As a first step in preventing discriminatory behavior at Ithaca College, a climate review of the then-School of Music was conducted in summer 2021 that identified three main sources of tension among faculty and staff: tenure, the school’s environment, and race and gender.

The cultural review in the former School of Music — now the Center for Music in the School of Music, Theatre and Dance — was conducted by Title IX Coordinator Linda Koenig; Omar Stoute, former deputy Title IX coordinator; and Keith Kaiser, former dean of the School of Music for the 2020–21 academic year and current professor in the Department of Music Education. The facilitators of the review met privately with 21 faculty and staff in the School of Music and asked them a series of questions about the culture of the music industry and the School of Music; experiences and comfort in the School of Music; relationships and group dynamics; discrimination and bullying; opportunities and professional growth; and representation.

BY NOA RAN-RESSLER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca Bike-share has provided nearly 13,179 rides on public bikes. Now, the local organization plans to add more parking hubs and raise the costs of bike use.

Ithaca Bikeshare is a non-profit organization that works to get residents of the City of Ithaca to travel more by bike than by car. The organization created these rides using half as many bikes as the bike-share service Lime, a bike, moped and scooter-sharing company that ended service to several of its cities and was used in Ithaca between 2018 to 2020.

Jeff Goodmark, director of micromobility for the City of Ithaca, said via email that public bike sharing is necessary in Ithaca in order to get cars off the road. Goodmark works with the city to manage how more transportation can happen through biking and walking rather than cars. Goodmark is working with the city to organize the initiative after Lime ended its services in Ithaca.

“The overall reliance on cars is causing many major issues such as pollution, reliance on fossil fuels, and wasted city space for parking,” Goodmark said via email. “All of this ties in with Ithaca’s Green New Deal goals.”

He said that if residents feel a sense of responsibility toward the bikes, since the program is local, rather than Lime, which was a nationwide company, then residents will make an extra effort to treat the new bikes better and park them in bike hubs located around the city. The hubs’ locations are visible on the Ithaca Bikeshare app and serve as a safe way to organize parked bikes where they are accessible to other riders. Hubs are not marked physically and are spaced about one to two blocks away from each other.

Goodmark said the interface of the new Ithaca Bikeshare app is similar to that of Lime but will now offer more hubs than Lime did.

Although Goodmark said he does not know the number of parking hubs Lime had, it was similar to those of Ithaca Bikeshare. Goodmark said he hopes to increase the number of hubs around the city by the end of the year, which will add to the 79 hubs the organization has currently.

Goodmark said the necessity of parking hubs is so people can locate bikes faster and so bikes can be found by using the app.

“The idea of parking hubs is to give people the flexibility to ride wherever they want but also provide some form of predictability in terms of where people can find bikes,” Goodmark said.

Other changes include getting rid of the $1 credit to riders for parking in a hub. Instead of a $1 credit, riders will be charged a $1 fee if they do not park in a hub. Previously, unlocking a bike cost $1 and $0.15 per minute to ride. Goodmark said that pricing will increase to $0.20 per minute and unlocking a bike will now cost $1.50.
Russia and Ukraine renew the Black Sea Grain deal last minute
Russia and Ukraine have agreed to renew the crucial Black Sea Grain Deal, which was due to expire within hours, officials from all sides said March 18, following last-minute talks, but there was no confirmation as to how long it would be extended.

The Black Sea Grain Initiative frees millions of tons of grain and other foods that would otherwise be stuck in Ukraine because of Russia’s invasion and blockade. It allows for shipments via three Black Sea ports, with Turkey playing a coordinating role.

Exiled Chinese tycoon charged with billion-dollar fraud in US
Chinese billionaire Guo Wengui, the exiled businessman and vocal critic of Beijing with ties to former President Donald Trump’s adviser Steve Bannon, was charged with fraud after the U.S. seized $634 million in assets linked to his alleged crimes. Arrested at 6:24 a.m. March 15 by FBI agents at his luxury apartment in Manhattan’s Sherry-Netherland hotel, Guo was later brought before a judge over the alleged billion-dollar fraud.

Pakistan court defers indictment on Imran Khan’s state gifts case
A Pakistan court deferred an indictment on former Prime Minister Imran Khan for not disclosing income from selling state gifts as his supporters and the police clashed in Islamabad. The hearing will now be March 30, Khan’s lawyer Khawaja Harris said.

Khan’s supporters pelleted police with stones after security officials tried to prevent them from entering the court’s premises along with their leader. Police fired tear gas shells as their vehicles were set ablaze by protesters.

Nine policemen were wounded and more than 25 vehicles were burnt, according to Islamabad police spokesperson Taqiu Jawad.

Michigan Senate approves gun control bills after mass shootings
The Michigan Senate responded March 16 to the deadly shooting at Michigan State University that occurred Feb. 13, by approving bills that would expand background check requirements for firearm purchases and allow guns to be taken from those deemed a risk to themselves or others.

The main proposals in the 11-bill package, which also includes measures to require guns to be secured if they are kept in homes where children are present, passed along party lines in votes of 20–17 with Democrats in support and Republicans in opposition.

Iran’s police arrest 110 over poisoning case
Activists from an Iranian women’s rights group attend a rally condemning the mass poisoning of Iranian female students March 11 in New York. The poisonings affected over 5,000 pupils since November, according to Iranian authorities.

The Black Sea Grain Initiative frees millions of tons of grain and other foods that would otherwise be stuck in Ukraine because of Russia’s invasion and blockade. It allows for shipments via three Black Sea ports, with Turkey playing a coordinating role.
SGC discusses plans for rest of semester

BY DOMINICK PETRUCCI
STAFF WRITER

At Ithaca College Student Governance Council’s March 20 meeting, senators and officials discussed the SGC’s constitution amendment and preparations for an upcoming bill.

Most students expected a meeting at President La Jerne Copeland’s residence for dinner during this meeting. Senate Chair senior Austin Ruffino said the meeting was postponed because of miscommunication about when the event would be held. “We have not been given [more information],” Ruffino said.

Senior Grace Madeya, president of the student body, held a personal meeting with Copper to discuss IC Rise Up. One topic brought up was IC Rise Up and Copper’s ongoing goal of finding a satisfactory conclusion between IC Rise Up and the college.

“Governor of New York Kathy Hochul wants to come to her school,” Madeya said. “They are going to come to her school. We need to make sure we are hearing all voices and moving forward.”

Copper’s idea of the March 6 SGC meeting was to have listening sessions to properly get students input directly to faculty. Although IC Rise Up said at its March 8 walkout that they would bring Copper’s focused sessions to listen to students discussed in the printed statements, Madeya said they will have more listening sessions with the pro- onter so that people are aware of the events that are being held at the college.

“Sen, vice president of campus affairs, discuss updates to their bills and respective committees,” Madeya said. “Any members who are a part of IC Rise Up and Copper’s ongoing goal of finding a satisfactory conclusion between IC Rise Up and the college.

Senior Maya Scriben, vice president of communications, said she will be quick on her feet and understand argu -men. Scriben said she is not getting answers. “I want answers on stuff such as the voting machines and other things,” Scriben said. “I’ve sent a lot of emails but haven’t gotten a response back.”

Sen, vice president of campus affairs, discussed updates to their bills and respective committees. “I have to research all the different liberal perspectives and progressive per -spectives; I had to research all aspects to reallocate the funds that our schools are getting right now. We’re seeing all these ad -ministrators getting this money that should be going to improving the quality of our ed -ucation, energy and crime. During his education at the college, Slater was on the debate team, the president of IC Repub -licans, vice president of the Young Americans for Liberty chapter and the treas -urer of the IC Students for Life chapter.

News Editor Lorien Tyne spoke with Slater about his political ideology and what he wants to focus on if he is elected to office.

“This interview has been edited for length and clarity.”

Lorien Tyne: Can you tell me about your experience at Ithaca College and how that has gotten you to where you are today?

