

College strengthens outreach Yield increases while IC works on retention

BY NOA RAN-RESSLER

Ithaca College's enrollment has exceeded its target in Fall 2022, but campus administration is still working on solutions to increase prospective student engagement and retention.

The college is expanding on its strategies that increase yield while utilizing new marketing campaigns to increase enrollment and initiating outreach to students to improve retention.

Enrollment, Yield and Retention

Since Fall 2018, enrollment has decreased from 6,517 students to 5,054 students in Fall 2022 — a 22% decline — according to the college's Office of Analytics and Institutional Research (AIR), which held its census Sept. 6, 2022.

Between Fall 2020 and Fall 2021, enrollment decreased by 2.1%, according to AIR. This decline is lower than the national average decrease in enrollment for private non-profit four-year colleges. According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, colleges like Ithaca College faced a 6.2% decline in enrollment between Fall 2020 and Fall 2021.

According to Laurie Koehler, vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Strategy, yield increased by three percentage points, from 11% in Fall 2021 to 14% in Fall 2022. She said the college exceeded its enrollment targets for Fall 2022 because of the unusual increase in yield. Yield rate is the percentage of accepted students who chose to enroll at the college.

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

Dining works to solve staffing issues before retail plan starts

BY LORIENTYNE

Ithaca College's Dining Services are working to solve its understaffing issue in preparation for a new dining model budgeted to launch in Fall 2023.

Dining Services is piloting the Referral Bonus Program and reevaluating the pay scales of dining employees in an effort to fill the vacant staff positions before the end of the 2022–23 academic year. Then, once the full number of needed employees are hired, the college plans to implement a new dining model to de-densify Campus Center Dining Hall (CCDH) and expand dining options for students. This model will allow students to use their meal swipes at all campus retail locations.

As of Oct. 25, there are 40 vacant positions in Dining Services and 17 of the positions are cooks. The most noticeable impact of understaffing is that Towers Marketplace has been closed until more staffing can be secured. All dining hall staff have been moved to either Terrace Dining Hall (TDH) or CCDH, but there continue to be staffing shortages.

Justin Fenner, executive sous



Dining Services is piloting a Referral Bonus Program and reevaluating the pay of dining employees to fill open positions.

JADYN DAVIS/THE ITHACAN

chef in CCDH, said the lack of staff is reducing the quality of service for students. If there is not enough staff to work the different stations, stations have been closed temporarily, which Fenner said is one of the modifications made to adapt to the number of staff available. The CCDH has also resorted to using disposable plates and utensils

during shifts when the dish room cannot be filled.

"[More] student employment would help out because they serve the food a lot," Fenner said. "There's more stations that could be opened if we had more staff, so that [students] would be able to go

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No progress in college swastika investigation

BY CLARE SHANAHAN

At Ithaca College, there have been five reported instances of swastikas being drawn on or carved into surfaces on the college campus since January 2022 — a number that is significant when compared to the number of incidents of antisemitism reported on college campuses nationwide in 2021.

Jewish on Campus (JOC) is an organization that advocates for Jewish students and tracks antisemitic incidents at colleges. In 2021, JOC received 544 submissions reporting antisemitism on college campuses; 55 reports were from New York.

The most recent incident of an image that appeared to be a swastika at the college was reported Oct. 11 after the symbol was scratched into the door of the Baker elevator in the James J. Whalen Center for Music.

The student who reported the symbol to the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management on Oct. 11 said they believed it was carved after they took the elevator around 5 p.m. and before they took the elevator again at 9 p.m., when they saw and reported the symbol. *The Ithacan* has chosen to keep this student anonymous because, as they are Jewish, they

fear retaliation for reporting the swastika to the OPS.

"There was a swastika and then there was an S on either side of that, and it just — my stomach just dropped and my hands were kind of shaking," the student said.

According to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the letters SS written together are also historically antisemitic, as they are shorthand for Schutzstaffel, the Nazi police force responsible for carrying out the Holocaust through the murder of millions of Jewish people.

The student said that finding the symbols was extremely upsetting for them because of the amount of antisemitism they have encountered recently at the college and elsewhere.

"I just called my mom and I was telling her what happened and I was just, like, crying and I was, like, asking, 'I don't understand why this keeps happening,'" the student said. "Like, what did we do? Because it's just so frustrating to have to keep seeing it."

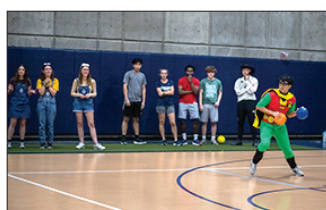
The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) tracks incidents of antisemitism in the United States and as of Oct. 26, the ADL has tracked 1,426 incidents

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Student organizations find funding process complex

BY EMMA KERSTING

The Appropriations Committee at Ithaca College is a resource for student organizations to operate and travel with financial support. While the committee has a large amount of funding, some student organizations find the process overly complex.

The Appropriations Committee is a subcommittee of the Student Governance Council (SGC), but students do not have to be members of the SGC to join. The college dedicates a sum of money from its budget to the Appropriations Committee each academic year to be allocated to student organizations.

The Appropriations Committee consists of students, led by senior Max Powers, SGC vice president of Business and Finance, and senior Connor Watson, assistant to the vice president of Business and Finance. Watson said that for the 2022–23 academic year, the Appropriations Committee was given \$200,000.

Watson said some colleges require student organizations to fund themselves. By allowing student organizations to request funds through the Appropriations Committee, the college lets clubs operate with few monetary restrictions.

“We know that being a student is already stressful enough and you’re not putting that burden on student [organizations] of coming up with the funds on their own,” Watson said. “I think that it leads to a lot more events happening across campus for our students.”

The New York Film & Television Student Alliance (NYFTSA), one of the college’s student organizations, hosts an annual trip to New York City for members. Senior treasurer Robert Hively said his biggest accomplishment for the organization in Spring 2022 was getting the funding for the yearly excursion.

“It was very stressful,” Hively said. “As a group, we didn’t decide the day we were going fast enough, so I was doing [the budget request] last minute.”

Hively said the budget had to be submitted at least six weeks before the trip.

“It’s a huge process of submitting and then being able to get into a meeting on time and talking to our club adviser, making sure everything looks OK there, making sure I’m budgeting properly and reaching out to the hotel,” Hively said.

Watson said the Appropriations Committee requires a certain number of members in order



Senior Connor Watson, assistant to the vice president of Business and Finance, and sophomore Hannah Ahmed, Class of 2025 senator, attend the Sept. 19 SGC meeting.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

to meet and has already met both qualifications to meet quorum as of Sept. 19. The first meeting for Fall 2022 was Oct. 5.

Senior Jordan Broking, president of the Ithaca College Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), said the organization requests funding every academic year for their annual trip to MediaFest, a national conference co-sponsored by SPJ.

For 2022, MediaFest 22 will be held in Washington, D.C., Oct. 27–30. In its request, the organization was seeking funding for travel

and hotel rooms. Broking said that because the club requests funding every year, the process is typically smooth, but for 2022, the committee added new forms to the process of getting travel approval that are related to the risk of returning to campus and potentially spreading COVID-19.

“Now it’s just been like a little bit of a headache to get all the forms done and waiting for the process to be finished,” Broking said.

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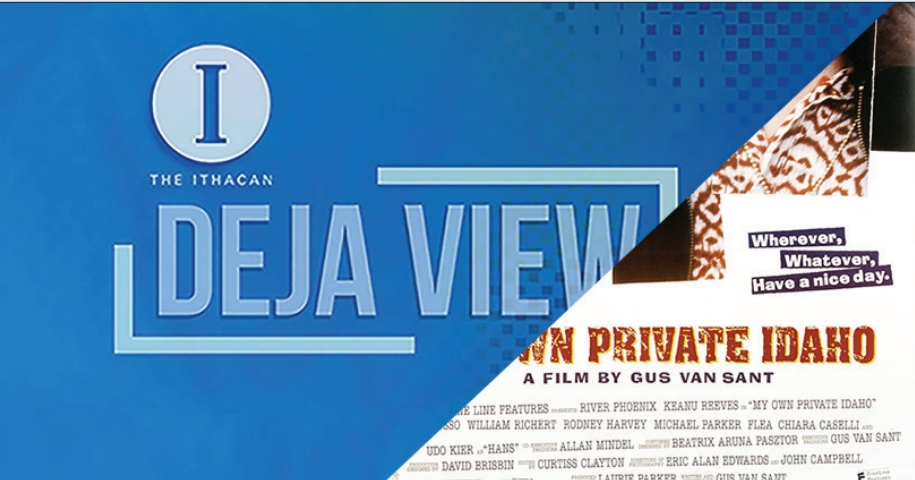
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TEDx Ithaca College discusses empowerment

On Oct. 22, Ithaca College held an independently organized TEDx event, where student, faculty and alumni speakers talked about different kinds of empowerment.



'Deja View' - "My Own Private Idaho" (1991)

"My Own Private Idaho" (1991) left co-hosts senior Sydney Brumfield and sophomore Therese Kinirons in tears in this latest episode. Tune in to hear about this film's stunning visuals and heart-breaking narrative.

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SGC discusses the college’s climate goals

BY EMMA KERSTING

At the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) meeting Oct. 24, the senate met with Scott Doyle '98, director of Energy Management and Sustainability.

Doyle studied biology at the college and taught environmental classes at the college as an adjunct professor. After serving as the associate planner for the Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability for the past 15 years, Doyle said he was inspired to return to campus after the SGC passed the Green New Deal during Spring 2021. He has now been working at the college for four months.

“I really appreciated how [the senate] took some of the attention that was in town with the Green New Deal and then made it here on campus,” Doyle said. “There’s a lot of things there that I’m really interested in advancing.”

When he entered the directorial position at the college, Doyle said he looked into past records of sustainability to see where the college is and how it can improve in the future.

Doyle said he wants to create a more unified promotion of sustainability by involving students, faculty and staff from all the schools on campus. He said that engaging the campus would give an opportunity to inform the students on what the college is doing to be sustainable and to receive a wider range of suggestions for improvement.



From left, first-year student Dante Conde, senator-at-large, senior SGC President Grace Madeya, and Scott Doyle '98, director of Energy Management and Sustainability, discuss sustainability.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

Senior Senate Chair Austin Ruffino made a suggestion about the recycling process in the residence halls, especially in the Garden Apartments and Circles Apartments.

“I think everyone just makes it up a little bit,” Ruffino said. “I was wondering if there was any thought to promoting how recycling works on campus to make sure everyone who is going through the steps to recycle is doing it right.”

Doyle said the county has been successful in promoting what can be recycled, so he believes the information could be better promoted on the college’s website.

During senator reports,

senior senator-at-large Maya Scriven said she is working on implementing braille books at the campus library.

First-year students Asata Rothblatt, Class of 2026 senator, and senator-at-large Dante Conde said they are working on two bills to plant trees and hold stargazing events during sustainability week, which will start April 22, 2023.

