THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

# **THE ITHACAN**

**VOLUME 90** ISSUE 16

### ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

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**OPINION** page 7 ANIMAL TESTING **IS NOT RESOLVED EVEN WITH "BAN** 



### **SPORTS** page 13 **SENIOR ATHLETES FINISH CAREERS ON TRACK TEAM**

# **Plagiarism or progress: IC debates ChatGPT**



ILLUSTRATION BY MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

#### **BY PRAKRITI PANWAR**

#### ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

ChatGPT, an Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool that lets users instantly obtain human-like answers to questions or prompts, rose to controversy in the past month. Ithaca College's campus community is considering how the new AI chatbot might affect students' academics.

Ever since its release in November 2022 by OpenAI, college students across the nation have been using the chatbot to complete their assignments and papers. Higher education institutions have been changing their academic policies to address the issue of students misusing the AI tool.

Doug Turnbull, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science at Ithaca College, said ChatGPT is based on a framework called a transformer, which first emerged in 2017 and facilitated a wide range of functions, like writing code or stories, across many different disciplines.

OpenAI also launched ChatGPT Plus on Feb.1, which is a subscription model available to users in the United States at \$20 per month. ChatGPT Plus will allow users to access the AI chatbot even when there is high web traffic on the site, learn about new features before other users and obtain faster results from the chatbot.

Turnbull said that while he has not studied transformers in-depth, what sets ChatGPT

#### **CHATGPT, PAGE 4**

# with several exceptions

#### **BY VIVIAN ROSE**

#### STAFF WRITER

As of Dec. 15, Governor Kathy Hochul made New York the 10th state to ban the sale of cosmetics that test prod-



# NY bans animal testing Dining rebrands Towers Marketplace as "Eatery"

#### **BY INBAAYINI ANBARASAN**

#### STAFF WRITER

Towers Eatery, formerly known as Towers Marketplace, is one of Ithaca College's retail dining locations and has reopened under a new name after a semester of bede-densify the main dining halls to help with social distancing.

Hebbard said Towers Eatery is reverting back to the retail-only service, where students can use their money or Bomber Bucks.

However, Hebbard said Towers Eatery

ucts on animals by signing the New York Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act into law, with a few exceptions.

According to the New York City Bar website, these exceptions regard animal testing within the capacity of a commonly used ingredient that could not be replaced in cosmetic products. An exception would also be made if the product needs to be tested to determine if it causes a health issue. A final exception on the website said that testing would be required if no alternative to animal testing is accepted by the state or federal agency.

The website also states that further exceptions include cosmetics tested on animals required by a foreign jurisdiction or cosmetics tested on Cosmetics already in stores will continue to be sold but the ban prevents animal testing with new products. **SPENCER PARK/THE ITHACAN** 

animals before Jan. 1. Any manufacturer that violates the law can face at least \$5,000 unless exceptions apply.

Talitha McMillion, assistant correspondent with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), said

via email that the loopholes in the New York State legislation are ethically unacceptable and not necessary, yet are still happening with similar loopholes in places like China and

NY LAW, PAGE 4

ing closed because of staffing shortages.

At the Students and Families Virtual Gathering on Jan. 9, Reginald Briggs, associate director of Dining Services, announced that Towers Eatery would reopen for Spring 2023 and would operate from 5 to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Makaylah Hebbard, manager of Towers Eatery, said the change of name for the location has been one of her priorities for the reopening.

"I want it to be a place where they can come and study and still be able to eat and have a good time and socialize, and 'marketplace' didn't really reflect that," Hebbard said. "So part of the larger scheme of rebranding our dining services is kind of making this transition from Towers Marketplace because we don't really fit a marketplace vibe."

Hebbard said Towers Marketplace had served as a retail-only service before the COVID-19 pandemic, but introduced the option of using meal swipes as a way to plans on expanding their service to meal swipe meals in the coming semesters.

"Right now we will not have the meal swipe just because we have to rework some things on our end as far as how the meal plans work, but going forward into next semester, our goal is to have swipe options available at all retail locations," Hebbard said. "So, the idea is, we take this time and build this program and expand it."

Hebbard said the removal of the meal swipe option also presents an opportunity for the college to reduce food waste from Towers Marketplace.

Hebbard said that with the overwhelming amount of orders for food that came in every night, the turnaround time had been lengthy. She said this caused the staff to become overwhelmed and forced students to look for other options for food in the evenings and at night.

**TOWERS EATERY, PAGE 4** 



### Ex-Fox News employee sues over sexual abuse under survivors act

A former Fox News employee who said she was sexually abused by the network's late chief executive Roger Ailes has filed a lawsuit under New York State's Adult Survivors Act.

The suit filed Jan. 25 in New York State Supreme Court also names 21st Century Fox, the previous moniker for Rupert Murdoch's Fox Corp., and Bill Shine, a top lieutenant of Ailes and former Fox News president who now works for Nexstar Media Group's NewsNation.

### Holiday in China spreads virus but COVID-19 deaths decrease

China reported a sharp drop in new COVID-19-related deaths during the Lunar New Year holiday, even as a spike in travel increased the likelihood of more infections across the country.

The Chinese Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said 6,364 deaths were linked to COVID-19 at hospitals across the country between Jan. 20 and Jan. 26, almost half as many as the previous week.

### Former NATO general wins Czech vote over former prime minister

A former NATO general pledging unwavering support for Ukraine will become the next Czech president after securing a convincing victory over a combative former-billionaire prime minister.

Petr Pavel, who once served as NATO's highest-ranking military officer, declared victory after winning 57.9% with 98% of polling districts counted, according to data published by the Czech Statistics Office. Andrej Babis, a chemicals, farming and media magnate known for his clashes with the European Union, had 42.1%.

### U.S. president celebrates 20th anniversary of AIDS initiative

Jan. 28 marked a major milestone in the global fight to eliminate the AIDS epidemic, as the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) celebrates its 20th anniversary as the largest commitment by a country to combat a disease.

PEPFAR, launched under former President George W. Bush, has now spanned four administrations, operates in more than 50 countries, and has helped increase access to HIV prevention tools and treatment.

### Interest rate has steepest hike in decades and is not improving

The U.S. economy expanded at a healthy pace in the fourth quarter, though signs of slowing underlying demand mounted as the steepest interest rate hikes in decades



### Pakistan mosque bombing kills over 100

Rescue workers prepare to search for blast victims in the rubble of a police headquarters mosque in Peshawar on Jan. 30 after a suicide bombing. As of Jan. 31, the bombing has killed at least 100 people and wounded at least 225. ABDUL MAJEED/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

threaten growth this year.

Gross domestic product increased at a 2.9% annualized rate in the final three months of 2022 after a 3.2% gain in the third quarter, the Commerce Department's initial estimate showed Jan. 26. Personal consumption, the biggest part of the economy, climbed at a below-forecast 2.1% pace. The latest Bloomberg monthly survey shows economists see the economy shrinking in the second and third quarters, putting 65% odds on a recession in the coming year.

SOURCE: TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## MULTIMEDIA

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#### **Students of Color Retreat**

On Jan. 28, *The Ithacan* attended the Center for IDEAS' Students of Color Retreat to hear stories from Ithaca College's BIPOC students.



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#### On the Quad: Towers Eatery?

*The Ithacan* asked Ithaca College students for their thoughts about the Towers Eatery on Jan. 27 on the quad.



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# Cantelmo gets a running start with mayoral campaign

#### **BY LORIEN TYNE**

NEWS EDITOR

Robert Cantelmo, current 5th Ward Alderperson for the Ithaca Common Council, announced his campaign for the 2023 Ithaca mayoral race after current Mayor Laura Lewis' decision not to run for re-election.

Cantelmo led the creation of the abortion sanctuary city ordinance that was passed unanimously into law by the Common Council on July 6, 2022. Cantelmo said he is a staunch supporter of the Ithaca Green New Deal, Reimagining Public Safety and other major initiatives, including affordable housing and transportation.

As of Feb. 1, no other candidates for mayor have stepped forward. However, 2nd Ward Alderperson Ducson Nguyen has announced he will be running for his last four-year term on the Common Council.

Rob Gearhart, 3rd Ward Alderperson and an associate dean for the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College, said he is not pursuing reelection. All 10 of the Common Council seats will open up this year with all the members' terms ending Dec. 31 after a primary election in June and a general election in November. Lewis held a seat on the Common Council for three years but retained her ward vote when she became acting mayor Jan. 5, 2022, in place of former Mayor Svante Myrick who resigned.

elected as mayor to complete the remaining year of Myrick's term.

"Six years of service to the city in an elected capacity feels like significant time to dedicate to the city in an elected office," Lewis said. "I am retiring from this work. ... There's not one reason [I am resigning]. I absolutely love serving the city and I've done so for many, many years."

At the start of 2024, the new city manager position will be put in effect and the candidate will be elected by the members of Common Council. This is a large change in the structure of city governance as it will shift some responsibilities from the mayor to the city manager. The city manager's role has not been finalized, but the mayor will still hold a vote on the Common Council and have a say in policy.Cantelmo said that throughout his campaign, endorsements from city leaders and organizations will be rolled out. He currently cannot speak on what endorsements he has received. Lewis said she is not coming forward with an endorsement for anyone currently.

"Alderperson Cantelmo is a valued colleague," Lewis said. "He has been on Common Council for one year. I don't know at this point who else may be interested in running for mayor. ... I am just not prepared to make an endorsement."

Nguyen has outright endorsed Cantelmo and is his campaign treasurer, even introducing Cantelmo at his campaign kickoff event Jan. 8. "[Cantelmo] and I do have And Ward alderperson running for ist four-year term. Another the terms of the ward alderperson running for the mayoral position.

COURTESY OF CATHERINE B. CANTELMO; PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY FILE PHOTO, MALIK CLEMENT, NOLAN SAUNDERS, THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

— and the reason why I support him is — a lot of shared vision about sustainability and housing goals for the city," Nguyen said. "So, I look forward to working with him."

Nguyen has lived in Ithaca for 13 years and has been on the Common Council for the past eight. He said that even before moving to Ithaca, he read about the lack of housing and affordable housing, which motivated him to get involved in local politics.

"A seat opened up at the right time, and I met the person who was running for the seat that I now hold and I just didn't agree with him on many things, including housing policies," Nguyen said. "After a failed attempt to find someone else to run, I just decided to run myself."

Nguyen said he feels there are initiatives he has started that he wants to see all the way through. He said that he wants to see jaywalking decriminalized.

"Jaywalking is actually not enforced in the city at all," Nguyen said. "That said ... the onus of legal liability is on the pedestrian and I'd like to flip that around to make it a safe walking city and also continue to advocate for more bike lanes."