Caleb Slater: I have empathy for both sides of the argument because I’ve made friends with people who are on both sides of these issues. I’ve been on both sides of the debate, there were times when I had to argue liberal perspectives and progressive per -spectives. There are so many different perspectives and arguing to prove that you are right. This has me to give up on my feet and understand argu -ments is what’s given me the ability to have a lot of conversations and be quick on my feet and understand argu -ments; I had to research all the different liberal perspectives and progressive per -spectives; I had to research all aspects to reallocate the funds that our schools are getting right now. We’re seeing all these ad -ministrators getting this money that should be going to improving the quality of our ed -ucation, energy and crime.

Caleb Slater: “If there is a non-violent offense, they don’t have to have a panel and further connect with students. Madeya said she does not yet know if a panel will happen or what one would look like. Madeya said the Code of Conduct amendment is now in the SGC’s constitution. Any members wanting to join must first read and agree to this amendment.

Finally, as previously discussed in the bill-writing workshop that was held during the Feb. 27 meeting, Madeya continued to push her bill to add more sections to the SGC. “This bill is about adding an Ex-Officer for the Stu -dent of Color Coalition and a First Generation Student seat on the council,” Madeya said. “It’s im -portant they have representation specifically related to their own college experience … just to en -sure we are hearing all voices and listening to what all of color organizations need.”

CONTACT: PETRUCCI@ITHACA.EDU

From left, senior Grace Madeya, president of the student body, and first-year student Rishabh Sen, vice president of campus affairs, discuss updates to their bills and respective committees.

RAY MELLON/THE ITHACAN

COVID vaccine mandate axed

BY LORIEN TYNE
NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca College will not require students to receive the primary series of COVID-19 vaccinations beginning in the 2023–24 academic year.

Senior Cali Trainer said her first thought after seeing the announcement was that she is glad she is graduating this year. Trainer is immunocompromised and said she also has a condition on campus as an accommodation.

“If vaccines aren’t required, what is the college doing to protect us because it kind of feels like there’s nothing new,” Trainer said.

Whole Health Commissioner Frank Krup -pa said the necessity for requiring vaccines is lower than at the beginning of the pandemic. “As the pandemic has waned, we’ve talked closely with all of our higher education partners, including Ithaca College, related to [COVID-19] decision-making,” Kruppa said.

On Dec. 23, the college ordered the use of Biontech’s vaccine for students, an important step in the college's COVID-19 Dashboard, which was implemented at the start of the COVID-19 pan -demic to track case numbers. The COVID-19 vaccine was made available to employees and students in January 2021, which means if employees of the college test -ed positive for COVID-19, they would need to use their allotted paid time away. Employees no longer have to complete a self-reporting form with documentation of a positive test ei -ther. On Feb. 6, testing for COVID-19 moved to Millay Faculty Center and is no longer required to be the location for those seeking testing services.

All current policies are posted on the COVID Health & Safety page on the college’s website.

Sophomore Abigail Jones said via text that while she was initially concerned, the process the college took to make the decision about vaccination requirements eased her worries.

“I think I was a bit worried about the COVID vaccine mandate being lifted at first because getting the first round of vaccines is very important,” Jones said. “Mandates had to be in place for a long time for everyone’s safety and to lessen symptoms. Although I’m not an expert myself, I also realize some time has passed and the rationale given in the email makes sense to me. I also understand the de cision was made with the Tompkins County Health Department, which makes me feel a bit better.”

Swarts also provided a list of factors that contributed to the decision in the email an nouncement. The email stated that because of vaccinations or previously contracting COVID-19, the majority of the campus com munity is considered immune. Swarts also said the current strains of the virus that are most common have symptoms that are not severe, and this is why the college determined it was now safe to lift the mandate.

“Please note that the decision to remove the vaccine requirement applies to current stu -dents is another important milestone for our campus as we continue to strategically trans -form our college operations to pre-pandemic standards,” Swarts said.
IC and Cornell not yet included in bikeshare hub locations

FROM BIKESHARE, PAGE 1

Day passes will still cost the same price at $20 per day, as will monthly and yearly passes, which are $45 and $150, respectively.

Goodmark said the reason for the changes was that only 10% of Ithaca Bikeshare riders complied with the parking hubs. He said other cities, like New Orleans, that charge $1 for not parking in a hub experienced a 30-60% increase in riders properly using hubs.

Goodmark said the Ithaca Bikeshare bikes can make traveling through the City of Ithaca easier and efficient while also helping to improve the city’s sustainability goals by decreasing the number of cars on Ithaca’s roads. Goodmark said Ithaca Bikeshare does not have the funds to increase in fleet, which is not known at the time because of bikes going missing or damaged.

“For a lot of people who work on campus, there are several places downtown, it’s less than two miles, which is ideal for a bike ride, especially for an electric bike ride which goes a lot faster and requires less effort,” said Goodmark.

Fernando de Aragon, director of Ithaca’s Transportation and Traffic Management, said the current system that uses free-floating dockless bikes is an easy and quick way to get around campus, but it’s not the same as the new system in place.

“The way Ithaca is set up, it’s far away from the bike path. You’re quite far away from most of the main campus. Having access to bikes that you could ride to class would be so much better for the environment and for the students,” de Aragon said.

De Aragon said an important factor to get more people onto bikes is to let riders know where the bikes are. He said the Ithaca Bikeshare bikes are a much better product than Lime’s bikes. De Aragon said Lime bikes have a history of not being as well understood and not being taken care of.

Baruch Whitehead, associate professor in the Department of Music Education, was one of the faculty members interviewed and said the cultural review is helpful but that real change must be made.

“I just thought the report should be distributed with the data and not just give us the themes,” Whitehead said. “I thought people really feel, I felt like that was important for the whole community to hear. … Of course, I think the campus really needs to do the right thing, but how we get to the right thing is the process that we have to go through.”

A non-faculty member, Richard Koenig in the Center for Music, who wished to remain anonymous out of fear of retaliation, was concerned with the delay in sharing the summaries of the interviews with faculty and staff conducted in summer 2021, but the interviews were not presented at the all-music faculty until Feb. 1, 2023.

“There’s a lack of transparency,” the faculty member said. “If there’s discrimination, then we need to know the facts. We need the data.”

Goodmark said the Ithaca Bikeshare bikes are a much better option for a bike ride, especially for an electric bike ride. “The bikes can make traveling across campus much easier and quicker,” he said.

First-year student Jacob Heah said via email that since people ride their bikes, skates and electric skateboards across campus, the public bikes should be allowed on campus as well.

“…I think there is a greater ease of transportation from one place to another,” Heah said. “For example, if you lived in Circle Apartments, Garden Apartments or even Emerson Hall, you’re quite far away from most of the main campus. Having access to bikes that you could ride to class would be so much better for the environment and for the students.”

De Aragon said an important factor to get more people onto bikes is to let riders know where the bikes are. He said the Ithaca Bikeshare bikes are a much better product than Lime’s bikes. De Aragon said Lime bikes have a history of not being as well understood and not being taken care of.

Baruch Whitehead, associate professor in the Department of Music Education, was one of the faculty members interviewed and said the cultural review is helpful but that real change must be made.

“…As a musician, it was a system I was raised in,” Whitehead said. “I was blinded to these issues until I started to learn. It’s up to all of us to continue to learn and listen to each other so that we can understand the system and see the things in place that are not contributing [positively] to the work environment.”

Whitehead said he suggested that the School of Music bring in an expert who has dealt with similar issues in other institutions.

“Getting this report, it’s a step in the right direction for us to unpack and to make some changes, and not just progress,” Whitehead said. “We need to make change, not progress. Change is great.”

CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU

FROM BIKESHARE, PAGE 1

The summary was shared Feb. 1, 2023, with music faculty and staff, and participants remained unnamed. In the summary, faculty and staff without tenure expressed feeling silenced by senior faculty.

Participants said that in the building’s common areas, they felt fearful of confrontation with senior faculty and reported fearing retaliation if they spoke up about being bullied. Participants also said they faced difficulties satisfying curricular requirements and that the changes were because of the dominance of white, male faculty in the school and the school’s culture.

