the game," Gamba said. "In addition to off the field, which would probably be even more of a plus [by] playing for Coach [Valesente]. ... It ended up being a good fit for him all the way around."

Valesente said that while coaching Locastro, he was impressed by the passion he has for the game. He said he believes Locastro will continue to have success at this level with the Yankees because of the enthusiasm and work ethic he brings to the ballpark each day.

"[He was] such a pleasure to have," Valesente said. "From a coaching standpoint, if you have nine Tim Locastros on the field, you're going to have an exciting kind of group that's definitely going to be playing the game the way it should be played."

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IC student sets state record in weightlifting

BY DAVID SCHURTER

Since Ithaca College senior David Alstott was a child, he dreamed of breaking a state record of any kind. He was on the swim team in high school, but on April 23, he got his record in powerlifting.

Alstott, a Connecticut native, broke his state's record in the bench press, pressing 155 kilograms (341.72 pounds), breaking the previous record of 150 kilograms, or 330.7 pounds.

"It means a lot to me," Alstott said. "Ever since I was a kid, whatever sport I was playing, being able to hold a state record for any sport is something I've been striving to do and to finally make that happen is a dream come true, to see all the hard work come to fruition."

Powerlifting is a sport that consists of bench press, squats and deadlift. In competition, the lifters will complete three repetitions at a maximum weight in their chosen discipline. Alstott, who competes in the bench press, said he could not be happier about the record.

Alstott said he has had a tremendous amount of support from his friends and family, especially his gym friends. He is a part of a group at Flexx Training Systems, an online customized coaching service where he works with other powerlifters. Alstott said he feels that there is a sense of community with his gym friends and said how much they have helped him reach his goals.

"Being on a team where I have

a lot of people to look up to and push myself toward has been really helpful," Alstott said. "The people who are in the gym with me, we have a bit of a community there and we support each other's lifts."

For powerlifting, anyone can enter meets and compete as an individual, like Alstott does. Some meets, like national competitions, require qualifying totals, but weightlifters can still enter unaffiliated with a college or program.

Junior Dylan Henderson, one of Alstott's gym friends at the college, said his relationship with Alstott has grown recently through working out together. Henderson also said how impressive it is to watch Alstott up close and personal as well as being able to help him accomplish his goals.

"It's cool because you don't see someone rip out heavy weights like it's nothing," Henderson said. "Seeing him compete is cool because you don't get to see many people hit the numbers he is hitting. It's cool to know that I helped him reach this point."

Aside from his gym friends, he said his biggest supporters are his parents. Anne Alstott, David's mother, said she was extremely excited to see him finally accomplish one of his biggest dreams.

Anne Alstott said how David Alstott has had this drive to improve since he was younger, and that being goal-oriented has helped him become the athlete he is today. "Ever since he was little, he has

Ithaca College senior David Alstott, who will attend graduate school at Columbia University in the fall, set a Connecticut state record in bench press in a competition April 23 with 155 kilograms. COURTESY OF JOHN MORRIS

been all about hard work and he is so goal-oriented," Anne Alstott said. "That's just a part of who he is, he has a real drive."

Leading up to the meet April 23, David Alstott said he worked for two months to get ready for competition, including rest days and heavy workloads.

"[It was] about eight weeks of ramping up intensity and weights followed by a lighter week to rest my body," Alstott said. "The last week we call 'taper,' as just before a taper, you feel exhausted."

Recently, Alstott decided to attend Columbia University starting in the fall as a graduate student. After finishing his B.A. in psychology at Ithaca College, he will work for his master's degree in clinical psychology at Columbia.

"I searched for the best programs in clinical psychology and Columbia was at the top of the list," Alstott said. "Columbia was my first choice because not only is it a great school, but it also offers the best program for what I want to do, it's in New York City and there are a lot of research opportunities."

Although Alstott is at the end of his undergraduate days in college, he is hoping to continue to lift for a long time. He said powerlifting will still be a big part of his life, but not as his primary focus as he attends Columbia in the fall. In the long term, Alstott wants to earn his Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

"The good thing about powerlifting is that it's not going to be a huge priority in my life," Alstott said. "It will never take the place of schoolwork or my relationships. I think it is something I can carry around with me and make it happen, see where I can take it."