Nguyen said another tangible goal he has is to continue his work on the TCAT board electrifying the buses, increasing their staff, expanding services and exploring free transit. In addition to his interest in housing and public transportation, Nguyen said he is committed to moving forward with Reimagining Public Safety and the Green New Deal. Like Nguyen, Cantelmo said that pushing Reimagining Public Safety forward is an important factor in keeping promises that the city has made regarding these major initiatives. He said the city's public safety reform must involve community conversation.

"I'd like to see the finalization and onboarding of our emergency social work crisis responders," Cantelmo said. "I think that program needs to get its legs underneath it and begin work this year."

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In November 2022, Lewis was

# Use of Twitter questioned in college town stress study

#### **BY JADYN DAVIS**

#### STAFF WRITER

A study from Preply, a foreign language tutoring platform, ranked the City of Ithaca as the 10th most stressed-out college town after analyzing tweets from students in different college towns in the United States. However, some students and staff at Ithaca College wonder if it is accurate in detecting students' stress levels.

North Star Inbound, a content marketing agency, worked with Preply on this study and gathered tweets from 150 geolocations across the country from Aug. 1 to Oct. 31, 2022. North Star Inbound used a tool called TensiStrength, which is a system that analyzes words and phrases to detect the amount of stress in a small message. 71% use Instagram and 42% use Twitter.

"We liked the medium that Twitter was restricted to, which is 160 characters," Zajechowski said. "So, it kind of gave us a short log into what someone's feeling, as opposed to some of these other platforms."

The rankings were based on the percentage of tweets indicating stress coming from the selected college towns.

According to data from the study, 29.1% of tweets that indicated stress came from the Town and City of Ithaca, which is home to Ithaca College and Cornell University. Berkeley, California, holds the highest ranking with 42.7% of students expressing stress, while West Lafayette, Indiana, had the lowest percentage of tweets indicating stress with 15% of students from Purdue University expressing stress on Twitter. Zajechowski said 60% of the tweets from students in college towns across the country were about finance, housing and academic stress. According to the 2022 National College Health Assessment, 44.4% of Ithaca College students reported academic stress in the 12 months before the survey was conducted - February to March 2022 - and 47.8% of the college students reported experiencing financial issues. The University of California was the only college from Berkely that was analyzed, despite the city being home to colleges like Berkeley City College and The Wright Institute. Similarly, Purdue University was the only college to be analyzed in West Lafayette, even though two institutions accompany the college.



Once a message is typed into the system, a score is generated from a scale of -1, which indicates no stress, to -5, which means a high level of stress. A positive analysis of a tweet begins on the lower end at 1 to a scale of 5 for tweets indicating a high level of positivity.

Afterward, North Star Inbound narrowed the list of college towns to ones where there is at least one major higher-education institution with students that made up 30% or more of the total population in the town or city.

Matt Zajechowski, director of Media Relations at North Star Inbound, said he and his team wanted to analyze language through social media. Additionally, Zajechowski said he wanted to examine student stress in a medium where college students are most active. However, according to Hootsuite, Twitter is listed as the 15th most used social media platform, just above Reddit and Quora. Also, according to the Pew Research Center, among people aged 18–29, 70% use Facebook,

Furthermore, Zajechowki said that while the use of TensiStrength made it easier to analyze tweets, he said he is aware of some of the flaws in the system.

"I think [TensiStrength] gave us a nice

Senior Justin Foster said people say things on Twitter that they would not in real life. 60% of tweets expressing student stress mention finance, housing and academics.

#### PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ARIANA GONZALEZ VILLARREAL, JASMINE SCRIVEN/THE ITHACAN

baseline because we could put in these large amounts of text in there, and it would then plop out a percentage," Zajechowki said. "Do I think it's a perfect system? No, I mean, it's machine learning. I think there are some things where it may detect something being stressed where that might not be a perfect fit for that, but by and large, I think it was definitely helpful and as trustworthy as machine learning can be."

After reading the study, Michelle Goode, program director of the Ithaca College Center for Health Promotion, said she disliked how the study framed stress as just a negative aspect of life.

"Everyone experiences stress," Goode said. "So, I think it's important for us to make sure that's normalized like we don't want to say experiencing stress is abnormal because it's part of the human experience. For me, when I think about stress, I think it's not necessarily if you have stress because we all do."

Senior Justin Foster said he uses Twitter to scroll through memes and tweets. Foster said some tweets can be sarcastic even though there may be language that can allude to stress.

"I think Twitter is something that many people use, especially in college," Foster said. "With Twitter, we're able to voice opinions that we don't say in real life. There are definitely a lot of things that should probably be worked out as far as really figuring out who is stressed and are they genuinely stressed."

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## Faculty figure out how to adapt to new era of AI

#### FROM CHATGPT, PAGE 1

apart from other transformers is its ability to focus on specific elements or words of a given prompt and predict the answer based on the content from its database that is relevant to those elements.

"[ChatGPT] did a couple of clever things," Turnbull said. "It really uses attention from what are the keywords from earlier in a ... sentence, that really matter [when] deciding what the next word is going to be."

Antony Aumann, professor of philosophy at the University of North Michigan, now requires his students to physically write and present initial versions of their essays in class and explain the changes they make to the draft as they go along the editing process.

"There are uses of ChatGPT that are obviously problematic and uses that are acceptable," Aumann said. "But obviously, there's a wide range of uses in between those two extremes that are really hard to negotiate."

John Barr, professor in the Ithaca College Department of Computer Science, said it is too early to predict if ChatGPT will be detrimental to academics considering that it has not yet reached the stage where it can produce extremely sophisticated content.

"[ChatGPT] can solve very simple, small prompts that you might get in a classroom, but it's not ready for prime time," Barr said. "It's not the monster people think it is. It's not God, it's not going to take over the world."

First-year student Haris Li said that as a computer science major, he feels that knowing how to use



Ithaca College hosted a panel event Jan. 31 to discuss the opportunities and concerns that have surrounded ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence tool, since its launch in 2022. XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

ChatGPT based on the kind of assignments that students might have is important.

"If it was only a subset of [coding] assignment, I will understand because it would be more like, 'Oh, you got a little bit of help on this' and, 'Then you edited this part yourself,' or, 'You added on here and there,'" Li said.

David Weil, chief information officer in the Department of Information Technology (IT), said that while the AI tool collects data from different sources to present the user with one answer, the repository of data that the AI is aware of does not extend beyond 2021.

Weil also said users should consider the fact that ChatGPT is getting information from sources that already exist online.

"So you really have to look at

Towers Eatery does not yet offer meal swipe options

it and you have to question it and use your judgment," Weil said. "The other problem with it is you don't know where it's getting this information from. So you don't know if there are biases built into it. You don't know what the bias is. Because you don't know who's providing that information."

Turnbull said he does not think there needs to be a collegewide policy to deal with the repercussions of students using ChatGPT.

"I think professors and students can have mutual respect and work with each other. I don't necessarily feel like I need students to have some broad policy," Turnbull said.

The college also hosted a panel discussion about the AI Jan. 31. A panel of six members from IT, the Provost's Office, the Center of Faculty Excellence (CFE), the Student Governance Council and the Department of Computer Science discussed the AI tool. Members of the CFE said they will host sessions that will focus on what faculty can do this semester to adapt to ChatGPT in classes.

Aumann said colleges must teach students how to ethically use ChatGPT.

"I think that this technology is going to exist, whether we like it or not," Aumann said. "You can be naive and just try as best you can to prevent students from using it but that's just going to widen the gulf between school and the real world. We have an obligation to train students to use this."

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# PETA denounces loopholes in law

#### FROM NY LAW, PAGE 1

the European Union.

New York joins California, Nevada, Illinois, Hawaii, Maryland, Maine, New Jersey, Virginia and Louisiana in prohibiting the sale of cosmetics tested on animals. Cruelty Free International, an animal protection and advocacy group that campaigns for the abolition of all animal experiments, supports the act. It says on its website that the passage of the bill aligns New York State with almost 40 countries and nine U.S. states that have similar laws prohibiting the sale of animal-tested cosmetics.

Although the ban is being enforced statewide, products and brands that do not use cruelty-free testing methods can still be sold, as long as the product was not tested on an animal after Jan. 1.

According to a local New York news source, WXXI News, a \$1.7 trillion federal spending bill contains a clause that will not allow states to regulate the method that cosmetic companies choose to prove their product is safe. This means that if a company needs to prove a product is safe to use, the state may make an exception for the company to use animal testing, therefore possibly limiting the power of the act. However, Cruelty Free International believes this was an oversight and are working to get rid of the clause.

First-year Ithaca College student Elena Lindeman is from New York and said she heard about the act on social media. She said that since she has been buying makeup for several years, she knows the quality of makeup that is cruelty free or vegan and the ones that are not can differ slightly.

"Although the quality is similar, some cruelty-free or vegan brands actually turn out to have better products than the ones that aren't," Lindeman said.

According to PETA, makeup and cosmetics companies that tested on animals in 2022 include Clinique, Maybelline, NARS, OPI and Victoria's Secret, among several others listed on their website. According to a 2019 study conducted by GlobalData, 35% of surveyed cosmetic consumers looked specifically for cruelty-free brands, while 73% supported cruelty-free brands. The history of the law began when the act was introduced to the New York State Assembly in 2021 by Democratic Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal and former Democratic State Senator Alessandra Biaggi.

Rosenthal, representing Manhattan, is the chair of the Committee on Social Services in the NYS Assembly and is known for writing dozens of animal rights bills. Biaggi served from Jan. 1, 2019, to Dec. 31, 2022, and helped pass legislation to strengthen animal protections during National Pet Week in 2021.

After the act was introduced to the state's assembly, the act successfully passed the floor of the New York State Assembly in May 2022. It then passed by a vote of 143–1 in the New York State Senate.

orders an hour at Towers Marketplace when meal swipes were still an option.

**FROM TOWERS EATERY, PAGE 1** 

that people didn't come pick up at the end

ing hours would allow students to have

the option to eat at Towers Eatery at

different times, thus reducing the conges-

ketplace staff had to make about 220

Hebbard said the former Towers Mar-

tion faced by the Towers Eatery kitchen.

of the night," Hebbard said.

"We would end up with about 80 orders

Hebbard said the expanded operat-

Another change is that Terrace Dining Hall is no longer open for late-night dining, which was from 8 to 10 p.m., and instead is open for dinner up until 9 p.m. without the 7 to 8 p.m. pause and menu change.

Briggs said Terrace Dining Hall was usually rather quiet in the last hour of late-night.

Briggs confirmed the goal is to make the option for meal swipes available again at Towers Eatery but said currently the college only has enough staff to have it open as retail dining.

