THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023

## **THE ITHACAN**

VOLUME 90 **ISSUE 23** 

#### ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

#### LIFE & CULTURE | page 9 **COLORFUL PRIDE PROM RETURNS AFTER HIATUS**





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**SPORTS** page 13 **JUNIOR SMASHES IC RECORD FOR DRAW CONTROLS** 

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

#### ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

For years, parents in the Ithaca College community have called for on-campus child care and those calls may, at least temporarily, be answered. Starting July 2023, the Circle Apartments Community Building may be an annex for the Coddington Road Community Center's preschool and afterschool programs.

The college announced this potential collaboration March 7 on IC Current. From about 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekdays, around 42 students ages 3-12 would be in the community center's meeting rooms while construction takes about two years.

David Prunty, revenue generation and special projects coordinator at the college, said CRCC will undergo a remodel, providing an opportunity for the college to collaborate with the child care facility. Prunty said that while the CRCC annex has been approved by the Town of Ithaca Planning Board, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services has not yet set a date for review.

**CHILDCARE, PAGE 4** 

CHILD CARE PROGRAM PLANS TEMPORARY MOVE

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON/THE ITHACAN

### **College leadership establishes Center** 2023 residency for Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

#### **BY LORIEN TYNE**

NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca College introduced the new Center for Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in an email announcement March 23, which will officially open July 1.

In the announcement, President La Jerne



## cohort selected

#### **BY JADYN DAVIS**

STAFF WRITER

Almost a year after hosting its first cohort in summer 2022, the Sunlit Residency in Ithaca is preparing to welcome its summer 2023 cohort of artists, writers, scholars and activists.

Sunlit Residency hosts short-term residencies for accepted applicants to pursue passion

Cornish said the center is another step toward being a model institution promoting diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

The two people hired to lead the center are Luca Maurer, executive director for Student Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging and the outgoing director of LGBTQ Education, Outreach and Services; and Belisa González, dean of Faculty Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and professor and outgoing director for the Center for Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity. Maurer reports to Bonnie Prunty, vice president for Student Affairs and Campus life, and González will report to Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

"I am especially grateful that Luca and Belisa have agreed to be a part of this new leadership team, as they possess significant expertise and have been passionately engaged in advancing our work for many years," Cornish said in the announcement

Prunty said the college plans to fill their positions by the start of Fall 2023 but that

Luca Maurer, executive director for Student Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, and Belisa González, dean of Faculty Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, lead the center.

**NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN** 

in the meantime, Maurer and González will continue in their current roles while the transition occurs.

"What [the center] does, from our perspective, is gain a lot in terms of two really talented, passionate individuals who have done incredible work in this area for our campus already, but they've done it as an add on to things that they're already doing, and now they'll be able to do it as the primary focus," Prunty said.

Maurer and González have already started their full-time directorships, meaning Maurer and González will eventually be stepping down from their other roles, although González will continue teaching one course per semester.

"I feel like if I'm going to be working with faculty, to help folks create more inclusive environments and have more

#### **CENTER, PAGE 4**

projects centered around themes like race, social justice and human rights. The program resides in the former home of Sue-Je Lee Gage who died in May 2020. During her time at the college, Gage was an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology and worked closely with the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity and the Women's and Gender Studies program as an affiliated faculty member.

Annette Levine, professor in the Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures and Jewish studies coordinator, has been working on the inception of the residency since Fall 2020 to honor Gage and continue her work. Levine said she knew she wanted to create a space that would represent Gage's intellectual interests, her creativity and her supportive energy, especially in the first home she ever bought herself.

"The only way I could ever reconcile with losing her was by finding a way to keep her

**RESIDENCY, PAGE 4** 

### Nation & World News

#### At least four people are dead in PA after factory explosion

A massive explosion at the RM Palmer chocolate factory in West Reading on March 24 has resulted in multiple deaths and injuries, with others still unaccounted for. The cause of the blast is under investigation, according to Wayne Holben, West Reading police chief.

Four people have died and another three people believed to be inside the plant at the time of the blast remain unaccounted for, as of Sunday morning. A third body was pulled from the rubble March 25, and a fourth victim was found early March 26.

#### Honduras ends relations with Taiwan after turning to China

Honduras has decided to sever relations with Taiwan, the Foreign Ministry said March 25, announcing an all but expected move that follows the Central American country's decision to establish diplomatic ties with China. President Xiomara Castro had given instructions to notify Taiwan of the decision to sever diplomatic relations between the two countries, the ministry said in a statement.

Putin says Russia will place tactical nuclear arms in Belarus President Vladimir Putin said Russia is preparing to station tactical nuclear weapons in neighboring Belarus, escalating a confrontation with the U.S. and its allies over the war in Ukraine.

Moscow is not handing control of the weapons to Belarus and won't be in breach of its nonproliferation obligations under an agreement with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, Putin said in comments broadcast on state television March 25.

#### **McConnell ends treatment and** continues working from home

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell was discharged from a rehabilitation center March 25 after treatment for injuries suffered in a fall and said he will still work from home for "the next few days."

#### **Cuba holds National Parliament** election amid population exodus

Cuba held elections March 26 to pick lawmakers at a time when the ruling communist party is struggling to keep a lid on public anger caused by rampant inflation, hunger and blackouts.

The vote, decried as a sham by human rights groups, picked 470 candidates who were pre-selected by the government to the powerful National Parliament for a five-year term. The system has allowed the Communist Party to control the parliament since its



#### Firefighters extinguish demonstration fire

About 1.09 million protesters took part in demonstrations in France on March 23 against President Emmanuel Macron's pension reform, the interior ministry said, with 119,000 marching in Paris alone. STEFANO RELLANDINI /AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES TNS

#### inception in 1976.

#### Death toll in Mississippi tornado rises as more storms forecast

The death toll after the devastating tornado on Friday in the Southern U.S. has risen to at least 26, with 25 in the nation's poorest state of Mississippi alone, civil

protection authorities said March 26.

Dozens were injured, while at least one person died in neighboring Alabama, according to media reports. The weather service warned of further violent storms. Initial reports put the death toll at least 23.

SOURCE: TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### **MULTIMEDIA**

THERE'S MORE MULTIMEDIA ONLINE. VISIT THEITHACAN. ORG/MEDIA



#### Students rock and roll outside Campus Center

On the evening of March 22, a group of talented students performed an impromptu concert outside the Campus Center.



### THE ITHACAN

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#### 'Deja View' - 'Bodies Bodies Bodies' (2022)

In episode four of their Horror series, host sophomore Therese Kinirons and guest sophomore Hailey Howgate gush over Rachel Sennott and hate on rich influencers in the soon-to-be cult classic, "Bodies Bodies Bodies" (2022).



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### Ticket platform breach breaks the bank | IC looks for VP

#### **BY PRAKRITI PANWAR**

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

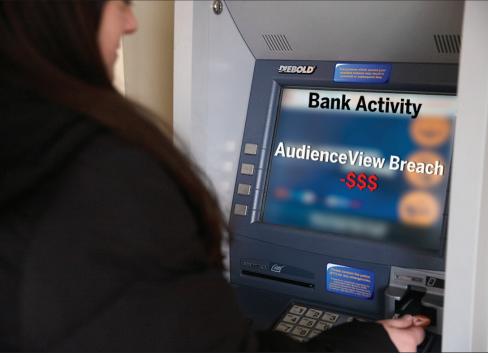
Almost a month after attending a concert at Cornell University featuring Beach Bunny - a popular alternative rock band - on Jan. 28, several Ithaca College students' credit and debit card information was breached and varying amounts of money were stolen.

On Feb. 24, Information Technology at Cornell University released a security alert informing students that Cornell's ticketing software partner and vendor, AudienceView, experienced a platform breach that affected ticket buyers beginning in February.

Cornell University senior Jennifer Muson, executive director of the Cornell Concert Commission, said via email that the Cornell Concert Commission often goes over its budget and uses the funds it collects from ticket sales to make up for going over.

Muson said this requires them to use AudienceView because AudienceView works with Cornell staff through a process that ensures that funds collected via ticket sales are deposited in the Cornell Concert Commission's financial account, which Muson does not have access to because she is a student.

Muson said she hopes to find an alternative ticketing vendor platform and software based on her experience with AudienceView to prevent similar situations in the future.



Cornell University's Office of Information Technology announced Jan. 28 that AudienceView, a ticketing software platform that partners with Cornell for events, had been breached.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RORY CASSIDY, MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

"I haven't gotten [communication or personal assistance from AudienceView]," Muson said. "I have an administrative account on that platform and I still didn't get any kind of confirmation beyond the higher-ups at Cornell telling me that it's OK now."

At least eight Ithaca College students have reported having lost their money as well, based on anecdotal reports.

Casey Thomas '13, public relations specialist at AudienceView, said via email that efforts have been made by the company to ensure that stakeholders' privacy is not compromised in the future.

"In response [to the breach], we moved quickly to remove the identified malware from our campus product," Thomas said. "All potentially impacted parties have been contacted and offered credit monitoring and identity protection services for 12 months."

Thomas said AudienceView is working with Mandiant, a company that specializes in preventing future breaches.

David Weil, chief information officer in the Ithaca College Department of Information Technology, said that to avoid having credit or debit card information stolen, individuals should

put fraud alerts on cards, check bank statements regularly, contact banks if something does not seem right and ensure that they input sensitive financial information online only in a secure and encrypted website.

"Colleges ... need to rely on partners to provide some of the services," Weil said. "We're relying on this other company to have secure policies and processes ... as individuals, we're going to utilize these services. And so the way we protect ourselves is through our due diligence."

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### of enrollment

#### **BY LORIEN TYNE**

#### **NEWS EDITOR**

Three finalists for the position of vice president for enrollment and student success visited Ithaca College from March 27-29 to speak with members of the campus community. The new position will lead the Division of Enrollment and Student Success. The selected candidate will begin in the role during summer 2023.

#### Candidate 1: Kishan Zuber

Kishan Zuber is the current vice president of Slate Strategy and Partnerships for Waybetter Marketing, a national, higher education enrollment marketing company. Zuber has held seven different positions in enrollment and marketing since 2007. Zuber said the college's current communication with interested students is very general and does not target students' intended majors or areas of study. Zuber said the college should maximize its available data and personalize its marketing to appeal to students' specific desires for their college experiences.

"There's a lot of opportunity here to build on some success we've already started to have," Zuber said. "Higher ed might need some reimagining to be able to serve students today, tomorrow and 10 years from now."