Junior Utkarsh Maini, School of Business senator, said the School of Business cafe is now open and that the Dean’s Student Council will meet for the first time this semester Oct. 27.

Madeya said she is drafting a bill to create two new senate

seats, one for the Students of Color Coalition and a first-generation seat as she said she feels they are large populations on campus that should be represented. Madeya is also drafting a code of conduct for the SGC.

“One of the reasons I’m really passionate about this is because I believe in laying down a foundation that will impact future people who are part of SGC and I hope that this will help people maintain respect and kindness on SGC even 10 years from now when we’re all gone,” Madeya said.

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IC radio visits White House

BY SYD PIERRE

“I was DJing — I was doing the Hobo’s Lulaby, which is our Tuesday morning folk show — and Jeremy Menard, [television and radio operations manager], just walked into the studio and said, ‘Are you doing anything tomorrow? You want to go to the White House?’” senior Connor Hibbard, station manager for WICB, said. “And then 18 hours later, we were in the White House.”

On Oct. 19, Hibbard, Menard and senior Andy Tell, station manager for VIC radio, attended a College Radio Day event at the White House that was hosted by the Biden-Harris Administration. The event was a continuation of the 12th anniversary of College Radio Day, which was held Oct. 7. There were 10 colleges and universities invited to the event.

Menard said he received an email Oct. 18 from Rob Flaherty '13, deputy assistant to the president and director of Digital Strategy at the White House, who reached out and asked if Menard would be interested in attending the event as a representative of Ithaca College. Menard then reached out to Tell and Hibbard.

“I’ve never been invited to the White House before,” Tell said. “And I don’t know too many people that have been, so when the opportunity came to go to the White House — whether or not it’s to meet someone high up or just for some random press briefing — you got to take that opportunity, no matter how short notice it is. It’s one of those once in a lifetime events you just have to say yes to.”

At the event, the students and advisers toured the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the White House’s Brady Press Briefing Room. They also heard from a variety of speakers.

Hibbard said the speakers talked about topics including climate change and student loan debt relief. He said a key takeaway he appreciated from the speakers was their message about the importance of keeping people informed.

“It was nice to hear from an administration that valued the importance of getting the message out, getting the message out well and getting the message out directly to the people so they can take advantage of these great initiatives like student debt relief and some of the climate change stuff that the administration has been working on,” Hibbard said.

The list of speakers also included a surprise special guest: Vice President Kamala Harris.

“Karine Jean-Pierre, [assistant to the president and press secretary] ... was about to speak,” Tell said. “She was at the front of the room and she got like three words in and then suddenly, Kamala Harris just burst into the room, interrupting our meeting. And instead of Jean-Pierre speaking, Kamala spoke, which was just incredible hearing her speak — she gave a really profound 15-minute speech about how important radio, and college radio specifically, is to students and for other people in communities and for building up communities.”

Tell said Harris also hosted a spontaneous Q&A session with the students who attended the event, where they were allowed to ask unvetted questions.

Tell, Hibbard and Menard all said they were honored to be able to represent their respective radio stations and the college as a whole.

“Being the adviser for both [Hibbard] and [Tell], the highlight to me was just seeing how much joy they had throughout the whole event,” Menard said. “I think about what I would have been like if I was a college student in the White House like that, and I would have been over the moon. Seeing their reactions, [Hibbard] and [Tell], I think they had a smile on from when I met them at 6 a.m. to when we came back the next day.”

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Q&A: President reflects on first quarter

Ithaca College President La Jerne Cornish is now a quarter of the way through her first academic year as president. Cornish previously served as interim president for the 2021–22 academic year. She has also served as provost, executive vice president and senior vice president of academic affairs since she arrived at the college in 2018.

Editor-in-Chief Caitlin Holtzman and News Editor Syd Pierre sat down with Cornish to discuss her goals as president.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Caitlin Holtzman: What are some of your goals for this academic year and ongoing as president now that you’re in your first full year and no longer interim?

La Jerne Cornish: We have seven institutional priorities for this year. But the two overarching priorities are financial sustainability of the college, so developing a five-year sustainability model, and then number two, increasing student retention and success, leading to increased graduation rates. If we can do those two things, the college will be on a firm foundation to keep moving forward.

Syd Pierre: I know you’re about to set off on the Inaugural Tour. What inspired that?

IJC: I want to hear the stories of our alumni. We have — not that I expect to meet with 67,000 alumni — but we have nearly 67,000 alumni and I want to be able to tell the stories about what’s happening here and I want to hear their stories as well. In my first three tour stops, I heard amazing stories from alumni about how Ithaca changed their lives, but also I want our alumni to be our chief cheerleaders for this



Ithaca College President La Jerne Cornish became the 10th president Oct. 1 after being in several administrative positions since she arrived at the college in 2018.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

institution in their home area so that they can help us recruit and retain students, but also so they can mentor our students as well. And so they can play a role in the day-to-day lives of our students. But I need to equip them with the knowledge of what’s happening here now so that they can properly tell the story of Ithaca College.

CH: We saw that the college put out a statement regarding the Antiracism Institute and the recent attention it’s been getting in the media. I wanted to know if there was anything you’d like to expand on beyond the statement.

IJC: People misrepresent what’s happening

here. And so the college wanted to put out a statement saying this is just a misrepresentation of the Antiracism Institute. This has been going on for three years, and so affinity groups are not new anywhere. ... I think the word ‘segregation’ was used in one of those ... headlines and when I think of segregation, I think of something being forced. When I think of congregation, I think of choice, and so our faculty are choosing to congregate in affinity groups so that they can have richer conversations about race and racism and the impacts of that in America and even in Ithaca.

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ENROLLMENT, FROM PAGE 1

“When we talk about yield, and we look at what happened this year, we focused on two big areas,” Koehler said. “One was around financing [the college’s] education and the value of an Ithaca [College] education. The other was the campus visit, because it’s very hard to come here and not feel what’s so special about the place.”

According to AIR, the 2021 third semester retention rate for full-time first-year students was 83%, a decrease from 87% in 2018.

BIPOC Enrollment

According to AIR, BIPOC enrollment has decreased at the college. In Fall 2018, there were 358 Black or African American students: 5.5% of total enrollment. In Fall 2022, that number decreased to 260 students, at 5.1% of total enrollment.

Asian student enrollment has had less of a decrease since 2018, from 262 students, 4% of total student enrollment, to 197, 3.9% of total enrollment, in 2022. Hispanic student enrollment decreased in number of students, from 560 in 2018 to 498 in 2022, but has increased in percentage of total enrollment, from 8.6% to 9.9% over the same time period.

Koehler said the college’s strategy to be more accessible for BIPOC communities involves eliminating the College Board’s CSS Profile as a requirement for financial aid because of the time and resources it requires to complete.

“We saw it over and over again as a barrier, particularly to students from middle- and low-income families,” Koehler said. “It’s confusing. The FAFSA itself is already confusing enough, but we have to require the FAFSA for federal aid dispersal.”

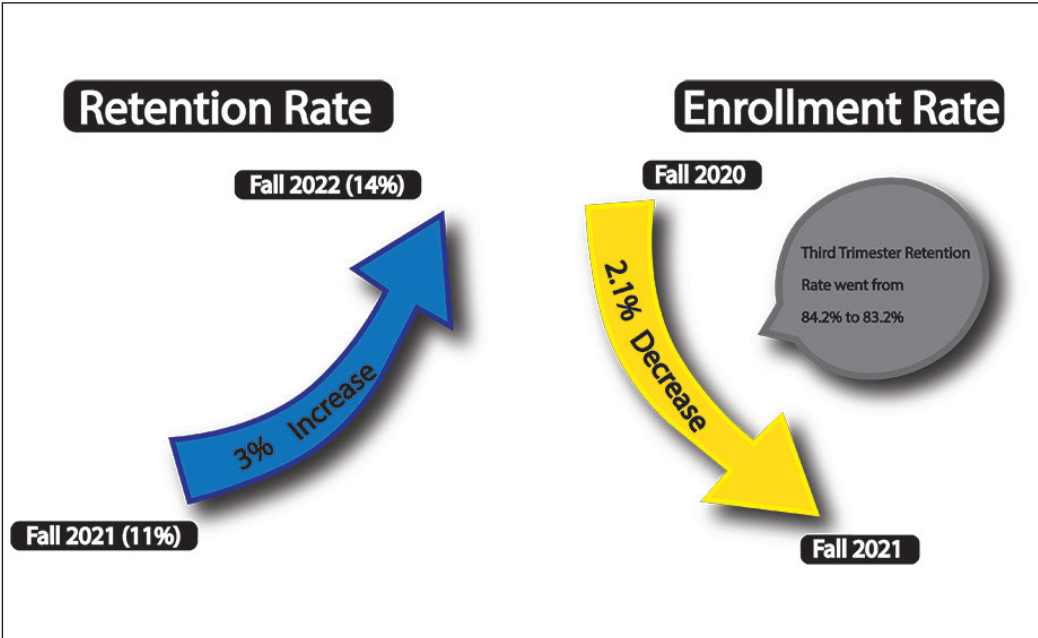


ILLUSTRATION BY ARIANA GONZALEZ VILLARREAL

Nicole Eversley Bradwell, the executive director of admission at the college, said the college took a similar initiative in 2012 when it went test-optional. She said applications increased for BIPOC students and other populations.

“We’re really doing things that we hope are creating accessibility for all students and looking at 100% in terms of engagement and encouraging students to consider Ithaca College,” Eversley Bradwell said.

Engaging Prospective Students

Eversley Bradwell said the college’s open house Sept. 24 registered 489 people — including prospective students and their guests — and over 850 people registered for the open house Oct. 10.

Sophomore Paige Morrissey, an admissions host and tour guide, said she has noticed more families coming for tours as the Common App deadline approaches — which is as early as November 1 for early decision applicants.

“Our first [open house] in September was extremely slow

and we had a huge no-show rate, but ... [October] was one of our most successful events ever,” Morrissey said.

Financial Accessibility

Shana Gore, the executive director of Student Financial Services (SFS), said the college’s Four-Year Financial Forecast helped accepted students’ families estimate the cost of attendance over four years.

Koehler said the admitted students survey, sent out to all accepted students regardless of where they matriculated, showed the four-year financial plan was influential for about 80% of admitted students in Fall 2022.

Gore said the four-year plan will hopefully help with retention numbers, but the impact can not be evaluated at this point.

Koehler said a factor that contributed to an increase in prospective students attending campus and likely contributed to the increase in yield was a \$500 start-up grant. The grant was given to students who were admitted, visited campus and then enrolled.

First-year student Shannon Tonetta said she attended an accepted students admissions event in April 2022, where she found out about the start-up grant from President La Jerne Cornish’s speech at the event.