"The response so far has been good," Briggs said. "Even when we did [meal swipes] before, it was pretty chaotic. So I think a lot of commuter students in particular have said they're glad that it's just another retail venue where they can come and use Bomber Bucks later in the evening."

Junior Lenley Aikin said she is hop-



Towers Eatery Manager Makaylah Hebbard said that because Towers Eatery is only retail, demand is lower and staff are less overwhelmed than past semesters. LEILA MARCILLO-GÓMEZ/THE ITHACAN

ing for a shorter turnaround time at Towers Eatery after previously having to wait hours to get her food when Towers Marketplace was in operation.

"Now I'd rather just order something and then grab it real quick, so I think it makes sense reasonably on what the hours are for this year, and I think it'll help better students, just because again it's open till 10," Aikin said.

Hebbard said there will be changes to the menu that would provide students with a larger variety of food. Hebbard said she is looking forward to new menu changes, like the introduction of more vegan options on the menu.

Hebbard said the meat used by Towers Eatery would be halal certified.

"We are excited to be open and serving [students] and hopefully giving [students] a much better experience and even better food than we had last year," Hebbard said. *News Editor Lorien Tyne contributed reporting to this story.* 

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Very little is known about what influenced Rosenthal and Biaggi to introduce the act, but Steve Gruber, the director of communications of the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, said that even though he does not know why the act came about now, he feels it was an important piece of legislature that needed to be signed into New York State's law.

"It's like the law that was passed in New York that banned the sale of dogs and cats and rabbits in pet stores," Gruber said. "It's the right thing to do. I mean, that's my feeling. It's the right thing to do. So do it."

Gruber also said support for animal welfare laws must be made more affordable.

"The way [animal protection] happens is to put money behind it," Gruber said. "Finances help to make things happen."

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# SGC discusses curriculum changes

#### **BY DOMINICK PETRUCCI**

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Returning for its first meeting of Spring 2023, the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) welcomed guest speaker Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs, Jan. 30.

Stein began by discussing ongoing changes to the college's curriculum that will be in full effect by Fall 2023.

"Where it's coming from is a response to department chairs and administrators hearing repeatedly from students a series of frustration," Stein said. "We heard this from students; we want [administrators] to take that to heart, and want you to go take a look at your curriculum, and look at it from the point of view of flexibility and make it possible for students to do everything they want to at IC."

Stein said most departments work on a three-credit-based curriculum, which does not match with the models of other institutions in the country. She said this will bring department classes up to four credits in order to lessen the number of classes while also giving students intensive programs in which they can succeed.

"The focus is on flexibility and thinking about what [faculty] are doing," Stein said. "Each course would be more intensive. It is the same amount of content, just how it is divided up [is] into individual courses."



Members of the SGC met with Melanie Stein (far right), provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, to discuss changes to the college's curriculum at the Jan. 30 meeting. AMINATTA IMRANA JALLOW/THE ITHACAN

Sophomore Noah Richardson, student director of the alumni board, said he is concerned about faculty. He asked if current faculty will be required to teach more classes or if the college plans to hire more faculty.

Stein then went on to explain how shared governance functions at the college. She said the lack of trust between the college's faculty and administration is an issue when combating challenges. The governance structure of decision making includes the president, provost, President's Cabinet and Board of Trustees along with faculty, staff and student input.

The SGC looked at junior Noah Strathman's application for the position of vice president of business and finance. Strathman's plans include making funding easier to obtain for workshops and clubs.

Sophomore Cameron Small presented his application to become Class of 2025 senator. Small said he wants to create a safe space for students of color and LGBTQ+ identifying students.

Small said he would focus on improving mental health, spreading awareness, social events and a podcast that calls attention to the social issues new students face. Both Small and Strathman were elected by the SGC senate.

"My entire freshman year was spent in my dorm room," Small said. "I think the mental health of students of color especially goes unnoticed. ... I know there are spaces here, and I would also like more transparency for those spaces and students that want to go there."

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### **Cornell to raise TCAT funding**

#### **BY NOA RAN-RESSLER**

#### ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit (TCAT) had requested an 8% increase from its three underwriters - the City of Ithaca, Tompkins County and Cornell University - to address issues like rising inflation and decreasing staff numbers. TCAT and Cornell University negotiated down to a 5% increase in contributions and reached an agreement Jan. 20, according to the Cornell Daily Sun.

Ioel Malina. Cornell University's vice president of university relations, told the Ithaca Times that TCAT did not justify the financial contribution increase of 8% and said TCAT already has enough funding, so the university would not comply with the larger increase.

According to Malina, the TCAT has \$15 million in grant funding and another \$16 million in reserve. The grant funding is partially from the U.S. Department of Transportation and partially from the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority, according to the Cornell Daily Sun.

According to the Sun, the reserve money was necessary during the pandemic when ridership decreased. The City of Ithaca and Tompkins County had both already agreed to the 8% increase. A contract signed by the three underwriters in 1991 requires all three to increase contributions by the same percentage. This means all three will increase their contributions by 5%. This comes amid negotiations between TCAT and its drivers' union. United Auto Workers 2300 Local. According to The Ithaca Voice, Scot Vanderpool, TCAT general manager, said the two parties reached a tentative agreement Jan. 26, but the proposed contract still needs to be voted on.

CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU

# IC alumni publish book for future science professionals

#### **BY LIAM MCDERMOTT**

#### STAFF WRITER

Two Ithaca College alumni out of the Department of Exercise Science and Athletic Training released a collaborative book as well as a podcast, both of which are targeted toward aspiring professionals in the field of physical therapy and movement science.

Tim Reynolds '14, assistant professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Athletic Training, and Bryan Guzski '14, physical therapist at the University of Rochester Medical Center and owner of Motive Physical Therapy, met as first-year students in 2009. In 2019, the two alumni began creating their book called "Movers and Mentors: Leaders in Movement Science Share Tips, Tactics, and Stories" and published it in October 2021. They continued on to produce a podcast called "Movers and Shakers" on Confluent Health's website, which features a special guest from their book each episode. "We were getting these rock stars within the industry that agreed to be part of this," Reynolds said. "Every time we heard back from somebody it relit that fire and made this such a more exciting project." Guzski said they set the bar high when it came to who and who not to interview for the book.

in all honesty - I never perceived I would have the opportunity to speak to."

Some of the professionals included in the book are Adriaan Louw and Louie Puentedura, who work at the International Spine and Pain Institute; Joshua Cleland, director of Research and Faculty Development in the Department of Physical Therapy at Tufts University in Massachusetts; Peter O'Sullivan, professor of Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy at Curtin University in Perth, Australia; and Shirley Sahrmann, physical therapy professor at the Washington University School of Medicine in Missouri.

Reynolds and Guzski said one of the



"The clinic-expert clinicians that [Reynolds] and I were interested in following are pretty well known in the industry," Guzski said. "Having the chance to ask them questions and pick their brain and be able to interact with these people that -

most impactful mentors they have had is Mike Costello, associate professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at Ithaca College. When they were students, Reynolds and Guzski approached Costello about doing a residency with him at Cayuga Medical Center.

"I was our internal resident while at Cayuga Medical Center," Reynolds said. "So I had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Costello for the entire year, having hours of mentorship both formally and informally."

Reynolds said Costello helped him to be where he is today, both at the college and at Cayuga Medical Center.

"He helped me have the chance to become a staff clinician at Cayuga Medical Center the following year," Reynolds said. "So, I was able to get rehired and [I] stayed in Ithaca, allowing me to accept a full-time position here at the college, still continue to treat patients at the medical center and teach in their residency program."

From left, Brian Guzski '14 and Tim Reynolds '14 published a book and released a podcast for aspiring physical therapy and movement science professionals.

#### COURTESY OF NSP STUDIO: ANA GAVILANES/THE ITHACAN

In August, Guzski founded Motive Physical Therapy, a mobile physical therapy practice that goes to the patient, instead of the patient going to it. The goal of the clinic is to make the patient feel well and strong enough to be able to do the things they love again.

Costello said that from the beginning, Reynolds and Guzski were different from other students he had. He said they seemed more determined about their future careers.

"I remember [Reynolds] asking to meet with me to inquire about the residency long before he graduated, which was highly unusual at the time, and then [Guzski] was not far behind," Costello said.

Costello said he felt honored to be a

part of the book and such a mentor to both Reynolds and Guzski.

"I am humbled that they hold me in such esteem," Costello said. "To be included in a book with some of the people that they have included is also remarkably humbling."

As a professor himself, Reynolds said he encourages his students to make connections with their professors.

'We're surrounded by a lot of individuals that have done amazing things in their profession," Reynolds said. "Sometimes our students get so focused on the work that is due ... that they do not have the opportunity to tap into those resources."

CONTACT: LMCDERMOTT@ITHACA.EDU

### **COLLEGE BRIEFS**

#### New Students and Transition **Programs hosts Winterfest 2023**

Ithaca College's Winterfest 2023 will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 2 in Emerson Suites. Winterfest is for first-year and transfer students looking to connect with other students on campus. There will be games, like Mario Kart and board games, as well as a cornhole tournament. First place in the tournament will receive a \$100 gift card per teammate for the campus store. Second place will receive a \$50 gift card per teammate for GrubHub. Third place will receive a college swag bag. In addition to the games, there will be virtual reality painting, karaoke, free food, a photo booth and more. Students are encouraged to RSVP. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact New Student and Transition Programs at nstp@ithaca.edu or 607-274-1908.

#### Center for Career Exploration and Development hosts events

The Center for Career Exploration and Development has been hosting a series of career development events in conjunction with other offices and centers on campus. The last two events of the week are the Intercultural Career Connections Panel and Networking, which will be held from 12:10 to 1 p.m. Feb. 2 in Clark Lounge, and Seldom Herd Job Search Strategies from 12 to 1 p.m. Feb. 3 in Muller 101.

Students have the option of registering ahead of time on IC Engage or dropping in. Some of the past events of the series included Open House and Information Sessions, Career and Internship Fair and Steer Your Career: Guidance for the First Generation College Student. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact alamendola@ithaca.edu or call 607-274-3365

#### History professor to celebrate new book launch with event

Michael Trotti, professor in the Department of History, will host an event in honor of the launch of his new book, "The End of Public Execution."

The celebration will be at 3 p.m. Feb. 4 at Buffalo Street Books in Dewitt Mall. The event is focused on the intersection of the death penalty's history and race and religion in the southern U.S.

#### Office of Student Engagement to host meet and network event

The Office of Student Engagement's (OSE) Student Organization Specialists (SOS) are hosting a brunch and networking event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30p.m. Feb. 5 in Clark Lounge. At the event, leadership teams of the college's Student Organizations will be able to meet and work together with each other.

SOS will present resources that OSE offers to student organizations and clubs and will also provide tips about management and event planning. Food will be provided at the event. Participants requiring accommodations must contact ose@ithaca.edu.

