Faculty worry about senior leadership

BY ALEXIS MANORE
AND FAYLN STEMPLER

Ithaca College faculty members are beginning to express concerns about the Shirley M. Collado administration’s leadership regarding issues of finances and campus climate.

Certain faculty members, particularly from the Roy H. Park School of Communications, have expressed frustration about the lack of transparency between the college’s enrollment, budget, and fundraising, as well as addressing microaggressions in the classroom.

These issues have been raised at faculty meetings and with the administration, most recently at the All-Faculty Meeting on Jan. 30, a discussion that escalated when Janice Levy, professor in the Department of Media, Arts, Sciences, and Studies, read from a prepared statement of her concerns.

She said she and other faculty have felt belittled by the tone and manner that La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, used when approaching faculty during meetings about incidents of microaggressions in the classroom. Levy said she is frustrated by Cornish’s generalizations made about Park School faculty, vague allegations about microaggressions in the classroom, and the lack of solutions provided for moving forward.

In recent years, there have been ongoing complaints about microaggressions either perpetrated or tolerated by faculty in Park classes.

The All-Faculty Meeting was hosted by Cornish; Rosanna Ferro, vice president of student affairs and campus life; and Elijah Earl, senior research analyst in the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research. Cornish said via email that the purpose of the meeting was to share the results of the 2019 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). This data is exclusively given to faculty, so the Ithacan cannot access the data. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session in which Levy read her prepared statement.

In addition to expressing her concerns, Levy also questioned if Collado’s 2020–21 interest plan to cut 21 positions within the college’s fundraising abilities.

Collado has consistently denied being guilty of the charge.

Levy said she only raised the question because the college’s applications and enrollment have gone down in recent years. “I was only suggesting that we have to look at every possible reason that things are not going well for Ithaca College,” Levy said. “I wanted people to understand that in and of itself could be affecting people’s decision to send their children here.”

For the 2019–20 fiscal year, the college made departments cut their budgets to reallocate funds and balance the budget. This move was in response to the projected lower enrollment for the Class of 2023.

At the All-College Gathering on Jan. 28, Collado alluded to imminent changes, including budget cuts that could result in positions and departments being eliminated. At the same meeting, Collado told the campus community that the college is facing a financial crisis because of issues like lower enrollment and stagnant donations.

The college is dependent on tuition and student fees for its funding. As a result, some faculty members are nervous about the security of their jobs and the administration at the college. The administration has previously said that the college’s lower enrollment coincides with trends in higher education for private, residential, and tuition-driven institutions.

The budget for the 2020–21 academic year will not be released until the Ithaca College Board of Trustees meeting in May. Collado said at the All-College Gathering that during the All-Faculty Gathering, several faculty members attempted to intervene after Levy made the remark about Collado.

Belisa González, associate professor in the Department of Sociology and director of the Center for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity, said she interrupted Levy because she disliked the personal nature of Levy’s attacks on the administration. González said the remarks about Collado and the entire administration were disrespectful and inflammatory.

“When you lead with insults and derogatory statements, any sort of — in my opinion and in my experience — any legitimate questions that you have are going to be completely lost,” she said.

In retrospect, Levy said, she regrets making personal remarks because she thinks it is allowed fellow faculty members to deflect from her core argument that the college is facing serious issues.

“The only thing that I regret about what I said was that it gave people an opportunity to deflect the conversation away from what the real issues are,” she said. “My intention was to disturb the meeting in a way that would get people to focus on what was really important to talk about in a forum where we have faculty that are together.”

González said that although she thinks no administration is above critique, she also believes the faculty is treating this administration differently because of its demographic makeup as a majority woman-of-color leadership team.

“If I was going to call somebody a racist, I would have just done it,” González said. “But I’ve been doing this work long enough to know that it’s kind of almost too easy, and it doesn’t at all expose the nuances of what it means to live in a racialized structure that we participate in whether or not we want to.”

Tom Pfaff, professor in the Department of Mathematics, said in an email thread of faculty members who have joined a faculty-concerns listserv obtained by The Ithacan that he thinks it is inaccurate to accuse people more critical of this administration because it is predominantly women of color. He said he believes faculty members were also critical of Benjamin Rifkin, former provost and vice president for educational affairs under former President Tom Rochon. Rifkin stepped down after serving for approximately one year.

Faculty, staff, and students raised concerns in 2019 about the Rochon administration’s handling of campus climate issues, including classroom microaggressions, when the campus community organized protests led by PoC at IC that decried that the administration address racism on campus. The series of protests were followed by a vote of no confidence for the Rochon administration, and Rochon

POLICE WARN OF DRUGGINGS

BY CATHLEEN HOLTZMAN

The Ithaca Police Department is warning people to be aware of possible drugs being slipped into drinks at bars located on The Commons, according to an Intercom announcement Feb. 6.

There has been an uptick in reports of such incidents downtown, ITP. Sgt. Kevin Slattery said. “People could not disclose which bars are being currently investigated.”

He said he would warn that all students should be conscious of their drinks and surroundings.

It is also unclear if these recent incidents are related to similar incidents reported in March 2019, as previously reported by The Ithacan Voice. The police report regarding also did not disclose what bars were reported. The investigation is ongoing, Slattery said.

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CORONAVIRUS TESTS NEGATIVE

BY CORA PAYNE

Two Cornell University students who were quarantined for symptoms that met criteria for the 2019 novel coronavirus test- ed negative, according to a statement issued by Cornell University administrators Feb 9.

The students were tested for the corona- virus, officially named “COVID-19,” by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and both tests were negative, according to an updated statement from Ryan Lombardi, vice president for student and campus life, and Sharon McMullen, assistant vice president of student and campus life for health and well-being.

There are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New York state, and the risk to the community remains low, according to the statement. No other members of the Cornell University community are under testing for the virus, according to the statement.

In the United States, 13 cases have been confirmed as of Feb. 12, and 60 potential cases are being investigated, according to the CDC. There are cases in six states, including Washington, California, Arizona, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts.

The COVID-19 virus is currently infected over 42,600 people in China and killed over 1,016 people. Over 170 cases are currently confirmed outside China across over 20 countries.

The virus can be transmitted via saliva, feces, and stool, as well as through respiratory droplets. It generally takes three days from the time of infection for symptoms to manifest, and 15% of the infected contract severe pneumonia, according to a Chinese research.
Thailand recovers from worst mass shooting ever in country

Authorities in northeastern Thailand began releasing bodies to relatives Feb. 10 after security forces cornered and killed a soldier who carried out the country’s worst mass shooting after an hourslong siege at a shopping mall. The soldier killed 29 people starting with his heavily armed attacker in Terminal 21 Korat, an airport-themed mall in Nakhon Ratchasima.

World Health Organization gives name to coronavirus

World Health Organization (WHO) director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced a new name for the disease caused by a new virus — COVID-19 — saying officials wanted to avoid stigmatizing any geographic location, group of people or an animal that might be linked to the disease and to make it clear it was a new coronavirus discovered in 2019. The daily death toll in China from the virus topped 100, pushing the total fatalities above 1,000 Feb. 11 as the WHO announced a new name for the disease.

Utah legislature to not rebuke Mitt Romney for impeachment

Utah lawmakers Feb. 11 said they will not consider proposals to censure or recall U.S. Sen. Mitt Romney following his vote to convict President Donald Trump at his impeachment trial. Utah House Speaker Brad Wilson said the Republican caucuses decided not to advance either proposal. Instead, Wilson will present a citation thanking the president for his administration’s work on issues “critical to Utah.” The citation will also urge Congress members to put the process behind them.

Harvey Weinstein trial to close as Weinstein declines to testify

The defense rested its case Feb. 11 in Harvey Weinstein’s rape trial without the disgraced Hollywood mogul taking the witness stand, setting the stage for closing arguments in a landmark #MeToo trial punctuated by graphic testimony from six accusers. Weinstein chose not to testify, avoiding the risk of having prosecutors grill him on cross-examination about the allegations. Jurors are expected to hear the defense’s closing argument Feb. 13, followed by the prosecution’s closing Feb. 14.

Actor Jussie Smollett indicted for six new charges in Chicago

Actor Jussie Smollett was indicted Feb. 11 on charges of lying to police about a racist and anti-gay attack he allegedly staged on himself last year in Chicago. The indictment came from a special prosecutor who was appointed after Cook County prosecutors dropped 16 counts of felony disorderly conduct last March. Special prosecutor Dan Webb said in a statement that Smollett faces six counts of disorderly conduct.

Source: Associated Press

Protesters rally against vote in Lebanon


Source: Associated Press

The 22nd Annual Downtown Ithaca Chili Cook-Off

More than 30 restaurants brought the heat during Downtown Ithaca’s annual Chili Cook-Off on Feb. 8 on The Commons.

Pulse Hip Hop Team dances toward showcase

Ithaca College’s hip hop dance team rehearses three times a week to prepare for its upcoming spring showcase.

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Protestant Community undergoes rebranding

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

It may seem like the Protestant Community (PC) at Ithaca College’s new identity as the Lighthouse Christian Fellowship (LCF) is just a name change, but members of the community said it is a way to show that they are welcoming anyone into their community.

In the past, the community has been criticized for not being welcoming to Christian people who identify as LGBTQ. In 2017, two students, Vanessa Zimmerman ’19 and Annalise Haldeman ’19, claimed that fellow members of the PC criticized and verbally attacked them when they announced that they were in a relationship.