“I had no idea about it before coming, so it was a nice surprise,” Tonetta said. “It played absolutely no role in me choosing [the college], but I did appreciate the gesture.”

Tonetta said she was disappointed to hear that the college was giving out the money to anyone who attended the admissions events.

“I begged for more [financial aid] and they said they had absolutely none to spare, then say they will give out money to anyone who came to an event,” Tonetta said. “There are people who would have really appreciated that money who probably didn’t get to see it.”

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DINING STAFF, FROM PAGE 1

to more stations and the lines wouldn’t be as big.”

While some limited services impact students’ dining experience, Fenner said the current staff are not under too much strain.

“We all work very well as a team,” Fenner said, “If somebody’s not here, somebody else will step in and help out. ... It just sucks for [students], not so much for the cooks back here, because we want to see [students] more happy and be able to serve you guys better.”

Reginald Briggs, associate director of Dining Services Administrative, said the limited hours and services because of understaffing is just as frustrating for Dining Services as it is for students, but there is only so much that he can do to bring in more staff.

“It’s unfortunate, like we didn’t want to [close Towers Marketplace],” Briggs said. “We got a bunch of flack from everybody. ... We were like, ‘We literally don’t have enough people in order to be able to pull this off.’”

The pilot version of the new Referral Bonus Program is an incentive for employees who are benefits eligible to recruit dining staff. In the current model of this program, students are not eligible to receive this bonus. If an employee makes a referral and that new staff member is hired, the employee who referred them will receive a \$200 bonus after 30 days of the new employee working and \$300 after 180 days of working.

As of Oct. 25, 15.6% of the annual dining budget allocated for paying student employees has been used, which Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said is essentially half of what should have been spent at this point in the year. Downs also said he needs to find the right amount of incentive that does not make dining benefits imbalanced with other campus jobs.

Dining Services is also reviewing the pay scales for employees. Downs said this review is an attempt to be proactive as the minimum wage in New York is increasing from \$13.20 to \$14.20 an hour starting Dec. 31 and will raise up to \$15 an hour Dec. 30, 2023. Currently, payment for student employees starts at \$13.20 an hour. Downs said Dining Services is assessing if there will be any compression issues to make sure student wages are not too close to the full-time staff pay levels.

“We need to make sure we find that right balance,” Downs said. “We’re doing a holistic review and in connection with the minimum wage, we’re looking at the pay scales to make sure they’re right. Our anticipation is by Jan. 1 — with the minimum wage increase — we will also then look to have a structure for all of our dining [pay] bands and what we need to do.”

Downs said that depending on how the new minimum wage impacts student labor, Dining Services will assess the need for a Bomber Bucks incentive. This would entail students receiving their hourly pay in addition to an undecided ratio of Bomber Bucks per hour worked.

The new dining model, which would spread out where meal swipes are used, is especially needed during the noon hour — the busiest time of the day, especially for CCDH. According to meal swipe data collected by Dining Services, during the lunch period — 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. — 68% of meal swipes are used at CCDH, 25% are used at TDH and 7% are used at the Express Cafe.

He also said finding a way to get more people up to TDH will help move pressure off CCDH. He said there would also need to be changes to the meal plan options to limit the number of swipes used each day.

“We don’t want people worrying about food, but we don’t want to create a situation where people are swiping and they’re out of swipes by Wednesday,” Downs said. “We want to make sure we’re doing something that works for everybody.”

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SWASTIKAS, FROM PAGE 1

in 2022; this list includes the five swastikas reported at the college.

After finding the symbol, the student said they asked the responding public safety officers if there are cameras in the elevator and was told that there are not.

Tyler Wagenet, physical security systems engineer in the Office of Information Security and Access Management, said via email that not only are there no cameras in the Baker elevator, but there are no cameras in anywhere that swastikas have been found.

“We have plans in place to put cameras in these (and a number of other) locations around campus, but there are a number of limiting factors currently, not limited to the extreme delays as a result of the supply chain limitations,” Wagenet said via email.

Wagenet said there are 190 surveillance cameras on campus. The college campus includes over 85 buildings — based on these numbers, there are only enough surveillance cameras on campus to have just over two cameras per campus building.

Tom Dunn, associate director and deputy chief in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, said there has to be a balance between the privacy of the campus community and having surveillance available to the Office of Public Safety.

Dunn said via email that in the five cases of swastikas on campus in 2022, no suspects have been identified.

“It doesn’t change how we operate,” Dunn said via email. “Each case is viewed individually and then we also look at them collectively and we haven’t drawn any conclusions.”

The student said they would like to see



Five swastikas have been reported at Ithaca College in 2022, with the two most recent being found in the Baker elevator and outside of a Kosher Kitchen storage room.
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON, SPENCER PARK/THE ITHACAN

more surveillance on campus and clear guidance about the consequences for drawing swastikas on campus.

“If you were caught with alcohol, people know the consequences for that,” the student said. “So it’s obviously a completely different situation, but just making the consequences of it more public knowledge and not something you have to go look for I think would deter people, hopefully.”

According to the Student Conduct Code (SCC), any instance of bias-based harassment or intimidation “is cause for disciplinary action.” In the SCC, there is a wide range of disciplinary action described, ranging from a written warning to expulsion.

Following the instances of swastikas being

drawn in February, the college administration hosted a series of “Day of Learning” events to support the community and educate on bias and discrimination. Following the Oct. 11 incident, a gathering was held in the Muller Chapel on Oct. 12. The student said that while the events and response from administration following these incidents has been reasonable, they do not think it will create change.

“If people aren’t gonna go to something, they don’t care,” the student said. “Like, they’re not gonna go to a talk about it. They don’t care, and those are the same kinds of people who are gonna potentially do things like this.”

Parking petition picks up support

BY LUCIA COUTERMARSH

Ithaca College senior Khami Auerbach started a petition to fix inadequate parking on the college’s campus, stating that the current parking system is not providing students with enough availability and subjecting them to excessive fines.

“Myself and other people, we’ve been talking about parking for a while and keep getting frustrated and feel like nothing has been done about it,” Auerbach said. “I thought if I get more people to sign onto it and maybe give anecdotes, that might be a little bit more helpful.”

The inability to park in certain lots is forcing students to park in unpermitted lots and obtain parking violations. The petition, which was created in early October on Change.org, has garnered 78 signatures so far. Auerbach suggests in her petition that the college should expand parking by changing some blue lots, which are meant for faculty, into red lot spaces that would accommodate more students.

“I’m paying for a parking spot; I shouldn’t have to walk if I brought a car with me to school,” Auerbach said.

The price of parking permits for students is \$90 for graduate students, \$142 for upperclassmen and \$500 for first-year students. Parking is free for faculty.

Amy Shippas, parking services and transportation coordinator



Senior Khami Auerbach wrote a petition to try to improve student parking on the Ithaca College Campus. So far, 78 students have signed the petition, which is on Change.org.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

in the Office of Parking and Traffic Services, said the number of permits ordered by students and faculty does not reach the number of available spaces on campus, however, because of the structure of the parking lots, certain lots can become particularly busy during different times of the day.

“Will there be areas that are congested just because of classes happening?” Shippas said. “Of course. That’s just kind of a natural thing that happens with parking. Once you’re out of spaces, you can’t make more spaces. I would

love for everybody that lives in one residence hall to park exactly where their residence hall was, but we can’t control that with the way our parking is structured at this time.”

On Nov. 29, 2021, parking services stated in an email that they had converted a blue lot section of lower J-lot into red lot parking for students living in the Towers. This gave students an additional 55 parking spots.

Auerbach wrote another parking petition in summer 2019 but said nothing came of it. Now,

with her second petition, Auerbach said she hopes it will gain more traction.

Junior TJ Bogart signed the petition and said he was frustrated that as someone who pays for parking, he was not able to park as close to his residence as possible.

“The [college] ... hasn’t always given me the best bang for my buck in terms of responsiveness to the needs and wants of the students,” Bogart said.

CONTACT LUCIA COUTERMARSH
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Shot available for monkeypox

BY SYD PIERRE

Ithaca College will be offering monkey-pox vaccines in the Hammond Health Center for all interested students beginning Oct. 31, according to an email sent to the campus community Oct. 25.

According to the email, sent by Bonnie Prunty, vice president for Student Affairs and Campus Life; Jennifer Metzgar, medical director for Student Health Services; and Luca Maurer, executive director for Student Equity and Belonging and director of LGBTQ Education, Outreach and Services, the vaccine itself is free of charge.

However, students will be billed for an administration fee through their health insurance provider; most insurance plans cover the administration cost.

“This cost will be listed as an ‘immunization administration’ on your health insurance account, but will not specify the type of immunization you received,” the email stated.

Students who are interested in receiving the vaccine must call the Health Center at 607-274-3177 to schedule an appointment.

The Health Center will be offering the JYNNEOS vaccine, which is the primary vaccine being used in the U.S. and is U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved for the prevention of smallpox and monkeypox. The vaccine is a two-dose series, with the doses given over a 28- to 35-day period of time.

Individuals who get the vaccine are not considered fully protected until 14 days after receiving their second dose. Individuals who have recently received or are planning to get the COVID-19 vaccine should wait at least 30 days between getting the COVID-19 vaccine and the monkeypox vaccine.

CONTACT SYD PIERRE
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Seniors and grad students offered new housing option

BY LIAM MCDERMOTT

Beginning Fall 2022, Ithaca College’s Eastman Hall, which previously housed underclassmen, is now housing seniors and graduate students who wish to live on campus.

The plan to convert the dorm hall into living space for seniors and graduate students was announced in Spring 2022 in an email to juniors from the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life. Eileen Roth, assistant director for Residential Education and Assessment in the Office of Residential Life (ResLife), said ResLife wanted to give seniors and graduate students the option to live on campus if it would be financially beneficial or more convenient.

“We knew there was definitely a need with our student population — students that maybe wanted to live on campus or there wasn’t a good fit of off-campus housing for them,” Roth said. “So we wanted to create a specific space at a discounted rate that students could be on campus if they so choose.”

Roth said situations like having to eat at the dining hall again may be a downside for seniors and graduate students.

“Overall, students are happy with the rate that [housing is] provided at and they’re happy that they’re remaining on campus and that they get the discounted meal plan as well,” Roth said.

According to the college’s website, the cost to live in Eastman Hall is \$9,900 for the 2022–23 academic year. A single room in a residence hall typically costs \$10,375. There are 45 single living spaces in former double rooms and 17 traditional singles. Amanda Walrad, housing coordinator in the Office of Residential Life, said all of the rooms are occupied.

Senior Kevin Gyasi-Fremphah lives in Eastman and said it caters to the situation he is in

this academic year.

“I’m graduating in December, and I thought it would be easier for me to leave before the start of the spring semester then go into a Garden Apartment or wherever,” Gyasi-Fremphah said. “It just felt a lot easier on my part since I’m not gonna be staying the whole year. Last year, I lived in Terraces, and it was, like, a long walk to a lot of places, especially to classes. [Eastman is] just a short two-minute walk away from [the] Campus Center and the Fitness Center.”