#### Izzy Awards accepting award nominations and applications

The Izzy Awards, awarded by the Park Center for Independent Media (PCIM) to high-achieving independent journalists, is accepting nominations until 12 a.m. Feb. 3.

Eligible work for nominations includes stories that have not been published by popular or established media companies.

Nominations must be sent to Raza Rumi, director of the PCIM, at pcim@ithaca.edu and have to include a written explanation of no more than 350 words answering why a submission should be considered for the award. In addition to this, nominations also need to include five attachments, including links, of relevant published work.

#### **Center for IDEAS and Students** of Color Coalition host event

The Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change (IDEAS) and the Students of Color Coalition are hosting a community building event called First Friday: BIPOC Kickback Event from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Fitness Center. The event is a part of the Center for IDEAS' First Friday events that are held every month, on the first Friday of the month.

Food will be provided and various student organizations will be present at the event to talk about their respective organizations. Pulse Hip Hop, the college's hip-hop dance group, will perform and there will also be music by DJs from Washburn Entertainment. Student organizations and clubs that are interested in participating or presenting at the event can do so by scanning the QR code on the event poster. Students needing accommodations must contact ideas@ithaca.edu.



### Ithaca and Cornell unite to play frisbee

From left, Cornell University sophomore Ethan Lau and Ithaca College senior Ellen Chapman play on the same team during the Frozone ultimate frisbee tournament bringing both colleges together to celebrate the sport Jan. 28.

#### LEILA MARCILLO-GÓMEZ/THE ITHACAN

#### Hillel to celebrate to celebrateTu B'shevat by planting succulents

Hillel at Ithaca College will be celebrating Tu B'shevat by planting succulents for students to take home. Students will also have the opportunity to learn more about Judaism. The event will be at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Center for Natural Sciences, room 202.

Tu B'shevat is the Jewish new year for trees and is celebrated currently as a day of environmental awareness. Participants should contact lgoldberg2@ithaca.edu for accommodation requests and questions.

#### CIS Abroad to host study abroad program information session

CIS Abroad, a study abroad program that is affiliated with Ithaca College, will organize an information session from 12:10 to 1:05 p.m. Feb. 7 in Friends Hall, room 201. CIS Abroad offers affiliated programs in Italy, Scotland, Thailand and Japan.

There are additional location options through non-affiliated programs. Information on the difference between affiliate and non-affiliate programs, and information on the difference between Tier 1 and Tier 2 programs, is available on the college's Terra Dotta site. Questions and accommodations regarding this event, should be directed to studyabroad@ithaca.edu.

#### IC Unbound Company organizes dance auditions for Spring 2023

IC Unbound, Ithaca College's biggest dance company, will hold auditions for Spring 2023 at 7:45 p.m. Feb. 5 in the Fitness Center.

Interested students will be able to choose the kind of dance techniques, like jazz and contemporary, and will be able to choose which dance style they want to audition for.

Students will also have to select the number of hours per week that they wish to dance. Audtionees will find out which dance style they have been selected for on the night of the auditions itself.

Selected dancers will be expected to attend weekly rehearsals taking place every Sunday. Students requiring accommodations should contact icunbound@gmail.com.

# **PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG**

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM JAN. 9 TO JAN. 22

**JANUARY 9** 

**PETIT LARCENY BETWEEN** 

\$50-\$99

Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded to the call.

**JANUARY 17** 

**TRESPASS NO DEGREE** LOCATION: Muller Faculty Center stole wireless headphones. The task Officer RJ Petrella responded to was completed. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded to the call.

JANUARY 20

the call.

**JANUARY 22** 

**JANUARY 13** 

LOCATION: East Tower SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person stole items from a common area. Investigation is pending. Patrol officer Thaddeus May responded to the call.

#### **JANUARY 10**

#### **MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED**

LOCATION: Terrace 10 SUMMARY: Caller reported chest pains. Officer reported person transported to hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Kevin Noterfonzo responded to the call.

#### JANUARY 12

#### **OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT**

LOCATION: Other SUMMARY: Caller reported a verbal threat that occurred off campus.

#### SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS

#### LOCATION: Terrace 11

SUMMARY: Caller reported an intoxicated person. Person was taken into custody under the Mental Hygiene Law. Person was referred for irresponsible use of alcohol and underage possession of alcohol. The person responsible was referred to student conduct. Patrol Officer Kevin Noterfonzo responded to the call.

#### **JANUARY 16**

#### **FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL**

LOCATION: Circle 131 SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Officer reported alarm activation was caused by maintenance working in the area. The alarm was accidental. Patrol Officer Steven Hutchison responded.

SUMMARY: Simplex reported a door-contact alarm. Officer reported unknown person exiting out of fire escape door. Officers searched with negative results. Patrol Officer Steven Hutchison responded.

#### **JANUARY 18**

#### **MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/ PROPERTY DAMAGE**

LOCATION: Office of Public Safety Parking Lot

SUMMARY: Officer reported property damage vehicle accident. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

#### **JANUARY 19**

#### **BURGLARY NO FORCE 3RD** DEGREE

LOCATION: Ceracche Athletic Center SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person entered area and

#### **MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED**

LOCATION: Terrace Dining Hall SUMMARY: Person reported striking their arm on a freezer door handle, causing an abrasion to their arm. Person declined medical assistance. A report was taken. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded to the report.

#### **JANUARY 21**

#### **MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED**

LOCATION: West Tower SUMMARY: A caller reported that they had fallen because of slippery conditions. The person reported a finger injury because of the fall. The person declined any further medical assistance. A report was taken. Safety

#### **MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED**

LOCATION: Dillingham Center

SUMMARY: A caller reported that they had agitated a pre-existing knee injury. The agitation occurred during a rehearsal for a dance recital. An officer provided the person with an ice pack and the person declined any further medical assistance. Safety Officer RJ Petrella responded to the call.

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

# **OPINION**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023



ILLUSTRATION BY GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN

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**EDITORIALS** 

# beneficial as some think

hile signing the New York Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act, Governor Kathy Hochul should have added another word - somewhat free. At first sight, it seems like a great law that will protect animals from

unethical testing, however, everything has loopholes and this law is no different.

According to the law, there are a few exceptions that allow animal testing. The first exception states that in the case of no alternative to widely used cosmetic ingredients, animal testing is acceptable. Mainly large and famous beauty corporations, like Nivea and L'Oréal, are the ones funding and using animal testing. Finding ways to prove that there is no alternative to animal testing is not a hard job for such large beauty brands. Unfortunately, that exception is not the only one that allows large companies to use animal testing. Another exception states that if animal testing is required by foreign jurisdiction, the product can still be sold in New York. Most of these widely used companies are spread around the world and can easily do the

testing outside of New York.

Determining the consequences the product can have on people's health is another exception to animal testing. So, if any company comes up with a defensible argument as to why their product might result in specific health problems, they can use animal testing. Most cosmetics carry a risk of resulting in some sort of health problem, meaning that the need for animal testing would not be hard to prove in these cases either.

To add the cherry on top of these exceptions, the law allows products that have been tested on animals before Jan. 1, 2023, to be sold in the state. Animal testing must be banned completely, without any exceptions, because there are alternatives to animal testing, like the strategy of reduction, refinement and replacement. Not only do people need to look for alternatives, they need to realize that organic and natural products are better than any animal or alternative-tested product, and have immediate distance from non-cruelty-free products.

# Cruelty free law is not as It is on students to make wise decisions on ChatGPT

he Artificial Intelligence (AI), ChatGPT, that gives human-like responses to questions and prompts is not as harmful for colleges as some think. It is not

the first, and definitely not the last AI. In this age of technology, similar AIs are available for different kinds of usage. ChatGPT is somewhat more developed than other transformer AIs by its ability to remember previous prompts, however, it still is not perfectly accurate.

This new AI understandably raises professors' worries about students cheating on their papers and assignments with the help of ChatGPT. Many professors' first response is to ban ChatGPT or change their teaching techniques. However, there are a couple of things professors should take into consideration before putting restrictions on ChatGPT usage in their classrooms. Banning one AI usage and changing teaching techniques will not prevent cheating. There are many ways students can cheat beyond the usage of ChatGPT. The faculty can do only so much, but if students are determined to cheat, they will find loopholes. Certainly, those who cheat must be penalized because falsely obtained grades will still result in good career opportunities in the future. However, banning ChatGPT is not going to help decrease cheating rates much.

On the other hand, technology develops. Over time, banning or restricting them will be impossible. However, trying to work with new technology can have positive impacts. After all, if students start viewing it as an educational tool, they will see it less as a cheating tool.

Professors' worries about this issue are understandable, however, students are adults who can make decisions for themselves and hold full responsibility for their future. A good professor educates and helps students and how that knowledge will be taken is not on them. It is on students to acknowledge that the tuition they pay is not for cheating, but for getting the best educational experience possible. If students are not worried about their success and prefer dishonest ways of getting things done, why should professors be?

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

#### ALL LETTERS MUST:

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

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

#### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

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

## **India must secure LGBTQ+ community's human rights**

#### **BY SHYLA MISHRA**

SOPHOMORE

When asked to write a commentary on the legalization of same-sex marriage in India, the first thing I wanted to do was call my family and tell them all about it. But I had to stop myself from doing that because to this day my family has no idea who I am.

The fight for the legalization of same-sex marriage in India has been going on for decades. In 2018, India's Supreme Court decriminalized homosexuality by striking down Section 377. Before this ruling, any homosexual act was punishable by up to 10 years in prison. I can never forget the day of the hearing. I remember my eyes were glued to the TV screen, and I just sat there in silence because I knew how much impact that day was going to have on my life. I was trying to pay attention to what was being said, but the thought, "Will I remain closeted for the rest of my life and live in fear, or will I finally be able to live my truth?" was louder than all the other voices. I still sometimes think about that day. What would have happened if things didn't go the way they did? Who would I be?

Earlier this month, the Supreme Court ordered the lower courts to transfer all the legal petitions filed by LGBTQ+ couples and activists seeking recognition of same-sex marriage to the top court. The lead petition was filed by a gay couple, Supriyo Chakraborty and Abhay Dange, which stated that denying these couples equal rights prevents them from not only getting pensions but also from being able to start a family through adoption.

People justify being discriminatory toward LGBTQ+ people by saying that "homosexuality is against the Indian Culture." However, historical pieces of evidence, like the Kamasutra, indicate how homosexuality has been a part of our culture for thousands of years. LGBTQ+ members were not considered inferior until the 18th century when the British Crown established its rule in India.

