Weekly Horoscopes
Star Signer
December 9, 2019

The universe has watched you wander recently, maybe even question pieces of who you are in the last few weeks. Good things are coming dear. But what do the stars have in store for you this week? Read here to find out.

ARIES
Words are kinda difficult right now Aries. The stars know you are struggling with putting your emotions and thoughts into sentences. We suggest only communicating in emojis this week. Better yet use Bitmoji. It’s basically you reenacting the emoji in cute outfits

TAURUS
Searching for new genre of music Taurus? We suggest trying classic rock music. Shake up your routine a little with some Lynyrd Skynyrd and Led Zeppelin. Boost your bass!

GEMINI
The stars suggest quoting the Office for the rest of the week. You are now named Dwight and this is your week to pull your best knowledge of the show into your life.

CANCER
You have been investing into too many subscription boxes lately Cancer. We know the world is big scary place but there is more to life than blogging about your recent unboxing. Try Meijer or Walmart. The items there will surprise you just as much as a box.

LEO
Have you been needing to start a swear jar Leo? Start replacing swear words with strange overly large words no one knows. Like adomania or kairosclerosis. Happy googling!

VIRGO
Stop describing memes in social situations Virgo. We get it, your angry Arthur clenched fist when someone says something offensive. Just act normal instead of a real life timeline.
LIBRA
Compliment and spread happiness today dear Libra and the universe will reward you! For every smile you give someone else it will be reciprocated. Make the world a little happier today.

SCORPIO
Going out on Wednesday is a bad idea this week Scorpio. Mostly because you go out every single night. We do not understand how you can afford it. Take Wednesday off from social activities and spend time with your pet fish. He misses you.

SAGITTARIUS
Drinking energy drinks and coffee at the same time is not only unhealthy but a bad decision Sagittarius. We suggest drinking water and detoxing. You shouldn’t be talking that fast.

CAPRICORN
Reward yourself for your efforts this semester Capricorn! Get yourself some ice cream and a gold sticker! You deserve it for all your hard work.

AQUARIUS
Looking for a good distraction from your personal life this week Aquarius? Take up learning a language! The stars think you should learn Portuguese. Why you might ask, because it’s unique and a good way to start a fun dinner conversation.

PISCES
You will be feeling a little psychic this week Picces. Consider this a gift from the universe so you are aware that you should go to class. You will see visions of doing better on that test if you are present.
Organization Spotlight: National Alliance on Mental-Illness on campus (NAMI)
Shaddia Qasem
December 9, 2019

The National Alliance on Mental-Illness (NAMI) on campus, one of Wright State University’s newest organization chapters, is an organization devoted to mental health awareness and providing support to those with mental health issues.

“NAMI is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness,” according to the NAMI website, nami.org.

Bringing a piece of that organization to campus, WSU’s NAMI chapter is focused on supporting its fellow students in need.

“We want to let people know there are options on campus and within the community to get help if they need it,” said Axel Loke, president of NAMI.

Revitalized and back in action since October, NAMI members would like to see a change in the climate of mental health conversations on campus.

“Occasionally I see suicide awareness campaigns, but they’re usually on bulletin boards. I don’t really hear anyone talking about it, except for psychology classes that tend to push for advocating for mental health awareness,” said Evan McGregor, vice president of NAMI.

NAMI hopes to collaborate and build relationships with other organizations as well as fraternities and sororities to spread awareness of their cause and get the conversation going.

“We’re not counselors, but we can help people find the [help they need]. We can be your unofficial facilitator,” said McGregor.

To help improve the atmosphere and topic of mental health on campus, Loke expresses the need for more educational discussions on the subject.

“[We] need more informational [events]. [Something as simple as having] a speaker talk about these relevant issues. Then students [will be more informed],” said Loke.

With plans to table during this upcoming spring semester, NAMI plans to educate students on where they can find support on campus.
“[Our focus is] to let people know that there are resources, such as Counseling and Wellness. A lot of people don’t even know [they have access to it],” said McGregor.

With around 12 members, McGregor encourages students to join and have a safe place to go when in need.

“We’d like to have our meetings become a safe space so people know that they can come and talk to use in a non-judgement zone and help them find help,” said McGregor.

Loke and McGregor stress the importance of self-advocacy and express that there is no shame in asking for help.

“Mental health is not this big bad scary thing that you were taught. It’s something that affects everyone even if you don’t see it; especially when you don’t see it. Even if you personally are not affected by it, maybe one of your best friends is and you don’t know it,” said Loke.

“Even the toughest people in the world still ask for help,” said McGregor. “You would go to the doctor if you had a sickness or a broken bone. [Your brain] is no different.”

Aside from Counseling and Wellness, students also have access to Raiders Care, a 24-hour mental health and suicide prevention emergency hotline.

If you or someone you know is struggling with any mental health issues, call Raiders Care at (833) 848-1765 (TTY: (314) 485-4345) or visit Counseling and Wellness located in 053 Student Union.
Students coming and going into the Wright State Lake Campus are bound to walk or drive past the YMCA. However, some students may be missing out on an opportunity for a free membership through Wright State.

“It’s something that Wright State University wants to offer just because a lot of college campuses have their own athletic buildings, and this is their way of providing that for their students,” said Hannah Dresher, membership director at the North Branch of the Auglaize Mercer YMCA.

To sign up for a student membership at the YMCA, students must bring their Wright1 Card and class schedule for the semester. After the student fills out basic information including their name, birthday and address, they are able to use the YMCA until the semester ends.

Students must renew their membership each semester and show proof of attending Wright State Lake Campus in order to continue using the student membership.

Students’ memberships provide them with access to all features that the YMCA provides. This includes all of the fitness and yoga classes at the Y offers, along with the two gyms with full-sized tracks above them.

According to the Wright State University Lake Campus Fitness Membership webpage, students are welcome to the numerous amenities such as a basketball court, cardio and weight rooms, indoor tracks, swimming pool, hot tub and sauna.

However, some students do not use the YMCA because they are commuters.

“I drive here from Wapakoneta each day and once I’m done with class, I prefer to head home because of the drive,” said Drew Ewry, senior at the Lake Campus.

Most of the students who use the facility, “live over at the dorms, just because they’re so close to it,” said Dresher.
The North Branch of the Auglaize Mercer YMCA hours:

Monday – Friday 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Visit the YMCA in person or at their website https://amymca.org/ for more information.
After a record-breaking season for Wright State volleyball, Head Coach Allie Matters has been named Horizon League coach of the year.

Where it all started

Matters has only been head coach of WSU’s volleyball team for two years, but she has a long history of volleyball, leading back to her roots in Buffalo, New York.

With so many great examples to look up to, Matters started playing volleyball at the early age of eight years old, and began travel ball at age 11.

“My mom played, my aunt played at West Virginia my uncle played at Penn State. So it’s just kind of been in my family,” said Matters.

After high school, Matters played at Seton Hall University where she was an outside hitter and a libero for her team.

“It’s nice to have experience of playing two different positions in college,” said Matters. “I find it just easier to relate to my student-athletes in those positions now.”

Volleyball was always something that she took seriously. She was always a captain, and a leader from a young age.

Continuing her love of volleyball

Although it seems as if she was destined for a coaching position, Matters didn’t always see it as part of her future.

After graduating college, Matters thought she wanted to go into pharmaceutical sales, but ultimately decided volleyball was not something that she could let go of so easily.

“After I graduated and volleyball was no longer a part of my life, I was like, ‘I don’t know if I can do this,’” said Matters. “I couldn’t imagine myself in pharmaceutical sales, I couldn’t imagine myself at a desk job.”
Matters then ended up with an assistant coaching position at Seton Hall for six years, and it wasn’t until she came to WSU in 2018 that she was able to be head coach.

“"I didn't want to just take a job to take it you know,"" said Matters. “"There was a lot of openings when I was an assistant at Seton Hall, but the Wright State job – there were a lot of reasons why I was attracted to it. So it worked out for me and it was a good fit.”

Although it wasn’t always in her plans, as soon as Matters got a taste of coaching, she knew it was where she was meant to be.

Giving back

For Matters, volleyball was always an outlet and a stress-free environment. She knew the game well, she was good at it and it was a huge source of confidence. Volleyball was always a good experience and she wanted that for all of her student-athletes as well.

“You almost want to give back to the sport that gave you so much,” said Matters.

Matters places a high importance on family in her life, and she brings the family value to her team.

“I have a younger sister and I’m very close with her," said Matters. “"So it's kind of like you want to treat these student athletes like you would want someone to treat your sister, your younger cousins. For me it's like a mentorship.”

Matters doesn't have any children of her own, but in a way, her student athletes are her kids just the same. Overseeing all of their issues and their struggles is just as much a part of her job as coaching them on the court. She sees them through the lowest of their lows and the highest of their highs.

“They don’t like when we call them kids or, you know, girls because they’re not, they're young women,” said Matters. “"But, I think that it’s a very rewarding job and I love my student athletes and I love my team.”

Destined for success

Coming into the head coaching position, Matters knew that she had a talented team. She knew many of the athletes from recruiting and she had high expectations, but her team has absolutely blown her away with all of their success this season.

One of Matters’ favorite things about being a coach is watching the growth of her players.
“What inspires me is just being able to watch them grow, and then to see them graduate and go out into the real world – it’s the best part of the job,” said Matters.

According to Matters, one of the unique qualities of Wright State is the ‘blue-collared-ness’ atmosphere that brings everyone together as a family.

“Everybody’s really down to earth and humble and, I don’t want to say nothing comes easy here, but if you want something you have to work for it,” said Matters. “Our facilities are wonderful. We have really good administrators and staff members and everybody’s here for the same reason.”

Living in the moment

This season has been a season of many firsts for the volleyball team and for WSU. As Horizon league champions, hosts of the NCAA tournament and now the first volleyball team at WSU to have an at-large bid, Matters and her team have made history in more ways than one.

As they head to Purdue, Matters is telling her team to soak it all up and try to enjoy the moment. Win or lose, they made it to the NCAA tournament, and that alone is enough.

“I just want them to enjoy everything,” said Matters. “As a college kid you just plan everything whether it’s next month or the month after that and so I just want them to enjoy the moment for what it is and just compete and leave it all on the court because there’s really nothing else we can do at this point.”

Matters, it seems, is following her own advice as well. Many people ask for what is next, but she is happy right where she is – at Wright State.

“I’m just living in the moment,” said Matters. “I have what I need here at Wright State.”
With finals week upon us, students are striving, thriving or barely surviving, and they all have different ways of preparing.

For many students, the last week of the semester is dreaded due to the high stress of having extremely important exams in most, if not all, classes.

Different WSU students prepare by taking to the books or spending some extra time snoozing.

Catching up on sleep

During a final is the last place a student wants to accidentally fall asleep.

“Get sleep, that’s very important,” said Lina, 22. “I feel like if I don’t sleep then I’m not gonna wake up on time or I’m gonna miss something.”

Although it is common for students to pull all-nighters cramming for an exam, one of the best strategies is to get enough sleep so students can be awake and ready to crush their exams.

Group Study

Make the extra effort to plan a study group or get together with some friends to review. Studying with others is definitely more fun than studying alone.

“Studying in groups helps,” said Hannah, 19. “It’s definitely more motivational with more people than just by myself. We utilize the library a lot too. Especially with the extended hours during finals week.”

While group study can be fun, have an agenda and stay on task. Group study is only effective if students actually study.

Plan ahead
“In my down time just studying,” said Kaitlin, 19. “I try to space it out but it doesn’t happen and I end up cramming anyways.”

Cramming is a reality for many students.

“I’m a crammer. It’s what I do best,” said Logan, 19. “I try to space it out but…”

Many students wait until the week before their finals to start studying. This is what leads to cramming and the dreaded all-nighters. If students plan ahead, they can space out their studying and have less to do the week before.

“Any online classes I have, I try to get them done before finals week,” said Anne, 25. “So, any final I can do beforehand, I do that.”

Advice from other students

Some students have other unique ways of studying for exams that could be helpful to know.

“Don’t just stare at the book,” said Maram, 20. “If you can teach it to someone, then you know it.”

According to Rochelle, a 21-year-old WSU student, the best way to utilize your time before finals is meeting with your professors and going over past exams.

“I’m just like using notecards and using study guides,” said Natalie, 19. “I test myself and kind of review my study guide with family members. I definitely try to space it [studying] out.”

Take a break: relieve some stress

Finals week is stressful, and many students feel as if they do not have the time to take a break.

In reality, taking a break, even if it is brief, can help students be more productive and successful while studying.

Study smarter, not longer.

WSU students are utilizing many of the stress relief events that the university is providing for students.
One of the fan favorites is called “fuzz therapy” and is put on by 4 Paws for Ability. This event allows students to play with puppies while taking a break from studying.

“Interacting with the dogs definitely helps de-stress students,” said President of 4 paws WSU Amaya Willemsen. “Dogs already can help with anxiety, depression, etc. naturally, so even playing with them for a few minutes can definitely help de-stress with finals coming up!”

Those who missed this event can still destress by looking at the pictures from the event.

Other students recommend destressing by working out, meditating or taking part in yoga.

“For me, it’s sleeping a lot, de-stressing and drinking a lot of water,” said Melissa, 18. “I work out too.”
Handwritten note cards that read “Happy Holidays from…,” “Thinking of you,” “Merry Christmas” and other meaningful words were packed with socks and candy in the classroom at Wright State.

On Dec. 5, Sigma Gamma Rho sorority held its first Paw Packages which are holiday care packages for those in need.

The packages made will be delivered to the orphanage in downtown Dayton by Sigma Gamma Rho.

Although this is the first Paw Packages event, the sorority has done similar philanthropic events in the past such as Decorate a Bra, where they decorated bras and delivered them to the hospital for breast cancer patients.

There are other holiday drives during this time of the year, most of them toy drives such as Toys for Tots.

Because of this, Sigma Gamma Rho decided to add warm and fuzzy socks into their care packages to give to the children.

‘Hopefully this can add on to their Christmas cheer’

“Socks are a necessity. Sometimes during the holiday’s people only think about toys but we know it will be a big impact if you have socks or clothes or a toothbrush and other toiletries,” said Event Planner and Philanthropy Chair Faith White.

Sigma Gamma Rho hopes their Paw Packages will bring joy into the lives of the children who receive them and give them something else to cherish during the Christmas season.

“I know it’s very cold in the wintertime and a lot of people do Toys for Tots but sometimes not everyone gets a toy or they might get one each so hopefully this can add on to their Christmas cheer,” said sorority member Sydney Wyatt.

The sorority hopes that their care packages make the children feel seen and loved this holiday season.

“I think it will show them that people are thinking about them and that they are cared about,” said sorority member Tia Roberts.
The Paw Packages name is based on the "Pretty Poodles" nickname of the group.
I feel confident in saying that this is my favorite movie of 2019.

“Knives Out” is a murder-mystery “whodunit” written and directed by Rian Johnson.

My thoughts on films can and do change over time; I’m looking at you, “It Chapter Two.” Sometimes though you just know, and with “Knives Out,” I know that this is cinematic greatness.

This film is difficult to talk about without giving away spoilers. So, I’ll just say in very general terms, this movie rules on every level.

The heavy-hitting ensemble cast includes Daniel Craig, Chris Evans, Ana de Armas, Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Shannon… breath… Don Johnson, Toni Collette, Lakeith Stanfield, Katherine Langford, Jaeden Martell, and Christopher Plummer.

The acting is great; Plummer, in particular, gives a very weighty performance as Harlan Thrombey, the catalyst of the mystery.

Ana de Armas, an actress who has impressed before, absolutely crushes her role in this film. We see so much range in her performance.

Johnson’s script is also a strong point for the film. Masterfully, Johnson is able to weave a narrative that balances stakes with whimsy. He somehow makes a murder-mystery feel lighthearted while still creating clear and present stakes for the characters.

A certain character in particular becomes the focal point of the mystery in a way that could ruin not only their own life, but their family’s lives as well. This tension is handled well while not bogging the movie down into a more serious work.

Another actor is given a fresh role that isn’t anything like he’s most famous for. A brown coat makes an appearance in this film as well, which in turn prompted me to add it to my wish list. It’s truly one of the greatest ‘film ‘fits’ of all time.

All I can say is that it’s a fun time at the cinema and it would not be a waste of time or money to go see this film. Every scene matters in this film, so the two-hour run time is rather smooth and ultimately rewarding.
As a viewer, you can feel the love and dedication that was put into this project.

I don’t do the typical star ratings for movies but for certain films that are just top quality, I’m willing to make an exception. “Knives Out” is a five-star film, with high probability for a Blu-ray purchase in the future.
Wright State Teamsters union vote on fact finders report: What you need to know
Sarah Cavender
December 11, 2019

Wright State University’s Teamsters 957 is in the process of taking a vote to reject or accept the fact finder’s report. If they vote to reject the report, they will move to a strike vote.

Here’s what you need to know about the report and potential outcomes:

The news of the mediation and fact finding process have been relatively quiet; the negotiations have been ongoing since September 2018.

Stalling negotiations:

- Health care
- Furlough days
- Pay raises

“We’re going through the same thing as the teachers [faculty union],” said Tom Bellew, chief steward for the Wright State Teamsters union. “We feel disrespected by what the university is doing and spending their money on.”

Bellow has been with Wright State for seven years and loves his job with the university. However, according to Bellow, leadership choices have become frustrating over the years.

Who are the Teamsters 957 of Wright State:

The Teamsters union makes up 38 types of positions on Wright State’s campus.

These departments include custodial, HVAC, groundskeepers, technicians, electricians and engineers.

There are currently 115 members of the union at WSU.
During the winter months, the groundskeepers plow the parking lots and clear the sidewalks around campus. HVAC and technicians fix lighting or heating and air issues.

Fact finder report:

Parking

Currently, the Teamsters receive a $10 cap on parking passes.

In the contract proposed by the university, it would remove the cap and require the Teamsters to pay the same price as staff and faculty passes.

The Teamster’s response was if there were no wage increases in the contract, they request the university leave the language the same as it was in the last contract.

Seniority, layoff and recall

The fact finder recommended the current contract language.

Hours of work, furlough days

The fact finder recommended the university addition of five days.

Wages

The fact finder recommended a 1.5 percent increase in July of 2019 and 1 percent for July 2020.

Insurance

The fact finder recommended the university proposal on benefits.

What does rejecting or accepting the report mean?

According to Bellew, if the Teamsters vote to reject the report, they will go back to mediation with the WSU lawyer.

By law, the two parties are required to meet for negotiations after rejecting the report.
If there is no headway made on the contract the union will submit a 10-day strike notice to the State Employment Relations Board (SERB).

**What happens if the 10-day strike notice is filed?**

Even though the notice is filed, negotiations between Wright State and the union can still continue.

At any time it can be called off.

After Wednesday’s vote, the parties will go back to the table to negotiate. If a walkout would occur it would not be until after January, according to Bellew.

The university would contract services with outside contractors that the Teamsters currently provide.

Other unions such as Pepsi and UPS would be unable to cross the picket line during the timeframe of a strike, according to Bellew.

“The university is hopeful that the university’s Teamsters bargaining unit will accept the Fact Finder’s report,” said Seth Bauguess, director of communications. “The university is confident that there are administrative and other costs in the Teamsters health care plan that would not result in savings to the university in contrast to the savings the university already benefits from in a unified health care plan for all university employees.”
New visualization technology to benefit students, but what is it?
Natalie Cunningham
December 11, 2019

Students will soon benefit from a visualization cave that is being built in the Joshi Research Center.

But what is a visualization cave?

The visualization cave is a high-end virtual reality display that will be fully walk-in. Its system is set to go online in January 2020, according to Thomas Wischgoll, director of the project.

Visualization research is focused on visual ways to interpret data. For example, a CT scan is a visual representation of medical data. Visualizing data can make the information easier to express and understand, according to Wischgoll.

The cave will be used for educational purposes at Wright State. Programs such as nursing, psychology, computer science, and mechanical engineering can all benefit from virtual reality technology.

Virtual reality in education increases faster learning and retention rate, according to Wischgoll.

Wischgoll wrote the proposal to begin the process of this new visualization cave and he manages the lab, but many different departments on campus are involved in the program.

“It’s pretty much all over campus, which I think is nice,” said Wischgoll. “I think it’s nice for students to be exposed to these things. I don’t think there are too many universities that have that capability, at least to that scale, and are willing to make it accessible to that broad range of student population.”

How can students benefit?

There are three facilities on Wright State’s campus currently; a research laboratory, a teaching laboratory and the Appenzeller Visualization laboratory, according to the Advanced Visual Data Analysis group.

These facilities are located in the Joshi Research Center and Russ Engineering Center.

“It’s generally a fun place,” said Wischgoll. “I mean, since it’s visual it’s very easy to grasp what’s going on because you can really see what we’re doing in there, at least that’s the idea, trying to make things more accessible and easier to use,”
The Advanced Visual Data Analysis group recently bought an immersive multi-display visualization ActiveCube from a Kettering-based company called Virtalis, according to a Wright State Newsroom story.
BREAKING: Wright State Teamsters vote to authorize strike
Sarah Cavender
December 11, 2019

Story updated December 12, 2019:

The Wright State University Teamsters 957 voted to authorize a strike according to chief steward Tom Bellew.

The strike was approved 84-6.

The next step is going back to the negotiating table for the university and union.

The Board of Trustees will have to give a best final offer before a strike notice can be filed.

On Wednesday, 11, the Wright State University Teamsters 957 voted to reject the factfinder’s report.

According to Bellew, out of the 93 voting-eligible members, 90 people voted.

The report was voted to reject at 87-3 combined Lake Campus and main campus.

The next step is going back to the negotiating table for the university and union.
The Wandering Griffin has become another home to raiders and local businesses alike. The pub has been open since 2016 and recently introduced its own in-house brewery.

We finally did the journey and made it to our destination

The Wandering Griffin has 33 taps and currently keeps four-to-six of their own creations on them, as well as various other craft beers from throughout the country.

“It got delayed along the process because it’s a big endeavor and a lot goes into it,” said employee Juliana Crask. “It’s the Wandering Griffin, so we finally did the journey and made it to our destination.”

Crask has been the social media manager for The Wandering Griffin for two years and is also a member of the wait staff.

She graduated from WSU in spring of 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts in creative writing. Crask has previous experience with social media.

“People come in here to have a space to hang out and talk. It’s usually a quieter environment. It’s very open so people can feel free to come in and if they want coffee from the coffee bar or a beer or if they want to eat, there’s something for everybody here,” said Crask.

A space for everyone to enjoy

The Wandering Griffin holds various types of events and opportunities for booking. The pub has live music almost every Friday night.

Eric Thompson has worked for The Wandering Griffin on and off. He can be found performing occasionally on Friday nights.

“I worked there on and off for a little more than a year I’d say. I’m still technically on their employee list. I started as a busser and then became a host,” said Thompson. “I’ve only officially played there a couple times, but I’ve played much more when other bands come in and I get asked to play a couple songs. It’s
actually how I met my manager she was playing there, and I played a couple songs during her break and she came to me and asked if I wanted to play other places.”

Thompson is a senior at WSU pursuing his Bachelor of Fine Arts in musical theater.

Wright State roots

The location can also be booked for mixers, work parties, receptions and other events due to the amount of space inside.

“When I started here, it was a lot of promise of a brand-new brewery opening up outside of Yellow Springs, right across from Wright State. Good food and a huge building. Locally owned drew my eye too,” said Connor Lysholm, front of house supervisor.

Lysholm holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting from WSU and has been on staff since The Wandering Griffin opened its doors.

“This place has a little bit of everything that you’re looking for. Whether it’s good food or a place to relax with friends and live music, and so much beer. The sheer amount of taps and the fact that we have four bars in here, there’s a lot of space to come in here and settle down,” said Lysholm.

Good food and where to go

The Griffinburger and cheese curds are two of the most popular food items. The cheese is from family-owned Blue Jacket Dairy.

The Wandering Griffin is located at 3725 Presidential Drive, Beavercreek, Ohio.
Kayla Mahoney, Wright State student and member of the Army National Guard and LGBTQA community, would describe herself as hilarious, outgoing, athletic, chill, easy to talk to and not great at giving advice.

“I like making people laugh, that’s like one of my favorite things. [I like] just knowing that other people are having a good time because it makes me have a good time,” said Mahoney.

After graduating from Dover High School in 2016, Mahoney spent nine months at Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) for the National Guard.

“I was the only person in our whole company to get promoted and [be] on the honors list,” said Mahoney.

In basic, she served as a platoon guide and a squad leader. She graduated with honors, received an Army Achievement Medal and was promoted. Which normally takes about a year, in less than five months. She was also an honors soldier in AIT.

Mahoney is an 88 Mike (a truck driver) but within her unit is a dispatcher. Her contract includes six years of drill followed by two years of being on call.

“Being recognized as someone who can take charge and is responsible and being put in the position I’m being put in now, is a big thing. It’s a big deal,” said Mahoney. “If I don’t do my job then the whole place doesn’t run.”

Being in the military has caused Mahoney to have to take final exams early and miss days of class, but her teachers are understanding, as being in the military is one of the most accepted reasons for missing class.

Mahoney believes her biggest non-military accomplishment to be a documentary, called Queer the Campus, that she made for a group project in a feminism activism class. It currently has over 600 views on YouTube, which she is proud of.

“[Making the documentary] was really cool because we got to interview people who were non-binary, trans, gender fluid and a bunch of professors who had a lot to say about the all-gender restrooms on campus,” said Mahoney. “That [the documentary] was probably the best thing I’ve ever done.”

Mahoney is a big advocate for gender equality.
A Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS) major, Mahoney aims to someday work for a non-profit such as Planned Parenthood or one that works with domestic violence. She also would love to be able to organize a march; if she could, she would currently choose to march for climate change or reproductive justice.

“[Choosing this major] made me feel like I was actually making a change,” said Mahoney. “I have had very encouraging and inspiring professors. They have put me into contact with people who can help me reach my goals and set me up for future endeavors.”

Mahoney feels that Wright State has room for improvement when it comes to gender equality.

“I still feel like there’s a big disadvantage for people who are non-binary or trans or don’t identify as cisgender,” said Mahoney.

She has not personally experienced inequality but feels that her biggest disadvantage on campus is not being taken seriously. “When I tell people that I am a WGS major, nobody knows what it is so they assume that it is easy or unimportant,” said Mahoney.

She would love to see more acceptance of the all-gender restrooms on campus and a “realization of their usefulness and how many people they help.”

Mahoney is the Vice President of the campus organization Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance (FMLA). The group is for students who want to make differences on campus with gender inequalities and climate.

“It is really good for clubs like this to exist for students who aren’t sure about how to use their voice. I am really excited to see how the work we will do on campus will shape me as an activist,” said Mahoney. “I’ve been more involved this year than ever and that’s given me a sense of completion.”

As a commuter, Mahoney struggles with finding parking and knowing about upcoming events on campus. She also struggles with finding healthy food on campus.

Changes Mahoney would like to see on campus include healthier food and Segways or hoverboards.

“Healthy food options on campus are a big deal to me because I struggled with my self-image for years. It wasn’t until my sophomore year of college that I started treating myself right and lost 30 pounds,” said Mahoney.

If implementing healthier options is difficult, Mahoney instead suggests creating food guides for students. They would list healthy options at multiple places on campus and ways to mix up a diet so as to not eat the same meals over and over again.
As for the Segways, they would be practical in getting across campus more quickly and double as a fun way to blow off steam.

Mahoney is a member of Club Tennis, participates in intramural sports and attends campus sporting events.

One of her favorite Wright State memories so far is when she traveled to Detroit with her peers in spring 2019 to watch both basketball teams play in the Horizon League Championships. It was her first out-of-state game.

“I really liked that in between the men’s and women’s games that they took us somewhere to hang out and play games. I had never been to Detroit so it was cool getting to see some of the city too,” said Mahoney. She would love to go to the championship games again this year if the opportunity is available.

The Queer the Campus documentary can be viewed here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tf9ZPTCz92Q

Info on FMLA can be found on their Engage page:
https://wright.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/feminist-majority-leadership-alliance
Sinclair Community College recently made the decision to stop selling textbooks in its bookstore. Soon it will sell them in an online-only format.

According to the Sinclair College eCampus webpage, new and used textbooks can still be purchased in-store through the spring semester.

There are various different methods of purchasing textbooks, whether it be for ease of access or lowered prices. Websites such as Amazon and Chegg have invited the concept of purchasing books online.

Their brick and mortar location will still be open alternatively as a ‘campus store’ where they will sell various supplies and Sinclair College-themed merchandise, according to the Sinclair College eCampus webpage.

Clark State Community College implemented this practice in 2014, according to Clark State’s webpage.

How do students feel about an online store?

Lexi Blair is a senior at WSU studying adolescence to young adult education with a concentration in language arts. She only used WSU’s bookstore during her freshman year of college.

“I buy my textbooks off of Chegg or I rent from Amazon. I prefer online because the prices are much more reasonable,” said Blair. “I think our bookstore can be very expensive. I wouldn’t be against an online-only bookstore. It may lower the costs.

Tionna Clyburn holds an associates degree from Sinclair in music with a focus on piano performance and music theory education.

Fall 2019 was her first semester at WSU, where she transferred as a junior and is now pursuing a media studies major.

“Having a physical bookstore gives students a chance to look a potential textbook in person, and judge maybe if they want an e-book instead of a physical copy, or if it’s an optional book, they can see if they really need/want it or not,” said Clyburn.
Students may rely on purchasing miscellaneous school supplies from the bookstore, such as nursing and culinary students who need department uniforms, therefore complicating the process, according to Clyburn.

“By removing the bookstore from the campus, we are actually doing a disservice to the students. This was also a place to just get general school supplies for a lot of people,” said Clyburn. “Many students I’ve spoken with there in the last month have told me they are not sure how they will go through the semester without the bookstore there for any last-minute, sporadic things that come up. There’s so much to be said, but in short, it may not be the best decision made.”

Clyburn buys majority of her books for her WSU courses from the physical bookstore but would frequent Amazon as well as the bookstore at Sinclair due to specialized requirements.

What does the WSU Bookstore future hold

“All institutions are unique, and there are many factors to consider when choosing a bookstore format that works for a particular campus. Nearly 30 years ago, Wright State University selected Barnes & Noble College to manage the operations of its campus bookstore,” said Jennifer Gebhart, general manager of WSU’s Barnes and Noble.

Students have the choice of purchasing their books online or in the physical bookstore location for ease of convenience.

“We have been proud to operate both a physical location on campus as well as an e-commerce site where students can purchase their course materials as well as apparel, gifts and more. This is a format that has worked well for the Wright State campus community. We continue to communicate frequently with the school administration to ensure we are best serving the needs of students and faculty, and any changes to our store operations would be at the discretion of the administration,” said Gebhart.
Holiday shows in the area
Alexis Wisler
December 13, 2019

A great way to celebrate the holiday season is by seeing classic holiday ballets and plays.

Here is a list of showtimes and locations for “The Nutcracker” and “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” as well as a few holiday concerts to keep the holiday spirit alive:

“The Nutcracker”

A holiday classic, “The Nutcracker” will be playing in the Mead Theater at the Schuster Performing Arts Center throughout the month leading up to Christmas. The Dayton Ballet company is presenting the traditional show. Tickets start at $40.

Showtimes:

Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 at 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 21 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 22 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 23 at 2:30 p.m.

“The Nutcracker” will also be performed by South Dayton Dance Theatre at the Dayton Convention Center.

Tickets are $25 for adults and $15 for children.

This will be the 26th annual performance of the Nutcracker for South Dayton Dance Theatre.
Showtimes:

Dec. 14 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Dec. 15 at 2 p.m.

“A Charlie Brown Christmas”

This family-friendly play will be shown in the Blair Hall Theater at Sinclair. All tickets are $8. Three performances will have an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter present.

Showtimes:

Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.
Dec. 17 at 10 a.m. (ASL) and 12 p.m.
Dec. 18 at 12 p.m. (ASL) and 7 p.m. (ASL)
Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Christmas concerts

Several holiday concerts are taking place in the Dayton area throughout the month.

Skinner pipe organ performances at the Dayton Art Institute

Christmas music will be played on the newly-restored Skinner pipe organ. Guests do not have to stay for the full performance but are encouraged to come and go as they please throughout the hour.

Admission is free.

The Christmas concert will be held from 1-2 p.m. every Thursday of December as well as Dec. 14 and 21.
Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra “Home for the Holidays”

On Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra will be performing classic holiday songs at the Dayton Masonic Center.

Admission is free and open to the public. There will be a performance by the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra Youth Strings before the main performance.
You snow the drill, it’s time for winter drink reviews!
Laci Wells
December 13, 2019

With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I made a few quick stops to grab some holiday drinks that will continue to ‘sleigh’ all season long.

ReyRey Cafe: Gingerbread Steamer

Gingerbread has never really been my go-to holiday flavor however, I was pleasantly surprised by this warm and cozy beverage.

It could easily be described as “home in a cup.”

Its creamy, sweet taste brings the thought of baking Christmas cookies to mind, which was a slight relief when ‘visions of finals dance in our heads.’

Its strong gingerbread taste is simply one ‘yule’ be sorry for missing if you don’t take a study break to try one. I highly recommend stopping at ReyRey.

Starbucks: Caramel Brulee Latte

This drink is ‘snow’ laughing matter.

It’s far from what’s expected. I had intentions of tasting a sweet caramel latte, however, I was shocked when mine was on the bitter side.

If you’re looking for something a little less sweet than your typical peppermint mocha, this may be for you; I just wouldn’t say it’s ‘best in snow’ by any means.

Winans Fine Chocolates and Coffee: Grinch Tea Latte

I am so excited to share this newfound favorite. A mix of peppermint, matcha tea and milk topped with a peppermint foam was ‘love at frost sight.’

It is creamy yet light and lived up to every expectation I had.
Winan’s is one of my favorite near-campus stops and left me without a ‘resting Grinch face.’

**Tim Hortons: White Hot Chocolate**

I stop at Tim Hortons more than I should and I thought it was time to ‘spruce’ things up. It’s a complete twist on a classic hot chocolate and I really enjoyed it.

Not special enough to replace a classic hot chocolate, but definitely something I’ll be having again before the season is over.

Take a break and celebrate during the “most wonderful time of the year” and to get your winter drink fix so you don’t end up with your ‘tinsel in a tangle.’

Happy holidays, Raiders!
“Student Government Leadership approached our parking folks with the idea of providing this benefit [employee parking permits] to student leaders in recognition of their work and dedication outside of the classroom,” said Greg Sample, chief operating officer and C.E.O. of Double Bowler Properties Corp. “They [Student Government] refined the eligibility and parameters and we [parking services] agreed to support the request.”

Student Government Association (SGA) recently offered B Permits, employee parking passes, to the executive board members of the Coordinating 9 campus organizations.

Those with B Permits are able to park in the yellow-lined parking spaces.

B Permits do not allow parking in residential lots or spaces reserved for visitors, people with disabilities or university vehicles, according to Wright State’s Parking and Transportation Services website.

It was agreed that students are eligible if they have no parking tickets and had bought a full-year parking pass, according to Ivan Mallett and Adrian Williams, president and vice president of SGA, respectively.

Any commuter pass is acceptable except passes only for Lot 4a, according to Kathy Warden, manager of customer care center and small projects for facilities.

Normally, residential students are only allowed to park in commuter lots between 4 p.m. and 6 a.m.

However, eligible student leaders who are campus residents will be allowed to park all day with the B Permit, according to Warden.

“The only student leaders eligible for passes are ones that have purchased the regular student pass, have no tickets and are in good standing with parking, and are full-time students,” said Williams.

Who are the Coordinating 9:

The Coordinating 9 include: Black Student Union (BSU), Fraternity and Sorority Council (FSC), Rainbow Alliance, Residential Community Association, Student Government Association (SGA), The Wright State Guardian Media Group, University Activities Board (UAB), WWSU 106.9, and the Latinx, Asian, and Native American Council (LANA).
How are the passes distributed?

The number of executive board members varies from one organization to another.

For example, LANA was offered two B Permits whereas WWSU was offered seven. Also, some student leaders are involved in more than one of the Coordinating 9 organizations.

The 45 B Permits are being offered “as a thank you for the hard work that we put in and the constituencies that we represent,” and for the students who are on campus the most, according to Mallett.

“He [Mallett] expressed to me that a number of student leaders had expressed frustration to him about their lack of access to campus parking when they need to be on time to meetings with university officials and faculty to do their jobs, especially with the high number of empty faculty spots on campus,” said Williams.

Of the 45 student leaders offered B Permits, 18 were contacted for comment and three responded.

“I absolutely enjoy the faculty pass. It saves me time in my commute to class and it is very convenient! It definitely was unexpected receiving one, but I am very happy I got one. I will for sure use it as long as I have it,” said Noah Skowron, president of the Residential Community Association.

Samantha Ervin, general manager of WWSU, feels differently.

“To be completely honest I didn’t understand why we were getting faculty parking passes,” said Ervin. “I just feel the parking pass is just really not necessary and unfair to all students, as well as other students who have on-campus jobs and are not getting the same treatment.”

Ervin has not picked up her B Permit and does not plan to.

“We [Rainbow Alliance] don’t really understand the whole process of the parking pass situation yet so we’re hesitant on saying much about it,” said Dakota Sturgill, president of Rainbow Alliance, who did not receive a pass.

‘I am proud to work on an initiative that benefits our entire campus community.’
According to the Parking and Transportation Services website, “graduate assistants, teaching assistants and student employees are not eligible for B permits but can purchase a commuter or residential student parking pass.”

Commuter permits (except those for Lot 4a only) are $95 per semester, $160 for two semesters, or $200 for fall, spring, and summer. B Permits are $100 per semester or $225 annually, according to the Parking and Transportation Services website.

“The university is not losing any money due to the passes, and there will actually be more student spots available for students to park in due to the passes decreasing the number of students parking in student spots,” said Williams. “I am proud to work on an initiative that benefits our entire campus community.”

Those eligible who currently have a commuter pass will turn their passes into Parking and Transportation Services, who will enact a price adjustment and give them a B Permit in exchange at no additional cost.

Those eligible who do not currently have a commuter pass will go to Parking and Transportation Services and pay $95 but be given a B Permit after the price adjustment.

Williams was unreachable for comment as to during which SGA meeting the parking permits initiative was voted on.