Student creates menstrual product that fights stigma

By Kai Lincke
Staff Writer

Khodji presented an idea for a product prototype that will serve as an alternative to tampons for underwater use. Khodji described it as a product that fights stigma and aims to empower women and girls in underserved communities.

"I thought about how many of my friends would use tampons but at the same time not having access to them," Khodji said. "So, I thought it would be cool to create a product that helps them and is accessible to everyone.

Khodji said she knew from her own experience that tampons are not a suitable option for many women. "I've heard stories from my friends about how difficult it is to use tampons in certain situations," she said. "It's important to create products that are accessible to everyone, regardless of their situation."
Turkey detains 184 residents because of collapsed buildings

At least 184 people, mostly contractors, have been detained in Turkey over alleged negligence concerning collapsed buildings following the devastating earthquakes in the country’s south. Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag said Feb. 25.

The mayor of Gaziantep province’s Nur dagi district was also detained, state news agency Anadolu reported.

Southern California gets snow as storm system passes through

A storm system for the ages passed through Southern California on Feb. 25, dumping piles of snow in lower-elevation communities and closing key roads.

The frigid conditions dropped the snow level to 1,500 or less Feb. 25, enough for dumping piles of snow in lower-elevation areas. Mountain communities were slammed by intense snowfall.

Norfolk Southern told to pause Ohio train debris removal by EPA

Norfolk Southern Corp. was ordered by the EPA’s Ohio branch with a list of sites it was using and “had been solely responsible for the disposal of waste.”

The company was using and “had been solely responsible for the disposal of waste.”

A regional EPA administrator said Feb. 25.

Norfolk Southern told to pause Ohio train debris removal by EPA

On Feb. 23, Norfolk Southern provided the EPA’s Ohio branch with a list of sites it was using and “had been solely responsible for the disposal of waste.”

Kazakhstan Democratic party elects first Black woman as state chair

Kazakhstan Democrats elected Jeanna Repass state chair Feb. 25, making her the first Black woman to lead the party.

The Overland Park Democrat is a political newcomer who earned the chair position with the support of the party heavyweights, who are Gov. Laura Kelly and Rep. Sharice Davids, despite questions raised about her credentials and alleged non-payment of campaign staff during her unsuccessful run for Kansas secretary of state.

Seven were shot in Strawberry Mansion district in Philadelphia

Seven people, including a 2-year-old girl and five teenagers, were wounded in a shooting Feb. 23 near a school in the city’s Strawberry Mansion section, police said.

The gunfire erupted just after 5:50 p.m. on the northeast corner of 31st and Norris Streets in front of a beer distributor, police said. Later that night, police said they were looking for three shooters and a gray Hyundai Elantra with a Pennsylvania license plate. Police said it was not immediately clear what led to the shooting.

Nigerian opposition parties call for release of election results

Nigerian opposition parties urged the nation’s election commission to immediately release results from a Feb. 25 poll to reduce the chances of the outcome being compromised. Polling stations were supposed to transmit the counts as soon as they were tallied, but the Independent National Electoral Commission had published results from less than a quarter of them.

Death toll rises in mine accident in China

The death toll in a serious mine accident in northern China has risen to six, state news agency Xinhua reported Feb. 24. 47 people are still missing from the coal mine in Inner Mongolia, which partially collapsed Feb. 22.

The death toll in a serious mine accident in northern China has risen to six.

According to state news agency Xinhua, 47 people are still missing from the coal mine in Inner Mongolia, which partially collapsed Feb. 22.
Debate team’s memory lives on after cuts

BY LORIEN TYNE
NEWS EDITOR

Since the Ithaca College Speech and Debate Team was forced to retire as a result of the Academic Program Prioritization process, the team has been unable to operate as students struggle to find a new adviser. The official name for the debate team is the Forensics Program, and it has been at the college since its founding in 1952. Scott Thomson, retired assistant professor in the eliminated Department of Communication Studies, said he was hired in 2000 to be the debate coach as well as teach. As the end of the 2021–22 academic year, the college eliminated the department as part of the APP process. Thomson said that because he was not tenured, he was forced to leave but was able to retire. This left the debate team in a precarious place, dependent on a volunteer to keep it going.

“I was the provost assured us, as assured students, that the debate team would continue,” Thomson said. “They did find a [new adviser], but she decided then that she didn’t want to do it. So that left the team sort of high and dry.”

Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs, said the debate team has not had an adviser who was paid to be there yet.

“The model has been to have a faculty member who expresses interest serve as an adviser,” Stein said via email.

Thomson said the position was paid and required traveling to over a dozen tournaments each academic year.

“No one in their right mind would volunteer to direct a forensics program,” Thomson said via email. “If they rely on volunteers – there will never be a team.”

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

“The debate team won tournament trophies before the team dissolved because the adviser, Scott Thomson, former assistant professor at the college, was forced to retire.”

BY VIVIAN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

The City of Ithaca plans to improve the sustainability of buildings in 2023, as well as provide more electric vehicle charging stations to certify the city as a healthy and energy efficient community.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

Ithaca College senior Gus Dunn-Hindle currently works as an intern for the City of Ithaca’s Office of Sustainability Planning. Dunn-Hindle said his role is to write policy proposals and is currently focusing on Energy Transformation, a construction of buildings more sustainable.

“You have to figure out where to put the money you do have and how to bring in outside investment,” Dunn-Hindle said. On Feb. 1, Rebecca Evans, acting director of sustainability, gave an update on the city’s Green New Deal to the Common Council. During the meeting, Evans spoke about obtaining LEED certification for Ithaca. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and certifies that a building within a city or the city itself is fully energy efficient and sustainable.

Ithaca College has LEED certified buildings, like the Stone Quarry Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise. The City of Ithaca also has several LEED certified buildings, like the Stone Quarry apartments in Downtown Ithaca.

Evans said one of the strategies to achieve the city’s sustainability goals has been to purchase renewable energy credits, meaning the city will tap into renewable energy sources like wind or solar generated elsewhere. A downside to renewable energy credits is that they are unreliable and can cause equity issues, yet the city is currently purchasing them. Evans said fewer renewable energy sites, like wind or solar farms and geothermal heat pumps, are located in communities of Black, Indigenous, people of color and low-income communities than in predominately white communities.

“This means that this state of the grid and these [BIPUC and low-income communities] will continue to have dirty energy sources,” Evans said.

In 2022, Evans said the Sustainability and Climate Justice Advisory Commission launched a program called Electrify Ithaca to electrify all 6,000 buildings in the City of Ithaca.