Faculty and staff reported that conversations addressing sexism and racism create tension and fear, and a small, but vocal, group of white, male, senior faculty expressed fear of change. The summary said faculty and staff of color described feeling like outsiders and considered leaving higher education as a result. The summary also noted that some particip- ants expressed their own racial and sexist views.

The executive summary was created by Koenig and Ilya Wade, former dean and current associate dean of the School of MTD, on Feb. 8, 2022. A year later, Feb. 1, thom from the reviews were presented by Koenig and Wade at a Center for Music faculty meeting. At the Feb. 7 Faculty Council meeting, the cultural review was presented.

Baruch Whitehead, associate professor in the Department of Music Education and head of the Anti-Rac- ism Committee in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance, said he was one of the faculty members inter- viewed. “Whitehead said one issue he found with the review was the lack of specific information about what led to the identification of the themes.

“We don’t need to wait two years for a report to come up.”

While the email asking for mu- sic faculty to participate in the review said this review would be part of a wider climate review of other schools, the review process halted with the School of Music. At the Feb. 7 Faculty Council meeting, Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, said the college did not continue the review across campus because nobody at the college has the capacity to continue the work. Stein said the review was likely the one conducted in the School of Music are not the responsibility of Title IX coordinators but fall under human resources and affirmative action.

“There is a conversation ongoing at the upper levels of the college about how there were no resources in human resources,” Stein said.

“That sounds ridiculous, but the [Office of] Human Resources was a little understaffed and so they didn’t have the capacity to do such a review,” Stein said.

In April 2021, there were three executive positions in the Office of Human Resources, one staffer in Em- ployee Relations, Development, and Engagement, and one staffer in Hu- man Resources Information Systems. There were 12 staffers in total, includ- ing executive positions. As of Spring 2023 — and position titles have since changed — there are five staffers in Human Resources Operations and 12 in the office overall.

Koenig said one of those re- sources includes people who would transcribe interviews and identify themes from the interviews. She said her office of two people only has the time to work on a review like this in the summer, but it is hard for faculty to volunteer to participate outside of contracted hours.

At the Feb. 7 Faculty Council meeting, Rachel Schutz, assistant professor in the Department of Mu- sic Performance, said that although there may be issues with the process of conducting the review, creating spaces for faculty to speak about their experi- ences is important for faculty to feel comfortable sharing their per- spectives on discrimination and bias.

“…It’s not maybe perfectly repre- sentative, but I think it was helpful to hear from faculty,” Schutz said at the meeting. “I don’t think it’s the right way to make some changes, but they need to be addressed, but they need to be addressed in a timely manner. We don’t need to wait two years for a report to come up.”

The interview report can help open people’s eyes to the systems within the music industry that con- tribute to the issues described by the interviewed faculty.

“We need to make change, not progress. Change is great.”

CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU

FROM TITLE IX, PAGE 1

Walz said the review can help faculty and staff report to come up.”

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CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU

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“Getting this report, it’s a step in the right direction for us to unpack and to make some changes, and not just progress,” Whitehead said. “We need to make change, not progress. Progress is great. Change is better.”

CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU
Ithaca College Web Team offers virtual hours for support

The Ithaca College Web Team is offering office hours in the upcoming weeks of the semester. The first will be offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 23 via Zoom. The next three sessions will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 5, April 11, to 1 p.m. April 20 and 1-3 p.m. May 3. Offered office hours are meant to help the campus community with questions regarding web management, content and development. To attend office hours, interested attendees must book an appointment at least 24 hours prior through the Microsoft Bookings Page. Attendees will receive a Zoom link for the online office hours session. All questions and concerns regarding alternate consultation times can be directed to web@ithaca.edu.

Park alum to facilitate ‘Why Media Matters’ workshops for all

Lake Harber ’18, a strategic communication and entertainment professional, will be hosting a “Why Media Matters” workshop from 12-1 p.m. March 23 in Room 203 of the Roy H. Park School of Communications. In the workshop, Harber will talk about his personal and professional experiences in the media industry.

The workshop is open to all students, faculty and staff and does not require prior registration. During his time at Ithaca College, Harber was involved with Ithacapella, the college’s all-male-identifying a capella group, The Ithacan and I.C. Beavots, a self-started, vocal and performance-based initiative.

All accommodation requests must be made by email to jareda@ithaca.edu or via phone at 607-274-1567.

Survey seeks feedback to better meet equity needs in classes

The Center for Faculty Excellence and Center for Student Success and Retention are collecting responses for a survey assessing needs of faculty until March 24. The survey is based on concerns that faculty put forward in listening sessions with Melanie McClain, a self-started, vocal and performance-based initiative.

Surveys seek feedback to better meet equity needs in classes at aestabr1@ithaca.edu or 607-274-1459.

Juniors, seniors invited for web management, content and development sessions

Students can be directed to web@ithaca.edu.

Students put their brainpower to the test

From left, sophomores Zoe Williams, February Schneck and Riley Marie Fortin deliberate and confer over answers, hoping to win prizes while raising money for the JED Foundation during Ithaca College Hilary Trivia Night on March 21.

ABBY LUTHER ITHACAN

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTERIES FROM FEB. 27 TO MARCH 12

February 27

Harassment Second Degree

LOCATION: Terrace Dining Hall
SUMMARY: A caller reported that a person made an alarming statement. Patrol Officer Steven Hutchinson responded to the call. This investigation is pending.

February 28

Larceny Credit Card

LOCATION: 115 Campus Center Way
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an unknown subject stole a card. A credit card number was supplied. Sergeant Jon Elmore responded to the call.

March 1

Off-campus Incident

LOCATION: All Other / Other
SUMMARY: A caller reported sending money to a minor, under false pretenses. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded to the call. This is a pending investigation.

March 2

Unauthorized Solicitation

LOCATION: 115 Campus Center Way
SUMMARY: A caller reported that people posted unauthorized flyers. Sergeant Jon Elmore responded to the call. This is a pending investigation.

March 3

Fire Alarm Accident

LOCATION: 151 College Circle
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Activation was caused by a broken cup. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded to the call.

March 4

Animal Complaint

LOCATION: All Other / Other
SUMMARY: A caller reported concern for an injured goose. The officer determined that the goose was seriously injured and was euthanized. The task was completed. Patrol Officer Maya Colon responded to the call.

March 6

Scc Harassment/Intimidation/Endangering

LOCATION: 150 College Circle
SUMMARY: Caller reported a verbal disparude and person actions made them feel unsafe. Officer referred one person to student conduct for SCC harassment. Patrol Officer Thaddeus May responded to the call. The person(s) responsible were referred to student conduct.

March 8

Medical/illness Related

LOCATION: Terrace 3
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person felt ill and was taken to the hospital. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded to the call.

March 9

Medical/illness Related

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Tupman’s 911 received a report. Petitioner was returned to the hospital. A response was made.

March 10

Fire Alarm

LOCATION: 150 College Circle
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a carbon dioxide alarm. No odor was detected and it was possibly a faulty detector. Officer referred one person to student conduct for SCC harassment. Patrol Officer Thaddeus May responded to the call. The person(s) responsible were referred to student conduct.

March 11

Medical/illness Related

LOCATION: 160 College Circle
SUMMARY: Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded to the call.

March 12

Unattended Solicitation

LOCATION: 115 Campus Center Way
SUMMARY: A caller reported that people posted unauthorized flyers. Sergeant Jon Elmore responded to the call. This is a pending investigation.

March 13

Suspicious Person

LOCATION: Academic Quadrangle
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown group approached them.

March 14

Medical/illness Related

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: Tupman’s 911 received a report. Petitioner was returned to the hospital. A response was made.
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**classified**

F1B Mini Goldendoodles for sale. Ready to go home at the end of March. Family raised, dewormed, first shots, vet checked. $1800-$2000. (585) 626-8409 or fetchdoodles88@gmail.com
Bikeshare is only one cycle of green transportation

A non-profit organization called Ithaca Bikeshare is adding more parking hubs around the Ithaca area with the goal to reduce car use. It is also raising the cost of the per-minute ride, unlocking the bikes and charging riders a $1 fee for not parking in a hub. The reason for these changes is to encourage bikeshare riders to use the hubs properly and make sure the bikes are appealing for use. The intentions of Ithaca Bikeshare are solely to bring more local and environmentally friendly involvement in the city.