A few weeks ago, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's (RSS) chief, Mohan Bhagwat, backed the LGBTQ+ community by saying, "LGBT/Transgender issues are not new issues; they have always been there. These people also have a right to live. Without much hullabaloo, we have found a way, with a humane approach, to provide them social acceptance, bearing in mind they are also human beings having inalienable right to live." RSS is a right-wing Hindu nationalist organization that is the parent organization of Bharatiya Janata Party, the ruling party of India. Bhagwat's remarks can be a game changer for



Sophomore Shyla Mishra is hoping for progress on the legalization of same-sex marriage in India. She thinks discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community must end through new laws and society's input. JASMINE SCRIVEN/THE ITHACAN

this hearing because the central government cannot use religion or culture as an excuse to deny these rights anymore.

Somehow, I feel like that 14-year-old, closeted queer child again. I thought it would've gotten easier by now. Taking into consideration that I'm a full-grown adult now who's comfortable with their sexuality. But the uncertainty is back again. The thought that if one day I wish to marry a woman and start a family, I would not be allowed to, is louder than everything that's on the news, just like before.

India needs to legalize same-sex marriage. This fight has been going on for far too long and even if the court legalizes it, it won't end there. It will take our society years to finally be able to adapt to this change. So the first step is for the law to ensure that LGBTQ+ people are given basic human rights and security, just like any other individual in the country.

Shyla Mishra (she/her) is a music major. Contact her at smishra@ithaca.edu.

#### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

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

## Gun violence epidemic: The stories behind the statistics

#### **BY JESS MOSKOWITZ**

#### JUNIOR

The United States has experienced more than 50 mass shootings in January 2023, resulting in more than 100 lives lost. The epidemic of gun violence continues to ravish communities, year after year, as society remains numb.

#### The Problem

**2018:** I was working for March For Our Lives in New York, organizing gun violence prevention events, when a woman came up to me, hugged me, and said, "Thank you." I learned later that day that the woman was the grandmother of a young girl whose life was stolen by an act of gun violence.

#### never returned home.

**2020:** I assumed the role of New York State Director at March For Our Lives, overseeing all of the operations for the organization across the state. One of my jobs was producing press releases each time another mass shooting entered the news cycle. For two years, over and over and over again, another shooting, another press release. Gun violence stole 45,222 lives in 2020 and nearly 49,000 more in 2021, each year breaking the previous year's record of most gun deaths. No time to grieve, no time to process the tragedy.

People will argue over the causes of gun violence and the need for gun violence prevention laws and yet, at the end of the day, the epidemic of gun violence at its core cannot just be about the numbers or the legislation.



The problem is that in many news stories, that young girl was just one of the 100 people each day that are killed by gun violence in the United States. She was just one of the 39,740 people killed in 2018. She was another victim, another statistic, another talking point. To her grandmother, she was everything, and then she was gone. That interaction continuously serves as a reminder that the epidemic of gun violence is not about statistics and politics, it is about humanity.

**2019:** On March 24, at a one-year anniversary event for March For Our Lives, I had the honor of speaking with a group of students who, like myself, are a part of the lockdown generation. They asked me one simple question: "When will I stop being afraid to go to school?" They didn't want to talk about the political debate, they just wanted to feel safe.

The epidemic of gun violence is not about the left versus the right. It is about the children that are afraid to go to school not knowing if they will return home the same day. That year, 39,707 people This conversation must be about valuing people over the profit of the gun lobby. We cannot continue to accept this cycle of violence as normal. We cannot continue to watch innocent lives, stolen by firearms, become pawns in the news cycle.

#### The Solution

It would be ignorant of me to talk about gun violence and not acknowledge the fact that, yes, the numbers are important. Knowing that states with looser gun restrictions have an 11.5% higher rate of mass shootings and that New York State, which has some of the most restrictive gun laws in the country, has one of the fewest gun deaths per capita, is important. These numbers are no coincidence. Gun laws save lives. With that said, gun violence prevention legislation is only one piece of the puzzle. By talking and organizing with people in communities most plagued by gun violence, I have learned that to Junior Jess Moskowitz breaks down the problems and solutions with gun violence in the United States. They believe that humanity must be above any statistics out there.

#### **GABRIEL BIENNAS/THE ITHACAN**

stop the epidemic, we have to operate with a framework of prevention rather than policing.

The Centers for Disease Control found that youth violence prevention programs like Cure Violence and Baltimore Safe Streets, across all the implementation sites and bordering areas, had at least five fewer homicides and approximately 35 fewer nonfatal shootings. By focusing on prevention, not punishment, lives are saved.

These statistics are important, but when the epidemic of gun violence in the United States has created a generation so deeply filled with fear and trauma that we have become numb to the violence, the statistics are just numbers. We have become numb to the reality that each number represents a life lost. We have become numb to the loss of humanity.

Five years later, I still think about that grandmother as a reminder that behind all the numbers and debates, behind the jargon and legislative decisions, the solution to ending gun violence must be rooted in valuing people over power.

Together, we as a people need to fight to maintain that humanity; we must tell the stories behind the statistics.

Jess Moskowitz (they/them) is a journalism major. Contact them at jmoskowitz@ithaca.edu.

# **LIFE & CULTURE** THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

# FIVE MINUTES TILL CURTAIN

# **DILLINGHAM PREPARES FOR MAIN STAGE SHOWS**

#### **BY KINSEY BURR**

STAFF WRITER

Performers, designers and producers of Ithaca College are setting the stage for the arrival of a band of pirates, an inarticulate linguist, Julius Caesar and a collection of other quirky characters bringing comedy and drama to life at Dillingham Center.

Ithaca College's Center for Theatre and Dance has been preparing for the quartet of shows being performed in the Spring 2023 season for the past eleven months. Students from all different backgrounds and majors on campus are building sets, creating intricate costumes and memorizing lines in the weeks leading up to the performances of "The Pirates of Penzance," opening Feb. 22; "The Language Archive," opening March 24;

Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, surveyed nearly 600 female-identifying theater design and production practitioners. The survey found 80% of the women recalled a negative work environment, 76% experienced gender-based harassment and 51% experienced a gender-based pay gap.

"Changing one of these major roles is trying to address gender inequity, but it is also shifting attention to the power struggle of a woman that is in charge," Robinson said. "We are thinking about the precision of comedy, but also thinking about how to keep the freshest perspective in a piece written in the 19th century."

Robinson said that bringing relevant social issues alive on stage with techniques like gender-bending and metaphors for wealth and privilege with a light foot is something

Dance, will take the stage.

This classic Shakespeare play supplemented with music inspired by New Orleans jazz, '80s pop and traditional musical theater follows twins who were separated in a disaster but eventually end up in the same place. Comedy arises from the Shakespearean twists and turns like mistaken identities and love stories along this self-realization journey, Young said.

"This adaptation is really about having thought the world was one way, but because of going through an experience, the characters can now see through the eyes of another human being, and that has expanded their world view and sense of self worth," Young said.

The Spring 2023 season finishes with a modern twist on a classic tragedy in "Caesar,"

tragedy, exploring ways to demonstrate the depth of human condition to not only the audience but the cast and crew as well.

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"What I hope people take away from this is that this kind of storytelling matters and that theater can make a difference," Weidner said. "Theater can make you think about something other than where your car is parked or where you would like to go for dinner," Weidner added.

Ryan Dickson '18, instructor in the Department of Theatre Production and Management, who sits on the committee that picks the productions each year, said he has had a big role in the shows since titles were picked, and now he works on spreading the word of all four shows performing this semester. He said the collaborative nature of the theatre and dance program and



From left, sophomores Noah Schuster, Birdie Sink and first-year student Riley Suzuki audition for Ithaca College's production of "Twelfth Night" on Jan. 23. **KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN** 

"Twelfth Night," opening March 29; and "Caesar," opening April 26, throughout this semester.

of Penzance," directed by Ben Robinson, lecturer in the Center for Theatre and Dance, which is a parody of British society following a young pirate apprentice who decides the pirate lifestyle is not for him. The rules and constraints of the culture he grew up in and is surrounded by, however, make for a topsy-turvy journey that mirrors struggles in today's society, Robinson said. "We are morphing the production into a general commentary on how we stratify social structure through the lens of resort culture," Robinson said.

the program had in mind while choosing this year's performances.

After the college bids the pirates adieu, a Opening the 2023 season is "The Pirates new group of performers and designers hit the stage with a dramatic comedy following a man with passion and a big problem. "The Language Archive," directed by Marc Gomes, assistant professor in the Center for Theatre and Dance, examines how big of a role communication plays in all lives. "The Language Archive" is a play that follows a scientist who has spent his entire life obsessed with saving languages with a particular interest in communication. Ironically, however, this language buff is unable to communicate effectively with the one person he cares most about, Gomes said. "It's about understanding what the actual aspects of communication are rather than just shared languages or collecting or documenting language," Gomes said. "Understanding where in the spaces in between languages there is actual communication, rather than speaking or hearing words." Following "The Language Archive," a musical adaptation of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," directed by Courtney Young, associate professor in the Center for Theatre and

directed by Catherine Weidner, professor in the Center for Theatre and Dance. Set in modern Rome, this play explores how relevant the themes of the ageless "Julius Caesar" are in today's society, especially in modern politics, Weidner said.

the positive environment the staff and students create set the plays up to be successful and fulfilling.

"It is truly a gift from both pedagogically... an arts management point of view, but also for the students who are creating the world in which they are inhabiting with Catherine's direction, that you have this support on both sides of the coin," Dickson said. Being an alum who did performances as a student and now working with the program to advertise the shows and working with staff directors, student performers and crew, Dickson said he recognizes how much work is put into the program and how much it means to the students involved. "Not only are we giving you a great evening of live performance, but we are also making your experience whole from the moment you purchase your ticket, come through the door, interact with our students, watch a great performance and then walk out of the theater with something to talk about," Dickson said.

Gender-bending, the act of changing a fictional character's biological sex or gender identity from the canonical norm, Robinson said, is another challenge this cast and crew have taken on for this production.

In response to gender inequity and lack of roles for female voices in the opera, the college's production of this show will feature a woman as one of the main characters who was originally written for a man.

A study conducted by researchers at

"We are pushing the reset button on what people might think about Shakespeare, what people might think about Julius Caesar and saying 'let's expose this for what it is, for what it means today," Weidner said.

Not just actors and directors are busy at work, however. Because of the plays' challenging set design and heightened text, Weidner said that an incredible group of costume, sound, set and light designers have been working with stage management teams and production liaisons since February 2022 to make sure everything is ready for when performers are finally assigned their roles.

"It's like the decathlon at the Olympics," Weidner said. "It's something that requires performers and designers and dramaturgs and stage managers to use every muscle they have."