The Common Council received updates on the City of Ithaca’s Green New Deal on Feb. 1, which focused on making all 6,000 buildings in the city energy efficient. The Common Council received updates on the City of Ithaca’s Green New Deal on Feb. 1, which focused on making all 6,000 buildings in the city energy efficient.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The City of Ithaca plans to improve the sustainability of buildings in 2023, as well as provide more electric vehicle charging stations to certify the city as a healthy and energy efficient community.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.

The resolution for the original Green New Deal proposal was unanimously adopted by Ithaca’s Common Council in June 2019. One goal of the Green New Deal is for the city to be able to produce 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

In a 2004 contract-renewal review of Thomson’s position given to The Ithacan, the memorandum stated that Thomson accepted the position, which entailed a 10-credit teaching load each semester and directorship of the Forensics Program.
Prototype provides swim alternative to tampons

FROM INVENTION, PAGE 1

product options that work underwater when she was taking a lifeguarding class in 2022. “I am not very comfortable with using tampons or menstrual cups, the feminine hygiene products recommended for underwater use. I can be uncomfortable, ineffective and cause counter-embarrassment when going to my professor and telling him . . . I was not able to swim.”

Khodji said she began asking other people who menstruate, particularly members of the women’s swimming and diving team, about their experiences with swimming while menstruating. She said she discovered that some people who menstruate were also not comfortable with using tampons or menstrual cups, the feminine hygiene products recommended for underwater use. They can be uncomfortable, ineffective and cause counter-embarrassment when going to my professor and telling him . . . I was not able to swim.”

Sophomore Hadil Khodji created a menstrual care product prototype that will serve as an alternative to tampons for underwater use, with the main audience being swimmers in the U.S.

Sophomore Hadil Khodji created a menstrual care product prototype that will serve as an alternative to tampons for underwater use, with the main audience being swimmers in the U.S. She said she began asking other people who menstruate, particularly members of the women’s swimming and diving team, about their experiences with swimming while menstruating. She said she discovered that some people who menstruate were also not comfortable with using tampons or menstrual cups, the feminine hygiene products recommended for underwater use. They can be uncomfortable, ineffective and cause counter-embarrassment when going to my professor and telling him . . . I was not able to swim.”

Sophomore Hadil Khodji created a menstrual care product prototype that will serve as an alternative to tampons for underwater use, with the main audience being swimmers in the U.S.
Park alum gives career tips and advice

BY VIVIAN ROSE

On Feb. 27, Ithaca College’s chapter of the New York Film & Television Student Alliance invited Amanda Cerruti ’19, who currently works for Access Hollywood—a celebrity and event news network—to speak with student members about the type of networking and finding a job in communications.

The college’s chapter of NYFTSA offers opportunities, like free headshots, a trip to New York City for the NYFTSA summit to help students network and meet professionals in the communications industry, and networking opportunities with well-known Roy H. Park School of Communications alumni and professionals in the top communications corporations in the world.

Cerruti spoke about working in the news section of Access Hollywood and said her biggest challenge was knowing what to do when you’re looking to work in the news industry or as an interviewee to be professional at all times.

Cerruti said her first job was as a runner for Access Hollywood, which is typically to supply coffee, tea, snacks and assist anyone that Production runs smoothly.

She said that although these duties were not what she hoped to be doing, she encouraged students to take every task and do it as well as they can.

“Show interest,” Cerruti said. “Talk to the people who have been at the job for years and ask, ‘Can I shadow you?’ The more you network with the people, the more likely you are to be given an opportunity to help out with things. If you have guts to go out and connect with the people in your field, people will notice.”

First-year student Brendan Noone, a member of NYFTSA, mentioned a valuable lesson from NYFTSA meetings. Noone also added that he looks forward to hearing more from other professionals in the industry.

“I’m hoping just to get more knowledge on how to successfully network and how to be a good production assistant,” Noone said.

“I’m excited to understand more about how the industry works.”

Senior Melanie Karlos, president of the college’s chapter of NYFTSA, said NYFTSA provides student members with long-lasting and meaningful connections with professionals in the industry.

“I think it’s a great thing for students because networking is so important,” Karlos said. “Every time we have a guest come and talk to us, they’re always happy at the end to share contact information and chat more with students and say, ‘Hey, if you’re ever in my city, I’d love to meet you.’”

Q&A: Music student connects to roots through recital

On Feb. 18, Ithaca College senior Stephanie Monteiro performed in her senior recital in Hockett Family Recital Hall, where she used her performance to celebrate her Brazilian heritage, as well as shed light on the historical oppression of Brazilian people.

Monteiro is a music major with an outside field in voice. She said she attended a summer program in Barcelona after her first year at the college that helped her connect her Brazilian heritage to her passion for musical performance. She said she decided to use her senior recital as an opportunity to share Latin-American music with the college community.

One topic Monteiro addressed in her recital was the 1964 Brazilian coup d’état, in which the U.S. supported and funded the overthrown of Brazilian President João Goulart. The successful military coup against the leftist and alleged communist president led to a 20-year military dictatorship.

Contributing writer Maddy Vogel spoke with Monteiro about how she uses music as a way to connect with her heritage and speak out against social injustices.

Senior Stephanie Monteiro performed her senior recital Feb. 18, addressing her Brazilian heritage and love for Latin-American music through her own music.
## Student Leadership Consultant applications open for Fall 2023

The Office of Student Engagement is accepting applications for the position of Student Leadership Consultant for Fall 2023. SLCS help OSE with facilitating the organization of events, working on marketing and marketing the operations of the Student Activities Center, which is located on the third floor of the Student Activities Center. SLCS are paid $14.35 per hour and receive constant on-the-job training. To apply, applicants must complete the application, which is available on IC Engage. OSE also has online resources like a YouTube video called “Skills SLCS gain from this position” and hosted an event called The Recipe to Become an SLC. Applicants are also encouraged to review SLCS Application Tips, which are available on OSE’s website. For questions, contact osce@ithaca.edu or 607-274-3122.

### JED Campus Initiative calls for applications for Fall 2023

The JED Campus Initiative is inviting nominations for the M. Collado Faculty Award for Outstanding Sophomore Rachel Ng at rng2@ithaca.edu. Sub-committee co-chair and communications librarian, Alanna M. Roberts, will discuss the challenges of women’s sports in the media. A panel about the coverage of women’s sports in the media will be taking place 1-2:30 p.m. March 7 via Zoom. The panel will discuss the challenges of women’s sports in the media, thereby highlighting challenges and solutions and future opportunities in the field. The panel will be welcomed by Amy Gersh, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, and will be moderated by former SAG-AFTRA president, Caroline Stanley.

