VICTORY AT THE DOYT
Falcons fly past the Colonels, 42-35 | PAGE 7

Campus dogs here to serve
PAGE 11

New BoJack season pushes boundaries
PAGE 5

Falcons learn to ice skate
PAGE 8
Making the University more dog friendly

By Mary Ross
Reporter

Walking through the University, it’s hard to not see someone walking their dog. Dogs are a part of the community at the University whether they live on campus or are just passing through on their daily walk.

“A lot of dogs enjoy walks around the beautiful campus but have nowhere to get water. Would you consider coming up with some sort of doggy drinking station?” Christina Lyons tweeted out to President Rogers this summer.

“We’ll explore options to make our outdoor spaces dog friendly,” President Rodgers tweeted in response.

As Lyons, an alumna of the University, pointed out, there are limited resources for dog owners and their dogs around campus. These resources include an exercise yard provided by Accessibility Services for dogs to play and use the bathroom in.

Despite limited resources, the University is accepting of students who bring their service dogs to live with them on campus. The University’s 11-page policy about dogs discusses what qualifies a dog as a service or therapy animal and how they must behave when on campus. In addition, there is a form for service dogs and emotional support animals (ESAs) outlining how a dog must act in the yard.

It is necessary to have these detailed policies on service and ESAs due to the recent rise of service animal fraud in the United States. Many websites claim to certify any dog as a service animal for varying costs, but the Americans with Disabilities Act does not require any certification. Furthermore, ADA regulations make it so skeptics cannot ask service dog owners about their disability due to the possibility of invading their privacy.

“I think the policies in place right now are the best they can be. It ensures that people that need to bring their dog to school with them have that possibility, but also, it prevents people that don’t actually need a dog from abusing the policy,” said Kylie Crawford, a freshman who brought her emotional support dog, Barney, to school.

Despite the policies in place being sufficient, some students have ideas on how the University could make the quality of life for dogs better.

“To make the campus more dog friendly, there could be stations set up specifically for dogs. These stations would have trash bags for poop, and water for dogs to drink, and they would be as common as fire hydrants are on campus. BGSU could also make some dorms pet friendly, where students don’t necessarily need their dog or pet to be a service animal to bring them to school. The students would just be responsible for everything their dog or pet does,” freshman Sophia DeBord said.

“A change that could be made is to have a more convenient area that I could go play with my service dog away from where any other dog is allowed to be. Sometimes, it’s hard when people’s dogs aren’t as behaved and are all over mine when we are just trying to play,” said Leah Schulze, a freshman who brought her service dog, Wesler, to school.

Dogs are an integral part of the community here at the University. It is important to the students that the University provides an environment
The “likeable narrator” movie trope

By Sophia Walcher
Columnist

With the reactions to hit Netflix movies “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” and “Sierra Burgess is a Loser,” a commonality of preference can be seen among teen and young adult audiences: they much prefer a likeable, relatable character opposed to the flawed humans we see in reality.

The “likeable narrator” movie trope has been a common occurrence in the teen contemporary romance realm for almost its entirety. Cher’s effervescence, combated with eventual substance, captivated all 90s lovers in the 1995 film “Clueless;” the innocence of Jennifer Garner’s character Jenna in “13 Going on 30” has even adults laughing, and who could forget Gabriella Montez’s brains and vocal talents in “High School Musical?” All of these characters had traits we could relate to, even if that means embarrassingly belting out the lyrics to an early 2000s classic. Such is the case with “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before.” Lara Jean’s uniqueness and awkwardness made her compelling to readers and viewers alike in Jenny Han’s Netflix adaptation. The dreamy sense of romance and sheer myriad of faces that “I have totally made before!” is a part of what makes Lara Jean a fan favorite in everyone’s books.

With the casting of Noah Centineo in Netflix’s “Sierra Burgess is a Loser” along with “Stranger Things” star Shannon Purser, media was anticipating another contemporary young adult romance hit (after all, who wouldn’t want to see Peter Kavinsky and Barb fall in love?). However, the movie hit several sour notes, the prime outcry being towards the character of Sierra. The film centers around a relationship in which the character Sierra Burgess catfishes Jamey under the disguise of the popular but misunderstood mean girl Veronica. Sierra’s main faults from viewers are her catfishing in general, as well as her reactions to a falling-out event with her then-turned friend Veronica.

While viewers are showing no mercy towards Sierra, actress Purser shares a different perspective. She tells Clever News, “I think it is absolutely fair to criticize what Sierra does because what she is doing is wrong. I was really interested in exploring this flawed character, like, what motivates her to act in this way? What insecurities are people who do this dealing with?”

Purser’s analysis is exactly what should be happening in new media. With the success of MTV’s 2012 show “Catfish,” it is clear Sierra’s story is not uncommon in America. While a controversial issue, “Sierra Burgess is a Loser” does bring the ability to discuss the ethics of someone who makes these choices and explores the ability of whether redemption be given to such people. Although that might not be a relatable subject for teenage girls, it is something real. And isn’t it time for Hollywood to start creating real, dislikable characters? It’s time for characters that are able to stimulate a conversation, not just pander towards a romantic ideal that teenagers, even myself, share.

As much as we would all like to find our own Peter Kavinsky, it is time for the portrayal of the ugly characters that exist in reality. A showcase of the traits we don’t want to see in ourselves but still exist, in an effort to create a stimulating conversation, could benefit society as a whole.

And isn’t it time for Hollywood to start creating real, dislikable characters? It’s time for characters that are able to stimulate a conversation, not just pander towards a romantic ideal that teenagers, even myself, share.

— Sophia Walcher —
Columnist
Five great things about Spain

By Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

I studied abroad two summers ago, and it is still one of the most meaningful things I’ve ever done. I did the cluster program in Spain, which means I took Spanish 101 and then threw myself into a foreign country and lived with a family that only spoke Spanish. As hard as that was, there was a really good support system there from the staff at the university in Spain. I loved being in Spain, and there was a ton of stuff that I wish I could get over here. So, here’s five things that I loved about Spain that we should implement in the States.

1. The Coke has real sugar, not high fructose corn syrup.
This is a really simple thing, but if you’re gonna splurge on a soda, you might as well get the real deal. And it tastes amazing. The food in Spain is something I won’t drink in the States, but I get the real deal. And it tastes way better. Coke doesn’t have high fructose corn syrup.

2. The public transportation system actually works.
I took the bus every day from my host family’s apartment to the university, and while it was a bit of a walk, the buses were on-time, clean and way more accessible than anything I can use in my hometown near Columbus. You could get anywhere with a bus or a train, even outside of Alcalá de Henares, the town I lived in, and Madrid — which was a bus ride away. I don’t care for driving very much, and if I could take a reliable and clean bus or train to work every day, I would. Even in American cities that do have reliable and accessible public transportation, they’re generally not super clean. And that’s definitely something we could work on.

3. The plazas are amazing.
Spain, and most of Europe in general, usually has town squares or plazas built into their cities. I absolutely loved having a town square to meet up with friends, grab a drink, find some wifi or eat a snack. The Plaza de Cervantes in Alcalá was connected to Calle de Mayor and this was the place to do everything. It’s a beautiful place to sit, to eat and to talk. Most restaurants have ample outdoor seating, and you can sit and chat for hours. There were no cars allowed down Calle de Mayor and none around the plaza on Sundays. Having that space is something I find really cool, and I want to see it way more in American towns.

4. There are long breaks for lunch for everyone.
Spain implements a siesta, where everything stops for lunch and everyone takes a rest. This makes total sense, because Spain is so hot in summers that it’s not worth being outside between 2 and 3 p.m. While in Madrid, most shops would stay open during lunch. Almost everything in Alcalá shut down for a few hours, so everyone could get a break. This fosters family time and a much-needed break from work. I loved having that time.

5. Tapas!
Everyone has heard of tapas, and they really are as amazing as they sound. We would go to restaurants after lunch (the big meal of the day) and before dinner (a much lighter meal) and get tapas. When you ordered a drink, whether it was a Coke or a tinto de verano (a wine drink that’s essentially red wine, Sprite and lemon), most restaurants would also bring a little plate of food to eat. They were usually delicious and different every time. The word tapas comes from the word tapar, meaning “to cover,” because the food would cover the drink so no one would drink on an empty stomach. It’s something I really miss about Spain.

Breaking news: My hands are objectively the most beautiful on campus

By Bea Fields
Guest Columnist

The ancient philosopher Plato believed all things have an ethereal Form (yes, caps). Everything on this planet is a mere copy of the ethereal perfection that lurks just beyond our immediate realm, and my hands are the closest thing to that ethereal form you are gonna get. My hands have spent hours training at the Miss Flannerson’s Falange Academy of Finger Performative Arts for 12 years, and they have never missed a class. You want them to point at you and convey an energetic emotion while not being too threatening? They’re your guys! You want the perfect circle that comes with the “okay” gesture from across the room? Right hand has your back! You want tapered, mocha-colored, double-jointed jazz hands to lift your spirits and your heart rate? Done.

“It’s been a difficult 12 years. I’d say,” mouths the timid Left Hand. “Right and I had some creative differences, but our upbringing really prepared us to stick it out.”

“We really put our thumb to the grindstone,” says Right, “and I gotta hand it to you, with a little flexibility, you can grasp anything!”

I’ve watched these two start off as small meat sticks that couldn’t even snap to fiddlin’ fast friends with two gold medals and seven Grammys. If you have a chance to hold them, (which, please, ask before you do) you’ll immediately notice the air of prestige that surrounds them, which, admittedly, makes them a bit hard to deal with.

“Many people, when they first see us, are intimidated — not by our size, don’t get us wrong, but just at the sheer precision of every movement we make,” says Left.

“When we were growing up in Siberia, where the academy is located, you should’ve seen what we had to go through! The callouses, the cracks, the paper cuts,” Right asserts.

“We have every right to hold ourselves to the standard we do. We went through hell.”

Nonetheless, the siblings still manage to let their hair down: Left likes to skateboard and occasionally hold things, and Right really is the essence of a renaissance individual.

“I write, type, open doors, pick things up, draw, paint, turn on tv’s, work out, pet dogs, pet cats, scratch off lottery tickets…” Right said.

But what do they like to do together?

“Clapping,” Right admits. “It’s the one thing I couldn’t do without my sibling!”

Do you have any pets?

“Hello… I have a beta fish. His name is Miguel. I got him when I was a freshman, and he is still doing well and kicking. He’s a trooper.”

“I have a cat back home who is not with me here. He is 18-years-old so he is legal. His name is Sammy but I call him Mr. Bub.”

“I’m about to buy a mouse after this interview.”

“I have two dogs at home. They do dog things.”

“No”
BoJack Horseman continues to push boundaries

Evan Hayes
Pulse Editor

“BoJack Horseman” has consistently been one of the most provocative and intelligent shows made since it first premiered four years ago. Examining mental illness and popular culture through anthropomorphic animation is no easy task, but Raphael Bob-Waksberg's adult animation comedy-drama has achieved success by scouring the deepest depths of BoJack's soul and hu(horse?)manity.

Yet times have changed greatly since 2014, and having a depressed, sexist and — possibly most damning — male character anchor in a satirical show based in Hollywood media in 2018 would seem to be a recipe for disaster. Season five doesn't run away from social issues though, instead using the show's fantastical humor and creative episodic structure to examine the #MeToo movement, sexual misconduct in the workplace and personal self-worth, among other themes, while also still examining the depths of its characters in a way only “BoJack” can.

Each main character goes through some form of self-examination during the season, taking a good look in the mirror at the formative habits that have resulted in the dysfunction and emptiness in their lives. These self-examinations lead the show to new levels of character depth, whether positive or damning.

The fifth episode, “The Amelia Earhart Story,” dives into Princess Carolyn’s life growing up by paralleling a Casablanca-esque Amelia Earhart movie with Carolyn's decision to leave home for school in California. Diane attempts to rediscover her roots after her divorce by taking a trip to Vietnam in the second episode, “The Dog Days are Over.” The episode is structured around a listicle Diane is writing, which turns dark as she reaches reasons No. 8 through 10 for her trip abroad.

“Free Churro,” the sixth episode of the season, finds BoJack monologuing for 25 minutes straight as he gives his mother’s eulogy. Will Arnett, who voices BoJack, turns 25 minutes of lines into a roller coaster of emotion and self-realization. In this master performance by Arnett, BoJack accesses a level of realness never before seen in the world of over-the-top animation.

The show tackles the growing culture of sexual misconduct in Hollywood the only way it knows how: through satirical comedy and grandiose characters. Episode four, “BoJack the Feminist,” sees BoJack grappling with a new co-star, Vance Waggoner, who has a vulgar media scandal seemingly every other week, similar to the likes of Harvey Weinstein and Louis C.K., but repeatedly and with little remorse. The episode examines the roles of both men and women in allowing men like this to be forgiven by the media cycle and what being a feminist really means for men in today’s society.

The final episode of the season, “The Stopped Show,” sees the sex robot made by Todd, Henry Fondle, ascend to the position of CEO at a streaming network through a wacky series of events. The robot’s ascension and ultimate fall speak on the toxic business culture in today’s world that allows a worker to gain promotions despite sexual misconduct and the swift decline those in the industry face when said misconduct comes to light.

Misconduct coming to light is ultimately what drives BoJack throughout the season. The plotline of the season takes place primarily on the set of BoJack’s new television show, a gritty prestige-TV detective drama called Philbert, which itself is a parody of major network shows that are not as deep or meta as they seem. The many parallels between BoJack and his character Philbert, as well as the similarities in set design to BoJack’s house, force BoJack to confront the demons from his past. He ultimately breaks down and loses all sense of reality, unable to tell where the lies he tells himself end.

Diane is hired to improve upon the sexist elements of the show, but soon finds out she was simply hired to provide a female validation of the show when the credits roll. When the show finally premieres, she lays into BoJack and exclaims she no longer wants to be a part of a show that is a way for people “to rationalize their own awful behavior.”

In this contrast between Philbert and BoJack, we see the difference between BoJack and most other self-involved male anti-heroes currently portrayed on television. BoJack realizes he can no longer rationalize his own awful behavior, being confronted by the demons in his past.

“BoJack Horseman” continues to push boundaries whether positive or damning. The show tackles the growing culture of social issues and sees BoJack perhaps finally start to take steps towards changing his own awful behavior.

“In BoJack, we can find hope, for if an anthropomorphic horse... can move towards positive growth and change, perhaps we all can too.”

— Evan Hayes —
Pulse Editor

and seeing the effect his self-destructive behavior has on those around him who he cares about. He scares away his sister, Hollyhock, and almost strangles his girlfriend and Philbert co-star, Gina, and this ultimately leads him to seek help.

Entering a treatment center for drug addiction at the end of the season, we see BoJack perhaps finally start to take steps towards changing his own awful behavior. In BoJack, we can find hope, for if an anthropomorphic horse with substance abuse problems and a self-destructive streak as long as the fictional bridge from Hollywood to Hawaii can move towards positive growth and change, perhaps we all can too.
Volleyball sweeps BGSU invitational

Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon volleyball team took all three matches of the BGSU Invitational, defeating the Marshall Thundering Herd 3-1 on Thursday before taking down the Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis Jaguars 3-0 on Friday night. The team also defeated the Nicholls State Colonels 3-0 on Saturday afternoon.

The tournament was also the final non-conference matchup of the season for the Falcons, as they will begin MAC play on Friday.

Thursday's match against Marshall began with a close 29-27 victory in the first set, with sophomore middle blocker Katie Kidwell leading the Falcons with seven kills. However, Marshall came back in the second set with a 27-25 win after falling behind 24-20. The Falcons would rebound and take the third set, however, with a 25-22 victory. The team then closed out the match with another 25-22 victory in the fourth set to claim the 3-1 match win. Kidwell earned 20 kills in the match to lead the Falcons offense.

"It was an exciting match to coach," Falcons head coach Danijela Tomic said. "Both teams played at a high level, Marshall is such a scrappy team, they had 101 digs. I consider us a good defensive team and we had 96 in four sets. Offensively I'm very happy, this was our best performance offensively, we had five hitters in double-digit kills and we hit over 200, which was our goal as a team."

On Friday against IUPUI, the Falcons took a 25-21 victory in the first set, followed by a 25-14 win with senior middle Madeline Brandewie leading the team with six kills. The team then went on to take the third set 25-16 and take the 3-0 victory in the match. Brandewie led the team in the match with 11 kills.

"(Brandewie) was very disciplined and made herself visible to her setter," Tomic said. "She made very smart choices and didn't make a hitting error until the third set. She plays the ball really well and that's something we've been working on as a team."

On Saturday against Nicholls State, the Falcons continued the momentum from the previous match with a 25-19 win in the first set, then continued to win 25-17 in the second set. The third set saw the team win 25-18 to take their second straight match sweep with a 3-0 victory.

"We did get them out of system, but we did miss a little too many serves in my opinion," Tomic said. "We set a goal to hit at least 20 percent and we did better than that. Defensively, we wanted to attack and have a good defensive game and I think we did that today."

The team will play away on Friday against the Buffalo Bulls, followed by a Saturday match on the road against the Akron Zips.

"We did get them out of system, but we did miss a little too many serves."

Danijela Tomic
Falcons Head Coach

Falcons place third in weekend invitational

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

The Falcons are off to a strong start in the conference as they placed third in the John McNichols Invitational. The top three Falcons in the race were seniors Noah Schaub and Tyler Phillips, and then freshman Cesare Arellano.

Schaub finished first for the Falcons again, as he has in every other race this season, while also finishing seventh overall in the race with a time of 25:14 and a pace of 5:05. Phillips finished second for the Falcons and finished 12th overall. His time was 25:29 and a pace of 5:08. Last of the three was Arellano with a time of 26:22 and a pace of 5:18. Arellano finished 35th overall.

Arellano talked about the team's success and their goal going into the invitational this weekend.

"Finishing top three was what we wanted going into the meet," Arellano said. "It definitely motivated us to keep improving. Now we really know we can really compete against good teams and still come out strong."

"I definitely think this race gave our team a confidence boost into our upcoming races," Phillips said. "We went out there and competed really well with some really good teams we'll face later in the season. It also gave the young guys a chance to get some experience with the 8K on a very challenging course, and we'll only get better from here."

For a freshman like Arellano, this success so close to the beginning of the season is very good for confidence. Arellano talked about this beginning success.

"For me it was my first ever 8K," he said.

"I went out and raced the best I could on the given day. However, I seek to continue to improve a lot more and just use this as a learning experience going forward."

Schaub has established himself as the pace-setter for the team, and he sees the importance of this.

"I think it's very important to lead the team, and I feel as if that is my job," Schaub said. "I think a significant part of having a successful team is a guy up front that can set the tone and be a guy you can count on to be toward the top each race."

The Falcons look to continue their strong start to the season in a couple weeks when they travel to Louisville, Kentucky to compete in the Louisville Cross Country Classic on Saturday, Sept. 29.
After dropping two straight games to start the season, the Falcons picked up their first win of the season in a shootout with the Eastern Kentucky Colonels. A 28-point second quarter and career performances from multiple impressive plays, highlighted by Quintin Morris and Deric Phouthavong each record eight receptions for 22-yard touchdown. A bobbled snap on the ground while missing multiple tackles.

The third quarter opened with a Doege interception, picked off by an Eastern Kentucky linebacker Kholbe Coleman. “We had a hard week of practice, and we came out with the right mindset,” said sophomore linebacker Kholbe Coleman. “We knew this was going to be a great team, a great matchup, so getting that win made us feel better about the team.”

The first half was a tale of two quarters for the Falcons. The Falcons’ offense struggled to find any momentum in the first quarter, while the same problems against the run that plagued the defense against Maryland last week resurfaced again. The team gave up 98 yards and two touchdowns on the ground while missing multiple tackles.

However, the second quarter saw the Falcons put up the most points of the Jinks era in one half. Doege scored from the one-yard line on a sneak play to open the quarter and threw for two more scores in the quarter. He capped the quarter finding Phouthavong for a 13-yard touchdown to put the Falcons up 28-21 at halftime.

The third quarter opened with a Doege interception, picked off by an Eastern Kentucky linebacker on an attempted dump off as he rolled out to avoid a rush. The Colonels capitalized on good field position after the turnover and scored on a seven-yard touchdown run.

Doege later bounced back, engineering a four-play 41-yard drive that ended with the sophomore finding Phouthavong for a 22-yard touchdown. A bobbled snap on the extra point saw the Falcons go up 34-28.

The Colonels came right back to take the lead, scoring a 27-yard rushing touchdown on fourth down to take a 35-34 lead. EKU running back Daryl McCleskey was untouched on the scamper, which was emblematic of the Falcons’ struggles against the run. The defense gave up 439 yards on the ground and five rushing touchdowns and struggled to bring down ball carriers in space.

“We’ve got to tackle better. It’s as simple as that,” said Coach Jinks. “We’ve done a good job of getting teams into third down situations, and we’ve given up a lot of big plays in those situations. Those are some things Coach Pelini and I will take a look at and get rectified.”

The Falcons will be in action next Saturday, Sept. 22 when they host Miami of Ohio to cap off a three-game home stand. The game, which will be broadcast on ESPN+, will start at 3 p.m. and will be the Mid-American Conference opener for both teams.
Students learn to skate at Slater ice arena

By Esther Afolarin

Learn to shred the ice with the University’s ice skating lesson sessions, hosted at the Slater Family Ice Arena.

The Slater Family Ice Arena offers skating classes to people who have never skated before.

“The only requirement to join this class is the desire to skate,” Lona Leck, a skate instructor, said.

Junior Alexis Roehl said she felt a different sense of freedom while sliding across the ice.

“It’s really fun to glide across the ice. When you are out there, you just kind of feel free, in a way. It just has a kind of feeling to it,” she said.

Senior creative writing major Bailey Bibler is currently learning to skate from Leck.

“I have gotten on the ice before, and I have always ended up either on my face or on my butt. She is actually teaching me the things that I need to know to do it gracefully. I’m moving better on the ice than I ever have,” Bibler said.

She has the following advice for other students looking to learn to skate:

“I’d say that there is always something to learn, even if it’s something that you think you know because you learn things, little techniques and stuff that you might not learn just on your own. You won’t learn how to do a turn stop, maybe, on your own.”

Leck talked about student involvement in the teaching process.

“I have more advanced students in the basic class. I asked them to kind of help a little with some of the instruction, so they might be helping each other, assisting me or helping people who are moving forward faster to keep on moving with the instruction,” she said.

“Learn to Skate” sessions began Sept. 8, but there are still more sessions to come. There is an ice skating class for college students called Basic Ice Skating. Basic Ice Skating consists of four six-week sessions for fall and winter semester. The ice skating training takes place inside the Slater Family Ice Arena.

There are public skating sessions open to everyone in the community on Friday and Saturday from 7 to 8:50 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 3:30 to 5:20 p.m. These public skate sessions are $5 for general admission and $3 for University students, faculty and staff.

WORSHIP

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Students
The Campus Ministry has a new address:
Buy God's Grace Ministry
325 East Wooster Street
(bygodsgrace335@gmail.com)
We will meet Monday evening at 6:30 September 24th for our initial fellowship. Rides to Shepard of the Valley Church are provided on Sunday mornings for worship. We meet at the west side of Kohl Hall at 9:45 am.