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IC ALUM GOES FROM DIII TO GLOBAL STAGE

IC facilitates study to reduce deficit, evoking concerns over possible cuts

BY KAI LINCKE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MANAGER

Ithaca College started working with the Huron Consulting Group in October to conduct a budget and resource planning study, which aims to address declining enrollment and decrease the budget deficit. Administrators will share a study update in February 2025 and incorporate some of Huron's suggestions in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget, which is due in May 2025.

Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said Huron will help the college understand its enrollment assumptions to make accurate budget adjustments. Huron will also help the college reduce the deficit by identifying areas to decrease expenses and increase revenue.

Campus community response

David Gondek, chair of the Faculty Council and associate professor in the Department of Biology, said many faculty members were concerned when President La Jerne Cornish announced the college was working with Huron at the State of the College meeting, especially because of Huron's past work.

The college previously hired Huron in 2012 to recommend ways to improve efficiency and reduce costs so the college

HURON, PAGE 3



Huron Consulting Group will help identify some services that are not critical. The college may choose to cut these services and their associated staff positions.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MARISSA MOSCHELLA/THE ITHACAN

New relief fund aids employees

BY KAIDEN CHANDLER

DESIGN EDITOR

In January 2025, Ithaca College is opening up applications to a new resource for some college staff and faculty.

The Ithaca College Emergency Relief Fund, managed by the Office of Human Resources, distributes money to the college's employees in times of need and is entirely supported by voluntary donations from other employees.

Kimberly Lieb, HR employee relations and training and development consultant in the, said the program is aimed at ensuring that every employee has a roof over their head and food on their table.

"[The fund] will help employees that have experienced a catastrophic event or a temporary emergency that really [impacts] their ability to survive," Lieb said.

Events that qualify for funding include storms, building fires, domestic abuse and one-time medical expenses not covered by insurance.

Other situations, like credit card payments, rent and ongoing medical bills do not qualify for funding.

Unless it is connected to an employee's sudden disability or the death of a family member living in their household, loss of employment is another scenario excluded from the program, which prevents employees laid off or fired from the college from receiving money.

To apply, employees must provide evidence of the catastrophic event, show that the event is a financial hardship and explain how it is impacting their basic living.

After receiving applications, HR staff remove any identifying information to protect the applicants' privacy.

The applications are then reviewed by a volunteer committee of college employees, who have the final say on whether or not the application meets the requirements.

Employees can reapply for up to \$500 in funding every 12 months, though first-time applicants are given priority.

Susan Whittier, a food service employee at the college, said she liked the direction the program was taking. She said she has personally seen how funds like these can benefit employees.

"I have been on the receiving end of that kind of thing — not here, but at one of my other jobs," Whittier said. "I hope [employees] would realize that it's not any reflection on them if they happen to have a shortfall of cash at that point."

Not all employees are eligible to receive money. Lieb said applicants to the funds must be benefits-eligible, which prevents some part-time employees from applying.

They also need to have completed a full year of continuous work at the college and have not received any disciplinary actions that resulted from violating policies outlined in the Ithaca College Policy Manual within the past year.

The college has had a Student Emergency

RELIEF FUND, PAGE 3

College adds EV chargers and levies fees

BY VIVIAN ROSE

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Ithaca College will expand its on-campus electric vehicle charging stations. In the past, use of an EV charger on campus was free, but now the college will be implementing a fee that will charge users per kilowatt-hour.

By Spring 2025, the campus community and the general public will have access to three new on-campus stations that will be connected to the college's power grid during the winter break of the 2024–25 academic year. Two superchargers have been added on the south end of the Athletics and Events Center and one dual-port — a charger with two ports on either side to accommodate two users — level-two charger has been installed behind Terrace 13, as well as 26 level-two chargers in the Farm Pond Road parking lot.

Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said the A&E Center, Terrace 13 and Farm Pond Road were all chosen as ideal sites because they are accessible to the public and have optimal electricity



There will be three new electric vehicle chargers on campus that will be operational by Spring 2025. Two superchargers have been added on the south end of the Athletics and Events Center.

AMINATTA IMRANA JALLOW/THE ITHACAN

access for the chargers.

Level-two EV chargers, also called superchargers, charge at 240 volts and typically take 4–10 hours to charge an EV from empty to 80%.

A supercharger's voltage can range based on how much an EV can manage, between 10 to 73 minutes, according to the U.S. News & World Report.

Scott Doyle, director of Energy Management and Sustainability, said the average cost per level-two charger is about \$5,000, while superchargers can cost between \$30,000 to \$100,000 per unit.

Doyle said the college has received grants from New York State Electric and Gas and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority for the

expansion project. The grants require that the college make the chargers accessible to the public. The grant will also require the college to collect data from the EV charger users and send it back to the grants funding the chargers.

Doyle said the units will be connected to the college's power grid

EV CHARGERS, PAGE 3

Nation & World News

Mural honoring survivors of the Holocaust taken down in Milan

After being vandalized, the mural "Anti-Semitism, History Repeating" has been erased. The work was created by the artist Alessandro Palombo on Nov. 30 to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. The painting portrayed Liliana Segre and Sami Modiano in striped uniforms and a bulletproof vest with the Star of David.

"In the face of the removal of the work on Liliana Segre and Sami Modiano, I feel a deep embarrassment," Palombo said. "In Milan, damage has been added to damage, the best way to hide antisemitism, at a time when antisemitism is rampant and someone even decides to deny honorary citizenship to a woman who survived the Holocaust."

Israeli airstrike in Lebanon kills two people in southern region

The Israeli military has attacked several targets in Lebanon, killing two people, as a shaky ceasefire holds with the pro-Iranian Lebanese militia, Hezbollah.

On Dec. 2, the Israeli military said the attacks were in response to ceasefire violations by Hezbollah.

The Lebanese Ministry of Health said one person was killed in the southern area of Marjayoun. According to Lebanese

security sources, he was killed in an airstrike that hit a motorcycle.

Government of Guinea honors 56 lives lost in mass stampede

On Dec. 2, the government of Guinea said at least 56 people were killed and many injured after a mass panic among soccer fans.

Clashes between rival fans broke out in the city of Nzerekore on Dec. 1 after a red card was shown to a Labe player with the score at 0-0 late in the game.

Fans of Labe started throwing stones while security forces began using tear gas, which sparked the mass panic. It is not yet clear if the main cause of the deaths was the stampede.

EU calls for war to end in Syria as concerns increase in Brussels

The European Commission foreign policy spokesman Anouar El Anouni said on Dec. 2 that the European Union is calling for an end to the fighting in Syria.

"We are closely monitoring these developments and we are extremely concerned about the security and livelihood of civilians," El Anouni said.

Brussels is concerned that an increase in fighting in Syria could lead to more people fleeing the conflict and arriving in Europe.



Syrian government loses control of Aleppo

Members of the Syrian armed opposition forces stand in front of the entrance to the Military College after taking control of it in the city of Aleppo. The Syrian government has lost control of Aleppo, the country's second-largest city.

COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

UN organization begins list of intangible cultural heritage

UNESCO has begun deliberations in Paraguay's capital Asunción on the inclusion of cultural practices in the list of intangible cultural heritage.

Around 60 cultural practices have been put forward to join the list, including the

Chinese New Year, sake making in Japan and the henna tradition from the Arab world.

"Intangible cultural heritage is diversity in action," Christoph Wulf, the chairman of the German Commission for Intangible Cultural Heritage, said Dec. 2.

SOURCE: TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MULTIMEDIA

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Student DJs turn tables at local clubs

Ithaca's newest DJs, sophomores Maddie Schnitzlein and Ari Klein, made a name for themselves at local venues this semester. Find out what it takes to be a DJ in *The Ithacan's* latest video.



Pop Off! – Albums of the 1990s

Host Ethan Kaufman and sophomore Oliver K. Johnson break down music nerd culture of the 1990s and discuss their favorite albums from each year of the decade.

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FROM HURON, PAGE 1

could avoid raising tuition, room and board. Suggestions made by Huron included a staff workforce analysis and closing the physical therapy program's Rochester Center to fully move the program to main campus.

Through the staff workforce analysis, the college cut 47 position lines, including eight occupied positions, during the 2014–15 academic year. The college cut 20 staff positions, including filled and unfilled positions, in 2015–16 and planned to cut 20 more staff positions from 2016–20.

"Cuts — that's what people think of when they hear Huron," Gondek said. "Right after the October [State of the College] meeting, there was a lot of anxiety about it."

Marilyn Dispensa, chair of Staff Council and senior instructional designer in the Center for Faculty Excellence, said many staff members feel unsettled about the study, especially because there has been minimal communication from the college.

She said staff have only heard about the study from the State of the College and Oct. 30 Dollars and Sense meetings.

Dispensa said Staff Council sent a letter to Cornish to ask for more information, more transparency and a voice in the study process.

"We just really want to talk to administration about the process and how we can partner on providing the staff perspective," Dispensa said.

Dispensa said Staff Council has not received an official response to the letter.



During the Oct. 30 Dollars and Sense presentation, Tim Downs, vice president for Finance and Administration and chief financial officer, said the college wants to develop a thoughtful plan.

KAELEIGH BANDA/THE ITHACAN

Downs said via email that the college will unveil a website within the next few weeks for campus community members to share input directly with Huron.

Study objectives

Downs said he projects the deficit will increase to \$12 million in FY 2025 because the college missed its enrollment target by about 200 students.

Huron is helping the college predict enrollment as accurately as possible to align the budget.

Downs said the college must reduce the budget by \$10 million to close the deficit. He said Huron will help the college identify some services that are not critical to the institution. The college may

choose to cut these services and their associated staff positions.

"It's not about doing more with less, it's ... just [that we] may not be able to do things we were in the past," Downs said. "The whole reason we're doing this is to make this institution a stronger institution at the end, even if that means we have to be a little bit smaller and we have to offer a little bit less."

During Dollars and Sense, Downs said the college could reduce staff positions through layoffs and vacancies. He said administrators do not have a definitive answer yet because they are waiting to see Huron's analysis.

Downs said the college is also looking for ways to increase its revenue. Melanie Stein, pro-

vost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs, is leading an academic program review with Hanover Research. One of the objectives is to identify areas for growth in the college's academic offerings, like graduate programs.

Downs said administrators are trying to make thoughtful changes that ensure the college's long-term sustainability, but he recognizes that efforts to reduce the budget deficit will have an impact on the campus community.

"It is our responsibility for the seats we're in at this point in time that we have this [deficit] and it's our responsibility to deal with that," Downs said.

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FROM EV CHARGERS, PAGE 1

once fewer people are on campus.

"[We] don't want to be disruptive, so we have to make sure [the electricity] is cut," Doyle said. "We haven't connected them formally, but they're being set up ... and we have to coordinate power shutdowns, so you'll probably see them in [December], or maybe January."

The college's preexisting charging stations are located in the Visitor Lot and at the Circle Apartments Community Center. Both stations are equipped with level-two chargers.

Students like sophomore Gavin Garver, who has a Tesla on campus, said they did not know the college had EV chargers on campus.

"I should have done more research into it, considering that I have an EV, but me and my family were mostly like, 'You have the superchargers down in town that you go to for an hour a day, every weekend,'" Garver said.

Garver said he uses the superchargers located by Trader Joe's on S. Meadow Street. He said that the charge takes about 40 minutes and that he typically pays about \$20 per charge.

While the college's chargers are ChargePoint brand, Garver said Teslas are continuously becoming more compatible with other brands of EV chargers.

"You can get attachments for the charger, so that you can allow yourself to use different branded chargers," Garver said. "And the same goes for Tesla superchargers with different EV cars."

While the college did not previously have a cost per charge, Downs said all the new chargers will work like a gas station.

Typically, electricity costs are variable and change throughout the day. During the daytime, electricity is higher in demand and costs more, while during the night, electricity costs less. Downs said the college will not charge based on these varying prices of electricity and will charge a fixed rate at several cents per kilowatt.

"We will make sure [people with EVs are] not going to pay more than what they pay to charge at home," Downs said. "I would be surprised if we charged that high, so I am expecting that we will be below what people pay at home."

The average cost per charge for an at-home EV charger is about 16.63 cents per kilowatt-hour or about \$67 per month.

Installation costs of at-home charging ports vary with the different kinds of chargers. An at-home level-one charging port is on average \$400.

A Tesla level-two charging port can cost between \$200–\$500 and an at-home supercharger's installation can cost up to \$50,000 depending on the usage of the car.

Downs said the cost per charge will help the college build revenue for the installation and electric costs of the EV chargers. He also said there will be additional penalty fees for overstaying the college's charging time limit of four hours.

Doyle said the NYSEG grant, called the Make-Ready Program, gives funding to communities to install more EV chargers and help install units. He said the college also took advantage of NYSEDA's state-funded Charge Ready Program, which he said will be used for rebates after the level-two chargers are brought online. Doyle said there may be another New York state rebate the college can receive.

The rebate allows tax-exempt entities like the college to receive payment for their investments in EV chargers. The units the college has installed include network systems that capture user data.

While the college is receiving grants to expand the amount of EV chargers at the college, Downs said there is still about \$100,000 being spent.

"To break that down, that's pretty darn cheap," Downs said. "Once you break the ground and you start putting the electrical wires there, you're much better off [installing] as many as you can."

News Editor Prakriti Panwar contributed reporting to this story.

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FROM RELIEF FUND, PAGE 1

Relief Fund since 2020 and the new fund for faculty and staff has a similar purpose and application requirements.

However, the faculty and staff program and student program are entirely separate. The student fund is run by the Office of Student Affairs and Campus Life and the fund for faculty and staff is managed by HR.

The employee fund, which can provide up to \$500 to applicants, relies on one-time donations or recurring contributions from an employee's paycheck.

Unlike the student fund, the employee fund does not have donations from non-employees that it can rely on.

College donation campaigns like Giving Day — which are generally reserved for student-focused programs — will most likely not include a way to contribute to the employee fund, according to Lieb.

Edd Schneider, associate professor in the Department of Strategic Communication, has taught at the college and lived in the Ithaca community for 10 years.

Schneider, who moved to Ithaca to teach at the college, said that relocating for a job in academia can be financially challenging for people.

"You have people who aren't really starting out with a lot of money living in towns where they don't have a lot of support," Schneider said.

Schneider said Ithaca is a difficult place to live because of the area's high cost of living.

The amount a full-time worker needs to earn to meet their basic needs has increased from \$18.45 an hour in 2023 to \$24.64 in February 2024 for a single person, according to Tompkins Weekly.

While the college's new fund does not directly provide support for basic living expenses, Schneider said it does create a



The Ithaca College Emergency Employee Relief Fund gives out money to employees in times of need and is entirely supported by donations from other employees.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KAIDEN CHANDLER, LUCIA IANDOLO/THE ITHACAN

buffer against the stress of unexpected financial hardships caused by emergencies.

"I think it's important for Ithaca to have community mechanisms like this," Schneider said. "The college is in a tough spot because the cost of living in Ithaca has skyrocketed in a very short amount of time."

Robert Corna, lecturer in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, said he also has felt the financial difficulty of living in Ithaca.

"It's incredible how high the cost of living is here," Corna said. "[Professors] basically have a fixed salary. ... If something happens, it's hard to recover from."

Neither Whittier, Schneider nor Corna said they had previously heard of the emergency relief fund.

Lieb said publicizing the program will be a focus after the January launch, with outreach centered on the HR and Intercom newsletters.

Lieb said she has seen firsthand how employee contribution programs can benefit fellow employees.

She said she used to work at Macy's, where there was a program that allowed the department store's staff to donate paid time off to those in need.

"It felt like, as an employee, to donate the time wasn't a huge hardship, yet the benefit to those people who were receiving it was outsized," Lieb said. "I think Ithaca College really does want to support the students and staff and faculty, so I'm hoping [the fund] also helps."

Corna said he hopes the program will make a difference for those in need.

"I think [it] is important to have something in place for faculty in case of an emergency or difficult situation," Corna said. "I hope it continues."

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IC leadership promotes media literacy

BY SARAH PAYNE,
PRAKRITI PANWAR

STAFF WRITER,
NEWS EDITOR

At the beginning of Fall 2024, the Park Center for Independent Media at Ithaca College hired its third director. Mickey Huff, distinguished director of PCIM, is a well-known media critic and scholar in independent media and came to the college with plans to make media literacy more accessible.

Huff is also the director of Project Censored, a national organization focusing on critical media literacy. Huff is teaching a class about independent media in Fall 2024 and he also plans to teach a fighting fake news course in Spring 2025.

Huff said this is an intentional effort to integrate media literacy more seamlessly into education.

“Higher education has a very terrible pattern in history of compartmentalizing everything,” Huff said. “But look, media literacy [is a] very interdisciplinary area.”

While Huff is new to the college, efforts to promote media literacy on campus have existed since 1996. Project Look Sharp is the college’s nonprofit media literacy program and aims to provide materials to teachers and students that promote a deeper understanding of media.

Cyndy Scheibe, professor in the Department of Psychology, is the



From left, Mickey Huff, director of Park Center for Independent Media, and Cyndy Scheibe, professor in the Department of Psychology, hope to increase media literacy across the college.

ROBERT DANIELS/THE ITHACAN

cofounder and executive director of Project Look Sharp. Huff said he hopes to work with Project Look Sharp to utilize the college’s existing foundation for media literacy.

“I came here because I didn’t have to reinvent a wheel,” Huff said. “I can work with [Project Look Sharp], I can plug in with them. And the work I do with media literacy ... compliments the kind of work that they do.”

Junior Camie Purdy said via email that media literacy should inherently be a part of people’s lives.

“I think instead of teaching this relatively nebulous idea of media literacy, we should just teach students to think critically about all information they consume,” Purdy said.

Both Huff and Scheibe are keen on making sure media literacy is an integral component of the

college’s academic approach.

“I’d love to see that being something that people are thinking about: if Ithaca College is going to become well known in media literacy in the same way that the college has had as priorities [like] sustainability and diversity education,” Scheibe said.

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Bill suggests ad policy revisions

BY EAMON CORBO

STAFF WRITER

Reginald Briggs, senior director of Dining Services, met with the Ithaca College Student Governance Council at its Dec. 2 meeting to discuss the meal exchange service and hear about its suggestions for dining.

The council also confirmed sophomore Haley Beckford as the Students of Color Coalition senator and passed a bill to recommend updates to the college’s Advertising and Solicitation Policy by fixing typographical errors and providing more flexibility in the ways clubs can advertise to students.

Dining Services

Briggs said the college introduced the meal exchange service in Fall 2023 to reduce the amount of foot traffic in the Campus Center, providing students with more dining locations across campus.

“It used to be that over 60% of the total swipes at lunchtime on Monday through Friday were literally downstairs in the Campus Center Dining Hall,” Briggs said. “Which is too many, too high of a percentage. After the exchange program ... they’re down to 48%, which is totally manageable.”

Junior Rishabh Sen, president of the student body, suggested providing allergy-friendly options at exchange locations in the business school and CHS to increase the number of students who purchase food from them.

“If there would be more dairy-free or gluten-free options on campus that would be great,” Sen said. “Because I think right now, the only ... purely gluten-free ... thing that’s offered at CHS are the salads. So something like a burrito bowl at the business school, or something that’s not bread-based or cheese-based.”

Students of Color Coalition senator

The Students of Color Coalition senator position was created by SGC last spring to support students of color. According to the SGC constitution, the SOCC senator position will be held by a student who is part of any of the organizations that the SOCC recognizes.

Beckford was confirmed by the SGC as the SOCC senator. She said she has faced microaggressions on campus and wants to be a voice for students of color who feel like their concerns are not being heard.

“Sometimes the voices or the experiences of students of color are sometimes, not purposely, ... brushed aside [by the college],” Beckford said. “Because we are in the minority, we are kind of conditioned into thinking that a lot of ... what we’re experiencing [is] normal. And so we’ve come to accept it as being OK, when in reality, it’s not.”

As of Fall 2024, 72.5% of the college’s students, faculty, staff and administration are white. Beckford, an international student from Jamaica, said she wants to support international students and students of color who feel unrepresented at a predominantly white institution.

“[I will] help not only international students, but also other students of color ... who feel as if there’s nobody who can kind of say, ‘I’ve experienced that too,’” Beckford said.

Solicitation Policy Changes bill

The council discussed the Solicitation Policy Changes bill. The bill proposes updating the reference of the Student Government Association to the Student Governance Council and changes Towers Dining Hall, which no longer exists, to Campus Center Dining Hall, which was not previously mentioned in the policy.

The bill also recommends changes to the policy — which stated that solicitors are not allowed — to allow solicitors to engage with students politely. The bill also allows students to solicit on campus from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., which they previously could only do until 3 p.m.

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Q&A: Professor spotlights global health

Kari Brossard Stoops, associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Health Sciences and Public Health, is helping train future health professionals at Ithaca College by offering health courses that focus on concentrated topics about primary global health issues.

Brossard Stoops will be teaching three new health courses in Spring 2025 called Introduction to One Health, Let’s Talk about Periods and Antibiotic Resistance: The Creeping Pandemic. Brossard Stoops said these courses are an effort to educate health care leaders-in-the-making about the World Health Organization’s objectives, and provide a space for students to discuss pressing global health care concerns.

News Editor Prakriti Panwar spoke with Brossard Stoops about why she feels these topics are necessary to talk about and what she hopes students learn from them.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Prakriti Panwar: The three new courses being offered seem very specific. Is there something that has prompted these courses?

Kari Brossard Stoops: The World Health Organization’s goal is to try to reduce the growing threat of antibiotic resistance. ... It’s really timely and important that we address this growing problem of antibiotic resistance. ... It’s really important, as we are training future health professionals ... that they have a better understanding of how significant this problem is. That prompted [this] 1-credit course. Let’s Talk about Periods is also really timely in a time when policies are changing [and] gynecological issues are getting politicized. If you listen to the conversations about how they’re getting politicized, the biology ... and the understanding of some of these issues is missing. ... I’ve noticed more and more students are coming in without an understanding of, first of all, menstruation, and then second of all, issues that are associated with menstruation. ... The third one is an Introduction to One Health which talks about the



Kari Brossard Stoops, associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Health Sciences and Public Health, adds diverse global health courses for Spring 2025.

MEI DENNISON/THE ITHACAN

intersectionality between human health, animal health and environmental or planetary health.

PP: What do you hope students take away from these courses?

KBS: The thing I really want to change, especially with the discussion about periods, is a greater understanding of these two pathologies that I pointed out in the title of the class: endometriosis and [Polycystic ovary syndrome]. The reason being that it takes an average of seven years and several doctors to be diagnosed at least with endometriosis. And so one of the goals for me is to have people who menstruate ... to just be aware of what these things are and to be a more educated health care consumer. The other thing is those who are going to be providers [should] know a little bit more about endometriosis or PCOS before they get into

their professional training.

PP: Would you say these courses are part of some kind of strategic effort, or is it just something that you personally feel very strongly about and want to pass down to your students?

KBS: It’s a little bit of both. Selfishly, I’m like, “This is stuff I think is cool,” ... but I also think it is strategically part of this bigger idea of, “Let’s make sure we are current in following these major issues in health.” ... We have other folks in the department that really focus on maternal and child health overall [which] is a huge issue globally. As we navigate toward those topics, it is strategic for the department to really focus on some of these really consistent problems throughout health that are still problematic.

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COLLEGE BRIEFS

IC Unbound Dance Company to present 50th showcase 'LEGACY'

IC Unbound Dance Co. is holding its 50th showcase, "LEGACY," at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 8 in Emerson Suites. Dances will feature the work of student choreographers with many different styles including jazz, hip-hop, contemporary, ballet, tap and more. Tickets were available for \$3 Dec. 2-4 and \$5 Dec. 5-6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Campus Center by the information desk. Tickets will also be available at the door if the show does not sell out in presale. Doors open half an hour before the shows start.

Nature Rx to hold forest and sound bathing relaxation event

Nature Rx is holding "Pond Reflections" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 10 in Muller Chapel. The event aims to connect attendees with nature by immersing them in the sounds of the winter forest. Coloring pages and journaling prompts will be provided at the event to help students relax and reflect. Anyone in need of accommodations or has any questions can email healthpromotion@ithaca.edu.

Relaxing pre-finals activities for students open on Unity Friday

Students are invited to relax before finals with games, bracelet making, hot chocolate, massages and snacks from 1-5 p.m. Dec. 6 in the North Foyer on the second floor of the Campus Center. The event is organized by the BIPOC Unity Center in collaboration with the Martin Luther King Scholar Program, Ithaca Firsts, the Mental Health Flock, the Center for Health Promotion, the Ithaca College Library and the Makerspace. Anyone who needs accommodations or has any questions should email bipocunity@ithaca.edu.

Center for Student Success holds success coaching ahead of finals

The Center for Student Success is holding drop-in hours with a success coach ahead of final exams from noon to 1 p.m. Dec. 6 and noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 9-11 in its office at 106 Muller Faculty Center. The center's goal is to

help students assess their study techniques, combat procrastination and develop skills for stress and time management in preparation for finals. Students can reserve office space in the center to concentrate on studying or to take a break and recharge. The center will also be giving out its Study Tip Survival Guide to help students prepare for finals.

Muller Chapel holds mass for the Immaculate Conception

The Ithaca College Catholic community is holding a mass in celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at 12:10 p.m. Dec. 9 in Muller Chapel. Individuals requiring accommodations should contact Katie Dillabaugh at kmahoney1@ithaca.edu or 419-450-9003 as soon as possible.

IC Eco Reps seeking volunteers to help combat food insecurity

The Ithaca College Eco Reps is seeking volunteers for its food donation events on Fridays from 7:45-9 p.m. at the Campus Center dining hall. The group helps combat food waste by packaging and labeling unused food to give to those in need. The donations are collected through the Friendship Donations Network, a local non-profit organization.

Student mental health training for faculty with JED Task Force

Faculty are invited to join the JED Campus Task Force to be trained in the "You Can Help a Student Mental Health" training from 3-5 p.m. Dec. 6 in Gannett 319. The training will provide faculty with information on college student mental health trends, how to recognize signs of distress in students and how they can support students. The training is open to all faculty, with a capacity of 30 participants.

Self-care activities available for students ahead of finals week

Students are invited to break from studying and practice self-care with a variety of activities from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 7 in IC Square. Activities include karaoke, board games, slime making, bracelet making,



Architecture club hosts cookie decorating event

From left, junior Jasmine Gallion, senior Keke Tanksley and junior Laura Joaquin decorate cookies together at a Thanksgiving cookie decorating event hosted by IC Architecture club on Nov. 18 in the Gannett Center.

MAKAI YLLANES/THE ITHACAN

painting, Mario Kart, raffles and more. The event is organized by the Center for Health Promotion in collaboration with the Ithaca College Library, the Prevention Education Network and the Mental Health Flock.

Student speaker application for May commencement opens

The application for the student speaker for the Class of 2025 in the Ithaca College May Commencement Ceremony is open. All undergraduate seniors with a graduation date between December 2024 and December 2025 who have earned a minimum of 60 credits and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 by the end of the Fall 2024 semester are eligible to apply.

Applications for the student speaker must be turned in by 11:59 p.m. Feb. 14, 2025.

London Center applications open for next three terms

London Center applications are now open for Summer 2025, Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. The application deadline for all terms is Feb. 15, 2025. Students applying to study abroad for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 will rank their preferred semester. First priority for preferred semesters will be given to rising seniors and students with academic needs that require them to study abroad during a specific semester. Students applying for Summer 2025 will only be reviewed for the Summer 2025 program.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOV. 13 TO 23

NOV. 13

PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200

LOCATION: Terraces
SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person stole a bicycle. Corporal Kevin McClain responded. The incident is being investigated.

V&T LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

LOCATION: J-Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown vehicle damaged a parked vehicle and left the scene. Patrol Officer Ivan Cruz responded. The incident is being investigated.

NOV. 14

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: Hood Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person having a seizure. Patrol Officer Jack Nelson responded. The person was transported to the hospital by an ambulance.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 4TH DEGREE

LOCATION: Hood Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person broke a window. Patrol Officer Matthew Patire responded. The incident is being investigated.

NOV. 15

COMPUTER TRESPASS

LOCATION: Unknown
SUMMARY: Caller reported an unknown person gained access to their email account. Patrol Officer Matthew Patire responded. The incident is being investigated.

ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE

LOCATION: Butterfield Stadium
SUMMARY: Caller reported a vehicle accidentally backed over a laptop and headphones. Corporal Kevin McClain responded. The incident was investigated and a report was completed.

NOV. 16

SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS

LOCATION: Emerson Hall
SUMMARY: Caller reported an intoxicated person vomiting. The person declined medical assistance. Patrol Officer Alex Hitchcock referred the student to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL

LOCATION: Terrace 9
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person

in possession of an open container of alcohol fled. Master Security Officer Christopher Gallagher referred the student to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

NOV. 17

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED

LOCATION: 190 College Circle
SUMMARY: A caller reported an intoxicated person. Patrol Officer Thaddeus May responded. The person declined medical assistance.

NOV. 18

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / INJURY RELATED

LOCATION: Center for Health Sciences
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person fell and injured their head against a door. Patrol Officer Steven Hutchison responded. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance.

NOV. 19

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / PSYCHOLOGICAL

LOCATION: West Tower
SUMMARY: A caller reported that a person made alarming comments on social media. Patrol Officer Kevin

Noterfonzo responded. The person was determined not to be an imminent threat to themselves.

FIRE ALARM UNDETERMINED CAUSE

LOCATION: Terrace 10
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Charlie Sherman, fire and buildings safety coordinator in the Office of EH&S, responded. The cause of the alarm activation is unknown.

NOV. 20

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

LOCATION: Chapel Pond
SUMMARY: A caller reported finding a bullet casing. Sergeant Bryan Verzosa determined the item was an air pellet cartridge. The incident is being investigated.

NOV. 21

PETIT LARCENY UNDER \$50

LOCATION: Emerson Hall
SUMMARY: A caller reported people stole a food delivery. Corporal Jordan Bartolis determined that the food had been delivered and not stolen.

UNLAWFUL DISSEMINATION OF INTIMATE IMAGE

LOCATION: Unknown
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person

disseminated an intimate image without authorization. Corporal Jordan Bartolis responded. The incident is being investigated.

NOV. 22

SCC FIREARM OR WEAPON

LOCATION: 150 College Circle
SUMMARY: A caller reported finding a propane torch. The torch was turned over to the Office of Public Safety and the staff in the Office of Residential Life referred the person to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

NOV. 23

PETIT LARCENY OVER \$200

LOCATION: Circle Lot
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person stole the backup camera from a vehicle. Sergeant John Elmore responded. This is a pending investigation.

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

TheFactoryArtMarket.com
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Meet artists in their studios, as well as invited creators in the factory's alleys. Savor local delights from food vendors like Just Desserts, Osakaya, Ithaca Chocolates, Aurora Cookie Co. and Marie's Macarons. Experience a cozy, indoor holiday event filled with creativity and warmth. Shop small, spread joy, and make this holiday season truly special with artisanal treasures.

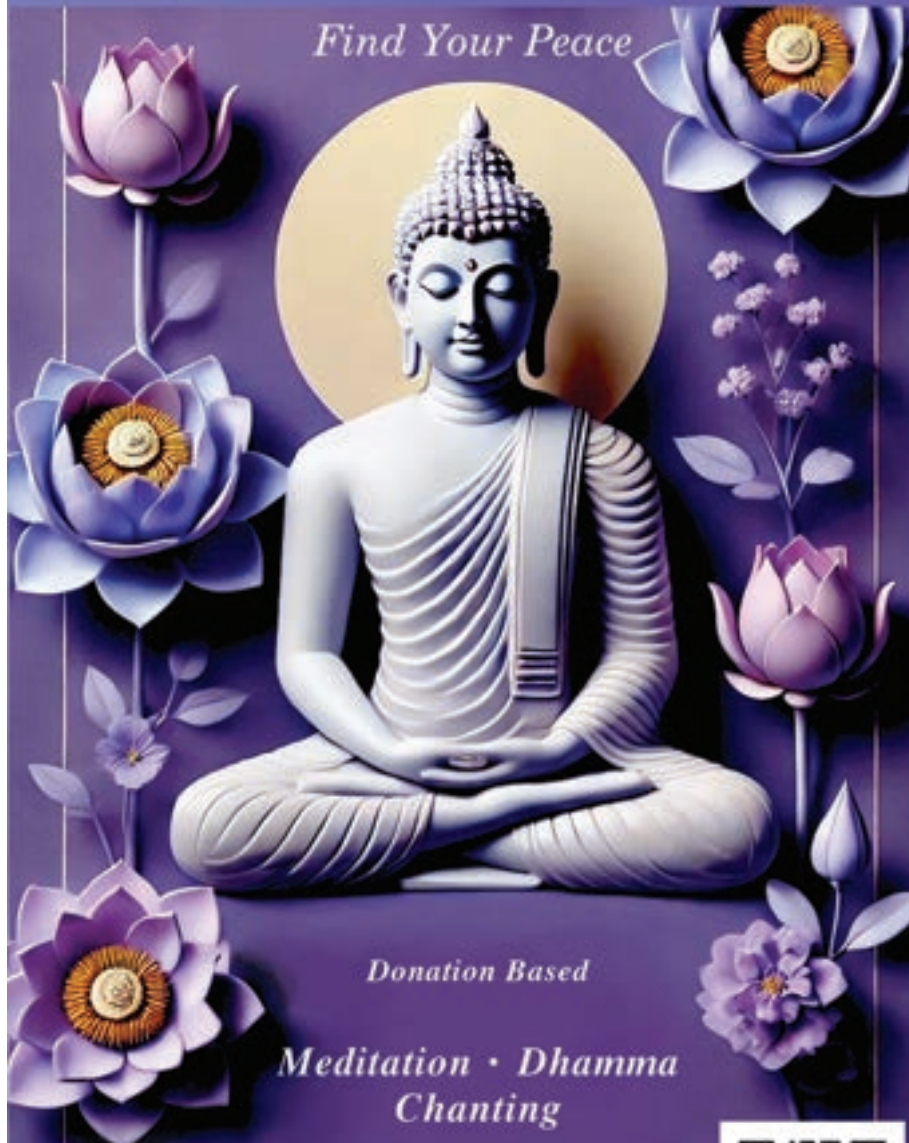


Sat., 12.7 at noon Ithaca College acapella group *Voicestream* will be performing in the Gallery





South Hill Business Campus, 950 Danby Rd, Ithaca

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ILLUSTRATION BY ATTICUS JACKSON/THE ITHACAN

EDITORIALS

Media literacy initiatives are essential on campus

The concept of media literacy has been rising in both journalistic circles and common discussions across campus — accusations of being “media illiterate,” or assumptions that media literacy is solely an issue for those interested in communications, have become common refrains. But the concept of media literacy is not a new force, and efforts to expand the course offerings throughout the college reflect a growing interest in the field.

Nearly 72% of Americans surveyed by Boston University said that media literacy skills are important in the current climate. In turn, 62% of Americans surveyed by the Reboot Foundation said they did not learn how to analyze media messaging in their primary education. This means those skills are increasingly the responsibility of the collegiate landscape.

Project Look Sharp and Park Center for Independent Media are working to expand media literacy on campus. But beyond those spaces, it is also the responsibility of college-educated students to take initiative and question their

own understanding of the media and technology that suffuses their lives. Students should also teach younger students or family members about the ways to recognize disinformation, misinformation and bias in entertainment and news sources. According to a 2019 report by Stanford University, 96% of high school students struggled to accurately judge the credibility of an online news source. Two-thirds of those students could not tell the difference between advertising and news articles. As technology continues to advance, students must learn to distinguish types of information.

Media literacy courses for K-12 students are now offered in 18 states and mandated in four. But media literacy goes beyond the classroom or workplace. It is a vanguard against issues like hyper-polarizations and political division. Critiquing the lack of media literacy in our students is easy. Building bridges to a world of informed learners is difficult. It is admirable to create spaces on campus that highlight media literacy, but those initiatives must also become interdisciplinary and more accessible.

Caution must be exercised in potential financial cuts

Ithaca College has a history of staff and program cuts that have created a feeling of unrest among both the student body and staff. The return of Huron Consulting Group on campus is not an immediate cause for concern, as it may lead to the strengthening of the institution as a whole. But for employees of the college, patterns of academic prioritization due to COVID-19 have raised warning signs.

Expectations of enrollment stabilization have not proven fruitful as Fall 2024 enrollment did not surpass the goal of 1,400 students. The college also has an increased financial deficit, and its partnership with the consulting group is one aspect of its attempts to fix the problem.

If the college wishes to expand its enrollment threshold, it needs to also prioritize clear communication with faculty, staff and students. Although we do not yet know the extent of the recommendations that Huron Consulting Group will provide, it is important to also validate the fears of staff and faculty in regard to potential cuts. This is not an Ithaca College

specific problem. Nationally, fewer 18-year-olds enrolled in higher education during Fall 2024 due to a variety of factors: struggles with the FAFSA application, a rise in vocational learning and a more immediate move to the workforce. As more higher education institutions of similar profiles to the college report continued changes, the sector as a whole must rethink their academic programs. Steps taken to ensure the strength of the institution need to take the national landscape into account without instilling false enrollment prospects.

The way to enroll more students is to strengthen the offerings of the college. The campus community must also be allowed to weigh in on potential changes to the institution. At this moment, members of the college community have not had an opportunity to vocalize those fears or suggest solutions. This may come further down the line. The purpose of the campus community is to be cognizant of these potential changes and prepare appropriately. While we may not be able to stop cuts to programming, we can adjust accordingly.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

ALL LETTERS MUST:

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor opinion@theithacan.org

ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

- Convey a clear message.
- Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject.
- Be between 650–750 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Editor's Note: The opinions in this commentary do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board.

Election fears highlight need for working class unity

BY GIOVANNI MACHADO
SENIOR

Lately, I've heard all kinds of responses when talking to people before and after the election. I've heard people afraid of the current state of the world, deportation, environmental catastrophe, economic downturn, discrimination and the decline of democracy. I've heard that people are afraid.

One of our many missions at the Leftist Study Club is to point out the real culprit to people's current fears and circumstances, as well as the rise of fascism: a system that values profit for billionaires and corporations over human lives. We must never forget, however, that there would be no fascist movement if there were no real crisis and economic hardship and no real reasons to fear these issues.

I am afraid. I am afraid I won't be able to get a job when I graduate. I am afraid I won't be able to build a prosperous life for myself and my family. I fear I won't be able to afford the simplest of human rights. I fear for my friends, and I fear for my family. Republicans have the exact same fears. That is what fascism preys on.

Fascism gives false answers to real problems. We are all watching corporations making record profits. Amazon could give its 1.5 million employees a \$10,000 bonus and still have a potential \$40 billion profit.

Amazon profited \$50 billion last year. The middle class is disappearing as 35% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck, according to CNBC.

We see groceries and rent prices going up. According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, when median rents increase by \$100, homelessness rates rise by 9%. The average monthly rent has increased by \$400 in the last five years. People are financially hurting.

The crumbling American economy is being blamed on immigrants, transgender people and all forms of minorities who are being used as scapegoats and pose no real threat to American society. The dominant class has historically utilized the same fear mongering tactics instead of placing blame on the real culprit.

From some Democrats, I've heard mockery and a belief in moral superiority over those who voted for President-elect Donald Trump or third-party candidates. This belief does nothing for the crumbling working class. It further reinforces this "us vs. them" that currently separates people who all wish for security and freedom. Most Americans' fears have nothing to do with the election itself; they were only brought to the surface by it.

Our actions must be moved by a deep sense of love. Love for all races, genders, sexualities and peoples. Love for the blue-collar Republican, who is also a victim of the current



Senior Giovanni Machado, president of the Leftist Study Club, discusses international concerns surrounding the recent U.S. elections and how the working class can collaborate for a better future.

MARISSA MOSCHELLA/THE ITHACAN

system. In the LSC, we do not fight for the rights of leftists, liberals or Democrats. We fight for the rights of the working people of America and the world — freedom from fear and freedom from the failed two-party system, a system that allows for a fascist figure such as Donald Trump to be in power. One might say that his election simply was "the will of the people." The current capitalist dominant class favors having a

billionaire as president. The working class does not. We refuse this system. Its power shall not reach us and our loved ones. We are the only ones who can ensure that. Do you and your family work or will in the future work in exchange for a salary? Then you are a member of the working class, and you are welcome at the LSC. The LSC fosters opportunities for discussions, readings, community-building and action. We are always looking for

new members and clubs to partner with. The current system has failed and separated us. Let's build a new system of dialogue and solidarity.

We will work against fear. We will work for love and for each other. Let's talk to each other, and most importantly, let us listen to each other.

Giovanni Machado (he/him) is a senior psychology major. Contact him at gmachado@ithaca.edu.

STAFF COMMENTARY

Editor's Note: The opinions in this commentary do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board.

Gen Z needs to speak up amid U.S. political turmoil

BY CHLOE JOHNSTON
OPINION EDITOR

Over Thanksgiving break, friends of my parents asked me question after question. At one point, the discussion evolved into the failures of the current media system. As a student journalist, I was put on the stand: "How do we save journalism?" "How did we get here?"

I could point to a myriad of issues. The rise of pink slime journalism, the creation of local news deserts, the siloing of information and a general failure to extend beyond liberal, elite coastal perspectives by some of our largest media moguls. Journalist demonization has become a consistent pattern espoused by political figures afraid of accountability. But there's another issue that has been overlooked — the savior complex that the world has foisted upon Gen Z. This line of questioning I experienced over the holiday break exemplifies this larger problem: throughout my childhood, everyone has held me and my peers up as potential saviors of a broken world.

Our generation was raised with the expectation that we would fix the problems — but this ignores the entrenched nature of many systematic issues. Through the Black Lives Matter protests in 2020, increased concern surrounding mental health, a dying environment and other worldly issues, the previous generations pointed to Gen Z as the people who must create the change. And while this is an inspiring position, it is not a realistic one. Gen Z needs to get to work. But Gen Z is not your savior.

I have been working as *The Ithacan's* opinion editor during an era of great tumult for the United States and the world. I've edited

responses to the 2024 elections in the U.S., the Israel-Hamas war, discussions of racism and more. Throughout my tenure, many Ithaca College students have expressed their concerns through the opinion section surrounding a world that seems increasingly hostile to their existence. Many students have also stayed silent. And I cannot begrudge our community for their silence — in a world where everything you say comes back to you, sometimes it is better to keep your thoughts to yourself. But I encourage the student body to engage more through a forum of active discussion.

So I hope readers will share their thoughts in a manner that makes space for each other. I also encourage students to be critical of the environment they operate within. Question everything and follow curiosity throughout your tenure at the college and beyond.

A rise in anti-intellectualism, increased purity culture and the normalization of radical conservative ideas reflect the general movement toward the political right in our culture. Highly enforced gender roles, a rise in white nationalism and an alt-right pipeline that targets the masculinity of Gen Z men all point to cultural shifts. While the town of Ithaca is a liberal hotspot, the overall culture has been moving in the opposite direction.

These patterns have connections to our struggling educational system. As a tutor at the Writing Center, I've been seeing a general decrease in research and writing skills, academic preparedness and understanding of the basic tenets of what it takes to succeed at a college level. This is a consistent problem that has risen throughout my three years as a tutor backed up by research throughout the field. The rise of AI,



Senior Chloe Johnston writes about the political disillusionment of Gen Z and its connections to educational disparities, journalism and activism in the United States.

LUCIA IANDOLO/THE ITHACAN

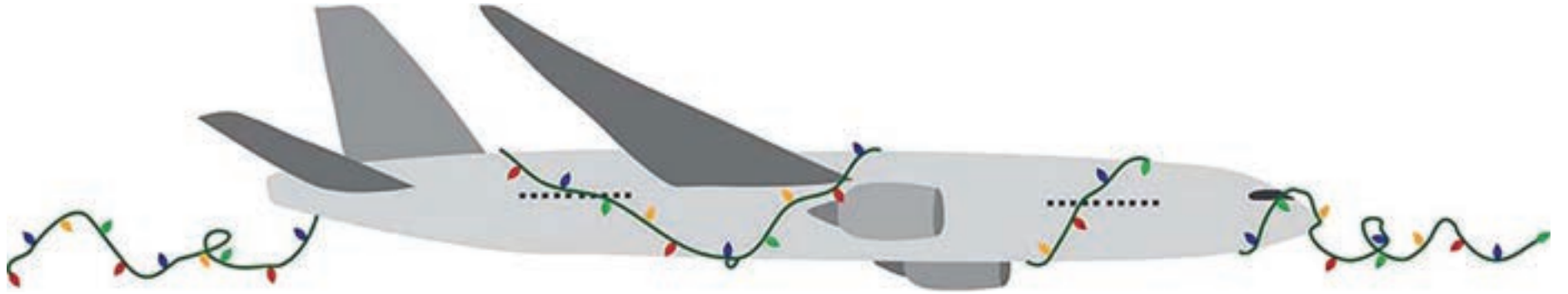
lowered attention spans and a lack of critical instructive periods during COVID-19 left students with gaps in their knowledge. The system is setting up students to fail, which creates a less informed population. These problems in education are indicative of more widespread issues that will make creating positive change difficult.

The student population has been systematically and often intentionally disadvantaged by educational reforms — but education is one of the most critical aspects of true democracy. As the government continues to defund public education through plans like Project 2025, we must pay attention to how this changes education — it affects the ability of students to enter

a politically savvy world. And this is what the system wants. A downtrodden population that is fearful and disconnected from the world does not hold others accountable. The frustration expressed towards journalists is not misplaced, but it forgets the distraction economy and a world that is attempting to divert and dilute your ability to respond. I believe in young people's ability to create change. However, in this current climate, we cannot avoid the responsibility of conversations with our peers. The call has to come from inside the house.

Chloe Johnston (she/they) is a senior journalism major. Contact her at cjohnston2@ithaca.edu.

STRESS BEYOND FINALS SEASON TRAVEL LOGISTICS PROVE DIFFICULT CLOSE TO HOLIDAYS



BY MARIANA CONTRERAS

LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR

Though Thanksgiving break has come to an end, Ithaca College's next break creeps right around the corner as students prepare for their last weeks of classes and finals. In addition to studying for finals, many students have to deal with the extra stress of traveling. From finances and logistics to weather conditions, there are various factors they need to consider when getting ready for the holiday break.

Junior Ashan Chandrasena, who is on Ithaca College's rowing team, bought his ticket to return home to California a week before the semester started.

"When purchasing [my round] ticket, I leave the departure date ... kind of flexible," Chandrasena said. "I have to pay extra for that [and] depending on how professors choose to do finals ... [that gets] moved around."

Sophomore Joslyn Forcione said that as a sociology and legal studies double major, she feels that being in humanities fields allows more flexibility when it comes to tests and final assignment due dates. Ultimately, when a student is able to leave for break comes down to when their last in-person obligation is scheduled.

"The professors are really insightful as to what students are planning on doing for breaks and when they're planning on leaving," Forcione said. "I have professors who will push back readings or assignments if they know that people are typically going to travel on a day. ... They're typically pretty flexible."

Ithaca College finals end Dec. 17 at 10 p.m., according to the academic calendar. Vikki Levine, who

oversees office staff and procedures in the Office of the Registrar, said New York state requires Ithaca College to have a 15-week semester.

"It's a balancing act of when we can start classes, include fall [and] Thanksgiving break, and ... ensure that we have the appropriate seat time," Levine said.

The academic calendar is proposed to the provost and vice president for academic affairs by a committee made up of two Student Government Council members, eight staff members and one faculty member per school.

"I remember the committee this year talking about the cost of tickets," Levine said. "There's only so much you're gonna have control over. [Our priority is to] ensure that students are getting the education and the seat time that they deserve and are here to get."

Levine said the planning committee is currently working on the 2030–31 academic calendar and any feedback can be communicated through the SGC chairs.

"If every Aug. 23 was a Monday, life would be great, but because the calendar [is] ... always evolving and changing. There's no set pattern," Levine said.

For students who travel greater distances, an extra weekend can make a big difference. According to Expedia's Air Travel Hacks Report, the Airlines Reporting Corporation data showed that traveling domestically and internationally on Thursday can save an average of 16%. Traveling domestically on Saturday can save an average of 13%, while Sundays are the most expensive day to travel.

This year, Chandrasena will be flying out of Newark Airport. Chandrasena said for previous breaks he has flown out of Buffalo since Ithaca airport is too small and does not offer many affordable connecting flights.

Chris Stephany, marketing and air service develop-

ment administrator at Ithaca Tompkins International Airport, said the airport only offers two departures to Newark and two to JFK airport per day.

"The weekend before Christmas and the weekend after Christmas are going to be expensive travel days," Stephany said. "We also have the added situation of Cornell and Ithaca College finishing classes and everybody wants to go home after they're done with their tests."

First-year student Melissa Hecker, an international student from Singapore, will be flying out from Ithaca's airport to San Francisco for her brother's graduation. She said she plans to take the TCAT bus up to the airport on Dec. 17.

"I've heard some friends had to ask seniors with cars to drive them to Ithaca or Syracuse airports, often at the last minute," Hecker said. "If I had an earlier flight and no bus, I'd be worried. It would be easier if there were resources to help get to the airports."

Hecker said that some of her friends opt against going home or look for alternative travel destinations closer to Ithaca because of finances and the lengthy flights.

"I'm fortunate that I can meet my family and then go home because I think if we weren't meeting up in San Francisco, it probably would have been a little bit harder to make that whole journey completely by myself," Hecker said.

Another major stressor besides coordinating transportation is the weather. Forcione, an SGC member on the Academic Calendar Committee who lives in Syracuse, drove back to Ithaca for a day during Thanksgiving break to help host the Thanksgiving dinner hosted by SGC and the Residential Hall Association but had to extend her stay for a couple of hours due to the weather conditions.

"I looked out of my window and I realized there was snow on the ground and that the roads were probably going to be bad," Forcione said.

Chandrasena said that for him, flying home during Thanksgiving for a week was not worth the risk primarily because of the bad weather. He said that when studying on the East Coast, unpredictable weather is a given.

"[Weather] was a big concern when I was talking to my mother about [booking flights]," Chandrasena said. "She was like, 'OK, you're getting close to Christmas time, and that's when snow starts to come down, I don't know how comfortable I am with you being [still in Ithaca.]'"

Besides working out the logistics of traveling, these dates also affect families who celebrate religious or cultural traditions during the winter break. Chandrasena said that his sister, who attends school in California, gets out of classes much earlier and he felt this year's break was surprisingly closer to Christmas.

"[We have talked] about how we usually do things as a family versus how this year's different," Chandrasena said. "Since I'm coming back too late, [we've] been saying, 'Let's just have everything ready by the time you get here,' instead of waiting for me to join in like usual."

Chandrasena said that having a good support system in place is beneficial when traveling gets complicated, as it usually does in a city like Ithaca.

"Talk to your friends, talk to your roommates, and ... come up with contingencies," Chandrasena said. "It's always safer to have a plan in place where if something does go wrong, you have somewhere to go."



Sophomore students dial up the downtown DJ scene

BY TESS FERGUSON

SENIOR WRITER

What originated as a dorm room hobby turned sophomores Maddie Schnitzlein and Ari Klein into a dynamic duo at the helm of Ithaca nightlife.

The pair began DJing at the local venues Moonies Bar & Nightclub and Lot 10 Bar and Lounge in October and have since made a name for themselves on and off campus. Despite beginning their practices solo, Schnitzlein and Klein have been perfecting their craft together and performing most Thursday nights all semester.

Schnitzlein, an advertising, public relations and marketing communications major, said her love for house music drew her to the discs. After starting to play around with mixing music for her friends and family at parties, she realized she could take her skills to a crowd.

"I always see videos on TikTok and Instagram of people performing," Schnitzlein said. "The second I actually started to grasp and understand what to do, I knew I wanted people to hear what I have to offer."

Klein, a writing for film, TV, and emerging media major, began his DJing journey a bit differently. The concept turned from a running joke with his friends into a reality with one Instagram DM.

"I just reached out to Moonies about wanting to DJ and they were like, 'Yeah, can you play Thursday?'" Klein said. "It was so

funny because at that point I didn't really know how to DJ at all. I have a few mutual friends who put me in contact with Maddie; we started working together and we played our first set that week."

Schnitzlein and Klein played their first set together at Moonies on Oct. 24.

"The first set that Ari and I did was the most memorable," Schnitzlein said. "It was super packed [and] nerve-racking in the beginning ... but then once we got into it I knew it's what we were meant to be doing."

Schnitzlein said the steepest point of the learning curve has been preparing for gigs. Each set requires a balance of creativity and technical skill; from curating playlists tailored to each crowd to fine-tuning transitions between tracks, every detail matters.

"Figuring out what music goes in takes so long," Schnitzlein said. "Sometimes we'll spend the whole week thinking of what we want to play, curating it and seeing what goes well together."

Not only have Schnitzlein and Klein been DJing at local bars and clubs, but they have also brought their skills to campus-sanctioned events. On Nov. 15, the pair headlined the second-ever boiler room hosted by the college's Bureau of Concerts.

Boiler room style sets began to explode in popularity in 2023 and reference a London-based music production of the same name. They often feature no separation between the crowd and DJ booth,



From left, sophomores Ari Klein and Maddie Schnitzlein get together throughout the week in Schnitzlein's Emerson Hall room and perfect original beats for their gigs on The Commons.

SPENCER BAESE/THE ITHACAN

creating a more intimate and interactive environment for both the performer and their listeners.

Sophomore Kiva Lucero, a television and digital media production major and member of the BOC's Logistics team, said that after Schnitzlein and Klein had made a name for themselves downtown, they were frontrunners to perform at the first boiler room of the semester.

"House music and electronic music is really popular right now among students our age," Lucero said. "At the time, everyone was

kind of talking about DJ Maddie and Ari, so we knew that they would have a pretty decent pool of people that would come to the boiler."

As young creatives, Klein said there are always people who doubt the pair's abilities or disrespect boundaries at performances. Schnitzlein and Klein block out the noise by making more of it.

"People will always be pushy about requests, which can definitely be a little difficult and frustrating," Schnitzlein said. "It's just something you have to get

used to. It's a reality of DJing and doing what we do."

As the semester draws to a close, the pair said they plan to hit the ground running in the spring. Klein said that although he is still new to mixing, the gig has been too much fun to take his foot off the gas.

"As I keep doing this for longer and longer, I do really enjoy it," Klein said. "It's very much something I could see myself doing for a while."

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Q&A: Local author writes guide to all things Ithaca

Amanda Jaros Champion released her new book "100 Things to Do in Ithaca Before You Die" Sept. 1. This marks Champion's second published book after "Labor of Love: A Literary Mama Staff Anthology" released Jan. 26. Champion has lived in Ithaca for about 24 years and has been serving on the Tompkins County Legislature since 2018.

Staff writer Liam McDermott spoke with Champion about her new book and the inspiration behind it, including her history with the city of Ithaca.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Liam McDermott: What was it that originally brought you to Ithaca?

Amanda Jaros Champion: I was young and traveling — I had moved around the country doing different jobs and stuff. I learned about Farm Sanctuary over in Watkins Glen, and ... I ended up deciding to go to Farm Sanctuary. I worked there for a little while, cleaning barns and helping ... animals and all that, which was great fun. On our off days, we would come [to] Ithaca and go to GreenStar or go see a movie. I just really liked the area and I started meeting people. It's a super fun college town, [with] lots of young people around, and I was ready to stop moving around and stay in Ithaca for a while. Twenty-four years later, here I am.

LM: What first sparked your passion to be a writer?

AJC: I think I've always been a writer. I've always written in a journal — since I was in middle school and over the years, as a young adult and in college — and I've written short stories and essays, but I never really took it that seriously. ... When I had kids [and]

I was home more, [I had] to come up with outlets for my thoughts and what was going on. Having kids is what kind of sparked it into becoming a more serious thing for me. I ended up finding this online literary journal called "Literary Mama," and I became an editor with them. I stayed with them for almost 10 years, doing various editing work, working with writers, doing their blog and all kinds of stuff. I felt like I really wanted to pursue this, something that ... I love and I'm good at, so I went back to school and got my MFA in creative nonfiction. I've tried various kinds of writing. I was writing kids' books for a little while. ... Writing essays and nonfiction stuff comes more naturally to me, so I kind of have ended up with nonfiction [as] my main thing that I write.

LM: What encouraged you to write a book about Ithaca?

AJC: I've done a lot of wonderful things and been a part of a lot of groups and businesses and organizations and I wanted to write something that would celebrate this town that I love. ... There are so many trails [with] the waterfalls and everything, so I was doing some research to try and find a publisher [for] a hiking book. I came across Reedy Press, and they had some similar books [about hiking so] I reached out to them and they said, "Well we don't really want a hiking book, but we're looking for somebody to write '100 things to do in Ithaca before you die.'" I was like, "Great! That sounds like fun." This [book is part of] a series that they have [in] many other cities around the country.

LM: There are 100 things in this book but what is your favorite thing about Ithaca?

AJC: I would say that the trails and the



Amanda Jaros Champion celebrates the release of her book, "100 Things to Do in Ithaca Before You Die," with a book signing at Buffalo Street Books on Nov. 29.

MARIANA CONTRERAS/THE ITHACAN

outdoors kind of stuff would be my favorite. ... The two things I love about Ithaca are the natural beauty: the lake, the waterfalls and the trails. We're just so lucky to have so many wonderful outdoor things that you can do here, but [its also] a really special community of people who care and want to be involved [as] activists. There's a lot of really good people here doing really good work.

LM: What activities are listed in the book?

AJC: It's different sections. There's a food and drink section, which I ... had to narrow down. I think I have 25 restaurants and coffee shops and breweries and that sort of stuff. Then there's the music and entertainment section, which

has some festivals, some of our theater companies, the Hangar Theatre, Dorothy Cotton Jubilee Singers, that sort of thing. Then the sports and recreation section, there's culture and history, and that has our museums, the various art, things like the Greater Ithaca Art Trail. ... The final section is shopping and fashion. Ithaca doesn't have a lot of shopping and fashion, but I [included] visiting the DeWitt Mall, which has numerous shops and restaurants there, or Buffalo Street Books ... and GreenStar is in the shopping section, so I tried to make the shopping section varied and interesting for what we have here.

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REVIEWS

‘Wicked’



BY MARIANA CONTRERAS

One of the most awaited films of the year made its debut in theaters Nov. 22, with fans anxiously waiting to see the green-pink duo in “Wicked.” The film picks up toward the end of “The Wizard of Oz” as Munchkinland celebrates the death of the Wicked Witch of the West before it flashes back to the witches’ formative years at Shiz University. Ultimately the film leaves several plot points loose to address in part two, set to be released Nov. 21, 2025.

Ariana Grande-Butera gracefully invokes Glinda’s lovable sweetness in spite of her vanity. Cynthia Erivo’s performance as Elphaba goes beyond

what many would have expected, surpassing an already very high bar set by Idina Menzel, who played Elphaba in the original Broadway cast. She portrays a vulnerable woman who takes a roaring stand against a society that shoves her aside due to the color of her skin.

It is hard to fully capture the magic of a live performance in a film, risking the wow factor of the story, but “Wicked” conquers this challenge. This film is undeniably full of nostalgia and brings the streets of Broadway into every movie theater while also holding onto its theatrical and musical origins.

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‘GNX’



BY JOHN BAKER

On Nov. 22, one of hip-hop’s most beloved icons, Kendrick Lamar, released his sixth studio album “GNX” by surprise. Although there were no singles or promotions for this release, there was certainly no lack of anticipation after his feud with Canadian rapper and music superstar Drake.

The battle between the two hip-hop moguls was capped off with Lamar’s hit single “Not Like Us” — which does not appear on this new release. Aesthetically, the album continues the energy of “Not Like Us” with West Coast-inspired beats and flows.

The second track, “squabble up,”

acts as the lead single off the album, bringing some booming and bass-heavy beat paired with great charisma from Lamar’s lyrics and cadence. It’s the kind of track that exemplifies the vibe this album has to offer: hard-hitting and radiating self-assurance.

“GNX” reached #1 on Apple Music in over 100 countries for good reason. If there is a common theme in this album, it’s that Lamar wants you to know he’s top dog. The album is catchy and consistent, while also containing powerful and uncompromising energy on both the lyrical and production front.

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‘A Man on the Inside’



BY MAYA SILVEIRA SURI

The newest addition to Michael Schur’s legacy of sitcoms arrived to Netflix on Nov. 21. In the first season of “A Man on the Inside,” Charles (Ted Danson) tries to figure out how to be a spy as he steps out of his lonely shell, finding companionship alongside the other residents at the home.

The show conveys how someone can return to a feeling of youth at an older age, illuminating how the sensation of risk is different. Kids think nothing can hurt them because nothing has yet. The elderly think nothing can affect them because they’ve already been affected, so they go back to this peaceful limbo.

Although it has its faults, it is overall

a good season of television. Not having a spectacularly strong first season shouldn’t mean its demise. The beauty of sitcoms relies on having time for that growth to happen. And even by the eighth episode, there was already significant change.

Schur’s sensibility is what makes his shows unique. Yes, the season could benefit from a longer run time with more episodes, but it still manages to pull through. You laugh when you watch it, and once it’s over, it feels like a warm hug.

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‘Gladiator II’



BY LOGAN THOMPSON

In the highly-anticipated “Gladiator II,” Ridley Scott brings the heat with bigger battles, rabid CGI animals and the flawless casting of Denzel Washington as the film’s lead antagonist.

This sequel includes only a few flashback clips of the original protagonist, Maximus (Russell Crowe) and instead follows Lucius (Paul Mescal), Lucilla’s (Connie Nielsen) son from the first film. Lucius commands his village’s small artillery that tries to fend off the Roman ships. He grows as a leader when he has to start from scratch and gain the respect of his fellow gladiators. Mescal gives a strong performance, revealing sadness behind his stone face.

Washington steals the whole movie. Everything from his posture to his outfits to his dialogue is irresistibly captivating. While he has a likable facade, it conceals darker and more power-hungry intentions.

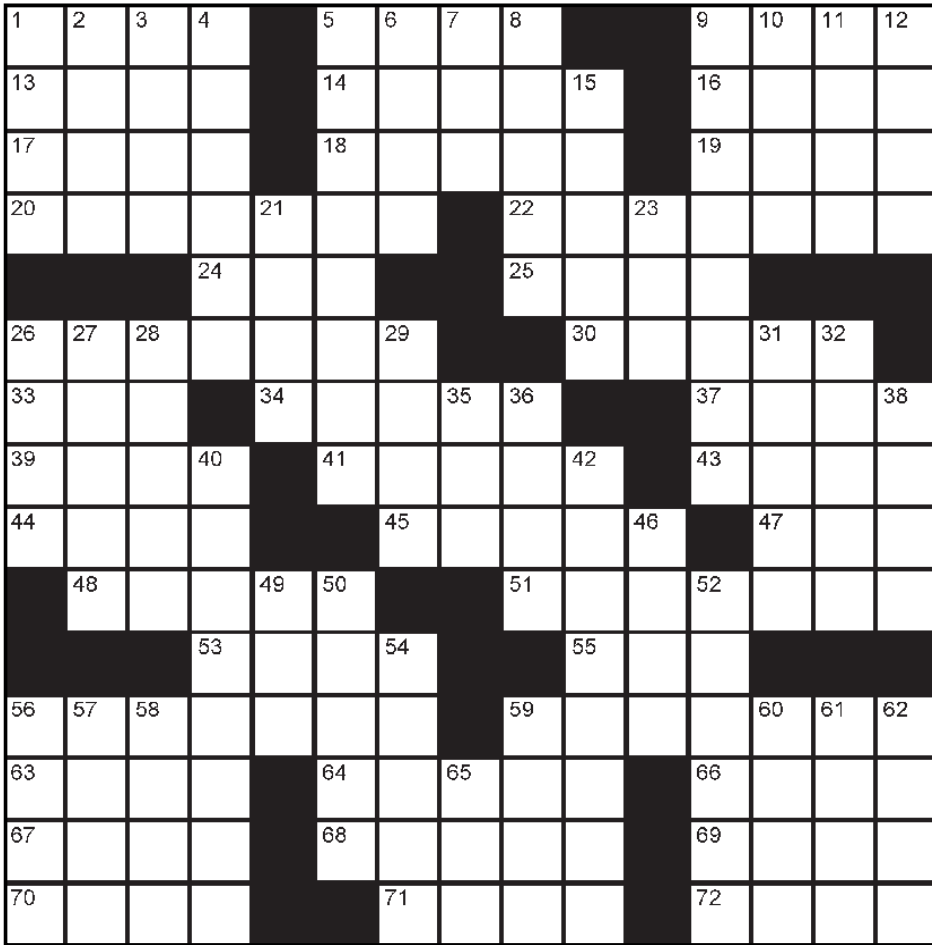
Not all the performances live up to expectations and the CGI of the sharks and monkeys was video game quality and subpar, but Washington, Mescal and excellent action sequences keep the film highly engaging. Although it’s not on par with its predecessor, this sequel is just as entertaining.

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DIVERSIONS

crossword

By Quill Driver Books



ACROSS

- 1 Fairy godmother's rod
- 5 Conspire
- 9 Dutch cheese
- 13 Have -- in one's bonnet
- 14 Too zealous
- 16 Floor covering
- 17 Eastern European
- 18 Twin cities suburb
- 19 Chilly
- 20 Courageous action
- 22 Made ingress
- 24 Employ
- 25 Jazz singing
- 26 Brother in arms
- 30 Put forth
- 33 Oklahoma city
- 34 Boldness
- 37 Mob mayhem
- 39 In the money
- 41 "Cheers" waitress
- 43 " -- Karenina"
- 44 Aqua --
- 45 Garlic piece
- 47 Hard liquor
- 48 French painter
- 51 Marriage
- 53 -- Kringle
- 55 -- Grande
- 56 Souvenir
- 59 Comes to be
- 63 Affirm
- 64 Texas landmark
- 66 Soap brand
- 67 Father
- 68 Lowest point
- 69 S-shaped molding
- 70 Luge
- 71 Memory alone
- 72 Doting

DOWN

- 1 Laundry
- 2 Competent
- 3 Approach
- 4 Consume greedily
- 5 Came first
- 6 Boys
- 7 Kimono sash
- 8 Antler prongs
- 9 And so forth (2 wds.)
- 10 Fashion name
- 11 -- vera
- 12 Blend
- 15 Do a jig
- 21 "No man -- island..."

- 23 Levy
- 26 Complain
- 27 Dislike
- 28 Spreadsheet shortcut
- 29 -- the Red
- 31 Richard Starkey
- 32 Bar mixer
- 35 Actor -- Kilmer
- 36 Sufficiently, old style
- 38 War vehicle
- 40 Yearned
- 42 Eternally
- 46 Actress -- Falco
- 49 Sea eagle
- 50 Moon of Saturn
- 52 "The -- the Rings"
- 54 Clean energy
- 56 Bulk
- 57 Wickedness
- 58 Nothing more than
- 59 Release
- 60 Very energetic (hyph.)
- 61 Roulette bet
- 62 Pip
- 65 Hoopla

last issue's crossword answers



Ithacan Cartoons

Shoelace Carnival

BY DJ BERCHOFF/THE ITHACAN



The Film Flecks

BY ATTICUS JACKSON/THE ITHACAN



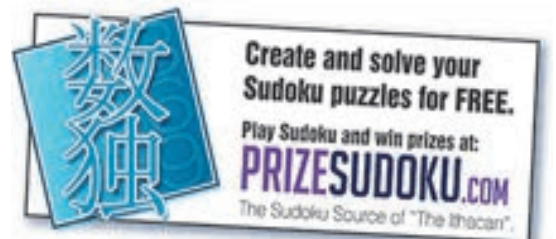
sudoku

very easy

medium



Last issue's sudoku answers are available online at theithacan.org/sudoku





In 2016, then-senior Eli Gobrecht moves the ball down the field during a matchup against SUNY Morrisville as a defender on the Ithaca College men's lacrosse team.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

LACROSSE ALUM TAKES HIS TALENTS TO THE PRO LEVEL

BY JACOB INFALD

STAFF WRITER

Eli Gobrecht '16, an Ithaca College men's lacrosse alum, is leaving an impact on the sport by playing with two professional lacrosse teams, representing his country on the global stage and coaching the next generation of lacrosse players.

Gobrecht said he began playing lacrosse when he was in the second grade, but the Ithaca native had set his sights on playing professionally in a different sport. Growing up around Cornell University ice hockey, the lacrosse star said his professional aspirations were focused on the ice rather than on the field.

After graduating from Ithaca High School in 2011, Gobrecht played on the junior ice hockey circuit for a year and said he found that playing professionally was a much steeper challenge than he originally thought. He said he had a change of heart, so he went back home and committed to playing lacrosse at Ithaca College under head coach Jeff Long.

"I think [hockey] gave [Gobrecht] a lot of maturity, taught him the physicality of the game," Long said.

When Gobrecht got to the college, he said that playing at the professional level was in the very back of his mind, but not a main priority.

"[The] first year went pretty well for me," Gobrecht said. "It [became] something I thought was maybe a little more realistic, just kind of looking at what other D-III guys had been able to make that transition to play professional and keeping that in

mind as a possibility," Gobrecht said.

The 2016 season was Gobrecht's final one at the college, and it saw him lead the Bombers to a program-best 20-2 record, as well as an NCAA Division III quarterfinals appearance. Long said Gobrecht was one of the greatest captains in his coaching career.

"I think by my senior year we were definitely a player-led team, which is what you need to be successful at the college level," Gobrecht said.

Gobrecht's leadership is something that has not gone unnoticed at the professional level either. Bill Tierney, who has coached seven national championship teams at the Division I level, is Gobrecht's current head coach for the Philadelphia Waterdogs of the Premier Lacrosse League. Tierney described Gobrecht as a player that sets the tone during the PLL season.

"The biggest compliment I can pay is he is a leader, but he picks his spots," Tierney said. "There's lots of guys who can lead, a lot of guys who can talk, but Eli, when he does talk, guys listen."

Before joining the Waterdogs, Gobrecht began his professional career with the Denver Outlaws of the PLL in summer 2018.

Before the PLL, Gobrecht was able to earn a try-out with the Vancouver Warriors of the National Lacrosse League. The NLL is box lacrosse played indoors and competes from December to May. While Gobrecht ended up getting cut, it led him to get another opportunity with the Outlaws and he made the team as a

short-stick midfielder.

In his first season with the team, Gobrecht helped contribute to a league championship. He would go on to win another title in 2022 with the Waterdogs, this time as a team leader as he was named a league All-Star in the 2022 season, his first of two All-Star selections.

Gobrecht made his box lacrosse professional debut in 2020 when he made the San Diego Seals' roster, where he also plays today.

However, Gobrecht said his greatest experience playing indoor box

lacrosse was representing the United States at the 2024 World Lacrosse Box Championships in Utica, New York.

The tournament saw the United States secure a silver medal, its highest finish in the tournament's history. The United States took down Haudenosaunee twice, both in pool play and the semifinals, before eventually falling to Canada.

"The first game was massive and we knew that we had something special," Gobrecht said. "It's pretty cool to be a part of a historic moment like that and pretty massive for the future of U.S. lacrosse, too."

Now Gobrecht is preparing for the 2024 NLL season with the Seals and, despite being 31, he said he has no plans of retiring any time soon. He also coaches lacrosse at Bellevue High School in Bellevue, Washing-

ton, and said he hopes to continue coaching past his playing days.

"Oftentimes what happens is these guys, they get all these experiences in both pro leagues and college lacrosse," Tierney said. "They take all that knowledge and, if they're into it, they become coaches and then they can impart that knowledge and impact hundreds and hundreds of kids."

Gobrecht said he is privileged for all that the sport of lacrosse has given him, but he could not have done it without his hometown.

"I think the community has been awesome," Gobrecht said. "It was pretty special to have my family be able to come to pretty much every home college lacrosse game I played, and it's something I'll never forget."

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In white, Philadelphia Waterdogs' defender Eli Gobrecht '16 tries to steal the ball from Utah Archers' Mike Sisselberger, a two-time All-Star faceoff specialist. Gobrecht has been in the PLL since 2018.

COURTESY OF NICK IERADI/PREMIER LACROSSE LEAGUE

Division III paves the way for women leaders in sport

BY DAVID SCHURTER

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As of the 2024–25 academic year, there are 425 colleges and universities that fall under the NCAA's Division III for athletics. Among those schools, 147 have female directors of athletics, which represents the highest ratio across every division in the NCAA.

The number of female athletic directors saw a 5% increase from 2012 to 2024, according to the 2011–12 NCAA records. Division I presents an underwhelming number of female athletic directors at 57, compared to the percentage of Division II at 25%, where that number sits at 76.

Patti Phillips is the CEO of Women Leaders in Sports, an organization dedicated to empowering women's careers. Phillips said that outside of sports, it is essential for women's work to be displayed in every field, emphasizing strength in numbers.

"It's not uncommon for sports to lead the way in making society a more inclusive and representative space," Phillips said via email. "Women have always shown their commitment and ability to do the work."

Phillips said the increase in women assuming leadership roles in college athletics provides a powerful opportunity for women's voices to push Women Leaders in Sports' agenda forward.

"Women leaders also know when to reach back and lift another woman up — giving her an opportunity she might not have gotten otherwise," Phillips said.

On the coaching side, 26% of

head coaches at the Division III level are female, also the highest number across all three divisions, with Division I and II not far behind with 25% and 22%, respectively.

Maureen Ordnung, associate coach of the Ithaca College field hockey team, has worked with head coach Kaitlyn Wahila for the past eight seasons. Ordnung said Wahila's goal-oriented mindset and her abilities to lead the program set her apart from other field hockey head coaches.

"I watched her build a foundation of connection, team cohesion, team unity and team love within our program and making sure that we started there," Ordnung said. "Not many coaches and not many assistants stick around for a decade, but I don't have any plans to go anywhere else because I don't really see a better culture than what we have here."

Ordnung said Division III provides the best chance for female coaches looking to break into college athletics, along with several different roles available outside of coaching.

"I think Division III is a really great place to get involved and grow," Ordnung said. "I really like it because I think you have more with the Division III model of philosophy. It's more personal, and you get to really connect with people and help them grow, also in the leadership position."

Susan Bassett '79, director of intercollegiate athletics at Ithaca College, previously worked as the president of Women Leaders in Sports in 2010.

Bassett said that promoting the



Susan Bassett '79, director of intercollegiate athletics at Ithaca College, is one of 147 female directors of athletics across 425 schools in NCAA's Division III, according to new data from NCAA.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

idea of women head coaches in both men's and women's sports at the college is attractive to prospective student-athletes and future coaches.

Women Leaders in Sports approach toward preparing women for sports leadership roles was shaped by Bassett's career. Previously, she was the director of athletics, physical education and recreation at Carnegie Mellon University from 2005–2013, a Division III institution. Bassett was also a head coach for multiple Division III institutions in swimming and diving, where she was named the

NCAA Division III Coach of the Year in 1993 at Union College.

As part of her role at Ithaca College, Bassett works with athletic directors at other Division III schools. One of those athletic directors is Kristie Bowers, associate vice president and director of athletics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a Liberty League competitor.

In her second year at RPI, Bowers said that coordinating with the other female athletic directors across the Liberty League, including Bassett, has improved her understanding of how

to run a collegiate athletics program.

"I think it's one of those things that I always lean into my colleagues who have wisdom that I just have not had the years of experience to gain yet," Bowers said. "I'm really excited to have such a person like Susan available to me as a resource."

Phillips said that despite the help from the Title IX legislation, women have always had the capability to lead a team, program or department toward success.

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New store brings sports memorabilia to local fans

BY KHARI BOLDEN

STAFF WRITER

Stepping into Southern Tier Sports Corner provides an experience not seen anywhere else within Ithaca, one that hobby enthusiasts and casual sports fans from across upstate New York have been coming to visit.

Recently opened on Oct. 26 at 376 Elmira Road, the location stands as the city's only dedicated sports card shop. The location is a fresh exposure to a nearly \$13 billion industry at the hands of store owner Grant Vennel. Southern Tier Sports Corner is home to the standard card shop fare: exclusive hobby boxes in all manner of sports and branding, single cards encased in plastic slabs with a number determining their quality and individual packs for quick ripping.

For most card shops, a bit of signed memorabilia would be enough, but Vennel wanted more. In addition to selling trading card lines unrelated to sports like Magic: The Gathering and Pokémon, Southern Tier Sports Corner also sells supplemental products for collectors. These include card sleeves, top loaders, boxes, binders, various case protectors for slabbed cards from leading brands like Zion Cases and Slabmags and just about everything in between.

"You could have a smaller shop and do okay if you're just selling singles," Vennel said. "But if you want to meet the needs of your community, as well as the hobby at large, you have to do all the connecting."

Paul Fumarola came all the way from Rochester to give the shop a look. Like Vennel, he has also been collecting since he was a teenager, and he still attends card shows as a vendor when he can. He and Vennel have collaborated during several recent shows.

"I'm very impressed," Fumarola said. "I

think it's a very nice-sized location, it's got a lot of lighting, which is good. It's just the opening stages. [Vennel is] going to have a nice blend of sealed product, memorabilia and supplies, from what I can see."

The memorabilia Fumarola mentioned is part of maybe the biggest shift the shop has made between stores, and that is an exclusive licensing deal with Fanatics, which allows Vennel's store to sell officially licensed apparel from some of America's biggest sports leagues. Walking into the shop, an entire wall is lined with NFL, NBA and MLB jerseys, while hats, t-shirts and hoodies are visible from the window — all things that Vennel was enthusiastic about including.

"We're going to keep the youth involved in this by making it a featured place that they want to come to versus just coming to buy cards," Vennel said. "That's why I've got the apparel, so when the kids come with their mom, they're able to have the experience of buying their team's favorite hat, jersey or shirt. Not everybody's going to be a sports card collector right off the bat, but that's how they get introduced into the hobby."

Vennel's last shop in Horseheads was successful, but he said he wanted to take the brand to another level. So far, he said the Ithaca move has brought in demographics to the shop that he never would have expected.

"I've had families of five and seven come in, which has been fantastic," Vennel said. "I've never experienced that when I was in Horseheads because we didn't have that type of shop. I think that the area itself has been very, very supportive."

One of these customers was Matt Currie, who initially met Vennel at the National Sports Card Show and recently began working at



Southern Tier Sports Corner in Ithaca provides sports memorabilia and various rare sports cards, as well as apparel and supplemental products for card collectors.

AIDAN AZAROWICZ/THE ITHACAN

the shop. He explained the impact stores like Southern Tier Sports Corner can have on the area.

"It brings a place where card collectors and sports enthusiasts can come, enjoy, hang out, meet new people, network with other people in the hobby and kind of connect," Currie said. "It's a centric location to bring anyone locally who enjoys sports cars or enjoys sports to kind of come here as a collective, and I think that's a necessity, with how everything is online. ... You need to be able to connect and come see someone face-to-face."

But while people have come from across the state to Ithaca's show and shop, a key audience

Vennel is aiming for is those on campus.

"I would say that the college students are just starting to figure out that we're here, so that really what's happening is, as we've been open longer," Vennel said.

Vennel said that teaching people the ins and outs of the market is one of the many things he loves about working in this industry.

"I know that when I go out and do national shows, there's a lot of college kids who love the hobby," Vennel said. "I think there's a huge opportunity for learning for students here at Southern Tier Sports Corner."

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THE BUZZER

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

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK CHRIS LEYSATH/MEN'S BASKETBALL



The first-year guard/forward has made an early impact for the Ithaca College men's basketball team. Leysath was named the Liberty League rookie of the week Nov. 26 for his strong play in helping the Bombers to a 3-1 start.

ROBERT DANIELS/THE ITHACAN

COMPETITION OF THE WEEK CROSS-COUNTRY AT NCAA DIII NATIONALS



Junior runner Joy Petersen capped off an impressive season. Petersen individually qualified for nationals at the regional championships, where she placed 12th overall. Peterson placed 219th out of 293 people at nationals.

COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE ATHLETICS

EVENT TO WATCH



ITHACA

at



BOMBER
INVITATIONAL

5 P.M. DEC. 6-8 AT BIRD NATATORIUM

The Ithaca College men and women's swimming and diving teams prepare to close out the fall semester portion of the schedule with its annual Bomber Invitational. Heading into the meet, the women's team boasts a 5-1 record, coming off a win against the RIT Tigers, while the men's team holds a 4-2 record following a loss to the Tigers at the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium Nov. 23.

NOTABLE UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

MEN AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD: 3 P.M. DEC. 6-7 AT THE GREG PAGE RELAYS AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

WRESTLING: 2:30 P.M. AND 10 A.M. DEC. 6-7 AT YORK NEW STANDARD INVITATIONAL AT YORK COLLEGE IN YORK, PENNSYLVANIA.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: 5:30 P.M. DEC. 6 VS VASSAR COLLEGE AT BEN LIGHT GYMNASIUM.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: 7:30 P.M. DEC. 6 VS VASSAR COLLEGE AT BEN LIGHT GYMNASIUM.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"WE PLAYED SUCH GOOD VOLLEYBALL. I THINK THAT GOES HAND-IN-HAND AND IT REALLY PROVED IT ON THE COURT, AND THEN EVERYONE WAS ALL SMILES."

GABRIELLA GONZALEZ-ABREU '27
On securing another Liberty League Championship.





First-year student Alexandra Ives performs "Red Wine Supernova" by Chappell Roan. IC Tone Cold a cappella put on its Block II concert, "Tone Cold Passes The Bechdel Test" on Nov. 17 in Emerson Suites. All songs performed were made famous by women. Half of the proceeds from the concert were donated to Planned Parenthood.

CHRISTIAN GRATTO/THE ITHACAN