Zuber said the college should do more to emphasize its internships and experiential learning opportunities, like the Ithaca College Los Angeles program, in marketing advertisements to show potential students that attending the college would prepare them to enter a career field.

#### **Candidate 2: Bryan Gross**

Bryan Gross, vice president for Revenue Planning and Institutional Positioning at 3 Enrollment Marketing, said he wants to be part of a campus community again after working as a consultant with 3 Enrollment Marketing since 2022.

"I am absolutely an advocate for what I believe in, especially when data supports things," Gross said. "I really do use a gap analysis framework when it comes to trying to identify a problem accurately and then implement intervention."

Gross said he thinks the college should include faculty in marketing strategies and engage them in content creation. Throughout the sessions, Gross highlighted several potential ideas for increasing enrollment and retention, including focusing on student support and equity. He said the college's athletics play an important part in the college's early enrollment and retention.

"I think there's an opportunity to think - outside of athletics - what other teams we could create for students and to bring students on board early in the admissions process," Gross said.

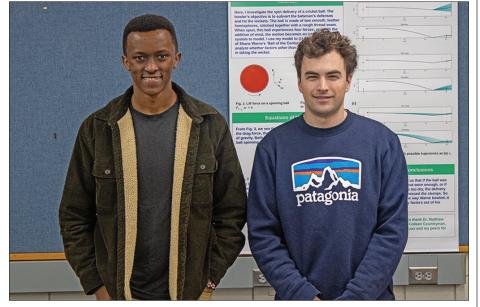
### Physics students awarded at convention

#### **BY JADYN DAVIS**

#### STAFF WRITER

Ithaca College junior Matthew Weil and senior Ted Mburu were awarded the Best Undergraduate Research Award after impressing professional physicists with their research in physics education and environmental physics at the American Physical Society March Meeting.

The American Physical Society is an organization that promotes innovations in physics. APS hosted a conference in Las Vegas from March 5 to 10, inviting students, physicists and anyone in the scientific field from across the world.



Mburu and Weil presented their findings from research in environmental physics and physics education. Weil started his research in summer 2022, while Mburu has been researching his topic since 2019.

Mburu's project, "Developing an Interactive Simulation for Non-Inertial Reference Frames," is about making the concept of non-inertial reference frames easier for students to understand through a simulation. Mburu said the simulation shows a ball that is moving in a straight line while on top of a spinning table. Mburu said the simulation demonstrates that even though the paths in the simulation look different, they are actually the same.

"Trying to make classes more equitable ... was important to me," Mburu said. "[The simulations] can run on any device because different students have different devices available to them."

Weil's project, "Contributing to a Greener NY: Analysis of Methane Emissions in NYS," discusses the research he and Eric From left, senior Ted Mburu and junior Matthew Weil attended an American Physical Society conference in early March in Las Vegas to present their research. JADYN DAVIS/THE ITHACAN

Leibensperger, assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, conducted on identifying the sources of methane emissions in upstate New York so that the sources can be reduced.

"Matt really took ownership of the project," Leibensperger said. "Even as I was away on paternity leave, Matt has also been my go-to person for flying and modifying drones for our research."

Weil said he was able to use a drone in his research by attaching a methane detector, which gathered information from an aerial perspective.

Colleen Countryman, assistant professor for the Department of Physics and Astronomy, is Mburu's adviser and said

Mburu and Weil were chosen to represent the department because of the large amount of progress they made toward their research.

"It's a huge honor to go and represent Ithaca College and specifically our department at one of these national conferences,' Countryman said.

Mburu said he hopes that his and Weil's accomplishments inspire more students to join the department in the future.

"I just feel like if [students] had better resources they would have enjoyed [the department] more, then some [students] might still be here," Mburu said.

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#### **Candidate 3: Jacob Browne**

Jacob Browne, dean of admissions at Eckerd College in Florida, has worked at Eckerd since 2014. He previously served as the director of admissions.

Browne said the college can work to increase applications, but it should primarily focus on increasing the yield rate, the percentage of accepted students that actually enroll at the college. Browne said that based on the current website and marketing, it could be difficult for prospective students to determine why they should attend the college; there is no clear advantage that separates the college from other schools.

"You're placing students in great internships, and they're able to go to Los Angeles or London," Browne said. "And you've got a great commitment to health, physical therapy, physician assistants, but there are other schools that do that as well."

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### **On-campus child care could help accessibility**

#### FROM CHILDCARE, PAGE 1

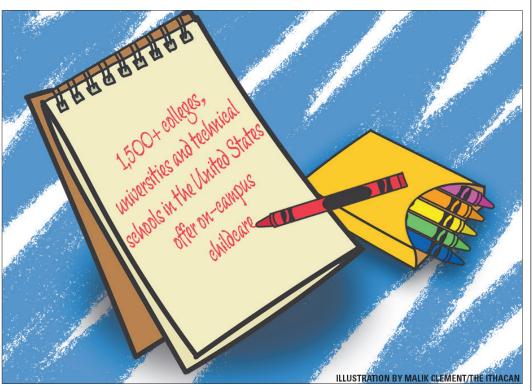
Heather Mount, executive director of CRCC, said CRCC is in the process of expanding its buildings to be able to be more of a community center and not just child care, like it is now. Mount said she mentioned in conversations with Tim Downs, vice president for finance and administration and chief financial officer, that there was a temporary building on the center's property that would be in the way of construction, and they talked about the college having space available.

President La Jerne Cornish said in the announcement that this temporary child care facility could be a trial for more permanent on-campus child care. Child care is also part of the Ithaca Forever Strategic Plan that was first drafted in September 2018.

Jenny Pickett, assistant director in the Office of Residential Life and Student Conduct and Community Standards, said she was on the working group with Mount. Pickett said the working group formed in 2019 after the Ithaca Forever Strategic Plan goals were shared. She said she was on the working group as a parent who had been asking for on-campus daycare for a while.

Pickett said that when the working group first formed, members reached out to Mount about potential collaborations for child care. She said conversations stalled when the pandemic hit, but conversations restarted when Mount reached out in summer 2022 about using the community center as an annex.

According to a toolkit published by the Institute for Women's Policy Research, over 1,500 colleges, universities and technical schools



offer on-campus child care.

David Harker, director of the Center for Civic Engagement, said his relationship to CRCC is both professional and personal. On a professional level, the center has partnered with CRCC in the past to provide opportunities for students to work with the classes at CRCC.

On a personal level, Harker has two young children, ages 1.5 and 4.5, who attend CRCC's infant and preschool programs. He said he understands the struggles of parents trying to find child care for their infants and toddlers. He said waitlists are long and locations can be inconvenient relative to where the parents live and work.

"It takes a real struggle to find that care sometimes. ... [It would be] great having it on campus and then directly accessible, having it in a space that is, at the very least, not far from your work," Harker said.

According to the College and

University Professional Association for Human Resources, on-campus child care can be expensive, and those costs can fall on the college if there is not adequate funding. Prunty said the college has not yet explored funding for permanent on-campus child care. He said one of the main sources of funding would likely be the costs of tuition from parents.

Harker said one opportunity to facilitate the partnerships between the child care facility at the college and students would be to host field trips for the CRCC children. Students could tour offices, labs and facilities to learn about how all the different spaces on campus function. Pickett said the working group had started conversations about academic partnerships if on-campus child care became a permanent option.

"On Intercom, we frequently see requests [from] students in the PT or OT programs to work with kids of certain age groups," Pickett said. "[The working group] thought that there might be some potential for some partnerships ... [with] student programs where they need to work with kids ... if

we had a daycare on campus." Mount said the college now has a chance to try out on-campus child care before committing to a long-term project.

"The opportunity to collaborate with Ithaca College and have our programs temporarily move into their spaces is a new and exciting opportunity," Mount said. "Being able to see what our classrooms look like on campus and how we interact with the different programs ... will give a lot of real-time information on how that type of programming could progress."

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## New IC center supports equity

#### FROM CENTER, PAGE 1

equitable practices, it's really important for me to still be teaching," González said.

Cornish said the new center provides an organized structure to promote values of equity, inclusion and belonging; holds the campus community and institution accountable; and builds systems of support that will last.

There will be a third position in the center that, once hired, will work with staff equity and inclusion and report to Kirra Franzese, associate vice president and chief human resources officer.

Prunty also said the logistics of administrative support for the center is still being figured out as well as a physical location for the center.

Prunty said the intention is to sunset the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging subgroup of the Strategic Plan Committee at the end of the 2022–23 academic year and convene the President's Advisory Committee to support the new center's initiatives.

"That group will ultimately provide guidance and advice to both the president and to the center in terms of opportunities, feedback [and] how we can move forward to meet our strategic goals," Prunty said. "But we still need to develop the exact membership, the charge and who are the individuals we're asking to lead that group."

The new center will take the lead on implementing a Fall 2023 campus climate survey in partnership with Rankin & Associates Consulting, which is the company the college brought in on the last climate survey. The last survey was done in Fall 2016 and the results were presented in April 2017.

One of the center's initiatives is looking into another potential medium for the virtual diversity, equity and belonging training module that new students take at the beginning of their time at the college.

"My goal [for the training] is how can we support every student in getting what they need on campus and in acting in solidarity with anyone who is not and knowing what that is?" Maurer said.

A third goal that Maurer and González are working on, in addition to land acknowledgments, is rebuilding relationships with the Gayogohó:no<sup>?</sup> Nation.

"Are we merely acknowledging that we are on unseated land or are we acting in ways to address historical, long-standing inequities?" Maurer said. "It has to be mutually beneficial."

Both Maurer and González said the major benefit of transitioning to the center is that they can commit time and energy to doing intentional, thoughtful work.

### **Residency program honors life of professor**

#### FROM RESIDENCY, PAGE 1

presence very active and alive," Levine said.

Levine said there are a total of seven residents that will participate in the summer 2023 cohort, including Suchi Branfman, Nathan Fitch, Hannah Bae, Elizabeth Rubio, Gloria Poveda, Rosie Bermudez and Elaine Kim.

Levine also said the residency is going to collaborate with the Park Center for Independent Media to provide an internship opportunity for students who apply to the residency in the future.



Bae, a journalist and nonfiction writer from Brooklyn, New York, was selected as one of the residents to participate in the 2023 cohort.

Bae said she heard about the residency through a Facebook group called Korean American Writers and was intrigued by the work Gage did; she even attended the first open house in 2022 via live-stream.

Bae said she is looking forward to her residency so she can work on her memoir manuscript that details her experience growing up as a Korean American in the United States as well as how she was able to navigate through abuse, mental illness and trauma from immigrating to the U.S.