Graduate student Alexis Militello also lives in Eastman and said it is more convenient for her than trying to live off campus.

“I don’t have a car, so just the thought of trying to get a car and apartment and figure all that out seemed complicated,” Militello said. “It seemed easier to just go to a place that had a good deal and was just made for seniors and grad students and was conveniently on campus.”

Although students seem to be enjoying staying in Eastman Hall, they were warned that it would not have the amenities that other off-campus residences or Circle Apartments and Garden Apartments have, including private bathrooms and bigger living spaces. However, there are special amenities included for residents in Eastman Hall that are different from other residence halls in the Quads. These amenities include a microfridge in each room and a meal plan with 21 swipes each week and \$210 in Bomber Bucks each semester.

“We had a few students that just gave some general feedback of some suggestions of changes in the future, but we really tried to be transparent of the building that they were going to be in,” Roth said.

Unlike the first-year student dorms, Eastman Hall has one head resident instead of having a



Ithaca College began to offer new senior and graduate student housing starting Fall 2022 in Eastman Hall for a reduced rate compared to normal single room costs.

MARI KODAMA/THE ITHACAN

resident assistant (RA) on each floor.

Walrad said staff is required in the building, but that they wanted a more relaxed system of monitoring student conduct.

“The head resident position was created specifically for Eastman Hall,” Walrad said. “We wanted a staff presence in the building but something different than a traditional RA that would provide seniors and grad students with a feeling of more independence. The head resident is more like a building manager and plans events and works with the Eastman Council.”

The head resident at Eastman Hall is senior Sam Hefti.

Hefti said the head resident is offered more perks than normal resident assistants. The head resident at Eastman Hall gets an office and oversees an advisory board of residents.

“Originally, they had asked for someone that could stay the full year, and then they had changed the requirements,” Hefti said. “I’m graduating in December. So given that opportunity, I decided to take it up because there is a pay incentive as well. I get full room and board plus \$1,000 per semester.”

Hefti said that she loves her position as head resident and that it brings her joy.

“I think it’s a really good position for seniors here who are RAs,” Hefti said. “I get my own room. I get ... an office space to work in. ... It’s just really convenient to be close to everything on campus, and my residents are incredibly kind.”

CONTACT LIAM MCDERMOTT
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COLLEGE BRIEFS

Director of Facilities Services at Ithaca College left Oct. 17

Eric Nichols, director of Facilities Services, left the college Oct. 17. He accepted a position at Cornell University, as the director of Facilities for the College of Human Ecology and Brooks School of Public Policy.

Nichols has worked at the college since November 2015. During the search process to replace Nichols, Ernie McClatchie, executive director of Facilities Grounds and Transportation, and Hana Holman, administrative and work control assistant in the Office of Facilities, will be taking on the responsibilities of Nichols position.

College hosts 5k event to raise awareness for domestic violence

In an effort to raise awareness for Domestic Violence Awareness month, the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management is hosting the first annual IC Runs Purple 5k on Oct. 29.

Registration for the 5k starts at 8:15 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. near Kostrinsky Field and Terrace 13. After registration, the run will start at 9 a.m. Attendees can walk or run the 5k, which will lead them through the Natural Land trails at Ithaca College, and any minors who participate need to be accompanied by their parent or guardian throughout the event.

All of the money raised from this event will be donated to the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County. The Advocacy Center is the only organization in Tompkins County that offers domestic and sexual violence services. Throughout the month of October, the college has held prevention education programming, workshops and campaigns all in an effort to increase the campus community's understanding of domestic violence. The 5k will conclude a month of events and conversations about domestic violence.

Career services staff member leaves college for new position

Jennifer Pawlewicz '95, career engagement and marketing specialist in the Office of Career Services, departed from

the college to begin a new position at Cornell University on Oct. 17. Pawlewicz worked at the college for five years, beginning in August 2017. Pawlewicz's new position is within the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University.

Staff Council announces winners for Fall 2022 walking challenge

The Staff Council announced the top three Step Challengers for Fall 2022. The Step-Tember challenge is a staff activity where optional group walks are led by Sarah Shank, interlibrary loan borrowing coordinator, in the Natural Lands.

The walks were held on Wednesdays every week in September during the noon hour as a way for staff members to connect with each other and be active. Every week, participants were also asked to submit their step count to calculate top walkers.

Doreen Hettich-Atkins, executive director in the Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life, is the gold medalist; the silver medalist is Kelsey Pudney, counselor in the Center for Counseling, Health and Wellness; and the bronze medalist is Rebecca Creamer, counselor in the Center for Counseling, Health and Wellness.

Learning opportunity for faculty to observe colleague's classes

During the week of Nov. 7 the Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) is giving faculty the opportunity to visit their colleagues' classrooms as a way to learn new teaching skills.

Visitors can observe how the hosting professor engages students, addresses challenging topics and much more. The goal of the opportunity is not to critique teaching or collect feedback. It is a chance to build community around teaching and learn from others. Instructors from each school at the college will be offering visitors to come to their classrooms. Visitors can choose from over 50 class sessions, which can be viewed and signed up for on the Faculty Hub website.

Individuals with questions can contact Marilyn Dispensa, senior instructional designer for CFE, at mdispensa@ithaca.edu or the CFE at cfe@ithaca.edu.



IC students have a spooky blast at bingo

Junior Carolina Iribarren fills out a bingo card during Boo Bingo Night on Oct. 22 in IC Square, which was hosted by the Office of Student Engagement and was open for all students to attend. Students received food and prizes.

XIAOYI ZHANG/THE ITHACAN

Registration to remain at college over November Break open now

The deadline to register for housing over the November Break period is 5 p.m. Nov. 17. Students who register to stay on campus will stay in their Fall 2022 housing assignment. The registration form is available on IC Workflow and more information is on the Residential Life Break Occupancy website.

Break housing will begin at noon Nov. 19. There will be limited services available from Nov. 19 until Nov. 27., including fewer staff in the Office of Residential Life.

Students staying on campus during break who want to contact the Resident Assistant (RA)-on-duty can refer to the RA schedule posted on the main entrance doors to each residential building. The Office of Public Safety

will stay open with its normal times. Regular campus services will be operational again starting noon Nov. 27.

Professor awarded by Fulbright Association at annual conference

Kathleen Mulligan, professor in the department of Theatre and Dance Performance, received the Outstanding Chapter Leadership award for 2022 at the 45th annual Fulbright Association Conference which took place Oct. 6 through Oct. 9.

Mulligan is president of the Central New York chapter of the Fulbright Association and gave both a presentation and performance at the event. Mulligan will begin a Fulbright project in Amritsar, India, in December 2022.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM OCT. 10 TO OCT. 16

OCTOBER 10

RAPE THIRD DEGREE

LOCATION: Residence hall
SUMMARY: Title IX reported a person was sexually assaulted. Deputy Chief Tom Dunn responded.

SCC DISRUPTIVE/ EXCESS NOISE

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Caller reported hearing people fighting in a nearby room. Patrol Officer Abdullah Hassan reported the person was on a loud video call and no fight was in progress. Officer reported the person was given a warning for excessive noise.

OCTOBER 11

AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT FIRST DEGREE

LOCATION: Baker Bridge
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person etched what appeared to them to be a swastika on an elevator wall. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa responded.

WELFARE CHECK

LOCATION: Terrace Dining Hall

SUMMARY: Caller reported a person made alarming statements of self-harm. Officer reported the person was found to not be a threat to themselves or others. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa responded.

OCTOBER 12

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: The Tompkins County dispatch reported a person accidentally overdosed on prescription medication. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa reported the person was transported to the hospital by ambulance.

CRIMINAL TAMPERING THIRD DEGREE

LOCATION: Rowland Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person tampered with a card reader. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa reported ties holding the card reader in position had been moved out of place, causing wires to be exposed.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

LOCATION: Talcott Hall

SUMMARY: The Office of Student Conduct reported one person was referred for unlawful possession of marijuana. Lieutenant Michael Nelson responded.

OCTOBER 13

TRESPASS NO DEGREE

LOCATION: Recreation trails
SUMMARY: Officer reported a person in a restricted area after hours. Officer warned the person for trespassing. Patrol Officer Abdullah Hassan responded.

ACCIDENTAL FIRE ALARM

LOCATION: Circle Apartments 170
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety reported the alarm activation was caused by steam from a shower. Master Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

OCTOBER 14

V&T LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

LOCATION: U-Lot
SUMMARY: Person reported an unknown vehicle struck a parked

vehicle and left the scene. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

SCC HARASSMENT/ INTIMIDATION / ENDANGERING

LOCATION: Circle Apartments 130
SUMMARY: Caller reported being bullied and verbally harassed by two people. Lieutenant Michael Nelson responded.

OCTOBER 15

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Flora Brown Drive
SUMMARY: Officer reported a person complaining of chest pains. Officer reported that the person declined medical assistance. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200

LOCATION: Campus Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person stole an iPad. Officer reported the iPad was located in a different area and was not stolen.

OCTOBER 16

BURGLARY FORCED ENTRY THIRD DEGREE

LOCATION: Physician Assistant Program Building
SUMMARY: Caller reported to the Tompkins County 911 center that an unknown person damaged a door, entered the location, stole a television and fled. This is a pending investigation by the Ithaca Police Department. Sergeant Jon Elmore responded.

SCC TRESPASS/ TAMPERING OFFENSES

LOCATION: Dillingham Center
SUMMARY: Officer reported five people were located in a building after hours. Officer reported the people were referred to the Office of Student Conduct for trespassing. Safety Officer Michael Nelson responded to the incident.

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

KEY

SCC – Student Conduct Code
V&T – Vehicle & Transportation
EH&S – Environmental Health and Safety



ILLUSTRATION BY GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN

EDITORIALS

IC must prioritize current students’ financial needs

Ithaca College is expecting to make operational changes in the upcoming years based on the college’s dropping enrollment and retention. While this has promising long-term effects, this can leave current students at a disadvantage until that point.

At the State of the College meeting Oct. 18, Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said the college is lowering the target admission number of first year students from about 1,650 to 1,400 in the coming years. Additionally, the college’s endowment dropped from \$425.2 million to \$358.3 million between 2021 and 2022. Endowments are not typically used in the college’s funding but are more so used for funding scholarships and grants.

Student enrollment in Fall 2022 has dropped by 22% since 2018, according to the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research. At the same time, yield rates have increased by 3% since the fall of last year. This is likely because of the college’s commitment to prospective student outreach, dedicating

enrollment incentives and providing further insight and resources to financial aid planning.

The college’s retention rate has also been decreasing since Spring 2018, going from 87% to 83% in Spring 2021. Laurie Koehler, vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Strategy, said the college maintains student relations by conducting surveys and reaching out to students who request transcripts and those who have taken leaves of absence, although there are no current initiatives or programs targeting this issue.