### Residents leave their mark on Landon Hall

Sophomore resident assistant Taylor Hagquist paints on one of the boards in the hallway outside the Landon Hall lounge. Feb. 26. The event was hosted by senior H.A. Alexis Danielson, and free snorkels were provided to residents who attended. GABRIEL BIERNASCHE/ITHACAN

## PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

### SELECTED ENTRIES FROM FEB. 13 TO 19

### FEBRUARY 13

#### SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL

**LOCATION**: Church Street
**SUMMARY**: An officer reported that there was a vehicle/property damage because of a motor vehicle accident.

#### MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS RELATED

**LOCATION**: 202 Church Street
**SUMMARY**: An officer reported that there was a vehicle/property damage because of a motor vehicle accident.

#### MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT/PROPERTY DAMAGE

**LOCATION**: Farm Pond Road
**SUMMARY**: An officer reported that there was a vehicle/property damage because of a motor vehicle accident.

### FEBRUARY 14

#### OFF CAMPUS INCIDENT

**LOCATION**: Other
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported a person cut their thumb while working on a project. The person was escorted to the health center for assistance.

#### ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE

**LOCATION**: Church Street
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported that there was a vehicle/property damage because of a motor vehicle accident.

#### SAFETY HAZARD

**LOCATION**: Grant Egbert Boulevard
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported a person cutting themselves onto a balcony. Officer reported a verbal warning for violation of student conduct code. The person(s) responsible were warned for violation of law or conduct code.

### FEBRUARY 15

#### WELFARE CHECK

**LOCATION**: Flora Brown Drive
**SUMMARY**: Caller requested a welfare check for a person that made alarming comments by text.

#### ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE

**LOCATION**: Grant Egbert Boulevard
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported that there was a vehicle/property damage because of a motor vehicle accident.

### FEBRUARY 16

#### SCC DISRUPTIVE/HARASSMENT/SCC DISRUPTIVE/HARASSMENT

**LOCATION**: Gladstone Drive
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported that a person was having a seizure after consuming edible marijuana. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance and was referred to student conduct for irresponsible use of drugs.

### FEBRUARY 17

#### SCC DISRUPTIVE/HARASSMENT/SCC DISRUPTIVE/HARASSMENT

**LOCATION**: Tower Skyline Drive
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported that a person was having a seizure after they were hit in the head with a soccer ball. The person reported that they were transported to the hospital by ambulance.

### FEBRUARY 18

#### SAFETY HAZARD ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD

**LOCATION**: Converse Drive
**SUMMARY**: A person was transported to the hospital by ambulance after being exposed to ingedible edible marijuana.

### FEBRUARY 19

#### MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED

**LOCATION**: Grant Egbert Boulevard
**SUMMARY**: A caller reported that a person was having a seizure, possibly due to ingestion of edible marijuana. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance and was referred to student conduct for irresponsible use of drugs.
People need to talk not around but about periods

Menstruation is viewed as a taboo around the world that stigmatizes people who menstruate. Societal stigmas, like silencing and shaming period talks, criticizing certain period products and isolating people during their periods, create a negative connotation of menstruation. By this, society pressures women into censoring a beautiful, natural process and, unfortunately, it starts on a family level. When sharing information about menstruation, mothers usually specify only three things: menstrual products, usually pads in many cultures because of the myth that anything inserted in the vagina is harmful; periods being a symbol of marriage and a child; and the need for period secrecy. And this cycle, not the menstrual one, continues through generations. Mothers do not educate their children enough on menstruation because of their parents’ lack of input on the topic. Men, on the other hand, are typically not introduced to menstruation until they figure it out themselves when they are older. They receive incomplete knowledge about menstruation, usually through their male peers, social media or sometimes from their women friends and partners.

Women are quiet about their menstruation cycle, not by choice. Women wear pads instead of tampons or other products, not by choice. Women speak negatively about their period experiences, not by choice. Women have little access to menstrual products, not by choice. These are results of a societal taboo on menstruation. The stigma and shame of menstruation must not be silenced. Society must have great knowledge and speak openly about periods. Schools must provide stronger education about menstruation and sex. Parents must inform their children about menstruation, even if the child is non-menstruating. Everyone should openly speak about menstruation with no shame. This will allow people who menstruate to have a choice and not live by chance.

Abortion rights must not be up for religious debate

Conservative republicans prefer less federal intervention and a small government because it gives them more power. When looking at this from the side of the abortion debate, it becomes evident that conservatives’ preference for less federal intervention would allow more social services through faith-based organizations. When the federal government does not provide social services, in this case for abortion clinics, it becomes up to clinics to form and regulate themselves. This allows religious-affiliated institutions to increase their anti-abortion centers — “crisis pregnancy centers” usually established to persuade women against having an abortion.

Inadequately, religious institutions seem to find ways around the Constitution’s protection of free speech and practice of religion free from government intervention to justify getting government support. Churches ask for state money for property reimbursement — which comes from the people’s taxes — and receive it without this being considered a First Amendment violation. But does the church use that money to fix a building, or does it end up funding other religious projects? Almost $89 million dollars of tax money has been given to anti-abortion clinics across a dozen states in the 2022 fiscal year and it still is somehow justified by the law.

Another way the federal government created free practice of anti-abortion clinics is by striking down the California BECT Act in the name of it being a violation of free speech. Eliminating this law got rid of the requirements for licensed pregnancy centers’ usually established to persuade women against having an abortion. Inadequately, religious institutions seem to find ways around the Constitution’s protection of free speech and practice of religion free from government intervention to justify getting government support. Churches ask for state money for property reimbursement — which comes from the people’s taxes — and receive it without this being considered a First Amendment violation. But does the church use that money to fix a building, or does it end up funding other religious projects? Almost $89 million dollars of tax money has been given to anti-abortion clinics across a dozen states in the 2022 fiscal year and it still is somehow justified by the law.

