

ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

LIFE & CULTURE | page 9
PIPPY TO RIPLEY
CONFERENCE
MAKES A RETURN



OPINION | page 7
STUDENTS MUST
HAVE AUTONOMY
IN REGISTRATION



SPORTS | page 15
SENIOR SHARES
HER STORY ON
SPORTS CAREER

Giving Day raises \$2.5 million, breaks record

BY VIVIAN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

Donations given to Ithaca College on April 25 for its annual Giving Day surpassed the amount raised in previous years. This year, some organizations and programs offered new opportunities for giving.

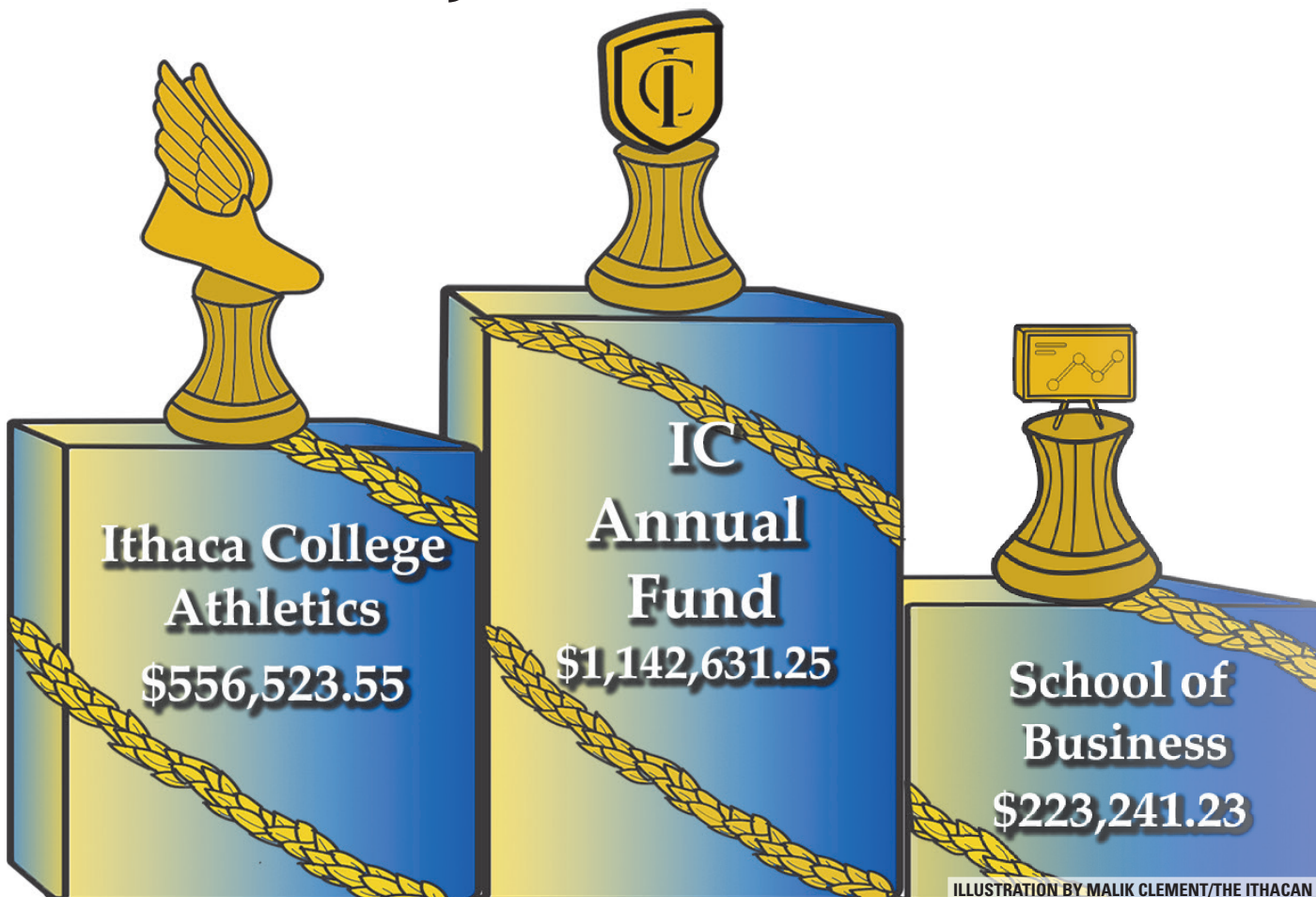
Giving Day is an annual 24-hour fundraiser when the college receives donations from alumni, philanthropists, families and members of the campus community.

Tanya Hutchins '89, president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, said this year's goal was to surpass 5,000 donors. While there were only 3,329 donors, a record-breaking \$2.5 million was raised — a decrease from the 4,794 donors in 2022 but an increase from the \$2.2 million raised last year.

Hutchins said donations to the annual fund are necessary because they are used to support every part of the college.

"I love the people who give to the annual fund because that's where it's needed most," Hutchins said.

In an Instagram post from April 25, IC Rise Up encouraged donors to send funds directly to the independent organization's PayPal instead of the IC Annual Fund because the group feels the college administration has not centered the interests of students of color. IC Rise Up has organized several events throughout the spring semester in protest of discrimination on campus. Most recently, the group distributed a list of demands for the college to better support



GIVING DAY, PAGE 4

Departments implement changes to their academic curricula beginning in Fall 2023

IC to pick first years' courses

BY LORIEN TYNE
NEWS EDITOR

BY KAI LINCKE
STAFF WRITER

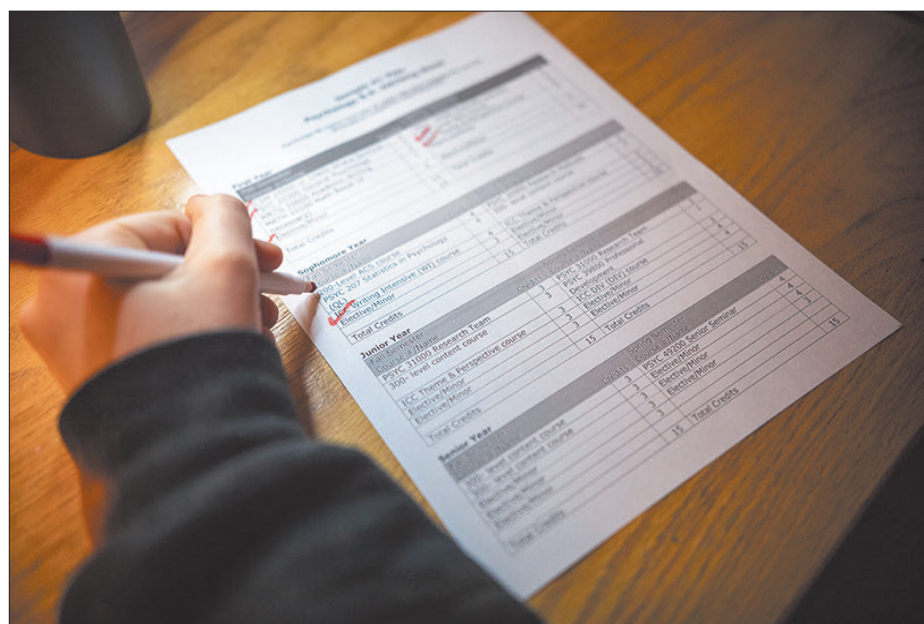
Departments across Ithaca College have been undergoing major curricular revisions as part of the objectives in the Shape of the College — a review that has not been done on this scale in several decades.

The college is in phase two, "Restructure and Reorganize," and phase three, "Growth," of the Shape of the College recommendations that were made in Spring 2021 by the Academic Program Prioritization Implementation Committee.

Following faculty reductions made to realign the faculty-to-student ratio, one of the many recommendations made was for departments to revise their curricula.

The revisions were necessary to match the current faculty with the appropriate number of courses and to better allow students to explore courses outside of their majors, according to the Shape of the College.

All departments have been revising their curricula through methods like reducing the number of credits required in a major, restructuring content into new courses with a different number of credits and increasing options to fulfill a requirement. Melanie Stein, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs, said the goal of these revisions is to simplify and reduce obstacles for students and



Departments have revised their curricula through methods like reducing the number of major credits required and restructuring content into new courses.

GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN

support interdisciplinary education.

"One of the things that came out pretty strongly in terms of student feedback was students expressing concern that the curricula for their various major programs was so packed and so rigid that they weren't able to explore across the campus," Stein said.

Many programs submitted revisions

between September 2022 and March 2023, which are reflected in the Fall 2023 course catalog. The Curricular Revisions Liaison Committee was created to provide guidance.

Stacia Zabusky, associate provost of academic programs and co-chair of the CRLC, said

CURRICULUM, PAGE 4

In Fall 2023, Ithaca College will test a pilot program in which all incoming students' courses will be selected by college faculty based on a comprehensive academic interests survey.

Elizabeth Bleicher, dean for Student Success and Retention, said via email that the college will post a survey for incoming students on the New Student Checklist on May 1 to collect information about subject areas, issues and themes that interest them. Bleicher said each school's academic services coordinators and assistant and associate deans will work with staff from the Center for Student Success to build balanced schedules for students based on their major and preferences indicated on the survey.

Bleicher said the college is implementing the pilot program because it hopes to reduce incoming students' stress and increase their likelihood for success in their first semester and year at the college.

"In the past, students and their supporters regularly reported that having to complete all the online modules and then register for courses was stressful and led to dissatisfying results," Bleicher said via email. "We researched how other schools conduct academic onboarding for new students. We learned that students are

REGISTRATION, PAGE 4

Nation & World News

Cuban parliament hands second presidential term to Díaz-Canel

Cuban lawmakers elected President Miguel Díaz-Canel to a second five-year term April 19, handing him 459 of 460 votes in the National Assembly, the official Communist Party newspaper Granma reported.

Vice President Salvador Valdés Mesa was also re-elected.

In 2018, the 62-year-old Díaz-Canel succeeded the brothers Fidel and Raúl Castro, making him the first non-Castro ruler of the one-party Caribbean island state since the revolution in 1959.

Jet bridge collapse at an Atlanta airport injures several employees

Multiple people were injured on the evening of April 21 when a jet bridge collapsed at the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia, officials said.

Several employees were on the jet bridge on Concourse F when the bridge malfunctioned shortly before 7 p.m., a spokesperson for the Atlanta airport said. The bridge dropped approximately 15 feet with the employees inside.

The airport workers were checked by emergency personnel, but officials did not release the extent of their injuries. The

exact number of employees injured was also not provided.

The incident had no impact on the airport's operations. Officials did not say what caused the malfunction or what airline was using the gate at the time.

Ugandan president does not sign anti-homosexuality law

Uganda's draconian new anti-gay legislation, which would allow for homosexual acts to be punished by long prison sentences and even the death penalty, is being revised after heavy international criticism.

President Yoweri Museveni refrained from signing the law, which had already been passed by parliament, within the required deadline. The ruling National Resistance Movement party will revise and propose "improvements" of the text after consultations with Museveni, a party official wrote on Twitter on April 20.

Three injured in an accidental Russian firing in Belgorod city

Three people have now been reported injured after a Russian fighter jet accidentally fired at the Russian city of Belgorod near Ukraine on April 20, regional Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said.

Nobody's life is in danger, Gladkov wrote on Telegram on April 21. On the



Several US diplomats in Sudan evacuated

U.S. diplomats have departed Sudan's airspace days after fighting erupted. President Joe Biden said he ordered the evacuation operation to "extract" 70 Americans, which included several U.S. government personnel April 22.

MOHAMED KHIDIR/XINHUA/ZUMA PRESS/TNS

evening of April 20, a heavy explosion had occurred in the middle of a Belgorod crossroads, leaving a hole with a 20-yard radius in the ground.

Later, the Defense Ministry in Moscow said a Russian fighter jet had experienced an "unplanned launch of ammunition" over the city. Initially, there had been talk

of two injured women. All residents of a damaged apartment building have been temporarily relocated, Gladkov wrote. Some were staying with relatives, others in a hotel. At least three people were injured in the accidental firing.

SOURCE: TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MULTIMEDIA

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



Ithacon lands in Emerson Suites once again

On April 22 and 23, the Campus Center was jam-packed with action as Ithacon returned to campus for its 46th year, run by the students of Ithaca College's Promoting and Managing Conventions course.



'How IC Sports' – Ithaca College Media Creative Team Spencer Cross

Sophomore host Luke Cammarata explores a different aspect of sports at Ithaca College with sophomore Spencer Cross, Ithaca College Media Creative Team member.



THE ITHACAN

220 ROY H. PARK HALL,
ITHACA COLLEGE, ITHACA, NY 14850
(607) 274-3208 • ITHACAN@ITHACA.EDU

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| EDITOR-IN-CHIEF | CAITLIN HOLTZMAN |
| MANAGING EDITOR | ELEANOR KAY |
| COMMUNITY OUTREACH MANAGER | ZHANZ GOMEZ |
| OPINION EDITOR | NANE HAKOBYAN |
| NEWS EDITOR | LORIEN TYNE |
| ASST. NEWS EDITOR | NOA RAN-RESSLER |
| ASST. NEWS EDITOR | PRAKRITI PANWAR |
| CO-LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR | ELIZABETH KHARABADZE |
| CO-LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR | MATT MINTON |
| SPORTS EDITOR | AIDAN CHARDE |
| ASST. SPORTS EDITOR | TESS FERGUSON |
| PHOTO EDITOR | NOLAN SAUNDERS |
| ASST. PHOTO EDITOR | KALYSTA DONAGHY-ROBINSON |
| ASST. PHOTO EDITOR | LEILA MARCILLO-GÓMEZ |
| VIDEO EDITOR | MAGGIE BRYAN |
| ASST. VIDEO EDITOR | RAY MILBURN |
| PODCAST EDITOR | LYLE CABAN |
| CHIEF COPY EDITOR | LEAH MCLEAN |
| PROOFREADER | LUCRETIUS RUTKOWSKI |
| ASST. PROOFREADER | GRACIE GALLAGHER |
| DESIGN EDITOR | MALIK CLEMENT |
| ASST. DESIGN EDITOR | ARIANA GONZALEZ VILLARREAL |
| WEB DIRECTOR | KEEGAN PALMO |
| SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER | ELIANA PATTERSON |
| AD SALES MANAGER | SPENCER PARK |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR | EVA SALZMAN |
| ITHACAN ADVISER | CASEY MUSARRA |

COPY EDITORS

Mae Cahill, Emily Fischer, Ray Milburn

THE ITHACAN IS PRINTED AT BAYARD PRINTING GROUP

GOT A NEWS TIP?

Contact the News Editor at
ithacannews@gmail.com or 274-3208

SINGLE COPIES OF THE ITHACAN ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION POINTS ON THE ITHACA COLLEGE CAMPUS AND IN THE ITHACA COMMUNITY. MULTIPLE COPIES AND MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ITHACAN. PLEASE CALL FOR RATES.

Students request course trigger warnings

BY PRAKRITI PANWAR

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

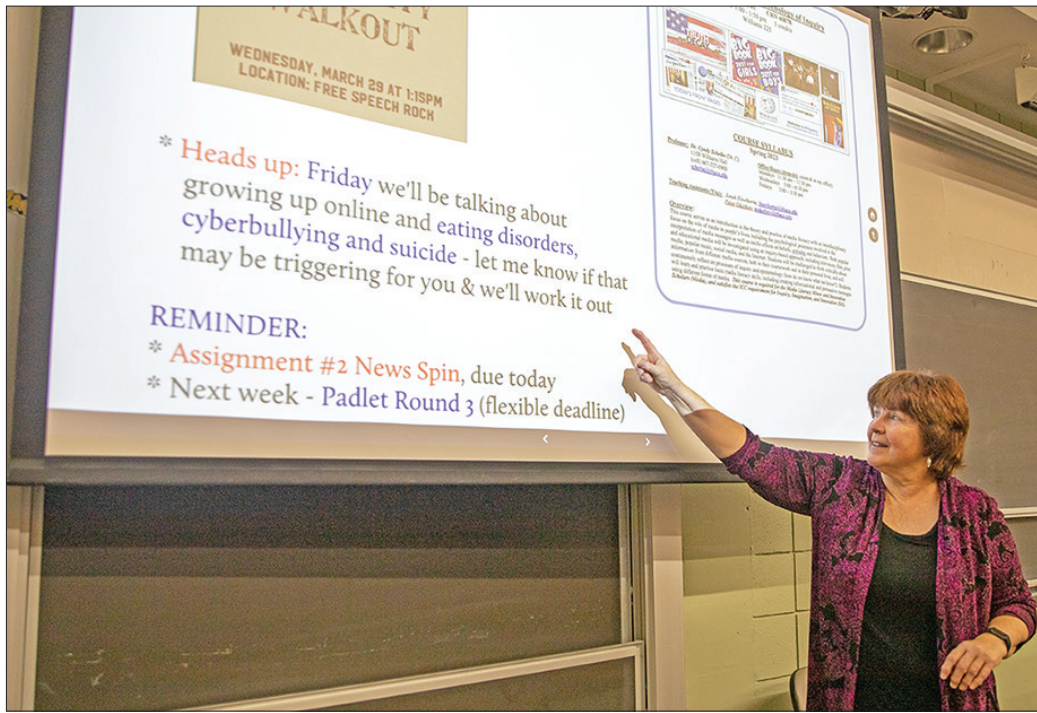
On March 23, the Cornell University Student Assembly passed a resolution that strongly encouraged faculty to provide students a warning for content that could potentially be triggering. A trigger warning should be used for content that might provoke post-traumatic stress disorder and its related symptoms among students, according to the resolution.

Cornell sophomore Claire Ting co-sponsored the resolution, along with sophomore Shelby Williams. On April 3, Pollack rejected the resolution. Ting said she decided to propose the resolution after she observed that one of her close friends was visibly distressed while reading a graphic rape scene in class. Ting said her friend had been a victim of sexual assault and had recently taken official action against her assailant.

"What personally was a little bit egregious to me was that her professor knew that she was a victim of sexual assault," Ting said. "To me, this stood out as a lack of compassion."

First-year student Shai Altheim said that as a cinema and photography major, they had to watch many films for their Introduction to Film Aesthetics and Analysis class that should have had trigger warnings. Altheim said they noticed that many scenes depicted visuals of sexual assault.

"A lot of me and my classmates were concerned about that,"



Cyndy Scheibe, Dana professor in the Department of Psychology, said she notifies students of triggering content in advance of her classes and that faculty should accommodate warnings.

KAI LINCKE/THE ITHACAN

Altheim said. "These are older films ... so the only one who actually knows about these films is [the professor]."

Cyndy Scheibe, Dana professor in the Department of Psychology, said she gives trigger warnings a couple of days in advance.

"For me, it's just giving people a heads up," Scheibe said. "It doesn't mean I'm not going to talk about it or show challenging stuff. ... There are ways to make people feel safe, besides somehow protecting them from tough stuff."

Scheibe said that if a college-wide policy is put in place regarding trigger warnings, there

would be gray areas about what counts as a trigger and what does not.

Sabrina Conza, program officer of Campus Rights Advocacy at the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression, said academic independence and freedom of faculty are compromised when a central, campus-wide policy is mandated.

"The faculty have the right to include trigger warnings [or not]," Conza said. "But when the administration gets involved in faculty's teaching practices, that is when the professor's academic freedom rights are violated."

Conza said that studying all

types of content in classes is essential for students to be better prepared for life after college.

"When someone tells you that this content is going to ... hurt you, then that usually happens," Conza said. "They're going to have to do without trigger warnings [after college]."

Altheim said trigger warnings should not be a difficult accommodation for faculty to include in their course design.

"It shouldn't be such a big deal for professors to do this," Altheim said. "Like, it's not that hard guys."

CONTACT: PAPANWAR@ITHACA.EDU

Clubs struggle to stay afloat

BY NOA RAN-RESSLER

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A significant part of campus life is involvement in clubs and organizations, which can teach skills like leadership and organization. While a bulk of the responsibility falls on student organization leaders to sustain their clubs, Ithaca College has some opportunities for support that can address issues with club sustainability.

Linnea Carchedi, a student leadership consultant in the Office of Student Engagement, said she regularly meets with student organization leaders to help them through issues ranging from recruitment and marketing to interpersonal complications and leadership skills.

Carchedi said recruitment is the main issue that new club leaders require assistance with. Carchedi said she recommends club leaders put up fliers, reach out to friends or create social media pages on apps like Instagram to connect with potential members online.

"There are a few different ways that we recommend they go about that," Carchedi said. "The really exciting thing is, we have an org fair at the beginning of the year and [if] you're starting a new club, you can still table at the org fair even if you're not finished with the process."

Whitney Heck '22, former co-president and founding member of Human By Design, said the modeling club could not sustain itself because, once she graduated, there was nobody to assume her position or other e-board positions. Human By Design is no longer a functioning club at the college.

"I feel like a lot of times starting a new club, you never know if it's going to really sink or swim, so a lot of it was really just getting lucky with some friends and other friends of friends around campus that were just willing to kind of take a chance on us," Heck said.

Junior Jadena Williams, event coordinator for Sister 2 Sister and public relations officer for the Students of the Caribbean Association, said she has had an easy time transitioning because the e-board alumni were so hands-on.

"They're people that we are comfortable with to reach out if we have any issues," Williams said. "[Alumni are] very helpful at any time to be like, 'Oh, I'm having trouble with this. How did you navigate that when you were on the board?' And they're always willing to help us."

Williams said she would like to see more support from the college in terms of applying for funding and understanding the process.

"Understand that we are students who have other obligations outside of student organization and things may not be perfect, and providing better hands-on assistance with us getting those contracts to get the budget [would help]," Williams said.

Heck said that even while Human By Design existed, she struggled with relationships with other e-board members and the distribution of responsibilities.

"The college also didn't really help us out by giving us a bit more funds to kind of keep the motivation going, keeping everything else going strong," Heck said. "I would love to see it starting up again. However, I just genuinely did not have the time or energy to really put it into motion to set it up for the next year."

Williams said something that helped SOCA recover from a period of critically low engagement was rebranding the club.

Michele Lenhart, director of the OSE, said via email that the OSE also offers resources for clubs that wish to revive.

"If the student org is inactive for longer than a year, then they would need to go through the New Student Org. Recognition process, which offers additional support to student orgs. to ensure they are sustainable," Lenhart said via email.

CONTACT: NRANRESSLER@ITHACA.EDU

Holocaust survivor shares personal story

BY DOMINICK PETRUCCI

STAFF WRITER

Roald Hoffmann, age 85, is a former Cornell professor, a Nobel Prize winner in chemistry, an Ithaca local and one of the decreasing numbers of Holocaust survivors. Hoffmann was invited to Ithaca College by Hillel at Ithaca College to tell his life story on April 25.

Reports of antisemitism, Holocaust denial and ignorance have been rising for years and there were eight swastikas found on the college's campus in 2022. As survivors' stories fade and fear of censorship grows, Hoffman said there are many concerns that these stories will not be told.

President La Jerne Cornish introduced Hoffmann and spoke on how important these opportunities are for students to engage with.

"Each year that we have an opportunity to hear from Holocaust survivors like Hoffmann is a blessing and is also an opportunity to bear witness to the legacy of survivors and honor their memories," Cornish said.

Senior Nora Marcus-Hecht, who is on the Hillel student board, said that although she has heard Hoffmann speak before, bringing his story to Ithaca is very important to her.

"As someone who has grown up in Ithaca, this isn't the first talk from Dr. Hoffman I've experienced," Marcus-Hecht said. "Bringing him into our space here at Ithaca College is incredibly meaningful for me."

Hoffmann was born 1937 in Zolochiv, Poland, which is now part of Ukraine. When Germany invaded Poland, his family was forced to stay in a labor camp during the beginning of World War II. After bribing their way out of the labor camp in 1942, Hoffmann said his family stayed in the attic of a nearby school



Roald Hoffmann, former Cornell professor, Nobel Prize winner and Ithaca local, visited campus April 25 in Muller Chapel to tell his story of surviving the Holocaust.

MARI KODAMA/THE ITHACAN

house for 15 months. When Hoffmann went back to the Zolochiv school house in 2006, he discovered the storage room had been turned into a chemistry classroom.

"The children learning in these rooms didn't know I was hiding under these floorboards 50 years earlier," Hoffmann said.

In July 1944, the USSR took control of Zolochiv. This allowed Hoffmann and his mother to move to Karkow, Poland. Hoffmann said his mother then obtained a small amount of extra money to buy a coat. Hoffmann said he saw this as being the first step to a return to normalcy for his family.

"We were freed by the forces of evil," Hoffmann said. "The coat was not a frivolous thing; it was a sign of being human again."

Hoffmann spoke about the family that sheltered them, the Dyuks, and how important it is for him to stay in contact with them. He said that in the 1960s, when his family was staying in New York City, a letter came from the Dyuks requesting embroidery thread, something that USSR-occupied Ukraine had at the time, but was not the best quality because of the damaged economy post-war. When visiting with the Dyuks 40 years later, Hoffmann said he discovered the embroidery thread sewn into a cloth still on display in their home.

"It's almost like an oath," Hoffmann said. "It's an object that stands for much more than it was and what it is."

CONTACT: DPETRUCCI@ITHACA.EDU

College offers donors new giving opportunities

FROM GIVING DAY, PAGE 1

students of color.

Donors could also make a gift to a specific campus experience, like the Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Social Change and the MLK Scholars Program as well as individual schools, athletic teams and extracurriculars.

Hutchins said she works with alumni on and around Giving Day and begins reaching out to them a week in advance of Giving Day.

"Alumni give the most when they are giving to their passions," Hutchins said. "Whatever set our hearts on fire when we were at IC."

Lois Shofer '67 received the lifetime achievement award from the college in 2022 in part for creating an annual scholarship for community college students who wanted to continue their education at Ithaca College. She said that since she graduated, she has donated about \$500 to the college each year.

"I didn't know about Giving Day," Shofer said. "I give every year whether it's Giving Day or not. I'm a firm believer that you need to give back."

Current athletes like Lauren Lobdell, a graduate student on the cross country team, are grateful for donations to their sport. Lobdell said the donations from Giving Day have made a great impact on the team.

"We rallied as a team and were able to get a lot of funding last year," Lobdell said. "We were able to do a trip as a team during the preseason. I think a lot of that money went to that, which was a cool thing we were able to do together."

After 24 hours, the Athletics



Ithaca College put up signs outside Alumni Hall to promote the 24-hour annual fundraiser, Giving Day. Alumni are target donors but anyone can donate to the area of their choice.

PRAKRITI PANWAR/THE ITHACAN

Annual Fund received over \$550,000 from 2,443 donors — the second most funded on the Giving Day leaderboard.

Amy Falkner, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, said the school has a new fund she organized this year called Special Opportunities for Students. SOS raised \$21,139 from 76 donors, which will be used to fund projects and trips in the future. The School of Business does not have special funds to donate more specifically to. The School of Health Sciences and Human Performance has nine "areas of interest" in addition to its annual fund. The School of Humanities and Sciences has four areas of interest and the School of Music,

Theatre, and Dance has one special fund for the IC Pep Band.

Falkner said that trips like sending students to the White House for World College Radio Day and covering the 2022 Cortaca Jug at Yankee Stadium can be supported by the SOS fund.

"I thought to myself, 'There must be some way to stockpile some funding for when we have these incredible opportunities for our students,'" Falkner said.

First-year student Lennon Zych said his parents were interested in donating to either the School of Humanities and Sciences or the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance because those are two interests that he is pursuing at the college. He said he hopes his

parents donate throughout all four years of his education.

"If enough people are donating, I'm sure that makes a huge difference," Zych said. "My parents want to make sure I have a good experience here."

Shofer said her inspiration to donate each year is not one from passion but one from necessity. She said that without money from the private sector, the college would not be cost-effective and that donations are essential.

"If people just give a little bit, it'll work," Shofer said. "It's not how much you give, it's the idea that you give and the participation is just as important."

CONTACT: VROSE@ITHACA.EDU

Students have class concerns

FROM CURRICULUM, PAGE 1

the Academic Policies Committee reviews the proposals and, if accepted, moves them to the provost but does not provide guidance.

"There were so many proposals that were coming through we thought, 'Well, maybe it would be helpful to give this guidance to folks so that what they create is really strong, which makes it even easier for everybody to review it and move it along in the process,'" Zabusky said.

Zabusky said over 50 majors and about 40 minors have been revised since the Shape of the College recommendations were released.

Lauren O'Connell, professor in the Department of Art, Art History, and Architecture and CRLC faculty representative from the School of Humanities and Sciences Curriculum Committee, said that maintaining the rigor of programs was discussed extensively. She said some program requirements did not change but for those that did, the idea is to allow students to be able to choose what is best for their career path.

"One baseline that we always came back to is that in reducing requirements, we're not reducing what's available," O'Connell said.

Craig Duncan, chair and professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, said via email that the changes do not come without consequence; the faculty positions that were cut through attrition — reductions made by not replacing faculty who voluntarily leave — have forced his department to make difficult decisions regarding the curriculum.

"[Because of attrition and cuts] we will have gone down from seven full-time philosophers in 2019 to five full-time philosophers," Duncan said via email. "We are simply not able to offer as many sections of philosophy courses as we used to be able to offer prior to the APP process."

O'Connell said the few number of sections per course stems from the faculty positions that were reduced as a result of the APP process and not as a result of the curricular revisions.

"Our faculty has decreased in size in recent years so that certainly would have an impact on the number of courses offered, but then it's kind of made up for by the fact that all the faculty will be teaching a few more credits per year than they used to," O'Connell said.

Junior Kaitlyn Layne-Holmes, a business administration major, said the School of Business waived requirements for two courses in her major.

"I'm in this weird imbalance," Layne-Holmes said. "In the spring semester, I'll literally only need to take two classes to graduate ... and I don't want to lose my scholarship [by being part-time]."

Layne-Holmes said she does not know what she will do in Spring 2024 because there is not much to choose from for electives. Generally, she said she feels the electives available are not courses that will help prepare her for her career.

"It is unfortunate that classes that I was actually interested in learning in my senior year are being taken away because they feel like it's not useful to the curriculum," Layne-Holmes said.

To manage the transition from the old to new curriculum, the college suggests that — on a case-by-case basis — departments provide overrides for courses that have changed prerequisites and provide course waivers or substitutions so students can navigate changes in curricula and complete their degrees.

O'Connell said the new requirements will apply to all incoming students and existing students will have the option to follow it or not.

"I certainly appreciate the anxiety that students would feel about this change," O'Connell said. "It's shared with the faculty as well, and it was a difficult process. ... Every proposal we looked at had to be justified on the grounds of, 'How is this going to improve learning?'"

Staff Writer Aubren Villasenor contributed reporting.

CONTACT: LTYNE@ITHACA.EDU

Incoming students will not decide first courses

FROM REGISTRATION, PAGE 1

most successful when professionals establish their fall course foundation."

Kristin Morse, academic services coordinator for the Roy H. Park School of Communications, said the college is still working out several details in the first year course selection process. Morse said the students in the Park School have always been pre-registered for courses in their major.

Morse said the pilot program will help incoming first-years with the stress of college.

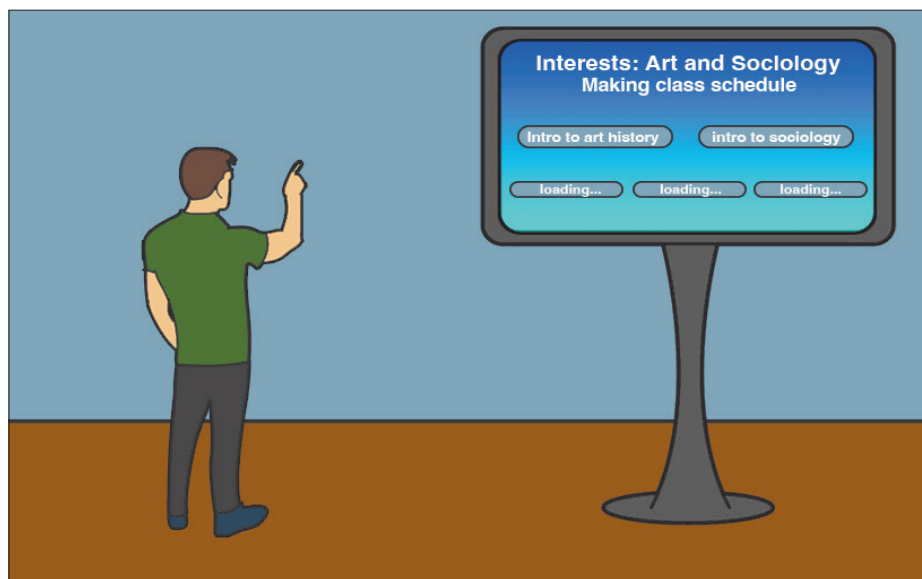
"We'll be able to place them in classes that most likely they would have placed themselves into anyways," Morse said. "But [through the survey] they don't have to learn HomerConnect over the summer."

Morse said she wants students to know that while schedules may or may not be subject to change in the fall, they will have support when they arrive at the college.

"If they're concerned ... they're going to have the opportunity to talk to people about those concerns," Morse said. "We're all here to make sure that they get what they need."

The college tested selecting courses for incoming students with the incoming exploratory students in Fall 2022. The college sent a survey to exploratory students with questions about their interests and prospective majors and sent them schedules in summer 2022. Bleicher said that in 2020, incoming first-year students registered for courses themselves after going through an online module about the process.

First-year student Ian Shay, an exploratory major, said he was initially skeptical of the schedule that he received. Shay indicated that



Ithaca College has not yet finalized the process for registering first-year students in courses for them based on a survey. In all prior years, students picked their classes.

ILLUSTRATION BY MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

he was interested in photography on the survey, as he was considering a film, photography and visual arts major.

"I wanted to add photography because it was something that ... I was really passionate about," Shay said. "That didn't come up [on the schedule]. ... I just got the schedule that they made, which had a class in the Park School — not necessarily one where you're creating content of any kind. However, it still got me in the school and gave me a vibe."

Shay said he was also unsure about one of the courses on his schedule, Understanding Disability, because he did not believe it was connected to his prospective majors or interests. However, he said he is grateful that the college

selected a course beyond his indicated interests and allowed him to explore a new subject area.

"[One of] the other classes that I was, not really sure what purpose they were serving originally turned out to be one of my favorite classes in college so far," Shay said.

Prospective student Shane Buoye said that if he commits to the college, he would be nervous that the college would choose courses for him that he would not find interesting.

"I would want to have a little bit of decision making so that I would have the courses that I want," Buoye said. "But ... if it decreases stress, I think it's a better option."

CONTACT: KLINCKE@ITHACA.EDU

SGC holds final meeting with old board

BY DOMINICK PETRUCCI

STAFF WRITER

The 2022–23 executive board for Student Governance Council met for the last time April 24 and passed an amendment and one bill before the newly elected council was announced April 25.

Senior Senate Chair Austin Ruffino presented a bill on the merger of the SGC and the Residence Hall Association, which was passed by the senate 11–0–0. The RHAs goal as stated on its website is to keep students engaged without leaving campus and be an important resource for students who live in dorms.

Ruffino said this is a highly important association on campus and this bill would add one position, the vice president of residential affairs, to the executive board and would supervise the RHA.

“We think from both ends it is mutually beneficial and gives us a good way to really get into how people are feeling about their residential life that we may struggle with reaching,” Ruffino said.

Ruffino presented an amendment to the SGC Constitution about re-writing sections for clarity. Ruffino said the Organizational Review Committee for the SGC was concerned with word choice. The executive branch in the constitution lists all titles of SGC in order of who is to be contacted by an administrator.

In the past, this term had been



From left, first-year student Rishab Sen, vice president for campus affairs, and senior Senate Chair Austin Ruffino discuss a new bill at the Student Governance Council meetings April 24.

ANA MANIACI MCGOUGH/THE ITHACAN

labeled “seats in line of succession” before being changed at the last ORC meeting to “hierarchy.” Senior Grace Madeya, president of the student body, said this wording should change again.

“I think the word hierarchy doesn’t have the best connotation,” Madeya said.

Madeya proposed “rank order” as a term, which was met with opposition. Sophomore Hannah Ahmed, Class of 2025 senator, said the term is also negative. The council eventually determined there

should be more discussion on the terminology used, but that “rank order” would be a temporary solution. An unfriendly amendment — an amendment that not everyone agrees on — was made to replace the word hierarchy with “rank order,” which passed 8–3–0.

The end of the meeting was a series of congratulations to the SGC members that will be graduating, including Madeya, Ruffino, Lila Weiser, Esther Moore, Tessa Kurtz and Maya Sciven.

“Thank you for making SGC so

special for me,” Ruffino said. “I’m so excited to see what you’re all gonna do in the future.”

First-year student Caleb Cackowski, senator-at-large, expressed his optimism for the future.

“I’m sad that we’re almost done with the current administration,” Cackowski said. “There are people here that have done so much for SGC and the college, it’s not gonna be the same without them. . . . I’m looking forward to the future.”

CONTACT: DPETRUCCI@ITHACA.EDU

SGC releases election results

BY LORIEN TYNE

NEWS EDITOR

The Student Governance Council released election results for the council members that will serve in the 2023–24 academic year.

The SGC is no longer releasing vote counts. There were 310 student voters this election cycle and 122 voters in Spring 2022.

Junior Carli McConnell has been elected as the president of the student body. McConnell ran against first-year student Matthew Williams.

First-year student Rishabh Sen was re-elected as the vice president of campus affairs and ran against sophomore Hannah Ahmed. Junior Quinn Tufino ran unopposed for vice president of academic affairs and was elected. First-year student Noah Strathmann ran unopposed for vice president of business and finance and was re-elected. First-year student Caleb Cackowski, current senator-at-large, ran unopposed for vice president of communications and was elected.

All senator candidates ran unopposed. First-year students Eleanor Paterson and Asata Rothblatt were re-elected as the two Class of 2026 senators. Sophomore Cameron Small was elected as a Class of 2025 senator. Sophomore Kathi Hodel was elected to one of five senator-at-large positions. Junior Utkarsh Maini was re-elected as the School of Business senator. First-year student Lili Chaflant was re-elected as the School of Communications senator. First-year student Nicole Sutera was re-elected as the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance senator. Junior Blake Matthews was elected as the new transfer senator. First-year student Baneet Pukhrbham was elected as the international senator. Junior Noah Kamens was elected as the club athlete senator.

CONTACT: LTYNE@ITHACA.EDU

Q&A: New student programs leader talks orientation

Mame Ndiaye began her position as the assistant director for the Office of New Student and Transition Programs at Ithaca College at the start of Fall 2022.

Ndiaye is currently in the process of completing her second master’s in public administration from Cornell University. Ndiaye worked as residence director at SUNY Cortland and most recently in other roles at Ithaca College, where she oversaw six residence halls and served as a Title IX hearing officer. Ndiaye also founded a company, Professional and Advanced Youth Development, in 2020.

Contributing writer Himadri Seth spoke with Ndiaye about her plans for the upcoming Fall 2023 orientation and what she hopes to see in terms of diversity recruitment for the college.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Himadri Seth: What is something that will make Ithaca College’s fall orientation unique?

Mame Ndiaye: I’m feeling very optimistic about the upcoming orientation. I started last year in June, and I came into an amazing team. . . . I’m optimistic about orientation because we are trying to make it fun so that students actually enjoy attending and aren’t just bombarded with a boatload of information. On top of that, I am optimistic about the team that I have, from our administrative assistant to our student engagement assistants.

HS: How does your past work experience translate to this position?

MN: I started PAYD, a career services business, in 2020. I am a first-generation student from New York City, and I come from a family of immigrants. One thing that I noticed as I was going through my academic career was that I

didn’t have that person to go to ask questions that you may not necessarily want to ask someone, those questions that you are embarrassed to ask. So, I started a career coaching business, and we pretty much walk students through the application process. We do interview readiness seminars [and] we partner with international institutions. . . . Our motto is that we give people the rich resources they need to get paid. One of the tools that I’ve been able to gather through founding this business and overseeing it is that when someone is going through a storm, and by that, I mean when someone is put into a new environment and is figuring things out, it is important to be emotionally intelligent and be the calm in that person’s storm. So, I think that relates to this position and orientation because I’ll get a new student or new professional who has so many questions about this new environment . . . [and] they are going on a new journey and just want a safe, comfortable, welcoming, open and honest person to talk to about that.

HS: What are the most important things to consider regarding diversity recruitment?

MN: I’m a woman of color and I have served on recruitment committees and search committees for multiple higher education institutions and other corporations. So, when an institution or an organization really wants to ensure that they hire diverse candidates, they want to ensure not just that they are marketing properly but that the hiring process is fair to diverse candidates. Additionally, once these candidates are here, we need to ensure that they have the resources to succeed. Personally, when it comes to diversity recruitment, there’s a disconnect where the candidate wants to be a part of this environment but also wants to feel



Mame Ndiaye, assistant director for the Office of New Student and Transition Programs, is the founder of a diversity recruitment and student success company.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

comfortable and feel welcomed. Beyond diversity, equity and inclusion, that belonging piece is very important to me.

HS: What are some other things you look forward to doing in this role?

MN: I look forward to meeting families, supporters and just getting to know the students and their backgrounds. I had a family from Gambia who came to the admitted students event and I wasn’t there but they sent me an email because they saw my last name, and it’s

a common last name in Senegal. Senegal and Gambia are two West African countries that are side by side. So, when she saw my last name, she told me how excited she was to see someone who could relate to her son’s culture and lived experiences and help him feel more comfortable in college. It’s getting to know our incoming students, not just this person as a student, but their lived experience, like, “Who are you? How can I help you?”

CONTACT: HSETH@ITHACA.EDU

COLLEGE BRIEFS

Guggenheim Foundation awards a Park professor as a 2023 fellow

Idrissou Mora-Kpai, assistant professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, was announced as the 2023 Guggenheim fellow. The Guggenheim Fellowship is awarded by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to individuals who have demonstrated scholarship and creative promise in their fields. Through the fellowship, Mora-Kpai will continue producing "Border Life," a documentary about the town of Seme which is located between Nigeria and Benin.

Three seniors recognized for research at science conference

Seniors Sophia Roberts, Lily Metzger and Anna Sinclair were recognized at the Eastern Colleges Science Conference for their research. Roberts received the Best Presentation Award in biochemistry and health, and Metzger and Sinclair's microbiology poster presentation was the highest scoring one. ECSC aims to cultivate interest in undergraduate research and allows students to collaborate with advisers or independently present research.

Ithaca College's BOLD Program organizes interview workshop

The BOLD Program at Ithaca College is hosting a workshop from 12:10 to 1:05 p.m. April 27 in BUS 103 titled "Strategies for a Successful Interview with Mame Ndiaye." Mame Ndiaye, assistant director in the Office of New Student and Transition Programs, will be leading the workshop and will teach participants different approaches to successfully give a job interview. Ndiaye will focus on teaching participants to succinctly answer interview questions and thus impress recruiters. Ndiaye will also talk about how these skills can be applied to everyday life to feel more confident and stand out in an ambitious environment. All questions and accommodation requests regarding the workshop can be directed to BOLD program director Samantha Elebiary at selebiary@ithaca.edu.

IT@IC and Contract Team holds training workshops for renewal

The Office of Information Technology and the Contract Review Team are hosting a training for renewal contracts from 2 to 3 p.m. April 27 via Microsoft Teams. The training will teach participants how they can submit contracts through a new program in TeamDynamix, relevant documents to be

uploaded along with the submission, the general procedure, workflow, and timeline, including the status of the submitted contract. IT and the Contract Review Team strongly urge anyone who owns contracts to attend the session. For those who will not be able to attend the session, a recording will be available. Individuals interested in receiving the recording can request it through Intercom. Participants are encouraged to read an article about contracts available on Knowledge Base. All requests for accommodations must be directed to Jenna Edwards, program coordinator in the Office of Engagement and Client Technologies at jedwards6@ithaca.edu.

Two slow read classes are being offered to students for Fall 2023

The School of Humanities and Sciences is offering students the opportunity to take a Slow Read class for Fall 2023. Any student, regardless of major or year, is free to participate in the slow read class. The nature of this class is deliberately at a slow speed to promote a deep understanding of difficult readings. The first slow paced class will be offered by Megan Graham, assistant professor in the Department of Writing for two credits.

The class will be reading "How to Read Now," from 4 to 5:40 p.m. on every Monday of the semester. The reading and the class will focus on an anthology of nonfiction essays by Elaine Castillo and will deep dive into reading in the present political environment and circumstances.

Tatiana Patrone, an associate professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, is offering another slow read course from 1 to 1:50 p.m. every Monday of the semester. The class will be reading "Beyond Good and Evil" by Friedrich Nietzsche and will focus on morals, ethics and religion. All questions regarding slow read, upcoming slow read classes and possible suggestions for slow read books should be directed to Bob Sullivan, professor in the Department of Literatures in English.

IC Strike and Advocacy Center organize rally on The Commons

The Advocacy Center and IC Strike, the college's student organization that focuses on advocacy and activism for survivors of sexual assault and violence, are organizing a march called Take Back The Night at 6:15 p.m. April 28 from the Textor Ball. Participants will also be joining



Artists gather at annual comic convention

Local artist Cay Lafergola-Wesser runs a stand for The Crafty Fox Shoppe during Ithacon, an annual comic convention at Ithaca College. This year, Ithacon took place April 22 and 23 and featured comic books stands, artists and cosplayers.

ANA GAVILANES/THE ITHACAN

members from other local organizations that advocate for the cause.

In addition to just a march, Take Back The Night is also a vigil that aims to provide survivors of sexual assault and violence a safe space to express themselves.

After meeting at the college, the march will move toward Ho Plaza in Cornell University by 6:30 p.m. At 6:45 p.m. it will reach the Greater Ithaca Activities Center at 310 West Court Street. From there on, the rally will begin at 7 p.m. at the Bernie Milton Pavillion on The Commons.

On April 25, IC Strike organized a post-rally-making event leading up to this march. All questions, concerns and requests for accommodation should be directed to senior Lindsay Sayer, co-president of IC Strike, via email at lsayer@ithaca.edu or via phone at 267-800-4688.

Sport Management offers three online asynchronous ICC courses

The Department of Sport Management is offering three summer courses for students. These courses will be held online and will be asynchronous. They are open to

first-year students as well and do not have any prerequisites.

International Sport is one of the courses and will be taught by Rachel Madsen, associate professor and chair of the Department of Sport Management.

The class will fulfill the Diversity and Social Science requirement of the Integrated Core Curriculum and also counts as a Liberal Arts course. The course will be offered in Summer Session 1 from May 30 to July 5.

College Sport will be offered as a Liberal Arts course during the May Session from May 15 to May 26. It will be taught by Wonyul Bae, associate professor in the Department of Sport Management.

Sport Brands in Crisis is another course being offered as a Liberal Arts designated course during Summer Session 2 from July 10 to Aug. 11. The course will be taught by Annemarie Farrell, associate professor in the Department of Sport Management.

All questions, queries, concerns and requests for accommodation regarding these summer courses can be directed to Madsen via email at rmadsen@ithaca.edu or via phone at 607-274-5158.

unknown person attempted to extort money. Patrol Officer Abdallah Hassan responded to the call. This is a pending investigation.

APRIL 18

MEDICAL ASSIST/ PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: Landon Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported that a person had cut themselves. Person was taken into custody under the mental hygiene law and was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Abdallah Hassan responded to the call.

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

KEY

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

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM APRIL 10 TO 18

APRIL 10

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Whalen Center For Music
SUMMARY: Tompkins County 911 center reported sending the IFD and an ambulance to a person experiencing a heart-related issue. The person was transported by ambulance to the hospital. Patrol Officer Steven Hutchison responded to the call.

APRIL 11

CHECK ON THE WELFARE

LOCATION: 141 College Circle
SUMMARY: A caller reported a person sent concerning text messages. The person was transported to a counseling center. Master Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

OFF CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: Gannett Center
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person injured their ankle. Officer determined

the person injured their ankle prior to arrival on campus and declined medical assistance. Master Security Officer Pat English responded to the call.

APRIL 12

SAFETY HAZARD

LOCATION: C-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported forklift leaked hydraulic fluid. Area cleaned. Fire Protection Specialist Enoch Perkins responded.

FIRE ALARM SMOLDERING

LOCATION: Recreation Trails
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person left a smoldering fire pit. Fire was extinguished. Fire Protection Specialist George Whitmore responded.

APRIL 13

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Friends Hall
SUMMARY: A caller reported that the behavior of others alarmed them. Patrol

Officer Steven Hutchison responded. This is a pending investigation.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: U-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported vehicle was accidentally damaged by another vehicle's door when it was opened. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

APRIL 14

OFF CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Caller reported a two car property damage motor vehicle accident with a possible injury. The accident was reported to local law enforcement. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

SAFETY HAZARD

LOCATION: P-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported vehicle leaked hydraulic fluid. Area was cleaned. Charlie Sherman, fire and building safety coordinator, responded to the call.

APRIL 15

OFF CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other
SUMMARY: Caller reported unknown person ordered food using caller's identity. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa responded to the call. This investigation is currently incomplete and pending.

APRIL 16

MEDICAL ASSIST/ ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Higgins Stadium
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person playing lacrosse injured their neck. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

APRIL 17

SCHEME TO DEFRAUD/ SECOND DEGREE

LOCATION: Terrace 6
SUMMARY: A caller reported that an

OPINION

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023

7

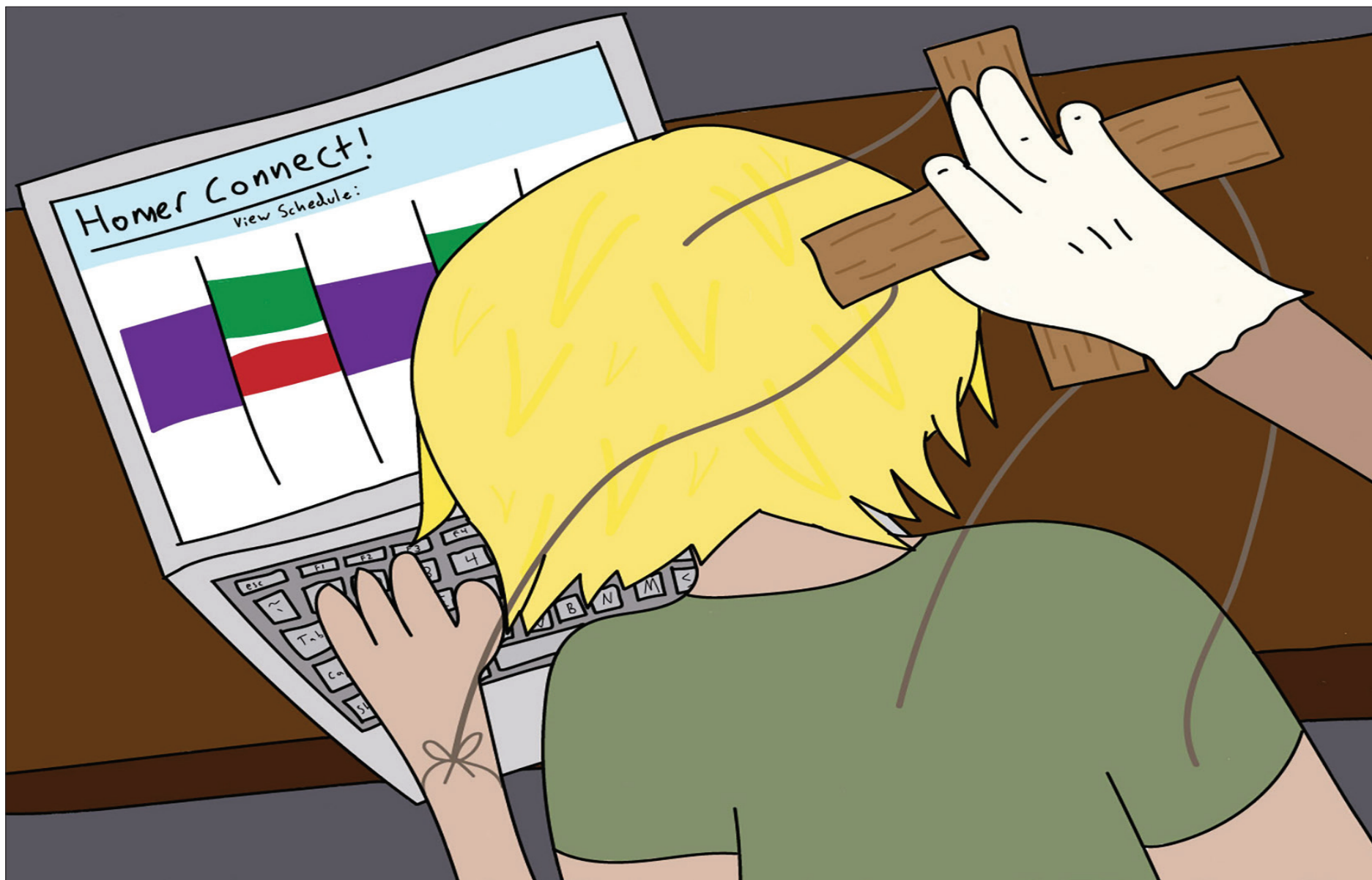


ILLUSTRATION BY BRODY SMITH/THE ITHACAN

EDITORIALS

Controlling class selection choices removes freedom

Ithaca College proposed a pilot program that will make faculty select fall semester courses for all incoming students — taking away their freedom to register. The creation of this new system is based on the stress that incoming students experience because of course selections. However, taking away responsibility from students for only one semester is not going to improve the problem but rather push it into the future to the next course registration deadline. Requiring this proposed program for all incoming students is problematic because the college experience starts with the ability to study what one wishes. Students know what they want better than the results from surveys. Taking this responsibility away delays students' self-growth.

Another disadvantage is the possible lack of class availability during the drop or add period. Even though the pilot program suggests that students can always change a class, it leaves out the fact that very few classes happen to

have open spots. When they do have spots, they might not be of student interest or a major requirement. Dropping a class without adding another one, on the other hand, might put students below the minimum credit requirement.

Getting stressed from time to time is part of life and college is the place to grasp lessons for adult life. Students will always meet hardships that will make them anxious. Instead of trying to control how students deal with stress, the college should find ways to guide those stressful moments.

Because of faculty reductions, faculty workload has risen, yet not enough classes are available. So, instead of controlling students' choices, the college can address these issues by strengthening its advising positions and increasing faculty positions with class offerings. The pilot program, however, can be available as a choice for students who prefer that way of course selection. Yet, no student should be controlled and required on what to study when they have the ability to choose instead.

Giving for self-fulfillment perpetuates inequality

During Giving Day at Ithaca College, people usually prefer to donate to places that remind them of heartwarming events or where they simply have some sort of connection. People view Giving Day as giving back but rarely, if ever, as giving to someone in need.

It is important to note that many donations, like the ones to sports teams or Student Affairs and Campus Life, are still important because they aid different subgroups. However, there are places that need the money much more than a team that will use the donation to cover its trips. There are people around the world, including on campus, whose lives could be changed with that donation, yet they go unnoticed because the person donating does not identify with that cause.

This is where privilege comes in; the privilege to care for the things that affect you personally and leave everything else out of sight. People have the choice to worry and

donate to things that affect them yet ignore the ones that do not. This has become a bad habit because people become egocentric and forget to be supportive to others who might be in need.

Usually, people donate to the place of choice for self-fulfillment, meaning that it makes them feel good rather than worried about how the money is going to be used. This can be compared to "green" consumerism for better understanding: Recycling makes people feel that they helped the world, so they do not bother to know if it actually helped the climate crisis. They keep buying plastic and recycling it as a solution.

Giving to whoever and wherever one wishes is free will, so nobody can make anyone do otherwise. Yet, you have that free will, so next year when Giving Day comes around, think of someone who needs it the most. Giving to things you love is fulfilling, but giving to someone in need you have never met, and never will, is world changing.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear *Ithacan* editors:

In a recent commentary about the Ithaca College Los Angeles Program, Keenan Griebel accuses ICLA of "misleading advertising," claiming that ICLA is not inclusive for all Roy H. Park School of Communications majors.

While we do not offer courses in every Park major because of the size of our program, we do offer Park courses that fulfill

ICC requirements and, for some majors, can substitute for degree requirements. We also encourage students unable to enroll in a film, television or writing course on the home campus to take a course outside of their major in LA.

Ms. Griebel's assessment of our internship offerings is inaccurate. The listings in our database, which all students can access via our website, are NOT the only

internships available to Ithaca College students. We direct students to a list of websites that publish updated internship listings and our office sends out updated listings prior to our students' arrival in LA. Production opportunities in LA are actually limited, so the majority of our current students are doing non-production internships in such areas as film and TV development, public relations, marketing,

post-production, social media, etc.

Before writing a commentary for *The Ithacan*, I highly encourage anyone interested in ICLA and who has questions, comments or concerns about our program to contact me directly by email (stropiano@ithaca.edu) or phone (323-851-6199).

Stephen Tropiano
ICLA Program Director



COURTESY OF NINJIN TUMURBAT

FIGURE OF SOUL

NINJIN TUMURBAT

Wisdom for a life full of love

These quotes by Marcus Aurelius humble me when I am happy, comfort me when I am sad, pause me when I am running too fast and bring me to the ground when I am overwhelmed. He was a great student and a teacher to himself as he meditated on his thoughts and life. Moreover, these meditations turned into invaluable words that remind the goodness of a human and to be one. His way of living shows that our lives are full of lessons and they are worthy of sharing with those who are willing to learn. This is how I interpret his meditations into mine.

1. "Does the emerald lose its beauty for lack of admiration?"

I love this question as it deeply embodies stoicism. The concept of beauty, or the emerald's worth as described here, is objective beauty, as if the reader also feels admiration for the emerald's beauty. However, it could be reversed subjectively by someone who says, "I despise the green color of emeralds. It indicates jealousy or evilness." Now, let's imagine the emerald is told that it is ugly and evil because of its color. It is also said that it is rare and should be used in jewelry as a sign of beauty by someone else. In this dilemma, who do you think the emerald would believe? Would it be swayed by external opinions that label it as ugly or beautiful?

If the gemstone were stoic, it would believe in neither of them because the emerald knows that everything, including its beauty or the opinions of others, fades away. It knows that the praises about its beauty would be changed once its brilliant green hues deteriorate. As Natsume Soseki mentions in their book *Kokoro*, "I do not want your admiration now because I do not want your insults in the future." The true value lies not in the fickle opinions of others but in the emerald's own belief of worth because, as Marcus Aurelius once said, "The soul becomes dyed with the color of its thoughts."

"Choose not to be harmed — and you won't feel harmed," Marcus Aurelius said "Don't feel harmed — and you haven't been."

2. "What fault of mine most nearly resembles the one I am about to criticize?"

After asking this question on the verge of criticizing someone else, I am sure you would find yourself incapable of formulating your emotions into negative words. It is because, on a bigger scale, we are all interconnected through our shared human experience, energy and physical bodies. Our lives are intertwined because we benefit from each other's achievements and learn from each other's mistakes. Thus providing feedback for the good of both sides. With this perspective, we can flip this question and ask, "What side of mine resembles the one I am complimenting?"

This idea of empathy and introspection is reflected in many proverbs from different cultures. For instance, Mahatma Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." There is also a Mongolian proverb that goes: "Without looking at the mow on your head, to see the grass on others' heads."

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.

GUEST COMMENTARY

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

Healing the future consists of reckoning

BY NAEEM INAYATULLAH

PROFESSOR

Few set out to harm others for harm's sake; damage is frequently done in the name of goodness. Social science tries to understand the disconnection between intentions and results. Social theorists explore why good intentions lead to bad results.

The administration reduced 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions. It threatened litigation against the part-time faculty union. The execution of those plans resulted in a community divided into at least three groups: those eager to support the current administration in changing the college, those seething in silent opposition to the current administration's means and ends, and the few openly opposed to the administration's methods.

The deepest problem at the college is that these three groups refuse each other. Indeed, most of us fear discovering the group to which our colleagues belong. Anger, distrust and deep frustration mark our days. The administration may ask the faculty to move forward, but this is infeasible so long as responsibility for the recent past is not taken. No amount



Naeem Inayatullah, professor in the Department of Politics, analyzes the atmosphere at the college after the administration's reduction of full-time equivalent faculty during COVID-19.

MARI KODAMA/THE ITHACAN

of administrative serenading will overcome the cleavages.

The purpose of my commentary is to highlight the depth of our division but also to provide a suggestion that may, in fact, move us forward. I propose the creation of a "truth and reconciliation tribunal." The first step would be to constitute a committee to research how such

tribunals are formed. The second is to make sure that all constituents of the larger college community are represented. The third is to assure the inclusion of an outside facilitator.

Mistakes have been made. People have been hurt. Lives have been shattered. We could pretend that our fractured and bleeding campus is the new normal. Or

we could move toward the future by addressing our wounds. In this way we show ourselves and the world what justice can mean; not a legal procedure but a reckoning.

Naeem Inayatullah (he/him) is a professor in the Department of Politics. Contact him at naeem@ithaca.edu.

GUEST COMMENTARY

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

Hope is a slippery slope to complicity

BY ELIJAH DE CASTRO

FORMER ITHACAN EDITOR

These days, when we look at the world around us, it's easy to feel hopeless. Since the pandemic began in those early months of 2020, crisis after crisis has upended our lives in what feels like a terrible twist of fate. Almost everybody I know has either given up hope or is desperately trying to find it, two mindsets that are dangerous and common.

We are at a defining moment in human history, one where our actions in the next decade will determine what life will look like hundreds of years from now. We face multiple existential threats — environmental tipping points, nuclear war and the rise of fascist movements. Despite this, hope has clung to us like a disease.

This is not to say that believing in a better world is a waste of time, but there is a line between idealizing a safer world and wasting time hoping that it will fall into place. Hope is procrastination. Doing something, on the other hand, creates hope.

Take an issue like the climate crisis, which for understandable reasons makes people feel powerless and that they don't have the skills to help stop it. To help us understand our experience, we need musicians, writers, filmmakers, poets and artists, very few of whom focus their work on climate issues. As Nina Simone reminded us, "An artist's duty is to reflect the times."

The cause of the climate crisis is deeply tied to the limits of human psychology. To help us understand why we have procrastinated for so long, we need psychologists, but very few have done anything to show us that on the climate crisis, our brains are working against us.

Confronting the climate crisis will require



Senior Elijah de Castro, senior writer and former News and Life & Culture editor, discusses the importance of action instead of simply hoping for improvement.

JADYN DAVIS/THE ITHACAN

people of many different occupations, all of whom have different skills. However, none of this means anything if people continue to hope that something will come along and compel them to act.

To me, doing something means digging deep and rooting out the rot at the core of the economic and political systems that reward so few at the cost of so many. However, an investigative journalist's work is only as powerful as the community's response to it. This is why I was dismayed when the Ithaca College community did nothing about the fact that the college's former president received a \$172,796 payment the same year she announced mass layoffs.

Things don't get better because you want

them to. Starting right now, we have to live in the real world, because the clock is about to strike midnight.

Ask yourself: Who benefits from your hopelessness? If you don't use the power that you already have to help stop the oncoming catastrophe that affects us all, you will live to regret not doing what you know you could have done. This is the type of regret that you take to your grave.

Instead of hoping and praying that things get better, get mad, get creative and do something about it.

Elijah de Castro (he/him) is a senior Journalism major. Contact him at edecastro@ithaca.edu.

Pop culture conference empowers academics

BY MARIANA CONTRERAS

STAFF WRITER

Students, alumni, scholars, librarians and teachers have all come together to “geek and nerd out” in an academic conference that features gender and sexuality in popular culture and mainstream media from all spaces and times — whether it be in YA literature, 2000s teen comedies or digital dolls.

On the weekend of April 21–22, members of the Ithaca College community eagerly participated in the sixth edition of the Pippi to Ripley Conference. This unique event celebrated the power of strong female characters and diverse representation alike in literature, film and popular culture, exploring their impact on society and inspiring attendees to break down gender barriers in their own lives.

Katharine Kittredge, professor in the Department of Literatures in English, said she created Pippi to Ripley in 2011 with some friends as a means to bring the best of academic conferences and fan conventions, so that it might act as a moment of gathering and a forum for academics, creators and fans. The event is free for the public with only a \$50 fee for presenters in order to cover food expenses and other miscellaneous costs.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pippi to Ripley conference had not been hosted since 2019. However, the conference

has now employed Zoom for the first time, making it possible for presenters from nine different countries — Uganda, Greece, the United Kingdom, India, Ireland, Mumbai, Sweden and Canada — to participate allowing the panels and discussions to reach an international platform.

As an undergraduate, there are two ways to be a part of the Pippi to Ripley conference: submit a proposal of a potential topic to Kittredge or join her senior seminar, which focuses on learning the “how-tos” behind planning an academic conference and making a presentation for one. During the spring semester, 10 students meet once a week for two and a half hours where they spent the first part planning conference-related activities and the second half workshoping their own presentations for the conference with their classmates.

Senior Samantha Frieri said the class had been empowering when it came to the responsibility and authority students had when organizing the conferences.

“I feel like this is a very scary thing because it feels so adult, and so it can be easy to think that you’re not like prepared for something like this, but that’s the whole point of this, that this is built on the backs of undergraduates that are really just passionate about what we do,” Frieri said.

Eliana Berger ’20 and Andy Yzaguirre ’20, who are pursuing their graduate degrees at



Senior Samantha Frieri holds up a copy of “Legendborn” by Tracy Deonn. Frieri was one of several presenters during the 2023 Pippi to Ripley academic conference.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

Simmons University in Boston, were invited back as presenters for this year’s Pippi to Ripley conference, both as a part of the graduate panel and with presentations on subjects like “Queer Craft: Fandom & Queer Community in the Makerspace” and “Viola’s Soliloquy: An Examination of Twelfth Night Adaptations as Transgender Representation.”

“I think for people who are interested in research, for students, for professionals, unless you have experience, it’s really scary and difficult to enter that circle,” Yzaguirre said. “So having been able to do that in undergrad and being shown how to apply it ... really changed the game.”

Kittredge said the initiative behind this conference is to make it an inclusive and accessible experience for all.

“I think a big part of it is ... the economic realities of wanting to become a professor or wanting to go to grad school, is that a lot of even the conferences for undergraduates charged hundreds of dollars for admission,” Kittredge said. “And it’s one of those barriers because if you don’t do conference work, it’s harder to get into grad school or once you’re looking for a professor’s job. You can’t get that unless you’ve shown you know these professional activities.”

The 2023 Keynote Speaker was Michelle Ann Abate, professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at Ohio State University, with her “Funny Girls: The Forgotten

History of Feisty Young Female Characters in Classic American Comics” presentation.

“We’re reminding ourselves that even though these things are just like pop culture and media, we are really knowledgeable about it and they do have a place in academia,” Frieri said.

Not only is this an opportunity for students in the course to make their own presentations, but there is a call for papers for anyone who is interested in curating their own presentation for Pippi to Ripley, usually in the fall semester previous to the event. The open discussion following the presentations allows for a constructive and knowledgeable dialogue between peers.

Junior Tommy Zieger, another student in Kittredge’s class, said he was able to connect with his passion for several of the conferences’ topics such as educational theory.

“There’s a lot of interest in storytelling on campus outside of the English department,” Zieger said. “We tell stories in the Park School and with our music in Whalen and in Dillingham. There are all these different areas of study outside of just literature that take an interest in storytelling and the way that we communicate our identities to each other. I think marketing that to some of the other schools might be a way for people to understand that this is something for everybody.”



Katharine Kittredge, professor in the Department of Literatures in English, speaks at the 2023 Pippi to Ripley conference. Kittredge began the conference in 2011.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

CONTACT: MCONTRERAS@ITHACA.EDU

Last curtain call for the conducting masters program

BY LILY LIPKA

STAFF WRITER

The audience in Ford Hall in the Ithaca College James J. Whalen Center for Music roared with applause as the performers took the stage April 22. Conductor and graduate student Alex Gutierrez even received a standing ovation from members of the crowd as he walked out to his place in front of the orchestra.

"The Hunchback of Notre Dame" marks Gutierrez's final show at Ithaca College and the last production ever to be led and put on by a student in the Master of Music in Conducting program. Gutierrez will also be the last graduate of the program, which will be discontinued by the college after the 2022–23 academic year comes to a close. Musicals in concert have been held toward the end of every spring semester since the program began.

"It's sort of insane, both in a good way and a bad way," Gutierrez said. "I mean, since I'm the last one, I've gotten to do so many things and go so much bigger than we've ever been able to do before. I mean, this would never have been possible four or five years ago. ... But at the same time, it's a little sad to see that this is going to be the last one."

Christopher Zemliauskas, associate professor in the Department of Music Performance, has been working with Gutierrez for the majority of his time as a student

at the college. Gutierrez belongs to Zemliauskas' studio and Zemliauskas observed rehearsals for "Hunchback" in order to give Gutierrez notes.

"While I'm disappointed to see the program suspended, I'm very happy [Gutierrez] was my final student ... and am extremely proud of him," Zemliauskas said. "It truly is a culmination of all of the skills [Gutierrez] has worked on over the years."

Gutierrez expressed a similar sentiment as Zemliauskas, saying that the musicals in concert have been an opportunity for the Center for Music and the Department of Theatre Arts to really unite.

Gutierrez said he chose this show in particular for its timeliness and its important messaging of recognizing prejudice within oneself and in others and coming to terms with what that means.

"There's this question that's asked at the beginning of the show and at the end of the show of, 'What makes a monster and what makes a man?'" Gutierrez said. "And that's sort of what we've been revolving around ... because I think really what the show is about is examining your own bias and examining and pointing out the bias of others around you."

In addition to requiring actors to stand at mics and wear all black, musicals in concert like "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" feature an orchestra — and chorus, in this case — onstage. As musical theatre majors, the actors in the



Students in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance perform "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" on April 22. The performance was the last to be put on by a student in Master of Music in Conducting.

ANA GAVILANES/THE ITHACAN

main roles and ensemble auditioned for the production at the beginning of the semester, but the chorus is composed of the members of the Ithaca College chorus.

Senior Oscar Izenson, a musical theatre major, played Quasimodo. Izenson said that because this show is so dark, it was important that the creative team took so much care in their work and felt appreciated during rehearsals.

"I think [Gutierrez] cares a lot about the piece and he has a really clear and specific idea of ...

what he thinks is important about doing the piece and I think he made that very clear on the first day of rehearsal," Izenson said. "I just think it's cool that it's ... collaborative from the standpoint that everyone in the room is respected as an artistic presence and can chime in if they feel like something doesn't make sense or they feel like they have an idea that could clarify a moment."

Senior Erica Reyes, a musical theatre major who played Esmeralda, said that with the

relative heaviness of the musical's content, the love and attention the cast and creative team paid to the material was something new that she appreciated.

"I'm proud of this story we're telling," Reyes said. "We're telling it truthfully. ... I'm just proud of all the work that everyone has put into creating this show and creating these characters so that we could tell this story the way it should be told."

CONTACT: LLIIPKA1@ITHACA.EDU

Taking fast fashion slow with Take It Or Leave It

BY JADYN DAVIS

STAFF WRITER

A small purple shelf filled with clothes ranging from sweaters, Hawaiian shirts and jeans caught the attention of many passersby at the Sustainability Fair on April 21. While some took items, others donated items they no longer wanted, which is all a part of the program Take It or Leave It.

The Sustainability Fair, which featured local businesses like South Hill Forest Products and Via's Cookies, was located in the Textor Hallway and took place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. But at the end of the hall was the TIOLI pop-up shop that was run by members of Eco-Reps — a group that focuses on encouraging sustainability at the college. TIOLI is a free thrift store that is open from 12–1 p.m. and 4–5 p.m. Monday through Friday in Clarke Hall.

Senior Kelly Warren, program manager of Eco-Reps, said the group decided to do a pop-up shop at the fair because it would not only introduce students to TIOLI but provide more accessibility for students who cannot easily get to Clarke Hall throughout the week. Warren said she appreciates TIOLI's contribution to the college as a local resource for students.

"There's a wide variety of stuff that you can get sustainably sourced," Warren said. "You can go to thrift stores obviously but here at Ithaca we have this wonderful resource like TIOLI where you can grab things that you need for free."

Warren said the excess amount of clothes that companies produce goes to

landfills, which emit greenhouse gasses. The production of clothes contributes to climate change because of the large number of natural resources like water and oil that are used, according to the BBC.

Sophomore Chloe Zonis said she did not know much about TIOLI prior to the pop-up shop and heard people talking about the shop. After experiencing the pop-up shop at the fair, Zonis said she plans to visit the TIOLI room in Clarke Hall.

"It's nice to see that it's a real functioning entity and that it's not just some made-up folklore of Ithaca," Zonis said. "If I'm already looking to get more clothes or about to go thrifting, maybe I'll stop by Clarke first to see what it holds."

First-year student Maria Lesser said she hopes to join Eco-Reps next semester and appreciates the work that Eco-Reps does to educate students on the importance of sustainability.

"I think a lot of people care about sustainability, but I think Eco-Reps are the people who are able to help people facilitate that and get involved and they're really encouraging people to get involved in those interests," Lesser said.

However, despite the presence of TIOLI and other thrift stores, more people are turning to fast fashion. Fast fashion is how clothes are quickly made to meet consumer needs at a rapid rate in order to meet needs of having the latest fashion, according to Investopedia. One of the things Warren said TIOLI did during Sustainability Week was educate students about fast fashion with a sustainable clothing pop-up shop.



First-year student Payton Romance looks at clothing from the Take It or Leave It pop-up shop during the Sustainability Fair in the Textor Hallway on April 21.

LEILA MARCILLO-GÓMEZ/THE ITHACAN

"We're really happy to help try to mitigate that problem in any way that we can, and TIOLI is a great way to start, and we would love to expand it in the future and hopefully we can," Warren said.

Thrifting has many environmental benefits because it decreases the amount of dyes and chemicals that factories dump into waterways. Additionally, clothes that are thrown into landfills contribute to greenhouse gasses because of synthetic material that cannot be naturally broken down, according to Topic Insights.

Zonis said she understands the importance of fashion sustainability in a society

that produces a large number of fast fashion items.

"I think that fashion [and] sustainability is this huge conversation for my generation, which maybe is one of the reasons why thrifting has become trendy right now," Zonis said. "But I also think that a lot of places will market their clothes as sustainable and they're not necessarily something where it's directly from the source. It's nice because sometimes you can't always trust what other places and stories and shops say about them."

CONTACT: JDAVIS16@ITHACA.EDU

Dracula horror has major identity crisis

MOVIE REVIEW: "Renfield" Universal Pictures



BY EVAN MILLER
STAFF WRITER

Everyone has had a bad boss at some point in their lives, whether it is a boss that spontaneously fiddles with employee schedules at the most inconvenient times or bleeds the soul out of employees working on the job to boost their ego.

However, no one in the history of human labor has had a worse boss than Renfield (Nicholas Hoult) in the form of Dracula (Nicolas Cage). Not only does Dracula suck the life out of purely innocent victims to become more powerful, but he also keeps Renfield from enjoying a normal life on his own terms. On second thought, maybe Dracula is not worse than the average boss. At least Dracula offers free health insurance.

After decades of servitude as Dracula's familiar, Renfield realizes that his relationship with his boss is unhealthy and emotionally abusive. As Renfield finally gains the courage to confront Dracula and live his own life away from servitude, he unintentionally becomes entangled in a war between a powerful crime family and a corrupt police department.

If one part of the film's plot sounds more interesting than the other, that is because it absolutely is. Throughout much

of its 93-minute runtime, "Renfield" feels like it is having just as horrible of an identity crisis as Renfield himself.

"Renfield" is at its best when its sole focus is on the relationship between Renfield and Dracula. During the majority of the first act, there are several story beats introduced regarding these two characters that are complex and fun, like the hilarious lengths Renfield must go to keep Dracula alive when he gets burnt to a crisp by sunlight. Hoult at times single-handedly keeps "Renfield" from being a complete trainwreck. His awkward energy and comedic timing in the role feels genuine and helps make Renfield an endearing character that the audience can easily root for.

Cage is of course the larger standout. The legendary actor imbues Dracula with his trademark: unpredictably chaotic energy. This version of Dracula feels like it was made with Cage in mind and he elevates each scene he appears in.

Unfortunately, a significant portion of the story sees Renfield paired up with Rebecca (Awkwafina), an honest cop whose most defined character trait is that she wants to take on crime by the book so she can avenge her father's death. Although Awkwafina attempts to bring life to this boring



Dracula (Nicolas Cage) serves as a toxic boss to Renfield (Nicholas Hoult) in the new horror comedy "Renfield."

COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

character, she does not succeed. The same can be said about Ted Lobo (Ben Schwartz), the heir to the crime family.

For a horror comedy, the film is neither very funny nor very scary. It also does not help that the visual effects for the gore leave much to be desired.

Ugly visual effects aside, the action can at times be creatively inspired. One of the most interesting details in the film is how Renfield must eat insects in order to use the powers that

Dracula has given him. His eyes suddenly turn bright yellow and he quickly gains super strength and agility.

If the film's sole focus had been on its primary premise, it could have easily lived up to its potential and possibly even surpassed it. Instead, it sucks all blood out of itself and leaves nothing but a husk of what could have been a wholly original horror comedy.

CONTACT: EMILLER11@ITHACA.EDU

New crime comedy lacks simplicity and cleverness

MOVIE REVIEW: "Mafia Mamma" Blecker Street



BY PATRICK MAZZELLA
STAFF WRITER

Nostalgia has been at the forefront of everyone's minds as Hollywood enters its own post-COVID era, with remakes, legacy sequels and cinematic universes getting the greenlight from studios more frequently.

But Catherine Hardwicke's newest crime comedy "Mafia Mamma" satisfies a different kind of nostalgia hunger. Reminiscent of the 2000s, an era with a boom of mid-budget adult comedies, the film provides plenty of laughs and a genuine heart, even if it slips into the pitfalls of many of its inspirations.

Director Hardwicke has had a knack for taking high-concept but accessible scripts and making a heartfelt spectacle out of them. "Mafia Mamma" is no different.

The story follows an unhappy woman, Kristin (Toni Collette), who is exhausted from working a dead-end job, living with a loser husband and has just sent her only son off to college. Kristin soon learns her grandfather passed away and decides to go to Italy for the funeral and a much-needed vacation.

Upon arriving, Kristin finds out her grandfather was not a winemaker, but a mafia don, who was murdered in an act of

war by the enemy mob family. Now Kristin must take over the family business in the middle of a war.

While the script goes beyond just the expected humor of each scenario, it suffers from an overly convoluted plot and underdeveloped side characters. What it does best is create a truly moving arc for Kristin as she learns she can be more than her husband's wife or her son's mother, and the strength of this allows for a real connection between Kristin and the audience. But the backdrop of the mob war, Kristin's lack of experience in organized crime and the family's disdain at Kristin taking over all fall relatively flat. Audiences will likely wish the focus would shift back to Kristin as a person, not Kristin as a mafia donna.

Collette is by far the most enjoyable aspect of the film. Her screen presence in this film is as captivating as ever, giving Kristin such a charm that draws the audience to her. Her ability to walk the very fine line of providing a strong and coherent emotional performance while also balancing the silliness of the script is unique to her.

Collette has often found herself in some tragic but very funny roles throughout her career, and this film will serve as another example of her strength as a performer — even without the highest



Kristin (Toni Collette) finds herself in a mob war in "Mafia Mamma."

COURTESY OF BLECKER STREET

quality source material.

The film does suffer from many of the same pitfalls moviegoers saw with similar higher-concept comedies of the earlier 21st century, with the film being centered around a bankable star and a talented director but lacking any sort of support in many other departments to make it as strong of a film that it could be.

Many of the technical aspects of the film fall flat, with the exception of Hardwicke's talent in making consistently interesting motions or blocking throughout her scenes. Even with that added bonus, "Mafia Mamma" doesn't have the charm, or push by anyone involved, to create an experience worth remembering past the length it takes for audiences to arrive home from the theater.

CONTACT: PMAZZELLA@ITHACA.EDU

QUICKIES



COURTESY OF XO

"DOUBLE FANTASY (FEAT. FUTURE)"
THE WEEKND

A strong synthesizer and evocatively written lyrics about desire make this sexy track click. Unfortunately, Future's feature on the track feels like it belongs in an entirely different song.



COURTESY OF POLYDOR RECORDS

"MERMAIDS"
Florence + the Machine

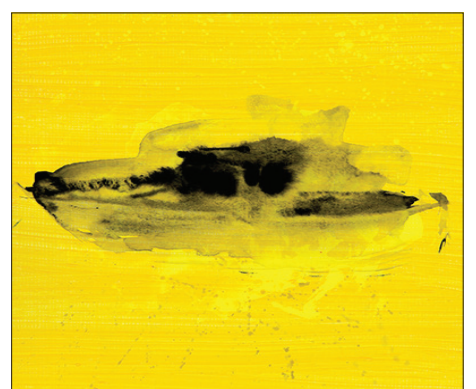
The dramatic "Mermaids" carries the same emotional velocity that Florence + the Machine fans have championed. The track does feel slightly overstuffed though, all while trying to fully convey its portrait of dreary English life.



COURTESY OF STREAMCUT & RCA RECORDS

"PUT IT ON DA FLOOR"
Latto

With a quick and entertaining beat, Latto has brought to life another energetic rap track, although it lacks the staying power of some of her previous songs.



COURTESY OF ASYLUM RECORDS UK

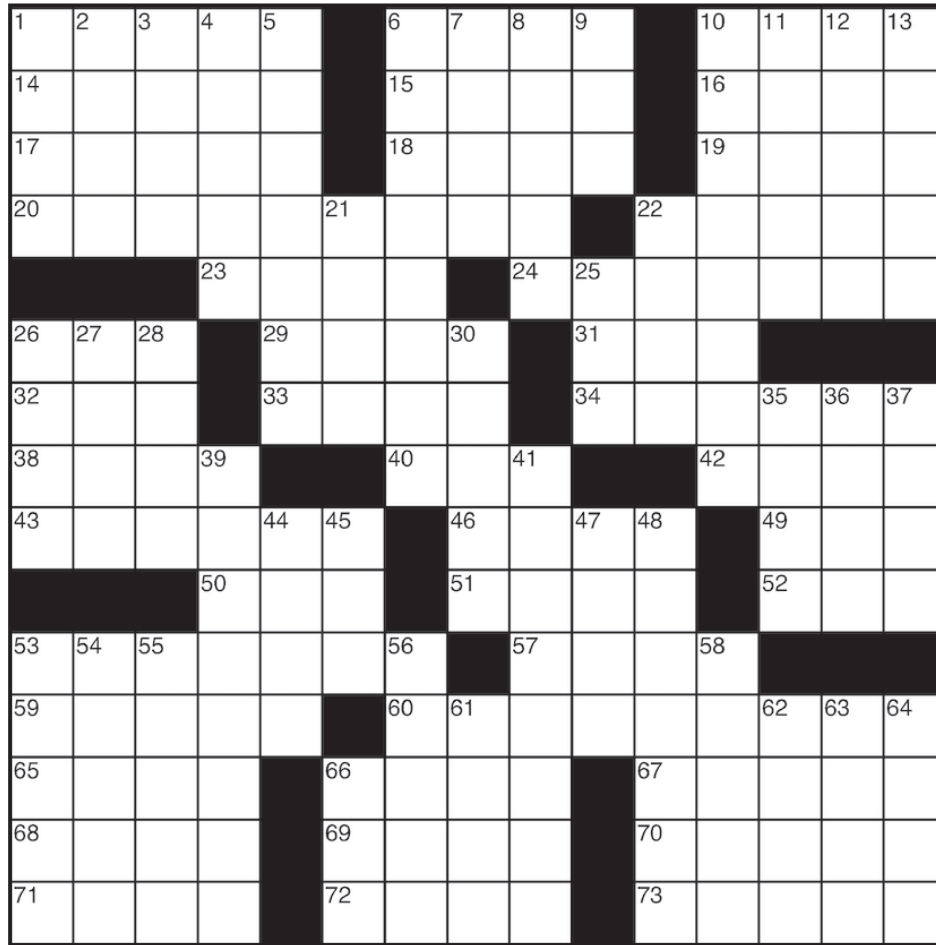
"BOAT"
Ed Sheeran

This is surprisingly less emotionally manipulative than Ed Sheeran's past songs as he dials back the preachy, on-the-nose lyrics to create something more potent. The themes in the song itself are sadly nothing new, though — we get it, love sucks.

DIVERSIONS

crossword

By Quill Driver Books



ACROSS

- 1 Laissez —
- 6 Weeds the garden
- 10 Have a rash
- 14 Bitter
- 15 Ballpark figures
- 16 Caligula's nephew
- 17 Beach sandal
- 18 Department
- 19 Get ready
- 20 Cartel
- 22 Billfold container
- 23 Madonna ex
- 24 Frozen desserts
- 26 Mo. with no holidays
- 29 Has winter fun
- 31 TV option
- 32 Chromosome material
- 33 Pierre's noggin
- 34 "I, Robot" writer
- 38 Type of pasta
- 40 Zippy's word
- 42 Make healthy again
- 43 Not obliged
- 46 Klutz's cry (hyph.)
- 49 ICU units
- 50 — Farrow of films
- 51 Engineering toy
- 52 Kind of rack
- 53 Grand totals
- 57 Sushi fish
- 59 Frighten
- 60 Stargazer's aid
- 65 One opposed
- 66 Rock's Bon —
- 67 More docile
- 68 Freighter destination
- 69 Hot spot
- 70 "Maria —"
- 71 Low card
- 72 Shipping hazard
- 73 Pulls apart

DOWN

- 1 Diet no-no's
- 2 "— Breaky Heart"
- 3 Do a laundry chore
- 4 Melon throwaways
- 5 Most nervous
- 6 Benevolence
- 7 Skip over
- 8 Touche provokers
- 9 FICA number
- 10 Not privately (2 wds.)
- 11 — Haute

- 12 Wave feature
- 13 Wishes
- 21 Party centerpiece
- 22 NBA athletes
- 25 Fish roe
- 26 Carpentry tool
- 27 PC operating system
- 28 Garden access
- 30 City near Incheon
- 35 A lot
- 36 Porpoise relative
- 37 Empower
- 39 Resistance to disease
- 41 Pivoting
- 44 Carton of milk
- 45 Make lace
- 47 Pointed arch
- 48 Gunslinger's wear
- 53 Change
- 54 Stately home
- 55 Shocking
- 56 Wood burner
- 58 Map feature
- 61 Nonstop
- 62 Sign of the future
- 63 Await action
- 64 Epochs
- 66 Position

last issue's crossword answers



Create and solve your Sudoku puzzles for FREE.
Play Sudoku and win prizes at: PRIZESUDOKU.COM
The Sudoku Source of "The Ithacan".

answers to last issue's sudoku:

easy

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

hard

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

CHECK OUT OUR ADVERTISING BROCHURE HERE

YOUR AD HERE

EMAIL ITHACANADS@ITHACA.EDU TO ADVERTISE ONLINE, IN PRINT OR IN OUR NEWSLETTER.

sudoku

medium

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

hard

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

IN BAGELS WE TRUST

400 N. MEADOW ST. 607-273-7110 | TRIPHAMMER MARKETPLACE: 607-257-2255
WWW.ITHACABAKERY.COM

CAMP BIRCH HILL

Is looking for 3 great counselors, Awesome for the resume and the best summer of your life!

603.273.6713 we have it all in NH

RAISE SOME DOUGH

Help support us!

20% of sales will benefit The Ithacan

April 28, 2023
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm EST
748 South Meadow Street

In Cafe • Drive-Thru • Pick-Up • Delivery
Enter promo code FUND4U at online checkout.



Senior Arla Davis, former sports editor for *The Ithacan*, was a member of the Ithaca College field hockey team for all four years of college. Following the end of the 2022 season, Davis joined the women's track and field team as a thrower, a sport she had not competed in since she was a sophomore in high school.

COURTESY OF ABBEY LONDON; RAYAHNA TRYKA, ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

STEPPING ONTO A NEW FIELD

BY ARLA DAVIS

FORMER SPORTS EDITOR

When you start your senior year, everyone tells you to savor your final moments and enjoy all of your “lasts.” We always see the sappy social media posts from athletes with the caption, “Last First Game,” or the end-of-college-career series of pictures from every stage of a decade-long career. Nearly every athlete thinks about it but never thinks the time to post will actually come.

We talk about the “lasts” so much that we rarely talk about the “firsts.” For many athletes, when their college careers end, it is the first time they can no longer identify as an athlete. The first time athletes have free time between the hours of 2–6 p.m. It is the first time they have a newfound freedom — one that they often do not know how to navigate. Personally, I was not ready for these “firsts” to come, so I chose a different “first” instead.

After being on the field hockey team here at Ithaca College for the last four years and having all my “lasts” in the sport I played for 15 years, I decided I wanted my new “firsts” to look a little different. While in my Introduction to Sports Psychology class during the fall semester, some new friends that I met on the men’s and women’s track and field teams convinced me to give the sport a shot when the field hockey season ended.

And when I say a shot, I mean literally — a shot. I joined the team as a thrower and competed in shot put and weight throw during the indoor season, then in javelin, discus, hammer throw and shot put again this spring.

While this was not a “first” in the sense of my first time ever doing the sport, it was my first time competing in it since my sophomore year of high school. In returning to a sport I had not done in nearly six years, I would be lying if I said trying it out again did not scare me at least a little bit.

I felt like an imposter at first — what was I thinking even considering joining a

nationally-ranked college track and field team in my last semester? Quite frankly, I was worried that it would be disrespectful to think I could do it, since I had not thrown in so many years. In spite of these worries though, I am thankful that I had teammates and coaches from both field hockey and track and field who believed in me.

If there is anything I learned from collegiate field hockey, it is that you grow through discomfort, even if it does not feel like that’s the case at the moment. Often, you have to push yourself beyond your self-perceived limits in order to learn and become a better version of yourself in sports and in life. Even then, progress is not linear, and there are peaks and valleys in every stage.

In saying yes to joining the team, I knew this decision alone was out of my comfort zone and that actually doing it would bring me peaks and valleys. What I did not know was that joining the track and field team in my senior year of college would arguably be the best “yes” I have said up to this point in time.

That does not mean joining the track and field team has been all peaks and no valleys, but, rather, it has brought me some of the highest highs that make all of the lows worth the risk that came with a spontaneous choice. Of these highs and lows, the greatest high has been falling back in love with sports again. When I decided to take the leap and try throwing again, that was my only goal: love sports the way I did when I first began playing them at 5 years old.

While field hockey became the sport I was most passionate about in junior high, my relationship with it also had its highs and lows. One of my biggest struggles with the sport in college was something that has become somewhat of a hot topic in conversation around mental health in athletics: burnout.

I never faced burnout until I came to college, and I believe that is partially thanks to

having played multiple sports not only in high school but throughout my entire life. This is something we are straying from as a society as youth sports are becoming more specialized and competitive at a younger age, despite evidence that playing more than one sport makes kids better athletes overall.

Because of this, playing only field hockey all year in college came as somewhat of a shock to me. I struggled with this mentally as time went on and felt guilty for not being



“Often, you have to push yourself beyond your self-perceived limits in order to learn and become a better version of yourself in sports and in life.”

– Arla Davis
Senior field hockey midfielder and track and field thrower



as passionate about the sport as I once was. This is partially because I had no idea what I was experiencing, never mind what burnout was at the time.

Despite all of the obvious negative consequences that came out of the COVID-19 pandemic, one little light that shined for me was a break from the sport, which ultimately helped me fall back in love with it for a period of time during my sophomore and junior year. But as we started to come back to “normalcy” — whatever that actually means — I began to put more pressure on myself to perform again and began to fall back

into old feelings.

It is important to add that this was no one’s fault, as I had incredibly supportive teammates and coaches all throughout my time at the college, but rather an individual struggle that just came as one of the many life lessons we learn through athletics. I strongly believe that sport mirrors life and society in more ways than we often realize as athletes that are still competing.

One of the biggest lessons I learned from sports came from my strength and conditioning coach during my first year here at the college. He said, “If you’re not having fun, you’re not getting better.” This resonated with me deeply to the point I wrote it down and have it hanging by the light switch in my room to serve as a reminder for every day, not just in sports, but in life outside of them.

It feels full circle to have heard this my first year of college and to now see it coming to fruition in real time my senior year as I compete in a sport that I quit as a sophomore in high school because I thought it was boring. Now as I face the last two or three weeks of both my first and last collegiate track and field season, I am so full of love for a sport that I would have laughed in the face of anyone that told me I would come back to in the last chapter of my athletic career.

Ithaca College track and field reignited a love for the sport that I did not know I had, but it also reminded me of my passion for field hockey and athletics in general.

So as I begin to face all of the “lasts” these next few weeks of my last semester as a Bomber will bring, between my last practices, last meets, last Liberty League Championship, last undergraduate classes, final goodbyes and, of course, graduation, I am reminded that among all of the “lasts,” there are still so many “firsts” to come. Because, again, sports mirror life in more ways than we often realize.

Students test their limits at strongman competition

BY TESS FERGUSON

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

On the outskirts of the Wood Street Skatepark lay six stones of progressing size and mass, an old hand-me-down weight bench, a cinderblock and a small group of friends looking to test their strength in ways they never have before.

On April 22, Ithaca College senior Leo Baumbach was finally able to bring his vision to life. “Stoned by the Creek” was a three-part event that Baumbach organized in hopes of introducing a non-traditional strength sport to the Ithaca community: strongman competitions.

“There are some larger, state-level competitions in bigger cities like Albany and Utica, and I’d like to one day compete at that level, but I’m just some guy, you know?” Baumbach said. “I wanted to be able to do something local and casual and fun, but there was nothing like that around here.”

Strongman competitions date back to the early 1800s in the Scottish Highlands. There, local power athletes would come together and compete in different “heavy events” — including the shot put, caber toss and hammer throw — that can often be seen in modern strongman events as well as in sanctioned track and field competitions.

What makes strongman different, however, is the sensationalism of its modern adaptations. Today, athletes competing at the World’s Strongest Man competition exhibit outstanding feats of strength in events like the

atlas stones — a series of spherical stones increasing in weight — and vehicle pull.

Baumbach said it was his background in powerlifting that piqued his interest in strongman practices.

“I’ve been seriously lifting weights for about three years now, and there’s always been this running joke about the powerlifting to strongman pipeline,” Baumbach said. “I’ve gotten really into the history of it and stone lifting in particular.”

Baumbach’s event included three classic strongman challenges: an overhead press, a stone ladder and a timed pinch grip. Baumbach said he largely wanted to give people an opportunity to try something they have never done before.

“How many times have you just gone out and picked up a heavy rock, right?” Baumbach said. “I don’t think it’s something that many people do in their spare time. This is a decidedly weird thing that I do, and I think it’s pretty cool to be able to share that.”

Olivia Notaro ’22, a participant at the event and friend of Baumbach’s, said their relationship with Baumbach extends back to when he first gained an interest in stone lifting.

“It was during my senior year that Leo texted me ‘Hey, lifting is too toxically masculine for me. We need to go back to our roots and start lifting rocks,’” Notaro said. “I said ‘Bro, I am so in.’”

Notaro — who topped the overhead press with a high of 65 pounds — said that since Baumbach has introduced them to the practice, stone lifting has provided them with a more

comfortable medium of staying active without having to go to a gym.

“Exercise should not be limited to going to the gym because that can be embarrassing and people can be mean, you know?” Notaro said. “Sometimes you just need to be out in the woods lifting rocks.”

Baumbach said stereotypical gym culture played an important role in what drove him away from powerlifting, and he hoped hosting an event like “Stoned by the Creek” would provide a judgment-free zone for people who want to exercise without any expectations.

“Nobody is here to prove anything except that they were here and they did the thing, and I think that’s really what counts,” Baumbach said. “That’s really what matters here.”

Among the event’s turnout were not only members of the campus community but also Ithaca locals with connections to Baumbach. Tanis Franchi, an Ithaca native and former coworker of Baumbach’s, said he initially attended the event as a spectator, but could not leave without giving the stones a try.

Franchi successfully lifted five out of the six stones — which ranged anywhere from 50–125 pounds — and said he likely would not have been able to do so without Baumbach’s enthusiastic support.

“I probably would’ve tapped out earlier without Leo as a spotter,” Franchi said. “It’s really nice to have someone who can push you to go further than you think you can. He kind of tells you to just do it, which really helps push you past



Sophomore Conrad West advances through the stone ladder during the “Stoned by the Creek” strongman competition on April 22.

XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

that mental block.”

Although competitors were sparse — with six people — Baumbach said he is more than content with the outcome of his event and, if he were to host another in the future, he hopes to encourage the same welcoming energy.

Baumbach said that, above all, it is the obscurity of stone lifting and other strongman practices that makes

them so endearing, and the unconventional nature of it should be seen as intriguing rather than intimidating.

“People waste too much time not picking up heavy rocks in their yard,” Baumbach said. “I just want people to know that they can do it. You can do so much more than you think you can.”

CONTACT: TFERGUSON1@ITHACA.EDU

New course introduces students to esports marketing

BY DEAN GUTIC

STAFF WRITER

While many of the courses offered in Ithaca College’s Roy H. Park School of Communications are traditional media courses, there is a new course that has made its debut in a much more niche subject.

Esports Content Production — taught by Alex Estabrook, instructor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies — has finally established itself as a first-of-its-kind course in the Park School. Estabrook said his gaming knowledge played a valuable role in what led him to teach the course as well as some insight as to what it brings to the table.

“I have been a video game fan for a long time,” Estabrook said. “I was watching video games, watching my friends play games before the internet became what it is now. I’ve always kind of seen the value in content for gaming. It isn’t just for the people playing, there is a lot of entertainment in and around gaming.”

Estabrook said the growing popularity of esports was important when putting the course together. Although there is an esports club, which sports a few competitive teams, there was little else for students to get involved with.

“There wasn’t much of a presence here,” Estabrook said. “I was looking around and the gaming clubs and esports clubs have come and gone. It’s all been student-driven. There needed to be a presence for content creators that want to focus on gaming, and as a fan, I thought that it was super important.”

Estabrook also said his experience at his previous job at ESPN, where he worked for 10 years as a content editor and highlight producer, had an influence in his decision to teach an esports-related course at the college.

“In my previous job, the higher-ups would

come to me with video game questions and ideas,” Estabrook said. “I’ve had such a blast doing this and the students certainly have too. I have found new ways to teach and new things to learn. It was just an untapped avenue here that was a no-brainer when I started to look at it.”

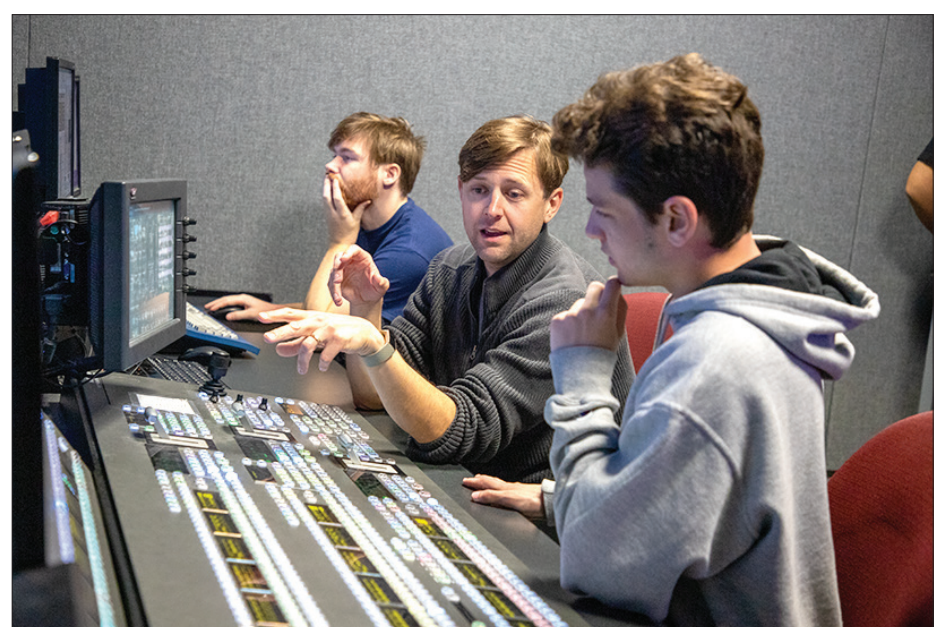
Estabrook said he brought the concept of the class up to Mead Loop, professor in the Department of Journalism and sports media program director. Estabrook said they talked about adding the course to the sports media curriculum along with the challenges prior to getting the esports course up and running, like finding the space to be able to teach the course.

Estabrook said he had been planning this course for some time and even had the syllabus planned, but he could not find the space in his schedule — which already consists of about 14 credits per semester — to teach it.

“I think what Professor Loop did was start building [esports] into his curriculum because it’s important that he understood that and knew that I was someone who could speak on it, so he brought me in to discuss that,” Estabrook said. “They were able to clear the way for me to teach this and carve out enough space.”

With the debut of the course has come enjoyment from the full roster of 15 students taking it. Senior Harrison Cona said the only reason he had space for the class in the first place was because he needed an extra course when he was making his schedule but found it to be interesting once he looked into it.

“[The class is] all of the fun of studio production but while getting to do something I’m interested in, which would be video games and esports instead of having to focus on soccer or football or news or weather,” Cona said. “This is an actual class that is something I engage with every single day that I can now put to work with my professional skills.”



From left, junior Joshua Fuller, Alex Estabrook, instructor of the Esports Content Production class, and sophomore Alex Tchirout work at the Studio B switcher.

XINYI QIN/THE ITHACAN

Another participant in the class, sophomore Alex Tchirout, said Estabrook has been doing a great job with the class, which has involved bringing in guest speakers to talk to the class.

“I think he’s done a great job of preparing us for potentially going into the industry by not only showing us all the different sides of production and the different ways in which we can get involved but also giving us connections to real life people who are currently in the esports industry,” Tchirout said.

Tchirout said the class is flexible, which makes sense for something like esports. While many other sports are rigid in their production guidelines, esports has no required playing area, fewer restrictions on camera angles and more that makes it easier to produce, even for people with little experience.

“The class isn’t just stationary, it’s very mobile,” Tchirout said. “You don’t have to have massive production trucks or a specific studio. You can set it up in your room just on a live-stream camera or web camera and still be able to stream live to thousands of people.”

Although Cona did not originally plan to take the class, he said he thinks esports coverage is going to be an essential part of sports content production and broadcasting going forward.

“I’d say esports is the future of sports,” Cona said. “Given the huge growth of esports in the last 30 years, I would recommend this class to anyone that is interested in broadcast or gaming.”

CONTACT: DGUTIC@ITHACA.EDU

THE BUZZER

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

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK COLLIN FEENEY/BASEBALL



Sophomore outfielder Collin Feeny helped to sweep the Ithaca College baseball team's doubleheader over Clarkson University on April 21. Feeny went 6-9 at the plate, notching a career-high four hits during the second game of the day.

AIDAN CHARDE/THE ITHACAN

COMPETITION OF THE WEEK MEN'S LACROSSE VS. UNION COLLEGE



Junior attackman Charlie Nirbuhr matched his season-high of five goals during the Ithaca College men's lacrosse team's 10-9 overtime loss to No. 14 Union College. The Bombers managed a fourth quarter comeback, tallying four goals to tie the score.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

EVENT TO WATCH

3 P.M. AND 5 P.M. MAY 3 AT KOSTRINSKY FIELD

After being postponed from April 1, the Ithaca College softball team will welcome the SUNY Geneseo Knights for a doubleheader May 3. The Bombers currently tout a 4-4 record in-conference and a 16-9-1 record 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. The competition will mark the Bombers' penultimate doubleheader before the commencement of Liberty League play, which begins May 11.



ITHACA

VS.



SUNY
GENESEO

NOTABLE UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

MEN'S LACROSSE: 1 p.m. April 29 vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE: 1 p.m. April 29 vs. Skidmore College at Higgins Stadium.

SOFTBALL: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. April 29 vs. Clarkson University, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. April 30 vs. St. Lawrence University at Kostrinsky Field.

BASEBALL: 1 p.m. April 30 vs. Hobart College and 4 p.m. May 2 vs. SUNY Brockport on the Valesente Diamond at Freeman Field.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"I just want people to know that they can do it. You can do so much more than you think you can."

- LEO BAUMBACH '23
On why he wanted to share his passion for strength sports with the community.





Sophomore Eliana Chelnick celebrates after scoring a point during the Ithaca College women's tennis match against St. Lawrence University on April 22. Chelnick won the first set 6-1 but lost the second and third 3-6 and 8-10. The women's tennis team finished the season 3-5 in the conference and 8-9 overall.

GRACE VANDERVEER/THE ITHACAN