With the emphasis placed on prospective student enrollment and engagement, current students can’t help feeling like their own financial and academic concerns are ignored for the sake of the institution’s.

Smaller class sizes may be beneficial to the college, as the institution will be able to sustain and recover financially from losses intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the meantime, it seems that the faculty and student body are the ones left to grapple with the consequences.

College community needs to address antisemitism

“Never Again.” Five separate incidents of vandalism depicting swastikas have been reported on Ithaca College’s campus since January 2022. While the reports are currently being investigated, the proximity of these incidents has many people feeling angry, confused and exhausted.

“These types of cases are difficult to solve because you either need an eyewitness or you need a pattern of behavior or you need a suspect,” Tom Dunn, associate director and deputy chief in the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, said.

The likelihood of these cases being solved is not promising. There were no witnesses or security cameras in the areas where the vandalisms occurred. The idea of these acts having unidentified culprits has many on campus weary of their peers.

“What if nothing is done? What if it keeps happening? What if...” Antisemitic incidents reported in the U.S. reached an all-time high in 2021, with vandalism accounting for 31% of those incidents, according to the Anti Defamation League. But antisemitism is nothing new.

“Where do we go from here?” Since the initial incident, Ithaca College’s Jewish community has proved to be incredibly resilient. After every incident, the college has released firm statements condemning antisemitism. On Oct. 11, the campus gathered to process and cope together.

When an incident of hate or bias happens, its consequences are felt on indescribable levels, especially by the persons or groups that have been targeted. Words and actions have meaning beyond face value. A swastika is not just a symbol. It harbors the pain and grief and hatred that happened less than a lifetime ago.

“What can I do?” Discrimination has no place at the college. Being an ally is the first step. Tolerance of intolerance is not justice. Let people know when something is offensive. Fill out the Bias Impact Reporting Form. Engage in discussion about why xenophobia is dangerous. Connect with the community that has been hurt. Advocacy begins with solidarity.

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor llee2@ithaca.edu.

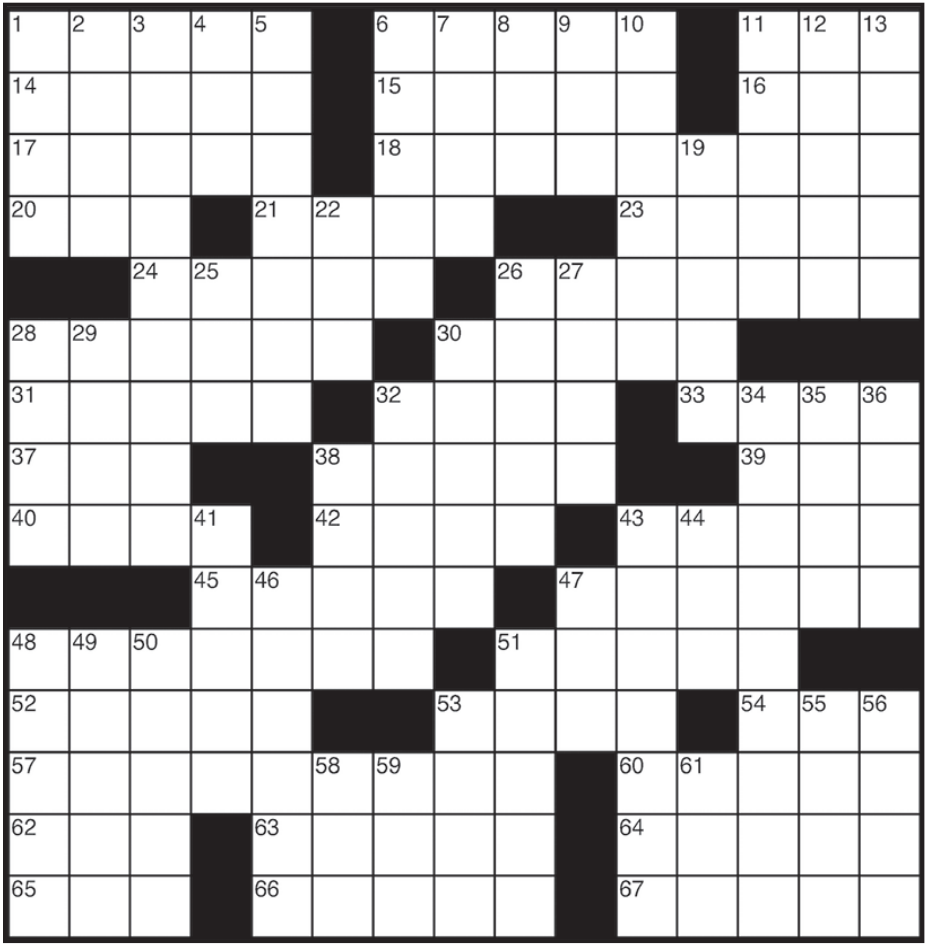
ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

- 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 650–750 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor

DIVERSIONS

crossword

By Quill Driver Books



ACROSS

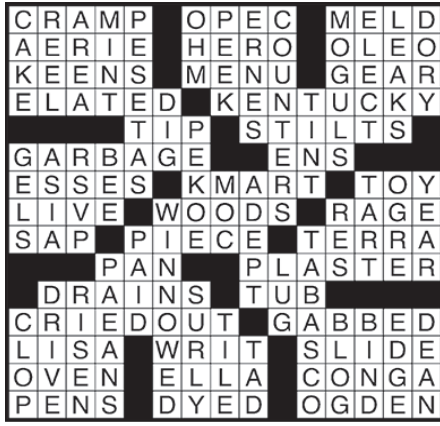
- 1 Oregon neighbor
- 6 Ticked off
- 11 Damage superficially
- 14 Helicopter blade
- 15 Loud sound
- 16 Be indebted
- 17 PC chip maker
- 18 Space-launch locale
- 20 Watch
- 21 Famous rib donor
- 23 "Lohengrin" or "Tosca"
- 24 Horses' hair
- 26 Tie pattern
- 28 White water
- 30 Oceanfront flat
- 31 Houston big leaguer
- 32 Segment
- 33 Toddler's cry
- 37 Not he
- 38 Folkloric beings
- 39 Put down
- 40 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. —
- 42 Angled a nail
- 43 Stately
- 45 Medical photos (hyph.)

- 47 Puget Sound port
 - 48 Finds not guilty
 - 51 Swamp swimmer
 - 52 Old-time dipper
 - 53 Nile menace
 - 54 Doctrine
 - 57 Ballet pose
 - 60 Kind of yoga
 - 62 "— -Pan"
 - 63 Mail carrier's beat
 - 64 Social mores
 - 65 Bracket type
 - 66 Slender
 - 67 Entice
- DOWN**
- 1 Bearded flower
 - 2 Completed
 - 3 Tried
 - 4 Toolshed item
 - 5 City near Disney World
 - 6 Cuzco builders
 - 7 Prowl
 - 8 Aunts and uncles
 - 9 Spanish "that"
 - 10 Totally lacking
 - 11 Gourmet mushroom
 - 12 Cognizant
 - 13 Kind of race
 - 19 — salts

- 22 Some, to Pierre
- 25 Oxygen source
- 26 Studied hard
- 27 Colony members
- 28 Lacking forethought
- 29 Very pale
- 30 Spelunkers' finds
- 32 Tactics
- 34 Computational procedure
- 35 Polite address
- 36 "The Mammoth Hunters" heroine
- 38 State, in Paris
- 41 Outlying community

- 43 Pawl's partner
- 44 Author Umberto —
- 46 Jockeys
- 47 Eastern philosophy
- 48 Striped stone
- 49 Shade of pink
- 50 Cower in fear
- 51 Kind of salad
- 53 Appealing
- 55 Get groceries
- 56 Clipper ship feature
- 58 Costa del —
- 59 Montreal's prov.
- 61 Eroded

last issue's crossword answers



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sudoku medium

2		4		3				
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hard

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answers to last issue's sudoku:

easy

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

hard

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

Something old, something new
Old books receive new life at community book sale



The Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library held their Fall Book Sale from Oct. 8 to 25. Prior to the start of every sale, donations of books, CDs, DVDs and more are collected from the community, with the goal of selling 80% of all inventory by the end of the sale. Any items that are not sold by the end are donated to ThriftBooks. XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Cardboard boxes and brown paper bags line the entrance of the warehouse for customers to use at their disposal as they wander through aisles upon aisles of shelves filled to the brim with old books, board games, maps, vinyls and more at the Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library Fall Book Sale held every weekend from Oct. 8 to 25.

The Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library (the Friends) is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to facilitating the connection between the Ithaca community and the library by supporting cultural and educational programs. A large majority of the fundraising effort comes from the Friends' biyearly book sale, which takes place in May and October. The sale first began in 1947, with the proceeds from the first sale going toward purchasing a phonograph, an early form of the record player, and music records for the Tompkins County Public Library. Ever since then, much of the sale's proceeds go toward grants for local organizations like the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County, Rural Youth Services and Tompkins Learning Partners.

Preparations for the book sale begin five months prior, where the Friends accept donations of books, CDs, DVDs, maps, vinyls and more. Kathy Weinberg, assistant coordinator of the Book Sale, helps oversee this process — sorting books on general science, true crime and miscellaneous items. Weinberg said the goal is to sell 80% of all inventory during the sale. Items that are not sold by the end of each sale are donated to ThriftBooks, a website dedicated to selling used books.

"The really fun part is volunteering during the year, during intake," Weinberg said. "There's something that's very magical

to 200 local volunteers help prepare for each book sale in some capacity — from intake and sorting to cleaning and selling. Donations of old books from members of the community are also a key part of the sale. Weinberg said she has seen cases where people who buy books from the sale re-donate the books at intake for the next sale. The process of donating and purchasing books is cyclical in nature.

"If you've ever taken a book that you really liked and tried to throw it away at your house, you cannot do it," Weinberg said. "It's the hardest thing in the world. ... And so that's a huge part of what we do: we take. We take books that people are happy to give away and we turn them into a resource that people want to buy and we turn the money from that into help for all these causes related to literacy in Tompkins County."

It was by word of mouth that Ithaca College senior Rebecca Rivera initially heard about the book sale during her first year on campus. Out of curiosity, Rivera took the Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit bus to the sale and said she has been going ever since.

"I love book sales like this," Rivera said. "I love to read, but I don't always have the money to get brand new copies of books from chain bookstores or even from local bookstores. Unfortunately, books can be expensive, but book sales like this make reading and owning books more affordable and accessible for me and the rest of the community."

All materials are divided into categories between adult and children, each with corresponding prices. As the sale goes on, prices are gradually reduced, with the most expensive items running for \$4.50 a piece on the first day of the sale and the cheapest at only 10 cents on Dime Day, where all items on the last Monday of the sale are sold for only 10 cents.