This shows how religion and government are immensely involved in an individual’s life. Abortion must be considered a fundamental right and it should not be up to the government nor the church to find loopholes around the law just to force anti-abortion views on people.
**Banning books is a futile practice serving no deed**

**BY DEREK ADAMS**
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

Last March, I was invited by Christine Pear 
11 to facilitate a book club session on my second favorite Toni Morrison novel, “Beloved.” The session was an extension of the efforts of the nonprofit organization Red Wine & Blue, whose mission is to empower and educate suburban women to fight back against book bans across the U.S. These women set aside important obligations, sacrificing time to gather in space to grapple with a profound, complicated novel that centers our collective reckoning with the enduring ramifications of enslavement on the enslaved. Their enthusiasm and commitment to do this work as part of a book club makes me wonder why anyone would attempt to ban such an important work of literature. The novel is demanding of readers; we all could have shied away and claimed to have better things to do. Not one of us chose to. Proponents of book bans fail to understand a paradox that censorship creates. Attempting to restrict access to any book has the potential to set ablaze an even greater interest in it. Proponents of book bans fail to understand that they imagine into existence. Their works also provide me a window into the lives of people who identify differently than I do, which I sincerely believe makes me a better, more mature, more compassionate, more empathetic person. In opening myself to the humanity of the characters they imagine into existence, I have learned how to think differently, center and articulate stories with LGBTQ+ characters and provide me a window into the lives of others, I have learned how to think differently, center and articulate stories with LGBTQ+ characters and, in turn, better understand, center and articulate stories with characters different from me. To think otherwise is to view reading passively; as something the writer does to a reader through their book. Rather, reading is something done actively; readers and books work in tandem to explore the nuances of being human. Reading is a foundational element of my relationship with my two sons. We read LGBTQ+ books together because they illustrate stories of people they may become, people they may love or befriend and people they may never meet. Each is as important as the other.

Derek Adams, associate professor in the Department of Literatures in English, considers book bans unethical and talks about its myths. He points out the importance of books of all kinds.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dr. Declan O’Connell’s essay, “The lives that IC administration chainsaw massacred,” is a sad tale — and cautionary, if anyone is paying attention. It’s way too late for the 116 non-tenure-track faculty members like Professor Dremock and the countless unprotected temporary, adjunct, lecturer and other so-called “contigent” faculty members, as well as the hundreds of staff members who were fired without cause in the last few years. Those who remain have been forced to pick up more work and remain vulnerable. Morale on South Hill must be lower than ever.

Postprotestively, Ithaca College also thought it was a good idea at this critical time in human history to eliminate the faculty and programs focused on environmental and social justice as well as climate change understanding, mitigation and adaptation. Instead of being a nurturing, community-minded institution, Ithaca College has clearly decided to model itself after some of the worst businesses on Wall Street. It aims to attract and churn out graduates who will become indentured, because of their massive student debt, to those very businesses. This perpetuates a vicious cycle. But it does not need to be this way. There are alternatives, which can be found in Ecoversities’ information on caring and forward-thinking education models.

Sarah Germonprez, lecturer in the Department of Accounting and Business Law, talks about the effects of the United States Supreme Court case Citizens United on politics.

Sarah Germonprez (she/her) is a lecturer in the Department of Accounting and Business Law. Contact her at sggermonprez@ithaca.edu.
ITHACA JOINS THE YIKYAK HERD

ITHACA JOINS THE YIKYAK HERD

Sophomore Gabi Coronel scrolls through YikYak. The app was relaunched in February 2021 after shutting down in 2017 because of hate speech found on the platform.

A group of students uses the YikYak app. The app allows users to make anonymous posts on day-to-day happenings on campus.

BY PATRICK MAZZELLA  STAFF WRITER

No Names. No Faces. No Hate. YikYak’s ideology is slowly becoming the mantra for college students online, and the culture of the platform is hard to decipher, much less explain.

According to the New York Times, YikYak was one of the go-to social media platforms for college students in the mid-2010s. The app was originally marketed exclusively to college students, launching at Georgia Institute of Technology, then spreading throughout NCAA, ACC, and SEC schools, mainly in the South. The platform debuted on iOS and Android app stores in 2013 and quickly became one of the most downloaded apps of the year. At its peak, in August 2014, the app received over 100,000 downloads per day and millions of monthly users. The concept was simple and a recipe for success — at least according to the app’s creators, Tyler Droll and Brooks Buffington, who revealed to the Towson Towlight that they both put plans for their futures on hold to pursue the development of YikYak full time. An anonymous, community-based platform seems like a million-dollar idea, at least on paper, and it was, but only for a little while. After a dwindling user base and growing criticism because of the bigotry and hate speech on the platform, YikYak shut down prior to the 2017–18 academic year.

Following an anonymous acquisition in February 2021, the app relaunched just in time for the 2021-22 academic year, and it is taking Ithaca College by storm. In the 18 months since its relaunch, the use of the platform has remained strong. It is hard to pin down exact user numbers from after the re-launch since everyone is by default anonymous on the app, but its users can be found just about everywhere on campus. It is safe to say that YikYak is a strange place, it always has been, and users certainly recognize that. Sophomore Jamie Eckerlin said many frequent posters begin to create characters out of their existence on the platform.

Sophomore Gabi Coronel scrolls through YikYak. She said that because of the anonymity, the app feels like a fantasy world in which its users can escape the harsh roles and responsibilities of people’s real lives.

First-year student Maddie Clarke is one of these people. She said she often uses the app, mostly to post — or “yak” — funny things her friends say that she thinks the community needs to hear. But that is just one of many uses for the app. Clarke said that when she is not posting her friends’ greatest hits, she is often times looking for new information from the “herd” (users in the same five-mile radius). Some students, including Clarke, feel that the app has a sort of innate chaotic nature to it. Clarke said she finds it funny that people are posting about so many different things all at the same time. She said she has come to the realization that when she opens the app she has to face the possibility that anything could be waiting for her as she scrolls.

“IT’S A WEIRD PLACE,” Coronel said. “I mean really, it goes from the most mundane post to the freakiest thing you’ve seen all day, and it’s usually way too early for that.”

Just because students use the app, does not always mean they understand all the aspects behind it. Sophomore Gabi Coronel said she is still just as confused about the inner workings of her fellow users as she was when she first downloaded it. Besides earning “yakarma,” or points that users garner based on the number of upvotes their posts and comments receive, users seem to only post for the sake of posting. “It’s a weird place,” Coronel said. “I don’t totally get it if I’m being honest. But, you know, it’s entertaining. I have fun on there.”

She said she mainly goes on YikYak for entertainment. Even some people who still use it are very aware of the potential for harm on the platform. Senior Megan Handley, who said checking the app is a nightly ritual for her, wants fellow users to be more aware of what they post in on the app. She said that although it is entertaining, it is also important to take posts with a grain of salt.

“I think we just need to be [more] careful of how we interpret posts on YikYak,” Handley said. “It’s a fun app, but everyone needs to think [more critically] about the kinds of things they post, comment on or like. It’s an anonymous app, but it can still cause harm.”