Bike sharing has improved environmentally friendly transportation modes and decreased fuel use and the cost of transportation. While bike sharing is a good invention against the environmental crisis, it does not improve the global problem much. Using bikes during cold weather is not something most people prefer to do, especially when they have cars. So, with Ithaca and any other location with long and freezing winters, it is hard to believe that many people would make such a sacrifice. Unfortunately, bike companies cannot do much to change this factor because it is up to people to give up their comfort for the sake of saving the Earth. In addition to the weather downside, people in the United States commute longer distances, which, again, is easier done using cars. Some norms need to change if we are trying to make a bigger impact. People should use bike sharing as a complete alternative to driving alone.

Bike sharing should not be a getaway from holding fossil fuel companies accountable. Biking might make many people feel fulfilled with their investment in ceasing the climate disaster, however, it is the least any person can do to reduce carbon emissions. So, while it is great to have a bike-sharing organization in Ithaca, the community should completely switch to environmentally friendly transportation while working toward regulating fossil fuel companies.

Campus climate surveys are essential for a change

Campus climate surveys are meant to review the atmosphere of a particular college by providing an opportunity for campus community members to voice their opinion. The survey is supposed to mainly cover the Title IX Coordinator’s role, how to report violence and abuse, available resources and the definition of affirmative consent. However, these surveys are easier said than done. Because of the little information out there about climate surveys and the repercussions for their lack of occurrence, some colleges do not give the survey much importance. Ithaca College had its last survey done in 2016 despite the fact that the federal law requires at least an every-other-year occurrence. Not continuously conducting the survey does not allow for progress to be noticed, thus disallowing for change to be made.

Another drawback that climate surveys face is the lack of diverse voices in predominantly white institutions. The questions and formatting of the survey are left to each college to design, which leaves a huge window for PWIs to do whatever they wish with the survey. The anonymity of the climate surveys is another silencing tool. Even though it is to protect the safety of the respondents, the anonymity reduces the viable speech of campus community members. In order to stay anonymous, many members will have to hide their identities in their answers.

Similar issues raised in climate surveys are noticed all around the country. So, even though it is up to each college to make a change, the problem must be viewed as a national matter. The law of survey tactics needs improvements too, like broader viewpoints, which will allow campus members to raise their concerns more openly and fearlessly.

Climate surveys could potentially have a successful impact if surveys were regulated and served the goal of seriously improving the concerns raised by campus communities all around the country.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor 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
By Sam Chaney

Most students that attend Ithaca College will at some point find themselves living off campus. Because of the college’s strict rules on housing, living off campus can only occur during a student’s senior year. The streets surrounding Ithaca College are filled with houses that may appear to be safe and adequate from the outside, but the inside is a different story. Landlords and property managers in the Ithaca area are not being held accountable by any governing body for the quality and safety of their properties. Off-campus housing improvements need more than this.

Housing prices off campus are more affordable than on campus, but also a series of strict rules does not make up for the condition of the house. More often than not, the houses are unclean, and sometimes there are issues with infestations, broken and uneven floors, damaged walls and doors, and other maintenance issues such as systems and lack of general upkeep that should be expected from the landlords or property managers. While regulations on landlords are already fairly strict in the state of New York, there is a lack of the governing body checking properties to ensure that landlords are following current regulations. Instead of landlords being the main responsibility for checking the quality of the properties, Ithaca could implement a program that sends certified officials to inspect these properties more frequently.

While there are numerous solutions to this problem, the essence of the issue can be addressed with good ethics. Landlords need to be held accountable for providing housing to their tenants. Ithaca needs to apply stricter regulations to landlords. It is my hope for future Ithaca College students.

Senior Sam Chaney raises concerns about unregulated off-campus housing and dreadful living conditions. He believes that landlords need to be held accountable and provide better housing.

MARI KODAMA/THE ITHACAN

Adapting the past for a radical future

By Alexander Paredes-Ruiz

In November 2015, POC at IC released an open letter calling for former President Tom Rochon’s removal after staging a campus-wide walkout and demanding institutional change. In December 2019, students in the former Department of Theatre Arts displayed “A Manifesto of Visibility” across the halls of Dillingham Center in response to a racially-charged classroom incident. In October 2020, the Student Governance Council and the former Students of Color Coalition held a campus-wide “Stand for Justice” webinar to address the racial inequities on campus. Drawing the experiences documented by a letter released by Ithaca College Department of Theatre Arts Black, Indigenous and People of Color in March 2023, IC Rise Up released a series of statements online alongside printed accounts of the experiences of students of color on campus, highlighting discriminatory and racist incidents.

Students at the crux of the college—the driving force behind the institution’s desire to “educate, engage and empower” the next generation of scholars, professionals and activists. Yet, its student-centered mission and values, similarly to other predominantly white academic institutions, fall short of the recognition necessary to transform astitutional that student activism uses past efforts by students of color to inform their tactics of the present to ensure a radically different future. When I served as the cochair for the former Students of Color Coalition, I was told by a former mentor that my efforts in organizing and solidarity work rested on “the shoulders of those that came before.” I was forced to reckon with a stark reality: I may never experience that change I desperately desired throughout my four years at the college. I understood that the only way to organize further was to think about what was demanded by students of color of the past and how the groundwork could be laid for something that I wanted new generations to experience.

I see the recent activist efforts by IC Rise Up as a reawakening of racial consciousness that is following similar paths as other student activist movements of the past. I urge these students of color to be reflexive and look back each time they take a step forward, asking themselves: What can I do for those that came next?

French philosopher and literary critic Michel Foucault once posed, “Where there is power, there is resistance.” The continuous resistance to change by the college rests on the desire to maintain the status quo—a status quo that facilitates generations of harm and trauma against its students of color. It is critical to remember that they only resist because they recognize the power of student movements.

Broadly, students of color protest movements at the college are part of a more extensive line of historic student activist movements in the United States. From the creation of HBCUs in the 19th century to the development of ethnic and area studies in the 1960s, each of these moments in time has always been rooted in creating a future that can be cultivated by reconciling with the past, sustaining momentum and radicalizing tactics that address the institution head-on.

Alexander Paredes-Ruiz talks about the continuous equality battle in education. He draws attention to IC Rise Up and other student missions that try to make a change.

GUEST COMMENTARY

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

BY ALEXANDER PAREDES-RUIZ

GUEST COMMENTARY

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Regulations must be placed on landlords

BY SAM CHANEY

Senior Sam Chaney raises concerns about unregulated off-campus housing and dreadful living conditions. He believes that landlords need to be held accountable and provide better housing.
BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE
CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

Slumber parties, roses, tiaras, sugar, spice and everything nice. What started from a class at Ithaca College has evolved into a multimedia organization with a central message: Black girls deserve love.

Black Girls Don’t Get Love was founded by Eden Strachan ’21 in February 2022 after Strachan became inspired by the work of Audre Lorde, an American writer and feminist, during a Black feminist theory class she took during her time at the college. The ideas she learned in that class, Strachan said, inspired a short film while she was a student — which itself served as the inspiration for Black Girls Don’t Get Love. The organization is a non-profit, multimedia coming-of-age brand dedicated to supporting girls of color by using media to influence the way Black women and girls are perceived in society.

In February 2022, Strachan released “Black Girls Don’t Get Love” as a children’s book. A book launch party was hosted by the Ujima Black Student Union to celebrate the book’s release. About 70 people, including girls from the Southside Community Center Black Alchemist group, attended a live reading of the book.

Part of the experience, Strachan said, is housing events for Black girls to participate in. In July 2022, the organization hosted the Black Girls Don’t Get Love Prom where young girls from across Central New York gathered in Syracuse for an evening of fun, tiaras, gowns, live music and dancing. With over $8,000 in sponsorships from organizations like The Gifford Foundation, Ninety-Two and Becca’s Closet, the Black Girls Don’t Get Love team was able to provide free dresses to girls to ensure that cost would not be a barrier to attending.