Although the performers are in the early stages of preparing for the show, Weidner said she has been working for months on this

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# IC students selected as Coca-Cola Films finalists

#### **BY PATRICK MAZZELLA**

#### STAFF WRITER

Every summer, American moviegoers are treated to the newest projects from the best of the best film students from participating colleges and universities, showcasing the magic of the movie theater and the vitality of sipping on a refreshing Coke while audience members enjoy a feature presentation on the silver screen.

Each year, the Coca-Cola Refreshing Films Program accepts pitches from young filmmakers, like two of the 2023 finalists, Ithaca College first-year students Sami Smith and Malaika Menezes. The five finalist films selected by Coca-Cola are given production grants to turn their pitch into an advertisement for Coke and the magic of the movie theaters. The winning film from each year is then showcased in Regal, AMC and Cinemark theaters throughout the United States during the summer movie season.

While the process of reaching this stage in the program has been a tough one, Smith and Menezes said they had not always planned on sending in pitches. Menezes and Smith said they both heard about the interest meeting that was held in October 2022 at the last minute and both decided to go.

Smith and Menezes had not known each other well prior to the pitch meeting, but Menezes said they hit it off during the meeting and decided to work together, thus beginning the intensive scriptwriting process. Going in without any ideas to start with, the co-writers decided they would try to develop several ideas, and then slowly narrow it down to one, in hopes that the sheer quantity might yield one idea that they could settle on. And that idea was "Phone Date."

"Phone Date' was definitely our favorite of the seven or eight ideas we had, just because of the comedy behind it, so we tried really hard to make it flourish," Menezes said. "We were so happy when it was chosen."

As the pitch process went on, Smith said they found themselves getting more and more competitive when they heard about other students' submissions. Seeing other teams developing their own pitches as the process went on only motivated them to push further and work to create an even better film.

"There was never really a point in which we didn't see ourselves making it this far," Menezes said. "I think we both kind of just always envisioned ourselves getting to the finals, even if that sounds kind of weird."

Menezes and Smith are not alone in working on this project, however. They have worked with other students and even some faculty to reach this stage.

Mickie Quinn, as the staff manager of Park Productions, has been in charge of the social media outreach for this film, as well as the other Refreshing Films submissions by Ithaca College students. She said her desire to be part of the students' support system was strong, and that she



From left, first-year students Malaika Menezes and Sami Smith were named finalists in the 2023 Coca-Cola Refreshing Films Program. They will create an advertisement with funding from Coke.

wanted to ensure students have the opportunity to make the film they envisioned during the pitch.

"It's connecting the project to the outside world," Quinn said. "We're working on creating content that allows people to go behind the scenes, to introduce Malaika and Sami as the creators of this project and to show their process from start to finish."

Jack Powers, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences & Studies, has served as the faculty advisor for the program since the college started participating and said he is heavily involved in supporting the students from start to finish as they work on their pitches to send to Coca-Cola. Powers said he has been meeting with Menezes and Smith throughout the process leading up to the finalist selection and will be present on set with the students involved.

"This is a major undertaking," Powers said. "It's a national competition, it's hard. Sam and Malaika have put in a lot of work already and there's still a lot of work to do. They're very impressive."

Smith said production will take

place partially on the Ithaca College campus, and then the production team will travel to Scranton, Pennsylvania, to complete production in the nearest Cinemark theater. All of the finished finalist films will be available to watch in April 2023.

"We let our imaginations kind of run away with us; we heard about this contest and were like, oh my god, I can see myself doing that." Menezes said. "So it kind of became our reality before we got to where we are now."

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# Seniors find housing and communities on Facebook

#### **BY HANNAH FICHTER**

#### STAFF WRITER

Living off campus is a luxury for seniors at Ithaca College. In order to fill off-campus housing vacancies because of students studying abroad and students graduating early, some students have taken to Facebook to post ads in specific groups run by sources outside of Ithaca College.

Facebook has become a widely used outlet for students searching for subleases, making it a leading platform for this purpose. To help facilitate this, Facebook offers a step-by-step video on subletting, offering tips on how to begin the process. Some Facebook groups look specifically for students looking to sublease, while others require approval from group administrators in order to make posts and search for listings in the group or make posts through the group. Instead, she posted through the Ithaca College Class of 2024 and 2025 groups, as well as Cornell University Housing, Sublets and Roommates.

The Cornell University housing page on Facebook breaks down the process of creating a post into steps. A sublet post includes the property's address, how many rooms there are, the availability of the space and the price. There is a form with fill-in-the-blank answers that makes sure all the necessary details regarding the property are displayed.

Although Farquharson's first experience finding a sublet through Facebook was successful, her second attempt to find someone to sublet is proving to be more difficult, she said. She posted an ad in December on behalf of her roommate, which received no activity.



Senior Steffani Farquharson was one of these students who, in January 2021, was looking for a place to sublet. She used Facebook as her search engine and found an open room in a three-bedroom apartment in Ithaca, which allowed her to take over another person's part of the lease for a specific period of time.

"If you're looking to get a room for yourself, it's a great place to go because people are reliable," Farquharson said.

Aside from finding housing, Farquharson said her roommates from her sublet are now some of her closest friends. She said ads for housing through Facebook offer a way to meet new people.

Although Farquharson is a part of the college's Class of 2023, she is still waiting to be approved to join the Class of 2023 Facebook page. Until she is approved, she is unable to see Posting an ad can be hit or miss — it is not guaranteed to work, but despite this, it is an excellent way to reach various people, Farquharson said.

Senior Jane Pfeufer similarly said she was attracted to Facebook because she knew many listings were posted.

"I got a few solid people that were interested, and messaged me via the messenger app," Pfeufer said via email. "A lot of them ghosted, or just forgot to respond, but others were very interested."

Pfeufer was looking for someone to replace a spot in her apartment because she had found a different apartment, which resulted in an unexpected need to search for someone to sublet her room. However, Pfeufer said the time of year that a post is made may affect how much activity the post receives.

Welcoming someone new into your living situation can be scary, fifth-year student

Ithaca College students have turned to Facebook to post and find listings for off-campus housing in Ithaca. Some Facebook groups are specifically for students looking to sublease. NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

Hannah Leask said. Because Leask was not a part of the roommate selection process, she said she had to welcome a stranger into her home to live with her.

"I dealt with the aftermath," Leask said. "The thought of living with a stranger gave me freshman-year vibes."

Leask said it felt like she was forced to deal with the situation because she did not have a say in the process; she just had to deal with whatever happened and did not know what to expect. However, Leask said that overall the situation ended up working out well.

Communication is essential in creating a healthy living environment, Leask said.

Going over household rules, different expectations for living, and being upfront and honest can help stop many issues from occurring. Leask said the transition of welcoming her new roommate was eased by ensuring an open line of communication.

Between finding the right roommates and waiting for a response, the Facebook sublet hunt can prove difficult. Despite this, Farquharson said it also creates an easy way for college students to reach out to others.

"It was successful for me, so it could be successful for others," Farquharson said.

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## Powerful ensemble grounds story of survival

MOVIE REVIEW: "Women Talking" United Artists Releasing

#### **BY PATRICK MAZZELLA**

STAFF WRITER

Do nothing. Stay and fight. Leave. These are the options laid out in front of the women and children of the Mennonite colony centered in Sarah Polley's new film.

Based on the 2018 novel by Miriam Toews, "Women Talking" spends the majority of its 104-minute runtime following the debate on the colony's future among the most trusted women in the colony. The vote comes after one of the men from the colony was caught and arrested for sexually assaulting a young child while she slept.

The first vote ended in a tie. Stay and fight, or leave. This inspired the colony to elect representatives they trusted to decide their fate. The decision must be made by the time the men return from the town after bailing the abusers out of jail, in just two days.

The concept Polley sets up is quite simple. The film is exactly what it is called — it's just women talking. Women who have been hurt so deeply throughout their lives, victims of many generations of abuse. Women that are finally deciding their own futures.

The cast of this film is truly astounding. Boasting performances from Rooney Mara who grounds the film with her calm and loving presence, Jessie

Buckley, a passionate but deeply afraid mother, and Claire Foy, a fiery addition to the group, audiences are in for a showcase of the ensemble's immense talent.

Mara's outing as Ona, a pregnant young woman who's smitten with the colony teacher (portrayed with the incomparable warmth of Ben Whishaw), is one of the best and most empathetic of the year. Salome (Foy) and Mariche (Buckley) offer similarly humane performances, occupying a space rarely depicted in film without judgment. Salome's fear of leaving her son behind and Mariche not wanting to potentially upset her notoriously violent husband both add such a layer of nuance beyond the first reasons they give for their stances.

Polley's screenplay, which is excellently written, offers a look at these women and their circumstances without judgment on the morality of their opinions and avoids villainizing one character or another for wanting to leave or to stay. Instead, throughout the film, the characters are able to ask questions, interrogate and truly understand each person's perspective. The questions range from, "Where will they go if the women leave?" to, "What will happen to the teenage boys if the women leave? Is he too entrenched in the culture of abuse to stay with the women?"

Polley's direction of the film



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August (Ben Whishaw), Ona (Rooney Mara) and Salome (Claire Foy) reflect on whether or not to leave their colony in "WomenTalking." **COURTESY OF UNITED ARTISTS RELEASING** 

is the only aspect leaving something to be desired. Polley falls victim to the restrictions she wrote herself into, being that much of the film takes place in one space. And while it's far from an impossible task, creating visual interest and blocking an ensemble as large as this in such a confined space is something that many directors struggle with.

This is not to say the film suffers too much, though, as there are breaks away from its convention that allows audiences (and characters) to breathe between these heavy conversations about survival.

Between the very moving score by Hildur Guðnadóttir and a talented ensemble, the minimal slack is picked up, delivering a timely story that will surely make audiences as furious at the state of the world as Polley and Toews are.

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## **Emotionally vapid drama has** nothing meaningful to say

MOVIE REVIEW: "The Son" Sony Pictures Classics

#### **BY MATT MINTON**

#### CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

At the heart of Florian Zeller's newest film is a parent struggling to connect with his child and not knowing how to help him. Peter's (Hugh Jackman) child suffers

from depression, that much is clear, but

\*\*\*\*\*

rich story at hand, it seemed like there was no way "The Son" could fail. Well, somehow it managed to.

McGrath, who portrays the film's titular son, is sadly miscast and entirely unconvincing in the role. This makes it extremely difficult for any viewer to be able to sympathize with him; his line readings grow more and more melodramatic and inauthentic as his character externalizes his sadness.



Nicholas (Zen McGrath) shares a scene with Dern) and Peter (Hugh Jac



### The Oscars best actress drama

#### **BY MATT MINTON**

CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

On Jan. 24, the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences unveiled the 2023 Oscar nominations to the world. There was one unprecedented inclusion in the Best Actress line-up that launched an ongoing online controversy about award campaign tactics and privilege.

