Students worried by class decreases

BY SYD PIERRE

Sophomore Molly Danielli had planned to take Digital Recording and Editing — a class required for her major — in Fall 2021. However, she was shocked to find that the course would not be offered in the fall. Danielli, who planned to study abroad during Spring 2022, said she was told the course would be offered then.

“I’m going to end up having to push it to my senior spring, which is a little annoying, but it definitely was a difficult thing to figure out,” Danielli said. “I had to send a lot of emails to a lot of people.”

Some students and faculty at Ithaca College are finding that low enrollment and faculty and program cuts made as a result of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process have affected course registration for Fall 2021.

Course registration for the fall began April 13 and goes through April 22 for continuing students. Registration opens July 26 for incoming freshmen and deferred students.

According to the Office of the Registrar, in Fall 2020, the college offered 2,560 sections — multiple offerings of a course, which include labs, drills, recitations and other non-credit bearing sections — for students to take. In Spring 2021, there were 2,631 sections offered.

According to HomerConnect, as of April 21, the Fall 2021 semester is offering 1,969 sections for students, 951 fewer sections than Fall 2020 and 662 fewer sections than Spring 2021.

The fall semester starts August 23. Registrar Vikki Levine said registration will stay open through August 29.

“There are some courses that are high demand, and there are also courses that are very low demand, and you have to have a certain amount of students per course to be successful,” Levine said. “We’ll add classes, we’ll cancel classes, faculty will shift around. That’s just the nature of the course schedule in any semester.”

Levine said she has not seen increased concern from students and faculty about the course offerings but said the decrease could everywhere on campus.”

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Usually, the weekend before finals, students gather on Kendall Avenue, off of Pennsylvania Avenue, at large outdoor house parties. Police officers patrol the streets to keep students in check but do not prevent the event from happening. This year, the event would fall on May 8.

A few consequences of a COVID-19 outbreak related to a mass gathering could be a cancellation of in-person commencement or spring week delayed move out at the end of the semester, a potential to overwhelm the health care systems and student conduct violations rising to the level of suspension, Ferro said in the email.

College warns students against attending Kendall Day party

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

Ithaca is finally experiencing sunny days, and normally the warmer weather paired with the end of the spring semester results in student festivities like Kendall Day.

In an email sent to students April 14, Rosanna Ferro, vice president for student affairs and campus life, reminded the Ithaca College Community Agreement. Instead of participating in-end-of-the-year gatherings like Kendall Day, the college is encouraging smaller gatherings with a student’s “Bomber Bubble” — or the small group a student has been interacting with throughout the semester.

Ithaca College is discouraging students from participating in the annual Kendall Day. Typically, students gather on Kendall Avenue.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

An Intercom announcement posted April 16 by Eileen Harrington Roth, off-campus community coordinator, calls for volunteers to patrol Pennsylvania Avenue and Kendall Avenue May 8 in two-hour-long shifts. Volunteers will be required to attend the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) held a discussion surrounding the violence toward the Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) community and the Asian Americans and Pacific Islander (API) community at its April 19 meeting.

The SGC held an open discussion for campus community members during its community session portion of the meeting. It also met with President Shirley M. Collado and Rosanna Ferro, vice president for student affairs and campus life, to discuss Fall 2021, and passed one bill at its meeting.

Senior Abigail Murtha, senate chair, said the violence against communities of color is happening not just across the country, but also at the college.

“I myself have talked about this on TV, on the news and in the world. These issues are happening in the world. Even though there is one person of color, I still think that professors do not acknowledge what is happening in the world.”

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FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

BY SYD PIERRE

The Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) held a discussion surrounding the violence toward the Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) community and the Asian Americans and Pacific Islander (API) community at its April 19 meeting.

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College resumes in-person tours

BY MAKAYLA CAROZZOLO

Prospective students are once again able to visit the Ithaca College campus as the college resumes in-person campus tours.

The college began hosting tours of the campus in person again April 10. The tours are offered to accepted students who have received an invitation to tour the college, Nicole Eversley Bradwell, executive director of admission, said. Prior to going on the tour, visitors must complete an electronic screening for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure and comply with the New York State Travel Advisory. The campus was previously only open to current students, faculty and staff as outlined in the “Return to Campus” plan.

Junior Tredale Forbes, a co-chair of the President’s Host Committee, said accepted students are allowed to bring one supporting visitor for their tour. They said each tour is limited to four families and one tour guide, and everyone is required to wear a mask and stay distant from others throughout the tour.

Another interested student, Abby Bertram, an accepted high school senior from Edina, Minnesota, toured the college earlier this month. She said she received an invitation for a tour during an accepted students day event.

“My overall experience was fantastic, and just being on campus really made me want to come here in the fall even more,” Bertram said.

Forbes said all tours now take the same route — unlike how they were conducted prior to the pandemic — and are staggered throughout the day so that no tours cross paths.

Although campus tours are currently only available for accepted high school seniors, there are options for online engagement located on the college’s website. Forbes said the Office of Admission offers virtual Q&A webinars and panels for prospective students. Bradwell said over 1,700 prospective students attended the Accepted Students Day programs, which include financial aid sessions, an academic and student services fair and social events.

Forbes said that as an extrovert, she enjoys engaging with visitors again, and the Office of Admission is ecstatic to be able to invite visitors on campus again. “A lot of planning went on behind the scenes to make this happen, and if any of it would have caused harm to our campus community, the public health and emergency preparedness team would not have approved our proposal,” Forbes said.

Bradwell said the Office of Admission is excited to be welcoming prospective students to campus and will continue to assess its engagement opportunities as COVID-19 guidelines change.

“Our President’s Hosts and admission team members have enjoyed every moment of welcoming our accepted students to South Hill to see for themselves why Ithaca College is a place we call home,” Bradwell said.

Junior Emma Robinson, a tour guide on the President’s Host Committee, said she is grateful that the committee has found a safe way to conduct tours that prioritizes health and connection. “It’s been such a long time of just webinars and blank video boxes, but to connect with students going through such a difficult time and being able to help them even a little bit is so energizing and a great reminder to me of why I’m in college and what I’m working toward,” Robinson said.
Senior council election season

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

Ithaca College senior class council elections will now be held separately from the Student Governance Council (SGC) elections. The only team running for senior class council is IC Us Together. The team is composed of juniors Reed Pollard as president, Anna Costa as vice president, Mark Scaglione as chief of staff, Jill Ochino as director of finance, Kitty Lian as director of marketing and Erika Libertas as director of communications. Voting for the senior council elections will be held April 21 and 22 on Engage.

In previous years, senior council elections were included in the SGC spring semester elections. This meant the SGC, executive board would provide funding for the senior council campaigning budget, senior Connor Shea, president of the SGC, said. The SGC Organizational Review Committee decided to discontinue this partnership and funding when amending the SGC Elections Act.

"Other than facilitating elections and financially supporting the senior council, we have two separate organizations and decided to update our policy to allow for both organizations to facilitate their own elections," Shea said.

The SGC held platform presentations April 12 for the prospective SSG executive board and senate for the 2021–22 academic year. IC Revival is the only group running for the incoming SSG executive board. SSG elections for the incoming executive board and senate will be held from April 25 to 26 on IC Engage.

