

Wright State University

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The Guardian, Week of November 23, 2020

Wright State Student Body

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Weekly Horoscopes
Star Signer
November 23, 2020

A typical Saturday night looks different for different people. What does your next Saturday night look like based on your zodiac sign?

ARIES

Aries, this Saturday, get a few friends together and go dancing. It is the perfect excuse to let loose and blow off some steam. You deserve it!

TAURUS

Taurus, this Saturday, grab a group of your favorite people and head to the bowling alley. It is a great low key hangout and works for last minute plans.

GEMINI

Gemini, this Saturday is the perfect time to go out to dinner at that one restaurant you've been craving for weeks. Grab a friend or significant other and treat yourself.

CANCER

Cancer, this Saturday is definitely date night for you! Grab your significant other and spend some much needed time together. If you don't have a significant other, have date night with yourself with some much needed self care time!

LEO

Leo, this Saturday is meant to be spent with friends. It doesn't matter what you do, but you are in dire need of the comfort that comes from being around those who support you. Take the time now to make plans.

VIRGO

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Virgo, this Saturday is music Saturday for you. Go to a low key concert or set aside some time to listen to your favorite album or playlist. Need inspiration? Check out some of the music reviews at wsuguardian.com.

LIBRA

Libra, this Saturday is perhaps the same as every other Saturday for you: deep inside a good book. Switch it up and pull out a different book this week for a change in scenery.

SCORPIO

Scorpio, this Saturday, find a way to watch a movie. You can go to a theatre, put in a CD that you've had for a while, or even find one playing at a drive-in.

SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius, this Saturday, like many other Saturdays calls for a party. This week, you will host it.

CAPRICORN

Capricorn, this Saturday will give you time to spend with your family. It's been a while since you've done something with them so gather up everyone you can and have a game night.

AQUARIUS

Aquarius, this Saturday you will find yourself with nothing to do. Use this extra time to look up a fun new recipe to try. Run to the store to pick up everything you need and get baking!

PISCES

Pisces, this Saturday you will spend most of the night catching up on all the cleaning you have put off the last month and a half. This is only your doing; just remember you will feel much better when you are done.

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CARES Act in the Works to Aid Ohioans

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

November 23, 2020

On Oct. 23, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced a \$419.5 million CARES Act package in the works to aid Ohioans impacted financially by the continued spread of the coronavirus.

CARES Act recipients

“We know that Ohioans are hurting, and the needs are great. We must do what we can to help them through this crisis,” said Gov. DeWine in a press release on Oct 23. “Providing financial support to small businesses, the arts, and nonprofits will help them keep the doors open and Ohioans employed. For Ohioans in need, this assistance will help them stay in their homes, which can make all the difference.”

The CARES Act package will be divided among small businesses, restaurants, bars, hospitals, higher education, art programs, nonprofits and low-income families in Ohio. Applications for the CARES Act opened on Nov. 2.

Local impact

The City of Dayton Commission has been awarded \$17.3 million from the CARES Act package to delegate however they choose. As of now, over \$250,000 has been approved to be distributed as grants to a variety of restaurants and event centers in the Dayton area.

“All of the grants support safe operations during COVID-19 by funding improvements that create social distancing, provide sanitation or alter the operations of the business to accommodate new ways of doing business required due to the health crisis,” said City of Dayton Planner Susan Vincent.

CARES Act at Wright State University

In May, Wright State University (WSU) received \$5,070,423 from the U.S Department of Education to provide direct relief to students who experienced disruption due to the coronavirus during the spring semester.

“The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) provides funding to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students whose lives have been

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disrupted, many of whom are facing financial challenges and struggling to make ends meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said WSU at the time of the CARES Act announcement.

As of now, there has not yet been an indication as to whether or not WSU will be receiving funding from the CARES Act package, nor what the university may do with these funds if received.

WSU was contacted in regard to this story, but was unavailable to comment at this time.

Who Will Be The Next Host of “Jeopardy!”?

Noah Kindig

November 24, 2020

Alex Trebek, the host of “Jeopardy!” has died after hosting 36 years of the show at age 80.

A Guinness World Record holder, Olympic torch runner, a 7-time Daytime Emmy award winner husband and father, Trebek passed away due to his pancreatic cancer, a battle that he openly fought.

Before “Jeopardy!”

George Alexander Trebek was born on July 22, 1940 in Sandbury, Canada. He grew up in a French-English household. His father had emigrated from Ukraine, and his mother was a Franco-Ontarian.

He attended Sandbury High School and graduated from the University of Ottawa in 1961 with a degree in philosophy. While he attended university, he was interested in a career in broadcast news.

After his graduation from college, he began working for the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC). He would eventually read their national radio news, and cover other special events for CBC.

Trebek first moved to the United States in 1971 in order to host The Wizard of Odds, a new game show for NBC. Trebek hosted other game shows like “Pitfall”, “High Rollers”, and “Double Dare” until he got the job to host “Jeopardy!” In 1984.

36 years of shows

With over 8,000 episodes, “Jeopardy!” has become a staple of our culture. For context, that’s over 166 days straight of shows. In 2014, he was awarded a Guinness world record for the person who has hosted the most game show episodes. Trebek commented on that award, “I’m just enjoying what I’m doing.”

During his time hosting “Jeopardy!”, Trebek also cameoed in many other popular shows, such as “The Simpsons”, “Conan”, “How I Met Your Mother”, and “Saturday Night Live”.

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In 2019, Trebek announced his diagnosis of pancreatic cancer on social media, and said “I’m going to fight this... I plan to beat the low survival rate for this disease.”

Trebek spent his final days just how he wanted to, with his wife next to him, and with his children. In his memoir, he wrote, as reported by USA Today, “Here I am wanting to enjoy what might be the last of my days, and, what, I’m supposed to just stay at home and sit in a chair and stare into space? Actually, that doesn’t sound too bad.”

Trebek’s Passing

Many famous figures mourned the loss of the host. Former president Bill Clinton commented, “Hillary and I loved watching Alex Trebek on Jeopardy through the years. He made knowledge fun and valuable. We will miss him very much.”

After Trebek’s passing, the show’s executive producer Mike Richards said in a recording, “This is an enormous loss for our staff, crew, his family, and millions of fans.

There is no announcement yet as to who will be the next host of “Jeopardy!”, but there has already been much speculation.

No one can truly replace Alex Trebek, but someone has to fill his spot. If it is a former winner, Ken Jennings looks like someone who could hold the position, with a record 74 straight wins on the show, and the winner of “Jeopardy!’s” “Greatest of All Time Tournament.”

Other popular names thrown out are ABC News host George Stephanopoulos, Star Trek’s LeVar Burton, and Former News anchor Katie Couric.

One thing is for sure, though. “Jeopardy!” will continue, but it will forever be without the man who we’ve all come to love.

How to Social Distance During Holidays With Family

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

November 24, 2020

As the holiday season approaches, it is important to maintain social distancing to prevent the spread of coronavirus; however, social distancing does not mean families cannot spend the holidays together.

In-person gatherings

When planning for the holidays, it is important to keep in mind state guidelines for group gatherings. As of Nov. 15, the Ohio Department of Health encourages the following guidelines for holiday celebrations:

- Limit gatherings to 10 people or less
- Wear a mask if possible
- Maintain six feet apart from one another when possible
- Wash your hands frequently
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces regularly
- Do not gather if you are sick or if you have been exposed to coronavirus within 14 days

Individuals could also participate in drive-by celebrations for the holidays as well, an ample substitute for birthday parties and graduation ceremonies earlier this year. Outdoor gatherings are also highly encouraged if possible.

Virtual visits

Virtual visits for the holiday season are an ideal way to celebrate the holidays within larger families, if a family member is high risk or if a family member is feeling ill. A wide assortment of video chat services are available to keep families connected through the holidays.

Zoom is a widely used video call app that allows up to 100 people to chat for up to 40 minutes completely free. Zoom also offers three annual paid plans that remove time restrictions and expand the number of attendees allowed by the hundreds.

In addition to Zoom, programs such as Skype, Discord and Facetime continue to provide individual and group call services downloadable for free in the Google Play store and iTunes for smartphone users.

Virtual gaming

Choosing to celebrate the holidays virtually does not mean families cannot enjoy quality time together playing games.

Jackbox Games continues to release new party packs, currently providing seven different party packs with games fun for the whole family no matter where they are.

Other popular games this holiday season that families can enjoy from a distance include Among Us, Minecraft, Uno and Cards Against Humanity.

Best TV Shows to Binge-Watch Over Break

Maxwell Patton

November 24, 2020

Thanksgiving break this year will be a time for college students to relax and enjoy time away from their schoolwork.

While students fill up on mashed potatoes and take a breather from their classes, they have the opportunity to watch popular television shows on their favorite streaming services.

Here are eight binge-worthy television series worth a watch this Thanksgiving.

“Supernatural” (2005-2020)

The series completed its 15-year run on Nov. 19, concluding the adventures of brothers Sam and Dean Winchester and angel Castiel as they fight demons and other supernatural creatures. The longest-running American live-action fantasy series to date, Supernatural features a blend of action, adventure, and mystery that, coupled with its rich mythology, has helped the show last. This show can be found on Netflix.

“Community” (2009-2015)

Dan Harmon, who went on to create the hit show Rick and Morty, launched “Community” in 2009 and it soon gained a cult following. This show follows a study group of seven misfits as they navigate the absurd hijinks at the fictional Greendale Community College.

The ingenious and highly quotable writing from Harmon and his staff as well as excellent performances from the cast makes this a great watch. The series takes concept episodes to a new level, showcasing paintball fights paying homage to Star Wars and spaghetti westerns, a stop-motion Christmas special and a confrontation between pillow and blanket forts in the style of a Civil War documentary. Each episode is around 20 minutes in length, making them easily bingeable.

The show is available to watch on Hulu and Netflix.

“Stranger Things” (2016-present)

Each season of the Duffer Brothers’ nostalgia-filled romp through 1980s Hawkins, Ind. feels like a film, which makes binge-watching the show more satisfying. The stellar performances from the

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cast and a compelling story help anchor “Stranger Things,” and the combination of new material and homages to the past gives it a familiarity that doesn’t overstay its welcome. The soundtrack is incredible as well and the show can be found on Netflix.

“Cobra Kai” (2018-present)

A sequel to the Karate Kid films, Ralph Macchio and William Zabka return to their iconic roles as Daniel LaRusso and Johnny Lawrence and clash once again. This time, Lawrence has reopened the Cobra Kai dojo, to LaRusso’s ire, and what follows is a series of brilliant fights, family drama and callbacks to the original films. “Cobra Kai” began on YouTube Red before being acquired by Netflix last June.

“The Queen’s Gambit” (2020)

A new Netflix limited series, “The Queen’s Gambit”, follows female chess prodigy Beth (played by Anya Taylor-Joy) as she navigates the world of competitive chess playing in a quest to become the best chess player in the world. The story was adapted from the 1983 novel by Walter Tevis and features an electrifying lead performance from Taylor-Joy.

“The Midnight Gospel” (2020-present)

Utilizing interviews from the popular podcast The Duncan Trussell Family Hour and trippy animation from Adventure Time creator Pendleton Ward, “The Midnight Gospel” follows Clancy Gilroy, a “spacecaster” (podcaster in space) who travels the cosmos in search of interview subjects for his spacecast.

The conversations featured touch on philosophical subjects such as magic, self-awareness and death with a variety of guests, including Drew Pinsky, Damien Echols and Trussell’s late mother Deneen Fendig. The conversations and visuals mash together in a beautiful audio-visual experience that spans eight half-hour episodes on Netflix.

“The Mandalorian” (2019-present)

John Favreau takes viewers on a trip to a galaxy far, far away in this live-action Star Wars series, which is set before the sequel trilogy and follows a bounty hunter known as the Mandalorian (Pedro Pascal). Accompanying Mando through the galaxy is the internet’s favorite creature, Baby Yoda, and a slew of guest stars.

Each episode is half an hour long, and these half-hours are spent deepening the lore of the universe while giving its audience plenty of adventure and action to digest. With the second

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season continuing to premiere on Disney Plus each week, binge-watching “The Mandalorian” is the way to go.

“Mythic Quest: Raven’s Banquet” (2020-present)

Apple TV and creator/star Rob McElhenney put a hilarious new spin on the workplace comedy with “Mythic Quest: Raven’s Banquet”. The show takes a look inside a video game studio and its dysfunctional staff and features Charlotte Nicdao, David Hornsby (It’s Always Sunny) and Danny Pudi (Community) in supporting roles.

With ten episodes averaging half an hour in length, this series can be finished in a single afternoon, and its combination of satire and heart helps the show connect to its audience.

Five Easy Things to Improve Your Mental Health Right Now

Alexis Wisler

November 25, 2020

Right now students are dealing with normal stress preparing for finals as well as stress from the coronavirus as cases rise once again. Here are five easy and small things to take care of your mental health that can be done right from home.

Open a window

Just because we are spending more time in the house now doesn't mean we can't still enjoy the gentle breeze of autumn. Next time you're working on homework or studying, try opening a window and sitting by it. The sun and the fresh air are sure to lift your spirits and bring a new perspective to your day.

Call a loved one

Now more than ever it is important to stay in touch with loved ones, even if it has to be remote. Giving a loved one a quick phone call to check in with them and chat for a couple of minutes can make everything seem better. It's easy to feel alone right now, but a great conversation with people who care about you is never more than a phone call away.

Journaling

With online school, days are starting to blend together and feel the same. Journaling can be a great way to not only keep track of your days but to get out any emotions you might be feeling. Journaling can be deep and emotional or a simple check-in with yourself. Either way, taking the time to have a conversation with yourself is a sure way to feel better.

To-do lists

There is so much going on in the world today that it can be easy to feel overwhelmed and get off track. Making a daily to-do list can be a great way to keep yourself organized and bring some peace of mind. Try not to make your lists too long or you might feel even more overwhelmed. Just note down the important things for the day and feel the weight lift off your shoulders as you check them off one by one.

Watch a familiar movie/tv show

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Right now is a great time to rewatch a favorite tv show or movie, or even reread a favorite book, and feel the comfort that it brings you. Everyone has at least one comfort movie/tv show/ book. Find yours, grab a healthy (or not-so-healthy) snack, and let your mind forget about the real world for an hour or two. This can be the perfect brain break when you're feeling especially overwhelmed.

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SGA: Grade Changes, a New Proposal and Bi-Weekly Updates

Alexis Wisler

November 25, 2020

During the SGA meeting on Nov. 24, a proposal was introduced for changing fall 2020 grades, resolution 21-01 was proposed, and several initiatives were discussed.

Change of grade proposal

During the meeting, Faculty Senate President Laura Luehrmann talked about the discussions regarding changing grades for the fall 2020 semester.

“We are concerned about trying to make sure we can mitigate and lessen any of the negative effects of the upheaval and challenges of 2020. Our proposal is to focus on any grade that is a failing grade, so if a student earns an F or an X those would automatically be converted by the registrar to a U grade— an unsatisfactory grade,” said Luehrmann.

If this proposal is approved, any failing grades will automatically be changed to an unsatisfactory grade. The purpose of this, according to Luehrmann, is to protect grade point averages as an unsatisfactory grade does not factor in to GPA's. Luehrmann also said that if this proposal is to pass, that it would be applied to the summer 2020 grades as well.

Resolution 21-01

During the meeting, Resolution 21-01, which requests that the Village vehicle and pedestrian gates along Zink rd. be opened, was proposed. Resolution 21-01 calls for only the gates in front of the Village apartments to be opened.

Further updates on this resolution will be available in the upcoming weeks.

Bi-weekly student body updates

SGA is working on a bi-weekly student body update that will be a two-page document emailed to students.

“We want to utilize this because, since we aren't on campus, it would be another way to connect with students,” said SGA Chief Policy Officer Eli Smith.

SGA's goal is to begin these updates within a few weeks.

Mask drive update

Commuter Senator Sabrina D'Alesandro gave an update on the mask drive saying that 210 masks have already been collected.

"If we stay on this trajectory, I'm hoping that by Feb. 5 we can donate over 1,000 masks," said D'Alesandro.

CoLA town hall

College of Liberal Arts (CoLA) Senator Victoria Solomon announced that CoLA will be hosting a town hall event on Dec. 4 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

"CoLA is having a town hall meeting for students to come and talk to the CoLA Dean's student advisory board (DSAB) about what went well and not so good this past semester and what we can improve on next semester," said Solomon.

Anyone is welcome to attend the remote SGA meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. over WebEx.

Tips to Navigating Political Discussions With Family

Jamie Naylor

November 25, 2020

Between a global pandemic, a critical election year and human rights issues at an all-time high, 2020 has been a year of divided politics.

Many of these hot button issues are likely to show up around holiday dinner tables this year. Whether you love or hate politics, here are just a few tips on how to survive the most awkward family political discussions.

Listen and talk through the issues

When actively discussing sensitive issues with family, keep in mind that even though you are family, it is okay to have different thoughts, feelings and experiences than them. You want to keep the other person in mind and be respectful of their views, but stay firm in yours.

When a family member holds opposite beliefs to yours, try considering listening to their views, you may find that your beliefs are not all that far off. Ask questions that challenge said person's beliefs, and see how they react.

Communication is key for this option. Check-in with each other throughout the conversation to see how each member is feeling and reacting.

Change the topic

Not wanting to talk politics at all over the holiday dinner table is perfectly normal, and no one will blame you for wanting to change the topic in 2020.

If you are struggling to steer clear of the topic, look for easy outs. Mother-in-law got a new house plant, compliment her on it! Uncle made a great pumpkin pie, emphasize how much you love it! Just be careful when talking about the weather as this could lead to an uncomfortable climate change conversation.

Simply walk away

Whether you are hopping on a plane or a computer to celebrate this season with your family, there is a good reason why you take this effort each year. It may be out of tradition or love, but whatever the reason, keep your purpose in mind when the talk gets difficult.

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If you can no longer handle the conversation or the tension begins to rise, consider simply leaving the situation or logging off the computer. You and your loved ones will appreciate it more if you take control rather than losing control.

Books With a Blue Cover: What Does it Mean?

Ariel Parker

November 26, 2020

When you look at bookshelves, do you ever notice the colors of your books? Aside from obvious colors like black or white, blue is probably one of the most common colors publishers use on book covers.

It has something to do with our psychological responses to the color blue, but book covers are designed to reflect the inside of the book and what it represents. While blue tends to represent tranquility, many of these books are sad and emotionally evocative.

“Stargirl” by Jerry Spinelli

This book was a childhood favorite of mine, following a new girl named Stargirl showing up at a school that looks down on difference. Leo, our point of view character, begins to fall for her even as she is mocked and bullied for her differences. The cover of this book is simple but memorable, the blue cover giving any potential reader the feeling of nostalgia.

“Where Things Come Back” by John Corey Whaley

“Where Things Come Back” is another old favorite, a book I read in high school, and takes after ‘Stargirl’s’ simple cover. A mysterious extinct bird shows up, throwing a small Alabama town into chaos, while across the world in Africa, we follow a young missionary.

As the book goes on, we see how these two stories become entwined emotionally. The cover itself shows readers that the bird is important and gives off the feeling of adventure, and the deep blue reveals just how emotional and dark that journey can be.

“Watch Over Me” by Nina LaCour

This book is a recent release by one of my favorite authors, one who is well-known for writing truly emotional and evocative books that stick with you long after you finish them.

When Mila takes a job at a remote farm at the Northern California Coast, she begins to see ghosts at the residence and struggles with her own internal demons. LaCour’s last two books have also had the color blue, which shows how much the books’ designers and marketers understand the power of a beautiful blue cover.

“Salvage the Bones” by Jesmyn Ward

“Salvage the Bones” is a highly anticipated read by an author I have had my eye on for a long time. This particular book takes place during Hurricane Katrina and follows a family in poverty as they try to survive during one of the most catastrophic events to happen in our country. The cover gives readers a sense of unease, and the contrast between dark yellow and blue is striking, letting us in on the angst that can be found on these pages.

“A Tale for the Time Being” by Ruth Ozek

“A Tale for the Time Being” is an all-time favorite book that I read at the perfect time in my life. While the entire cover is not technically blue, the blues on the collage-cover make it pop.

This follows a woman who finds a Hello Kitty lunch box washed up on her beach and a diary of a Japanese girl inside. Told in alternating timelines, we go on a journey to figure out what happened to that girl and if the past can be changed by the present.

The blue contrasts the other colors and gives it a whimsical, melancholy feeling that perfectly matches the tone of the story inside.

Now go ahead and look at the books on your shelves and take note of how many covers have blue on them and what feelings that might give you. The book cover designers knew what they were doing when they created them. This can also be a perfect excuse to organize your shelves by color — or just see what one shelf would look like blue — giving your shelves an extra pop!

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The Five Best Sports Movies of All Time

William Baptist

November 26, 2020

There are numerous different directions to go for the best sports movie of all time, and this is a widely debated topic that will not be coming to an end any time soon.

These movies will be in no particular order, because it is challenging enough to decide what the best sports movies are.

“Rocky”

The “Rocky” series has multiple films that could be in this category due to the amazing performance by Sylvester Stallone as a boxer from Philadelphia. I decided to go with the original because that is when we are introduced to this amazing story.

Rocky Balboa is a character that everyone loves because of his passion and hard work. He is someone that people can relate to because he seems like just a regular guy before he became the heavyweight champion of the world. We see the growth and the whole scope of what Rocky had to go through in his life.

“Friday Night Lights”

This movie is a classic that is led by Billy Bob Thornton as the head coach of a high school football team in Odessa, Texas.

High school football is very serious in Texas, and this team has a chance to win a state title. The town puts immense pressure on these kids after their star player Bobbie Miles gets injured early in the season.

The players take this very seriously and are trying to live up to the lofty expectations that the adults put on them, so they party a lot to cope with it.

This movie is based on a true story about the 1988 Permian high school football team as they chase the state title.

“Caddyshack”

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This movie is one of the most famous comedy films of all time, but it is also about the Bushwood Country Club and the golf caddies that work there.

The cast is star-studded with roles from Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield, Bill Murray, Ted Knight and etc.

The Bushwood Country Club is very dysfunctional with caddies smoking and drinking on the job, while the older members hate the younger people that work there.

This movie is all about the caddie, Danny, who is trying to get a scholarship for college while trying to figure out what he wants to do with his life.

“Moneyball”

This film is a true story about the Oakland Athletics and how they changed the MLB forever due to their new approach to baseball.

The general manager at the time was Billy Beane who, played by Brad Pitt, tries to build a team using analytics because he doesn't have the money to pay big time players.

He brings in cheap players that other people have doubted, based on the analytics and their ability to hit the ball.

Beane revolutionized the MLB, while other teams and general managers were doubting his theory and approach to the game.

“Coach Carter”

This film is about a high school basketball coach that takes over for his former high school as head coach when they are struggling.

The players on the team are disgruntled and not doing well in school. They don't listen to authority and really struggle before Coach Carter shows up.

Carter tries to make them better players, along with becoming better men. His sole focus is to make sure they make it in life, and along the way, he turns the basketball team around and they start winning games.

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Top Five Gifts to Get Gamers

Nicolas BenVenuto

November 27, 2020

As the holiday season approaches quickly, tech companies are launching deals on hardware and accessories that have gamers eager to upgrade their current setups.

Along with next-gen gaming platforms being released, accessories such as headsets, controllers, and monitors are on the list of every gamer looking to obtain that competitive edge over their opponents.

Console War

Microsoft and Sony have been duking it out for holiday sales since the first Xbox launch in 2001, when Microsoft entered the gaming community by storm. Sony, having launched the Playstation in Dec. of 1994, already had a dedicated fan base to support, but since the release of the first Xbox, the console war has always been very close in both hardware statistics and sales.

With the release of the next-gen consoles just weeks ago, the console war has been reignited and it seems as though Sony and Microsoft can't produce these systems fast enough. Pre-orders sold out in minutes, and stores such as Gamestop, Target, Walmart and Best Buy can't keep these systems in stock for long.

It's clear that the demand for this year's next-gen consoles is at the top of the list for gamers around the world.

Retailing at \$499 for both systems, and hosting similar hardware specs, the choice is yours to make.

Bloomberg shows that in just one week Sony sold 118,085 Playstation 5's, and Microsoft sold another 20,534 Xbox's during the initial launch week of the Series X.

If possible, to find, the Playstation 5 or Xbox Series X will be a gift that will have any gamer jumping out of their shoes.

Accessories

There's nothing worse for a competitive gamer than underperforming audio and visual output for your system.

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The best way to combat these issues and give you the upper hand on your opponents is to have a decent headset and high-resolution gaming monitor.

Taking the number 3 and 4 spots on our top 5 list is the Astro A50 headset and the Alienware 25 gaming monitor. Astro is a well-known name in the gaming community, and for good reason.

This line of headsets provides gamers with an immersive experience like no other while also providing gamers with an unmatched level of comfortability.

Crisp high-end frequencies, controlled mids and distortion free lows make for a well-rounded, immersive gaming experience compatible with Xbox, Playstation and gaming PC's alike.

This headset is truly top of the line.

The Alienware 25 gaming monitor sports a 240hz refresh rate, 1ms response time, and at 24.5 inches is the perfect size for any gaming setup.

When competing at the highest levels, this monitor provides everything a gamer will need to hold the competitive edge over his or her opponents while providing a crisp and clear gaming experience like none other.

While the cost might be high for some at \$309, the difference in gameplay is sure to have a portion of gamers shelling out the money for this incredible display.

Controller upgrade

While Microsoft sells its Elite Pro Controllers for a retail price of \$179, competitors such as PowerA are providing gamers with the exact same experience, for only \$79.

A "Pro" controller is one that hosts the ability to use 4 additional paddle buttons, customizable joysticks, and adjustable triggers.

This gives gamers a competitive advantage over their opponents by allowing them greater access to buttons without having to move their fingers as much which, in the heat of a shootout where milliseconds matter, can make all the difference.

In recent years the competitive nature of shooting games such as Fortnite, PUBG, Apex Legends and many other shooters have left gamers looking for any advantage possible.

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How to Survive Finals: Online Edition

Roxanne Roessner

November 27, 2020

Are you worried about taking finals online this semester? Stressed that you will not have enough focus to carry you through exam after exam? Here are a few tips and tricks to get you through the final season— online edition.

Relaxing atmosphere

To start, try to find an area that you will be relaxed in enough to focus, but not one that is so relaxing that you doze off. Go for a desk or table with plenty of leg-room for exam wiggles.

Don't have a desk or table? Create a blanket fort and stock it with provisions to get you through the final! Water, snacks, tissues and coffee are all options to take in with you.

Put on some pajama pants and grab that hoodie you love, it is time to get serious.

Drinks

Ready yourself this final season by drinking more water to prepare your body for the tears it will shed. I joke, but seriously, drink more water. When's the last time you drank water? Go on, do it.

A great tip is to stock up on soothing teas to brew between finals. Try to avoid chamomile because it may make you drowsy. Stick to black teas with caffeine if you do not like coffee or energy drinks.

Technology

Please, make sure that your laptop is charged before you start your exam. Also, start your laptop up a few hours before you do anything to make sure there are no surprise updates that delay everything.

We love our phones but during exams, put them in a place that will not distract you. This is mostly because when you are filling out multiple-choice questions with 40 minutes left, you feel like you have all the time in the world to scroll on TikTok for a quick second. We all know what happens. Your 40 minutes will be down to ten in what feels like the blink of an eye.

Take a break

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Try to not let the stress get to you. Give yourself a 20-minute break from time to time in order to recharge your brain and breathe. Finals will only last a week and after the year we have had, a week is nothing.

You've got this.