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National champion to transfer to Division I

BY TOBIAH ZBORAY

At the NCAA Division III National Championships from March 16 to 19, sophomore swimmer Jack Wadsworth set a Division III record in the 100-meter backstroke with a time of 46.45 seconds. But just a few weeks later, he announced via Instagram that he would be transferring from the Ithaca College swimming and diving team to Division I Arizona State University (ASU).

Wadsworth had a strong sophomore campaign as a Bomber, his first season on the team because of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the 2021–22 season, Wadsworth was named an All-American and won the Liberty League Men's Swimmer of the Year award. At the national championships, Wadsaid in an email that the university did not comment on recruiting. Wadsworth said in an email that he was excited to get started so he could learn about the process and become the best swimmer he can be.

"I'm transferring to ASU because of the elite coaching staff and I feel like my talents would be better suited at a top Division [I] program," Wadsworth said in the email. "I'm excited to be teammates with professional athletes and work to become one."

During the process of transferring, Wadsworth gained attention from a few different programs. But sophomore swimmer James Collishaw said Wadsworth was excited by the prospect of going to Arizona State University and to swim with the coaching staff at the university because of the recent success of



sworth also won the program's first national title since Colin Herlihy '96 in 1996 with his record-setting time in the backstroke.

Mike Blakely-Armitage, assistant coach on the men's swimming and diving team, said he talked to Wadsworth during the transfer process and told his swimmer that the coaching staff at the college would help him as much as they could.

"He had indicated to us that, because of some of his results, he thought he could swim at the next level," Blakely-Armitage said. "We said that if you're interested in doing that, ... we're going to keep focused on completing this season. And if you feel like you're ready to move to that next level, we can have a conversation about it and talk about the pros and cons. And we'll be supportive of you in whatever avenue you take."

In an Instagram post, Wadsworth said he had verbally committed to Arizona State University. Mark Brand, senior associate athletics director of media relations at the university,

nal the program.

"Jack had a couple of schools interested in him," Collishaw said. "But Arizona State is just a great program. The head coach, Bob Bowman, was Michael Phelps's coach, and he's just very well known. ... So I knew he was interested in that program."

Once Wadsworth had made the decision to transfer, he had to tell the team about his decision. Blakely-Armitage said the team reacted by congratulating Wadsworth and backed him in his process of transferring.

"I think a lot of [the team's reaction] was support," Blakely-Armitage said. "They have a really strong culture. And I think people want everybody to do well. Of course they're sorry to see him go, but I think they don't want to hold him back. ... If he wants to pursue other goals, then they were supportive of that."

When in the pool, Blakely-Armitage said that Wadsworth helped to push the swimmers to be the best that they could, which made an impact on how the team performed. Sophomore swimmer Jack Wadsworth announced in an Instagram post that he had verbally committed to Arizona State University's Division I swim team April 19.

RYAN PILLION/THE ITHACAN

Collishaw said that he was glad he had the opportunity to compete with and to learn from Wadsworth, even if it was short.

"It was known by the team that Wadsworth is unreal as an athlete," Collishaw said. "And the people on this team are just so supportive of him, and I think he can do great things wherever he goes."

Collishaw said that Wadsworth's effort and commitment to training hard with many of the swimmers helped to form a strong bond between him and the team.

Junior swimmer Holden Shatouhy said that the bond that Wadsworth formed with the team was strong and that the team is interested in following him.

"It definitely is sad that he is transferring," Shatouhy said. "But the rest of the team and myself will definitely be keeping track of what he does in the future."

As for the future for the Bombers going forward, Blakely-Armitage said Wadsworth's departure will not leave an unfillable hole in the team, even if it will miss his presence.

Collishaw, who will be stepping up as a captain on next year's team along with Shatouhy, said that while it will be tough for him to fill that gap, he believes that the team has enough talent to not become too affected by losing Wadsworth.

"We have tough shoes to fill," Collishaw said. "Jack is a national champion and a national record holder, but ... it's a very good group we have on this team. Everybody's behind everyone else."