Al Kelley, Class of 2021 president, said she fought to keep the elections together to make it easier for students to vote for both elections.

"Since I was made aware of this decision last spring, I have worked to prevent us from reinventing our elections process. I made sure to work closely with Patti Banfield, senior class adviser, and Brittany Warrors, the Office of Student Engagement administrative assistant, to ensure a fair, unbiased elections process for the senior class executive board," Kelley said via email.

Pollard said IC Us Together’s goals are to create a normal senior year experience while being mindful of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensure seniors are heard and appreciated and encourage the senior class to continue to contribute to the college community.

“Our main concerns center around the current state of the world and its health," Pollard said via email. "We are extremely proud that IC is mandating students to have the vaccine to return to school this upcoming year. With this, as well as ordinances from the state, we hope to bring back elements of normalcy to the school and events that are geared towards seniors.”

The team formed over the past few weeks, but Pollard, Costa and Scaglione have been talking about running for council since their freshman year, Pollard said.

Pollard said he wants to help students be more engaged on campus, following the COVID-19 pandemic if he is elected to the council.

"What really inspired me was the fact that IC students need engagement with the campus and are missing out on some of the things that are unique to a traditional Ithaca College experience," Pollard said. "In my role as president, to be able to build bridges with students and the campus once again and help facilitate a memorable and exciting senior year.

Voting will be held on Engage, and all students who are in the Class of 2022 are able to vote.

Editor's note: Anna Costa is the managing editor of The Ithacan.

BY JILLIAN BLEIER

A new preapproved double major was finalized between the Documentary Studies and Production B.A. in the Roy H. Park School of Communications and the minor in the School of Humanities and Sciences (H&S).

This collaboration allows students in the Departments of Politics, Environmental Studies and Science and Modern Languages and Literatures in H&S to be automatically preapproved for a double major in documentary studies. Likewise, students accepted into documentary studies are preapproved to double major in a major in one of these three departments.

In the past, the documentary studies program would not accept new students until reviewing one semester of grades. Said John Scott, associate professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies and director of the documentary studies and production program. The preapproval allows students in these three departments in H&S to add documentary studies as a major before they register for classes allowing them to be in both majors simultaneously their first semester.

For now, prospective students can still only apply for one major and must be accepted and enrolled to request the double major. However, this may change in the future, Scott said.

Scott reached out to these departments in H&S in February 2021 after noticing that many documentary students were already minoring in these areas. Students in this major are required to have a minor outside of the Park School.

“We’re not really changing what people take,” he said. “We’re just saying, ‘Hey look, if you want to do this, we’ll pre-approve you for a double major.”

Even though they will be automatically preapproved, students in documentary studies or in one of these three H&S departments are not required to double major.

There are currently six students in documentary studies and production who have a double major, and two are double majoring in politics.

Julien Sobel and Lesley Paredes Hernandez.

“What this program really does and makes easier is sort of being able to get this without having to go through all of that bureaucratic wrangling,” Sobel said.

Sobel directed and released a documentary last year called “Home is Here,” which follows an undocumented farmworker and raises awareness about the daily struggles of immigrants. He worked with both Scott and Patricia Rodriguez, associate professor and chair of the Department of Politics, to create the film with a student team.

Paredes Hernandez came to the college as a politics major and declared her double major during her second semester.

“There was always a part of me that had a really creative side, but I wanted to find a way to embody that while also keeping my drive for writing to do something big and impactful in terms of politics,” she said. “So, I figured that the perfect way to do that was documentary film.”

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BY SYD PIERRE

Ithaca College’s Provost’s Task Force on Integrative Core Curriculum (ICC) Revision has revised and finalized its proposal on the ICC. The Committee for College-Wide Requirements (CWR) will be holding a faculty vote on the proposal.

The revised proposal recommends six revisions to the current ICC curriculum: eliminating the current e-portfolio and complementary liberal arts (CLA) requirements, adding a new one-semester integrative engagement (IE) requirement, allowing departments and degree programs the option to specify one of the perspectives — creative arts, humanities, social sciences or natural sciences — as being covered within a major; separating themes from perspectives, a separation that allows students to take courses outside their designated themes and have them count for the themes and perspectives requirements; and adjusting required courses to be designated as an ICC capstone course.

The proposal also recommends adding a "Pathways" experience, which comprises the Ithaca Core, one IE course and the ICC capstone course.

The original proposal called for two IE courses for the "Pathways" experience, which was revised to one following feedback from the task force received, said Brooks Miner, CWR co-chair and assistant professor in the Department of Biology.

If passed, the recommendations would go into effect in Fall 2022, starting with the Class of 2026.

The ICC currently includes six themes for students to choose from, an introductory seminar for freshmen, an e-portfolio required for graduation and complementary liberal arts requirements that are defined by major programs at each school.

The task force first submitted its draft proposal to the CCR on Nov. 9 and received feedback throughout November and early December. The task force made revisions based on the feedback and submitted the final proposal to the CCR on April 6.

Miner said the bulk of the revisions were providing clarity about elements in the proposal.

He said the CCR received a lot of questions from groups providing feedback asking for clarification of elements in the proposal.

"We sort of grouped those questions into a couple different areas, and then in our feedback to the task force, we said, ‘These are things that we’ve got a lot of questions about, and it’s a little bit unclear to us from reading the proposal.’” Miner said. “And so they clarified a lot of explanations in the proposal.”

The CCR will conduct a faculty advisory vote on the proposed revisions.

According to an Intercom post, the faculty vote will be conducted from April 22 to 30 on Qualtrics.

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currently, there are 59 block I sections offered for Fall 2021, 12 fewer than the 71 sections offered in Fall 2020. I think just on top of them being fewer offerings, the classes that are being offered, there are fewer sections," Finnel said. "Also, degree-required classes that normally have two or three sections only have one."

Freshman Alexa Johnson said she was disappointed with the college's restrictions and management decisions involved with COVID-19. "We're the six of the classes I needed to register for were either already filled or conflicted with my other classes," Johnson said via email. "What's so frustrating about less sections of courses being offered is that it doesn't allow me to take required classes that I need for my major."

David Brown, chair and professor in the Department of Communication Studies, said the number of sections has decreased due to the expected enrollment of the Class of 2025 and the number of faculty positions being cut. The department offered 42 sections of courses in Fall 2020, 45 in Spring 2021 and is offering 26 courses in Fall 2021.

Brown said some students have expressed frustration about the lack of choice of courses, but could fulfill their requirements. He said he is more concerned about the 2022-23 academic year, when the department will lose its non-tenure eligible faculty. "I don't know what it's going to look like two years from now," Brown said.

The Department of Communication Studies and the major in communication studies have been slated for elimination. "The department also houses the Culture and Communication (CLTC) major, which the APP recommends be retained." Robert Sullivan, professor and chair of the Department of Communication Studies and co-ordinator of the CLTC major, said he expects the department to be eliminated no earlier than August 2022. He said the department is set to be eliminated because it did not have enough faculty. "In the future, we're going to have three faculty," Sullivan said. "So we can't do two majors and our minor with three faculty."

He said the department has stopped admitting new students and will be offering 10 sections of courses in the fall, with only one upper-level course. The department offered 26 sections of courses in Fall 2020 and 29 in Spring 2021.

Sophomore Quelina Meadows said that after hearing about the future of the department, she decided to switch majors. "Even though the APIC document says that the Culture and Communication major is being retained, there's a very limited course selection," Meadows said.

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Intern offers LGBTQ+ sex education workshops

BY ELIZABETH KHARABADZE

Ithaca College’s Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services is offering workshops on topics relating to sex education in an LGBTQ+ inclusive setting.

Hillery Wermers is a graduate student at Widener University studying human sexuality. She said she came to Ithaca College as part of an internship with the college’s LGBT Center to provide resources relating to sex and sexuality in the LGBTQ+ community. Wermers said she made the decision to cancel her initial presentations, Sex Ed ‘Tea’ Time, due to low participation.

She said approximately seven people attended the group before they were canceled. Despite setbacks, Wermers is continuing to engage with the campus community by creating presentations for student organizations.

Wermers said her presentations aimed to fill in the gap in general sexual education, which often excludes topics relating to the LGBTQ+ community.

The presentations addressed subjects such as birth control and consent. According to the Center for American Progress, disparities in standards for sex education account for the lack of understanding on LGBTQ+ sex education topics. Sex education classes in states legally mandated in 39 states and Washington, D.C., but only 11 states and Washington, D.C. require inclusive content with regard to sexual orientation. Six states require only negative information to be provided on homosexuality, according to the Guttmacher Institute.

“I think in a lot of sex ed, you learn about puberty, pregnancy, contraception and STIs,” Wermers said. “But especially the focus on pregnancy and prenancy prevention excludes the main reason why people are having sex, which is pleasure.”

Wermers also said she already had an interest in supporting LGBTQ+ students in higher education, which helped inspire her capstone project.

“For me, I wanted people to know that we do sex ed in just sex ed,” Wermers said.

Wermers said she presented on topics relating to LGBTQ+ for PRISM and Spectrum student organizations focusing on the LGBTQ+ community. Senior Grayson Stevens, co-president of Spectrum, said Wermers addressed a meeting to present sex items and gender-affirming sex items. He said that approximately 15 people attended the meeting and that the presentation provided space for individuals to share their own experiences with the topic.

Stevens said he believes creating safe spaces for LGBTQ+ is incredibly important. He said that offering resources that address the LGBTQ+ community is vital for a young person’s wellbeing.

“With all of this in mind, removing sex education in schools is crucial for students’ physical, social, and emotional development — whether they are cisgender, heterosexual students, those who are LGBTQ+ get left behind,” Stevens said.

Stevens also said the lack of comprehensive sex education for contributions to health concerns, like HIV, STIs and teen pregnancy.

With all of this in mind, re-forming the way people approach education in schools is crucial for students’ physical, social, and emotional development — whether they are cisgender, heterosexual students, those who are LGBTQ+ get left behind,” Stevens said.

Senior Timothy Kennedy, president of PRISM, said Wermers also shared the same lesson on sex items.

“However, Kennedy said the meeting was attended by only five people, on account of Zoom fatigue — a feeling of exhaustion or burnout resulting from time spent working on Zoom. Despite this, Kennedy said he still had a positive experience with Wermers’ presentation.

“It was super casual, starting off with a presentation and then discussing things people had questions about,” Kennedy said. “We then played a game of sorts where she gave us links to different sex toys and had us ‘sell’ the products to each other, discussing whether or not they were safe for use for certain acts.”

Kennedy also said he believes there should be more discussion of sex education topics that are inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community.

Much of Kennedy’s knowledge of sex education growing up was limited — restricted to pregnancy and STD prevention alone. Kennedy said much of what he knows now is information he learned on his own.

“If I had known half of what I do now, I would have been much safer and also not felt like a weirdo,” Kennedy said. “When people don’t talk about us, it feels like we’re alone.”

Laci Maurer, director of the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services, said he believes there is a future for further discussion and education on LGBTQ+ sex education at the college.

Despite low turnouts on Zoom, Maurer said the sex education workshops held by the center have received positive reactions from students, faculty and staff.

“As a result of the pandemic, the center had to quickly adapt to online instruction, shifting its many educational programs for students, faculty and staff online. Maurer said the shift provided more accessibility for students to attend programs of their interest and to meet with him one-on-one.”

Maurer said the center has held some programs that addressed sex education in the past. However, since Maurer is the only one who works at the center, he said resources are limited.

“As we shift to face-to-face operations, we want to figure out, how can we keep all of the things that made it easier for Sullivan in place while also allowing students to be able to return to a new sense of normal?” Maurer said.

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The Face Behind IC’s Portraits of Grief

BY ALYSHIA KORBA

Harriet Malinowitz, 66, is a lecturer in the Department of Writing and the Women’s and Gender Studies program and the author of the “Faces of Austerity” series. She has been teaching for 45 years and spent the past seven years at Ithaca College, where she has created courses at the college like Germaine in Writing and Palestine in Literature, Malinowitz Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition from New York University.

Malinowitz has written a variety of media, including a play, stand-up comedy routines and her book 1995: “Textual Orientations: Lesbian源源的 Writing and the Making of Discoume Communities.”

“The thing I care more about than any thing in the world is writing,” Malinowitz said. “It’s writing, writing, writing.”

For the past eight weeks, she has applied her passion for writing to show the real loss resulting from the Academic Program Prioritization (APP). Malinowitz said “Faces of Austerity” was inspired by the New York Times’ “Portraits of Grieff” and the “Mghan Portraits of Grieff” created by Peaceful Tomorrows following 9/11.

“I wanted people to see what we were losing and how low our administration was being,” Malinowitz said.

Malinowitz identifies as a queer, Jewish, Avestan woman and was the faculty advisor to the college’s chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine.

She said she will miss being apart of an academic community but plans to continue to write after finishing her work at Ithaca College in Spring 2021. She has been re-researching and writing a second book with the working title, “Sometimes Something Is True: Zionism, Propaganda and the Uses of Hasbara.”

Malinowitz said students in her classes often bring her propaganda, and this semester she has asked students to study the college’s statements about the APP.

“So far, nobody has said that they believe the administration,” she said.

Malinowitz said she tries to teach students to think critically.

“The message that comes from the lead ership here is we’re supposed to reach them to submit their CV’s and faculties and not think too much about anything that they’re told to do. Whatever they’re told, accept it and keep doing it,” Malinowitz said.

This is the final profile in this series, which intends to put human faces on the faculty members who have been notified of their termination as a result of the APP.

BY ALEXIS MANORE

The search committee for a new vice president for finance and administration at Ithaca College will meet with semifinalists for the position and recommend finalists to meet with President Shirley M. Collado and members of the campus community by the end of April. In an April 10 announcement, Tad Diabetes Piñero, chief of staff in the Office of the President and chair of the search committee, stated that the committee began reviewing applications April 5.

Once the finalists have been established, they will meet with members of the Senior Leadership Team, the Division of Finance and Administration, the Institutional Effectiveness and Budget Committee (IEBC), the Faculty Council, the Student Council, the Student Government Executive Committees and other college leaders. The search committee worked with WinkSparks, an executive search firm that has partnered with the college in the past, most recently with the dean searches for the School of Music and the Roy J. Park School of Communication.

Bill Guerrer, former vice president for finance and administration, left his position for a position at Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts, on Feb. 26.

Collado stated Jan. 28 that the college will launch a search for a new vice president. The search committee is composed of Susan Basset, associate vice president and director of the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics; Michael Conover, trustee on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees; Shana Gore, executive director of Student Financial Services; Marc Israel, assistant provost of finance and adminis trative operations; sophomore Grace Mauley, student representative on the Institutional Effectiveness and Budget Committee; Chris McNamara, clinical associate professor and clinic director in the Department of Physical Therapy and chair of the Faculty council; and Jimiggie, professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and director of the Human Anatomy Laboratory in the School of Health Sciences and Performance.

“I take this opportunity to thank the dedicated members of the search committee, whose care and commitment I deeply value,” Piñero said in the statement.

Collado has stated that in Guerrer’s absence, she will not appoint an interim vice president. Rather, Tim Casey, associate vice president for facilities, is leading the executive side of the Division of Finance and Administration and is working with Dave Prunty, executive director for Auxiliary Services, and Dave Weil, associate vice president for Information Technology. Israel moved out of the provost’s office and is now a vice president for business and finance. Beth Reynolds, controller of the Office of Financial Services, is bud get director. Dean Kanawzich, director of Financial Services, assumed the position of controller.

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Final vice president candidates to meet with IC community

The search committee for a new vice president for finance and administration at Ithaca College will meet with semifinalists for the position and recommend finalists to meet with President Shirley M. Collado and members of the campus community by the end of April. In an April 10 announcement, Tad Diabetes Piñero, chief of staff in the Office of the President and chair of the search committee, stated that the committee began reviewing applications April 5.

Once the finalists have been established, they will meet with members of the Senior Leadership Team, the Division of Finance and Administration, the Institutional Effectiveness and Budget Committee (IEBC), the Faculty Council, the Student Council, the Student Government Executive Committees and other college leaders. The search committee worked with WinkSparks, an executive search firm that has partnered with the college in the past, most recently with the dean searches for the School of Music and the Roy J. Park School of Communication.

Bill Guerrer, former vice president for finance and administration, left his position for a position at Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts, on Feb. 26.

Collado stated Jan. 28 that the college will launch a search for a new vice president. The search committee is composed of Susan Basset, associate vice president and director of the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics; Michael Conover, trustee on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees; Shana Gore, executive director of Student Financial Services; Marc Israel, assistant provost of finance and administrative operations; sophomore Grace Mauley, student representative on the Institutional Effectiveness and Budget Committee; Chris McNamara, clinical associate professor and clinic director in the Department of Physical Therapy and chair of the Faculty council; and Jimiggie, professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and director of the Human Anatomy Laboratory in the School of Health Sciences and Performance.

“I take this opportunity to thank the dedicated members of the search committee, whose care and commitment I deeply value,” Piñero said in the statement.

Collado has stated that in Guerrer’s absence, she will not appoint an interim vice president. Rather, Tim Casey, associate vice president for facilities, is leading the executive side of the Division of Finance and Administration and is working with Dave Prunty, executive director for Auxiliary Services, and Dave Weil, associate vice president for Information Technology. Israel moved out of the provost’s office and is now a vice president for business and finance. Beth Reynolds, controller of the Office of Financial Services, is budget director. Dean Kanawzich, director of Financial Services, assumed the position of controller.

CONTACT ALEXIS MANORE
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Ithaca community protests police violence

A group of approximately 15 mourners gathered at 4 p.m. April 17 at Dewitt Park to condemn police violence in response to the deaths of Daunte Wright and Adam Toledo. Pace University student Kendra Cooper-Smith holds a sign, “Ash Black The Ithacan.”

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG
SELECTED ENTRIES FROM APRIL 5 TO APRIL 11

APRIL 5

V&T LEAVING SCENE OF ACCIDENT
LOCATION: Lot 1
SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown vehicle struck a parked vehicle and left the scene. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENT
LOCATION: Circle Apartments SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the fire alarm activation was caused by burnt food. Fire protection specialist Max Noble responded.

ACCIDENTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE
LOCATION: Garden Apartments SUMMARY: Maintenance requested assistance with a resident who was refusing to open a door for a water leak in the area. Residenial Life staff also requested to assist. The officers gained access to the area and maintenance found the leak had caused damage to the bathroom area. One person was referred for failure to follow college regulations. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

APRIL 6

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENT
LOCATION: Circle Apartments SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the fire alarm activation was caused by burnt food. Fire protection specialist Max Noble responded.

PUBLIC HEALTH LAW
LOCATION: Upper Athletic Fields SUMMARY: A caller reported individuals playing soccer were not wearing masks. The officer reported everyone was found not wearing a mask. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

APRIL 7

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT
LOCATION: Alumni Circle SUMMARY: A person reported an incident that they believed an item was stolen from their vehicle that was parked off campus. The officer instructed the person to call the Tompkins County Sheriff’s Office to report the crime. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

APRIL 8

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS
RELATED:ICF Center E.P. Center SUMMARY: A caller reported a person passed out. The officer reported the person declined medical assistance. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENT
LOCATION: Lower 1 SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the fire alarm activation was caused by burnt food. Fire protection specialist Max Noble responded.

APRIL 9

ASSIST ITHACA POLICE DEPARTMENT
LOCATION: All Other SUMMARY: Tompkins County 911 received a request for service from a known person in need of assistance. Patrol Officer Kevin McClain responded.

CRIMINAL TAMPERING 3RD DEGREE
LOCATION: Emmum Hall SUMMARY: A caller reported a door on a vending machine was unscrewed. The officer reported no damage was observed and the door secured. Patrol Officer Sophia Dimkos responded.

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

KEY

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

Ithaca wins awards from New York State Press Association
Ithaca College’s student newspaper, The Ithacan, has received multiple awards from the New York Press Association Better College Newspaper Competition. All awards were presented in Spring 2021 for the 2020 calendar year. The Ithacan won best college newspaper in New York state for 2020. This is the 15th time the paper has won this award. The Ithacan also won best sports coverage, best use of social media, second place for general excellence, second place for editorial writing and second place for design and second place for best website.


The survey asks questions about people’s experiences over the past two months related to life changes due to the pandemic. The researchers are also interested in learning about the coping strategies that different families are using to try to maintain a sense of normalcy.

Caregivers and children invited to participate in COVID-19 survey
Participants in the Ithaca College Department of Psychology and Judith Rena Schofield, professor in the Department of Psychology, are conducting a study of caregivers and their children’s (ages nine to 18) experiences with the pandemic. The system will span student’s college life from pre-orientation to graduation by engaging them at regular intervals that are incorporated into the college calendar.

The purpose of the study is to explore the effects of the pandemic on caregivers and their children in the United States, especially one year after the start of the pandemic. The researchers are also interested in learning about the coping strategies that different families are using to try to maintain a sense of normalcy.

The survey asks questions about people’s responses and feelings to pandemic challenges, mood and emotional state, activities and responses and feelings to pandemic changes, and the rest of the spring semester. The survey is expected to be held at 12:10 p.m. May 6. IES Abroad ambassadors, former study abroad students, and staff will discuss topics like making friends abroad, inexpensive ways to experience your host city and meeting locals.

The Institute for the International Education of Students (IES Abroad) is continuing to offer information sessions and drop-in study abroad advising for the rest of the spring semester. Study abroad drop-in office hours are being held at 12:10 p.m. April 22 and at 4 p.m. April 27. Students can join the Zoom waiting room during the one-hour window and will be let into the room once there is an available seat.

Students should bring their questions they want answered as the drop-in sessions are not presentation sessions. Interested students should also talk with their academic advisors.

The Retention and Engagement Strategy Team (REST) is gathering information on students’ experiences at Ithaca College. The system will span student’s college life from pre-orientation to graduation by engaging them at regular intervals that are incorporated into the college calendar.

The purpose of the inventory is to coordinate with other community members running surveys to prevent redundancy and survey fatigue among students.

REST will streamine instruments to avoid repeatedly asking the same questions, share findings with students to show that they are being heard and that action is being taken to meet their needs, and to share data with campus partners to maximize the impact of interventions and advance.

Campus groups work to provide students with Ramadan meals
Ithaca College Dining Services and the Muslim Student Association (MSA) are working to provide students with halal-friendly Iftar meals for Ramadan. The meals include two hot to-go boxes and one cold to-go box for students and can be picked up at Kohser Korner in Terrace Dining Hall. If students do not have a meal plan the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life will cover the cost of the meals.

Students can visit @lthacama on Instagram and follow the link in its bio to sign up for the meals, or email Katie Stone, Terrace Dining Hall manager at kestone@ithaca.edu.

The Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival (FLEFF) announced the Best of the Fest Programmer’s Picks for 2021. The festival is going virtual in 2021 due to the pandemic and will be held from April 16 to May 2.

The titles are “Adam” by Maryam Tournai, Morocco, 2019; “Identifying Features” by Feo nanda Valadez, Mexico, 2020; “One Says No” by Dayong Zhao, China, 2020; “The People vs. Agent Orange” by Alan Adelson and Kate Taverna, U.S., 2020, and “Rouge (Red Soil)” by Farid Bentoumi, France, 2020.

All of the films are available to watch at https://watch.eventfe.org/leff.

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Campus should remain cautious as semester ends

Fully vaccinated students are no longer required to participate in surveillance testing after April 23, only a few weeks short of Kendall Day, a celebration of the end of the academic year. In an email to students April 15, Christina Moylan, director of public health emergency preparedness, said students who are two weeks out from receiving their vaccinations are allowed to stop testing. It certainly is a milestone to have come this far, especially after over a year of confusion, fear and exhaustion. However, although research holds that the Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech and Johnson & Johnson vaccines grant considerable immunity after proper dosage and time, all COVID-19 vaccines have only been around for a short time. It is not known exactly how long immunity lasts, and variant strains continue to pop up. Stopping surveillance testing requirements — even for a minority — presents a threat to campus safety, especially as it comes just two weeks before Kendall Day and a month before graduation. These events are two of the largest celebrations this year, and some may see the lack of testing as a sign to let their guards down. It is not.

Even though the college is encouraging students to not partake in Kendall Day and is offering other ways to celebrate the end of the semester, it is unlikely that everyone will heed the college’s warning to celebrate safely. This is an unfortunate reality, and students still need to be cognizant of the potential negative impacts their actions can have on both the campus community and the broader Ithaca community.

This isn’t to say students shouldn’t celebrate the end of the year — after all, this was one of the most taxing years of our lives. However, think twice before engaging in reckless behavior.

Bringing the campus back safely next fall requires commitment. Students need to continue following safety regulations, but the college should continue to reinforce these measures. Now is not the time to ease up.

Effectively fighting racism on campus is a necessity

At its April 19 meeting, the Ithaca College Student Governance Council (SGC) held a discussion surrounding the violence toward the Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) community and the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. The meeting, also attended by President Shirley M. Collado and Rosanna Ferro, vice president for student affairs and campus life, began a conversation to address racism at the college, but it did nothing to attempt to resolve or repair these issues.

These conversations need to be consistent and in spaces where students have no choice but to engage with them. Although it is beneficial that the SGC made this space available to students, time and time again there is a lack of participation on behalf of the student body with topics like these. The next step should be including culturally relevant teaching in every classroom.

The next day, Derek Chauvin was found guilty of murdering George Floyd. Posting about injustices on social media and then moving on as though all is well is not an effective way to communicate and address the singular issues these communities face.

Floyd should not be martyred or used as an opportunity to “unite as one.” We need to acknowledge and educate ourselves on the ways anti-Black discrimination persists in our own communities. Chauvin’s conviction was not an act of justice. It was a step toward accountability. It is not an occasion for non-Black people to celebrate. The pain and terror of Black death should never be used as a beacon of hope.

The SGC meeting began a conversation that was long overdue, but how do we move forward? BIPOC students and faculty deserve to have their experiences centered in order to attempt to bring some sort of justice to our community. We need to not only prioritize BIPOC voices, but we must make the college environment a place that supports and uplifts BIPOC individuals and acknowledges and respects their individual realities.
AIDS & COVID-19 are incomparable

BY CONNOR WATSON

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in the beginning, my social media was crowded with lots of folks, young and old alike, making comparisons between the COVID-19 pandemic and the AIDS epidemic that swept through the United States during the 1980s and beyond. To this day, there still is no ‘cure’ for AIDS, or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. As more and more people tried to highlight the parallels, I realized how significant a number of the younger generations — specifically younger gay folks — know so little about the AIDS epidemic and the effect it has had on our community.

One similarity between AIDS and COVID-19 is the inept and complacent leadership at the helm of the country at the time of their respective outbreaks. President Ronald Reagan ignored the AIDS epidemic, similar to President Donald J. Trump ignored the COVID-19 pandemic as it began to sweep across the country. But there’s one stark difference between the two health crises. Many people did not care about AIDS. As far as much of the United States was concerned, it was a ‘gay’ cancer’ that only affected promiscuous homosexual men.

The first cases of a rare ‘gay cancer,’ [AIDS] were reported in 1981. Do those reading this know when President Reagan first made any public mention of AIDS? 1985. Four years and too many deaths after the first reported cases by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) in 1981.

Readers: are you aware of the first time President Reagan gave a public speech on AIDS — and solely on AIDS? Throughout all of Reagan’s time as President of the United States, not once was AIDS mentioned in any of his State of the Union addresses. AIDS and COVID-19, as horrible as each have been in the United States, are not of comparable standards. There were no widespread calls for help and compliance across the globe during the AIDS epidemic. Some even believe it was “God’s punishment” — gay men dying of AIDS — for living an ‘unnatural’ lifestyle. There was very little sympathy paid to these AIDS victims. Very little.

The only comparison between COVID-19 and AIDS is that both occurred under an inept presidential administration that downplayed the severity of the crisis it could no longer be blatantly ignored. Only then, when the pressure was on, did these men address the severe killer that lay right beneath their noses in the land they swore to protect and serve.

More young people in the queer community need to take the time to sit down and learn about AIDS and how it has affected the LGBTQ+ community in the long run. A whole generation of individuals — beautiful individuals with families and stories and loves and personalities — was wiped from our community because of ignorance. What else? The stigmatization and fear of the gay community was significantly heightened and exacerbated because a fool of a president refused to break free from the grip of those evangelicals lining his pockets for his campaign. There’s more to the story than what meets the eye, and if our generation — Generation Z — doesn’t take more time to learn about what our community has been through, we risk losing all of the hard-fought advances of that crucial time period in our history.

Find older gays in the community. Older LGBTQ+ identifying individuals. Talk to them. Ask them about their stories with AIDS. Learn as much as you can. Time is a precious gift, and if AIDS and COVID-19 have taught us anything, it’s that time should never be taken for granted.

CONNOR WATSON is a sophomore theater arts management major. Contact him at cwatson3@ithaca.edu.
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Fully furnished, D/W, W/D on site.
**crossword**

**ACROSS**

1. Secure
2. Bilko’s rank
3. 1856 battle site
4. Friend of Che
5. — Enterprise
6. Tap defect
7. “Briar’s Song” star
8. Help letters
9. Buffet choices
10. Gulf hazard
11. RV haven
12. RV haven
13. Old masters
14. Forearm bone
15. Winter Games org.
16. Speak hoarsely
17. Southpaw’s rank
18. Winter Games org.
19. Friend of Che
20. — Enterprise
21. Fumbler
22. Mind reader’s gift
23. 1836 battle site
24. RV haven
25. Winter Games org.
26. RV haven
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**DOWN**

1. Works very hard
2. Trespass
3. One
day
6. Take to the slopes
7. Make a mistake
8. Rice cooker
9. New Mexico
10. Recipe qty.
11. Munich Mrs.
12. Green pods
13. Recipe qty.
14. Recipe qty.
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**answers to last issue’s crossword:***

**medium**

1. Works very hard
2. Trespass
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7. Make a mistake
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9. New Mexico
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**easy**

1. Works very hard
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**hard**

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BY EVA SALZMAN

Mist and sunlight stream through the trees, and sounds of hongos and warm synths usher in the light, radiant voice of neptunemuse. A thick canopy of ferns and trees shade the bright, fiery jungle flame flower, forming a beautiful, lush paradise.

Junior Gaby Tola, artistically known as neptunemuse, sings of love, beauty and spirituality in her song "Jungle Flame," which she wrote and produced herself in June 2020. Tola said that after the Ithaca College campus shut down in March 2020, she was void of distractions and able to focus on her music.

Tola said she wanted to bring light to the terrible events, like the rising number of police brutality cases and the devastation of COVID-19, that came to a head last June. While working on a series of paintings as a personal art project, Tola said the chorus of "Jungle Flame" just came to her.

"The songwriting process for me kind of came like divine intervention," Tola said. "I usually have to feel it in the moment. I'm not [a] sit down and write type of person. ... I was doing a series on the female body in contrast to nature, and it just so happened that I wanted to paint jungle flames coming out of a rib cage."

Tola said she has been writing songs since she was 13 but only started taking it seriously around age 17. As a writing major, Tola has experience with translating her feelings into the written word, and this semester, she said she is taking a songwriting class to improve her skills.

After releasing "Jungle Flame" as a single in December 2020, Tola wanted to push her creativity even further with an accompanying music video that came out in March 2021. Tola said that after being sent back to her hometown in Miami back in March 2020, she found peace within nature, which was the inspiration for the video. Paying homage to her Miami roots as well as the connection she has to the waterfalls in Ithaca, Tola said she decided to shoot the video at a botanical garden near her hometown.

"I was just kind of thinking about my relationship to this space, the settler space that is Miami, Florida, which is also Seminole land," Tola said. "And just thinking about the fact that nature gives me peace and that ... life is a really beautiful thing. So that was the meaning behind the song, to give myself peace, ... and I wanted to convey the same idea for the music video."

Tola said she also wanted to represent female safety and queer relationships through a dreamy, ethereal lens in the music video. She said she was drained from seeing a dreamy, ethereal lens in the music video that Tola and her friends have for each other through the camera lens. "Bouncing back and forth with [Tola] on ideas and [inspiration] was super fun," Tola said via email. "Seeing her learn the choreography and deliver such a great performance really showed her commitment to creating a beautiful piece, and that inspired me so much! Her friends were really sweet, and you can tell that they have such a strong bond, that made everything flow so naturally."

Bobadilla said that most of all, the "Jungle Flame" video represents who Tola is as a person. She said the nature of Tola's friendships are reflected in the video. "I really like the intimacy of the video," Bobadilla said. "I think it gives it a much better connection to Gaby as a person. Anybody who knows [Tola] knows that she's got a tight group of friends. ... So I think that the video is a really good representation of her and her music and what she hopes to achieve."
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021

Professor documents experiences of survivors

BY MADDY MARTIN

"Good Girls Don’t Tell" is a documentary that tells the stories of sexual assault survivors. The film is directed by Jen Huemmer, assistant professor in the Department of Strategic Communication. "The documentary is important because it helps to shift the narrative around sexual assault survivors. Instead of focusing on the perpetrators, it focuses on the experiences of survivors," Huemmer said. "It’s important to document these experiences and to keep them in the public eye." 

In an effort to document the experiences of sexual assault survivors, Huemmer and her friend and fellow graduate student, Lindsey Bluemell, decided to create the documentary. "We wanted to create something that would help to shift the narrative around sexual assault survivors," Bluemell said. "We wanted to document their experiences and to help to raise awareness." 

The documentary focuses on sexual assault survivors, and it includes interviews with survivors from a wide range of backgrounds. The documentary also includes discussions about LGBTQ+ comics. "We wanted to document the experiences of sexual assault survivors from a variety of backgrounds," Bluemell said. "We wanted to ensure that the documentary was inclusive and that it represented the experiences of survivors from different communities." 

The documentary was recently shown at the 2 p.m. panel "From Silent Films to Indie Comics: Ithaca's Contributions" at Ithacon. "Ithacon is a convention that is normally hosted over two days at Ithaca College's Emerson Suites," Bluemell said. "This year, for the first time in its 45-year history, Ithacon will hold its first online convention in its 45-year history. The convention will be held on Zoom and will host 39 events from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 24." 


"We are huge on education because that is where tangible change starts," Segal said. "When people attend these events, we want them to leave with a new perspective or a new toolkit for grappling with similar issues."
Ken Burns humanizes Hemingway

MOVIE REVIEW: “Hemingway” Public Broadcasting Service

BY JACKSON NOEL

From “The Civil War” to “Baseball” to “Jazz,” filmmaker Ken Burns’ body of work has cemented itself among the most ambitious and essential accounts of history. Now with “Hemingway,” co-directed by frequent collaborator Lynn Novick, Burns uses his series to disentangle fast-firing myth. In the process, Burns crafts the definitive account of Ernest Hemingway’s fantastic life and muddled oeuvre.

The series spans a total of six hours broken into three episodes, each concentrating on a different phase of Hemingway’s life. Hemingway’s story begins with his years growing up in Illinois before serving as an ambulance driver in World War I. The author’s life will eventually take him to Africa, all over Europe and lead him to direct involvement in wars. Each moment of his expansive life feels appropriately weighty, befitting the subject material.

The story emerges over archival photographs, accompanied by narration from actor Peter Coyote. Dispersed throughout are talking heads of biographers and contemporaries, writers like F. Scott Fitzgerald and John Dos Passos, and the actor himself, as well as Hemingway’s own words. Burns has given space for understanding with the context of Hemingway’s contemporaries. Each character in the journey—especially each of his four wives—are given space for understanding where they stand in the larger picture of 20th century history. This includes the incredibly moving story of serious mental illnesses in his family, leading his father to take his own life and Hemingway fearing he would end up the same way. He did.

There are many sides to the story of Hemingway’s life and his place within the literary canon. Burns and Novick’s “Hemingway” touches on all of them until the author’s story becomes a difficult tragedy to reckon with. The series never attempts to name Hemingway the author of the Great American Novel, though individual interviewees come close. For posterity’s sake though, “The Great American Novel” should be “For Whom the Bell Tolls.”

Contact Jackson Noel

Ken Burns continues to craft deft historical documentaries with his recent series on Ernest Hemingway. COURTESY OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE

Why fans return to awful shows

BY SYDNEY BRUMFIELD

“Riverdale,” a teen drama fueled by little more than smut and thin mysteries, is currently airing its fifth season on The CW. How has this critically panned show managed to carry on for so long?

The show’s first season relied heavily on association with the Archie Comics and the excitement of seeing popular characters come to life as is followed the murder mystery of a local boy. Now in season five, the show leans on far-fetched antics and soft porn to keep viewers interested. Three of the characters are fighting a literal life war being fought on the football field. I have to think, I am invested and have embarrassingly watched all of the seasons — but why? What keeps fans coming back?

“Riverdale” is inherently a horrible show. It introduces concerning and mature themes for a teenage audience and frustratingly never resolves them. Outlandish plot points are initiated, like when Betty Cooper (Lili Reinhart) becomes a webcam girl as a minor, Veronica Lodge (Camila Mendes) operates a speak-easy and Archie Andrews (K J apa) has an affair with his mother. None of these actions even have any full resolution.

For some, shows like “Riverdale” are comforting because viewers do not need to think while watching them. Arguably, if you did try to comprehend “Riverdale,” it might actually make the programming more confusing. Bad TV shows create a sense of comfort because they are uncomplicated for viewers whose everyday lives are complicated.

Some viewers find comfort in shows about people who are worse off than they are. Security can be found in seeing characters experience similar or worse things than they do. This is what psychologists refer to as social comparison. This theory asserts that individuals gauge their own self-worth based on how they compare to others. So when some people watch “Riverdale” and see an opposing gang beat up Jughead Jones (Cole Sprouse), they can think to themselves with relief, “Iken, well, at least I am not ham.”

But this is only one side of the “Riverdale” equation. The other half of the programming is comprised of smut and thin mysteries. It is hard to remember, but the characters of “Riv- erdale” are teenagers despite running drug rings and fighting in gang wars.

The fact that sex sells is nothing new. All forms of media and advertisements show this. It makes logical sense that a plot with as little depth as “Riverdale’s,” producers will hone in on what keeps the people coming back — a shock value and sex.

Despite its poor writing, “Riverdale” does not seem to be going away anytime soon. Successful bad TV has a foolproof formula that works, and one of the things that keep some fans tuning in is a love triangle and a literal war is being fought on the football field. I have to think...
BY TOMMY MUMAU

The Ithaca College baseball team has seen an immediate impact from its freshman class, as 13 players have made their collegiate debuts this season.

The team welcomed 19 new players in its freshman class this year. In the shortened 2020 season, only nine freshmen played. The club typically does not play many of its freshmen, as only two made varsity appearances in 2019, and three in 2018.

Head coach David Valesente said he has relied heavily on his freshmen this season to make contributions both on the plate and on the mound and has been impressed by their efforts so far.

“We’ve been very happy with them,” Valesente said. “We’re still moving guys around and learning different things about them. But, they’re bringing energy every day. They’re really excited to be out there and learning different things about the game.”

Several freshmen have become pivotal players for the Bombers this season, including second baseman Louis Fabbo and infielder Alex Barker-Hook, who have started 16 and 13 games, respectively, this year.

Senior shortstop and captain Jack Lynch has been particularly happy with Fabbo’s performance on the diamond and presence in the locker room.

“Fabbo has really stepped up to the plate,” Lynch said. “He’s become a really solid leadoff hitter for us, getting on base, playing solid defense and really being a leader as well.”

Barker-Hook has also made his presence known in his debut campaign, logging a .243 batting average with seven RBIs and 10 walks. The designated hitter and first baseman has started in all but three of the club’s games.

“I’ve been [very impressed],” Lynch said. “I just remember when I was a freshman and I got thrown into a starting role. It’s very tough to step up and be that leader that we’re looking for. They’ve done everything from making plays on defense to having those big hits in the lineup.”

Fabbo is one of the players who has made impacts on both sides of the ball, as he has taken on the role of being the club’s leadoff hitter and second baseman. Through his first 16 games, Fabbo leads the team with a .381 batting average and 24 hits. Fabbo is also third on the team in RBIs with 14 behind seniors Garrett Callaghan and Lynch.

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– Jack Lynch

Lynch has taken notice of the strong work ethic and competitiveness from this freshman pitching class.

“They just get the job done, and that’s what we’re looking for out of those guys,” Lynch said. “They continue to work off the field and put in the work in the weight room. They have great attitudes and they just want to win, and that’s really what we need out of them right now.”

Valesente said his staff has been surprised by freshmen relievers Nate Scott, Dom Trippi and Matteo Ragusa. At the start of the season, the three freshmen were not expected to receive much playing time this year, but Valesente said that after seeing them play, he could now see these pitchers transitioning into starting positions.

Scott’s preparation has translated to solid performances on the mound, as the right-hander has notched a 2.16 ERA with 10 strikeouts in 8.1 innings of work this season. Scott said he is grateful to have the opportunity to pitch in high-leverage situations and improve his game during his first collegiate season.

“I really wasn’t sure if I was going to get any innings this year,” Scott said. “I’ve been thrown into some pretty intense spots and performed in some, and then it’s just really improving on some other ones. It’s definitely great to get out there and be a role player on this team this year.”

Trippi has also made an impact on the hill for the Bombers, striking out 12 batters in just 5.2 innings of work. He has held opponents scoreless in all but one of his appearances out of the bullpen in 2021. Trippi said his highlight of the season was when he notched his first collegiate save in the Bombers’ 7–6 victory against Alfred State College on March 25.

“Right-hander struck out three batters to preserve the club’s one-run lead and secure its fourth win of the season,” Trippi said. “I honestly didn’t really expect to be put in that situation right away, being a freshman.”

Trippi is grateful that the coaching staff has trusted him in key situations early in his collegiate career.

“I honestly didn’t really expect to be put in that situation right away, being a freshman,” Trippi said. “But, I really appreciate and respect that they had that confidence in me to put me in those situations. Overall, I think it’s been solid, being able to be put in those high-pressure situations right away and have the team know that they can count on me in those situations.”

Valesente said he looks forward to what the young group has in store.

“We’re excited about all our first-year guys,” Valesente said. “They’re up here with us, and we’re calling on them at different times in a lot of different situations. The guys that are up with us now, we’re really excited about, and we’re happy that they’re getting this experience for development and able to compete.”
Men’s tennis team serves a new style on court

BY JACK MURRAY

Historically, the Ithaca College men’s tennis team has relied on outlasting its opponents in rally situations to win matches. This season, Bombers have pumped up the power.

With an influx of freshmen with stellar serving abilities and continued development of key members of the team, the men’s tennis team has been able to start strong in 2021. The team is currently 3–3, with both losses coming from Vassar College, who is currently undefeated and got off to a 7–2 start in the pandemic-shortened 2019–20 season. Much of the Bombers’ success can be attributed to a shift in game style by the team, with a focus on highlighting the team’s newfound strength in high-velocity serves.

Head coach Chris Hayes said a tennis team’s style is reliant upon the players who are in the lineup as opposed to a traditional system that has existed for years, so the new freshmen joining the lineup changed the team’s dynamic.

“Every guy on the team has a specific kind of game style,” Hayes said. “We had a group of recruits that have a style, and then the team molded around it.”

This season’s freshmen are Anthony Villella, Deon Kraft, Eric Dubliner, Nicolas Luis and Jacob Wachs. All five have played in at least three matches this season. Hayes said the group has extensive experience in doubles play before arriving at South Hill, which is uncommon for underclassmen at the college level due to a youth focus on singles development. He added that this has made the newcomers easy to fit into the lineup.

“All of the freshmen can play doubles,” Hayes said. “Eric, Deon, Jacob and Anthony all specialize in doubles, while Nico is developing after not playing as much doubles in high school and junior play. Serving definitely has something to do with their success, but their ability to volley is also impressive.”

In addition to the newcomers, the team’s veterans have been serving strong as well. This has led to more aces — points being earned off the opponents not being able to return the initial serve. Hayes said this has been crucial in the early success the team has had.

“We are getting more free points off our serves,” Hayes said. “We have a lot of guys with great serves. [First-year graduate student] Minos [Stavrakas] has always had a good serve, [junior] Artem Khaybullin has really improved with getting his first serve in and getting free points, and all five of the freshmen have in with really strong serves and are able to win free points or set up the opportunity to get the point.”

Khaybullin said he worked on his philosophy and mechanics. After not being a consistent server and get the first serve in and getting free points, he said he has been able to improve his serve, but he is still working on it.

“Any time you’re trying to teach somebody else, you have to have a different level of understanding,” Quintana said. “Julia, with her softball swing, getting the opportunity to impart those teachings on to somebody else, you have to have a different level of understanding. She has one of our strongest arms in the outfield. She has thrown out runners from the fence and second base. She has just been an all-around athlete on the field for us.”

When Quintana became the head coach in 2019, the team tweaked its hitting philosophy and mechanics. After not being able to see the progress last year due to the shortened season, she is now able to review how well the alteration has benefited the team, especially Villella.

While home during the COVID-19 pandemic, Villella had the opportunity to coach a travel softball team she used to coach a travel softball team she used to play for. This experience helped Villella approach softball with a new perspective.

“I can predict better what the pitcher might be throwing next at me,” Villella said. “I got to really own my mechanics better because I had to teach people how I use my mechanics. It really made me think if I’m telling my players these [fundamentals of hitting] are important, I really should embody that.”

As someone who both played and coached, Villella said she understands how that coaching experience was valuable to Villella.

“Any time you’re trying to teach somebody else, you have to have a different level of understanding,” Quintana said. “Julia, with her softball swing, getting the opportunity to impart those teachings on to somebody else was very impactful to her.”

Villenna has been able to help the Bomb- ers beyond playing well. Junior outfielder Daniella Mulvey said she brings an energetic spirit to the field.

“[Villella] always has a ton of energy and a really positive attitude that lifts everyone around her up,” Mulvey said. “She works hard, loves to compete and pushes everyone to do their best.”

Not only is Villella experiencing a good start to the season, but the softball team as a whole is as well. Villella said the team is using last season’s abrupt end as inspiration to keep it all out on the field this year.

Villella said she is aware of how good her season has gone so far, but it is a day-by-day battle to keep improving and performing.

“I’m not looking to have the highest hitting average or the best fielding per- centage,” Villella said. “I definitely want those things, but I just want to win. I will do anything for my teammates and coaches. The goal is to win a championship.”

Freshman Anthony Villella returns a serve during practice at the Ben Wheeler Tennis Courts on April 20. He competes in both singles and doubles matches, and has two wins and four losses this year.

Anthony’s serve has definitely improved as we have gotten more practice,” Hayes said. “He has more of a spin serve, which is really effective with doubles.”

As Villella gains more experience playing in doubles and perfecting his serve, he said it will add an extra element to his game.

“We’re not really looking to win points off the serve, it’s more to set up points off of them,” Villella said. “We’ll still go for [aces], just not consistently. But we’ll definitely keep that in our back pockets.”

Junior softball player hits 2021 season out of the park

BY DANIEL KING

When Ithaca College softball player junior Julia Loffredo came back to Ithaca in September 2020, she had one goal: to have her best season out of the park.

She was bigger than most at a 5’6” with 19 RBIs and five home runs. Defensively, Loffredo has played catcher, right field and first base, and has a perfect fielding percentage.

Loffredo came to Ithaca as a catcher, but she transitioned to playing right field and first base this year. Head coach Hannah Quintana praised Loffredo’s ability to play multiple positions and still be one of the team’s best defensive players.

“She has one of our strongest arms in the outfield. She has thrown out runners from the fence and second base. She has just been an all-around athlete on the field for us.”

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Loffredo has been able to help the Bombers beyond playing well. Junior outfielder Daniella Mulvey said she brings an energetic spirit to the field.

“[Villella] always has a ton of energy and a really positive attitude that lifts everyone around her up,” Mulvey said. “She works hard, loves to compete and pushes everyone to do their best.”

Not only is Loffredo experiencing a good start to the season, but the softball team as a whole is as well. Loffredo said the team is using last season’s abrupt end as inspiration to keep it all out on the field this year.

Loffredo said she is aware of how good her season has gone so far, but it is a day-by-day battle to keep improving and performing.

“I’m not looking to have the highest hitting average or the best fielding percentage,” Loffredo said. “I definitely want those things, but I just want to win. I will do anything for my teammates and coaches. The goal is to win a championship.”

Junior Julia Loffredo is having her best collegiate season while batting .367 and tallying 19 RBIs with five home runs, helping the Bombers get to a 12-4 record.

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Yayoi Koizumi, founder of Zero Waste Ithaca, pulls rope out of a tree stump April 17 at Stewart Park. Volunteers from Friends of Stewart Park and Zero Waste Ithaca picked up trash along the shoreline of Cayuga Lake for their annual cleanup, which was marked with greater significance as 2021 is Stewart Park’s centennial year.