"I thought it just seemed like such a great opportunity," Bae said. "And that it was kind of tailor-made for someone like me who is Korean American, who is really interested in digging into my history and understanding how that informs the way that I see the world." Rubio is a postdoctoral research associate The Sunlit Residency resides in the former home of Sue-Je Lee Gage, previously an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, who died in May 2020. COURTESY OF KIMBERLY KURDELAK BEER

with the Asian American Studies Program at Princeton University. As a multiracial Korean American, Rubio said she was drawn to how Gage focused on Asian Americans that are of mixed race in her work and publications.

During her residency, Rubio said she hopes to work on a chapter of her nonfiction book that is centered around undocumented Asian American activism and will detail the pain and struggle that an undocumented Thai American activist and artist has experienced.

"I'm just looking forward to ... being able to be in silence and to have the mental space to be able to do the kind of deep work I need to do to write this book," Rubio said.

There will be an open house event in July — in person and live-streamed — to introduce the new cohort of residents to each other and to anyone interested in attending.

"We are looking forward to creating an ongoing network of community connections on a local and global level whereby our residents are active in advancing their projects while also developing relationships ... with other scholars, writers, artists and activists affiliated with the residency," Levine said.

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"Historically, there have been some faculty and staff who have had relationships with the leadership of the Gayogohó:no? but we need to revisit and reignite those relationships and create a land acknowledgment that they will be a part of," González said.

In general, the center will focus on longterm change by taking time to understand complex issues and potential solutions.

"At least at this stage, imagining what can be is very exciting, because I think the work has been structured as such right now that we're stuck in what is often very reactive," González said. "A lot of equity is about time. It's about having the opportunity and the wherewithal to slow down and think through scenarios and the effects that decisions [and] policies, what have you, is going to have on minoritized individuals and groups of people."

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### SGC discusses meal plan changes with Dining Services

#### **BY DOMINICK PETRUCCI**

#### STAFF WRITER

Ithaca College's Student Governance Council welcomed Reginald Briggs, associate director of Dining Services, to discuss changes coming to the Campus Center Dining Hall and all meal plans.

The meeting began with Briggs outlining how meal plans will be changing next semester. The meal plan focuses on allowing people to use more swipes in more places.

"The dining hall is a nice place and awesome people work there, but the room is simply too small," Briggs said.

One meal plan option would allow students to use 24 meal swipes a week with seven meal exchanges, allowing students to use these meal exchanges at smaller food stations, like the ones in the Roy H. Park School of Communications and the Ithaca College Library.

Other plans allow students to expand to more meal exchanges with fewer swipes available. "[This] should be a really great option to students wanting to get something quick to eat," Briggs said. "All students will be defaulted into the main meal plan."

Dining Services is facing understaffing, an issue it has dealt with the entire semester. Briggs said Dining Services is searching for a permanent Dining Services director, as well as many other roles.

With roles opening, Briggs said Dining Services are slowly seeing an increase in employment. "We changed the structure to the lowed us to nudge the wages up for all our staff. ... We hired eight people this semester, compared to five people all of last year."

dining program," Briggs said. "It al-

With having these meal exchanges available at different cafes across campus, Dining Services hopes to lessen the amount of people at Campus Center Dining Hall during lunch. Since the issue is space, Briggs said that building or expanding the Campus Center Dining Hall is still being considered as a future plan.

"I hope this is a bridge to something more substantial," Briggs said. "Everyone knows the facility is too small. ... We're discussing [expansion] as a possibility.'

Senior Grace Madeya, president of the student body, talked about how students are wondering if any changes have been made in Dining Services regarding the physical altercation that occurred in Terrace Dining Hall on Feb. 19.

Briggs mentioned that staff has discussed this, but it is very difficult to confront directly, saying it may be a structural issue.

"There were a lot of people that made a lot of bad decisions," Briggs said. "We have had conversations with staff but it's certainly an uncomfortable situation to have. ... There were so many situations on the way where multiple staff members could have got it under control but chose the other path."

First-year student Rishabh Sen, vice president of campus affairs, asked if any changes will be coming to the cafes and smaller eateries in the future. Briggs said the cafes will \*\*\*

From left, sophomore Tatyana Rubio, Reginald Briggs, associate director of Dining Services, and sophomore Noah Richardson discuss meal plan changes and increase in Dining Services employment. MARI KODAMA/THE ITHACAN

have larger menus, explore different themes in food, incorporate healthier menus and may, in the far future, have delivery systems.

"All these cafes will have these amenities," Briggs said. "I just don't know if they'll have them off the bat."

Briggs mentioned that students should expect the first few weeks of this new system to be very experimental, and that he has never seen an opening of a system like this before.

"This first semester is a super soft opening," Briggs said. "We want you guys to come in and find some

problems we can fix. ... I'm hugely afraid of over-promising."

Before leaving, Briggs acknowledged the negative stigma and past association with the dining hall and that Dining Services is trying to change the narrative.

Madeya, Sen, first-year student Senator-at-Large Matthew Williams and sophomore Senator-at-Large Cameron Small presented an amendment to the SGC constitution that would add two representative seats to the board.

from the Students of Color Coalition and a first-generation seat on the council.

"This [bill] is more [like], 'Make sure you're representing your constituents," Madeya said. "Kinda like senators-at-large but [meant] for first-gen students [at the college]."

First-year student Eleanor Paterson, class of 2026 senator, motioned to pass the amendment. The amendment was passed in a vote of 7-0 with one abstention.

This bill would add an ex-officio

CONTACT: DPETRUCCI@ITHACA.EDU

### Q&A: JED co-chair implements new mental health tools

Through working with faculty, staff and students, Michelle Goode, program director of the Center for Health Promotion at Ithaca College and campus co-chair of the JED Campus Initiative, has implemented new resources and training for mental health awareness.

The college is currently in the third year of the four-year JED campus program, which helps colleges learn how to provide mental health resources to students. Goode said the initiative has five subcommittees composed of students, faculty and staff, who work to implement JED's resources on campus.

The JED team is currently training students and faculty to help students who are struggling with their mental health through the Train the Trainer curriculum. Goode said the JED Campus Initiative hopes to train as many individuals as possible and make mental health training a key part of the campus environment. The JED Campus Initiative also plans events that provide mental health resources for students.

a poster, and it resonated with them, that there was a call to action. So, each of those posters has a special QR code that links to the JED Canvas website with a specific skill or resource that someone could use, depending on what that poster is. ... We have our student connections subcommittee, and that group has been working on right now putting together kind of a flowchart. ... Sometimes there are just so many resources, it's hard to narrow down what one you might need for the purpose that you need it. They're working on that material and those tools that we're hoping to have posted online and then available starting in the fall semester as posters that could be displayed in different



Staff Writer Kai Lincke spoke with Goode about how the JED Campus Initiative is working to make caring for mental health part of campus culture.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Kai Lincke: Is there any work that you'd like to highlight that the subcommittees have been trying to initiate around campus?

Michelle Goode: Our communications subcommittee was able to partner with a student organization called 180 Consulting, and that group helped to put together a mental health campaign. And then in the fall semester, what that communications group worked on was, we didn't just want to have a campaign out there. We wanted to make sure that if someone saw

spaces and places.

KL: JED is a four-year program, so do you anticipate continuing some of these changes or additions to the campus after the program has been completed?

MG: It is a kind of a four-year relationship. What's great is once you're a JED campus, you're always a JED campus. So we will be able to continue to utilize JED resources and reach out for support if needed. For us, when you go through the JED process, you do some assessments at the beginning. And then you do a second round of assessments toward the end. ... We're coming up where we'll do the Healthy Mind Survey on campus again. ... So our intent is once we receive that feedback back from JED again, that we'll continue to move forward with writing new goals for ourselves and setting new goals.

KL: Is there anything you think that students should know about the JED Campus Initiative or the resources that you provide?

MG: I want students to know they're not alone,



Michelle Goode, program director of Center for Health Promotion and co-chair of the JED Campus Initiative, is working on setting new mental heath goals for the college. KAI LINCKE/THE ITHACAN

and there are resources. ... If they're not sure how to navigate that, I hope that they know anyone on the JED Campus Committee could be a support to help them find that. ... We have a lot of employees here on campus. And we have a lot of students on campus that care about one another and want to be able to connect someone with the resources they might need. ... It might take some time to find the right resources that you might need. But know there are things out there, and there are people that support you along that journey.

KL: Are all of these resources targeted toward students? Are there any support options available for staff who have mental health concerns? MG: I'd say our office or the Center for Health Promotion is primarily focused - and CAPS is primarily focused - on supporting students'

well-being. But there have been some really great opportunities where we could collaborate and offer wellness resources to everyone. I'd say Sanvello is a really great example of that. Where we were thinking, 'What is it that we could give everyone access to, that is a tool that people can use in the moment if they're feeling overwhelmed, if they're feeling stressed out?' ... There's been some great initiatives ... that Human Resources has been trying to lead to really support the wellness of staff and faculty and employees. You know, they just recently sent out a survey to all employees to ask for what is it that [employees] will need to feel supported. So, I'm excited to see what Human Resources decides to do as a result of that survey.

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### **COLLEGE BRIEFS**

#### DEAR@IC to share class tools for accessibility on PowerPoint

Disability Education, Advocacy, and Resources at Ithaca College --- a student-run club that works with students with disabilities and allies --- will host a student-led workshop about making presentations. The workshop will take place from 9 to 9:45 a.m. April 7 in the Center for Faculty Excellence. It will especially focus on making PowerPoint presentations more accessible for students to view and interact with. PowerPoint has built-in accessibility features that few people utilize.

DEAR@IC asks participants to bring a laptop with a PowerPoint presentation already on it. Refreshments will be provided at the event. Participants should register through a link on Ithaca College Intercom. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact cfe@ithaca.edu or through the phone at 607-274-3734.

#### College announces changes to leadership in the School of HSHP

Following the announcement of Linda Petrosino, outgoing dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, retiring at the end of the academic year, Christina Moylan, associate provost of graduate and professional studies, will take her place as interim dean of the school for the 2023-24 academic year. Because this leaves a vacancy for the associate provost position, Christine McNamara, associate professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and director of the Occupational Therapy and PT clinic on campus, will serve as associate provost of graduate and professional studies, starting July 1, 2023.

As associate provost, McNamara will be responsible for the Office of Extended Studies, the Center for Civic Engagement, the Office of International Programs, International Student and Scholar Support Services and the Honors Program.

#### Students of Color Coalition to host end of semester meeting

The Students of Color Coalition is organizing a meeting from 5 to 6 p.m. March 30 in the ALS room in West Tower. The meeting is meant for students to interact with each other and for student clubs and organizations to publicize and talk about their future events. The Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change will be acting as a resource for students who need help or assistance. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations must get in touch Sybil and Max will be outside where students

with Kerdelma James, program director at the Center for IDEAS, as soon as they can at kjames@ithaca.edu or 607-274-5789.

#### MTD students to host annual benefit for assault survivors

Students in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance will be organizing the annual Wheels for Women Cabaret at 7 p.m. April 8 in the Clark Theatre. Donations collected from the cabaret will go toward survivors of domestic and sexual abuse in Kerala, India. There will be singing, dancing and poetry, all performed by students in the school. There will be a raffle for theater tickets and an auction for homemade pies. The event will be livestreamed online as well. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact Michael Samuel Kaplan at mskaplan@ithaca.edu or through the phone at 607-274-7098.

#### Provost to host faculty talks on shared governance documents

A conversation on shared governance at Ithaca College will be hosted by Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs; Chrystyna Dail, associate professor in the Department of Theatre Studies; Dave Gondek, associate professor in the Department of Biology; Lauren Steele, associate professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies; Emily Rockett, general counsel; and Claire Gleitman, dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences. Faculty are invited to discuss two draft documents that describe the college's shared governance model.

The draft documents are a vision statement for shared governance, which highlights the specific role of shared governance at the college, and a table of who is part of decision making based on the situation.

There are three sessions and faculty are asked to RSVP ahead of time, but there is no capacity limitation. The first session is from 10 to 11 a.m. April 7 in Clark Lounge. The second session is 3 to 4 p.m. April 11 in the Taughannock Falls Room. The third session is from 12:10 to 1:05 p.m. April 13 in Clark Lounge.

#### **Cornell Companions volunteers** return to the college for support

Volunteers from Cornell Companions are bringing llamas back to the college from noon to 1 p.m. March 30 in front of Campus Center.

The llama Late-For-Breakfast and dogs



#### Ithacapella sends off seniors in showcase

Senior Christian Castro was gifted a bottle of cider by Ithacapella singers at the Ithacapella Block 4 Concert on March 25 in Emerson Suites. Senior Massimo Giacona was also celebrated as one of the two members graduating this spring.

JADYN DAVIS/THE ITHACAN

can pet them and give them treats. The Ithaca College Library and the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach & Services are sponsoring the event as part of the Animal-Assisted Activities program. The program is sponsored by the Ithaca College Library to use visiting animals as a way to relieve stress, lower blood pressure and improve the moods of students and the campus community.

#### **President Cornish to organize** listening session for students

President La Jerne Cornish and the members of the president's cabinet are inviting students to a listening session about students' experiences on campus, both in and outside of the classroom.

The session will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. March 30 in Emerson Suite B. Cornish said she will be focusing on hearing directly from students and the topics will be guided by what students want to talk about. Otherwise, there is not a set agenda.

Cornish said this is the first session of a three-part series of sessions this semester that are focused on hearing from students about their experiences at the college. The next two sessions will be in April and then in May, but the exact dates have not been announced yet. For accommodations, contact mataylor@ithaca.edu or via phone at 607-274-3111.

#### **College announces recipients** of Peggy Ryan Williams Award

The Office of Student Engagement announced 76 juniors and seniors who received the Peggy Ryan Williams Award fro Academic and Community Leadership for the 2022–23 academic year.

This includes December 2022 graduates as well. Out of the 76 students selected, 27 were in the Roy H. Park School of Communications, seven were in the School of Business, 19 were in the School of Health Science and Human Performance, 15 were in the School of Humanities and Sciences and eight were in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. The recipients will be honored at the Co-Curricular Symposium from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 20 in Clark Lounge and Klingenstein Lounge. All members of the campus community can attend the event.

**PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG** SELECTED ENTRIES FROM MARCH 14 TO 19

MARCH 18

MARCH 19

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

MARCH 14

MARCH 16

#### FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Circle Apartments 211/ 211 Flora Brown Drive

SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Activation was caused by burnt food. The alarm was accidental. Patrol Officer Abdullah Hassan responded.

#### **RECLASSIFICATION OF CRIME**

LOCATION: Circle Apartments 170/ 170 College Circle

SUMMARY: A suspicious circumstance case entered Feb. 27 was reclassified to a burglary in the second degree. This is a pending investigation. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

#### SCHEME TO DEFRAUD/ SECOND DEGREE

LOCATION: Terrace 3/ 98 Flora Brown Drive SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person demanded money from another person through fraudulent means. This is a pending investigation. Patrol Officer Abdullah Hassan responded.

#### FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Rowland Hall/ 284 Lyceum Drive

SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Activation was caused by a fog machine. The officer explained to the persons involved that their use of the device caused the alarm. The alarm was accidental. Sergeant Jon Elmore responded.

#### KEY

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

### ΗΕ ΓΓΗΑCΑΝ

ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

#### MID SEMESTER RECRUITMENT



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## **OPINION**

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023



ILLUSTRATION BY ANNA MCCRACKEN/THE ITHACAN

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#### **EDITORIALS**

#### Permanent child care at IC EIB Center is not a ticket could promote inclusion out of systematic racism

thaca College is partnering with the Coddington Road Community Center – a child care center in Ithaca - to help with its expansion program and to serve as a temporary new op-

portunity for students and faculty. Even though this collaboration is temporary and the main concentration relies on helping the CRCC, it still offers a great start to something bigger, like a permanent on-campus child care center.

A trustful child care center is good for all busy-scheduled parents, but child care that is not even a mile away from work and school is better. Having the ability to check up on their children whenever needed without worries of skipping a class could help to reduce large amounts of stress on parents' shoulders. Not only will it allow parents to have a low-stress work environment, but it will also help with their time management. An on-campus child care center would also allow student parents to have a better chance at graduating on time or graduating at all. On-campus child care

would be beneficial not only for parents but for student employment. It would create more on-campus jobs and allow students, especially the ones concentrating on social work, education and child care, to learn necessary child care skills. Having a child care center would also boost the college's reputation among faculty and student parents. Above all, on-campus child care would be a great deal specifically for children. Attending daycare and being away from family can be scary for children, especially at early ages. However, knowing that their parents are next door would allow children to find a sense of home in the center. Ithaca College's collaboration with CRCC should become an opportunity to have a permanent child care center, like Cornell University and Tompkins Cortland Community College. While it is understandable that this new center would require great input and possible construction, it should not hold the college back from creating a more inclusive environment for student and faculty parents.

n March 2023, President La Jerne Cornish announced the upcoming Center for Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. According to the announcement, the new center will help the Ithaca Forever strategic plan reach one of its goals, which is to become a national model through the college's diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging values. The center will fulfill this goal by providing a strategic direction for the institution, building campus-wide accountability measures and learning from, honoring and creating sustainable processes. The announcement about the new center came a couple of weeks after the first IC Rise Up walk-out, though there was no mention in the announcement if the voices of BIPOC students encouraged the Center for Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging to form. However, Cornish did mention that the center has a structure that will more effectively address the existing issues at the college.

While creating a new center is a start, what matters is if it will be a strong enough resource to achieve its goals. Throughout the years, the college has had resources, like the Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change, and yet, as of today, the members of the campus community still face microaggressions, racism and discrimination. It is not about how many centers the college can create, but about a resource that will actually advance the improvement of these problems. As BIPOC students raised concerns during the walk-out, it should not be a performative center but rather one that solves problems. The core of the problem relies on changing the normalization of privileged communities' mindsets. The new center needs to address this and work on building a kinder and belonging community. The main goal of the Center for Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging and the community as a whole needs to be making sure that there is no need for another walk-out five years from now.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

#### ALL LETTERS MUST:

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

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

#### ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

- Convey a clear message •
- Be written by an individual or group • who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject
- Be between 600-650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor



**COURTESY OF NINJIN TUMURBAT** 

FIGURE OF SOUL

### Gratefulness is a power prayer

One sentence told by a wise man named Meister Eckhart is enough to encapsulate the importance of gratitude: "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough."

I did not really appreciate the power of gratitude. I feared the universe would take back what I was grateful for to balance the good and bad — the ups and downs. So, I thought if I was always grateful, bad things would happen to me. As if establishing this belief of mine, whenever I expressed my gratitude, whether in silence or out loud, the opposite would happen. For instance, if I said, "I am thankful for today's warm weather," it would be all snowy and cold a day later. When I say, "I am grateful for my laptop that connects me with the creative world," as biased as I could be, the laptop would start lagging.

After having multiple "incidents" like these, I made myself fall into a life without gratitude. This experiment of living was, in simple words, harsh. Every day went like I was the least favorite child of nature. I would find things that troubled me, like thinking about how I was dissatisfied with my productivity before going to bed. As a result, I would wake up fearing that the day would not go as I had planned. Essentially, I tried to take full control of my life to dodge the universe reclaiming what made me happy. However, in doing so, there was nothing left for me to feel grateful about, or I thought so. I stood against the flow of nature. I forgot the universe is much greater than me. I did not know the seemingly "worse" things like failures and rejections bring something I could be grateful for - because that is how the universe guides us to our lessons.

Gratitude means giving full power and your trust to the universe instead of trying to force it to make something happen. To be grateful is to recognize that we are just part of a much more complex and interconnected universe. By trusting the universe to work for us, we are giving up the need to control everything.

But this trust does not come for free. I think the universe tests us to see how we react if we receive and lose all we want. When you receive the good energy of the world, will you help the universe expand and share it with others? In the face of losing something that brings you joy, will you embrace gratitude and look forward to the lesson it holds so that you can avoid missing out on an even more important opportunity? Appreciating something symbolizes that you are affirming your love for the universe and yourself. Because you are also part of the universe and contain it inside yourself, too. When love and trust bloom from the same root of gratefulness, your actions follow, and you flow with nature without holding yourself from happiness through fears and worries. The same energy attracts itself. When you focus on what brings you joy and positivity, the universe will mirror your energy and bring more of that. In other words, your life flows where and how your energy goes.

#### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

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

### Healthcare system in the US is a scam

BY CARA PRESSMAN

I studied abroad in Costa Rica over summer 2022, which was an experience like no other. The time of the year it is usually sunny in New York, it is rainy in San José. I was not used to the daily rain, which caused me to get a sinus infection within the first two weeks. Dealing with this infection was medically difficult, so I was taken to Clinica Biblica Hospital. I received decent care, was given different medications and was seen almost immediately upon arrival. After being examined, I was told the bill was around \$54, which completely left me in shock because I could pay out of pocket. Later on, I needed to go back to the hospital three more times. I ended up spending about \$400. Yet, not even a few weeks after I came back to the U.S. I was mailed a bill from my insurance company of almost \$15,000 for the healthcare I received in Costa Rica. Apparently, before any of the charges could be retracted, we had to prove that the medical care I received was in another country. It took a few weeks, but thankfully we were able to prove our case.

Unfortunately, this is not the



Junior Cara Pressman brings attention to her experiences with healthcare systems in the U.S. and Costa Rica. She raises concerns about U.S. healthcare being a flawed system.

first time my family and I have struggled with our health insurance. At the age of 15, my doctors discovered a scarring in my brain that was causing seizures. My insurance refused coverage and my family could not afford to pay out of pocket. Instead, we ended up reaching a CNN reporter who published the story and got attention from thousands. It was not until over a year later that I was finally able to force the insurance company to cover the costs of surgery for not only me but anyone who needs it. I never thought I would have to fight my insurance company again, however, what I did not realize was that the fight never ended, and the deceptions continue every single day to people all around the country. The U.S. healthcare system is flawed and nobody should be forced to pay millions just to stay alive and safe. Healthcare should not be considered a privilege — it is a fundamental right. But, sadly, there are no laws that define this, and millions suffer as a result.

**RORY CASSIDY/THE ITHACAN** 

**Cara Pressman (she/her)** is a junior English major. Contact her at cpressman@ithaca.edu.

#### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

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

### Efforts must be put into helping athletes

#### BY HANNAH POLCE

#### JUNIOR

Playing a sport is a dangerous game, not just for the physical strain it puts on one's body but the mental effects it has, too. There are athletic trainers at hand, at every practice, every game and every moment while you are playing a sport. At Ithaca College, there are options, but rarely any that are emphasized as resources as often as we would hope. A new study has shown that 92% of colleges fail to deliver mental health support for student-athletes. It is important that athletes at the college feel supported and there are just not enough specified positions at the college that can provide that feeling for us.

At the college, the mental health option is the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, which offers a hybrid of virtual and in-person services. CAPS offers individual therapy, group therapy and support groups. There is also a Crisis and After-Hours On-Call number. That being said, there are not many opportunities for athletes specifically. As an athlete myself, when I have struggled, I have been urged to reach out to Greg Shelley, retired associate professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Athletic Training with a specialty in sports psychology, who is also the professor for the Leadership Academy that the college has for athletes. He has been a phenomenal resource, but he is the only resource in charge of the 27 varsity teams the college has. Although he is phenomenal, it feels important that there be more than just one sports psychologist that athletes can go to. In 2022, the athletic department had Victoria Garrick, a TED Talk speaker, mental health advocate, podcast host and a former Division I Athlete, come to speak to the athletes. This was a huge step in the right direction to get the ball rolling on having hard conversations.



**FIGURE OF SOUL** is a column written by first-year psychology major Ninjin Tumurbat (she/her) that analyzes metaphors. Contact her at ntumurbat@ithaca.edu.

Junior Hannah Polce speaks about the mental health resources available for athletes on campus. She is hoping to break the silence and see these resources improve.

#### **GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN**

Since then, the common feeling at the college has been, "When can someone like that come to speak to us again?"

At Ithaca College, we also have a program called the Hidden Opponent, a national non-profit and advocacy group that raises awareness for student-athlete mental health and addresses the stigma within the sports culture. This program is great but goes unnoticed and some form of awareness of what our chapter of this program does could be very beneficial.

Within the U.S., 80% of the students report feeling stressed, while 34% feel depressed. Then add on the workload that being an athlete holds. In this day and age, with mental health being such a big topic, we need to address these problems and tackle them head-on. Dr. Liz Jodoin, a clinical solutions consultant at Mantra Health said: "We've also seen that student-athletes are less likely to seek help than non-athletes since many have been conditioned to play through physical, emotional, and psychological pain. As a result, this has contributed in part to higher rates of stress, anxiety, depression and, in many cases, has exacerbated pre-existing mental health conditions."

Ithaca College athletes are just looking for a little more support from a professional standpoint. What we do on a day-to-day basis is taxing, and there should be options and resources at hand to help the students here put their best foot forward on and off the court.

Hannah Polce (she/her) is a junior Integrative Marketing Communications major. Contact her at hpolce@ithaca.edu.

### LIFE & CULTURE THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023

## A NIGHT TO BE PROUD

#### **BY MARIANA CONTRERAS**

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students dusted off their dancing shoes and broke out their most fabulous outfits for the first post-COVID-19 pandemic Pride Prom, hosted by the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services on March 23 in the Emerson Suites.

An initiative started in 2007, motivated by students' desires of having an excuse to dress up and redo one of high school's most awaited nights was brought back in Spring 2023 by Open Pages, the Transgender and Non-Binary Residential Learning Community; PRISM, a student organization focused on topics relating to the LGBTQ+ community; and other students that wanted to be involved. Luca Maurer, executive director of Student Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and director of LGBTQ+ Education, Outreach and Services, and Grace Dosdall, pride fellow at the LGBT Center, started meeting with the interested students from those organizations once a week since the beginning of the semester to organize the event.

"When I was a student, a lot of students didn't come out until college," Dosdall said. "So I think in addition to it being a really amazing opportunity for all students to hang out together, it's also an opportunity to get to redo something as yourself and for a lot of students because of COVID, they never went to prom at all. So this is a first time nior prom ticket," Dosdall said. "So, like, a little something to keep."

S o p h o m o r e February Schneck, student employee in the LGBT Center who helped in the setup and takedown as well as registering students at the entrance, said about 120 people attended the event. Schneck said the Pride Prom was one of the events with the biggest turnout during their time working in the center.

"A lot of people aren't lucky enough ... to be able to be their most authentic queer selves at their high school proms and so the opportunity to sort of recap, capture that moment and reclaim that moment in a more authentic way — It's really exciting for all of us," Schneck said.

Senior Nora Marcus-Hecht said one of the most appealing opportunities Pride Prom presented was not only coming together to celebrate identity but making connections with new people and talking about things happening in the current political climate.

"I went with a group of friends and I was excited to just see so many people I know on campus who I target transgender rights, like not providing IDs that accurately reflect people's identity, denying people necessary health care, public accommodations or preventing people from participating in school activities. Freedom of speech has also been targeted, with states passing bills that ban and censor drag performances and discussion surrounding the LGBTQ+ community in school. Currently, New York State is one of the seven states that does not have any anti-LGBTQ bills that have been referred or passed.

Grace Dosdall, pride fellow at the LGBT Center, helps set up Emerson Suites for

the Pride Prom on March 23. The prom was attended by around 120 people.

For many students, Pride Prom is more than just a fun event — it is a whole experience, including the week building up to it, planning outfits, figuring out who you are going with and asking friends if they are thinking of attending.

"Even though, you know, events like that can feel like a culmination, they're also stepping stones for a lot of people too," Schneck said. "Where it's both a celebration of understood the importance of having intersectionality and the students advocated for having a silent disco to make the event accessible to all. They wanted to make sure everyone who wanted to go would not worry about being overstimulated by the music. They also made the choice to still have music playing quietly in the background on the speakers so that people could still be engaged in their conversations without the worry of missing their jam when it came on.

XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

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"My favorite part was the silent disco because you could take the headphones off and then you could talk to people," Spring said.

Crucial for setting the tone and in charge of the silent disco was senior Gabriela Cohen, also known as DJ Jolie, who was tasked with creating a fun and inclusive atmosphere. Regardless of having already played at a silent disco before for a Fall 2022 orientation event, she still praised the enthusiasm of the crowd at the Pride Prom — an event she said she had dreamt of doing for a while.

"I really loved it, I think it's one of the best events that I've DJed here," Cohen said. "It was not just only the best, but it was, I think,





Junior Gwyneth Cole helps set up before the Pride Prom. The prom, which was held for the first time since 2019, encouraged students to be their authentic selves.

#### XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

to do prom, just period."

From the instant polaroids handed out in the photo booth, to the food, decorations and even pride-themed raffle prizes for anyone who RSVPed, Pride Prom had everything that it needed to be a memorable night for everyone.

"We wanted to feel as close to the real thing, so, like, if people RSVP on engage, they got a ticket because I still have my judidn't realize would be there," Marcus- Hecht said. "It's kind of coming together and celebrating their queerness. It was a really fun night."

According to Bloomberg News, 385 anti-LGBTQ+ laws have been introduced in 2023 so far, surpassing the numbers for the last five years. Based on the data reported by the American Civil Liberties Union, there has been an increase in bills that the things that I have already embraced for myself and also a chance to try something new."

Some students, like first-year student Sophia Spring, even went the extra mile and promposed — the act of proposing, a play on both words, specifically when asking another to be one's date to prom — to their friends to help add to the excitement. Marcus-Hecht said even those unsure about attending events like Pride Prom should go celebrate because it is very likely they will find others who feel the same fear of taking this step.

"Coming together to celebrate any sort of identity is important, but especially when we are in trying times when it feels a little scary to be open about your identity." Marcus-Hecht said. "And right now, more than ever, it's important to celebrate what makes us who we are."

Schneck said that Maurer and Dosdall

the most festive and the most energetic that I've seen crowds here in Ithaca."

This event captured the spirit not only of the LGBT Center, PRISM and Open Pages but the LGBTQ+ community altogether and gave the students an evening of celebration that the college had not organized since 2019. A space for everyone to celebrate that reminded people of the meaningfulness of opportunities like this and how valuable it is to take advantage of them.

"Don't be afraid to just go looking," Schneck said. "Come to the center and talk to us. ... Maybe big events aren't your thing. Maybe you're not seeking a big community, but you're looking for something more personal, like attention and consultation. ... We're all here and interested in serving all students exactly where they're at, so ... stop by the center, come see what we're doing and see what works for you."

CONTACT: MCONTRERAS@ITHACA.EDU

### **Dorm culture creates perspectives of student life**

#### **BY KATIE KROM**

#### STAFF WRITER

When Googling, "What is the best dorm at Ithaca College," a list of all 27 residential halls comes up. Choosing housing for the four years at college is one of the hardest decisions that a student has to make. It is hard to know how big the room will be, what the communal bathrooms will bring or what the resident assistant is like.