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DATE 5/2

4/25 5/2, 4/18

4/25

4/18



THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP The Ithacan provides statistical

updates on all the Bombers' varsity squads during the season

Senior midfielder Megan Motkowski drives by a defender in the Bombers' 15-8 victory over Clarkson University on May 3. ABBY BRADY/THE ITHACAN

BASEBALL

ACHIEVEMENT	DATE
Honor Roll	5/2
Honor Roll	5/2
Honor Roll	4/25
Honor Roll	4/25
Performer of the Week	4/18
Co-Rookie of the Week	4/18
Honor Roll	4/18
	Honor Roll Honor Roll Honor Roll Honor Roll Performer of the Week Co-Rookie of the Week

Record: 25-11

SO NAM Julia Lof Tava Kas

20FIBALL			
NAME	ACHIEVEMENT	DATE	
Julia Loffredo	Honor Roll	5/2	
Tava Kasper	Honor Roll	4/25	
Riley Piromalli	Honor Roll	4/25	
Anna Cornell	Honor Roll	4/25	
	Record: 20–15		

MEN'S LACROSSE					
NAME	ACHIEVEMENT	DATE			
Jake Erickson	Honor Roll	5/2, 4/18			
DrewTurner	Honor Roll	4/24			
	Record: 10–6				

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

NAME	ACHIEVEMENT	DATE
Rachel Rosenberg	Defensive Performer of the	5/2
	Week	
	Honor Roll	4/25
Megan Motkowski	Honor Roll	5/2
Maizy Veitch	Honor Roll	4/25
Caroline Wise	Honor Roll	4/18
	Becord: 15-2	

WOMEN'S T	ENNIS		
NAME	ACHIEVEMENT	DATE	
Kayla Shenk Taylor Crain Eliana Chelnick Zoe Davis	Rookie of the Week Rookie of the Week Rookie of the Week Honor Roll	5/2 4/25 4/18 4/18	
	Record: 12–6		

CHIEVEMENT	DATE	

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD NAME

Nate Oczkowski Kevin Danaher

Andy Frank Danny Jagoe

ACHIEVEMENT		
Track Performer	of the Wee	
Field Performer of	of the Weel	
Honor Roll		
Honor Roll		
Honor Roll		

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

NAME	ACHIEVEMENT	DATE
Meghan Matheny Logan Bruce Martha Kemp-Neilson Katelyn Hutchison Ariyahna Bernard	Field Performer of the Week Field Performer of the Week Honor Roll Track Performer of the Week Honor Roll	5/2 4/25 4/25 4/18 4/18

MEN'S CREW	
ACHIEVEMENT	DATE
Varsity Eight: Boat of the Week	4/25
Novice Four: Novice Boat of the Week	4/25
Second Varsity Eight: Honor Roll	4/18

WOMEN'S CREW **ACHIEVEMENT**

Varsity Eight: Boat of the Week

DATE 5/2, 4/25, 4/18



From left, RIT junior catcher Alexis Smith watches as Ithaca College senior outfielder Daniella Mulvey gets a hit in the Bombers' sweep April 29. **ABBY BRADY/THE ITHACAN**



MEN'S TENNIS

5/2

ACHIEVEMENT Rookie of the Week

Record: 8-10

The Bombers' men's crew competed three varsity eights against Marietta College, Hamilton College and Colgate University on April 30 at the Cayuga Inlet.

ABBY BRADY/THE ITHACAN

UPCOMING GAMES AND SEASON RESULTS

BASEBALL: May 7 and 8 at home versus Union College **SOFTBALL**: May 5 at RPI, Liberty League Semifinals Game MEN'S LACROSSE: Did not make Liberty League playoffs WOMEN'S LACROSSE: May 7 at home versus St. Lawrence University, Liberty League Semifinals Game WOMEN'S GOLF: 3rd Place MEN'S TRACK: May 6 and 7 WOMEN'S TRACK: May 6 and 7

MEN'S CREW: 2nd Place in Liberty League, May 8 in NIRC WOMEN'S CREW: 1st Place in Liberty League, May 8 in NIRC, May 27 and 28 in NCAA Regatta MEN'S TENNIS: Did not make Liberty League playoffs WOMEN'S TENNIS: May 6 at home versus St. Lawrence University, Liberty League Quarterfinals Game



From left, Ithaca College junior outfielder David Cifonelli takes an at-bat in front of Clarkson University senior Mike Nee on April 30. MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

