



focus ON fashion

“Balancing Act”

Creating a great look that doesn't clash can be difficult, but not impossible.

Get seniors Rachel Davis and Haley Edgerton's looks!

Light jackets help break up the colors and patterns of your outfit.

Keep it simple with a cute maxi dress or a pair of jeans to be cool and comfortable during the spring.

Cute sunglasses or decorative rings provide pops of color, but your friends always are your best accessory.

picks OF THE week

Welcome to the Picks of the Week, where we update you about anything ranging from special events, movies, music and entertainment taking place around campus and Kirksville.

events

May 1

Director's Showcase of One Act Plays

8 p.m. in the James G. Sevens Theatre in Ophelia Parrish

Senior theatre majors in the Play Direction class will present a festival of one-act plays including "Perspective," "Minutiae," "Lunch With Ginger," "4 A.M. (Open All Night)," "Low Bridge" and "Minimalist Men." Admission is free.

May 3

Stress Less for Success

4-6 p.m. on The Quad and in Pickler Memorial Library 108

The Wellness Zone will offer free food, free massages from its massage chairs, and free fun and games on The Quad. Take time out to let your mind and body relax with this stress-free event.

MOVIES

Pitch Perfect 2

"Pitch Perfect 2" actually comes to theaters next week, but I'm recommending it now so you are sure to put it on your calendar amongst all the hype for "Avengers: Age of Ultron." The film brings back Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson, Brittany Snow, Anna Camp and others as the Barden Bellas enter an international competition no American group has won.

Welcome to Me

Kristen Wiig stars as Alice Klieg, a psychiatric patient who quits her meds immediately after winning the Mega-Millions lottery and buys her own talk show called "Welcome to Me." The film also stars James Marsden, Wes Bentley, Alan Tudyk, Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack. The film hits theaters tomorrow.

TV

Wayward Pines

This is a M. Night Shyamalan version of "Lost." So, "Lost." The show stars Matt Dillion as Secret Service agent Ethan Burke. The pilot episode currently is available on Hulu. The 10-episode season starts May 14 on FOX.

Orange is the New Black

Look out for Season 3 coming to Netflix June 6. The first trailer teased the return of Laura Prepon's character Alex and includes advice from Red, played by Kate Mulgrew.

HIT or miss

The Index has scoured the Internet and gone deep into the recesses of Netflix to find the things you have yet to discover. We lie in wait for new entertainment to hit the web or the shelves. We do the heavy lifting when it comes to all things entertainment, and for your sake, we deem them a hit or a miss.

Superheroes are a...

HIT

Superheroes, the villains of the box office

BY KATEY STOETZEL

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If you've been following these weekly reviews, you might have noticed a superhero trend. I have written about everything from The CW's "Arrow" and "The Flash" to the Marvel Cinematic Universe. If you are not a superhero fan, I acknowledge your opinion, but I'm not apologizing for the overabundance of superhero talk.

Why? Because I love superheroes, and I'm making them the focus of my last review in honor of today's release of "Avengers: Age of Ultron."

And I'm not the only one who loves them. I feel sorry for any movie being released this weekend that isn't an Avengers movie. "Avengers: Age of Ultron" is expected to make about \$210 million its opening weekend, which would make it the largest opening in film history, according to hollywoodreporter.com. The film already has reached \$219 million in overseas revenue, according to hollywoodreporter.com.

On the DC side of things, the "Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice" trailer leaked online a few weeks ago. News of the "Suicide Squad" movie has been hitting the Internet lately, with Jared Leto premiering his Joker look for the first time last weekend. Ezra Miller will suit up as The Flash for future DC movies.

The "Fantastic Four" reboot is right around the corner, and casting details for "X-Men: Apocalypse" have been circulating news sites as well. "Deadpool" with Ryan Reynolds finally has been greenlit by Fox.

Superheroes aren't just dominating the big screen, though. On TV, "Arrow" and "The Flash" are creating their own DC universe on The CW, with talks of another spin-off show featuring Brandon Routh's Atom, Wentworth Miller's Captain Cold, Victor Garber's one half of Firestorm and Caity Lotz's Black Canary in the works. "Gotham" might feature a Batman-less Gotham City, but it has plenty of nods to superheroes and many of Batman's enemies are getting screen time dedicated to backstories. The CBS fall line-up this year will include "Supergirl," with rumors of possible crossovers with "Arrow" and "The Flash."

Marvel steadily has been expanding the MCU into television with "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.," "Agent Carter" and most recently, "Daredevil." Not to mention the massive list of Marvel film line-ups that extend all the way to 2019.

Whether you like it or not, superheroes are everywhere — and will be for at least another four years.

And I am totally down with that. As someone who never got into comics or graphic novels, my knowledge of the superhero world extends to what I see in films, on TV and whatever I quickly look up online to understand certain aspects of the shows or movies.

My reasons for loving the superhero genre probably are in line with everyone else's reasons — like the idea there is someone out there to tackle larger-than-life bad guys. Superheroes rarely have ulterior motives other than saving people. They don't pass judgment or criticize. It's a comforting idea.

And then you have superheroes such as the ones in "Guardians of the Galaxy," who are the likable, but not always the most moral characters. They're cool people or aliens you could be friends with, who also happen to save the world a time or two.

While I love superhero summer blockbusters, my heart belongs to the television medium, and the superheroes who are getting the opportunity to tell their stories episode by episode.

I'm more of a Marvel cheerleader when it comes to films, but I'm split between DC and Marvel television. Grant Gustin's Barry Allen/The Flash is fantastic every week, mixing angst and optimism perfectly, while Oliver Queen/Arrow steadily is becoming more angst, Stephen Amell constantly brings it all the time. And another shoutout to Charlie Cox as Daredevil, whom I wrote a lot about last week.

So when you're bored this summer and can't find anything decent to watch, assemble your friends together and watch some superheroes save the world.