Danielle Deadwyler and Viola Davis were considered strong contenders in the Lead Actress category for their performances in "Till" and "The Woman King," respectively. Deadwyler received nothing but praise, with nominations at BAFTA, the Critics Choice Awards and the Screen Actors Guild Awards - three of the four key precursors leading up to the Oscars - and yet was still left out of the category come nomination morning. Davis was one of the few actresses this year to receive all four precursor nominations for lead actress and was also left out.

So how did these two talented Black actresses manage to miss out on the prestigious Oscars nomination? While we will never know the exact voting results from the Academy, making it difficult to tell who took whose spot, one thing can be said with confidence: Andrea Riseborough's nomination for "To Leslie" came as a total shocker.

"To Leslie" follows Leslie Rowlands (Riseborough), a single mother that wins a local Texas lottery before spending all of the money on drugs and alcohol. The film lacked the kind of money and backing to build a traditionally successful awards campaign.

After Riseborough was nominated, people online seemed divided on the tactics used to get her name into the conversation. Some called it a true grassroots campaign, celebrating that a little independent film got a big boost from her fellow actors. I'm sure she gives a great performance in "To Leslie."

But the fact of the matter is that Riseborough is a privileged, white actress with a lot of friends in Hollywood who helped her get nominated. And her inclusion came at the expense of a spot that could've gone to a talented, deserving black actress.

A few days after nominations were announced, the Academy announced that they are "conducting a review of campaign proce



why exactly is unknown. It's a reality that is likely to ring true for many parents today. Unfortunately, it quickly becomes clear that Zeller is more interested in emotionally manipulating his audience members than exploring this topic with any nuance.

"The Son," adapted from Zeller's own 2018 stage play, follows Peter when his exwife, Kate (Laura Dern), suddenly turns up one day. She is concerned about their son, Nicholas (Zen McGrath), who has not gone to school in a month and is harming himself. Peter agrees to have Nicholas move back in with him and his new partner, Beth (Vanessa Kirby), as he tries to understand what is going on with him – an effort that throws his life into emotional turmoil.

After the success of Zeller's first directorial effort, "The Father" (2020), his follow-up was naturally highly anticipated. With an all-star cast, his excellent writing partner in Christopher Hampton returning (whose credits include "Atonement" and "Dangerous Liaisons") and an emotionally

Jackman, in the lead role, leaves the strongest impression here, stunningly portraying his character's regret and inability to help his son.

The biggest problem with Zeller and Hampton's script is its vapid, one-note depiction of mental health issues. It's clear that their efforts here were well intentioned in bringing much needed awareness to the struggles that many young people face with their mental health, but perhaps this just was not the right story for them to tell.

Nicholas is a poorly written character that always seems to be in a state of such visible distress, as if the audience needs a constant reminder of his suffering in order to sympathize with him. The opposite effect occurs, not allowing for any kind of conversation to surface about the subtle warning signs that someone is in pain, or the ways that people who face depression may try to hide how they truly feel from the people around them.

COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

By the time the story reaches its end that borders on being trauma porn, the audience is left with nothing but a bitter taste in their mouth.

"The Father" successfully made the leap to the big screen with its uniquely cinematic choices, like subtly making changes to the production design of the house to depict how dementia can affect someone's perception of time.

Sadly, "The Son" does not carry the same success. The staging of the actors is too theatrical and over-directed, failing to make crucial moments between the characters feel lived in and real.

Underneath the film's emotional velocity and shouting proclamations of grief and loss, it is not difficult to see how little Zeller and Hampton have to say about anything at the end of the day.

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dures." Some of the questions regarding the ethics of it all come from the involvement of actor Frances Fisher, who was actively posting about Riseborough on Instagram while referencing her competition. If Fisher were found to be involved with the campaign team directly, this could be in direct violation of the Academy's rules.

Regardless of whether Riseborough's campaign team actually went against any established rules, the in-your-face lobbying techniques and specifically asking people to post about her performance online seemed excessive.

This is not a true "grassroots" campaign, as her team wants you to believe. It's about a woman who used her Hollywood connections to get a seat at a table -a table that historically (and currently) excludes people of color from the conversation.

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

# DIVERSIONS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

## crossword

12

### By Quill Driver Books



ACROSS
1 Unkempt one
5 Gamblers' rolls
9 Khayyam or
Sharif
13 Of great size
14 Run — (go
against)
16 Dilly
17 Countess's
spouse
18 Thingamajig
19 Exclamation of
surprise
20 Sword fight
21 Before
22 Cannoneer's tool 24 Jackrabbit
24 Jackrabbit 26 Least-varying
tide
27 Town officials
30 Vague discomfort
33 Proficient
34 Burlap fiber
35 Poker token
37 Pedro's aunt
38 Desert plants
39 Muslim honorific
40 Juno, in Athens
42 Gooey
43 Brawl
45 Accident-prone

47 Spurts 48 Bikini tops 49 Like a flamingo 50 Tale 53 Metal in pewter 54 Lasting blemish 58 State definitely 59 Opened the window 61 Earthen pot 62 Laird's attire 63 Soy or Worcestershire 64 Haunted-house sound 65 Joy Adamson's pet 66 Not e'en once 67 Shorten an article

DOWN

1 Cats do it

2 Where poi is

3 Cruel person

4 Hotel employee

6 Like a house -

9 Lillehammer's

served

5 Gambles

7 Nod off

8 Grand total

#### Games 10 Sierra Club founder 11 Purina rival 12 Regretted 15 Rhine nymph 23 Rte. mappers 25 "But is it -?" 26 Neat and smart 27 Trig or geom. 28 "Tootle-oo!" 29 Ache 30 Oozv 31 Layered haircuts 32 Prime-time hour 34 Hoists a car 36 Caresses

38 Shrill insects 41 Montana neighbor 43 Enjoyable 44 Trying 46 Vase with a foot 47 Notebook 49 Slice 50 Trout habitat 51 Sinister 52 Solidifies 53 Undeniable 55 Lump of clay 56 Tien Shan range 57 Talk wildly 60 Fleming or McKellen

last issue's crossword answers





CHECK NEWSLETTER





# sudoku





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#### medium

### answers to last issue's sudoku: medium

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5	8	1	2	4	7	6	9	3
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# **SPORTS**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

# **SENIORS GO FROM GRIDIRON TO TRACK FOR FINAL SEASON**

#### **BY TESS FERGUSON**

#### ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

On Dec. 3, 2022, the Ithaca College football team capped off a season for the books having earned the program's first undefeated regular season since 1986 as well as its first-ever Liberty League title. For two seniors, however, their time in Bomber threads is not over quite yet.

Senior wide receivers Anthony D'Addetta and Daniel Hutchinson made their debut on the college's track and field team in December 2021 following the completion of their 8–2 football season in November 2021. D'Addetta, who ended 2022's historic football season recognized as an All-Liberty League First Team kick returner, competes for the track and field team as a sprinter while Hutchinson has opted to compete in the long and high jump events.

Hutchinson, who won his first long jump event of the season by nearly a foot Jan. 21, said he attributes much of his talent on the track to the mindset that he has developed throughout his football career.

"In football, you have to be mentally tough," Hutchinson said. "Transitioning that aspect of my game from football to track was something that was able to put me ahead of some of my opponents."

Jim Nichols, head coach of the men's track and field team, said D'Addetta and Hutchinson bring an undeniable sense of competition to the team that can be tough to find elsewhere.

"The two of them are constantly growing and are always excited about track and field," Nichols said. "Joining the team is a change of pace for them compared to football, and they bring so much personality to the team and their events."

The two athletes continued to rank in their early competitions, with D'Addetta taking fifth place in the 60-meter dash and Hutchinson placing fourth in the high jump and sixth in the long jump during the Nazareth Conference Challenge Cup on Jan. 28. The track and field team is no stranger to dual-sport athletes. Junior running back Jalen Leonard-Osbourne was the first of the football players to expand his athletic horizons as a sprinter when athletics resumed post-pandemic, later making a name for himself as an NCAA national champion in the 60-meter dash in March 2022, an event where he also broke the program record multiple times. He was soon followed by D'Addetta and Hutchinson in addition to junior running back Jalen Hines, first-year student wide receiver CJ Jones and sophomore wide receiver Tyrell Penalba.

Hutchinson said it was seeing a noticeable shift in his, Leonard-Osbourne's and D'Addetta's skills on the football field that inspired many of his teammates to follow suit in joining the track and field team.

"Our athletic ability shot through the roof," Hutchinson said. "Our speed increased, our jumping ability increased, our level of competition increased. We told our guys that if you want to get faster, go run track and you'll run by anybody on the football field."

D'Addetta said that in the same way his work on the track has improved his performance on the football field, his career in football has contributed to his sprinting success as well.

"All of the strength and conditioning work that we do in football is geared toward making a really powerful athlete," D'Addetta said. "We need to be big, fast and strong. It translates a lot on the track; I'm so much more explosive off of the blocks than I would be without football training."

Outside of its benefits, being a dual-sport athlete applies just another element of pressure on student-athletes who already balance their coursework with training for one sport. Hutchinson said the transition from one season into another can be overwhelming, but the mindset that he and his teammates' share has helped them deal with the rigor.

"Your body doesn't get that much of a break between seasons, but we've started to treat the indoor season just as we would winter workouts for football," Hutchinson said. "If we treat everything like practice, it's a little easier to get adjusted and get used to everything in the new season."

Football head coach Michael Toerper said that when he spoke with his athletes about spending their spring with the track and field team, he largely wanted to make sure that they held the right priorities.



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Senior Anthony D'Addetta, who is a wide receiver on the football team and sprinter on the track and field team, returns a kickoff during a football game in Fall 2022. NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN



D'Addetta missed the 60-meter dash finals by 0.02 seconds when he ran a 7.25 in qualifiers during a home quad meet Jan. 21. He finished 15th in the 200 meter. NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

game in track and then there's this little thing called 'school' as well. I was really supportive of them but, first and foremost, I needed to make sure that everything was right academically."

Toerper said that although it can take some time management, the opportunity to participate on two collegiate sports teams "They just love being in the moment and performing at their best when the stakes are the highest," Toerper said. "I'm really proud of the type of people and the type of teammates they are. Seeing them bring all of that growth to the track team has been awesome."

D'Addetta said that outside of his love for competition, the opportunity to spend some

"The conversation started with making sure that they can balance academics first," Toerper said. "It's a lot to juggle when you're trying to be at the top of your game in football, at the top of your

Senior Daniel Hutchinson, a wide receiver, high and long jumper, took second place with a 1.86-meter jump at a quad meet Jan. 21, 0.05 meters behind first. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MALIK CLEMENT, NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN is a major benefit of the NCAA Division e III experience. s

"If you're going to do multiple sports, you better be really good at both," Toerper said. "We got guys that are really, really good at both and that's a big part of what makes our program unique."