Questionable motivations and posts that have way too much information aside, users are all on the same platform together, posting about their favorite clubs and shows, bowled movements and most annoying classmates, with no names, no faces and no hate.

“I really see it as the voice of the student population,” Clarke said. “Everyone is always speaking their mind on basically anything, so no matter what information you need, YikYak is the place to go.”
Students take leap of faith with Blind Dates with a Book

BY EVAN MILLER

In February, leading up to Valentine’s Day, Ithaca College students were invited to cozy up and maybe even fall in love with a book or film from the Ithaca College Library. However, the catch is that they did not know what book or film it was that they were borrowing as part of the library’s Blind Date with a Book program.

Blind Date with a Book has been a college favorite for eight years and this year, it ran from Feb. 8 to 22. As part of the program, students were greeted as they entered the library by a line of secretly decorated wrapped books and films chosen by staff and student employees. They were not given the title of the book or film, but rather the subject of the material, along with a brief synopsis to provide a hint as to what it could be.

Sarah Shank, interlibrary loan borrowing coordinator at the Ithaca College Library, sets up a display for the Blind Date with a Book program. The program invites students to find new books and films.

“The Princess Bride” (1987), directed by Rob Reiner. Cathy Michael, communications librarian, has been involved with the program since the beginning, helping spearhead it after a student recommended it take place in 2013. Since the COVID-19 pandemic; she has been slightly less involved than Sarah Shank, interlibrary loan borrowing coordinator who led the effort in running the program.

“I think there was maybe a dedication to keeping some tradition alive and sense of regularity or connection, so that was very nice of her,” Michael said. “I remember thinking, ‘She’s going to do all of that on her own. But I know she could juggle a lot, so hats off to her for doing that.’

This year, Michael contributed to Blind Date With a Book by promoting it across campus through Intercom and selecting works by African American authors, and other nonwhite authors.

“In the beginning, Shank had not been involved as much besides helping wrap selected books. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she said she wanted to continue the program as a way of helping make things more normal by including cookbooks and games in the program, as well as the normal books and films that students had come to expect.

Sarah Shank, interlibrary loan borrowing coordinator at the Ithaca College Library, sets up a display for the Blind Date with a Book program. The program invites students to find new books and films.

Shank said one of the most difficult aspects of Blind Date With a Book is finding books from a wide range of genres like comedy, drama, romance, fiction, nonfiction and more to include in the selection.

“I think it’s fun to be reminded how many different things we have in the library,” Shank said. Senior Allison True, a student manager at the library, worked with Shank to help prepare. At one point during the process, Shank allowed True to pick out an assortment of books to include for this year. True said she enjoyed seeing some of the library’s patrons pick up some of the books she chose, like “All the Light We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr and a collection of “Winnie the Pooh” stories by A.A. Milne.

“Seeing the same students and seeing what they’ve checked out before and what they grabbed and I know what’s inside, I feel a little bit like Santa Claus,” True said.

True’s enthusiasm is part of the charm for Michael, who said she enjoys displaying materials that make people happy.

“I think that books can bring, even if they’re not romantic in nature, a lot of love and happy feelings to people,” Michael said.

Although Blind Date With a Book has a conclusion for this year, Michael said the library has various upcoming events throughout the remainder of the semester for students to look forward to. Besides a National Poetry Month display that will occupy the library in April, there will also be a version of Book Talk coming sooner in March.

Sarah Shank, interlibrary loan borrowing coordinator at the Ithaca College Library, sets up a display for the Blind Date with a Book program. The program invites students to find new books and films.

““We Are Black Cosplay” talk Feb. 23 to promote inclusion in pop culture communities.

RaKim Lash, former assistant director for Multicultural Affairs at the college, hosted the “We Are Black Cosplay” talk Feb. 23 to promote inclusion in pop culture communities.

The concept behind the program was to shed light on the lack of Black cosplayers, the reworking of characters from one ethnicity to another, and has been a topic of debate among pop culture fans. In 2022, actress Leah Jeffries was the target of racial remakes after failing to match the description of character Annabeth Chase in “Percy Jackson and the Olympians.” Actor Ismael Cruz Cordova was similarly a target of online harassment for his portrayal of Aron dir in the “Lord of the Rings” spinoff “Rings of Power.”

Lash said he had a hard time finding community until he came to Ithaca. He recounted a lesson he learned from a student in his first year as an assistant director after joking to them about the lack of Black people at Ithaca College.

“The student looked at me and said, ‘That’s a very disrespectful thing to say,’ he said. “They were like, ‘Whether you have sought around that community, there’s probably community here. There was a community that’s been here before you, there’s probably a community that’s going to be here after you choose to leave.’

That comment stuck with him, and after wanting to build community for himself, he said he decided to finally reach out to the group he had admired from afar for years: Black cosplayers.

When sophomore Ryan Cary, who attended the panel, asked how Lash was able to build community after years of being hurt, Lash said it was a necessary process of acknowledging that pain.

“[I] haven’t been around Black cosplayers in person,” Cary said. “The only way I see them through TikTok and then I fantasize that I’m in a group with them but I never get that chance to walk up, mostly because I’m shy or I feel as if I’m not ready to step into that field.”

Sophomore Ariana Clark was already a cosplay fan, having done it as a hobby for several years. She had even made a dagger out of pasta boxes for a costume based on an anime character, Mikaela Hyakuya from “Owari no Seraph.” She said that for her, even attending the event was a step to find people like herself.

“I’m an introvert, so even coming to this event was kind of overwhelming, but I’m glad that I came and I think I’m going to try to go out more,” Clark said.

During a trip with the college’s Martin Luther King Scholars to Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, Lash said he learned a song that has stuck with him on his journey.

“It’s me, it’s we, it’s who build community,” Lash said. “That word community. That’s something to explore and that I’m still learning.”

For more information about upcoming programs, contact Emille Miller at Emiller11@ithaca.edu.
Third ‘Ant-Man’ shrinks its potential

MOVIE REVIEW: “Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania” Marvel Studios

BY EVAN MILLER
STAFF WRITER

During the last two years, Marvel Studios has released nearly triple the amount of films that Marvel Studios has released since the turn of the century. This wave of content has featured the usual suspects, but it has also introduced some interesting characters and storylines. Among these is the character of Kang the Conqueror, a villain who has been on the rise in recent years. Kang is a time-traveling villain who has the power to control history. In the film “Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania,” Kang makes his first appearance, setting the stage for future stories.

The film itself is a mixed bag. On the one hand, it features some of the best action sequences of recent years, with shots of the Quantum Realm and Kang fighting in different time periods. On the other hand, the film suffers from some pacing issues and a lack of clarity in some of its plot points.

