Sen. Brown connects with universities

By Paul Garbarino
City Editor

On Thursday, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) hosted a news conference call with Ohio college newspapers and radio stations to discuss his efforts to restore net neutrality rules. The Federal Communications Commission voted to gut net neutrality in December 2017.

Net neutrality rules from the FCC require all internet content to be delivered at the same rate. This keeps providers from blocking content, slowing delivery of certain sites or charging content providers a premium for faster delivery of their traffic. But last December, the FCC in Trump’s administration voted to repeal those rules on a party line vote, allowing internet providers to throttle internet speeds and to offer better connectivity to the highest bidder.

The FCC’s vote repealed the 2015 Open Internet Order, upheld in 2016 by the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, to prohibit internet service providers from setting up internet fast and slow lanes and ensured they could not block or slow down internet traffic.

Without net neutrality rules, broadband providers can charge customers for speed, which could squeeze out startups, non-profits and consumers who either cannot afford or simply don’t think they should have to pay extra fees.

“Our internet providers should not be able to slow down your internet access or charge you more based on the shows you watch or the teams you cheer for or the elected officials you support,” Brown said. “That’s why I support net neutrality rules to ensure a free and open internet. Keeping internet free from big corporate interference is vital to American values. It protects free speech and consumer choice and access to public information.”

Brown believes the reason why net neutrality is being threatened is because the Republican party is more dominated by large corporations than the Democratic party. He believes removing net neutrality rules is primarily a corporate power grab by telecommunications companies such as AT&T, Verizon and Comcast.

“You’ll never meet a human being that thinks this ruling was the right thing,” Brown said. “You’ll meet corporate leaders that do, but I think if you go out in the street and explain net neutrality to ten people, you’ll find almost no people who side with the corporations.”

To undo the FCC’s repeal of the net neutrality rule, the Democratic party has launched a resolution via the Congressional Review Act, which would veto the repeal with a simple majority vote of 51. With all Democrats, both independents and one Republican, Sen. Brown continued on Page 11
Utah passes parenting laws

By Heidi Larson
Columnist

Is the word “controversial” overused? News outlets are calling Utah’s ‘free-range parenting’ law controversial. It is the first law of its kind. In some states, parents who leave their children unsupervised can be charged with neglect. Utah’s new law passed unanimously. While it’s true that the law is the first of its kind, only three states have laws specifying what age a child must be to stay home alone. “Illinois law requires children to be 14 years old before being left alone; in Maryland, the minimum age is eight, while in Oregon, children must be 10 before being left home alone,” according to the easy-to-find “Leaving Your Child Home Alone” PDF by ChildWelfare.gov.

On Facebook, people voiced their opinions, including one mom, Julie Rhile, who said “I’m in PA and don’t need a law to do this. Been doing it for years. I guess it depends on your neighborhood. Mine are 8 and 11 (almost 9 and 12). But all the kids in our neighborhood wander. And walk to school. I don’t think we even have a bus until middle school. They are permitted to walk on their own starting third grade and prior to that with an older sibling.”

As a kid, I played outside with my friends while my mom was in the house. She kept an eye on us from the window but didn’t stand guard like a sentinel. People are worried about this generation, and we can all agree that we want kids to be safe. We just disagree about what safe means. Are sheltered kids safe, or unprepared for the real world?

On Facebook, Walter Titus called the law “One of the worst ideas I have ever heard of. A lot [sic] of the younger generation are horrible now, like the March for Our Lives generation, and if parents parent like they’re a bunch [sic] of chickens moving freely without any restrictions, will make that generation worse than this one.”

Julia Robertson, commenting on Titus’ post, disagrees: “Actually, it will probably make them better. Millennials were raised during a time when parents were terrified of child kidnappings and were extremely overprotective. So these kids grew up in a protected little bubble where their parents were always keeping them sheltered and out of harm’s way. Hence you have these kids who leave for college and start demanding ‘safe spaces’ and ‘trigger warnings’ because they want to maintain the protective bubble that they grew up with. Free-range parenting is the solution to that. If kids are allowed to grow up and become independent, they will not need the world ‘child-proofed’ for them when they become adults.”

Likewise, Zach Bates points out the generational either/or fallacy: “Make up your mind folks, its [sic] either ‘back in my day we stayed out till the streetlights came on and played in the crick with nobody botherin’ us, kids need less helicopter parenting, thanks Obama! [sic]’ or its ‘kids these days are so disrespectful, if we let them walk around with no supervision they’ll turn libru!’ [sic].”

This law allows parents to let kids walk to school alone, wait in a car alone and stay home alone, but the law does not specify an age. Some people feel safe letting their kids have that kind of independence, while others don’t. It really is a matter of opinion.

Paris nice but underwhelming

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

I found myself in a completely different culture for nine days, and the two words I would use to describe my time in Paris would be “beautiful” and “underwhelming.”

I undoubtedly loved much of my time in Paris. The food and the architecture alone are reasons to travel to the capital. However, the main attractions, the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre, specifically, felt too over-hyped.

The food in Paris was the best I’ve ever eaten. Everything you might have heard about the quality of the food in Paris is true. All of it tasted like it was hand-crafted, with actual quality ingredients. Every single meal I had was amazing, and I would go back just to have another glass of the orange juice or another plate of pasta I had for dinner. The dessert was also great. I made sure to get as much of it as possible, and even though it wasn’t good for my wallet, it tasted good enough to be worth the price.

The architecture of the city was also stunning. I am a person who loves to look at buildings and see the idiosyncrasies of architecture. The little things in or on a building are sometimes how a building can stick out. The city was great for someone like me in that respect. The Notre Dame Cathedral was my favorite building in the whole city, not just for the history of it, but how beautiful the building looked. I loved looking at it and just knowing it was important.

However, the parts of the city I did not enjoy as much were the places every tourist usually travels to, like the Louvre and the Eiffel Tower. Many people go to these places and say they are some of the most gorgeous places in the city. They are, but so much talk about something might lead to it be over-hyped, which these two places were for me. I loved seeing the Mona Lisa, which was also a bit underwhelming, and seeing Paris from the top of the Eiffel Tower, but I didn’t like how touristy they felt.

The trip to Paris made for some of the best days of my life because of the difference in culture and tradition. I loved the time I spent in the city and many of the things I did there, like traveling to see the stadium for the soccer team Paris Saint-Germain and shopping on the Champs-Élysées. I will not forget these moments for a long time. I would definitely travel back to Paris, but not before I travel to other places first.
Embrace cultural differences

By Shiva Bhusal
Columnist

My first week in the United States was a cultural shock. Everything felt new to me, including the style of conversation, the community I lived in, the type of food people consumed, dress sense and even the orientation of the bathrooms.

Every time I talked with a new person, I felt it difficult to decipher what they said. It was also difficult for me to convince them what I meant. Once I had a hard time convincing a gentleman at Walmart that I was looking for “quarter” and not “water.” I ended up taking a pronunciation class with the English department.

I was raised in a traditional Hindu family, and there was always a religious and cultural purpose associated with what I did as a person. In our community back in Nepal, among the religious people, all the successes and failures in life are attributed to one’s fate.

Such attribution comes from the trust in God as the creator, moderator and performer, and human beings serving as a medium to perform drama on God’s will. People around the world follow different religions, but the similar belief and opinion about life appear in different forms and shapes everywhere.

I believe the primary difference of culture, faith and religion is depicted best in the food habits of people. There is a certain restriction on the type of food people consume based on religion and faith. In our community back home, people consume mutton and chicken as the non-vegetarian foods. Pork and buff are also common among other communities, but, consumption of beef is taken as a legal offense. Unlike Nepal, beef consumption is common in the Middle East and in the West where most of the people follow religions other than Hinduism.

Food is just an example. When people move from one part of the world to another, they come across different social systems and should adapt themselves to new definitions of freedom, proper attire and etiquette. For instance, going to the bars or getting drunk is not acceptable in the community where I grew up, but it is common here in the United States after a certain age.

Unlike the West, we have a conservative opinion towards sex in the East, and sex before marriage is considered a big taboo. Arranged marriages are common in which families of the girl and boy decide whether the two should get married. Same-sex marriage is also considered a moral and legal taboo.

To me, culture is a matter of habit. When a certain practice becomes prominent within a community for a long time, it becomes established as the norm. The attire, food consumption and even myths and beliefs are based on that culture. The culture becomes so deep-rooted in people’s consciousness that most of the people are resistive to changes. It is always convenient for them to follow what they have been following throughout their life.

However, with travel being an inevitable thing for modern people, one is always exposed to different cultures. In such a scenario, one should be respectful and adaptive to the culture other people follow. The world is always a better place to live in when we have reverential spaces for people of all cultures, languages, communities and sexual orientations.

It may be difficult for anyone to adapt to a new culture, but as time passes, everything starts to look familiar. The person becomes somewhat native to the new culture, but deep inside, they are always the same person they used to be in their homeland. If one spends their childhood and youth in one country, then throughout their life, they carry their habits and culture wherever they go.

That may be one of the reasons why even after about two years in the United States, I can’t have a sound sleep until I have lentils, curry and rice—the good old bhaat set—as my dinner. That may be one of the reasons why I get excited whenever I find a Nepali restaurant in any city I visit.
Alumnus makes mark on foreign aid

By Holly Shively
Student Director

While studying broadcast journalism in a newly-renovated West Hall in 1986, Brock Bierman dreamed of being an executive at Sears like his father and grandfather before him. Little did he know he would end up running an entire government bureau.

About 32 years later, Bierman was sworn in as the Assistant Administrator for the United States Agency for International Development’s Europe and Eurasia Bureau in January. In this new position, he directs and supervises all activities of the bureau and its overseas operations, including a staff of roughly 554 between the D.C. office and partner countries.

The United States Agency for International Development is an agency independent of the U.S. federal government. They are primarily responsible for administering civilian foreign aid and developmental assistance aid to more than 100 countries.

“We help institutions build their capacities so they can provide better services,” Bierman said.

Bierman compares his work to Bowling Green when it snows. While people don’t really think about all it takes to plow the roads, hundreds of people who work for the state of Ohio buy the plows, make the schedules, map the routes and drive the plows. The service couldn’t exist without each component.

While Bierman aims to travel to at least one country in his region each year, USAID is constantly working in all partner countries within the Europe and Eurasia Bureau.

“Each country is different based on their needs,” Bierman said. “We’ll not only think within our agency what is needed, but we’ll ask our host countries what they need.

Needs could range from democracy, human rights and governance to agriculture and food security.

“The best part of this work is that we’re helping our countries become members of the world community,” he said. “We’re helping people get on their feet and be partners with us.”

On his latest economic development trip to the country of Georgia, Bierman and his team worked with his government counterparts to find synergy, helped farmers better utilize their fields for a higher yield and integrated new American agricultural technologies from Oklahoma.

Before becoming assistant administrator, Bierman was the chief of staff for job he now has.

“I was wondering when he was going to pop up again, and I’m glad it happened,” University journalism professor Catherine Cassara said.

Cassara wasn’t one of Bierman’s professors, but she was one of the five media and communications faculty members Bierman sent to Croatia to train USAID’s public information officers.

“We got to know each other very well,” Cassara said of her relationship with Bierman. “He’s just a gifted interpersonal…political appointment.”

Since the trip, Cassara and Bierman have met up a few times, especially when he used to go to every Falcons football home game. She said he’s a big fan of the University.

“What he commits to, he follows through,” Cassara said. “He’s a powerful personality to say the least.”

Gretchen Birkle, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Europe and Eurasia, also recognizes Bierman’s emphasis on personal connection.

“He deals with big issues, but at the end of the day he’s going to want that personal connection,” Birkle said. “It really comes through in his interaction both here in D.C. and in the work we do around the world.”

While Birkle has worked closely with Bierman for the last two months, she met him back in 1999 on an overseas trip to teach about election and political processes.

“It was my first time doing this, so I won’t forget that because it was very important to me,” she said. “I won’t forget working with Brock. Again, he was so focused on the personal connection. It was really lovely to see. He made friends on that trip that he has to this day.”

She also appreciates that Bierman is a “man of history.” This quality shows in his work and how he puts it into perspective, Birkle said. “This is the first time we’ve really worked together as a team. It’s been a great experience,” she said. “Our work is somewhat serious…so in that sense he’s very serious, motivated and mission driven…but he’s also a team builder.”

While Bierman clarified that he creates trade partners but development partners, his biggest priority is to put himself out of a job.

“Every day I come to work and think ‘how can I get myself out of a job … so those countries are self-reliant,’” he said.

Bierman has an extensive background in public service, beginning with his campaign for and service in the Rhode Island House of Representatives and continuing in his work on George W. Bush’s campaign and in USAID.

Before his life of public service, he was a Falcon. Bierman remembers being in awe of the Doyt Perry Stadium the first time he visited the University, which was also the first time he drove outside of New England. He also remembers being impressed with then state-of-the-art West Hall, a building recently torn down and replaced by the Kuhlin Center.

He also met his wife at the University and married her soon after graduation, a combination that’s made Ay Ziggy Zoomba a tradition with a daughter who recently graduated and a son who is a junior at the University.

“I feel like Bowling Green prepared me for my life and I will always be paying that debt,” Bierman said.
Jack White has always been a weird guy, but his music has never followed his personality. Over his years in “The White Stripes” and now in his solo material, Jack has kept his weird persona alive in interviews and on the stage, yet his music is rather straightforward.

Hits like “Seven Nation Army,” “Sixteen Saltines” and “Icky Thump” have kept him in the mainstream eye, but some fans were left wondering when he would break from his shackles and create an album to meet his kooky temperament.

With “Boarding House Reach,” we finally get that as White mixes punk rock, jazz, gospel and hip hop into one of his most interesting and off-the-wall albums yet. It seems like this is the album that Jack White was always meant to make, as he brings a self-righteous fury that is all his own to every track.

Single and opener “Connected by Love” was a track I didn’t enjoy before the album’s release, but on repeat listens, it has grown on me. It has a tragic tone to it as Jack sings of a love connected by the digital age. The track trudges along in a heavy tone which is masterfully mirrored by White’s shrill and artful vocal performance as gospel singers back him up. It’s still not a highlight of the album, but it serves its purpose as it brings the listener into Jack’s warm embrace.

From there, things start to get weird. “Corporation” is a dynamic and nuanced track that starts simple with some punch drums and slick guitars and eventually adds layer after layer of different sounds. An odd synth, a driving bass and Jack slamming in with some shouting vocals about how he wants to “start a corporation.” It’s a very polished and finely tuned instrumental piece that just builds into a cacophonous amalgamation of sound. It’s both frightening and gripping, and I love it.

“Hypermisophoniac” is a synth-infused anthem propelled by crunchy guitars with the odd distorted line from Jack White to break up the monotony. “Ice Zebra Station” features White taking his shot at what can only be considered the indie rock version of rap. His frantic vocals spill over a groovy percussion-soaked break down and heavy bass line. It’s a spoken word track, and somehow, it works.

The track “Over and Over and Over” is irresistible as it’s sticking guitar lick repeats over and over all over the track, making the title very literal. White is hypnotic here as the guitar will make you instantly feel the need to headbang and sing along as he spits one-liners throughout the tune. It’s a relentless onslaught on the ears and will surely become a staple of his live sets to come.

This new sound doesn’t mean that the old Jack White doesn’t show up from time to time on “Boarding House Reach.” Songs like “Ezmerelda Steals the Show” and “What’s Done is Done” bring him back to his Nashville roots, as they come with a country twang that is very reminiscent of the slower tracks from “The White Stripes.” These moments help break up the monotony of the loud noises that Jack throws in your face and allows for a quick breather before closing out the album.

“Boarding House Reach” is a hodgepodge of ideas masterfully strung together to make a cohesive album listening experience. In no universe should this level of genre mixing work, but somehow Jack White comes together with his most gripping and experimental record yet. It’s not for the faint of heart; it will take repeat listens to completely appreciate the album.

If you stick around and go in with an open mind, leaving any preconceived notions about Jack White at the door, you may find one of the best albums of the year.

RATING: 8/10
Vermintide 2 frustrating yet enjoyable

By Brandon Long
Pulse Reporter

Warhammer: Vermintide 2 is set in the Warhammer universe during the end of the world. Doomsday really pervades the entire game as you and three other heroes cut, smash, shoot and burn paths through countless hordes of Skaven (a race of large rat-like people) in depopulated cities, fields, churches and small villages. The sense of being encircled and outnumbered floods in with the tide of enemies that is only a couple of minutes away at any given time.

The objectives are varied, but a typical mission is to run through a level, survive the oncoming hordes, fight a boss, complete an end level objective (such as collecting barrels to blow up something) or open a series of doors to progress the game. The whole time the character is exploring with his three compadres, Skaven pour out of the walls. Being surrounded is almost a death sentence. Although all characters can block and shove the hordes back, there is a limited number of shoes and blocks the player can do in a given amount of time.

The enemies are varied. There’s human-oid-looking enemies, huge chaos warriors clad in armor and multiple variants of the Skaven combatants. There are multiple special Skaven enemies that are harder than normal Skaven and have special abilities. For instance, one can leap great distances and pin a party member to the ground. Another has a rapid-fire gatling gun, another that shoots long cones of felfire, another that just throws gas bombs, and lastly, one that hooks you with a gnarly-looking staff and drags you away from your team. These enemies are clunky at times (they get stuck on objects in and out of the level, and spawn randomly into the middle of the level at times).

Each character has three “career paths.” The elf character’s starting abilities are health regeneration when the life bar is below half, and a super ability that shoots three homing missiles. The next “career path,” that is unlockable after about two hours of play, allows players to dodge and attack with a charge that bleeds enemies and is useful for escaping encirclement. These careers don’t add an enormous difference in play-style most of the time, but it is refreshing to change abilities around and decide which is better for you. The careers come with all new talent trees, as well. All the weapons feel visceral and unique.

You can get a sense of the weight of the mace, the sharpness of the sword and the point of the spear. All the characters have ranged weapons of varied utility. All but one character (the mage) has ammunition. She has a cooldown on her abilities, and if the players cast too many spells too quickly they will set themselves afight and become downed. If they are stingy with ammo, they’ll find themselves not utilizing the ranged weapon much unless needed.

The ranged weapons are enjoyable, but melee is the main entree in this game. When the chips are down and the Skaven start pouring in, unless you are the mage, you will probably reach for the trusty sword.

There are loot boxes in Vermintide 2, and they are dynamic. Throughout the level there are tomes and grimoires that take up physical space in your inventory (making you not able to carry health or enhancement potions depending on which you pick up) and the grimoires take about a third of your health away for the duration of the level; this means you cannot heal past about 66 percent with a grimoire equipped. If a team member picks the second and final one up, you will only have access to 33 percent of your total health.

This dynamic way of increasing the difficulty is very rewarding. If you carry these items to the end of the level, they will upgrade your loot boxes, and you will receive better loot as a result. This also makes picking these grimoires up a team decision depending on how well players are progressing through the level. Most random groups will want to pick these up even if the run is not going so well.

Returning after mission to the hub world will surely result in everyone leaving the party. A typical random game with random players will result in more victories than losses, but only by a narrow margin.

Altogether Vermintide 2 offers a beautiful, frantic, visceral, rewarding experience that is enjoyable but frustrating due to some imbalances.

Roots Music Club back in the studio

By Lindsay Haynes
Pulse Reporter

Every year, the Roots Music Club releases a compilation album made up of songs written and recorded by the club’s members. This year’s album includes local bands like The Juice Company and Industrial Sunglasses. Club president Jacob Shellist said the album will be “even more of a student-run project than before.”

“We’re going to the Kuhlin Center to record,” Shellist said. “We have a number of bands that have formed out of Roots throughout the past couple of years or so that are going to be on the album.”

The album is set to be released sometime in late April and features artists made up of students, faculty and non-student community members.

“The main goals of the album is to give all these other students an opportunity to be on an album or record one of your songs,” Shellist said. “In most cases, it’s going cost you some money, and you have to get other musicians and a lot of time. We kind of want to take out that aspect and go, ‘here’s your opportunity to record.’ So, the biggest goal of the album is simply giving students opportunities to be on an album and get to record.”

Not only does the album give the club’s members an opportunity to experience a professional recording environment, which are usually too expensive for most musicians, but it also exhibits the diverse community at the University.

“I would say we have a very large mix of backgrounds and people who are involved in Roots,” Shellist said. “We definitely just have one music major. Everyone else is someone who loves music and wants to be involved in music. We have someone who’s involved in the faculty and comes out every time and adds his own folk-y vibe. There’s a lot of differences in musical opinions and genres going on. It gives us a sense of the music within the community.”

“We scheduled these sessions and engineers and it’s been a long process of working around everybody’s schedules. It’s really difficult, but it’s been super rewarding to get people into the recording studio because a lot of these people have never done anything remotely similar to recording studios. Speaking from experience, it can be a really eye-opening like, ‘Wow, I can do this!’ Once it gets going, they can actually just do it.”

While recording songs for a compilation album is hard work that its members take seriously, they don’t forget to have fun with their craft.

“For some of the groups, it’s just a process of playing together and finding what we like,” Shellist said. “For other groups, it’s someone who brings a song to a project. Every single meeting that we have, we come together and we play this same, simple little melody and I point to a person in the room and say, ‘Alright, your turn! Sing a random verse off the top of your head.’ That’s how we’re doing one of our songs. I really am a big fan of it.”

Those looking to be part of Roots Music Club can attend meetings every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in Room 1002 of the Moore Musical Arts Center.
Sports

The Falcon tennis team was back in action this weekend for a home series at the Perrysburg Tennis Center, where it faced off against conference foes Akron Zips on Friday and the Buffalo Bulls on Easter Sunday. Coming into the weekend, the Falcons were 2-0 in the conference and an undefeated record on home court. However, the Falcons were able to split the series and go 1-1 on the weekend.

In the first match on Friday, the team was hot from the start, not allowing easy points for the Zips. Junior Paula Comella and sophomore Marharita-Sophia Tavpash won their first match 6-2. Junior Polina Radeva and sophomore Ayumi Sasaki also won 6-2 in doubles. Winning two out of three in doubles automatically secured the first doubles point for the Falcons, but junior Vanessa Pardo and freshman Marta Bettinelli were able to finish their match winning 4-3.

During the singles portion of the match, things only improved for the Falcons, winning five of the six total singles matches, all in two straight sets. Comella, the number one seeded player for the Falcons, won her matches 6-2 and 6-2. Radeva was able to secure a victory by the scores of 6-1 and 6-0. Brennan won 6-1 and 6-2. Pardo was the only one to lose in straight sets, as Sasaki and Bettinelli took wins in their matches as well. However, the loss equated to nothing, as that was the only point gained by the Zips in the overall match. The Falcons took the win 6-1.

On Sunday, the Falcons had much more of a battle on their hands, with the Bulls coming in with a 10-3 overall record and a 3-0 record in conference play as well. In doubles, the Falcons, while according to Coach Stephanie Dalmacio, matches were closer than the score indicated, never really got going. Comella and Tavpash secured the first doubles match 6-2, but the Falcons were only able to get one of three in the doubles section of the match. In singles, the Falcons were once again shut out from the scoreboard, losing all six matches and losing by a final score of 7-0.

“Against better teams, it’s about the details and pushing through to the last point, and Buffalo did that better today than we did,” Dalmacio said. “We’re going to continue to work and hope to see them again in the MAC Tournament.”

The Falcon’s next matches will be next Friday and Sunday, as they will split a weekend series. On Friday, they will face off against the Toledo Rockets in Toledo, Ohio, followed by their last home match of the year against the Eastern Michigan Eagles on Sunday.

“Coming up against Toledo, it’s going to be another tough match,” Dalmacio said. “We want to beat them again like we were able to last year, and we’re going to work on the things we need to work on to make sure we’re ready against Toledo.”

Tennis splits weekend series

Travis Devlin
Sports Reporter

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In the first match on Friday, the team was hot from the start, not allowing easy points for the Zips. Junior Paula Comella and sophomore Marharita-Sophia Tavpash won their first match 6-2. Junior Polina Radeva and sophomore Ayumi Sasaki also won 6-2 in doubles. Winning two out of three in doubles automatically secured the first doubles point for the Falcons, but junior Vanessa Pardo and freshman Marta Bettinelli were able to finish their match winning 4-3.

During the singles portion of the match, things only improved for the Falcons, winning five of the six total singles matches, all in two straight sets. Comella, the number one seeded player for the Falcons, won her matches 6-2 and 6-2. Radeva was able to secure a victory by the scores of 6-1 and 6-0. Brennan won 6-1 and 6-2. Pardo was the only one to lose in straight sets, as Sasaki and Bettinelli took wins in their matches as well. However, the loss equated to nothing, as that was the only point gained by the Zips in the overall match. The Falcons took the win 6-1.

On Sunday, the Falcons had much more of a battle on their hands, with the Bulls coming in with a 10-3 overall record and a 3-0 record in conference play as well. In doubles, the Falcons, while according to Coach Stephanie Dalmacio, matches were closer than the score indicated, never really got going. Comella and Tavpash secured the first doubles match 6-2, but the Falcons were only able to get one of three in the doubles section of the match. In singles, the Falcons were once again shut out from the scoreboard, losing all six matches and losing by a final score of 7-0.

“Against better teams, it’s about the details and pushing through to the last point, and Buffalo did that better today than we did,” Dalmacio said. “We’re going to continue to work and hope to see them again in the MAC Tournament.”

The Falcon’s next matches will be next Friday and Sunday, as they will split a weekend series. On Friday, they will face off against the Toledo Rockets in Toledo, Ohio, followed by their last home match of the year against the Eastern Michigan Eagles on Sunday.

“Coming up against Toledo, it’s going to be another tough match,” Dalmacio said. “We want to beat them again like we were able to last year, and we’re going to work on the things we need to work on to make sure we’re ready against Toledo.”

Baseball loses two of three to E. Michigan

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcon baseball team fell in two of three games to the Eastern Michigan Eagles, losing on Sunday afternoon 4-3 after winning 10-3 on Saturday afternoon, but losing 9-2 on Friday afternoon.

“The guys played hard all weekend,” head coach Danny Schmitz said. “But when you get to our conference, the team that executes the best is usually the one that ends up winning, and they were just a little bit better than us.”

Sunday’s game started off with Eastern Michigan taking a 2-0 lead in the first inning with a two RBI double. The Falcons cut the lead in half in the bottom of the inning as senior infielder Derek Drewes got an RBI fielder's choice. The score remained that way until the fourth, as Eastern Michigan scratched across another run with an RBI single. The Falcons rebounded with sophomore outfielder Jake Wilson who hit an RBI single in the bottom of the inning. In the sixth, Eastern Michigan scored another run on an RBI single. While the Falcons cut the lead in half in the ninth with an RBI double from junior infielder Riley Minorik, Eastern Michigan would hang on to take the 4-3 victory.

“We didn’t get the big hit when we needed to,” Schmitz said. “We had plenty of opportunities to go ahead and cash in, and we didn’t cash in. It’s not that we didn’t play hard, because we played extremely hard. We kept it close, but we had opportun-
Softball swept against W. Michigan

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcon softball team was swept by the Western Michigan Broncos, losing 14-1 on Saturday morning after falling 1-0 and 5-3 in a Friday doubleheader.

"When you are playing a good ball club like Western Michigan, you can’t give them extra opportunities," Falcons head coach Sarah Willis said. "It’s the hit batters and the walks that add to the situation and give a team additional chances to score some runs against you."

Saturday’s game was all Western Michigan from the start. The team scored four runs in the first inning, as they got an RBI single followed by a three run home run. While the Falcons were able to get a run back in the bottom of the inning on an RBI sacrifice fly from junior outfielder Kali Holcomb, Western Michigan came back in the third with eight runs coming across. The fourth saw Western Michigan add two more to the advantage with an RBI single and RBI groundout. Western Michigan took the 14-1 win after five innings due to the mercy rule.

"Our pitchers have to figure out how to come out strong on day two of a series, after the opposing hitters have seen them the day before," Willis said. "Whether it’s creating a different look or just trusting in the game plan, we just have to be a bit more adjustable and a lot stronger in the circle, to give our ball club an opportunity to have success."

Sarah Willis
Falcons Head Coach

The first game of the Friday doubleheader saw both teams go scoreless until Western Michigan grabbed the lead on an RBI double during the fifth. Despite a scoring chance in the sixth with a runner on second base, the Falcons would be unable to tie the game up. Western Michigan won 1-0.

"We need to have a sense of urgency earlier in the game to continue to produce runs," Willis said. "We kind of sat back a little bit offensively and had only two hits going into that seventh inning. We’ve got to do a little more at the plate."

In the second game of the doubleheader, junior outfielder Alex Sorgi got the Falcons on the board in the third inning with an RBI single. The team would stay in control until the sixth, when Western Michigan got an RBI single and a pair of RBI doubles to make it a 3-1 game.

However, in the seventh, junior infielder Kaylee Parker hit a two-run homer to keep the game going into extra innings. In the eighth, Western Michigan hit a two RBI double to regain the lead, which they would hold onto to take the 5-3 victory.

"We had opportunities to win both games today," Willis said. "Especially in the second game, we had some opportunities to put them away. We came back with that two-out rally (in the seventh), and we showed a lot of heart. I loved our at-bats in the seventh inning."

The team will play on the road next Tuesday against the Miami Redhawks in a doubleheader.
Arming teachers sparks debate

By Stepha Poulin
Forum Editor

Arming teachers is an increasingly relevant subject as school shootings appear in headlines on a regular basis, most recently in Parkland, Florida. Though the issue is presented as a partisan debate, views vary on all sides regarding its implementation.

Dawn M. Shinew, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, considers arming teachers with her experience as an educator with administrative experience. As dean, she oversees what future teachers are taught to prepare for their future careers in education.

“My college, among other things, is responsible for preparing teachers,” Shinew said. “So, I have some concerns about this from a teacher preparation perspective, because we already are struggling to make sure that teachers walk into classrooms ready to help students know how to read, learn science, write lab reports, engage in a civic discourse, be good citizens (and) how to respect one another.”

Shinew worries how arming teachers would be funded. She sees some school districts are struggling to provide students and teachers with supplies and programs.

“Cooper Clarke, president of the University College Democrats, does not see the practicality of arming teachers while some schools struggle to provide supplies.

“A good guy with a gun is not always the answer,” he said. “He can hurt himself or hurt others, and with a teacher I think it’s ridiculous that people who say schools should have less funding say we should buy all these teachers weapons instead of giving them new textbooks.”

Upcoming educators already have several required trainings to complete before they can become licensed teachers. Those already in the field may also have to commit to additional training if arming teachers becomes a reality.

“The goal is to protect students and certainly, as a parent, I understand people are desperate for some answers. I just worry about some of the unintended consequences of this.”

— Dawn M. Shinew —
Dean of College of Education and Human Development

“In the past five years, we are now required to provide information about dyslexia. We have to, and should, include things about opioid addiction. I have a hard time figuring out how we would add weapons training on top of all of that,” Shinew said.

Additionally, Shinew opposes arming teachers as a parent with children currently attending school.

“The goal is to protect students and certainly, as a parent, I understand people are desperate for some answers. I just worry about some of the unintended consequences of this.”

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Arming teachers continued from page 11

consequences of this,” she said.

Conversely, 25-year-old conservative Clint Sayre supports arming teachers.

“We should arm teachers that are willing to be armed to put another barrier of protection between our children/students in harm’s way,” Sayre said.

Sayre believes school districts should not have to find funds to train teachers to handle firearms. He thinks teachers should volunteer to be armed and pay for training.

“This should be teacher-funded. If a teacher wants to have a gun, they should provide the gun and necessary documents to carry them at school,” Sayre said. “I assume there will be discounts and other incentives that make it easier and cheaper for teachers to accomplish this.”

He also believes firearm training should become a part of the curriculum for future educators.

“Teachers should be trained on firearms and firearm safety when getting their degrees. Also, it should be an ongoing training that has to be done at least every three months,” he said. “That includes actual fire time, range shooting, after they become a teacher.”

There is ample public discourse among citizens and within the U.S. government. Meanwhile, some school districts are enacting their own systems to arm teachers.

The Sidney and Mad River school districts in Ohio have trained a confidential team of teachers to act in the event of a school shooting. Finger-print-protected lockboxes are located throughout the school and can only be opened by the trained team.

Currently, the University offers A.L.I.C.E. training to students, faculty and staff who want to learn how to safely act if a shooter is present. The University police will hold training sessions on April 5 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. Training times can be found on the University calendar.

Sen. Brown continued from Page 2

Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), the resolution currently has the support of 50 senators. Brown and his colleagues are working to garner the support of one more Republican.

Brown said that with all the public outcry on the issue, he is optimistic that the resolution will pass. The more the public hears about it, the more people are likely to put pressure on their representatives.

Many Republicans argue that the FCC’s regulation of the internet deters investment in a better internet. But net neutrality supporters, including Brown, believe the answer is clear, and the FCC’s repeal is the direct result of corporate lobbying.

“This shouldn't be a partisan issue; the internet is vital to modern life no matter who you vote for or what your political views are,” Brown said. “If you’re a liberal or conservative, it doesn't matter the internet is vital to modern life. Students making their voices heard on this issue will make a huge difference.”

Brown cited the success and impact of the March for our Lives movement across the country on gun control as evidence of the influence students and youth can have on policy making decisions.

“You depend on it for your news, you depend on it for your classwork, and you depend on it looking for a summer job,” Brown said about the internet. “The internet doesn't belong to a wealthy few, it belongs to you, it belongs to me, it belongs to Ohio students and it belongs to anybody and everybody across this country.”

Fun Fact

If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

Brain Teaser

Imagine you are in a room with 3 switches. In an adjacent room there are 3 bulbs (let's say in lamps which are on a regular table), each switch belongs to one bulb. All are off at the moment. It is impossible to see from one room to another. No help from anybody else is allowed. How can you find out which switch belongs to which bulb, if you may enter the room with the bulbs only once?

See solution in the classifieds section
FALL 2018 REGISTRATION

Start Dates

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