Ithaca College has a variety of housing options, including Upper Quads, Lower Quads, Towers, Terraces and Emerson Hall, as well as the Circle and Garden Apartments. In a TikTok posted in 2020, a student came up with different sounds to describe each dorm. The Garden Apartments had a glitter sound and the Circles had bubbles, implying that they are a good choice to live in, with Lower Quads and Terraces on the other side of the spectrum, having a child screaming and monster noises. The Towers were a trumpet and Upper Quads were a little "ding" noise, also implying they are a good location to live. Students in the comments tended to agree with the sound choices.

First-year student Willa Sarcone lives in Hood Hall, which is a part of Upper Quads. She said she chose Upper Quads because it gave her the opportunity to live among other student-athletes who also chose to live in Upper Quads. While Sarcone said it was scary when she first moved in because she did not know anyone and was living with someone new for the first time, she said



Ithaca College students hang out together in a WestTower dorm room. Each dorm cluster offers students different living experiences that cater to their own individual needs while in college.

she now has many friends.

"That's what kind of happens when you live so close to people," Sarcone said. "I enjoyed living with other athletes because they were all in the same boat as me."

Sarcone said she is very happy with her choice of living in Upper Quads because it allowed her to enjoy her first year in college.

"There's a stereotype that Upper Quads are better than Lower Quads," Sarcone said. "A lot of my friends joke about not wanting to live in Bogart. ... But you can't really go wrong with any of the housing options on campus."

Similarly, Senior Robert Pucci said he agrees that Upper Quads are better than Lower Quads because they are considered cleaner by the student body. Pucci currently lives in Terraces, which are located above Towers.

Before Terraces, Pucci lived in West Tower and then the Circles. While he enjoyed most of his dorm experiences, Pucci said he was not fully ready for the communal bathrooms in Terraces.

Pucci said he said he enjoys the independence that comes with

living in Terraces.

"I was amazed because living in Terraces is like being in your own bubble," Pucci said. "You are on campus, but it doesn't really feel like you are on campus. But you also get the typical dorm life."

Pucci said that although everyone is nice, the residents mostly do their own thing and stick to themselves. This was a different from his other dorms — Pucci said that when he lived in Towers, he was much closer with his neighbors.

"I don't know many people on my floor, but I kind of love that," Pucci said. "Everyone kind of minds their own business and does their own thing and is okay with it. Everyone is very friendly, but you don't feel pressured to go the extra mile."

First-year student Sierra Harrison lives in Rowland Hall, located in Upper Quads. She said she chose her dorm by doing research beforehand and watching videos on the dorms on YouTube.

"The rooms are very small and seem to not have a consistent size throughout the dorm," Harrison said. "It is mostly quiet, and a lot of people don't go out on the weekends, but the downside to this is people are always complaining when you are loud after 11 p.m."

Harrison said she really enjoys being in Upper Quads because of the peace. She said Lower Quads tend to be less peaceful and a less attractive place to live than the Upper Quads.

"Lower Quads seem to have a more party stereotype and seem to be wild," Harrison said.

RAs at the college are another aspect of dorm life. The RAs are responsible for fostering a sense of community among those living on campus, primarily by organizing events and serving as a point of reference of all aspects of campus life for residents.

"I love my RA," Sarcone said." "She is really sweet and made living here and the transition into college so much easier. She is so open to helping everyone."

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### Student anchors himself on set for short film about grief

#### **BY MATT MINTON**

#### CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

As a group of 50 crew and cast members work together to get ready for the 12-hour shoot, they find themselves on familiar ground: John Marshall High School, where the carnival finale of the 1978 musical "Grease" was filmed. The historic cinematic landmark now becomes the setting for an intense sports story about overcoming grief.

"Anchor" is a short film directed by Dhananjay Saraswat for his New York Film Academy thesis project, filmed over the course of three days in February 2023. The film follows the bond between a track team when the team captain, Matt, dies after winning a state championship. The four remaining members struggle with working together as a team without their former "anchor" in their lives. official casting agent. He did a Zoom audition with Saraswat and ended up getting the role of Matt's best friend, Tyler.

"It's all about my character going through grief and trying to live up to being in that position," Fogler said. "The film deals a lot with remembering the people that were in your lives."

Michael Jamison, a first-year acting student at California State University, Fullerton, who plays the role of Hugh said he connected to the story through his own experience playing sports.

"There have definitely been countless times when our star player or team captain, or someone who is supposed to be good, is not doing their job," Jamison said. "They just keep failing. It's coming to terms with that understanding [because] maybe they're going through something." One day while filming outdoors on the track, Jamison said that one of the cast members mentioned that they were in the exact place where the "Grease" finale took place much to everyone's surprise. John Marshall High School was also used for filming locations in other popular Hollywood films, like "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955) and "A Nightmare on Elm Street" (1984).



Saraswat had a feature-length script written for "Anchor" and decided to take a small portion of it to turn into a short, which he hopes to release by July 2023.

As a major sports fan himself, Saraswat said many sports dramas are typically underdog stories where the team overcomes challenges to win the big game. Instead, "Anchor" aims to follow the aftermath of a team's victory.

"This story is actually loosely based on my life," Saraswat said. "A teammate has a very deep impact on you. It's like you're out of sync at that moment. ... This [story] is relatable with anyone because everybody faces loss."

Junior Ryan Fogler said he was immediately interested in "Anchor" after finding out about the film through Backstage, a casting platform for people who do not have an "We were like, 'What?" Jamison said. "It was a fun 'aha' moment. ... It was just a cool moment to know that we're working where these legendary actors were."

After originally premiering as a Broadway musical in 1972, "Grease" was adapted into the 1978 film and a sequel in 1982, with numerous television specials since. Currently, a prequel film titled "Summer Lovin" is in development and a television series titled "Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies" is set to Junior Ryan Fogler gets into position on the set of "Anchor." The film, directed by Dhananjay Saraswat, focuses on a track team after the death of their captain.

#### **COURTESY OF KRISH NIHALANI**

#### release April 2023.

Fogler said he is a fan of the musical "Grease" and has always wanted to be cast in a theater production of it before getting too old for the parts. While not in a production of the material itself, he was still able to perform in a place important to its history.

"We can all relate to being in high

school, going through some of the things the characters went through," Fogler said. "It's one of those films that's just timeless and can constantly reach the younger generation as each decade passes. And my mom loves 'Grease,' so she was very excited."

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### New 'Shazam!' film is a complete sham

MOVIE REVIEW: "Shazam! Fury of the Gods" Warner Bros. Pictures

#### **BY GIANCARLO MESSINA**

#### STAFF WRITER

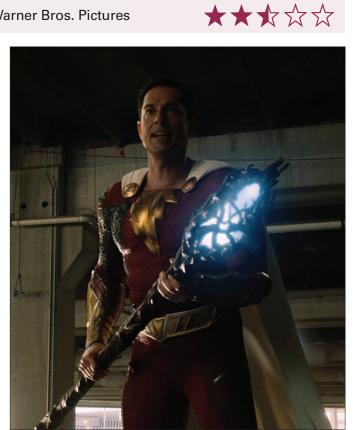
Comic book movies are sort of in a weird spot right now. The post-"Avengers: Endgame" (2019) landscape of the superhero genre has definitely had its hits and misses, but it seems that the hype surrounding these big releases is not as strong as it once was. "Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantamania" (2023) saw one of Marvel's biggest declines in box office sales, a 69.8% dropoff from its opening weekend. Is it collective fatigue that has grown over the years, or are these studios simply running out of new and exciting ideas that will get the general public to return to the theaters?

This is a prevalent feeling in "Shazam! Fury of the Gods," the newest film in the DC Cinematic Universe. This film picks up right where the first "Shazam!" (2019) left off, with Billy Batson (Asher Angel) and his foster siblings, now all with superhero abilities, working together as a team. They are all beginning to grow apart as they start to develop their own interests, leaving Billy as the one to try and keep them together.

However, there is a mythical foe that threatens to steal their magical abilities. They are the daughters of Atlas, coming to Earth from another realm in order to get revenge for their father who was killed by the Wizard (Djimon Hounsou) from the first movie. While the sequel does have its occasional moments of enjoyable wit and light-hearted humor, most of the appeal that the first film had is lost in a drab and cliched story.

The film is over two hours long, and much of that time is wasted on meandering exposition, dull action scenes and some meaningless attempts to connect to the wider DCEU. The film is definitely on a larger scale than the first one, with more characters to focus on and CGI-fueled sequences, but most of the action scenes lack any visual style and technique. This is especially prevalent in the final big action set piece, which opts for a sea of bland CGI creatures for the team to fight instead of anything memorable. Moreover, the most eye-rolling moment of the film has to be the pointless cameo in the final scene, which seemed more like a forced afterthought than a logical way to end the story. It wraps the film up in a weird and unsatisfying way, undermining much of the built-up emotion. One other point to note is the film's very lazy use of product placement, which also comes at a pivotal moment in the film's climax, feeling equally as unnecessary.

While "Shazam! Fury of the Gods" is a mostly bland and lackluster sequel, it is still a cut above many other recent films in the genre. Like the first film,



Shazam (Zachary Levi) returns to the big screen in a sadly underwhelming sequel with no real reason to exist. COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

there is an emphasis on the Fury of the Gods" is more generic emotions and the relationships and forgettable when compared

emotions and the relationships between the young protagonists that give the film a softer core. Zachary Levi's performance as the adult Shazam has clear charisma and comedic timing, even if it often feels as though he is playing his role as an 18-year-old teen a bit too childishly. Billy, now growing out of the foster age, feels as though he might lose his family, which adds an interesting dynamic.

For the most part, "Shazam!

Fury of the Gods" is more generic and forgettable when compared to its predecessor, yet it still holds on to at least some of the charm to get a pass overall. However, the film is not likely to justify its existence with most audience members, especially in such an oversaturated market for superhero movies. It has some endearing qualities, but it is hard to shake the feeling of being another uninspired sequel.

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ALBUM REVIEW: "10,000 gecs" Dog Snow/Atlantic Records ★ ★ ★ ★

#### BY ANDREW TELL

STAFF WRITER

100 gecs is back and continues to pave their own path in the music world, much to everyone else's enjoyment.

Laura Les and Dylan Brady started their collaboration in 2015 by sending each other Logic files back and forth. They would each work their magic, curating bizarre collections of noises and hooks. This partnership was on and off throughout the 2010s until the duo played a set at the 2019 Minecraft Fire Fest and decided to make their first album together afterward. What emerged was "1000 gecs," the magnum opus of the hyperpop genre. Hyperpop is pop music taken to 11, blending elements of PC Music, bubblegum pop and nightcore in order to create a sonic palette that leaves jaws dropped and minds blown. Artists like SOPHIE and Charli XCX were making this style of music and achieving critical success and 100 gecs took hyperpop to its next level. "1000 gecs" gets so close to listeners that every pore and wrinkle is visible. The songs range from quiet ballads about smoking weed to forget about your ex to ska songs about physical assault against jockeys and "piss babies."

life) and a whole slew of hyperpop artists emerging from beyond the web, the gecs are back — and they brought 9,000 more gecs with them. "10,000 gecs" still shows the duo chronically online, but they are trying to move forward as songwriters and producers. There are fewer nightcore vocals, more rock instrumentation and still plenty of memes and bangers.



In their new album, 100 gecs blend elements of hyperpop and irony.

COURTESY OF DOG SNOW/ATLANTIC RECORDS



### Is the #MeToo movement over?

BY LILY LIPKA

STAFF WRITER

For decades, Hollywood has been known to protect abusers and allow powerful men to get away with heinous crimes involving sexual harassment and violence. In October 2017, an online movement and cultural phenomenon began that sought to change that: #MeToo.

In May 2016, actress Amber Heard filed for divorce against her then-husband, Johnny Depp, alleging abuse. After their divorce had been finalized, Heard wrote an op-ed for The Washington Post titled "Amber Heard: I spoke up against sexual violence — and faced our culture's wrath. That has to change." In the piece, Heard wrote about #MeToo and what it has exposed in our culture about men being protected and often getting off scot-free after being accused of abuse.

Conservative media outlet The Daily Wire paid copious amounts of money to spread misinformation and harmful sentiments about Heard. Mocking Heard became a trend and the people participating in it rarely actually followed the case or cared to learn the truth. On June 1, 2022, the jury sided with Depp. This verdict was a devastating blow to survivors of sexual and domestic abuse and to the future of women in this country.

What is most frightening about all of this is the precedent the Depp v. Heard trial has set for other cases. Recently, developments in Brad Pitt's lawsuit against ex-wife Angelina Jolie over their winery have come to light. Jolie alleges that on a 2016 flight, Pitt attacked her and their children. While this account has been circulating for a while, it is more relevant than ever now. Pitt fans on social media are urging him to take the same steps that Depp did.

Men in Hollywood can still thrive, not only just after allegations but after there is legitimate proof of their abuse. Pitt, in a rather unfortunately ironic turn of events, produced two 2022 films about women speaking up about abuse: "Women Talking" and "She Said." Chris Brown, who physically assaulted Rihanna in 2009 and has a continued history of abuse since then, is still working with big artists like H.E.R. and Jack Harlow and put out an album this past year with RCA Records. Shia LaBeouf, who was recently sued by

But after four years, a remix album, headlining tours (both in Minecraft and in real

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While "1000 gecs" was just two friends having fun, "10,000 gecs" is now two high-in-demand hyperpop prodigies trying to have fun in a music industry that does not fully understand them. "Hollywood Baby" is a love letter to the 2000s pop-punk movement, right down to the simple and catchy guitar riffs. "Billy knows Jamie" is a nu-metal song in the year 2023. The guitars, record scratches and lyrics about how someone is going to kill you come straight from Korn 101 taught by Professor Serj Tankian. "Doritos and Fritos" is an homage to MF DOOM and it sounds as if Dr. Seuss wrote a Smashing Pumpkins song in the best possible way.

"Frog on the Floor" is a ska song about a frog on the floor. It is as accurately named as the movie "Cocaine Bear" and just as fun of an experience. But this song is the best showcase on this album of the gecs' chronically online humor. The gecs' strength comes from their time spent on the internet, which allows them to balance a fine line between based and cringe. It's easy to try and look at 100 gecs as a novelty act, but because of the internet humor of Generation Z (and their shorter attention span), the gecs are proving that they are a serious act in the music industry — one that just happens to be shrouded in ironic humor.

"1000 gecs" exists as an insane collection of sounds that have no business being there, and "10,000 gecs" is a transition away from their hyperpop roots and toward something greater than what their computers can process.

This one-of-a-kind album that blends internet humor and hyperpop with alternative rock genre that deserves all the praise. This LPs greatest strength lies in the fact that it was made by two friends having fun making music together, and their fun is truly contagious.

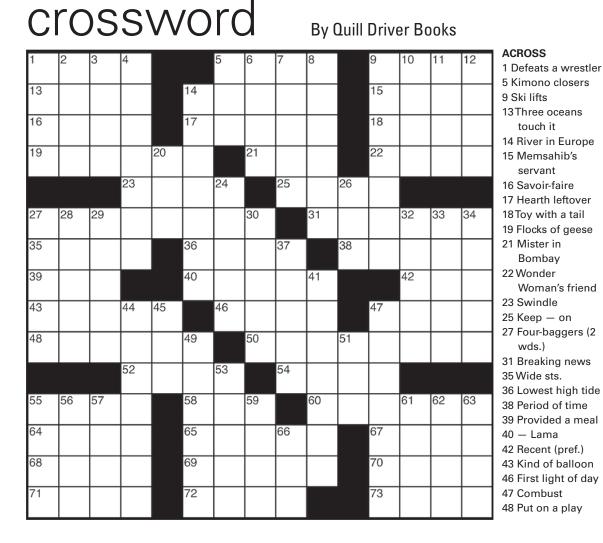
#### CONTACT: ATELL@ITHACA.EDU

ex-girlfriend FKA twigs for rampant abuse, is starring in Francis Ford Coppola's upcoming film "Megalopolis."

#MeToo paved the way for progress in Hollywood, but the window for publicly outing abusers and being supported for it swiftly closed when Depp sued Heard and won. Things are moving backward. Even known abusers are still booking work. None of these allegations are secret. In fact, they are public knowledge at this point. And yet, they are living with no consequences while the women they abused have to suffer through intense trauma and public harassment on top of that. The world is a scary place for women now, especially in the entertainment industry. One massive trial has reversed so much change. We can only hope to find a way to protect women from enduring what Heard did.

**POPPED CULTURE** is a column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Lily Lipka is a sophomore Television and Digital Media major. Contact them at llipka1@ithaca.edu.

### DIVERSIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023



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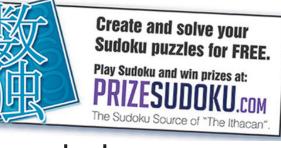
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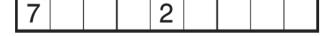
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## **SPORTS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023

### **Controlling the leaderboards** Junior shatters program record for draw controls



From left, junior Bomber midfielder Caroline Wise races past Cortland's graduate student attacker Amy Hoeffner and junior Bomber midfielder Sydney Phillips.

From left, Wise dodges past Clarkson University first-year student midfielder/defender Ireland Morgia in the Bombers' 15–10 victory over the Golden Knights on March 25.



From left, Brockport senior defender Courtney Cunninham charges toward Wise as Brockport junior midfielder Alexandria VanDerKar looks to control the draw.

important, but this year we have such a strong, prominent draw taker like Caroline who has made winning draws such a big part of our game," Phillips said. "Caroline just has an ability to analyze the draw situation and create a plan

Moore said Wise's ability as a leader is arguably more critical to her team's success than her individual skills.

**NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN** 

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"The impact she has on the team, I just think as a leader, is huge," Moore said. "Caroline is an excellent student and she really epitomizes

#### **BY CHRIS SOHL**

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Breaking records has become more and more common in sports, but breaking records in a fraction of the time it took the previous holder to accomplish is quite rare. Despite only being a junior, midfielder Caroline Wise recently broke the Ithaca College women's lacrosse team's career draw control record.

In women's lacrosse, a draw occurs at the beginning of each quarter and again after every goal. At the center circle of the field, one player from each team lines up with the back of their sticks together in the air and the ball placed between them. From there, the referee blows the whistle and each player makes the attempt to pitch the ball to open space in hopes of scooping it up and getting their team possession.

Alongside the draw taker are two midfielders from each team positioned around the center circle. If the draw taker can pitch the ball to her teammates, that provides a huge advantage in the possession game.

The previous record was held by Reid Simoncini '19, who was a member of the program from 2016-19 and amassed an impressive 230 draw controls over 76 games. However, in only 28 games, Wise has notched an unbelievable 292 draw controls, surpassing Simoncini's record in just under a third of the time. In her 23rd career game at the college against the University of Scranton on March 8, Wise earned 13 draw controls on the contest to end the game with a career total of 236, beating the record in 53 fewer games. Wise's lacrosse prowess was felt immediately after she transferred from the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the 2022 season, as she not only dominates the draw control circle but also has proved she can be lethal on the offensive end. She is tied for second on the team in points with 28 over nine games - including 21 goals and seven assists - and has proven she can lead the team with her outstanding play and leadership. Although Wise's individual impact on the field seems effortless, she said she spends plenty of time off the field preparing for games. The chemistry needed between Wise and the other members of the draw control circle squad are critical to the team's continued success.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

"I typically do scout work outside of practice to try and prepare myself for games," Wise said. "Me and the girls spend lots of time communicating to try and formulate the best strategy during games. We are always on the same page." With great success comes a positive and motivated attitude, which Wise said she always brings to practice.

"At the end of the day, there are no athletic scholarships tied to us playing, which means we all come every day because we want to be here," Wise said. "I think that's really cool."

Junior midfielder Sydney Phillips, another member of the draw control circle squad, said the program truly has something special in Wise.

"Every year, winning draws is





consistently winning the draw has been vital to the Bombers' success, which is proven by the team's 7–2 overall record.

trols behind junior midfielder Lexi Kellish with

whom she shares the draw circle. She said that

Phillips ranks third on the team in draw con-

that's really unique."

"In my eyes, lacrosse is a game of possession, so obviously when you have the ball and the other team doesn't, it's huge," Phillips said. "It really just elevates everyone's play on the field along with [Wise's], which I think is incredible."

Head coach Karrie Moore said it is outstanding that not only has Wise broken the program record, but the speed at which it was broken is jaw-dropping.

"I think for her, breaking this record was a really cool thing," Moore said. "I think the thing that's crazy impressive about it is that she did it in not even a season and a half, which means the draws won per game is absolutely off the charts."

> Moore, who has now coached all but three of the nine players on the program's career draw control leaderboard, said the accolade is a great way to see Wise being recognized for her undeniable impact on the field.

the student-athlete mentality which helps her show our underclassmen what game preparation is like."

Moore said that overall, Wise's hard work and determination to be the best is largely what has her excelling through the leaderboards.

"She is obviously incredibly skilled and there are lots of technical pieces that go into winning draws, but I do really think it's her preparation that separates her from everyone else," Moore said.

Despite Phillips being an outstanding player herself, the respect she has for Wise is obvious; Phillips said she thinks looking up to Wise is a key for the team to grow.

"Her ability is unlike anything I've ever seen," Phillips said. "I've just never seen somebody so analytical and so honestly smart when it comes to draw-taking as she is. ... [Caroline is] the glue that has brought us together."

*Staff writer Tobiab Zboray contributed reporting to this story.* 

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AIDAN CHARDE/THE ITHACAN

### Bench provides key depth for men's lacrosse team

#### **BY AIDAN CHARDE**

#### SPORTS EDITOR

Before the 2023 season even began, the Ithaca College men's lacrosse team was reminded of how important it was for the entire team to be ready for anything.

During a preseason practice, graduate student attackman Blake Eischen, who scored 19 goals in the 2022 season, went down with a season-ending knee injury. Junior midfielder Derek Stout said that injury served as a bit of a wake-up call for much of the team.

"As big of a loss as it was, it was kind of like, 'Alright, where are we going? What's next?" Stout said. "I think that's where a lot of players kind of realized the reality of the situation ... and a lot of players are stepping up and filling out the role that needed to be filled."

Sophomore attackman Kyle Proctor said it was scary for the team when Eischen went down, but it also meant the rest of the team had the option to either quit on the season or push on regardless.

"We gotta win these games; nobody's going to stop playing just because one person got hurt," Proctor said. "So I think that means a lot to everybody that, no matter what happens, we're giving it our all for each other."

As of March 28, the team has gotten off to a 4–1 start and the bench has played an important role in earning wins. Through the first five games, 13 athletes have played in at least four contests without earning a start, including Stout, who has taken part in all five. He said the amount of players coming off the bench has illustrated the team's depth.

Although he has seen plenty of playing time this season, Stout played in just seven of the team's 16 games last year. However, Proctor has had a different journey as another key bench contributor in 2023.

Proctor started 13 of 15 games for the Bombers in his rookie season, tallying 18 goals and 11 assists. This year, though, he is yet to start a game, which he said is because of a deeper roster than in seasons past.

"My role right now is just trying to be on the field wherever the team needs me the most," Proctor said. "Right now, it seems like I'm that reliable person coming into the midfield, where I think people expect me to be able to initiate in the offense and ... be a vocal leader on the field."

In lacrosse, Stout said, substitutions can be done on the fly without waiting for a pause in the game. This means the team can have lines, with substitutes coming in to give the starters a break, and some players can run in and out depending on if the team is on offense or defense.

First-year student Jace Dockx is one of the players that comes on the field for certain situations, playing as a defensive midfielder. Dockx said he comes on and off the field with a long stick, better for defense, as the game moves along.

"They'll have me start on the wing at the faceoff ... and they'll have me either get the ground ball to get to the offense and then sub off, like I won't



From left, Ithaca College sophomore midfielder Chase Gulick passes to first-year student midfielder Jace Dockx as Clarkson University junior defender Matt Szwagulinski attempts to intercept.

starters fresh, Stout said there are a few potential drawbacks.

"It can lead to some players not getting in their groove," Stout said. "But that being said, it does allow for players that may have made a mistake to take a breather, evaluate the situation and head back onto the playing field."

Stout said that having several players ready to go in at any given moment also helps prevent the starters and consistent bench contributors from becoming overly comfortable.

"A huge thing that we kind of talk about within the team is never strive for complacency," Stout said. "Once you get to that point, you just level out. So we want to always keep pushing each other ... and hold each other accountable."

ZHANNZ GOMEZ/THE ITHACAN

As the season goes on, Proctor said he and the team just need to stick to their current mentality and stay prepared, because they never know what might change.

"The mentality we've been going with all year, be ready for anything, I think that's really helped me, personally," Proctor said. "I'm not expecting anything. I don't think I'm going to start, I don't think I'm not going to start, I'm just staying ready."

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### Q&A: Interim coach hopes to be a hit for softball team

stay on with the long pole," Dockx

said. "Or if I'm playing defense,

they'll keep me on until we either

expect to have this role. As a first-year

student, he is one of just a few rook-

ies on the team who have earned

significant playing time but knew he

Dockx said. "The coaches saw some-

thing in me, so I step on the field, I

do what I need to get done and then

big role can be good for keeping the

While having the bench play a

"I really did not anticipate it,"

had to be ready for anything.

that's it."

But Dockx also said he did not

get scored on or get the ball back."

As the Ithaca College softball team runs headfirst into its new season, it is doing so under the guidance of a new interim head coach, former Bomber standout Kelly Robichaud '16.

Robichaud, who earned her degree in sports psychology, was offered an opportunity in 2019 to return to her alma mater and take on the assistant coaching position alongside former head coach Hannah Quintana '07, who stepped down following the 2022 season.

A four-year starter, Robichaud led the Bombers in 2015 with a First-Team All-Empire 8 selection, tallying 75 total bases. She went on to be named Empire 8 Player of the Year in 2016 with a .390 batting average and 12 home runs.

Before returning to the college as coach, Robichaud was an assistant coach at Emmanuel



transparent so they know what to expect. They get a very similar person on and off the field.

NC: How have your two seasons as an assistant for the program helped your transition into the new role?

**KR**: When I accepted the position I had onlybeen a part-time assistant at a previous college. So these past two years have been very helpful. Not only to get to know the behind-the-scenes game day and office duties but also that consistency of knowing who the team is. I've had the opportunity to work with four of our now-current seniors, and I've been with them their entire careers. Some of them are senior class captains, so to see them develop into those roles has been really cool.

College for the 2019 season. Being a seasoned veteran of South Hill, Robichaud said she is excited to build her career around the values and tradition of the program that she loved so much as a player. So far this season, she has led the Bombers to a regular season record of 8-3-1.

Contributing writer Noelle Cook spoke with Robichaud about her experience as interim head coach at the college.

*This article has been edited for length and clarity.* 

**Noelle Cook:** You played under Deb Palozzi and coached alongside Hannah Quintana. What did you learn from them during your time as assistant and head coach?

Kelly Robichaud: A competitive edge is something that I learned from both of the coaches. The program is always hoping to win a conference title and get hosting rights [in the] postseason. So I think that the competitive edge and then the tradition and the values that this program has is what really sets it apart. Kelly Robichaud '16 sits in her new office after being named the interim head coach of the Ithaca College softball team. She spent two years as an assistant coach.

#### AMINATTA IMRANA JALLOW/THE ITHACAN

NC: What are those core strengths and values that you're looking to impart to your players as their coach?

**KR:** Leadership is so important. I want all of my athletes to become strong, independent, empowered people that enter the workforce, and softball is a great vehicle to get them there. I want them knowing they're more than just a stat line.

NC: How have your first few games as head coach gone?

**KR:** They've been very exciting. This group in particular has a ton of energy and they really want to play for each other. Even at practice, the energy is high and they're having fun, but they have a really good balance of serious fun and knowing how to find that line. If you look at our dugout in the middle of the game, they're crowded around the opening cheering each other on. Just with these 12 games we've had so far, that's something that makes the energy so different and so amazing.

NC: What do you think that you bring to this team as a former Bomber and the new head coach?

**KR:** Well, I think some of that energy starts with how I come to practice. I'm one of those people who doesn't need a lot of caffeine. I just kind of wake up energized and excited to find that balance between valuing who my players are as people and becoming their coach on the field. They know that I will push them outside of their comfort zone and try to challenge them but that they have a safe place with me. I try to be NC: What are your goals for this season as a team?

**KR:** First and foremost, I want us to go out and compete for Liberty League, as well as a regular season title, but primarily have the ability to host the Liberty [League] Championship here on campus. I want both that competitive and fun atmosphere. Practice should be the two hours out of their day that they look forward to the most. So those would probably be the three main things.

NC: Are you planning on pursuing the full-time head coach position after this season?

**KR:** I would like to continue on this journey here at Ithaca, so yes. This program in particular is something that has given me so much. I've developed my leadership style through softball and have become the person I am today through this program. So it's something I want to give back.

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# THE BUZZER

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

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK GRACE MURRAY/GYMNASTICS



First-year student gymnast Grace Murray earned third place on the floor with a score of 9.800 at the NCGA Championship on March 25 in Winona, Minnesota. Murray was one of three Bombers who earned All-American honors this season. GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN

### COMPETITION OF THE WEEK WOMEN'S LACROSSE VS. ST. LAWRENCE



First-year student defender Phoebe Hosford works to clear the ball up the field in the No. 13 Ithaca College women's lacrosse team's 14–12 win over No. 22 St. Lawrence University. The win preserves the Bombers' undefeated record in the Liberty League. THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

### **EVENT TO WATCH**



#### 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M. APRIL 1 AT KOSTRINSKY FIELD

WEE

The Ithaca College softball team will return to Kostrinsky Field to welcome the SUNY Geneseo Knights for a home-opening doubleheader April 1. The Bombers most recently went 1–0–1 in a doubleheader against SUNY Oneonta on March 24, winning the first game and tying the second 11–11 after the game was called because of darkness, and sit at 8–3–1 overall. In the all-time series, the Bombers are 7–4 against the Knights but lost both in a doubleheader last season, 2–0 and 1–0. It will also be the first time the Knights visit Kostrinsky Field since 2007, when the Bombers won 8–0.

#### NOTABLE UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

ROWING: Cayuga Duels at 9 a.m. April 1 at the Cayuga Inlet.

**BASEBALL**: 1 and 4 p.m. April 1 and 1 p.m. April 2 vs. St. Lawrence University, 3:30 p.m. April 5 vs. Alfred State on Valesente Diamond at Freeman Field.

**SOFTBALL**: 1 and 3 p.m. April 2 vs. St. John Fisher University at Kostrinsky Field.

**WOMEN'S TENNIS**: 6 p.m. April 5 vs. Hartwick College at Wheeler Outdoor Courts.



"They're a good team and they gave us a good fight, but our defense is the best we can have this season and, you know, we just found our groove."

- KYLE PROCTOR Sophomore attackman about the men's lacrosse team's win over Clarkson



From left, junior Dayanara Reyes-Rodriguez and sophomore Kristen Johnson perform a tap dance routine choreographed by IC Tap co-president senior Amanda Kielty to the song "No Sweat" during the IC Tap In showcase March 24 in Emerson Suites. This is the first time in five years that the group has hosted a showcase. KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON/THE ITHACAN