Both Toerper and Nichols added that seeing D'Addetta and Hutchinson return to the track this spring — rather than taking their final semester off to rest — came as no surprise to them.

"These guys are competitors, and this is one last opportunity for them to be college athletes," Nichols said. "They know that you only have a certain amount of time, a certain amount of eligibility to be able to do something. If they have the time, they're going to use it."

Toerper said that the pride of seeing his athletes' successes off the football field can be overwhelming and that he looks forward to watching them continue to compete more than anything. extra time with his teammates in his final spring season is something he would never pass up.

"I think about that last game at North Central [College] a lot," D'Addetta said. "Seeing the guys on the team and thinking that I kind of don't want this ride to be over yet. We're so close as a group and as a unit, so being able to keep this going and play with some of my teammates again is really exciting."

Hutchinson said that, like D'Addetta, competing this spring is the only way he could have imagined closing out his time as a Bomber.

"Spending time with [D'Addetta] and these guys from the football team just means everything to me," Hutchinson said. "The pinnacle of my athletic career is being with my guys. Not even necessarily competing and performing well, but just being with them and having that bond is everything."

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# Men's basketball introduces "Bomber Belt"

#### **BY LUCAS JAFET**

#### SENIOR WRITER

As the Ithaca College men's basketball program has raced out to a 12–6 record, the team has been awarding different players the "Bomber Belt" after every win to give recognition to a strong performer. In true WWE style, the belt is complete with golden accents to go along with the Ithaca basketball crest emblazoned in the middle.

So far, the belt has been awarded to 11 different players, each of which fills valuable roles for the coaching staff. After the win against Hamilton College on Jan. 2, it was awarded to the entire team. Assistant coach Matt Smith emphasized that while the belt is given to the player who made the biggest impact on the game, it is not always predicated on who scored the most points. Graduate student guard George Sikoryak III earned the coveted prize following his Jan. 7 performance against Hobart College where he shot a perfect 7-for-7 from the field.

"A lot of times, it was the person that is super positive, playing great defense, and doing all the little things that don't show up in the box score," Smith said. "If [head coach Waleed] Farid and I reward those good habits, they are going to continue to happen."

Smith also said the belt has been impactful in recognizing the younger players on the team who might not otherwise receive appreciation for their contributions. First-year student forward Gavin Schauder won the belt for his performance in the college's 97–72 victory over Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Jan. 10, despite only logging six minutes of action.

"Our two big guys, Luka [Radovich] and Jack [Stern], got into foul trouble early," Smith said. "Gavin came in off the bench and gave us a really solid three minutes. He played hard, brought some energy, and did all the right things on and off the court, and we gave him the belt."

Smith said that the idea for the belt first came from Farid last season, and the coaching staff decided this season that they would award it to specific players. So far, the presence of the reward has added motivation and excitement to the locker room after games.

For the players themselves, the idea of winning the belt adds an extra layer of intensity to games and practices. Junior guard Andrew Geschickter said that while the team is not actively thinking about winning the belt during practices or games, it serves as a way for players to receive credit for bringing intangibles to that game.

"Each game is a unique challenge; a different circumstance," Geschickter said. "Different people on a deep team like ours are going to contribute, so it just sort of happens naturally."

The winners of the "Bomber Belt" pose with the WWE-style championship belt. The Ithaca College men's basketball team awards one player who made a big impact with the belt after each win.

**JASMINE SCRIVEN/THE ITHACAN** 

it is good for the team to understand that having the best stats is not all someone can do to help their teammates. Every game is a team effort, so filling your role and contributing as best you can is what can help the team perform at its best.

"It's good to know that there are multiple ways to impact winning, and that's something that we really believe in and [is] reflective of our culture," Geschickter said.

The most recent winner of the belt, senior guard Liam Spellman, won it after his performance Jan. 28 in a 63–52 victory over Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Though he only notched five points during that game, Spellman led the Bombers in rebounds and steals.

Sophomore guard Logan Wendell has been another key contributor to the Bombers' success this season, averaging 14 points per game and shooting 40% from 3-point range. He said he felt excited and encouraged when he was awarded the belt following his 24-point game Nov. 24 against Susquehanna University.

"It's definitely great to have the whole team behind you, and we do a good job of rallying behind whoever gets it," Wendell said. "It definitely kicks up the intensity level just a notch."

Geschickter also said how important the belt has been to the younger guys on the team and their individual development.

"To know you had a positive impact in this program and to develop as a player and a man is something that I think is really important to all of us," Geschickter said. "We want the underclassmen to have the same level of success we are having."

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Geschickter added that he thinks

# Brothers compete together on wrestling team

#### **BY AIDAN CHARDE**

#### SPORTS EDITOR

At the New York State Championships on Jan. 21, first-year student wrestler Ryan Galka said he had a difficult tournament, being eliminated in the third consolation round. But he said one voice from off the mat helped him stay motivated during his matches — his brother, senior Nicholas Galka.

"He was in my corner every single match," Ryan said. "It's very motivating, very encouraging when I have someone there that's so close to me, that wants to see me succeed and is willing to take the time and be there for me. I had a really tough tournament, and he was calm and collected, I want to say stone-faced when he wrestles. Not a lot rattles him. But both were awesome kids to coach; they're two of my favorites."

Ryan and Nicolas are not the only people in their family to wrestle — their other brother, Michael, Ryan's twin, wrestled in high school and attends Ithaca College, but is not on the wrestling team. However, neither of their parents, both immigrants from Poland, were wrestlers, so Nicolas said the way the three got into the sport was relatively unusual.

We were all camping out in Upstate New York [with] a bunch of families from different European descents [about 10 years ago]," Nicolas said. "One of the dads came up to us and was talking to my dad and said, 'These kids should try out wrestling. They have a great build, they look like they should wrestle.' ... I gave it a shot, I showed up. ... And then [Ryan and Michael] signed up the next year, and that's history." Sbriscia said he did not try to push either brother to go to the college, but being a graduate of the institution makes him think they made the right choice. Sbriscia said he knows wrestling is not a sport that is likely to make an athlete rich, so finding a college where they could still get a good education was important for him in their college search. "Wrestling is a sport where you're going to get out of it what you put in, so we always talk about using wrestling to open doors academically," Sbriscia said. "Ithaca's an awesome college, and I know as they graduate from there, they're going to get interviews and they're going to have different connections that they may not have at other places."



right there with me."

Nicolas is also on the wrestling team and although they wrestle in classes 100 pounds apart from each other — Nicolas is in the 285 lb weight class, while Ryan switches between 174 and 184 lbs — the Galkas still say they enjoy being on the team together.

Being the younger brother, Ryan said he feels like he is always learning from Nicolas, and that has been illustrated at competitions. For Nicolas, it provides an extra support system on and off the mats.

"If you win or lose, he's always there for encouragement," Nicolas said. "Or just for, you know, congratulations. It's awesome."

David Sbriscia '10, who coached the Galkas at Warren Hills Regional High School in New Jersey, said he does not have a bad thing to say about the brothers. He described the two as easy to coach, even if they are not similar.

"[They are] polar opposites," Sbriscia said. "Ryan was a more emotional wrestler. He rides the match as it goes with the highs and lows and has a lot of intensity. Nick is a lot more

For Nicolas, his high school coach's help with getting in touch with head wrestling

From left, senior Nicolas Galka and first-year student Ryan Galka, both part of the lthaca College wrestling team, say they provide a support system for each other.

#### NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

coach Marty Nichols '90 was instrumental in his decision to come to the college four years ago. Both brothers spoke highly of their current coach and the accomplished program he has led over the last 26 years.

Ryan's decision to come to the college was largely based on the program as well as the business school, which is what he knew he wanted to study. Of course, he said there was an added benefit of coming to South Hill.

"It was a plus that [Nicolas] was already here," Ryan said. "He's helped me a lot already along the way."

It is not the first time the brothers have shared the locker room, but Nicolas said it is different now that they are in college than when they wrestled together for one year in high school. "In high school, there's a little bit of a hierarchy going on," Nicolas said. "Once you get to college, ... everyone just treats everyone the same way."

Although Nicolas is dealing with an injury this season — a trend, he said, during his time at college — and said it is almost time for him to "check out" of wrestling, being able to be with his two brothers again for the year has been an experience worth having.

"We built a really great relationship [over COVID-19]," Nicolas said. "I kind of missed them when I was at college and they were in high school, so having both of them here on campus is nice. Seeing them all the time, being able to hang out. ... It's a breath of fresh air."

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### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK JUSTIN SHOWSTEAD

Senior thrower Justin Showstead broke the program record in the shot put at the Conference Challenge Cup on Jan. 28 with a throw of 15.39 meters, or 50' 6". The previous record of 15.33 meters (50' 3.5") had not been broken since 1983.

KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON/THE ITHACAN

# **EVENTS TO WATCH**

2 P.M. AND 4 P.M. FEB. 4 AT BEN LIGHT GYMNASIUM

The Ithaca College women's and men's basketball teams take on the Skidmore College Thoroughbreds, a team that is one game out of first place in the Liberty League for both the men's and women's teams and behind the Bombers in both. The women won the last matchup 73–61, while the men lost 72–71.



### COMPETITION OF THE WEEK WRESTLING VS. NO. 8 TCNJ

First-year student wrestler IsaiasTorres prepares for his opponent at the Ithaca Invitational on Nov. 5. The No. 15 Ithaca College wrestling team earned a narrow 19–17 victory over No. 8 The College of New Jersey on Jan. 28 in Ewing, New Jersey.

**ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN** 





"I think about that last [football] game at North Central [College] a lot. ... Seeing the guys on the team and thinking that I kind of don't want this ride to be over yet."

### - ANTHONY D'ADDETTA Wide Receiver/Football Sprinter/Men's Track and Field

### BOMBER INVITATIONAL 10 A.M. FEB. 4-5

The Ithaca College men's and women's track and field teams host the Bomber Invitational on Feb. 4 and 5 in the Glazer Arena. The teams are coming off of strong performances at the Conference Challenge Cup hosted by Nazareth College on Jan. 28, where the men placed fourth and the women placed second. At the meet, senior thrower Justin Showstead's record-setting put was the highlight for the men, while the best performance by the women was a 35-second victory in the medley distance relay, run by first-year student Jessica Goode, senior Rachel Rose and graduate students Paloma De Monte and Logan Bruce.



From left, senior Sherleen Vargas and first-year student Sophia Tallman perform at the KATALYST K-pop Random Dance Play and Dance Workshop on Jan. 27 in IC Square. The workshop took place three days prior to auditions as a way to get students interested in joining the dance group and comfortable with learning the dances.