Aside from the relatively low-cost items available for purchase at the book sale, special sale days targeted at seniors and students offer books and resources at lower costs from 25 cents to \$1.50. Bag Day also encourages guests to fill as many books as they can into a medium-sized bag — all for a single dollar. While the sale is widely enjoyed by local community members, Weinberg said she has also seen non-local customers who plan trips to Ithaca to correlate with the book sale so they can shop. Some people, Weinberg said, are so loyal and devoted to the sale that they even pay for shipping books from all over the United States specifically for intake.

"We have graduates from [the college] and Cornell [University] who live all over



From left, Ithaca resident Denis Donahue and event coordinator Tately Casler browse through shelves at the book sale. The book sale takes place biyearly. XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

the ... United States who plan trips back to Ithaca to coincide with the book sale so they can come shop," Weinberg said.

Binghamton University junior Keaton Hemminger traveled all the way from Binghamton to attend the sale after hearing about the event from her friend's brother who attends Cornell University. Hemminger said this was the largest book sale she had attended and was impressed by how cheap everything was — finding some of her favorite books like "The Scarlet Letter" and "Wuthering Heights" for less than a dollar each.

"I think it's incredibly important to have access to books at such cheap, affordable prices," Hemminger said.

Aside from the book sale in Ithaca, there are other similar book sales run by nonprofits

across the country by local Friends of the Library volunteer groups. Book Sale Finder helps to keep track of national book sales, with monthly local listings from state to state.

There is a magic and a mystery to wandering the aisles of old books, games and resources, which Rivera said she encourages everyone to take a trip to the sale to see for themselves.

"If you go, be sure to bring cards or some kind of game to play while you wait," Rivera said. "Plus, the Friends of the Library Book Sale sells way more than just books. Games, music, DVDs — they've got a lot of stuff. It's always a lot of fun, and you never know what you'll find."

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and compelling about sorting the books that we get. So you take the book and try to figure out what section it goes in ... and that's how we start all our volunteers. And pretty much everyone falls in love with rough sorting, which is what we're doing."

Weinberg said that anywhere from 100



First-year Ithaca College student Prasavya Jung Karki flips through a novel at the sale. Proceeds from the sale go toward supporting educational programs in Ithaca. XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

Theater club hosts events to engage campus

BY LILY LIPKA

A calm settled over IC Square as members of Theatre Lab and passersby whose attention had been grabbed quietly chatted over their fall-themed coloring pages on the night of Oct. 24 at “Theatre Lab in IC Square.”

Theatre Lab is a no-cut theater club formed by students in 2018. The club typically produces two shows each semester: one 24-hour show, which auditions have been held for but the production has not yet been announced, and one full-length musical. Past productions include “Shrek the Musical,” “Grease” and “The Addams Family.” Now, in addition to Theatre Lab’s main programming, the club is looking to expand its outreach with additional non-theater related activities, like karaoke, coloring pages and Jackbox Party Pack video games. These events, held weekly on Mondays at 8 p.m. in IC Square, are intended to be engaging for all members of the college community, regardless of prior involvement in theater.

Sophomore Jamie Correll, production manager for Theatre Lab, said the events are intended to introduce more people to the organization.

“Because also a lot of clubs on campus will do their own specific events but then don’t really do a lot of outside stuff,” Correll said. “So we were like, OK, we could, you know, do these.”

Funding for the weekly events during Fall 2022 comes from the

Office of Student Engagement (OSE) as part of an incentive for clubs on campus to promote the importance of getting involved in on-campus activities. IC Tone Cold, an all-gender-inclusive a cappella group, put on similar events in Spring 2022, also as a result of increased funding being provided to the group for doing so.

Senior Shosh Cohen, event coordinator for Theatre Lab, said the club saw the offer from OSE as an opportunity to focus on what Theatre Lab’s core values are as an organization.

“Theatre Lab’s purpose as a club is making theater accessible to all Ithaca College students, regardless of experience,” Cohen said. “This opportunity ... came about as we were revisiting our values and constitution as a club during the re-recognition process. Given that we value accessibility and that the opportunity presented itself around the same time, it seemed like a no-brainer that we should do these events each week.”

In addition to more casual, non-theater related events, the organization is also hoping to do more workshops and theater tech training events in the future, like lighting workshops.

Sophomore Hannah Goodrich, music director of Theatre Lab, said she hoped the event will bring enjoyment to the campus community because of the club’s focus on different weekly activities.

“I think the big highlight of it is that it’s different every week,”



From left, sophomores Zoe Williams, Hannah Goodrich and senior Shosh Cohen look at coloring pages during “Theatre Lab in IC Square” a series of events intended for the campus community.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

Goodrich said. “I think it’s fun to do karaoke, games — this week we’re doing coloring. It’s also just a good place to meet people and connect with friends you already have. But it’s fun that we do something different every week.”

The events are optional for club members, which has consequently resulted in low attendance. Despite this, members of the Theatre Lab executive board seem hopeful that more people will show up in the coming weeks because of increased social media outreach.

“We’re off to a little bit of a rough

start, but we’re getting there,” Correll said. “I think the first one went pretty well. Last week, it sounded like ... it was pretty similar to tonight, where there weren’t a lot of people, but I think the first one had a pretty good turnout. ... We’re making slow progress.”

Correll said she still sees these events as being a way to not only get outside students acquainted with the club, but also to bring in new members who will hopefully be involved in their shows in the future.

“I just want people to be able

to ... enjoy their time and want to come back to the next [event] and then want to, you know, come to our shows or possibly even participate in the shows, because it’s also a good way for us to hopefully get a little publicity for our club,” Correll said.

Theatre Lab is putting on their full-length musical of the Fall 2022 semester, “Matilda the Musical,” at 7 p.m. Nov. 4 and 5 in Presser Hall in the James J. Whalen Center for Music.

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IC Percussion Ensemble performs outdoor concert

BY MATT MINTON

As the sun beamed down on an unusually warm fall afternoon, a group of musicians spread out across the Ithaca College campus. Nature is slowly drowned out by the wistful sound of drums, gongs and other percussion instruments as groups of students and families carefully take in their surroundings.

Stretching from Campus Center to the Dillingham Fountains, the 20-person Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble put on a performance of John Luther Adams’ “Inuksuit” on Oct. 22, a piece originally composed in 2009. The piece is intended to be performed outside in nature with anywhere between nine and 99 musicians. According to Adams’ composer’s note, when translated from Inuktitut, the word Inuksuit means to “act in the capacity of the human.” Adams also mentions in his composer’s note that he was inspired to compose “Inuksuit” by the stone sentinels built by the Inuit in the Arctic, with the piece being about the melting of the polar ice caps and rising water levels.

Performers were divided into three groups that began next to the Textor Ball enveloped by silence before moving to their different spots on campus and playing their instruments, taking over the natural sounds of the environment. The first group had sounds involving performers having to breathe into instruments like conch shells and bull horns, the second group had many drums and loud impact noises and the third group had metal sounds like glockenspiels and cymbals.

Mike Truesdell, assistant professor in the

Department of Music Performance, has been coaching the percussion ensemble leading up to its performance since the beginning of the semester. Truesdell said he chose “Inuksuit” because of how impactful it is, both for the performers and the audience.

“The audience members have a chance to connect with you on a much more personal level,” Truesdell said. “If somebody feels like they want to move, they get a completely different sound world.”

Junior Phil Cataldo was one of the percussionists who performed in group two. Cataldo said that the piece used pretty much every tom drum and cymbal that the James J. Whalen Center for Music has.

“It’s obviously a logistical and equipment challenge to get everything that we needed for this piece,” Cataldo said. “We really only had a couple rehearsals where we were able to rehearse with every piece of equipment.”

The performance of “Inuksuit” required performers to listen to one another closely to keep on track. Senior Michael Avanesian said that “Inuksuit” was the first piece he has ever performed outside during his time at the college and that the spontaneity and feeling of the performance was unique.

At the end of the performance, Truesdell said the piece gradually returns to the sounds of the natural environment as performers slowly move back to where they once started.

“We reach a peak of textural and dynamic density,” Truesdell said. “It starts to thin out and soften, and eventually we come down to a place where it’s just left with a few playing birdsongs on the glockenspiel.”



The 20-person Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble performed John Luther Adams’ “Inuksuit” on Oct. 22, a piece inspired by the melting polar ice caps and rising water levels.

COURTESY OF TOM TRUESDELL

Percussion has been a growing field since the 20th century, with traditional instruments beginning to play a basic part in popular music. Cataldo said that percussion’s practice and repertoire in music performances are relatively young compared to older instruments, like the violin, that have been around for much longer.

“It means we get to play a lot of living composers,” Cataldo said. “There’s a lot of variety and this piece in particular.”

Anna Young ’22, who participated in the percussion studio, heard about the performance from word of mouth.

“The concert was pretty wild,” Young said. “It was super cool to see all of these eclectic pieces come out of Ford [Hall].”

Senior Jack Goodenough said he had not heard about the concert until the day of and decided to bring a group of friends.

“Some people were stunned, a little perplexed, not sure what was going on. But we saw multiple people walking back and forth. It’s really cool that this is a community event,” Goodenough said.

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Final chapter of Halloween trilogy fails

MOVIE REVIEW: “Halloween Ends” Universal Pictures



BY GIANCARLO MESSINA

Going into David Gordon Green’s final chapter of his “Halloween” trilogy, the most promising aspect of the film is that it provides something that has been deprived of movie-goers for decades, and that is a promise. “Halloween Ends” gives viewers the assurance that after over four decades of this increasingly predictable series, it will finally come to its demise. Will evil finally die tonight? That seems to be the crux of this entire lackluster trilogy, all leading up to the final confrontation between Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) and Michael Myers (James Jude Courtney) after countless years of torment. With such a simple setup, it is even more baffling just how much “Halloween Ends” stumbles.

While the film’s predecessor, “Halloween Kills” (2021), left many fans with a sour taste in their mouth, there was still a glimmer of hope that the series might still have something up its sleeve. Right from the start of the film, “Halloween Ends” throws the viewers off course. Instead of following Michael or any of the characters from the original movie, the opening follows a teenage babysitter named Corey (Rohan Campbell). Corey is babysitting a young kid named Jeremy

(Jaxon Goldenberg) while his parents are away on Halloween night. When Jeremy decides to play a prank, attempting to scare Corey, it leads to a terrible mishap that will change the course of Corey’s life forever. This setup definitely subverted expectations in a pretty entertaining way. However, that does not mean its new ideas were handled well.

While a change in formula is much needed in this franchise that has been clearly out of ideas for a long time, the final film in a series may not have been the best timing. Instead of focusing on delivering a proper send-off to this series, the film forces the viewer to sit through a drab love story between two people with zero chemistry, the forming of a new and non-threatening villain that takes on Michael’s mantle, and possibly the lowest kill count of any film in the series. Not that a horror movie needs an endless kill count to be good, but when every other aspect is such a bore, it leads to a disappointing and empty experience.