The main problem that holds this film back is Skrillex getting in the way possible. The remix of “Supersonic” sounds like half a song that Skrillex just<table>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
</table>

To many fans, Skrillex is still the face of Dubstep, an often misunderstood genre. “XENA” uses a vocal sample of the Nai Barghouti song “Ghandara” as the center track to great effect, even if the drop is a tad muddy. And “Rumble” and “TOO BI” of the track to great effect, even if the drop is a tad muddy. And “Rumble” and “TOO BI”

New Skrillex album is fun but overstates its welcome

ALBUM REVIEW: “Quest for Fire” Owsla and Atlantic Records

BY ANDREW TELL
STAFF-WRITER

Dubstep is an often misunderstood genre. It is an icon of the early 2010s zeitgeist, it’s clunky and wild, in your face, and most importantly, energized. The late 2000s and early 2010s represented a peak of dance music in the U.S. and dubstep was the next step in that journey. And the one who is most synonymous with this time is the DJ Skrillex. He was the face of dubstep, and, to many, still is.

Long after the height of dubstep, Skrillex emerged from the woods with two new albums: the oscillator “Don’t Get Too Close,” which came out one day after the subject of this review, “Quest for Fire.” To start, this album has everything. Megan thee Stallion, “Still Here” with Amythest, future trap, Hillary Duff samples, clips of Pete Wentz from 2005, a song in Arabic and Swae Lee. “Quest for Fire” is less like an album, more like a carnival, or so Skrillex tries. The tunes here aren’t crouched to 11, which is unexpected for a Skrillex project. Instead, there is more bass music, reminiscent of JOYRYDE than the Skrillex of the past. But songs like “A Street I Know” are trying to get the listener into and moving but don’t give the listener anything new or different.

Eventually, there will be a point while listening to the album where the listener will realize that the songs feel longer than they actually are. But there are plenty of highlights on this LP. “RATA’s” is a formulaic: Skrillex sound (interesting vocal sample or feature plus a beat that sounds like it’s from a ‘90s video game plus the drop.) Skrillex song that didn’t get repetitive after the first 60 seconds. The Missy Elliott feature is a tad mid. And “Rumble” and “TOO BIG”

Cancellation of shows is unfair

BY LILIPKA
STAFF-WRITER

Television has been around since the early 20th century, but the traditional format of serialized television has vastly changed since the beginning of its existence. The introduction of streaming has played a significant role in how we consume media and the varying shapes that said media now takes. Streaming has also provided a place for shows to be made that may otherwise not have been able to exist. The sheer amount of television shows that are available to stream is so enormous that viewers and creative teams can easily get buried. Even shows like “Genera+,” which was wonderful and acted and garnered a decent following, the entire series was canceled.

Other shows, such as “Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania,” had the opportunity to introduce viewers to an exciting new world, the Quantum Realm itself is, for the most part, uninteresting, both visually and thematically.
crossword
By Quill Driver Books

ACROSS
1 Premier of filmdom
5 Pet adoption org.
9 Reason out
14 Has regrets
15 OPEC country
16 Egypt's capital
17 Stillness
19 Common abrasive
20 Do lacework
21 Porter and stout
22 Urchins
23 Made a try
25 Give autographs
26 Physique
27 Against the rules
30 “Peer Gynt” dramatist
33 Trudges
34 “— Sera, Sera”
36 Bright-colored
37 Squawk
38 Coastal flyer
39 Computer key
40 Abraham’s wife
41 Kingdom
42 Took the risk
44 13th Hebrew letter
45 Exclamations of encouragement
46 Horse-drawn cab
50 Don Diego
52 Christia’s Miss Marple
53 “Snow” veggie
54 Courtier
55 In a stern manner
56 Not for
59 Crafts’ partner
60 Installed ceramic
61 Weeds
62 El —, Texas
64 Against the rules
65 The Godfather
66 Delicately
68 Odo
69 Going
70 Rosary beads
71 Made a try
72 Carnival
73 Window
74 Made a try
75 Bungee
76 Awkwardly
77 Stands
78 "— Sera, Sera"
79 Timepiece
80 "— Sera, Sera"
81 "— Sera, Sera"
82 "— Sera, Sera"
83 "— Sera, Sera"
84 "— Sera, Sera"
85 "— Sera, Sera"
86 "— Sera, Sera"
87 "— Sera, Sera"
88 "— Sera, Sera"
89 "— Sera, Sera"
90 "— Sera, Sera"
91 "— Sera, Sera"
92 "— Sera, Sera"
93 "— Sera, Sera"
94 "— Sera, Sera"
95 "— Sera, Sera"
96 "— Sera, Sera"
97 "— Sera, Sera"
98 "— Sera, Sera"
99 "— Sera, Sera"
100 "— Sera, Sera"

DOWN
1 Deliver a speech
2 Big brass instruments
3 Exams
4 Columbus sch.
5 Moved crabwise
6 Snooped
7 Household members
8 Some fights
9 Times of widespread glaciation (2 wds.)
10 Fingering
11 Medieval holding
12 Makes a faux pas
13 Orion or Rogers
14 "Walk Away—"
15 Polyester partner
16 Playwright
17 Oscar —
18 21st century
19 Creative work
20 Water
21 Quiet time
22 Porter and stout
23 “— Sera, Sera”
24 Playwright
25 Enjoy a puddle
26 Helen of Troy’s story
27 Helen of Troy
28 Water
29 Quiet time
30 Notre Dame sight
31 Pearl variety
32 Of that kind
33 Sponge features
34 House shader
35 House shader
36 Bright-colored
37 Squawk
38 Coastal flyer
39 Computer key
40 Abraham’s wife
41 Kingdom
42 Took the risk
44 13th Hebrew letter
45 Exclamations of encouragement
46 Horse-drawn cab
50 Don Diego
52 Christia’s Miss Marple
53 “Snow” veggie
54 Courtier
55 In a stern manner
56 Not for
59 Crafts’ partner
60 Installed ceramic
61 Weeds
62 El —, Texas
64 Against the rules
65 The Godfather
66 Delicately
68 Odo
69 Going
70 Rosary beads
71 Made a try
72 Carnival
73 Window
74 Made a try
75 Bungee
76 Awkwardly
77 Stands
78 "— Sera, Sera"
79 Timepiece
80 "— Sera, Sera"
81 "— Sera, Sera"
82 "— Sera, Sera"
83 "— Sera, Sera"
84 "— Sera, Sera"
85 "— Sera, Sera"
86 "— Sera, Sera"
87 "— Sera, Sera"
88 "— Sera, Sera"
89 "— Sera, Sera"
90 "— Sera, Sera"
91 "— Sera, Sera"
92 "— Sera, Sera"
93 "— Sera, Sera"
94 "— Sera, Sera"
95 "— Sera, Sera"
96 "— Sera, Sera"
97 "— Sera, Sera"
98 "— Sera, Sera"
99 "— Sera, Sera"
100 "— Sera, Sera"

answers to last issue’s sudoku:

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

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

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

CHECK OUR STATUS
ONLINE

NEWSLETTER

CHECK OUT OUR ADVERTISING BROCHURE HERE
EMAIL: ITHACABAKERY@IITHACA.COM TO ADVERTISE ONLINE, IN MAIL, OR IN OUR NEWSLETTER.
The Ithaca College gymnastics team has been known to be extremely selective with its recruits. Unfortunately, the team does not have enough space to keep everyone on the roster, causing head coach Rick Suddaby to make cuts. However, a number of those who were cut from the gymnastics team have found another home at the college, in particular, the women’s swimming and diving team.

There are plenty of similarities between gymnastics and diving. According to Gymnastics123, one of them is the focus on mechanics when in the air. Another area of focus for these athletes is the aspect of take offs and landings. Some of these attributes make the transition to diving much easier for ex-gymnasts.

Diving coach Chris Griffin said there are currently 12 divers on the team that were previously on the gymnastics team at the college. One of those divers, graduate student Abby Marraccino, has been on the swim and dive team since her first year after originally being recruited for gymnastics.

“I started looking at Ithaca my sophomore year and had been in contact with the coaches early on,” Marraccino said. “I was definitely under the impression that after trying I would make the team, but unfortunately I was cut right away.”

Marraccino said that after being cut from the gymnastics team during her first year, she looked for another sport to join, trying to fill that gap as an athlete has been an important part of her life. “I’ve been an athlete my whole life and I knew I had to find something to put all of my passion behind,” Marraccino said. “I was looking at anything, club swimming, rowing, until another gymnast who was cut reached out to me and recommended I join the diving team. Originally, I thought there was no way I would join the diving team, but I was able to build off my foundational skills from gymnastics and I joined and hoped for the best.”

Sophomore Natalie Soloway, who was also recruited to be on the gymnastics team, saw her first season riddled with injuries before being cut at the beginning of her sophomore year.

“My senior year of high school, the coach offered me a spot on the team and the next day I tore my achilles,” Soloway said. “I was still on the team last year but I did not compete as I was still recovering. Once tryouts rolled around this year, I was cut and never fully back to where I was before I tore my achilles.”

Soloway, like Marraccino, had been an athlete her entire life. Committed to gymnastics, Soloway had a hard transition joining the diving team after being cut from gymnastics, but she found a new home as a diver.

“I’ve always wanted to dive but I’ve never had the opportunity to see other sports because of gymnastics,” Soloway said. “Coming in, it was one of the hardest things I’ve ever done with this transformation.”

Soloway gives credit for her success to Griffin, who has had a number of former gymnasts join the team during his time as a coach.

“The progress I’ve made is mind-blowing to me and it’s all because of my coach,” Soloway said.

“It’s so crazy to think that I knew nothing about this sport coming in and now I’m a part of such a successful team.”

- Abby Marraccino
  Senior diver

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

 “[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my position,” Soloway said. “They all knew exactly what to tell me and looking at them and seeing how successful they were, I knew it was possible for me to do it, too.”

Soloway finished in 19th and 20th in the 1- and 3-meter dives, respectively, at the NCAA Regional Diving Championships on Feb. 24 and 25. At the Gene¬

“Coming in, it was one of the hardest things I’ve ever done with this transformation.”

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬

“Has coached so many successful divers, especially ex-gymnasts, and transformed them into strong divers. He’s a huge reason why I love swimming and diving so much and the team too, as everyone is so supportive.”

Soloway also said her teammates have helped her find success, fighting through the adversity of trying a new sport for the first time.

“[Senior diver Karolyn Parejo], Abby and [senior diver] Ali Lange came from gymnastics too and they knew my posi¬
Club sports voice issues with lack of communication

BY TOBIAS ZBORAY
STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of the semester, as club sports were beginning to get ready for another season of action, updated enforcement of club sports policies changed the plans for many clubs as they started the spring.

While not all of the policy changes affected each club, the one that set across the board was that at least three members of a club’s sports team have to be CPR certified. Sophomore Julia Freitor, secretary of I-Karus, Ithaca College’s circus club, said the course cost $60, lasted five hours and was only offered by the college during the first two weeks of classes.

That policy, according to Sean Reilley, associate director of Recreational Sports, had already been in place before this semester but is now being followed by his office.

“The [CPR] requirement was actually just us being a little behind in taking off the administrative boxes,” Reilley said. “The CPR certification requirement has been in place for club sports for longer than I’ve worked here, it’s just finally something we’re focusing on early in the fall, but we just got behind this year.”

The changes in enforcement, along with the increase in required forms, were not received well by the students in club sports. Freitor said the changes were communicated with members of club sports via a Zoom meeting, which students were only alerted to in an email during the first week of classes. The meeting was at 8 p.m. the next night and all executive board members were required to attend. Freitor said she was frustrated by the lack of communication between the Office of Campus Recreation and the clubs during the winter break when these new enforcements were announced.

“If they would be really transparent with club sports, like, ‘We know we’ve never even implemented this in the past, but the college is forcing us to step up, you have to do these things, here’s ample time for you to get them done,’ that would have been OK,” Freitor said.

Another club facing new accommodations is the men’s and women’s club ultimate frisbee teams. Senior men’s captain Elliot Mintz said the regulations specific to a club ultimate have been that alumni are no longer allowed to participate in tournaments that the team hosts and that the club cannot play against non-college associated teams in tournament play.

Mintz said that while the regulations have been tough for the club, important communications between recreational sports and the club was lacking during the fall.

“I think we found out about three weeks before the tournament that alumni would not be able to participate,” Mintz said. “We thought it was an administrative change, so we had alumni play on our fields.”

Talking about the new changes, Reilley said his office has been trying to bring the standards of club sports up to the standards of the rest of the college while also focusing on the safety of those participating.