“Just allowing the everyday Black girl to feel special and doing that on a very personal level, we give girls roses, tiaras, pajamas, things that sometimes people don’t find important,” Strachan said. “That’s the thing that we’re prioritizing.”

Emphasizing the mundane, everyday life experiences that are otherwise not represented in traditional media is part of the organization’s focus. Strachan said she has experienced many moments where the girls and their families who attended an event inspired and reminded her of the importance of her work in building community and support for Black girls.

“It’s not that it solves the world’s problems, but it at least gives people some courage and some confidence and support,” Strachan said.

Junior Kiara Valera said she initially heard of Black Girls Don’t Get Love through Instagram and was excited to know that there was an organization meant to celebrate young women of color.

“I think especially in an area like Ithaca, it’s actually really important to have, knowing that we’re in such a predominantly white neighborhood,” Valera said. “I don’t want to say it doesn’t celebrate the successes of Black women and girls, but I don’t think it really prioritizes them as much as they should.”

First-year student Noeline Luyindula said she often found little representation of dark-skinned Black women in the media. Anytime they were depicted, Luyindula said their character was often treated as a joke.

“We deserve to be the love interest,” Luyindula said. “When you watch most of these shows, Black girls tend to just be there. One of my favorite shows was ‘Good Luck Charlie,’ and if you look at Teddy’s best friend [Ivy Wentz] … she was just there for the joke … it was never her getting love, never her getting flowers from somebody she likes, it was never her going to prom.”

According to a study conducted by the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media in 2019, representation of Black women and girls has increased in recent years. The study found that 6.1% of all characters in family films were Black girls or women — Black women and girls make up 6.5% of the U.S. population. However, the study also found that Black women (22.7%) were less likely to be depicted in romantic relationships than white women (27.2%) or other women of color (25.9%).

Further delving into the coming-of-age genre, Strachan said she is working toward developing her book into a feature film. Along with the film, Black Girls Don’t Get Love is also holding a Feature Film Training Program for girls of color, which is a paid six-month fellowship in Central New York designated to give girls hands-on experience in the film production process.

Valera similarly said she would love to see more positive representations of Black girls in the media that do not rely on stereotypes.

“It’s always still so difficult knowing that we’re in 2023 and still struggle with the idea that Black women still can’t be the main characters,” Valera said. “And while there are more shows, it still feels like a lot of them are … not fully fleshed out and they’re not getting the proper attention and writing they should have.”

Despite this, Valera said she is hopeful that organizations like Black Girls Don’t Get Love can continue to create dialogue and remind the world that Black girls deserve love too.

“[Black girls and women] are beautiful,” Valera said. “They are love, they are important and even though things are [still] being set in motion, our time is coming up and I hope they find the love that they deserve.”

LIFE & CULTURE
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

Alum works to empower Black girls

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE
CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

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CONTACT: EKHARABADZE@ITHACA.EDU
Recital posters highlight the spirit of the performers

BY NOELLE COOK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ithaca College was originally founded as a conservatory of music in 1892. Students who are music majors or minors take classes in the James J. Whalen Center for Music and are required at some point in their college career to hold a recital. Recitals are supportive and uplifting experiences not meant to be critique. This is somewhat different from concerts, which are often done by paid professionals and a group listening for an audience of supporters and critics alike.

Many students in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance put a spin on strict concert culture, often through the use of fun and artistic recital posters that highlight the interests of the students.

Junior Dexter Conlin has a visual performance recital March 26 in Hoctor Recital Hall. It is called “Picture of You” and will be a blend of musical theater, jazz, folk, audience connection, and will include the accompaniment of a larger band. This is Conlin’s first recital, which will take an unconventional approach through blending genres as well as talking with the audience between songs.

“I wanted to use a lot of different mediums to express the main vision of the recital, which is how we’re all made up of different parts … given us by other people,” Conlin said.

Krukowski said the theme of his recital is based on human connection and how it influences people.

Conlin’s poster shows this through a collage-type feel. “I don’t want to it just feel like a recital,” Conlin said. “I want it to feel like something a little more personal than that … sort of safe and homey. Which is why I decided to use a film photo for a nostalgic feel. … That’s why I see my recital learning more towards a recital and it’s not a [traditional] recital feel.”

Conlin added that this picture holds a lot of meaning for him. It was taken in Utah on a trip that he associates with his father and himself. He even uses cross-stitch parts of the photo, the scarf and the hat, to add to the homey feel. Junior Sarah Flynn, a trumpet performance major, showcased her March 5 recital with a cartoon animated poster of herself and a cat underwater in whimsical suits. The title of this recital was called “The High Cs.” Flynn has an April Fools ‘prank recital April Fool’s, so recital April Fool’s, meaning it is not required for her major. The art for her posters is all done by sophomore Dylan Kradock, a music education major at the college.

“The reason I chose an animated scene over a headshot is because I wanted something that fits me as a person, a little silly but still core,” Flynn said. “I chose an orange scene because … if I didn’t become a musician, I wanted to become a marine biologist.”

Flynn wanted a happy medium for her recital, not too professional but not too boring.

“I would say in Whalen it is a very professional vibe,” Flynn said. “That’s what they kind of push for; it definitely plays into the western education major where you have to be quiet during performances and only clap at certain times. I think the cool thing about being in college and having the leeway to do these kinds of creative things is that it’s a way of finding yourself through the music that you play. The recital poster is kind of like, ‘This is my recital in a nutshell condensed onto a piece of paper’.”

Senior Aaron Suttle, a trombone performance major, has a senior recital titled “Endurance” happening April 15 — part of his capstone project. The poster that he advertised is a self-portrait done in the style of fauvism, which is a style of painting that will be the main theme and the highlight of his recital.

“TikTok is having its moment in the cycle of online social platforms. One of its core user bases is current and future college students that depend on it for all sorts of things. Ithaca College students are no exception to the quick integration of TikTok into their everyday lives.

One of the most used features of the platform is the in-app search engine, which is increasingly becoming the first place many young people go to for answers to their questions, according to the New York Times.

‘Things like dorm tours and days in the life of a college student have been popular for years. In the 2000s, people were晒 most of the newest college videos on TikTok.

College life content has been a major focus in media. College students are on the cutting edge of technology and what is in and what is out; they are constantly adapting to newer platforms. Despite YouTube’s reign lasting over a decade as the most popular social video search engine, TikTok is now the most popular entertainment app on the Apple App Store, and it seems to be where college students are posting about their days-to-day lives.

The transition from high school to college has always been difficult. While moving away from family and friends, students are also moving into a totally unknown place that some see for the very first time on move-in day. But YouTube and other internet platforms changed this process entirely. Current students in personal video blog-style content allow prospective students a look at the college life that the Office of Admissions might not say in an official tour.

The few Ithaca College dorm tours on YouTube range from nine to 30 minutes, but TikTok currently restricts users’ videos to a maximum of three minutes. This makes it harder and harder for viewers to get all the information they want and for creators to fit all there is to say within those videos.

First-year student Tyler Long has posted multiple videos on TikTok about his life at the college. He said his main goal is just to have fun with it all; he never assumed prospective students would see his videos.

“Really just make them to sort of roman-ticize my life,” Long said. “I think I just want people to be entertained by the videos and see some of the good in the world.”

Originally, Long’s videos were sent to a private group that where his friends told him to post them on TikTok. The day-in-the-life videos he has posted were made to capture the good things throughout the day, whether that be a nice moment, a summer with friends or a satisfying-looking sheet of notes class.

These videos can be important for prospective students. First-year student Chike Neziyana said he was not able to tour campus prior to move-in day, and the only way he was able to learn about the college from reliable sources was to watch videos from students. He said there were not very many to watch on YouTube, so he turned to TikTok, where there is more Ithaca College-focused content, similar to Long’s. But he did not plan on staying for long. After having been through the cycle of deleting and redownloading social media apps over and over he found that he feels like TikTok is more of a waste of time than anything.

“It lulls people into this false sense of interaction, I think,” Neziyana said. “It’s easy to give and get that validation through likes, but I feel like every time I open the app, I get sucked in and waste 30 minutes of my life. I don’t feel like I’ve accomplished anything.”

Neziyana said he was a more active TikTok user before his college search. He said he used to post dance videos, but eventually he stepped posting. Since cutting down his use of the platform, he has noticed a split between online personas and real-life ones and does not want to bring that to college with him.

Sophomore Sydney Telford is also unsure about the application of TikTok in students’ daily lives. They said they had the app for multiple years and found the app’s content essential when preparing for college, along with other platforms like YouTube and Pinterest.

“Ultimately, I don’t think the app because it was a waste of time and had a negative impact on their mood.”

“Being able to send your friend a video that reminds them of home, or just makes them feel good, but spending all that just made me feel alone,” Telford said. “It really does feel like on the internet we’re all alone together, right? Maybe that’s just what college is.”

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

BY PATRICK MAZZELLA
STAFF WRITER

TikTok is having its moment in the cycle of online social platforms. One of its core user bases is current and future college students that depend on it for all sorts of things. Ithaca College students are no exception to the quick integration of TikTok into their everyday lives.

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CONTACT: NCOOK@ITHACA.EDU

BY PATRICK MAZZELLA
STAFF WRITER

TikTok offers small glimpse into daily college life

Walking through Whalen, there is a range of hopes, dreams and aspirations hanging up on lockers in a labor of love for performance.

“I just hope that, you know, this gets people excited,” Conlin said. “I hope that people will see the work we’ve put in and come experience it with us. There is such a beauty to recital culture, it feels like a sacred space. You put your soul on display.”

CONTACT: PMAZZELLA@ITHACA.EDU
The 95th Academy Awards

STAFF WRITER

BY LILY LIPKA

The Oscars: the night movie lovers eagerly wait for all year. A celebration of cinema, behind and in front of the camera. Yet, for such a bold display of love for film and the artists who make them, the Academy Awards are perhaps not all they are cracked up to be.

This year, the 95th Annual Academy Awards aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At Once," directed by The Daniels. "All Quiet On The Western Front," the German war film based on the novel of the same name, aired March 12. Taking home the gold statue in several categories was "Everything Everywhere All At One," directed by Sony's "The White". The other three awards went to performances in "Everything Everywhere All At One." It has become the third film ever to win three acting Oscars in a single year, "Named Jesus" (1931) and "Network" (1976).

Jamie Lee Curtis was the first actor to claim these prize and, one could say, the most passionate of them all. Arming herself against the world, she refused to receive it. Despite her stint as a child actor in "Indiana Jones" and "The Goonies," Quan found it difficult to find work as he got older and younger than his acting. He worked behind the scenes in films for 20 years before returning to acting with "Everything Everywhere All At One." Quan, who won Best Supporting Actor, gave an incredibly emotional speech in which he encouraged those watching to keep fighting for their dreams. Yeoh stated that her win is "a beacon of hope and possibilities" to all the young children who look like her. She emphasized the importance of her historic win while also thanking her mother and dedicating the award to mothers across the world. Halle Berry, the first woman of color to win an Oscar in 2002, presented the Oscar to Yeoh. Yeoh is only the second woman to win an Oscar and the first Asian woman to win the award.

In terms of the event itself, three-time Academy Awards host Jimmy Kimmel put on a decent show. The Best Song nominee performances were mostly enjoyable. "Naatu Naatu" from "RRR" brought the house down and ended up winning the award later that night. The first song from an Indian film to receive it. Overall, the Academy as an institution is still clearly a bit stuck, but it is still worth celebrating the victories of artists like Sarah Polley, The Daniels and more. This was a historic night for film and will certainly be talked about for years to come.

New ‘Scream’ installment stabs its fans in the back

MOVIE REVIEW: “Scream VI” Paramount Pictures

BY EVAN MILLER

STAFF WRITER

Last year, the “Scream” franchise was revitalized for a new generation of slasher fans with a majority successful fifth installment. With how well “Scream” (2022) did in making the series feel fresh while also playing to its strengths, “Scream VI” had a lot to live up to. Although its tagline, “New York: What starts as a simple drop-off mission for the two turns into a dangerous trek across the country where Joel and Ellie need to survive against raiders, cult leaders and, of course, the infected. As with any adaptation, Mazin and Druckmann had the difficult task of trying to stay loyal to the original story while also incorporating new elements that one can go to for suspension of disbelief and how it can trump any and all of the course of the season is a true marvel.

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Miley Cyrus takes fans on a summer vacation

ALBUM REVIEW: “Endless Summer Vacation” Columbia Records

BY SARAH PAYNE

Miley Cyrus developed a musical teleportation machine in her new album “Endless Summer Vacation,” taking listeners to a beach house on a summer day. “Cyrus’ album is full of atmospheric production with hints of ‘70s and ‘80s disco influence that make listeners want to dance around their house. The production, the apex of the album’s quality, is full of instrumental lightness, smooth and breezy. It consistently accentuates Cyrus’ raspy vocals that are especially powerful when she uses her lower octaves.

The strong sense of confidence and self-assurance that Cyrus emulates on this album starts right off the bat with “Flowers.” “Jaded” has a funky, lively production full of synth and drum loops that depict a world of salvage.

Unfortunately, after such a compelling and intriguing start, the album falls into a four-track-easy-of-medley and awkwardly clashes between genres, taking away from the degrees of successful vocal performances. The first (and worst) of these offenses, and the most shoddily track on the entire project, is “Thousands Miles.” The track has a more country-style twang to it and is a nice addition to the track list, help the song feels out of place. The production is choppy and during Cyrus’ chorus, there is a beat break that seems immature and underdeveloped. The lyrics are sweeter sentimental but sound more reminiscent of something Cyrus would have sung during her Disney days. “Thousands Miles” has a feature with Brandi Carlile and her vocals harmonize nicely with Cyrus but did not add much to the song.

The album finds its footing again with the bold track “Violet Chemistry” in which she’s asking a potential lover to take the jump and to take a chance: “Stay a while, don’t deny the violet chemistry.” Cyrus sounds confident and her lower register is the star of this track.

Alongside the lover, fast-paced dance tracks, the album features an array of calmer, more interesting layers to this song’s melody and during the post chorus, there is a beat bumps in listening to this otherwise smooth project transition nicely into the final tracks. “Wonder Woman” is the album at its lyrical best, shedding light on the pressures women face to seem put together and prioritize others over themselves. Cyrus’ past as a child star and celebrity adds even more interesting layers to this song’s already emotional lyrics, especially in a social media-based world that fosters parasocial relationships with celebrities.

“Endless Summer Vacation” provides 45 minutes of pure escapism that lives up to what its name promised. The production is fun and playful, and Cyrus sounds self-assured throughout the album. The bumps in listening to this otherwise smooth album are noticeable, but the consistently superb production prevents listeners from being removed from the moment or the story.

CONTACT: SPAINE@ITHACA.EDU

"Endless Summer Vacation" emulates Cyrus’ confidence in her artistic talent.

COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS

THE GRANTS

Mysteryiously toeing the line between life and death and reality and dreams with the swooning edge of a deranged sabbath, Melanie Martinez manages to portray some beautiful truths about love and rebirth.

CONTACT: LLIPKA1@ITHACA.EDU

"DEATH" Melanie Martinez

COURTESY OF PEACOCK

Lana Del Rey gives her devoted fans exactly what they want here, with carefully painted lyrics about preserving the memories of those closest to her even after death.

"THE GRANTS" Lana Del Rey

COURTESY OF POLYDOR / INTERSCOPE RECORDS

"EAT YOUR YOUNG" Hozier

Featuring some of Hozier’s most creative and unsettling lyrics in this unique track, this track is clearly inspired by Dante’s Inferno, depicting a world of salvage.

"GLU" Usher

Right from the first few seconds, “GLU” feels like a beautiful return to the era of 2000s R&B. Think “Love in this Club” by Usher, what he does best in his first single in three years; a sexy, irresistible beat that plays effectively to his upper vocal strengths.