This account of discrimination resulted in a New York State Department of Human Rights complaint filed against the college in November 2018.

In October, a group that aims to end discrimination in the PC was also founded as a result.

Rev. James Touchton, the former chaplain of the PC, resigned from his position in Fall 2018 because of the stress of the situation, according to a statement he made in a Facebook post. Zimmerman and Touchton both called on the PC to resign.

Following the accounts of discrimination in the PC, the college created the position of director of religious and spiritual life and hired Herald Oncley in the position to help students create welcoming religious and spiritual spaces.

Oncley in the position to help students create welcoming religious and spiritual spaces. While this name change is not a direct result of these conflicts, junior LCF President Elizabeth Bierbichler said it is part of the group’s movement toward a more welcoming image.

“Regardless of the name of our group, we absolutely take responsibility for the fact that there were students in the group who were not welcoming, who were not accepting and who caused real harm to other students,” Bierbichler said. “It is also important to recognize that those actions are in the past. That’s not us trying to brush over them, but we are a different group of students now than we were four years ago.”

The name is chosen by PC members through anonymous name suggestions followed by a vote. Bierbichler said the name Lighthouse Christian Fellowship is meant to reflect the welcoming space the group hopes to create.

“A lighthouse kind of connotes this idea that people can see it and that they know that that’s there,” Bierbichler said. “My hope is that people are able to see our community and know they have space that they can kind of fall into and feel loved and welcomed just as they are.”

Bierbichler said LCF decided to change its name after talking to position members at an organization fair in August. She said people felt intimidated by the Protestant Community title.

“We had about 15 [students] walk up to us and say, ‘I’m not really sure I can be a part of the Protestant Community because I’m not Protestant,’ or ‘I’m nondominational,’ or ‘I come from a specific background,’” Bierbichler said. “Actually, six out of the 10 students on our council last semester were talking and said that they were hesitant to come to the Protestant Community because I don’t know if they want to play into a nondenominational person. We wanted to play into a branch that accepts LGBTQ individuals.”

Many major Protestant denominations do not accept LGBTQ individuals. The United Methodist Church recently announced they will likely split into a branch that accepts LGBTQ members and clergies.

In a speech called “Beyond Vietnam,” King denounced the Vietnam War and advocated for international peace. King also denounced capitalism throughout his life, writing that “capitalism has seen its best days.”

Rada said he believes the stories around the civil rights movement are some of the most important stories to tell.

“To me, the civil rights movement . . . is the true American revolution because this is what democracy looks like,” Rada said.

Rada said students were carefully selected to work on the project based on several factors. Rada reached out to faculty in the Park School of Communications and then reached out to individuals that seemed to be a good fit.

“Looking for students who have the journalistic aptitude but also the proper professional and spiritual attitude,” Rada said.

Kornegay said every student that worked on the project brought something different to the table.

From left, Kaila Kornagay ’18 and James Rada, associate professor and chair of the Department of Journalism, helped create a documentary in 2017. COURTESY OF JAMES RADA

The documentary was titled “Witness: INFINITE HOPE: MLK and the Civil Rights Movement.” It was recently nominated in the Documentary/Historical category of the Midsouth Regional Emmy Awards.

The 34th Annual MidSouth Emmy Awards will take place at 9 p.m. Feb. 15 and will be streamed online.

The Midsouth regional chapter is just one of 19 chapters that make up the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

A show is considered regional if it does not reach more than 50% of U.S. households; a show is national if it does not reach more than 50% of U.S. households; a show is national if it does not reach more than 50% of U.S. households.

The Midsouth regional chapter is just one of 19 chapters that make up the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

This year’s annual February Ithaca College Board of Trustees meeting is taking place in Los Angeles from Feb. 12 to 13, President Shirley M. Collado announced during the All-College Gathering on Jan. 28.

During that meeting, the board is touring the college’s Los Angeles satellite location, Collado said. The purpose of this is to highlight the importance of the center.

Collado said at the All-College Gathering Collado said she will be joining the board for a meeting with Bob Iger ‘75, CEO of The Walt Disney Co.

During that meeting, they will discuss the future vision of the college, Collado said.

“We are very grateful that Bob Iger will be joining us at this event,” Collado said. “He and I will engage in a conversation about leadership and the college’s future.”

Iger and his wife, Willow Bay, recently endowed the college with a scholarship that pays tuition for students.

Collado, as well as other senior leadership team members, including La Jene Germino-provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, attended the meeting.

“The Board will return to campus for our annual May meeting Collado said. The May meeting is when the 2020–21 fiscal budget is anticipated to be released, Collado said.

The budget is sometimes released during the February meeting, but since 2018, it has been released in May.

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Student-faculty documentary up for Emmy

BY CORA PAYNE

James Rada, associate professor and chair of the Department of Journalism, knew he had to jump at the chance when he and students from the Roy H. Park School of Communications were offered the opportunity to produce a documentary for Memphis Public Broadcasting Service affiliate WKNO in Spring 2017 about the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

“WKNO said they didn’t have anything planned but would love if someone filmed a documentary,” Rada said. “I thought, well, we’re ready, able and willing to do this — let’s do it.”

The final product, a documentary titled “Witness: INFINITE HOPE: MLK and The Civil Rights Movement,” was recently nominated in the Documentary/Historical category of the Midsouth Regional Emmy Awards.

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A show is considered regional if it does not reach more than 50% of U.S. households; programs that reach more than 50% of the country must enter into one of the national Emmy competitions instead.

In the past, a documentary has aired more than 450 times on 250 public television stations across the country. The film is also available online on its website to be viewed in completion for free.

Rada gathered a team of faculty and students in the Park School to travel around the South investigating seven historic moments and cátechisms of civil rights activists who participated in various events of the movement, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Birmingham Children’s March and the Freedom Rides. Throughout 2017, the team filmed interviews in Alabama and Tennessee.

The project took approximately a year to produce.

Rada, and Clotess Guest and Maria MejiaYepes, assistant professors in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies, produced the documentary.

The student-faculty team of producers included Chirety Calcagno ’18, Kaila Kornegay ’18, Emily Varga ’18, Katie Jones ’19, Elena Maria Pech ’19 and Sophia Tulip ’19.

Kornegay, who was a journalism student, conducted interviews for the documentary. She interviewed primary sources from the civil rights era and helped bridge the gap between the past and the present.

“Sitting and listening to these people speak, it was so inspiring,” Kornegay said. “It helped me really see that this wasn’t just something that happened long ago. It is so much closer than we think or realize.”

Tulip, who was a journalism student, said although King is often remembered for his civil rights advocacy, the documentary also touches on a lot of his other activist causes.

“It is so important to note what a lot of these sources were sharing with us, which is that [King] was a very nuanced man,” Tulip said. “A lot of these sources pointed out that he was incredibly adamate about economic justice; capitalism not being the best system. It wasn’t just about ‘I have a dream.’ There was a lot of economic policy and anti-war policy attached to his legacy as well.”

Members of the newly renamed Ithaca College Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, formerly the Protestant Community at Ithaca College, gather to worship at an Evensong service Jan. 22 in Muller Chapel.

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Trustees hold meeting in LA

BY FALYN STEMPLE

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 NEWS | 3
Republicans have grown further apart on their college's seniors is much lower compared to other for seniors, which is down from 2.8 for freshmen of students, with one being never and four being most recent survey conducted in February 2019. NSSE is conducted every three years, with the experiences and their thoughts on campus culture. pertaining to freshmen and seniors’ college ex

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FROM FACULTY, PAGE 1

earlier to criticize the administration and that thinks it is important for the faculty to have the administration and that the administration needs to seriously address the concerns. Pfaff said in the faculty-concerns listeners he thinks it is possible that Collado’s no-contest plea to the sex
collaboration, which is a recommendation, passed 5–0, with "limit the cost of textbooks for students. The bill, the Equal Opportunity Textbook Act to help above our peers,” Earl said.

BY SAM HAUT

Ithaca College President Shirley M. Collado discusses the community’s concerns about the campus climate and the college’s financial health status at the All-College Gathering on Jan, 28 in the Emerson Suites.

Athena Eotkritou Ithaca

IC students have less diverse political opinions than before

Eliah Earl, senior research analyst in the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research, presented data collected from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to the Student Government Council on Feb. 10. The data stated that Ithaca College students have become more insular when discussing politics. NSSE is a survey that collects information particularly Levy, reacted the way they

"We're leaving too much up to anec
dotes and rumors and not enough up to 'This is what's happening, and here it is, this is happening.'" Earl said.

Earl said the difference in scores for the college’s 2019 data shows there is greater open education resources (OERs), which he said was dealing with tensions between students and faculty, along with protests against the college’s handling of racial issues, which led to former president Tom Rochon stepping down. "Fortunately [in] 2019, we made a complete turnaround in perceptions of IC, being a sup

Junior Elijah Nishiura, vice president of campus affairs, listens to Eliah Earl, senior research analyst in the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research, present data.

reduced that have left members of our community feeling unwanted and disrespected,” Gayaks said via email. “We need to acknowledge this and learn how to be better allies. … This is exactly the kind of situation that is bound to lead to miscommunication.”

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4 NEWS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Earl said that the 2019 data shows there is greater student perception of the college as a “supportive learning environment.” In 2016, the college was dealing with tensions between students and faculty, along with protests against the college’s handling of racial issues, which led to former president Tom Rochon stepping down.

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Junior Elijah Nishiura, vice president of campus affairs, listens to Eliah Earl, senior research analyst in the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research, present data.
Professor publishes colonialism article

Enrique González-Contry, Latin American studies coordinator and assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Ithaca College, published an article in the Fall 2019 issue of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENPRU) journal, titled "Building Puerto Rico’s Anti-Colonial Literary Canon: Nilda Viña, Working with Gasing’s Venture Aoosumante." The article discusses the process of developing an anti-colonial literary canon in Puerto Rico, focusing on the work of Nilda Viña, a prominent writer and activist.

In the article, González-Contry highlights the importance of creating a literary canon that reflects the anti-colonial struggle in Puerto Rico. He explores how this canon can serve as a tool for decolonization and resistance, emphasizing the need for a more inclusive and representative literary landscape.

The author argues that the process of building such a canon involves critical reflection on the historical and political contexts that shaped the literary production in Puerto Rico. Through a detailed analysis of Viña’s work, González-Contry demonstrates how her writings contribute to the development of an anti-colonial narrative that challenges the dominant discourse and asserts the rights of the Puerto Rican people.

The article concludes with an examination of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in the process of creating an anti-colonial literary canon. González-Contry suggests that this endeavor requires ongoing critical engagement with the past, present, and future, aiming to forge a more equitable and just society.

González-Contry’s work is significant for its contribution to the field of Latin American studies, particularly in the context of Puerto Rican literature. By exploring the anti-colonial perspective, the article opens up new avenues for research and discussion, encouraging scholars and readers to reevaluate the canon and its role in fostering cultural and political change.

Debate team wins title

BY JULIE DANNEVIG

Junior Callie Nguyen is the first student from Ithaca College to win the championship title at the National Forensics Association’s Linne-Doug Debate in the University Division at the Gofork Gala Forensics Tournament. Nguyen, a junior and sophomore Sarah Lawal represented the college’s speech and debate team at the tournament Jan. 24-26 in St. Louis at Webster University.

Nguyen, president of Ithaca College Speech and Debate, said she worked with her teammates to prepare for their division at approximately 40 other universities. The topic of the debates were energy policy. Nguyen said, “Speech and debate strains your brain,” she said. “Being able to survive that is very impressive. [But the speech and debate team] is a lot of fun. We travel, and we make a lot of friends from different schools.”

Scott Thomson, assistant professor in the Department of Communications Studies and the coach and adviser of the speech and debate team, said the title was created in 1920. The team currently has 10 active student members, Nguyen said. It competes in approximately 7-10 tournaments per semester, she said. Nguyen said she has been competing in debate tournaments throughout high school.

Nguyen said that interning at the caucus was a rewarding experience for her. "I was running to get the next interviewee," Lynch said. "It was like, "We’re going to impose English in schools and in the communities." "Do you want to learn English?"was written in Spanish because English was being enforced in several institutions in Puerto Rico, like in classrooms and also in schools.

And even though we were a colony of the U.S., people spoke Spanish. They didn’t speak English. The U.S. government, since the beginning, started to impose assimilation...it was a colonial practice in the sense that Puerto Ricans didn’t have any say. It’s not like [the U.S. government] asked, “Do you want to learn English?” was like, “We’re going to impose English in schools and in the classrooms.”

So the anti-colonial nationalist project was using literature to push back against assimilation.

CH: What would you say is the overall importance of anti-colonialism in Puerto Rico?

EGC: Something that is interesting is, in particular, talking about Gasting today is really important because she was already mentioning and writing about the problems of colonialism in Puerto Rico in her own years...Probable today Puerto Rico is facing the worst crisis because of the earthquake in Hurricane Maria...How is it facing opposition today, and how has it been fought in the past so that we can move forward...I think it was maybe 25 years after her death people were starting to publish her work again, to look at it. But now with the earthquakes and Hurricane Maria, it’s totally relevant to go back to her work to see that some things have not changed.

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Students cover Iowa Caucus for CNN

BY CORA PAYNE

With primaries underway for the 2020 election, Ithaca College students are helping the campaign trail to cover the election through election internships. Three students covered the Iowa caucuses with CNN. Seniors Sarah Horbachewicz and Giulia Villanueva Lopez and sophomore Tara Lynch covered the caucuses and worked as analysts for journalists, narrators and debate members.

Three students covered the Iowa caucuses with CNN. Seniors Sarah Horbachewicz and Giulia Villanueva Lopez and sophomore Tara Lynch covered the Iowa caucuses on Feb. 3 in Des Moines, Iowa, for CNN.

From left, seniors Giulia Villanueva Lopez and Sarah Horbachewicz and sophomore Tara Lynch covered the Iowa caucuses on Feb. 3, in Des Moines, Iowa, for CNN.

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The 2020 Iowa caucuses faced many roadblocks. The caucuses attempted to use an app for the first time to keep track of votes, but the app was not thoroughly tested before attempting statewide use. The app failed because of coding issues, according to reporting from The New York Times. Troy Price, Iowa Democratic Party chairman, announced he was stepping down after the reporting of the results was delayed.

The 2020 Iowa caucuses faced many roadblocks. The caucuses attempted to use an app for the first time to keep track of votes, but the app was not thoroughly tested before attempting statewide use. The app failed because of coding issues, according to reporting from The New York Times. Troy Price, Iowa Democratic Party chairman, announced he was stepping down after the reporting of the results was delayed.

Caucuses consist of state citizens going to precincts across the state to show their support for their chosen presidential candidate. To do so, attendees separate into groups in different sections of the room based on which candidate they support.

Then they are counted to deem which sections of the room based on which candidate they support. "Obviously, there were major delays in getting any results," Lynch said. "It was interesting to see how CNN handled that and adjusted to adversity." Horbachewicz and Lynch were helpful to collaborate with Drake University students because everyone brought different skills to the table. While the Ithaca College students had training in media and journalism, she said the Drake University students brought knowledge about the state.

Lynch said that interning at the caucus provided valuable experience for her career aspirations of being a broadcast journalist.
Student self-publishes book of her own poetry

BY ANNA DE LUCIA

Ithaca College freshman Greta Unetich knew from a young age that she wanted to pursue a career in the STEM field. However, she also had another passion that she kept secret: writing poetry.

On Dec. 29, she independently published a book of poems, and she revealed her secret love for writing.

“I just didn’t feel comfortable telling people,” Unetich said. “When this book came out, it was a huge shock to everyone because they didn’t expect it. This was kind of written to prove that I can do both.”

The novel, “Look Both Ways,” is a collection of short poems based on her observations since she has made life choices, and the friends and strangers that have impacted her. The poems also cover her experience of struggling between wanting to pursue both science and writing.

It has taken five years, since she was in eighth grade, to write the collection. She published the novel through Kindle Direct Publishing, which allows authors to maintain ownership over their work and the profits.

The novel can be purchased on Amazon or her website for $8. She has currently sold 25 copies, she said.

Since publishing the novel, she has heard from some of her favorite writers, including Christopher Fruch; also, known as A. Longhode Leon, and Emmy Marucci, who said they enjoyed reading it.

“She said the book speaks to the struggle of figuring out what you want to pursue when you have multiple passions,” Unetich said.

She said she hopes this book resonates with other people who struggle to pursue hobbies outside their career paths and encourages them to pursue them anyway, even if there will be backlash from people in their lives. Having more free time in her schedule at college has helped her to finish up the book, she said.

“Do it,” she said. “You cannot be afraid of what other people are saying about you. You can’t be afraid of what other people are saying to you. They cannot do anything to you. Just go for it.”

“ ”

The book helped me realize I need something other than my career to keep going in life.

— Taylor Calls

Unetich said this is the first of many books she hopes to publish throughout her life. She is also working on releasing a collection of essays she wrote during her senior year of high school. A collection that she said is submitting to Blazevuz Magazine on campus.

Unetich said that she submitted “Look Both Ways” to Andrews McMeel Publishing on Feb. 7.

“ ”

Freshman Katherine Urbano, who is good friends with Unetich, said she admires how the media reports on athletes based on their race at a national conference in March in Montana.

“ ”

From left, seniors James Murphy and Nicole Pimental were accepted to present their research on how the media reports on athletes based on their race at a national conference in March in Montana.

CONTACT ALYSHIA KORBA
AKORBA@ITHACA.EDU

One study in particular that we found was that audiences in their study thought that piece that rein- forced the racial stereotypes was more credible than the ones that didn’t,” Pimental said. “So I thought that was really interesting, and it was something that we hadn’t seen before.”

Bierly said she hopes to continue her and Castillo’s research as an inde- pendent study to make the research more comprehensive and add more data to the map of mass shootings she created.

CONTACT ALYSHIA KORBA
AKORBA@ITHACA.EDU

Students to present research on race in media

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

Two pairs of Ithaca College stu- dents have been accepted to present their research on race depictions in media at the National Conference Undergraduate Research from March 26 to 28 at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana.

The pairs conducted their re- search, which included producing their own surveys, last semester in their Mass Media Research course with Allison Frinch, assistant professor in the Department of Journalism. Junior Elizabeth Bierly and senior Diana Cas- tillo researched the depiction of mass shootings in media depending on their race, while seniors James Murphy and Nicole Pimental looked at the depiction of athletes based on their race.

“Ithaca College will pay for transportation and accommodations for one student from each pair to attend the conference, Rowan Larkin ‘19, admin- istrative assistant in the Office of the Provost, said. Neither team has decid- ed which member will attend.

Frisch said she encouraged all her students to submit research.

“It’s a very high-profile place that’s recognizing that our students are of a very high caliber,” Frinch said. “I think these students put in so much time. They overcame some challenges, and I know that they solved some very long hours and late nights to get this done, and I just think it speaks to how ded- icated they are to their work that they were able to do this.”

Frisch said the goal of the course is for students to conduct their own re- search and how to apply it to journalism. Murphy said the project was an opportunity to practice these research methods and apply them to their own projects.

The project process itself was definitely a great opportunity to be able to use your skills in a way that is really valuable in today’s world, especi- ally in journalism,” Murphy said.

Bierly said she wanted to re- search mental health, and Castillo said she wanted to research issues surrounding race and diversity. They discovered these issues intersect in coverage of mass shootings.

Castillo said that they chose to fo- cus on mass shootings because it is a relevant topic and that there is a lack of research about the media’s portray- al of perpetrators of mass shootings.

“Liz [Bierly] had brought up the idea of mass shootings, and since it was so prevalent in this day and age, that’s something that we wanted to somehow focus on,” Castillo said.

“Then I brought up the topic of race in regards to how different perpe- trators are viewed: what words are used, what photos are used, how they describe them.”

Bierly and Castillo analyzed 93 books of poems, and she revealed her secret love for writing.

“Originally, I thought that there would be a huge difference in coverage between smaller casualty shootings versus trends in how the media covers larger mass shootings,” she said. “But actually, it turns out that pretty much how it’s applied in mass media coverage can be applied even at a small local outlet, which was really interesting.”

Pimental said she and Murphy chose their project in a similar way to Bierly and Castillo said she wanted to focus on sports, and Pim- mental said she wanted to study racial issues, so they decided to research the portrayal of race in sports media.

Murphy and Pimental used a sur- vey to see if racial stereotypes from other research impact people’s perceived credibility of sports me- dia. The survey was based on two sports articles with different framing of the athletes’ races. The survey found that participants found the article that challenged stereotypes more cred- ible than the article that reinforced the stereotypes, according to their research abstract.

Pimental said many survey participants believed there are racial stereotypes put into sports reporting.

The research confirmed that while black athletes are often described as more physically talented, white athletes are often described as more intelligent, she said.

CONTACT ALYSHIA KORBA
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“We had another passion that she kept secret which member will attend. From left, seniors James Murphy and Nicole Pimental were accepted to present their research on how the media reports on athletes based on their race at a national conference in March in Montana.

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Students attend science event to showcase physics process
Ithaca College sophomore Malthein Hossian, junior Okunadehemi Oduamosu and Joshua Schmidt, and Matthew Sullivan, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, participated in the World Science Festival’s City of Science event. City of Science is a touring event in which properties of science, technology, engineering, and math are combined in interactive demonstrations and activities. Hossian, Oduamosu, Schmidt and Sullivan presented on quantum levitation.

IC Residential Life makes changes to living learning communities
The Office of Residential Life recently announced plans for expanding and enhancing the residential learning community (RLC) experience for students for the 2020–21 academic year. RLCs are topical, interest-based housing communities that focus on sharing ideas and interests and engaging in community activities and lectures. Each RLC includes one or two RLC faculty or staff associates who mentor the community. In addition to some of the long standing RLCs, including Honors and the Outdoor Adven- turers Learning Community, two new RLC communities will start this fall. The new Entrepreneurship and Innovation (E&I) RLC will be located in West Tower. In collaboration with partners from the School of Business, the E&I RLC will focus on the entrepreneurial mindset and taking ideas to business development. The new STEM RLC will be located in West Tower and geared in- ward to-yearly students enrolled in the STEM disciplines. This RLC was created through a National Science Foundation grant received by Kelly Sullivan, associate professor in the Depart- ment of Physics and Astronomy. Along with the new additions, a few of the RLCs for Fall 2020 will be relocated to new buildings, such as the Interfaith community and Quiet Study.

College to host diversity expert for conversations about inclusion
Classics and Languages Professor Sibel Sipahioglu, the Center for Inclusion, Diversity, Equi- ty and Social Change and Hillel at Ithaca College are hosting Yoshah McCoy, an educator, anti-racism activist and diversity, equity, and in- clusion consultant for two events. Events are part of Better Together Days, an Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC) program that brings cam- puses together for a week of interfaith action. At 12:10 p.m. Feb. 18 in Klingenstein Lounge, McCoy will engage in dialogue with faculty regarding the growing need to advance justice across interfaith, intercultural and interfaith differences on college campuses. Mc- Coy’s keynote presentation will take place at 7 p.m. Feb. 18 in Klingenstein Lounge. The presentation will focus on the parallels of how one can hold progressive beliefs and princi- ples and still think, speak and act in ways that perpetuate racism. McCoy will discuss concrete steps in achieving a more equitable campus environments.

Students with strong academic honors by athletics department
The Office of Intercollegiate Athletics and the Office of the Provost hosted their fourth annual scholar-athlete luncheon Feb. 6 in the Emerson Suites to celebrate the exceptional academic achievements of current junior and senior student-athletes. More than 60 student-athletes from 23 of Ithaca’s 27 spo- nored varsity programs received invitations to the ceremony. Each student-athlete obtained a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher since their arrival to the college three or four years ago. Senior Peyton Greco of the women’s golf team served as the keynote speaker. Will Roshemzehl, associate di- rector for the athletics office, and Barb Hepra, director of Village at 101 Department of Physical Therapy and faculty ath- letics representative, spearheaded the initiative to honor the student-athletes’ performances in the classroom.

Language professor to present research on early French explorers
The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures will be hosting a brown-bag lunch at noon Feb. 13 in the Drosty D. and Roy H. Park Center for Sustainable Enterprise Room 301. At the lunch, Rachel Paparone, associate pro- fessor in the modern languages and literatures department, will talk about her current research on the pastoral in Early Modern travel narratives. She will focus on the methods with which French explorers in North America interpret the land- scape and people that they encountered as well as how reframing these narratives in terms of the pastoral can help people better understand contemporary attitudes toward nature.

IC Second Stage finalizes shows for their spring semester lineup
IC Second Stage finalized the produc- tion it put on throughout the spring semester. For April 3 and the organization will present “Puffs,” a stage play written by Max Cox with a loose connection to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. On April 10 and 11, it will present “Be A Pop Opera,” with music by Joni Ingebretsen, lyrics by Jon Harnmie and book by Harmere and Ingebretsen. On April 30 and May 1, IC Second Stage will present “Next to Normal,” a 2008 American rock mus- ical with book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey and music by Tom Kitt. Auditions for “Puffs” will take place between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Feb. 19 in Job Hall Room 160. IC Second Stage is an organization for students who are interested in a creative outlet outside of the college’s main stage theater productions.

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PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG
SELECTED ENTRIES FROM JANUARY 27 TO FEBRUARY 1

**JANUARY 27**

**MEDICAL ASSIST/INJURY RELATED**

**LOCATION: Bogart Hall**

**SUMMARY:** The caller reported a person who fell and hit their head was no longer suffering from dizziness, nausea and pain. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Sophia Damkos responded.

**JANUARY 28**

**SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE RELATED**

**LOCATION: Landon Hall**

**SUMMARY:** A person reported that in December 2019, an unknown person had broken into their room and taken the fire extinguisher was used to put the fire out. Patrol Officer Brita Veronzo responded.

**JANUARY 29**

**LARCENY OVER $200**

**LOCATION: Campus Center**

**SUMMARY:** The caller reported being bullied by members of a group. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

**JANUARY 30**

**SCC BULLYING OR CYBERBULLYING**

**LOCATION: All Campus**

**SUMMARY:** The caller reported being threatened by someone online. The caller was unable to locate the people involved. The investiga- tion is pending. Patrol Officer Daniel Melcher responded.

**JANUARY 31**

**SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS**

**LOCATION: Hillard Hall**

**SUMMARY:** The caller reported a person had inhaled marijuana. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance and referred for judicially irresponsible use of drugs. Patrol Officer Brian Versoza responded.

**FEBRUARY 1**

**TRESPASS NO DEGREE**

**LOCATION: Recreation Trails**

**SUMMARY:** The officer reported two people on trails after hours. A warn- ing was issued. Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw responded.

**SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE**

**LOCATION: Z-Lot**

**SUMMARY:** The officer reported two people were in a parked vehi- cle. The officers determined that the persons were talking and no assistance was needed. Master Patrol Officer Waylon Degraw responded.

**SUSPICIOUS/EXCESSIVE NOISE**

**LOCATION: West Tower**

**SUMMARY:** The officer reported a noise complaint. The officer judicially referred two people for a noise violation. Security Officer Kevin English responded.

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**KEY**

SCC – Student Conduct Code
V&T – Vehicle & Transportation
AD – Assistant Director
FD – Ithaca Fire Department

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**NEWS 17**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020**
WHERE WILL THIS SUMMER FIND YOU?
You don’t have to go abroad for a full semester to have a life-changing experience!

Summer 2020 programs
Australia: U. of Sydney short-term program
China: Fudan University summer program
England: London Center summer program
Germany: SRH Heidelberg Business courses
Japan: Akita Int’l U. summer language program
Malawi: Healthcare & Culture
Morocco: Healthcare & Culture
New Zealand: Screen Tools for Emerging Filmmakers
Singapore: NTU summer program
South Korea: Hanyang U. Summer School
Scotland: The Edinburgh Festivals
Sweden: Jönköping University Summer School

Don’t see what you’re looking for?
Hundreds of other programs in countries across the globe are available through affiliated partners & non-affiliated organizations! Come to the Summer Study Abroad info session to learn more:
- Mon. 2/3, 6:00 pm, Textor 103

Find programs and apply online
tinyurl.com/summer-study-abroad-2020

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Faculty and administration must communicate, not argue

In November 2015, over 1,000 students walked out in protest against then-Ithaca College President Tom Rochon. Many students claimed no confidence in Rochon’s leadership after he failed to respond to multiple events involving racial discrimination. Following these events, students, faculty and staff took a vote of no confidence in Rochon’s leadership. Rochon then stepped down, and most of his administration followed.

Fast forward to January 2020, and the current concerns on campus somewhat mirror those from 2015, although the level of tension is nowhere near as high. There are reports and anecdotes of microaggressions occurring in classrooms across disciplines. It is clear that the issues of microaggressions and the administration not knowing how to handle them were problems in 2015, and the very same problems persist five years later.

At the All-Faculty Meeting on Jan. 30, there was a concern raised by faculty members, particularly those in the Roy H. Park School of Communications, that the administration is not providing enough guidance on how to solve the problem of microaggressions in the classroom.

This issue came to a boil when Janice Levy, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Arts and Sciences, spoke out in frustration against the administration’s treatment of Park School faculty, especially in discussions involving incidents of microaggressions in the classroom. After Levy’s comments, the meeting apparently became chaotic, with faculty speaking over one another.

Some faculty members in the Park School felt La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, had a condescending tone and did not provide a plan for how to address microaggressions in the classroom. Cornish said she felt Levy’s comments derailed the All-Faculty Meeting.

There is clearly a breakdown in communication between the faculty and the administration, with each side leaving more upset than before from meetings that are supposed to facilitate conversations about mending the campus climate. The issue of microaggressions at the college is systemic, and it needs to be addressed as such.

The people who lose the most in these conflicts between faculty and the administration are students. Every day, students are pushed to immerse themselves in dialogues, subjects and teachings that might exist outside their experiences and comfort zones. Perhaps it is time for faculty and administrators to step back, examine the way they talk to one another and push themselves to learn beyond their comfort zones as well.

As people in positions of power, it is necessary that faculty members take responsibility for any microaggressions that happen in their classrooms. Administrators need to listen to the concerns of the faculty and reevaluate their own communication style.

It is time to move past the current divisiveness and start vital conversations about the college’s financial health and enrollment challenges. The only way for the community to grow is through open dialogue and willingness to learn. If faculty and the administration continue to refuse to partake in both, the college’s challenges will continue to grow, and both administrators and faculty will be at fault.

New name alone cannot change culture of group

Following a few years of controversy, the Protestant Community (PC) at Ithaca College has taken steps to be more welcoming, an action that signifies a new era for the community.

In the 2017–18 academic year, members of the PC reported being discriminated against because of their LGBTQ identities. This conflict was poorly addressed and resulted in a New York State Division of Human Rights complaint being filed against the college, and the chaplain stepped down.

The community has recently rebranded and is now named the Lighthouse Christian Fellowship (LCF). The name change is a well-intentioned first step to improving a community that faced years of turmoil. The students who now make up the community are a mainly new group that is working to prove LCF is not the PC.

However, there also needs to be action taking place to ensure the name change is not just covering up the group’s problematic past.

The college is known for being one of the most LGBTQ-friendly campuses, and all spaces on campus must be welcoming to LGBTQ students, including the chapel.

While there have been efforts to improve the messaging for a new generation of community members, LCF needs to commit itself to creating a community that is welcoming to all new members. Changing the culture of a group is not something that happens overnight, but if every member of LCF is committed to implementing real change, it is possible.

Other initiatives, like the Uncommon Changemakers program, will help LCF interact with the greater college community. The new initiative aims to connect students who do not have religious affiliations with those who do. By having both religious and nonreligious students interact, there will be an exchange of ideas and values that will hopefully benefit all involved.

The group’s past should be remembered, and if LCF is serious about change, the college community will be stronger.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu.

ALL LETTERS MUST:
• Be 250 words or fewer
• Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject
• Be between 500–650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor.

Send to ithacan@ithaca.edu or to the opinion editor at ksustick@ithaca.edu.

ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:
• Convey a clear message
• Be between 500–650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor.

EDITORIALS

Guest Commentary

The name change is a well-intentioned first step to Improving a community that faced years of turmoil.
Teacher unions call shooter drills ineffective

BY KATE SUSTICK

Despite the goal of improving student safety, new research shows that active shooter drills may be negatively impacting students. The nation’s two largest teachers’ unions are demanding change.

The American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association called for an end to surprise drills and drills that simulate gun violence, and the unions call for the revision or complete termination of these drills that can negatively affect the students that partake in them.

The unions previously joined forces with the advocacy group Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund in order to conduct research into the effects of drill implementation in schools. Everytown then released a report Feb. 11 on its website providing research it did in schools all across the country. The implementation of shooter drills, a $2.7 billion dollar industry, appears to increase student trauma.

Elysekleen Garcia, president of the National Education Foun-
dation research it did in schools all across the country. The im-
ple-
ment-

DOUGAL BROWNLIE/AP NEWS

Dyani Taff, lecturer in the Ithaca College Department of English, is writing a book that shows how early modern writers used seascapes to analyze gender and power hierarchies.

The two largest teachers’ unions in the U.S. are calling for the termination of active shooter drills that simulate gun violence in schools, as these drills have proven to scare students.

Open Letter

A message from the Ithaca College H&S Faculty Senate:

In the wake of the all-college faculty meeting that took place on Thursday, Jan. 30 and the debates that has sparked, the H&S Faculty Senate wishes to express our collective commitment to respectful and constructive dialogue that will allow us to navigate the very real challenges that we are facing as a community. Those challenges include maintaining the college’s fiscal health while educating our diverse student body in a way that is welcoming, supportive and academically rigorous environment.

We believe that vitriolic and sweeping denun-
ciations are counterproductive and will not help us engage in the complex conversations that are so necessary for the health of our institu-
tion, our student body and our faculty.

There is bound to be disagreement among us, but we hope that our debates can model for our students the kind of thoughtful, intellectually nuanced dis-
course that we value despite the fact that it appears to be evaporating in the larger so-
ciety in which we live. We believe that such debates are only possible if we assume good will even in those people with whom we disagree, if we listen at least as much as we speak, if we agree to disagree, if we are, in spite inevitable and sometimes productive dissonance, one college.

Sincerely,
The H&S Faculty Senate

Claire Clements, chair

Elysha Tenten, Economic; Jennifer Tanner, Economics; Hugh Egan, English; Kelsey Sullivan, Physics; Michael Trotti, Theatre Arts; Chrystyna Dail, Theatre; Hugh Egan, English; Kel-
y

The opinions expressed in the guest commentaries, columns and open letters in this section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Ithacan.
Passions do not have to pay the bills

BY KYRA SKYE

During class, a Pro Tools session with music we were supposed to cut up, organize and rearrange was loaded onto the computer screen. I have an opportunity to learn how to do this, which I can then transfer to mixing my own music. As a songwriter and music producer, I want to create a living in which I record, sell albums, and perform all over the world.

I found myself slipping into a dream about myself from when my professor tells our class, “You won’t make money if you want a music career. But this is still good to know when you’re cutting up music for radio sports!” Why would you tell your students this? Having a career as a recording artist and touring musician is my dream. I have already been on a national tour with the band Izyr True, released an album with the band, and performed at concerts like SXSW and Cayuga Sound.

I made some cash through the Spotify for Artists program and a fan asked about my EP! This means I can create music and make it accessible in order to improve quality in a music distribution. One month of a subscription account is the same cost of a single album. It makes the argument for buying records difficult when it is all available for easy consumption for the same price.

In the fourth quarter of 2019, Spotify paid 124 million premium subscribers worldwide, up from 96 million in the corresponding quarter of 2018. I foresee this growing number of subscribers will carry the pressure of my livelihood and well-being, especially when it relies on the precariousness of constant booking gigs and hoping to sell enough merchandise to buy groceries.

Creating sound design for other projects is something I like doing, but does not carry the same love I have for music. This profession keeps my audio editing skills fresh and helps me buy that tour van I have been saving up for. My conclusion is this: Do not give up on your dreams. However, you also do not have to find ultimate fulfillment in the thing you do to make money. When the things you are passionate about do not carry a financial burden, you have more freedom to create. You never know when a moment of opportunity will strike and you can finally book that national tour of your own. It will come, and it will be beautiful because you will not have had to sacrifice it for your well-being. It will all come together — all with a snowed frog and a roof over your head.

Kyra Skye is a musician and producer, challenges the stereotype that pursuing music is not a viable career option by supplementing other interests in order to make a living.

SEEKING JUSTICE

BY JOHN TURNER

Virus does not justify racism

I am studying abroad in London, and I had the chance to take a weekend trip to Paris. The only issue was that I needed to find a place to stay. I came across a nice apartment on Airbnb that was close to the Eiffel Tower, so I asked the host if I could check in late since my plane would not land until nearly midnight. The response I got was shocking. “Hello John,” she replied, “an American I am okay with, but not a Chinese person with their viruses.” I was confused that she would single out Chinese people until I realized that she was referring to the coronavirus outbreak.

The coronavirus has been said to be responsible for several outbreaks throughout the world, according to Live Science. This includes the severe acute respiratory syndrome pandemic of 2003–04 and the Middle East respiratory syndrome outbreak in South Korea in 2015. Most recently, there has been an outbreak of coronavirus throughout China. Some coronaviruses have caused epidemics and others have caused mild to moderate respiratory symptoms, such as the common cold. No matter the effect of a viral outbreak, it does not permit people to be xenophobic and stereotypes people are jutified in being xenophobic.

Those who are xenophobic generalize a whole country by assuming that everyone in said country is potentially ill. This mindset disregards the individuals that reside there and could even impact them from getting help. This way of thinking further perpetuates the dichotomy of “othering” those that live differently than what an individual is used to. People fear what they do not understand.

This is the same mindset that leads to stereotypes and implicit biases. Negative portrayals of different ethnic groups are perpetuated in times of public health emergencies. I have seen memes of people mocking Chinese people saying, “They eat cats,” and a meme of Disney princesses with masks and Mulan being the only one without a mask as the header reads. “Sorry Mulan, but we never know.” Not only are these memes insensitive but they further ostracize those in China. This state of mind is so toxic because it allows for xenophobia to take center stage instead of the wellbeing of those affected being the main priority.

The same thing happened when there was the Ebola outbreak. The Verge reported in 2014 that people were turned away from restaurants and jobs because they appeared to be from West Africa even though they had never come into contact with the Ebola outbreak. Instead of people saying, “I’m glad I’m not in China,” they should be saying, “How can I help those affected?” This is everyone’s issue. The misunderstanding and fear of times like these are when unity is the utmost importance because it just takes one person to bring coronavirus to your doorstep. Then it will not be a “they problem” but an “us” problem.

SEEKING JUSTICE is a column that examines race and cultural competency. Kyra Skye is a sophomore journalism major. Connect with her at kskyeyithaca@gmail.com.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Physical therapists can paint outside the lines

BY CAROLYN LANGER

Physical therapy (PT) students in the Ithaca College School of Health Sciences and Human Performance learn the same information in order to create a standard of professional practice. However, this means that there is almost a cookie-cutter formation in order to create a standard of practice. This profession keeps my audio editing skills fresh and helps me buy that tour van I have been saving up for. My conclusion is this: Do not give up on your dreams. However, you also do not have to find ultimate fulfillment in the thing you do to make money. When the things you are passionate about do not carry a financial burden, you have more freedom to create. You never know when a moment of opportunity will strike and you can finally book that national tour of your own. It will come, and it will be beautiful because you will not have had to sacrifice it for your well-being. It will all come together — all with a snowed frog and a roof over your head.

Caroline Langer is a junior clinical health studies major. Contact her at clanger@ithaca.edu.

Junior clinical health studies major Carolyn Langer wants to use holistic elements in her practice including music, drawing, as well as natural and outdoor aspects.
ACROSS
1 Pool player's stick
4 Hard wood
7 Voting district
11 Thrust
12 Ms. Hagen of films
13 2-...-zebra
14 -- hygiene
15 Menacing sound
16 Guantamano locale
17 Dish with saffron
19 Barbecue's garb
21 Dawn goddess
22 Common expression
24 Half-star movie
25 Furrowed
26 Cheney, Biden or Pence
27 Dish with saffron
28 Z-----zebra
29 Quoting
30 Common expression
31 Go separate ways
32 Rugged mountain range
34 Cultivated, as soil
35 Go separate ways
36 Wind up
37 Rough cabin
39 Skill
42 Urge forward
44 Sling mud at
46 Ice sheet
48 Pleased sigh
50 Jason's vessel of myth
51 Promises to pay
52 I-70
53 Neck and neck
54 Pour forth
55 Morning dampness
56 "...a Fabel"

DOWN
1 Knickknack
2 Eurasian mountains
3 La senorita
4 Before Sept.
5 Channel
6 A Marx brother
7 Baylor site
8 Umbrella spoke
9 Spiral molecule
10 Umbrella spoke
11 Wish
12 Helsink native
13 Real estate abbr.
14 Make a tunnel
15 Poetically above
16 College stat
17 Youngster

answers to last issue's sudoku:

medium

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

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The Sudoku Solution of "The Ithacan"

Last issue's crossword answers

HAUNT

2/7 BRANDON "ZAZ" MEDEOERER
2/13 ANDY FRASER + BIG SOMETHING
2/15 DURAND JONES
2/16 MIKE SOUGHTY
2/22 QUINN DILLIKA
2/23 CJ CHEEKER
3/4 GEOFF TATE

HANGAR

2/8 JOHN SEBERT
3/13 HOWARD JONES
3/18 TOM FAXTON
4/4 DURIN SYKES
4/23 ALIAS DRIFTER + NATALIE HAS
5/8 CHRIS SMITHER

sudoku

medium

2 3 5
8 6 1
9 5 7

hard

2 5 1 8
5 4 3 7
6 8

very hard

2 5 1 8
5 4 3 7
6 8

Junior Zoe Werth is a member of the Pulse Hip-Hop team dedicated to hip-hop dancing, performs its spring semester showcase in March. With the showcase moved up to Feb. 23, the women in the group have been filling the Fitness Center every step before their biggest show of the year.

Because of the earlier performance date, junior Zoe Werth, vice president of Pulse, said preparation for the showcase has been hectic but rewarding. The spring semester showcase is at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Emerson Suite.

“Typically, Pulse Hip Hop Team, an Ithaca College dance team dedicated to hip-hop dancing, performs its spring semester showcase in March. With the showcase moved up to Feb. 23, the women in the group have been filling the Fitness Center every step before their biggest show of the year.

Because of the earlier performance date, junior Zoe Werth, vice president of Pulse, said preparation for the showcase has been hectic but rewarding. The spring semester showcase is at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Emerson Suite.

“It’s really stressful, but I feel like time is now on our side,” Werth said. “But that’s not to say that we haven’t been putting in the work that we need to do, and each week it comes together even better than I think it is. Because of the time constraints, it does feel a little rushed, but I’m just glad to see how well my dancers are doing.”

Werth is one of 13 members of Pulse. Auditions for the group take place every fall semester, and people of all skill levels are welcome to try out for the team. Junior Lauren Stapleton, president of Pulse, said she has been a member of Pulse since Fall 2017. Stapleton said that though she had prior dance experience in multiple styles, she had little hip-hop experience before joining Pulse.

“I didn’t even know about the auditions until somebody told me after [I posted] a dancing video on my Snapchat story and asked if I was going,” Stapleton said. “I ended up going. And it’s funny, my shoe broke on my way to my audition, so I was dancing with a broken shoe. And I thought that maybe it wasn’t a good sign, but I pushed through it, and I met some of my closest friends during the audition, and we’ve been tight ever since.”

Werth has also been a member of IC Unbound Dance Company since Fall 2017. IC Unbound is one of the largest dance groups at the college, and it focuses on contemporary-style dance.

“Defy Dance Company and Rock Hard Dance Company. Werth said Pulse stands out from other on-campus dance groups because of its specialization in hip-hop and its small size.

“I think our size makes us different because we are one of the smaller teams but not too small, so it feels more like a dance studio than a large team,” Werth said. “It allows us to form close bonds with our teammates and support each other while we get better at what we love doing.”

Though newer hip-hop moves have been rising in popularity through apps like TikTok, hip-hop has a history that runs deep in American culture and dates back to the late 1960s and early 1970s. At the beginning of the modern hip-hop era, people would take to the streets and invent dance moves inspired by the complex rhythms and styles associated with African dancing.

There are also a variety of substyles. For example, the East Coast developed a hip-hop style primarily found in New York that includes characteristics like complex lyrics and break dancing, while the West Coast developed more freeform style like locking and popping.

For this routine, which she started working on in Fall 2019, Montalvo said she chose to focus her choreography around lyrics rather than rhythm.

“Another style common within hip-hop culture is heel dancing. In this substyle, many of the same rhythms and movements associated with hip-hop are present, but they are all done while the performer is wearing high heel shoes. This is most often found in the choreography of popular musicians like Beyoncé in her music videos for ‘Run The World (Girls)’ and ‘Single Ladies (Put A Ring On It).’”

Sophomore Akiysa Sanders and the team practice their moves in the Fitness Center. ATHINA SONITIS/THE ITHACAN
Adam Sandler won the award for best male lead for “Uncut Gems” at the Film Independent Spirit Awards on Feb. 8. During his acceptance speech, Sandler offered some lighthearted jokes about his apparent Oscar snub. He said, “It reminded me when I briefly attended high school and was overlooked for the coveted yearbook superlative category best looking.”

Jennifer Lopez and Shakira’s Super Bowl performance has been criticized for being too sexy. The performance saw the two Latina singers embracing their heritage and their femininity. “We [put on] a show that I believe was a celebration of women and our Latino culture that I think was well received,” Lopez said to Variety.

“The Good Place” actor Jameela Jamil came out as queer on Twitter on Feb. 5 after controversy circulated about the celebrity’s role in the new HBO Max series “Legendary,” a ballroom voguing competition. People said that the casting of Jamil was erasure of black LGBTQ culture, which originated voguing. HBO Max clarified that Jamil will not be hosting the show but will be a member of the judging panel. In her post, Jamil said that she had not come out before because she feared she would not be accepted by her family or her ethnic community. “I added a rainbow to my [Twitter] name when I felt ready years ago, as it’s not easy within the South Asian community to be accepted,” she said. “This is absolutely not how I wanted to come out.”

Snoop Dogg posted a video on Instagram slamming journalist Gayle King for bringing up Kobe Bryant’s 2003 rape case in an interview with former WNBA star Lisa Leslie after the basketball player died in January. The video consists of Snoop Dogg accusing King of targeting black men for media attention. Many people online also accused King of disrespecting Bryant’s legacy.

“Video and pictures of Bill Nye strutting the runway in a patterned jacket at New York Fashion Week recently went viral. The Blue Jacket Fashion Show benefits the Prostate Cancer Foundation, an organization that devotes money to research prostate cancer. The actor’s father died from the disease, and Nye has since participated in many charities to further research on the illness.”

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HOT

NOT

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

My mind was like, ‘No I’ll keep going, I’ll keep going, and my body was like, bye.’ My body had to tell me instead of me being able to take a break.

MEGHAN TRAINOR, talking about her experience with stress-induced panic attacks
Event to honor two iconic black female writers

BY KARA BOWEN

Ithaca College students, professors and community members will con- tribute their writing and performance arts to celebrate two of the most in- fluential black female writers in the literary canon, Toni Morrison and Audre Lorde. The performances are part of a birthday celebration for the authors that Nunn said she wanted to do something special to honor her legacy. Nunn said that a poet should create a space for healing in some way. Life can go on even in the darkest shadows.

Writing professor publishes her 39th poetry collection

Kathryn Howd Machan, professor in the Department of Writing, is publishing a new poetry book titled “A Slow Bottle of Wine.” She has already published 38 collections.

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POPPED CULTURE
ELIJAH DE CASTRO

Growth on display at 92nd Oscars

At the 92nd Academy Awards, actress Jane Fonda dramatically paused before announcing the Best Picture winner: “Parasite.” South Korean director Bong Joon-Ho walked to stage for the fourth time that night, shaking his head as he thanked the Academy for recognizing “Parasite.”

As the Best Picture winner: “Parasite.” South Korea

The win for “Parasite” is similar to that of Director Alfonso Cuarón’s “Roma,” which won Best Foreign Language Film in 2019. Since then, curators of the Academy have dismissed nominations and light films with universal appeal to appeal to Oscar voters and solidify the Academy’s unaltered, moderate status.

It seemed like the Academy returned to nominating films with universal appeal to reconcile with viewers after declining ratings. The show’s ratings for the 90th awards in 2018 were low, and viewership hit a record low of 26.5 million viewers. In the four years since the 2014 Oscars, viewership was dined approximately by 20% with Netflix signaling an internal alarm with only 9.3 million viewers.

POPPED CULTURE
ELIJAH DE CASTRO

Documentary lets Swift tell her story

BY THOMAS MACHAZ

The Netflix documenta-


tory “Miss Americana” is an exercise in public image. Throughout her now 14-year career, Taylor Swift has become an extremely divisive artist. Her fans have been vehement advocates of her lyrical honesty and wholesome messages, yet her critics have been skeptical of her wholesome nature. To explore Swift’s career is to dissect her pub-

lic image and determine what feels genuine and what does not.

“My entire moral code as a kid and now is a need to be thought of as good, and obviously I’m not a perfect person by any stretch, but overall, the main thing that I always tried to be was a good girl,” Swift says early on in Lana Wilson’s documentary. As the singer speaks, footage rolls of her at the piano with a kitten marching benignly on its keys. It’s a moment that’s almost cartoonishly sweet, but there’s something in the clairey with which the singer expresses herself. There is a certain sadness beneath her words that makes her statement feel sincere.

“Miss Americana” takes the audience through the creation of Swift’s latest album, “Lover.” The documentary also serves as a retrospective of Swift’s journey from a guitar-toting teen to a pop icon and political voice. Between charming scenes of Swift working out lyrics in the studio and moving from concert to concert, Swift recoups her meteoric rise to fame and how it challenged her mental health.

It is clear that this story is from a perspective audi-
television, which Carol Shorey Kambles, the niece of Don Shirley, acknowledged: “It’s once again a depiction of a white man’s version of a black man’s life,” she said.

Director Alfonso Cuaron’s “Roma,” front-running competitor to “Green Book,” was not a common or easy story. “Parasite” was not only funny, but it was sharp, deft and moving at a breakneck pace. It had the crowd-pleasing appeal that the black and white film “Roma” did not.

If “Roma” had possessed this quality, Cuaron’s depiction, Mexico City-based drama might have been the first international feature in history to win Best Picture. But its loss to “Green Book” was considered a cheap move to appeal to Oscar voters and solidify the Academy’s unaltered, moderate status.

The win is a triumphal return to that of “Moonlight” and seems to be a rejection of films like “Green Book.” Most importantly, the film’s win opens a door to a new wave of representa-

the Best Picture winner: “Parasite.” South Ko

92nd Oscars

37 Seconds

The Netflix documenta-

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the Best Picture winner: “Parasite.” South Ko
Discordant narrative fails to maintain a steady beat

MOVIE REVIEW: “The Rhythm Section” Eon Productions

BY EVAN HANGLEY

Predictable, disorganized and monotonous are just a few words to describe “The Rhythm Section,” a fast-paced action drama directed by Reed Morano. The entirety of the film’s strengths can be summed up in two words: Blake Lively.

Mark Burnett is the author of the novel that the movie is based on as well as the screenwriter for the film. Burnett crafted a story that lacks plot, secondary character development or any sort of structure. As a result, the film has secured itself a place on a list of films that are not worth a second watch.

When her family is killed by a bomb on an airplane, Stephanie (Blake Lively) resorts to a life of prostitution and drug addiction. Her story is haunted by the knowledge that she was supposed to be on the plane too. She then embarks on her hero’s journey: to become a detective to avenge the death of her family.

She finds the acting community. Just when she needs him most, Stephanie discovers that he’s been her mentor. Though this film’s strengths are few and far between, Lively’s ability to channel a character so unlike any of her prior roles makes it a watchable film. Presented with a chance to break through the driest villains in modern cinema, Lively shows that she is more than that. As soon as Stephanie went her own way, her story truly begins.

The viewer never really comes to terms with the fact that the film is only 106 minutes long. “The Rhythm Section” misses out on one too many beats to leave any sort of lasting impression on the viewer.

Quickies

“YIKES” Nicki Minaj, Young Money/Cash Money Records

Remember when Minaj said she was quitting music? Well, thank God that wasn’t true. “Yikes” solidifies Minaj’s excellence in the rap genre, namely through her lyrics.

“ALL THE WAY OVER” Bad alex, Red Bull Records Inc.

This song is conventional electric-pop, but “all the way over” is captivating anyway. The song's sound is relaxed, and it's just catchy enough to enjoy on a second or third listen.

“BIRTHDAY” Anne-Marie, Major Tom's Asylum Records UK

“It’s my party, and I’ll cry if I want to” is becoming an old trope to write songs about, yet that’s the basis for “Birthday.” Anne-Marie’s another year older, but this song won’t age well with her.
Study in London

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- Fall 2020 applications due March 1

- Summer 2020 dates: May 21-July 9
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- Courses & internships offered both terms
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Basketball team rebounds after slow start

BY EMILY ADAMS

Dan Raymond, head coach of the Ithaca College women's basketball team, has a sign hanging on his office door that reads, "Adversity happens to every team. ... Your culture will work for you or against you. Create it intentionally!" This season, his team has taken that message to heart.

The women's basketball team started the 2019–20 season on a three-game losing streak and was defeated by more than 10 points in all three losses. Since the losing streak ended, it has lost only two games and is currently ranked No. 1 in the Liberty League.

This season, the team has only two returning starters and two seniors. Senior Cassidy O'Malley and junior Grace Cannon were significant contributors in 2018–19 and have taken on even more significant roles this year.

"I knew we were losing a lot of talent," O'Malley said. "It was just getting people ready to step into roles they hadn't before. I sort of knew it would be more of an adjustment period, and people would have to do things they might not be as comfortable with."

In 2018–19, the team had one of its best seasons in program history. The Bombers made it to the Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament after winning their first-ever Liberty League title. However, the team graduated five senior leaders, three of whom were regular starters and all of whom played significant minutes in every game.

This year, the squad dominated Bard College 80–47 in its first game back Dec. 8 and then won its next six games in a row. Raymond said the coaching staff made several adjustments in training after the break to better prepare the players for in-game situations, especially those who had limited experience at the collegiate level.

"We made things shorter in our practice format, so we did less things, but we did them at a more intense level," Raymond said. "We put more responsibility on the players to get in the gym and get shots up and took less time in practice to do basic shooting drills and things like that."

Sophomore forward Cara Volpe had a practice that she said allows every member of the team to have their voices heard.

"Everyone has to step up because there's only two seniors," Volpe said. "I think everyone has to play a leadership role. Everyone has to be vocal and talk. I think it's made everyone closer, and everyone's comfortable because it's not just one person running the show."

The Bombers' upcoming game against league opponent St. Lawrence University will be one of the most significant of the year for them. St. Lawrence is currently ranked second behind the South Hill squad in the Liberty League and handed the team the loss that broke the season-long streak 47–63. Volpe said the team will be looking for redemption when they face the Saints on Feb. 15 in Helen Light Gymnasium.

"We should have lost that," Volpe said. "We're gonna beat them. That's a really big game, and we're fired up. Since we left there a couple of weeks ago and lost, we've been talking about that game."
**THE BOMBERS ROUNDUP**

The Ithacan provides statistical updates on all the Bombers’ varsity squads during the season.

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**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**ITHACA** 59–51 **UNION** 66–46

**FEB. 8** ITHACA **FEB. 9** RPI

**NEXT GAME**: 5:30 p.m. Feb. 14 against Clarkson University in Ben Light Gymnasium

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**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**ITHACA** 93–82 **UNION** 62–60

**FEB. 8** ITHACA **FEB. 9** RPI

**NEXT GAME**: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14 against Clarkson University in Ben Light Gymnasium

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**MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING**

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<th>NAME</th>
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<th>EVENT</th>
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<td>Ethan Godfrey</td>
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<td>Theo Summerville</td>
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<td>3-meter dive</td>
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<td>Michael Salvino</td>
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<td>1-meter dive</td>
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**NEXT MEET**: 10 a.m. Feb. 19 at the Liberty League championships at the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium

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**WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING**

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<tr>
<td>Karalyn Pawcio</td>
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<td>3-meter dive</td>
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<td>Eliana Wallock</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1-meter dive</td>
<td>270.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ava Lowell</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1-meter dive</td>
<td>255.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEXT MEET**: 10 a.m. Feb. 19 at the Liberty League championships at the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium

---

**GYMNASTICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameryn Nichols</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>All-around</td>
<td>37.975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassidy Marquette</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>9.650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtney Christoforo</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Uneven parallel bars</td>
<td>9.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Kyriakopoulos</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Uneven parallel bars</td>
<td>9.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paige Landes</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Balance beam</td>
<td>9.450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEXT MEET**: 1 p.m. Feb. 16 at Cornell Big Red Invitational in Ithaca

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**WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>RESULTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Wetmore</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>60-meter dash</td>
<td>7.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kendall Wellauer</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Weight throw</td>
<td>15.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Nickerson</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>800-meter run</td>
<td>2:17.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Bruce</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>60-meter hurdles</td>
<td>9.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estelle Yedynak</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>High jump</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEXT MEET**: 1 p.m. Feb. 14 at the David Hemery Valentine Invite in Boston

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**MEN’S TRACK & FIELD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>RESULTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Blake</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>3,000-meter run</td>
<td>8:52.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Tiber</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>1-mile run</td>
<td>4:30.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasim Cisse</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>High jump</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominic Mikula</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Pole vault</td>
<td>4.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison Buttrick</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Weight throw</td>
<td>17.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEXT MEET**: 1 p.m. Feb. 14 at the David Hemery Valentine Invite in Boston

---

**WRESTLING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Brisman</td>
<td>149 pounds</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>22–2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Schneider</td>
<td>165 pounds</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>8–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eze Chukwuzezi</td>
<td>184 pounds</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>23–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tito Colom</td>
<td>141 pounds</td>
<td>Wesleyan</td>
<td>18–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dymir Davis-Carruth</td>
<td>197 pounds</td>
<td>Wesleyan</td>
<td>3–1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEXT MATCH**: 7 p.m. Feb. 14 at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

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*Updated as of Feb. 12*
Women’s track dominates in national rankings

BY TYLER EVANS

The Ithaca College women’s track and field team not only competes against some of the best athletes in Division III at meets and invitationals but also in practice as well. The Bombers run, sprint and jump alongside their nationally ranked teammates daily.

The team, which is ranked No. 1 in Division III, currently has five athletes across eight events who are ranked in the top 10 nationally. Freshman Meghan Matheny is ranked No. 1 in the pole vault, and senior Parley Hannan is first in the nation in the 1,500- and 5,000-meter run. Freshman Tia Jones, senior Sarah Rudge and sophomore Logan Bruce are all ranked in the top 10 of their respective events as well.

Hannan said she has set high expectations for herself for the indoor season and plans to continue building on her early success.

“My goal is to win the 5k and 3k events at nationals this year,” Hannan said. “I also want to break the Division III 5k record at nationals this year. It is still early in the season, and I know I can run faster.”

Hannan’s personal-best time is 16:44.57, and the current record for the indoor 5,000-meter is 16:25.32. It was set in 2019 by Kaileigh Mooney of the Coast Guard Academy. Hannan has not yet raced during the 2019-20 indoor track and field season, but she placed 34th at the NCAA Division III Cross-Country Championships.

“The beginning of training for the team, I was not logging how many miles I was running per week,” Hannan said. “When I started working with the coaches and logging my miles, I was running around 10 miles more than I should have been per week. Pacing that in my training so I allow me to run even faster this season.”

Hannan said that all athletes at the top of national rankings is not uncommon for the Bombers. Katherine Ptman ‘18, Brande Smith ‘17 and Taryn Cordani ‘18 all won multiple national championships during their time at Ithaca College.

Ptman was a two-time indoor national champion in the pole vault and currently holds both the indoor and outdoor Division III national records. Smith was a three-time national champion, and Cordani was a two-time outdoor national champion. Head coach Jennifer Potter said she credits the coaching staff with the team’s continued success.

“The coaching staff here has been together for awhile and are experienced,” Potter said. “That helps with teaching and developing our athletes so they can take it to the next level.”

Potter is currently in her 17th season as the women’s track and field head coach. Erin Dinnen, assistant coach for long distance, has been at the college for 15 years, and Matt Schefler, assistant coach for pole vault, has coached for the Indoor and Outdoor National Championships.

While the Bombers have seen a new season underway, Christoforo strives to defend her title and lead her team to more success.

The Bombers have competed in four meets so far this season, most recently falling to Springfield College and SUNY Oneonta. She is ranked nationally in the 1-mile, 3,000- and 5,000-meter runs.

In the 2019 Ithaca College gymnastics season, sophomore Courtney Christoforo won the individual title for the uneven bars at the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association championships. Now with a new season underway, Christoforo strives to defend her title and lead her team to more success.

The Bombers have been falling to Springfield College and Ursinus College on Feb. 9 in a tri-meet in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Staff writer Willy Wright spoke with Christoforo about what she is doing to get back to the national stage and how the team has changed throughout the start of the season.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Willy Wright: How have you stayed motivated after reaching such a high accomplishment last year?

Courtney Christoforo: For me, it’s more about the team. I want to do my best because I want our team to be as successful as possible. Gymnastics is an individual sport, but in college, it’s more about the team. So I want to set that good example for my teammates and the underclassmen and try to be the person of hard work so everyone can be on that level. If we’re all on that level, we can be really successful as a team.

WW: Now a junior, how has your role transitioned into being a leader on the team?

CC: We do know we have a leadership team, so me and another one of my teammates are enthusiastic leaders. We are in charge of keeping the energy up and trying to pick it back up if we have a bad event. It’s also been more about communicating with teammates if they’re concerned about anything or if they’re struggling. A lot of them have been reaching out to me as somebody who can help them with whatever they are struggling with. It feels really nice to be able to do that for them.

WW: What have you done to mentally and physically prepare to get back to compete for a national championship again?

CC: I still have to go back and get into [nationally]. Mentality is the problem for me especially, so we’ve really been working on positive affirmation and making sure I have confidence in myself so I can perform at my best. The physical stuff is down — just the mental stuff is really important to focus on because with that extra pressure, it’s important to know I can do it and remain confident.

WW: How have you and the team performed so far this season in comparison to your expectations and goals?

CC: It wasn’t the start that we hoped for. We had some injuries and a few setbacks, but every year is different, so we really try and keep that in mind — that the process is going to be different every single year. We have our goal of where we want to get to, and so every day we focus on that in the gym. We try not to expect too much, but we are in charge of keeping the energy up and trying to pick it back up if we have a bad event. We do keep track of national rankings and focus on team [personal bests] as well as the Liberty League, but our team goal has always been nationals.

Junior gymnast discusses preparation for nationals

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Study & Intern in New York City

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With ICNYC Director
Thurs., 2/20, 7:30 pm, BUS 202

School-based Info Sessions
For Business students
Tues. 3/3, 12:10, BUS 204
For Park students
Tues. 3/3, 12:10, For 123

For HS & HP students
Thurs. 2/27, 12:10, CHS 200
For H&S students
Thurs. 2/27, 12:10, friends 205

Music students: contact Associate Dean David Perry for a presentation.
** Application deadline for Fall 2020 is March 6 **
International Programs: Job Hall, 2nd floor - icnyc@ithaca.edu - 274-1000
Cisse cleared a personal-best height of 2.06 meters to win the high jump at the Utica Invitational on Feb. 8 in Utica, New York. The performance improved Cisse’s national ranking to No. 8 among Division III athletes.

The women’s basketball team posted a strong win over Union College on Feb. 8 behind a double-double from senior forward Cassidy O’Malley. Junior guard Megan Yawman was key on defense with seven rebounds.
Freshman Massimo Giacona performs a solo at Ithacapella's Block III concert Feb. 8 in the Emerson Suites. Ithacapella is the all-male a cappella group on campus.