But for the club ultimate, the previous changes were not the only ones with more enforcement this year. The policy states that any club that travels over 90 miles away from campus cannot use personal vehicles. Mintz said the policy had been in place for a while, but it was not enforced until this year, which has forced the club to use buses for tournaments, costing the team between $2,900 and $3,500 per trip. Mintz said that the increases will utilize the most economical mode of transportation necessary for their trip. Mintz said “so another option is to take rental cars, or Ithaca has a fleet of vehicles that clubs are supposed to be able to take. When we brought this up to club sports they said no.”

Because of the cost to the club, Reilley said club sports has nearly doubled the funding to the team itself to help offset the travel costs.

Going forward, one thing that club sports officials should be focused on is timing. Reilley said that much of the office checking COVID-19 forced a rushed enforcement of regulations, but that in the future he would like to give more notice on policy changes.

“So we sent an email out detailing the new policy changes, and that was right before the start of the semester.”

Reilley said “And honestly, the timing on that was not great. … That was something we could have done better with.”

But with the delays in sending out the email, Freitor said that she feels like the college has been letting club sports down.

“It just feels like we’re not being thought of as a priority,” Freitor said. “If they had thought of these things at least before winter break, they would have given us all time. … But dropping it on us last-minute during the first week of classes was crazy.”

Four wrestlers punch tickets to national tournament

BY DUSTIN TERRY
STAFF WRITER

The Ithaca College wrestling team took second place in the NCAA Division III Mid-Atlantic Regional, hosted by tournament Feb. 21 and 25 in the Glazer Arena.

Sophomore Wencheard Pierre-Louis and graduate student Eze Chukwuezi each won the Mid-Atlantic title at 157 pounds and 197 pounds, respectively, advancing to the NCAA Championship in Roanoke, Virginia, on March 10 and 11.

Senior Man Beyer took on No. 4 Thomas Monn of McDaniel College in his final. Beyer rallied late but was unable to secure points. He still took a second-place finish for the second consecutive year.

Beyer and Pierre-Louis both claimed 3-2 decisions over their opponents. Pierre-Louis faced off against No. 14 Dorian Gonzalez of Elizabeth-town College, holding the upper hand to come away with the win. Gonzalez lost on the mat, pinning all three of his opponents to move into the semifinal. His most notable pin came in just 30 seconds.

“I achieved my goals [today],” Chukwuezi said. “Kind of dominate, get bonus points and try to work toward the team title.”

In the first semifinal match for a Bomber, Torres won a tight 4-2 decision. He came up short in the final against No. 12 Jyden Cardena from SUNY Cortland, falling in a highly-contested match between two strong competitors.

Beyer and Pierre-Louis both claimed 3-2 decisions over their opponents. Pierre-Louis faced off against No. 14 Dorian Gonzalez of Elizabeth-town College, holding the upper hand to come away with the win. Gonzalez lost on the mat, pinning all three of his opponents to move into the semifinal. His most notable pin came in just 30 seconds.

“I achieved my goals [today],” Chukwuezi said. “Kind of dominate, get bonus points and try to work toward the team title.”

In the first semifinal match for a Bomber, Torres won a tight 4-2 decision. He came up short in the final against No. 12 Jyden Cardena from SUNY Cortland, falling in a highly-contested match between two strong competitors.

Beyer and Pierre-Louis both claimed 3-2 decisions over their opponents. Pierre-Louis faced off against No. 14 Dorian Gonzalez of Elizabeth-town College, holding the upper hand to come away with the win. Gonzalez lost on the mat, pinning all three of his opponents to move into the semifinal. His most notable pin came in just 30 seconds.

“I achieved my goals [today],” Chukwuezi said. “Kind of dominate, get bonus points and try to work toward the team title.”

In the first semifinal match for a Bomber, Torres won a tight 4-2 decision. He came up short in the final against No. 12 Jyden Cardena from SUNY Cortland, falling in a highly-contested match between two strong competitors.

Beyer and Pierre-Louis both claimed 3-2 decisions over their opponents. Pierre-Louis faced off against No. 14 Dorian Gonzalez of Elizabeth-town College, holding the upper hand to come away with the win. Gonzalez lost on the mat, pinning all three of his opponents to move into the semifinal. His most notable pin came in just 30 seconds.

“I achieved my goals [today],” Chukwuezi said. “Kind of dominate, get bonus points and try to work toward the team title.”

In the first semifinal match for a Bomber, Torres won a tight 4-2 decision. He came up short in the final against No. 12 Jyden Cardena from SUNY Cortland, falling in a highly-contested match between two strong competitors.
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
KARALYN PAWCIO/WOMEN’S DIVING

Senior diver Karalyn Pawcio performs a dive during the NCAA Regional Diving Championships on Feb. 24, hosted by Ithaca College. Pawcio took the top spot on the 1-meter boards at the competition and third place on the 3-meter boards.

COMPETITION OF THE WEEK
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. SKIDMORE

From left, Ithaca College senior forward Emily Dorn shoots over Skidmore College sophomore Amelia Medolla. In a thrilling game to decide the Liberty League Championship, Skidmore held on to win 54-52 and end the Bombers’ streak of conference titles.

EVENT TO WATCH
7:30 P.M. MARCH 3 VS. LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY

The Ithaca College women’s basketball team fell in the Liberty League title game but still earned the right to host the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament in the Ben Light Gymnasium. The Bombers welcome La Roche University, Marietta College and Eastern Connecticut State University on March 3 and 4. Marietta and ECSU take the court at 5 p.m. March 3, while the Bombers face La Roche at 7:30 p.m. that night. The winners will face off in the second round at 7:15 p.m. March 4. All three games will take place in the Ben Light Gymnasium, regardless of if the Bombers advance.

NOTABLE UPCOMING COMPETITIONS
MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD: 10 a.m. March 3 and 4 at AARTFC Championships.
MEN’S LACROSSE: Noon March 4 vs. SUNY Geneseo at Higgins Stadium, 4 p.m. March 8 at Nazareth College.
WOMEN’S LACROSSE: 3 p.m. March 4 vs. FDU-Florham at Higgins Stadium, 4 p.m. March 8 at University of Scranton.
MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. March 4 at Skidmore College.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
“At the end of the day, I think the guys like to work hard and they like to make boats go fast. So that’s what we focus on when we’re at the boathouse.”

- JUSTIN STANGEL
Head coach of the Ithaca College men’s rowing team

GYMNASTICS: 1 p.m. March 5 vs. Springfield College
Cornell University first-year student Jocie Chen performs as a part of the Cornell Amber Dance Troupe during the Lunar New Year Festival on Feb. 24 in Emerson Suites. The festival was hosted by the Ithaca College Chinese Students and Scholars Association, with several games and performances to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit.