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## The Guardian, Week of February 19, 2018

Wright State University Student Body

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Companies around the country cut NRA ties

Holly Souther

Features Writer

Since the mass shooting last week in Parkland, Florida, various concerned citizens have been calling for a boycott regarding the National Rifle Association (NRA) with some of the survivors from Stoneman Douglas High School leading the front through social media posts, marches, and action.

Companies and corporations around the country have been ending deals, discounts, and agreements tied to the NRA according to a variety of news outlets. On Twitter, the hashtag #BoycottNRA has been blowing up among people calling for gun reform.

The car rental company Hertz Corporation said the following in a tweet on Friday: "We have notified the NRA that we are ending the NRA's rental car discount program with Hertz."

The list of companies who have cut association with the NRA is growing extensively including MetLife Inc., Symantec Corp, BestWestern, First National Bank of Omaha, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, TrueCar, -an eclectic mix of hotels, banks, and corporations that originally offered rates to the NRA. Many more will be following suit as reported by multiple news sources.

Delta and United Airlines are the latest to join the boycott against the NRA by "no longer offering discounted rates for NRA members," according to FirstCoastNews. The NRA has resisted the backlash and is pushing back against the companies and corporations who have terminated agreements and ties to them.

They issued a statement on Saturday about how their members represent America and "let it be absolutely clear. The loss of a discount will neither scare nor distract one single NRA member from our mission to stand and defend the individual freedoms that have always made America the greatest nation in the world," according to CBSNews.

Movie review: "The Square"

Gavin Mead

Contributing Writer

An Oscar nominee in the "Best Foreign Language Film" for this year's Awards, Ruben Ostlund's "The Square" is a Swedish film that deserves that nomination. It deals with issues of homelessness in Sweden, unity amongst people in a crowd, modern art and the troubles and benefits of negative publicity.

The film's plot is centered around an art museum's newest addition, a piece titled "The Square", and the museum's attempt to garner public attention to the piece's exhibition with the help of a PR team, which leads to mass controversy. The script was very well written; the story unfolded very naturally and the characters felt very believable, which was also reinforced by the strong acting from most of the actors.

The main character Christian, the curator of the museum, is the most relatable, as he gets into many strange situations and handles them in a sometimes irrational, but always human way that never goes out of his character. The film's design and cinematography were both fantastic, with great shot variety and framing. There were many scenes where characters were framed in a square shape in the film's world, like a window or staircase.

There is a certain scene near the end that deserves mention; a beautiful long take from above with Christian and his daughters climbing an apartment staircase. The sound design and music were good as well.

The only negative things I would have to say about the film are: there were several scenes that felt fairly pretentious and Christian's daughters did not serve much purpose to the film. Scenes that were centered around them felt unnecessary, and their acting wasn't anything special. With this, however, "The Square" is still a great film that I would recommend. It's not for everybody and I would definitely not watch it with my mom or any children, but it's an intelligent film for any adult who wants something unique from cinema.

School threats see increase throughout Miami Valley

Sarah Cavender

News Writer

This past week, students across the nation marched in protest of stricter gun laws as a result of the Parkland High School shooting. It has been over a week since 18-year-old Nikolas Cruz opened fire at his former high school. According to news outlets across the country, there has also been an increase in shooting threats to schools.

In the past few days schools districts including Fairborn, Beavercreek, Springfield, and Miamisburg have received threatening messages.

Several middle school students and high school students from these schools have been arrested as a result.

The spike in threats is being linked back to the most recent school shooting in Florida.

Two students aged 11 and 12 from Baker Middle School were arrested in connection to social media threats. Police also arrested a 17-year-old female student in Clark County, according to a report from Dayton Daily News.

This pattern of threatening messages is prevalent across the country. Educators School Safety Network has recorded around 50 threats a day on average since the Florida school shooting, compared to the average 10 threats a day, according to an NPR article.

The states currently leading in increased threats are California, Pennsylvania, New York, Florida and Illinois, according to the report.

In some instances, police investigated the threats and found multiple weapons and ammo. In Houston, Texas, a 17-year-old was arrested for possessing a gun in their jacket pocket at school, according to a report by CNN.

## Wright State continues strategic planning process with open forums

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

On Monday, Feb. 19, another community dialogue event was held as part of the university's strategic planning process.

The forums in this series are all structured the same way. By hosting multiple open discussions throughout the next few weeks, the university hopes to collect as much input from as many people as possible, according to a campus-wide email from the Office of Communications.

The strategic planning process is currently in its initial phase. These forums will eventually culminate to a refined statement of the university's vision, mission, and values. The planned timeline and process are accessible on the university's [webpage](#) designated to strategic planning.

These events, in combination with the broader strategic planning process will "guide the university into the future by providing a vision and focus that directly links resources to our values and strategic priorities," according to a statement on the university's webpage designated to strategic planning.

Members of the Wright State University community are encouraged to attend these events, regardless of their background or position.

Participation in these forums is "vital," according to University President Cheryl Schrader. "Through the strategic planning process, we are creating an ongoing dialogue that encourages continuous reflection and revision of our hopes and priorities [...] Over time, this process will help us shape both our culture and our future," she said in the email.

Forums will continue all the way into March. Anyone interested in actively participating in a forum can register on the university's strategic planning [webpage](#). Dates and times for future events are also posted online.

An interview with the voice of the Raiders, Chris Collins

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

Chris Collins has been the voice of the Raiders for the past 21 years. He's been courtside for some of WSU's most memorable moments, including their 1999 upset over Michigan State.

As it turns out, the first game Collins called was a women's basketball game that he covered for someone who couldn't make it in 1997.

"I was asked to do it because the individual who usually did it couldn't make it. Well during halftime Mike Cusack, the athletic director at the time, came over at halftime and worked with me," Collin said. "Long story short, they had some changes the next year and they asked me if I would be interested."

Throughout his time here at WSU he has called hundreds of games, but one of his favorites happened in 2007 when WSU went to the NCAA tournament.

"The 2007 Horizon League tournament was really great," he said. "We tied with Butler for the regular season title, but we held the tiebreaker so the tournament was at the Nutter Center. WSU had a decent rivalry at the time, so when we got to face them in the championship game it was just so exciting. DaShaun Wood carried that team throughout the year and into the tournament as well. They ended up beating Butler 60-55 and getting to go to the NCAA tournament."

University forms committee to search for new provost

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

On Monday of this week, University President Cheryl Schrader issued a campus-wide email stating that the university has developed a committee designated to search for the next provost of Wright State University.

Sitting provost Thomas Sudkamp announced on Dec. 20 in an email that he would be stepping down from his position, effective June 30 of 2018. He will have served as the provost for three years.

The University's goal is to appoint someone to the position on Jul. 1, 2018.

"This is a critical time for our university to search for the very best chief academic officer," said Schrader according to a Fairborn Daily Herald report. "Our search committee members' dedication and assistance to finding and securing the best candidate is crucial."

The search committee consists of 14 members. It will be chaired by Travis Doom, Faculty Senate president and Stephanie Green, Fifth Third Bank executive and member of the Board of Trustees.

Applicants for the position will hold interviews on campus before the end of the spring semester. The campus community will have the opportunity to share feedback on potential candidates, according to The Fairborn Daily Herald.

Greenwood Asher, an executive search firm, has been contracted by the university to assist in the search. The firm has assisted in searches for the Ohio State University, the University of Oregon, and other colleges, according to Dayton Daily News.

The search committee and Greenwood Asher have scheduled an open forum regarding the search for a new provost for Friday, Feb. 23 in the Apollo Room of the Student Union from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The event will be streamed live on the university's [website](#).

"I believe candidates for our chief academic officer position will see this as an exciting time to join us," Schrader said in the email. "We are at the beginning stages of our strategic planning process that will guide Wright State University by creating a vision and focus that directly aligns resources with our values, our strengths, and the strategy we build around them. We also have a college re-alignment activity progressing that demonstrates our desire for change to meet the demands of a new workforce."

Anyone interested in learning more or in making a nomination for provost can visit the University's [webpage](#) dedicated to the search.

## Wright State administrators meet with Air Force Research Lab leaders

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

Leaders from the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base have been in contact with Wright State administrators to discuss strengthening relations between the base and the university and pursuing research opportunities.

AFRL directs the Air Force's science and technology research budget. The lab's research is focused on aerospace warfighting technologies.

University President Cheryl Schrader met with individuals from AFRL to discuss outreach opportunities through the air force base, according to a release from the Wright State Newsroom.

In the Newsroom release, Schrader mentioned that STEM and healthcare fields have large workforce needs in the Dayton region. Wright State is attempting to fulfill those needs through research partnerships. The university posted about \$100 million in research and sponsored programs, according to the Newsroom.

AFRL Commander and Maj. Gen William Cooley emphasized the Pentagon's focus on science and technology. He also noted the importance of computer software in modern industry.

Schrader stated the possibility of having Wright State Research Institute as a means to translate research into the field more quickly.

University deans shared with AFRL members projects their colleges have worked on in the past. They were provided with contact information from AFRL Executive Director Jack Blackburn, should they want to pursue opportunities with the lab in the future.

Cooley has expressed the possibility of working directly with Wright State researchers, possibly in the Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration Building.

## College Credit Plus students at WSU

Angel Lane

Features Editor

Hundreds of students in University College at WSU are college credit plus students, a program that Wright State has been participating in since fall of 2015. University College is typically where undecided majors stay until they get into their own college, such as the College of Liberal Arts, but College Credit Plus students are a different story.

“College Credit Plus is a State of Ohio dual enrollment initiative that allows high school students to obtain college credit while still in high school,” according to Cathy Davis in the division of enrollment management. “This spring we have 795 College Credit Plus students taking courses through Wright State. ”

There are 462 students taking colleges courses at their high school and 333 students taking courses on campus, according to Davis.

This means you could be sitting next to a high school student in one of your own classes and never know.

“Ohio’s College Credit Plus can help you earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from community colleges or universities. The purpose of this program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to college-ready students,” according to an article on the Ohio Higher Education [website](#).

Davis said the perks of taking college credit plus courses besides being able to get both high school and college credit at once, are that students are able to get a “head start” on college degrees or certificates, students can experience college early and will be better able to understand the expectations of college life and students can save on tuition and textbook costs.

“Your high school may have an agreement with a local college for specific courses; however, you can choose to take College Credit Plus courses from any college that offers a course that would benefit your future. This could include online courses,” the [article](#) continued.

Chinese Club celebrate the Lunar New Year

Holly Souther

Features Writer

On Sunday, Feb. 18, the Chinese Club hosted the annual Lunar New Year Celebration in the Student Union. The Lunar New Year Celebration is a Chinese holiday based off the lunar calendar and is widely celebrated in various countries around the world.

This year is expected to be "especially big," according to Chinese Lecturer and Chinese Club advisor Haili Du, as the Chinese Club partnered with the Chinese International Student Association along with some involvement from the Student Government Association.

A variety types of activities were offered, including games, calligraphy writing, folding and cutting paper activities, exciting food and cuisines, and a performance (particularly a dance) - all to reflect and demonstrate Chinese culture.

When it comes to food on the Lunar New Year Celebration, Du shared a majorly popular dish. "For Chinese food, and not just for Chinese cuisine, they will be hands on – making jiaozi, which is a traditional Chinese dumpling for the new year," Du said.

Du also emphasized the collaboration between the Chinese club and other groups' involvement due to more people this year.

"It's a good opportunity to get students all together because everybody is very busy, and we have a Chinese program. I think American kids need to not just learn the language, they need to learn the Chinese culture. So, this time is to invite all American people – American students over to learn more about Chinese culture and people because we are having this big group of Chinese International Students," Du said.

WSU bowling looking to bring home national championship

Tevin Carter-Tolbert

Sports Writer

The bowling program at Wright State has had a season filled with winning, struggles, overcoming adversity and competing hard. Both the men and women of the Raider bowling program have high aspirations for the season as it nears the end.

On the women's side, they are poised to make a strong push towards sectionals and nationals, with a couple tournaments before to prepare. The team is currently ranked fourth in the country behind Wichita State University, Lindenwood University and Newman University.

Wright State has been a strong unit throughout many of the tournaments that they have competed in and even brought home a win at the Lehigh Valley Classic. Tori Pappas also individually won this tournament and complemented how the team has been functioning,

"For the team, I feel like this has been one of our strongest seasons," she said. "There were times when we would be a little lower than we would have liked and we battled our way back into the top three. Our team chemistry is also what helps us through each tournament."

Pappas went on to express just how this team feels about sectionals and nationals being right around the corner. "We are so geared up for nationals. And our performance at sectionals will show how geared up we are."

The men's side is also working towards a successful push in sectionals and nationals. The team knows that these last few tournaments are very important and they continuously work to sharpen their skills. The men sit right outside the top 10, holding onto the 13th rank in the country. With the conference tournament coming up before sectionals, "home-field" advantage is on Clay Stutzman's mind.

"No travel time and we practice there all season. You can't pick a better situation for us," Stutzman said. "Hopefully we survive qualifying then make clutch shots in match play. Now we are waiting to see our draw for where we travel to sectionals. Same mindset: make good shots, make easy spares then make clutch shots when the time comes. Being a senior I've had my eye on the prize the whole season. Every dog has their day. Hopefully I can shut the rest of the season out and make the clutch shots when called upon."

Wright State comes out with a win against NKU on ESPNU

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

The WSU Men's basketball team moved into first place last Friday by beating the NKU Norse 69-67. The Raiders swept their season series with the Norse while improving to an impressive 13-2 at the Nutter center this season.

Over seven thousand fans piled into the Nutter Center for a game that was nationally televised on ESPNU.

The first half proved to be a competitive matchup. The score went back and forth between the two teams. When the buzzer sounded for halftime, the Raiders held a 32-30 lead. Everett Winchester had nine points to lead the team. The Raiders struggled to defend NKU's Tyler Sharpe in the first half, as he went off for 14 points, including three three-point baskets.

The second half saw WSU take leads as big as 12. NKU made a run to cut the lead to three with under five minutes remaining. From there the teams kept it close but WSU got the win with a late second shot from true freshman Jaylon Hall. Loudon Love had a perfect second half with 10 points on five for five shooting. He led the team with 15 points while Parker Ernsthause and Jaylon Hall added 10 points each.

After the game, Ernsthause and Love spoke about the effect of such a large crowd and how this was a very important game. Ernsthause looked back at last season as well and said "It means a lot after they got us three times last year. We won there earlier which is a lot but tonight was special with the big crowd. That was the biggest crowd I've seen in four years... they were a big part tonight." Love added that, "It was a high-emotion game like Parker said, huge crowd... but we still have work to do, three more games coming up."

Coach Scott Nagy recognizes that the team didn't rebound well, but they were able to persevere and get the win. "They whipped us on the glass... it's not very often you get beat ten on the glass and win the game. We were good defensively and we didn't turn the ball over." He also added that, "it was great to have a crowd like this for our guys to play so well and so hard."

WSU is back at the Nutter Center on Monday, Feb. 19 to take on Cleveland State. WSU will be celebrating senior night and will have a pre-game ceremony to recognize Grant Benzinger and Trey Stacey.

Movie review: "The Greatest Showman"

Angel Lane

Features Editor

While "The Greatest Showman" was a blockbuster success, the opinions of acclaimed critics seem to not agree with those of families headed to the movie for a good time. Ironically, this matches an important aspect of the movie, in my opinion, which is the strange relationship between Barnum and the critic trying to continuously tear his reputation and business down.

One of the biggest complaints from critics is that the musical movie is not realistic enough of the real Barnum's life. As someone who doesn't know much of the true history behind Barnum's life, I was okay simply watching for an emotional escape. We follow the putting together of his circus weaved together with important life messages, romance and outstanding music.

For me, I saw the names Hugh Jackman, Zendaya and Zac Efron and immediately knew this movie was something I wanted to see. Hugh Jackman is a musical genius, and one of the most charming and talented men I've seen on the big screen. I was surprised to see that Efron was returning to his musical beginnings, as it was widely known that he hated his own High School Musical films, but loved the experience. Zendaya is one of the biggest young actresses of our time, and I was glad to see her getting more recognition in such a big film.

The film tackled a side storyline of an interracial romance between Zendaya's character and Efron's character--a rich, white man and a poor African American acrobat. The romance and onscreen chemistry was very believable to me, even knowing in the back of my mind the age difference between two actors. I found myself feeling their emotions alongside them and even tearing up in the theatre during their heartbreaking but uplifting duet.

The cinematography was beautiful to me. The color schemes and the quality all transported me into the film. The music is what had really drawn me in. Every single musical number, I felt I could dance and sing in my seat or cry with the characters. The songs were very pop in my opinion, rather than straight Broadway theatre, but regardless, I enjoyed every note.

One thing I didn't think was well put together was the affair Barnum had with one of his star acts. It seemed very forced into the storyline of the film, but did bring out more important life messages. Barnum teaches that we should always choose our family, whether they are the blood family or our created family, that takes care of us. He teaches that whether you grow up poor, as a minority or as a "strange" outcast, you can follow your dreams and change your life.

Overall, I give this movie an A for its ability to make me feel emotion in a very real way, and the incredible cast and music numbers.

## University hosts first forum in strategic planning series

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

On Monday, Feb. 12, the university hosted an open forum on strategic planning. A campus-wide email from the Communications department was sent out in anticipation of the event.

The event is part of a series of forums related to the strategic planning process, dubbed “The Wright Path to 2025: Pride, Transformation, Potential.”

Through this series, the university intends to collect thoughts and facilitate discussion from any members of the Wright State community with input to share.

“This first set of open forums is designed to engage anyone interested in helping to define Wright State’s future [...] While celebrating our past and current successes, the forums will focus on our university’s mission and purpose as we look to the future,” said President Cheryl Schrader in the email.

Individuals of varying backgrounds were involved in the dialogue, including students, faculty, staff, and community stakeholders. Participants were split off into separate tables, where they introduced themselves to one another and responded individually to four prompts:

1. Reflect on experiences with pride, transformation, and potential.
2. Explain how Wright State allowed those experiences to occur.
3. Provide recommendations for the university as it moves forward.
4. State points of interest to bring to President Schrader’s attention.

After reflecting on the prompts, attendees participated in group discussions to identify common values shared amongst the people at their table.

“The planning process will put our institution in a position to thrive in higher education's changing environment, help the university achieve financial sustainability, and foster a campus atmosphere that provides graduates with opportunities to excel in fields that define the future,” said Schrader in the email.

Open forums such as this event will lead up to a culminating event scheduled for April, in which the committee will reveal its updated mission statement.

Raider Recap: Baseball swept, MBB moves into first place, Swim team's final meet

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

### **Baseball swept at Tulane**

The WSU baseball team got swept in New Orleans this past weekend by Tulane. In game one, Raider ace Ryan Weiss took the mound and had a solid start with 5.2IP, 3ER, 5K and no walks. The game was competitive throughout, but Tulane held on to the close 4-3 victory. Game two once again was competitive. WSU held the lead in the seventh inning until a wild pitch from WSU pitcher Mitch Gremling tied the game at 5-5. Tulane would get the win in 10 innings, 6-5. The third game saw Tulane unleash their bats to score 11 runs on the Raiders. Zach Weatherford hit his first homerun of the season for Wright State, but Tulane would win easily 11-5, completing the opening weekend sweep.

Baseball will be back in action this weekend for a three game series with UL-Lafayette in Lafayette, Louisiana.

### **Men's basketball gets huge win against NKU, goes atop Horizon League standings.**

The men's basketball team completed the season sweep of Northern Kentucky (NKU) last Friday by winning 69-67. Loudon Love had 15 points and six rebounds on 7-12 shooting. This puts WSU in first place with three games to go in the regular season. They will celebrate senior night tonight, Feb. 19 at the Nutter Center when they take on Cleveland State at 7:30PM.

### **Women's basketball beats NKU, improves to 19-8**

The women's basketball team also picked up a win against NKU on Saturday, winning 73-60. Chelsea Welch scored 21 points to lead the team. They will also be home facing Cleveland State today at 5PM.

### **Women's Tennis continues to struggle, drops 3/4 matches this past weekend**

The women's tennis team dropped three matches last weekend to Notre Dame, Toledo, and Indiana. They did pick up a win against Murray State, but with the three loses their record dropped to 4-8 on the year. They will be home this weekend to take on Illinois State and Niagara University.

### **Swim team to compete in Horizon League Tournament**

The WSU swim team will compete in the Horizon League tournament Wednesday through Saturday of this week in what will be their final meet, as the program is being cut after this season.