It is clear what Green was going for in this film. Corey’s descent into evil after being publicly shamed by an entire town, including a couple of cocky band kids, leads Laurie to easily spot out his connection to Myers. The film attempts to make a comment on how evil



The final confrontation between Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) and Michael Myers (James Jude Courtney) falls flat. COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

takes on new forms and the ways in which trauma lingers throughout a person’s life. Really, it is in the execution that these ideas fail. The visual presentation of the film is bleak and lifeless. The final confrontation between Laurie and Michael was about as anticlimactic as it gets.

Leaving the theater after watching such a confusing and dull film will, at the very least, leave the viewer with a sense of relief knowing they do not need

to feel pressured to endure another one of these movies.

While a new reboot, remake or sequel is pretty much inevitable, one can still live in harmony, at least for the next couple of years, without having to see this franchise be run further into the ground. Even if this series did end on such a low note, at least there can be some sort of closure for now.

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New 1975 album is not afraid to be controversial

ALBUM REVIEW: “Being Funny in a Foreign Language” Dirty Hit ★★★★★

BY KINSEY BURR

For two decades, The 1975 has supplied — and sometimes shocked — the music industry with controversial songs and boundless lyricism. The four members formed the pop rock group in high school in 2002 but didn’t reach international recognition until the release of their first album, “The 1975,” over a decade later in 2013. Insightful tracks from past albums critiquing modernity like “Love It If We Made It” and playful odes to technology addiction, “The Man Who Married a Robot,” accompanied by their eclectic music has earned them praise (and criticism) for the risks they are willing to take for the sake of art.

The band’s most recent album, “Being Funny in a Foreign Language,” makes no exception in using their music to make a statement about injustices in our society. The album’s opening track, “The 1975,” dives deep into a series of social, political and economic issues currently affecting society. Matthew Healy, the lead singer of the band, calls for immediate change over a rapidly increasing piano, creating a nearly overwhelming experience for listeners — mirroring the feelings he has about our current society. The lyrics, “You’re makin’ an aesthetic out of not doing well / And

minin’ all the bits of you you think you can sell,” argue the modern world is painful and engaging in toxic social behaviors that are a lot more harmful than most are willing to admit. The song ends by apologizing, “I’m sorry if you’re livin’ and you’re 17,” demonstrating Healy’s little faith.

In one of the more personal tracks on the album, “When We Are Together,” Healy navigates his emotions while missing a relationship despite how toxic it was. The soft rock instrumental and violin are unique to this song and set the yearning tone for the breakthrough Healy has when he sings, “I’m better at writin’ was just a way to get you bitin’ / Oh, the truth is that our egos are absurd.” Healy finally recognizes the role he played in his dysfunctional relationship.

This theme of self-awareness can be seen throughout the album, including the upbeat folk-rock song “Part of the Band,” where Healy once again points out his ego and questions the progress he thought he had made. The song opens with Healy telling stories of his past, only to reveal that they were a figment of his imagination. The realization that his perception of himself has been sabotaged by his ego forces some perspective as he sings, “Am I ironically woke? The butt of my joke? / Or am I just some post-coke, average, skinny bloke / Calling his ego imagination?” This



The 1975 brings a refreshing theme of self-awareness in their latest album. COURTESY OF DIRTY HIT

adds yet another layer to his confusing self-realization cycle.

“About You” is easily the most unique of the record, featuring a duet with Carly Holt, wife of the band’s lead guitarist Adam Hann. “Wait (Don’t let go) / And pretend (Don’t let go) / Hold on and hope that we’ll find our way back in the end,” Healy and Holt harmonize over the powerful electric guitar, both using the memory of each other to dull the pain. Holt’s delicate voice perfectly compliments the electric chords and Healy’s deep, breathy voice.

“Being Funny in a Foreign Language” is executed just as well as their past records, intertwining folk and electric rock music with controversial statements and deep interpersonal realizations to create an eccentric album that offers something for everyone.

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POPPED CULTURE

Horror as a genre deserves respect

BY MATT MINTON

Ever since the birth of the motion picture industry in the 1890s, horror has been an integral part of cinema. From the Universal Classic Monster franchise movies like “Dracula” (1931) and “Frankenstein” (1931) to modern classics like “It Follows” (2015) and “The Babadook” (2014), filmmakers from all over the world have always held a keen interest in exploring what makes audiences scared. With many subgenres from slashers to supernatural to psychological, horror has something for everybody.

2022 in particular has seen many successful horror films, both financially and critically, with “Scream,” “Nope,” “Barbarian” and, most recently, “Smile,” releasing in theaters. Despite its undeniable popularity, horror is a genre that gets looked down upon as a lesser form of art. Horror gets left out of many important conversations surrounding cinema. Truthfully, horror deserves more respect.

In recent years, the term “elevated horror” has been used by film fans online to describe the new trend of thought-provoking, a house horror films from independent studios like A24. Films like “Midsommar” and “The Lighthouse” are appreciated for being character-driven, often surreal dramas that tackle heavy societal issues without the excessive use of jump scares or other tropes that are typically seen as gimmicky in the horror genre. But to use the term elevated horror, which is to imply that these films are “above” what horror normally offers, feels incredibly disingenuous and is frankly disrespectful to the history of the genre.

Horror makes audiences confront the things that scare them most, which is also where the genre can provide genuine feelings of catharsis in seeing these fears through. While characters may suffer and die throughout, there is always an end to see through that makes experiencing a horror film even therapeutic.

Another common misconception is that horror has only recently become interested in making commentary. Popular filmmakers like Jordan Peele have brilliantly tackled societal issues in their films, with the Oscar-winning “Get Out.” However, horror films have always had something greater to say for those listening.

One of the best examples goes all the way back to James Whale’s 1931 adaption of “Frankenstein,” perhaps the most famous adaption of Mary Shelley’s hallmark novel. In the film, the frantic scientist Dr. Frankenstein creates a monster from dead body parts that ends up escaping and threatening the lives of the townspeople. Rarely is the film’s brilliant social commentary on classism discussed. The elitist, upper-class society drink at highly elaborate dinners and obsess over themselves in contrast to the townspeople having to come together as they are picked off one by one. These themes and ideas are not explicitly stated but are rather shown through masterful storytelling.

Ultimately, the reduction of horror as an art form disregards its indisputable impact on the film industry. No other genre out there makes us face our fears as deeply as horror does. In the process, we are forced to confront ourselves and look at who we truly are.

POPPED CULTURE is a weekly column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Matt Minton is a sophomore screenwriting major. Contact them at mminton@ithaca.edu.

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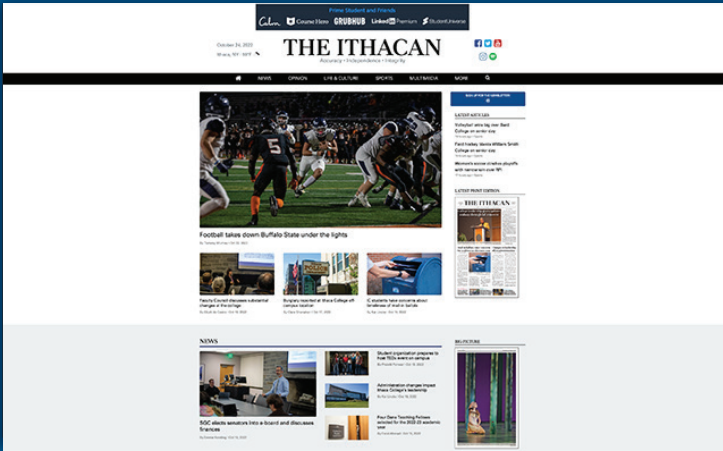
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THE ITHACAN



Bombers Roundup

The Bombers celebrated their seniors with a successful week on South Hill as Liberty League playoffs are right around the corner. As they prepare to make some postseason runs, here's what you need to get caught up.



Win streak powers volleyball toward
postseason competition

By Emma Kersting - Staff Writer

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STUDENTS CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN
EARLY WITH BOMBERTHON



BomberTHON is a student run organization that hosts dance marathons to benefit children’s hospitals local to the community each year. In the lead-up to the big dance marathon set to take place in April 2023, the organization hosted a dodgeball tournament to raise awareness for its cause, the Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital.

MADDY TANZMAN/THE ITHACAN

BY TESS FERGUSON

On opposite sides of the Ithaca College Fitness Center’s south gymnasium stood Robin, Batman’s trusty sidekick, and a person dressed as a jar of salsa. There was less than a minute of competition left and only two balls remaining.

The gym grew silent in anticipation as the pair shuffled across their respective baselines, sizing each other up as the final two standing in the first match of the evening. It was the salsa that made the first move, only narrowly missing his opponent, but Robin ultimately came out on top, catching the jar off guard on his follow-through. The gym fell into hysterics, and there were still 19 more games to go.

Founded on campus in 2019, the Ithaca College BomberTHON is a student-led organization that joins a network of over two hundred colleges and universities hosting dance marathons to benefit Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals across the country. Specifically, the college’s chapter is working to support the Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital in Syracuse.

Outside of the dance marathon that will take place in April 2023, BomberTHON is making an effort to host additional events that will promote fundraising to contribute to its cause year-round. For its first event this semester, the organization hosted its first-ever Halloween Dodgeball Tournament on Oct. 24.

Sophomore Ellie Chelnick, the finance and operations chair on BomberTHON’s executive board, was the mind behind the festively themed event. A self-proclaimed

“ideas person” in terms of her role as an officer, Chelnick said she was looking forward to hosting the tournament this fall and was excited to see how much fun it could be.

The event welcomed 12 teams of eight, all clad in costume, charging each person \$5 to take part in the games. Chelnick said all of the money will be donated to families in need at the hospital.

Junior Sophia Testani, the president of the campus chapter, said Chelnick, a member of the women’s tennis team, came up with the idea for the event in hopes to target BomberTHON’s largest audience: student-athletes.

“[Chelnick] is always coming up with these awesome ideas for promotional events, and we knew that [the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee] hosted a dodgeball tournament last year that the athletic teams went nuts for,” Testani said. “The rest of the board really loved the idea, so we started working on it right away.”

Chelnick explained that networking with both varsity and club sports teams is an essential piece of running a successful event for BomberTHON, and the dodgeball tournament was no different.

True to Chelnick’s efforts, the organization was able to host a double-elimination tournament bracket including players from various sports teams, as well as other students just looking for a good time.

In addition to the fun that comes with hosting and participating in campus events, Testani said that her leadership role allows her the perfect opportunity to continue supporting a cause extremely personal to her.

“My own mom has cancer, so the cause is really important to me and I knew that it was something that I wanted to stay involved in,” Testani said.

Testani explained that all of the money

raised over the course of the academic year works to cover general wish lists for families with children that receive treatment at the Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital. The lists include commodities like gas cards, coins for laundry and free or discounted meal vouchers.