CONTACT: LIPKA1@ITHACA.EDU

"GLU" Usher

COURTESY OF GAMMA

Quickies

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

SHOW REVIEW: “Poker Face” Peacock

BY LILY LIPKA

“Poker Face” stars Natasha Lyonne as Charlie Cale, a casino waitress-turned-killer with a gift for sniffing out lies. When Charlie’s hankering for the truth results in her stickering her nose where it doesn’t belong, she finds herself running from Cliff LeGrand (Black Mirror’s Michael Mando), the head of security of a powerful casino mafia. She drives cross-country in her trusty Plymouth Barracuda, working all kinds of odd jobs, meeting new characters and solving murder mysteries along the way.

It is the latest crime comedy from director Rian Johnson, best known for “Knives Out” (2019) and “Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery” (2022). Johnson created and executive-produced the series, which he also wrote two episodes and directed three episodes for. Perhaps the greatest thing about him is that he knows what he’s good at and is able to consistently succeed at it. “Poker Face” is no exception to that.

Each episode begins by following new characters, giving viewers an entry point into the series. Perhaps the greatest thing about him is that he knows what he’s good at and is able to consistently succeed at it. “Poker Face” is no exception to that.

Charlie Cale (Natasha Lyonne) has a gift for sniffing out lies. When she runs through a museum wearing a giant horse head, although “Poker Face” takes a lighter tone at times, there is still an always present darkness that threads through each episode. This feels most prominent toward the end of the season, particularly in episode nine, perhaps the darkest episode of all. Johnson’s directing styles shines through in this intense, high-stakes story of life and death.

While the episode follows the same basic structure as prior episodes, the risks are much greater for our beloved main character, to the point where the viewer begins to question whether she will make it out alive. Supporting turns from Joseph Gordon-Levitt, David Castáeda and Stephanie Hsu help to elevate the already impeccable script.

Without giving away too much, the finale provides a satisfying conclusion for Charlie’s yearlong road trip. While Johnson does not let anyone reveal in this for too long, Charlie finds herself needing to be on the run again, perfectly setting up the second season.

CONTACT: LIPKA1@ITHACA.EDU

"Endless Summer Vacation" provides 45 minutes of pure escapism that lives up to what its name promised. The production is fun and playful, and Cyrus sounds self-assured throughout the album. The bumps in listening to this otherwise smooth album are noticeable, but the consistently superb production prevents listeners from being removed from the moment or the story.

COURTESY OF GAMMA

"THE GRANTS" Lana Del Rey

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CONTACT: LIPKA1@ITHACA.EDU

"GLU" Usher

COURTESY OF GAMMA
BY TESS FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Nestled among rows of charming houses and tree-lined streets in Downtown Ithaca, a vibrant energy pulses from one particular residence: Inside lives some old furniture, sports memorabilia and the constant hum of camaraderie.

For six members of the Ithaca College men’s lacrosse team, sharing bonds on the field was not quite enough. Alongside three former teammates, the band of nine has shared an off-campus duplex home since August 2022.

Senior midfi elder Andrew Tinnesz said that since they are always together on campus, the group’s decision to live together is one that went unspoken.

“To be honest, we all kind of knew we wanted to live together without saying anything,” Tinnesz said. “When we became seniors, we wanted a big backyard and a lot of space, so the easiest way to do that was to find a house together.”

Tinnesz said that because he and his teammates are all on the same schedule, living together throughout the year has reaped some benefits on and off the field.

“We’re all in similar majors and we can only take classes at the same times, so homework and studying is something we all do together,” Tinnesz said. “Of course, we always talk about practice or games as soon as we walk in the door, so the space really gives us a chance to handle our academic and athletic commitments together.”

Tinnesz’s living arrangement, however, is not a unique one; a 2015 study by the NCAA found that 43% of men and 36% of women who were student-athletes were more likely to live exclusively with other student-athletes. At the Division III level, it was 33% of men and 22% of women.

At the college, many groups of athletes make the decision to live off campus as soon as they are eligible to do so for their senior year. Just around the corner, five members of the college’s football team shared the same idea.

Senior quarterback Max Perry said it was his junior-year roommates who influenced his decision to move off campus.

“It all started last year in [the Circle Apartment],” Perry said. “We’re a really close team, so it could have been anybody, but it just so happened that me and four of my teammates really enjoyed living together. We didn’t have any problems.”

Perry said that making the decision to live with his teammates has brought the group closer together, which shows on the field.

“When we’re home, we always talk about how we can play better and what more we can be doing,” Perry said. “They’re already my best friends, but living together has really strengthened those connections.”

Between practice, games, strength and conditioning training and film sessions, many athletes already spend the majority of their time with their teammates. Perry said that although it can sometimes be overwhelming, he values his living arrangement more than anything.

“Personally, if I live with someone for a long time, the little stuff can start to get on my nerves,” Perry said. “Luckily, though, we’re all so close and understanding that nothing has ever broken our chemistry. If anything, those little fights and arguments help us get closer.”

Tinnesz said that having a shared space among a group of seniors has even aided his understanding of what they need on and off the field.

“All three captains live together on the same side [of the duplex],” Tinnesz said. “If there are any conflicts or any problems, we’re always the first to know and we can sort it out right there.”

Similarly, senior swimmer Lauren Brady — who lives next door to Perry with four of her teammates from the swimming and diving team — said that fostering leadership in her house has helped to navigate any tension within her team.

“One of my roommates is a captain on the team, so sometimes she’ll come to us for constructive feedback during practice knowing that there is already a deep sense of trust. “I definitely have gotten more comfortable speaking up around my teammates at practice,” Brady said. “As a senior and a leader on the team, I don’t always vocalize things, but around [my roommates], it’s easier to do so because I know they’ll be there to support me.”

In parallel, Perry said that because of the trust and camaraderie he and his teammates have built within their home, he has a deeper understanding of what they need on and off the field.

“When you live together, you know how your teammates act under pressure and how they’re going to respond in certain situations,” Perry said. “You know how to calm them down and how to handle when they’re not being themselves. Everything we build here only strengthens us, it doesn’t hurt us at all.”

As it is his final season in Bomber threads, Tinnesz said that while reflecting on living with his teammates, he is largely grateful to be able to work, play and spend time with them at all.

“We all really want the best for one another on and off the field,” Tinnesz said. “All of us are going to be lifelong friends regardless, so being able to go to battle for one another on the field just means that much more.”

CONTACT: TFERGUSON@ITHACA.EDU
Pair of pole vaulters leap to the podium at Nationals

By BYLII WOOD
STAFF WRITER

At the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships on March 10, two Bomber pole vaulters won as more than just teammates — their connection stems back to a local game.

Senior Dom Mikula and graduate student Meghan Matheny dominated for the Ithaca College pole vaulting squad in the National Championships in Birmingham, Alabama. Mikula and Matheny also competed and knew each other throughout high school thanks to the Tompkins County Pole Vault Club, ran by Matt Scheffler, assistant coach for the Ithaca College men’s and women’s track and field teams.

Matheny has been an elite competitor ever since joining the team her freshman year at the college. She recorded a runner-up finish in Binghamton, 3:35 meters. This finish followed her two NCAA Championship finishes, with an outdoor title in 2021 and an indoor title in 2022.

Matheny said she would have loved to have continued her track and field career, but she chose to attend Saint Francis University in Pennsylvania instead. She said her experience at the college is an example of how much she has worked to remain at such a high level.

“Proving what’s possible for myself and a part of me where I’m like, I was so close to winning my third title’ and I can have that thought all day, but I’m proud of how I finished this indoor season,” Matheny said. “Being able to be so successful over the past three years meant a lot to me and it’s been a testament to how much work I’ve put in and being able to jump at that level while continuing to be successful.”

Not only does Matheny’s performance come from her own hard work, but she also says she credites to her coach, who was the 2023 National Women’s Assistant Coach of the Year and has coached the Bombers for 17 years.

“I think my performance is also a really good indicator of how amazing a coach [Scheffler] is,” Matheny said. “Coaching me, but also on my teammates who have had a lot of success too. [Mikula], [junior] Brendan Sheehan, [senior] Mathew Kocke and [junior] Sara Ahonen all were at Nationals and all of us have placed at Regions and Liberty Leagues. It’s really a testament to his coaching ability above anything else.”

Mikula has also been very dominant on the men’s side of things. He finished runner-up in Binghamton with a mark of 4.95 meters. Mikula also made the National Championships the past two seasons and finished fourth in 2022 while finishing runner-up in 2021.

Mikula also credits his consistent distance to the teachings of Scheffler. Scheffler coached Mikula throughout high school and has been a big part of Mikula’s career.

“Training with what he(cheffler) has, but also kind of doing the little things outside of practice has [been important],” Mikula said. “Coach likes to say the 22 hours outside of practice matter way more than the two hours that you’re in practice, so just doing the little things consistently throughout my years here on the team has led me to stand ahead of many other people who won’t do those things.”

Scheffler believes the camaraderie and consistency are helped by the team’s prior relationships.

“Having a group that’s already established, that can accept things, it really works well,” Scheffler said. “They’re already cheered for each other, seeing their careers developed throughout the years, and a lot of times I’ll have kids that have come from other pole vaulting places.”

Scheffler’s close relationship with Mikula and Matheny has allowed him to see their growth as pole vaulters from a young age, especially on the mental side of their game.

“I think they’re very strong competitors,” Scheffler said. “They come to win and I think that was very apparent based on how [Mikula] had the number one mark going into Nationals this year and he was the highest jumper in Division III. No one has jumped as high as he did this year, even though he ended up second at the meet overall [Matheny] has produced many high jumps consistently throughout the year. When it came down to competition time, it was just like she’s done in the past and she produced.”

Athletics victory song makes dreams come true

By AIDAN CHARDE
SPORTS EDITOR

When the clock hit zero in the Ithaca College women’s basketball team’s 78–66 win over the Rochester Institute of Technology on Feb. 11, an unmistakable keyboard riff blared out over the speakers before Daryll Hall began the first line of the Hall & Oates hit song “You Make My Dreams (Come True).”

The same thing happened at the men’s basketball team’s victory over RIT later that night, during the football team’s Cortaca Jug victory at Yankee Stadium on Nov. 12 and the volleyball team’s win against SUNY Geneseo on Sept. 3. In fact, the same could be said for almost every Bomber victory since 2015.

“While you’re making Dreams (Come True),” is a refrain from a traditional victory song, Will Rothermel, former associate director of athletics, said the energetic intro made it the perfect celebration song.

“Andy [Davenport, former facilities and operations assistant], mentioned the song and we listened to it,” Rothermel said. “And we were like, ‘This is perfect.’ It’s timeless, it’s upbeat, it’s fun and you can see people dancing to it after we win a game.”

Although the song never talks about winning or competing, Davenport said he liked the song because it talked about making dreams come true, something athletes do every time they win.

“The only athletes can know the blood, sweat and tears that go into [games] … but I wanted the team to be able to show up on the game and just be able to play,” Davenport said. “Being able to have a fun song with just the opening couple of notes of that song — it’s just such a fun little beat that makes you want to wiggle your hips.”

Davenport said the perfect example of the impact the song can have on the team happened just a few weeks into the first season of the tradition. He said the women’s soccer team had just finished a game, but because the press box was understaffed, it took a little bit for the song to start.

“I’m walking off the sideline and [head wom- en’s soccer coach] Mindy Quiggg … is standing next to me and she’s like, ‘Where’s my victory song?’” Davenport said. “It had been maybe a minute, and she wanted it right away. … And it was like, we’re a week or two in and that clearly means something to her.”

Senior Jack Stern, who is on the men’s basketball team, said that having one song for every team helps build camaraderie between the sports and provides common ground for players in different sports and seasons.

“Since I’ve been recruited here, through all my four years playing here, one thing that not only Susan Bassett [associate vice president and director of Intercollegiate Athletics] but Will Rothermel and many of the other coaches and head staff tell you is we’re one team,” Stern said. “This is just another one of those things that build on that and show that this isn’t just something the athletes are doing. What we preach.”

Rothermel said that bringing together the teams is the goal of every department-wide decision like this one.

“It’s another dimension of connectivity between the teams besides wearing the same uniforms and gear,” Rothermel said. “It’s a different representation of the cohesion and unity of the Bomber Sports.”

As for bringing the department together, ju- nior Jamie Koopman, who is on the volleyball team, said she was never told it was the victory song, but has noticed it as part of her and her coaches’ routine.

“We kind of don’t really talk about that stuff, but at the end of the game it’s kind of like a signal that we’ve won,” Koopman said. “The fact that that song plays af- ter all the songs every game, you just kind of expect it. … Just kind of assumed it was an Ithaca thing.”

Stern said it was the perfect song for a post-game celebration, which is why he and his teammates always anticipate it when the clock winds down in a game that looks like a win.

“When the clock hits zero, I hear that wave of people singing,” Stern said. “To me, it means we’ve won the game. When we win or we’re able to come out with one win, it means another thing.”

Davenport said he did not know the song was still being used by the college eight years later, but even though he left the college in De- cember 2015, he was happy to hear it still had a little bit of a lasting impact on the Bombers.

“It was a big believer in athletics and all the positives that can come through lessons you learn on the field,” Davenport said. “So, to know that I still in some very small way am play- ing a part in the success of their athletics is a cool feeling.”

Contact: ajahid/AITHACA.EDU

From left, senior Grace Isaacson, first-year student Amanda Zweifel, sophomore Peyton Miller and senior Jennifer Pitta celebrate a point for the volleyball team.

Rayahna Tryka/The Ithacan

GRACE VANDERVEER AND NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

Mikula and Matheny have cer- tainly had great careers with more to come during the outdoor season, but their relationship with their teammates is the goal of every department-wide decision.

“When we were in high school, we saw each other over the summer and in the winter when Scheffler hosted his clinic,” Matheny said. “They’re all great people. … I can’t say enough good things about them, the same way I can’t say enough good things about Scheffler. They’re the reason that we’re all so successful.”

Contact: WWOOD/AITHACA.EDU

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023
The Ithacan’s breakdown of Ithaca College’s week in sports

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
LOGAN BRUCE/WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD

Logan Bruce was the national runner-up in the pentathlon at the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships on March 11. She also earned second place in the 60-meter hurdles, solidifying her sixth All-American honor.

COMPETITION OF THE WEEK
BASEBALL VS. WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT

The No. 13 Ithaca College women’s lacrosse team will look to preserve its undefeated conference record upon welcoming the No. 22 St. Lawrence University Saints to Higgins Stadium. During the 2022 season, the Saints were the first to test the Bombers, marking their first loss early in the season. However, when the two met again in the Liberty League Semifinal, the Bombers fired on all cylinders to earn their redemption with an 18-9 victory. The competition will mark the second of an eight-game slate of in-conference matchups for the Bombers.

NOTABLE UPCOMING COMPETITIONS
BASEBALL: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. March 25 vs. the University of Rochester on Valesente Diamond at Freeman Field.

MEN’S LACROSSE: Noon March 25 vs. Clarkson University and 4 p.m. March 29 vs. Misericordia University at Higgins Stadium. WOMEN’S LACROSSE: 3 p.m. March 26 vs. Clarkson University at Higgins Stadium.

MEN’S TENNIS: 10 a.m. March 26 vs. SUNY Oneonta at Wheeler Outdoor Courts.

WOMEN’S TENNIS: 1 p.m. March 25 vs. SUNY New Paltz and 2 p.m. March 26 vs. SUNY Oneonta at Wheeler Outdoor Courts.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
“We all truly want the best for one another on and off the field. All of us are going to be lifelong friends regardless, so being able to go to battle for one another on the field just means that much more.”

- ANDREW TINNESZ
Senior midfielder on living with his teammates on men’s lacrosse
From left, sophomores Wayman Carrasquillo, Matthew Malaspina and Lincoln Truesdale play a three-on-three pick up game of basketball during the spring equinox March 20 at the Lower Quads tennis courts. After returning from spring break, students enjoyed a warm day outside after a winter storm passed through Ithaca.