Even though his team was eliminated in the quarterfinal game, sophomore Preston Tompkins said that regardless of how his team performed in competition,

he largely felt more fortunate to be able to support BomberTHON’s message.

“You can only win in this scenario,” Tompkins said. “Even if you lose [the tournament], you’re still contributing to a much larger cause. You’re still a better person at the end of the day.”

Clad in full swashbuckling uniform, Tompkins said that when Chelnick approached him about signing up for the tournament, the idea of dodgeball in Halloween costumes was an opportunity that he could not pass up.

“Of course I just happened to have a pirate shirt and a feathered hat, so was I supposed to let those go to waste?” Tompkins said. “It makes the event just that much more fun.”

Sophomore Anna Cornell, a tournament participant and

member of the softball team, said her team took the tournament as an opportunity to represent athletics on campus and her program’s involvement in service projects.

“The softball team has always been involved with BomberTHON and the fact that they’re putting on more events now makes that even cooler,” Cornell said. “[Testani] is always super adamant about getting people involved, so we were happy to participate.”

When the tournament eventually drew to a close, it was a squad of members of the men’s swim and dive team that came out on top, playing five undefeated matches to take home the championship title and the bragging rights that go with it. With the help of its participants, BomberTHON was able to fundraise \$330 that will go directly to families in need under the care of Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital.

As she reflected on the event that she helped to orchestrate, Chelnick was largely grateful that it happened at all.

“We really put a lot of effort into these things, so it was especially cool to see how many people showed up and wanted to participate,” Chelnick said. “It means so much to our club and our cause.”

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First-year student Shaun Herlihy fires a ball at his opponents during the event.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN



From left, first-year students Max Mignogna and Ryan Cooke, junior James Collishaw and sophomore Ethan Mossi prepare to play.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

Pair of first-year students earn starting roles

BY DUSTIN TERRY

First-year students Ali Amari and Kaelyn Fernandez have made the most of their debut seasons for the Ithaca College women's soccer team, stepping into big roles as the season began and embodying the important team culture to contribute to a successful season.

As roommates and midfielders, the duo are side-by-side on and off the pitch, learning and growing. Both Amari and Fernandez started in the Bombers' first game of the season, a 3-0 victory over Elmira College on Sept. 1. Fernandez has since started in all but one game, scoring two goals and two assists on the season. Amari has started in 13 of the Bombers 16 contests.

Head coach Mindy Quigg praised Fernandez for reading the game at a high level and being very productive in the midfield for her small size.

"She brings a value of technical ability, tactical awareness and a really incredible pace to the midfield," Quigg said. "We're asking a lot of her because we've moved her around. She's played up top, she's played attacking midfield and she's played holding midfield, and in the course of one game, she may do all three."

Prior to her collegiate career, Fernandez said she was accustomed to holding her midfield position. Her role for the Bombers gives her more freedom in her positioning and helps her to see

the field better.

"I know what I want when I'm [in attacking positions], so when I'm in the midfield, I have a better perspective of what my teammates want from me," Fernandez said. "It also gives me more knowledge about the game and how you can play certain ways in different positions."

Amari has also expanded her game since joining the Bombers, playing as holding midfielder — who stays close to the defensive line and takes primarily defensive responsibilities — behind or next to Fernandez. A natural outside defender, Amari made a transition to a more central position because of team personnel.

"She took it on right away and she gets better every single day," Quigg said. "She's fearless and likes to challenge people in the air and tackles hard well."

The transition was challenging for Amari, but she said support from her team made it easier to adapt to a new role.

"In the beginning, I was a little bit lost, but I had great resources around me," Amari said. "The girls were so supportive and helped me so much on the field and off the field."

Quigg said she quickly noticed the work ethic and values that Amari and Fernandez brought to the team as the season started.

"They're very passionate about the sport," Quigg said. "They listen extremely well and they don't



From left, first-year student midfielders Ali Amari and Kaelyn Fernandez of the women's soccer team and St. Lawrence University Saints sophomore midfielder Alyvia Ronning chase after the ball.

ANA GAVILANES, SPENCER PARK/THE ITHACAN

take offense to criticism; they take it for what it is, which is an opportunity to get better and that's helping them tremendously grow into the pressures of a program that has high expectations."

In addition, because they are roommates, Amari said they have been able to forge a close bond, which helps their performances both in-game and off the field.

"We have really good communication and can read each other on the field," Amari said. "It's so nice to have that support system and to even come back to the dorms and talk about the games."

The bond extends to the large

first-year student class that has 14 athletes on the roster.

"We're all in this big adjustment together," Fernandez said. "I couldn't ask for a better group of girls to be going through this with, and it makes me really excited for the next four years."

For Amari and Fernandez, their goal coming into the season was to be positive impacts whether in training, from the bench or on the field.

"I didn't have any expectation of starting or anything; I wanted to do as much as I could in practice and working hard," Amari said. "[I was] taking advice from the older

girls, seeing how things worked for them and how I could learn from them and just absorb as much as I could."

As they have solidified their roles in the squad, their expectations for themselves are to show up every day and be ready to make positive impacts each game.

"Something I've learned is that you can't ever check out mentally," Amari said. "We need to stay locked in for the entire 90 minutes because something can just change in an instant."

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Q&A: Alum discusses career in broadcasting

Ithaca College has alumni that have succeeded in many different careers, and since attending the college, Tom Eschen '11 has gone on to work in the sports broadcasting field throughout his career.

Eschen recently accepted a new position as a news anchor and reporter at CBS6-WRGB in Albany, all while he continues to expand upon his broad array of experience in broadcast media since graduating from the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

Before CBS6, Eschen spent the last 11 years of his career showcasing his versatility working at several broadcast networks, including Lax Sports Network (LSN)/For the Fans (FTF) and companies including NBC and CBS. Before joining CBS6, he served as a sports anchor, sports director and host and has also done play-by-play for a wide variety of sports. Eschen's website says he has done work in all parts of the broadcasting world, including anchoring, reporting, shooting and editing.

Contributing writer Andrew Roberts spoke with Eschen about his career path and advice for students looking to make it in the sports broadcasting world.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Andrew Roberts: What are some of the things you always do before going on the air?
Tom Eschen: It depends on what I'm doing. For a play-by-play broadcast, I just do a thorough review of my notes. I make sure I understand some of the more important parts of what's going on for the players. ... If I'm actually there and not doing it remotely, I get a sense of where everything is on the field, where my sight lines are and what my

noise levels are.

AR: What do sports broadcasters do?
TE: I think the best sports broadcasters succeed in opening up the world of sports to people who don't necessarily love sports. They try to transcend that gap between sports experts and casual sports fans. I think that's what the best sports broadcasters do in any role. They could tell the backstory of a player who came from nothing, and now here he is succeeding at the highest level; they tell a story that can relate to a lot of people. I think the sportscasters that are the best are themselves and don't try to go over the top or be someone they're not.

AR: What qualities must you possess to be a successful sports broadcaster?
TE: Speaking from my own experience and from what I've seen, a big thing is really immersing yourself in whatever topic, place, sport or team that you're covering. To be successful, you have to be an expert at the end of the day. ... If you're just doing it at an arm's length without really doing the work, research and preparation, you're not getting the full story and you might not tell the story the right way.

AR: What kind of classes and extracurricular activities should one focus on if they want to be a sports broadcaster?
TE: I would say as many extracurriculars in communications as possible. They each give you opportunities to explore, be creative and do your own thing over time. It's just consistently doing those things. Some people would dip in and then do other things the rest of their college career. I think being really consistent until you know what you want



Since graduating from Ithaca College, Tom Eschen '11 has held many different positions in broadcasting. Recently, he accepted a job with CBS6-WRGB.

COURTESY OF BRIAN PURCELL/WRGB PHOTOGRAPHER

to do is really important. You can really recognize the different facets of media and how stories are told in different ways, and I think that makes you stronger at the end of the day.

AR: Is there a typical career path for sports broadcasters?
TE: Ideally, you go from a small market to a medium market to a big market, and then you'll be set for life. But I don't think it ever works out like that, at least from what I've seen. Some go from a small market straight into a big job like play-by-play for a pro team through their networking, connections or talent. Then you have others in the business that do some different things, like going from sports to news. I don't think there's a typical or a right path to take.

AR: What would you recommend to students

who want to be sports broadcasters?
TE: First, be yourself; don't try to be someone that you've seen or think is successful. Also recognize that, like anyone else, you're part of a team. There's a lot of people behind the scenes that help make that product work. If you really want to be successful, you have to recognize what everyone brings to the table when it comes to putting something on the air. It makes the product better when you recognize the talent you have around you. ... [And] you're going to make a lot of mistakes, but it's about how you move on and deal with that failure. You're never going to know everything. There's people that have done it longer and better than you, but if you try and learn from them, you'll become better.

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THE BUZZER

The Ithacan’s breakdown of Ithaca College’s week in sports



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK NICHOLAS BAHAMONDE

Senior kicker Nicholas Bahamonde went a perfect 3-for-3 on field goals and 6-for-6 on extra point attempts in the Ithaca College football team’s 51–10 win over Buffalo State on Oct. 20. He also notched five touchbacks on 10 kickoffs.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN



COMPETITION OF THE WEEK VOLLEYBALL VS. BARD COLLEGE

On Senior Day, the Ithaca College volleyball team took down Bard College in three sets, with none of the games being close. The Bombers won 25–10, 25–7 and 25–13 to improve their record to 20–4 overall, 6–0 inside the conference.

MADDY TANZMAN/THE ITHACAN

EVENTS TO WATCH

1 P.M. OCT 29 AT BUTTERFIELD STADIUM

The Ithaca College football team welcomes Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to Butterfield Stadium for a pivotal Liberty League matchup. During the 2021 season, RPI defeated the Bombers 14–11 in Troy, derailing the Bombers’ playoff hopes. They will now look for revenge as the postseason nears.



ITHACA

VS.



RENSSELAER
POLYTECHNIC
INSTITUTE

11 A.M. OCT. 29 AT VASSAR COLLEGE

The Liberty League Championship for cross-country takes place at Vassar College. The Bombers placed third in last year’s championship for both the men and women. The teams have seen strong performances from several athletes, including first-year student standout Jessica Goode for the women and senior Danny Jagoe for the men. The women won the Liberty League title back in 2017, but the men have not hoisted the trophy since 2016, when the college was still in the Empire 8 Conference.

QUOTE^{OF}THE WEEK

“Something I’ve learned, especially in the tighter games, is that you can’t ever check out mentally. ... We need to stay locked in for the entire 90 minutes.”

- Ali Amari

First-year student, women’s soccer



Cornell University senior Aria Xu gives a traditional Chinese dance performance at IC Square as a part of the annual Mid-Autumn Festival on Oct. 21. The Festival was hosted by the Ithaca College Chinese Students and Scholars Association and featured performances, cultural games and free Chinese food and bubble tea.

KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN