

Wright State University

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The Guardian, Week of January 18, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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Weekly Horoscopes

Star Signer

January 18, 2021

This week's horoscopes are for all of those Harry Potter fans out there. Read on to find out which character you would be in the books or movies based on your zodiac sign.

ARIES

Aries, you can be quite full of yourself sometimes, but you can also have a witty side to your personality. You would either be James Potter or one of the Weasley twins.

TAURUS

Taurus, you easily get jealous and you can be extremely patient when you are working towards a long term goal. You would be Severus Snape.

GEMINI

Gemini, you can be cunning when you need to be and are often inconsistent. On the flipside, you are also versatile and witty. You would either be Draco Malfoy or Ginny Weasley.

CANCER

Cancer, you can sometimes be overly emotional and clingy, but you always come to aid when your friends need your help and you are fiercely loyal. You would definitely be Dobby the house elf.

LEO

Leo, you are generous and warm hearted, but you can sometimes come across as bossy and intolerant. You would be Hermione Granger without a doubt.

VIRGO

Virgo, you can be quite the worrier and quite frankly a bit harsh. You are also very intelligent and analytical, meaning you would be great as Professor McGonagall.

LIBRA

Libra, you're easy going and sociable but also a bit indecisive. You would either be good as Ron Weasley or Hagrid. It's truly a toss up.

SCORPIO

Scorpio, you're determined and passionate, but you can also be quite obsessive. You would be great as Sirius Black or even Harry Potter himself.

SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius, you can sometimes be blindly optimistic and most of the time you are honest and straightforward. You can be slow to learn but you always come through in the end. You would be the best Neville Longbottom.

CAPRICORN

Capricorn, you are often very practical and you are always ambitious. Sometimes you can be a bit pessimistic. You would do very well as Molly Weasley or even Hermione Granger.

AQUARIUS

Aquarius, you are very intellectual and independent but you are also unpredictable and sometimes even unemotional. You would no doubt be Albus Dumbledore

PISCES

Pisces, you can often be seen as secretive, vague and idealistic. You are also imaginative and sensitive. People often judge you without really getting to know you first. You would fit perfectly into the sweet sensitive character of Luna Lovegood.

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Women's Basketball: Back to Back Wins Over Cleveland State

Noah Kindig

January 18, 2021

The Women's basketball team faced off against the Cleveland State Vikings in two games over the weekend on Jan. 8 and 9. They won both games, winning game one 64-54 and game two 64-46.

The players to watch for Wright State were Tyler Frierson on defense with 15 rebounds, Angel Baker from distance and up close offensively with 26 points, and Destyne Jackson, who was named the Horizon League Freshman of the Week after her performances versus Youngstown State.

For Cleveland State, Mariah White was an offensive threat all weekend with 33 points over both games, and Nadia Dumas had 15 Rebounds over both games, matching Frierson.

The best off the board

Teams led by Coach Merriweather have always been good at crashing the glass, but this season is something special.

With all the players contributing to their aggressive style of play, they are currently averaging an insane 19.5 offensive rebounds per game, putting them third in the country for Division 1 offensive rebounds.

The team is also ninth in the nation for rebound differential, just showing how much they are unafraid to get physical, how much they dominate their opponents, and how hungry every player is to get the basketball.

Leading the charge for the rebounds are Tyler Frierson and Shamarre Hale, averaging 13.4 rebounds together per game. These players are at the top of their game right now, as some of the best rebounders on one of the best rebounding teams in the country.

Merriweather madness

You cannot talk about the success of this Women's team over the past few years without talking about the dominance of Head Coach Katrina Merriweather.

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In her fifth season for the Raiders, she picked up her 100th career win on Friday night, averaging 20 wins over five seasons.

On her first-ever season as Head coach for the Raiders, she led the Women's team through a historic season, winning 25 games and becoming co-champions of the Horizon League for the first time in program history.

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Student First Fund Grant and Past Projects

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

January 18, 2021

Wright State University's (WSU) Student First Fund Grant splits \$50,000 amongst multiple students seeking to pursue an innovative project that benefits fellow Raiders. Grant applications are available online until Feb. 26.

The grant

The Student First Fund Grant is in its third year of being offered. Students are encouraged to apply if they have an idea for a unique project that would benefit the students of WSU at either the Dayton or Lake campus and are willing to put in the effort to make their ideas a success.

"Applicants are encouraged to view the Students First Fund grant as one-time seed money to help launch a new program or initiative," said Assistant Director for Advancement Communications Kim Patton. "While the Student First Fund Grant program is a wonderful tool to get these exciting and worthwhile projects started, it will ultimately be the grant recipient's responsibility to move the project forward and keep the momentum going."

Students of WSU not planning to apply for the grant themselves are excited to see what their peers are striving to implement.

"I think it's great that WSU is taking the time to set aside money for something that can potentially be a positive impact on students," said WSU senior Julia Boyd. "I am definitely excited to see what students come up with this year."

Past projects

In 2020, 12 projects were given anywhere from \$2,000-\$8,000 in funding to make their entrepreneurial goals a reality. Jules Naylor was one of those recipients, using her portion of the grant to give the LGBTQA+'s Unicornship Peer Mentoring Program a complete makeover.

"I suppose what inspired me to shape the program into how it is today is that there is a crucial need for LGBTQA+ students on campus to have a strong support system, whether that be for academics, social life, and/or personal life," said Naylor.

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Naylor worked side by side with Intercultural Specialist for the Office of LGBTQA+ Affairs Emily Yantis-Houser to write up a proposal for the application in order to turn the program into what it is today.

“With the funds that we have, we have the ability to enhance our programming for the LGBTQA+ mentors and mentees. We have the ability to have programs that are enriching for the LGBTQA+ students we serve,” said Naylor. “Whether it be through having educational speakers, special outings, or self-actualizing events, we are bringing to students a special opportunity. We can actually focus on caring for the students and fulfilling their needs and even wants.”

When asked what advice Naylor had for students filling out this year’s application, she recommends having multiple sets of eyes and ears to help you ensure that your project is a strong contender.

“Having multiple people looking at this application and contributing to this application is helpful,” said Naylor. “Most importantly, though, be confident in your answers! You know what you need and you know what you are doing will be impactful... so do not think that you do not have any chance at receiving this grant.”

The Student First Fund Grant application is available on the WSU website until Feb. 26. Students will then be notified in April whether or not they will receive a portion of the grant.

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Men's Basketball Fails at the Buzzer Again, Comes Back to Beat the Undefeated Vikings
Noah Kindig
January 18, 2021

The Wright State Raiders and Cleveland State Vikings faced off in a two-game weekend series. Coming into the weekend, the Vikings were 8-0 in the league, and the Raiders were 6-2.

The stand-out players in the series were the Viking's Dayton native Torrey Patton, who put in 17 points for their game one win, and WSU's Tanner Holden, whose 34 points and 17 rebounds led the team all weekend.

Game One

Loudon Love got the first touch on the tip ball, but hit it out of bounds for Cleveland possession. The Vikings took advantage of that possession, turning defense into quick offense with five points before the Raiders could respond.

When the Raiders did respond, they hit back hard with Love scoring four up close and Tim Finke draining five.

While Cleveland relied on shooting the ball in play, shooting 35 times to Wright State's 18, The Raiders broke through from baiting out fouls, shooting 14 free throws to Cleveland's two for a halftime score of 27-27.

Wright State continued to find success up close in the second half, with Trey Calvin and Grant Basile both putting in points to give the Raiders a 43-35 lead. For the Vikings, Torrey Patton was a threat everywhere, leading in points and rebounds for his team.

Cleveland was able to regroup, and finally regained the lead at 54-53 with 5:20 left to play. The game returned to the end of the first half, tied with one minute left to play.

Torrey Patton put in a layup with 25 seconds left to play, but Tanner Holden responded with a rebound basket with seconds left. As Wright State celebrated, Cleveland State found a pass to Deante Johnson, who finished the game with a dunk at the buzzer, winning game one for Cleveland.

Game Two

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After losing their second game at the buzzer in two weeks, Wright State was eager for some revenge. They started the game quickly, with Love winning the tip and Holden putting in the first basket. They found early success up close, and a Finke 3-pointer forced a timeout at 10-2.

WSU drew foul after foul, shooting 21 free throws in the first half to Cleveland's four. But, unlike game one, they shot even with the Vikings, giving them a big lead at halftime of 42-22.

Cleveland fought hard for a comeback like game one, but they couldn't gain on Wright State's lead, with the Raiders still dominating 59-32 with 10 minutes left.

The Vikings tried everything to stop the WSU offense, but the Raiders showed no mercy, pushing even harder to 73-31.

After the games, coach Scott Nagy commented on the weekend.

"It's the exact same thing that happened last week. I just thank the players for picking me up after the game... proud of the way we played today," he said.

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Stimulus Checks: Questions and Student Opinions

Roxanne Roessner

January 19, 2021

People received the first stimulus check in April of 2020 and the second in Dec. 2020. College students who were claimed on their guardian's taxes were excluded from the two \$600 checks. While students' guardians had a tax break from claiming them, college students who worked through the pandemic feel cheated.

The stimulus checks

Peoples Bank Manager Bradley Brookhart receives questions about the stimulus checks regularly.

"I have received dozens of phone calls mainly regarding when and why they have not received their stimulus check. We typically respond that the IRS has indicated they are starting with direct deposit and then moving into mailing checks. If you are unsure of how you will receive your stimulus, it is recommended to visit [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov) and look up that information," said Brookhart.

According to Brookhart, people who are U.S. citizens that make less than \$75,000 a year are eligible to receive the check. However, those who are claimed as dependents do not qualify.

Married couples who make less than \$150,000 a year are also eligible for the checks and those who have children that are 17 or younger were given \$600 per child.

Student opinions

Wright State University (WSU) students like Trinity Rammel are unable to receive the stimulus check.

According to Rammel, they would use the money to help pay for their college debt and gas money. Rammel cannot have the stimulus check because their mother claims them on taxes. Because Rammel still lives at home and is also over the age of 17, their mother does not receive the extra funds.

"Personally, I have continued working throughout this entire pandemic. So, I am aware that I have not been unemployed due to the situation, and for that I am thankful. However, with that being said, I have never received any hazard pay either. I am also a college student and I'm sure others can agree with me that we are struggling," said Rammel.

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Junior English major Megan Chappie is wary of the handouts from the government. Chappie does not qualify for the stimulus checks, but understands that the coronavirus has hit others harder than them.

“I’m a trifle wary of handouts from the government, but I understand that the 2020 chaos hit a lot of people a lot harder than it hit me, so I guess it’s a good idea. As long as we save it for times of crisis and don’t make it a regular habit...because at a certain point, I feel like that could slip into something akin to socialism,” said Chappie.

Books to Read Based on Your Go-To Coffee Order

Ariel Parker

January 19, 2021

Nothing goes together like books and coffee, so here are some books that you should read based on your go-to coffee order.

Cold brew coffee

If you are the type to enjoy cold brew coffee, you might go for something straight-forward that you can sink your teeth into. For this, I would recommend something to get you thinking, like a nonfiction or a spooky mystery! An excellent nonfiction book you may enjoy is “I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness” by Austin Channing Brown. Or, if you want to pair this with a chilling read, try “Your House Is on Fire, Your Children All Gone” by Stefan Kiesbye.

Iced vanilla latte

There is nothing wrong with drinking this popular beverage! You like what you like, or maybe you like to play it safe. With this drink, I would recommend reading the fun edge-of-your-seat thriller “No Exit” by Taylor Adams, or the historical fiction book “The Vanishing Half” by Brit Bennett where you follow 16-year-old twins after they run away from their small town.

Dirty chai

Chai is good by itself, but with an espresso shot, it can put a pep in your step. If you enjoy this drink, you might have a busy life but like to enjoy some sweetness throughout your day. Pair this drink with a spooky mystery or thriller, or something that will melt your heart. I recommend “When No One Is Watching” by Alyssa Cole for something dark that will keep you glued to the page, or “Well Met” by Jen DeLuca for a sweet hate-to-love romance.

White chocolate mocha frappuccino

This drink is all about having fun and you love to live in the moment! Try either a fun contemporary or fantasy romance. “The Bromance Book Club,” by Lyssa Kay Adams is a great contemporary that took the romance world in storm. If you want something a little more fantasy-heavy, try the amazing “A Heart of Blood and Ashes” by Milla Vane that will be sure to tug on your heartstrings.



Fruity refreshers

You may not be into coffee, but you do like to treat yourself to a little something special. Short fluffy fiction books or funny nonfiction would be a great addition to your drink. "The Traveling Cat Chronicles" by Hiro Arikawa is an excellent short book from the point of view of a cute cat, and "Wow, No Thank You" is a collection of essays by Samantha Kirby that will make you laugh out loud!

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Women's Basketball Goes 2-0 Over Robert Morris University

Noah Kindig

January 19, 2021

The Women's basketball team was scheduled to play the 8-1 IUPUI Jaguars over the weekend, but due to contact tracing for COVID-19 in the Jaguars' program, the games were canceled.

Instead, the Raiders faced off against the Robert Morris Colonials in two games at home, winning game one 48-58 and game two 51-58. With these wins, the Raiders have won their last seven in the Horizon League, and with a 9-1 HL record, are on a good track for a high placement in the League.

The star players in this weekend's games were WSU's Jada Roberson with 16 rebounds and 22 points over both games, RMU's Esther Castedo with 18 points, and WSU's Tyler Frierson, whose 13 rebounds in game one gave them a huge advantage over the Colonials.

Game One

Frierson won the tip, and connected with Roberson for the first points on the board. Roberson continued to dominate early, putting in six points before the Colonials could respond.

The Raiders played aggressively all game, focusing on crashing the glass and drawing out fouls. This play allowed them to bring the score to 22-13 early in the second quarter. But the Colonials punched back, ending the half by taking advantage of their shots and bringing the score back to 26-25, only one point behind Wright State.

While rebounds were even in the first quarter, the Raiders won rebounds in the third quarter, with Frierson and Roberson scoring rebound baskets on offense, and drawing out foul after foul. Going into the fourth quarter, the Raiders had taken 18 free throws to the Colonials five.

The Raiders shared the scoring and held defensively, with drives from Angel Baker and Shamarre Hale pushing the Raiders to a 54-45 lead. Every player from Wright State was able to stay one step ahead of Robert Morris to secure the win 58-48.

Game Two

Frierson won the tip again, but Robert Morris forced a turnover and Sol Castro put in the first basket. After executing some successful set plays and Baker scoring some fast-break points off of turnovers, the Raiders were able to find a quick 9-4 lead.

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While WSU was dominant on rebounds 28-14, RMU's Castedo was able to keep them in the game with six points in the second quarter, bringing the halftime score to 27-25.

WSU started fast in the third quarter, with Frierson putting in a basket in the paint while drawing a foul, and KK White draining a three from a rebound for a five-point WSU play.

But, Morris hit two quick back to back three-pointers at the end of the quarter to tie the game at 37-37.

In the fourth quarter, WSU showed no signs of stopping, with Shamarre Hale and Frierson dominant up close. Solid defense followed by a breakaway offense gave them a 50-40 lead with 3:00 left to play.

While RMU used all of their timeouts and applied a full court press to salvage the game, it wasn't enough to catch the Raiders. They ended the game with their second straight Horizon League win 58-51.

After this weekend's games, Coach Katrina Merriweather commented that while they are grateful with their wins, they do have some things to improve on.

"We're always thankful for the win," She said. "However, we care a lot about what the wins look like, and we are not very pleased."

Campus Housing Safety at WSU: What You Need to Know

Nicolas Benvenuto

January 19, 2021

Ensuring the safety and well being of students residing in campus housing has proven to be a primary concern for Wright State University (WSU) through continued efforts by housing officials and university police.

Restructure

Recently, consolidation efforts within the university's police department took place in order to adjust to the university's diminishing enrollment numbers.

WSU is operating with a Department of Public Safety similar to that of other colleges and universities in the area, and while changes are occurring, officials say there will be no change to the level of safety provided to students during or after consolidation efforts take place.

"The restructuring and reorganization under the model of a Department of Public Safety will not diminish the way we provide police services for the community," Interim Director of Public Safety Kurt Holden said. "The WSU police department will always provide 24/7 patrols around campus and campus housing. If anything, services will be better than before."

Holden says that consolidation efforts help create efficiencies in how university police provide safety services for the campus community.

"The police department will become one of a few divisions and units that fall under the Department of Public Safety. This model is similar to those at other colleges and universities such as Bowling Green, UD and others," Holden said.

Wright State Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator Debra Monk says that active communication and a positive relationship amongst police officers and those in the Office of Inclusive Excellence is crucial in providing proper services to students when necessary.

"I met with WSU's officers on my second day to work. The relationship we have is critical and I have found the officers to be extremely concerned about the sexual assault issues that have recently taken place," Monk said. "In the short time I have been here the police officers have been very helpful."

Emergencies

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In the event of an emergency on campus, WSU provides an easily accessible service for students that grants police assistance.

Located across the main campus of Wright State and throughout strategically placed locations in campus housing are bright blue-lighted telephones. These telephones provide students direct access to police officers at all hours of the day or night.

“The blue lights around campus are a great tool and safety feature that WSU provides to the community,” Holden said.

“For example, someone may want a safety escort because they do not want to walk to their dorm room alone, they see something suspicious, something makes them uncomfortable or they want to report an emergency of some kind. These are great tools because when a student is to push the button it will ring into our dispatch center and an officer will respond immediately.”

The blue lights aren’t the only safety precaution taken by the university, however.

Director of Residence Life and Housing Dan Bertso says that housing security measures are more than abundant.

“Security measures include information provided at the initial floor meetings, swipe access or key access into buildings, strategically placed cameras outside of buildings and live-in staff who are on call and making rounds on a regular basis. We have staff on call 24/7 365 days a year and we are all in collaboration with campus law enforcement staff.”

Bertso encourages students to be proactive in their own safety and the safety of their neighbors as well.

“If you see something, say something,” Bertso said. “Call 2111 and they will respond or contact Residence Life and Housing staff on call. Make sure to lock your door when you leave your apartment, don’t walk at night by yourself and wear your mask!”

For more information on Wright State’s police department, crime incident procedures and emergency phone numbers, view the 2020 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report here:

<https://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/page/attachments/2020-annual-security-and-fire-safety-report.pdf>

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Random COVID Testing To Continue Spring Semester

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

January 20, 2021

Ready to roll out the coronavirus testing procedures piloted this past fall, Wright State University (WSU) has begun random coronavirus testing on students residing on campus this semester.

Pilot program

The pilot program for random coronavirus testing was announced in late Oct. 2020 by WSU's Office of the Provost.

“Wright State’s new pilot program for asymptomatic individuals will seek to increase the number of personnel tested to approximately 100 people a week,” said the university.

The announcement also included information on when testing would be offered for those selected to test, and a reminder to continue reporting positive cases. The success of the pilot program led to the adaptation of the university-wide random testing that began Jan. 11.

Spring semester testing

WSU still plans to test 100 students per week that have been deemed as at high-risk for coronavirus exposure at random.

“This included student athletes, nursing students, med school students, students working in research labs, and others who had higher contact due to their roles and activities,” said Director of Community Standards and Student Conduct Chris Taylor.

In addition, students are continuing to be contacted in the same format that the pilot program used in the fall.

“Students who participated in the fall pilot program were communicated with by email,” said Director of Communications Seth Bauguess. “I expect that will be the case into the spring term as the program continues.”

The email will make the student aware that they have been selected to be tested at random and request that they make an appointment with Wright State Physicians; however, choosing to test remains voluntary at this time.

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Students were also given the option to request an at-home test before returning to campus for the beginning of the semester. Lake campus students and staff needing to be tested for the coronavirus should schedule a tele-health appointment with Student Health Services.

WSU Students Begin Receiving Covid Vaccine: Here's Why

Alexis Wisler

January 20, 2021

As the coronavirus vaccines become available to at-risk individuals, students at Wright State University (WSU) decide whether or not to become vaccinated. For two students, the choice to become vaccinated was an easy one.

How vaccines work

WSU professor and Chair of Internal Medicine and Neurology Glen Solomon explained that by exposing the body to weakened or dead virus cells, vaccines prepare the body to fight off the real thing.

"The vaccine's real job is to make the body aware of specific aspects of a virus so that we know that it is foreign and our body knows to attack it," said Solomon.

What is different about the coronavirus vaccine is that it uses mRNA to help the body build immunity to the spike protein found in the coronavirus. Solomon explained that the technology of mRNA has been in the works for several decades now.

"What's so remarkable about these vaccines is that because they have developed this platform for mRNA, they can develop vaccines very quickly. This was really a technology that was literally designed for us to be able to have very fast vaccine development. So that's not something that people should fear," said Solomon.

Students getting the vaccine

WSU students who work in high-risk environments have begun getting vaccinated. There is debate about whether or not these vaccines are safe, but RCA President Jeremiah Penick and President of Association of Black Business Students Dai'Shanae Moore decided that becoming vaccinated was worth it to protect others.

"It's kind of cool to be in the first group. It did lead to a little bit of hope because it shows that there is actual progression within the pandemic and hopefully getting back to some sense of normality. That the vaccine is out there and people are getting vaccinated added to the hope," said Penick.

Although vaccinated, Moore says she will do what is needed to continue flattening the curve.

“I look at it as just because I got the vaccine doesn’t mean I shouldn’t wear the mask... I still take the proper CDC protocol and wearing a mask properly and staying safe because I understand that not everyone have that mindset like I do and are going to get the vaccine and that is their option,” said Moore.

Side effects

According to Solomon, mild side effects are normal for vaccines as the body learns to fight off a virus.

“Those effects are things like muscle aches, headaches and low grade fever. Almost any vaccine can give you those side effects and that’s absolutely the same thing we are seeing with the COVID-19 vaccines. Those side effects are really just a sign that the vaccine is doing what it is supposed to do,” said Solomon.

Penick reports that he has only experienced mild symptoms from the vaccine.

“For the first couple days my arm hurt in the injection site honestly like it does when you get the flu vaccine. Outside of that there was a little bit of fatigue the day after but outside of that nothing out of the ordinary. It honestly felt like a normal flu shot,” said Penick.

According to Moore, the only symptom she experienced was arm soreness for a day.

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SGA: Passed Resolution and Project Updates
Maxwell Patton
January 20, 2021

The Student Government Association (SGA) met on Jan. 19 and discussed a new resolution along with planned events for the spring semester.

Resolution 21-03

Resolution 21-03 was introduced on Jan. 12 by Engineering and Computer Science Senator Gullzada Anwari. Resolution 21-03, if passed, will extend the amount of time that students have to complete their semester course evaluations, which are due during finals week. The reasons for this extension are the lack of time available during finals week to answer the evaluation and the inability to provide feedback about the course's final exam.

The resolution will be voted on during the next meeting.

Residential gates

Resolution 21-01, which was passed before winter break began, requested for the pedestrian and vehicle gates by the Village to be opened. After a meeting with housing, Residential Senator Johnathan Ciero was able to get the pedestrian gates opened permanently, which will occur by the end of the week. However, the vehicle gate will remain closed, though the gate by the entrance to Honors parking may be opened in the future.

Arts Gala

The tentative date for the 2021 ArtsGala is April 17, according to College of Liberal Arts Senator Victoria Solomon, and the event will take place outdoors between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.

"I'm getting student interest in leveling out ideas for how we can make it possible and keep it a thing after this year," said Solomon.

A meeting will also be held later in the week to discuss the upcoming CoLA food drive and who the college can donate the food to.

Mask drive

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Commuter Senator Sabrina D'Alesandro started a mask donation drive last semester, with those masks going to local schoolchildren. The last day for donations will be Feb. 5., and currently, D'Alesandro has collected about 600 masks. However, she is in the process of confirming a donation of 200 more. Anyone wishing to donate a mask for the drive can contact D'Alesandro at dalesandro.2@wright.edu.

The weekly SGA meetings are open to the public and take place every Tuesday at 7 p.m. through WebEx.

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Laker Life: Words of Encouragement Approaching One Year of Lockdown

Roxanne Roessner

January 21, 2021

The coronavirus dominated 2020 from the very start of the year. As we approach the one year anniversary of the first recorded case, the initial lockdown and the start of online learning, words of encouragement are here to keep us going.

From the president's desk

Wright State University (WSU) President Sue Edwards commented on the feeling of isolation many people experienced in the past year.

“Unfortunately, we must continue in the same operating mode as we did last semester because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nearly all of you will start the term as you concluded the last, by studying and working remotely. I know for many of you the remote environment is not one in which you feel a sense of belonging,” said Edwards.

Student response

According to WSU student Presley Byers, she is adjusting to online learning and that it is not as effective as being in class.

“I feel like it's a lot of busy work and I haven't really retained anything,” said Byers

Although online learning has its issues, there is still hope for struggling students. As the coronavirus vaccine is being developed and shipped out, a normal, in-person term could be in our future.

“Even though we may soon be seeing the impact of effective vaccines, we will need to continue to be ready to make changes to our plans and it will continue to be important for us to do what we know has worked well for us so far: wear a face covering while on campus, maintain at least six feet of separation from others as much as possible, wash hands frequently, and stay at home if you are not feeling well,” said Interim Dean Dan Krane.

Parting words

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“I know that 2020 was extremely challenging for us all, and that 2021 in some ways has already got off to a rough start, but I am confident that we can overcome anything when we work together and for each other,” said Edwards.

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Dayton's Not Dead: Flyby BBQ
Maxwell Patton
January 21, 2021

Flyby BBQ, located at Fairfield Commons in Beavercreek, Ohio, offers delicious dishes to Wright State University (WSU) students and out-of-town barbecue lovers alike.

A difficult balancing act

Owner David Butcher runs the business with his cousin Mark. They started Flyby BBQ as a food truck in 2016 while Butcher was a student at Ohio State University.

“It was a way to portray that food that I loved and present it in a way that was really fun and relevant to today,” said Butcher. “I felt like nobody was really doing anything exciting with it anymore, which was sad to me, and that was a big problem that I wanted to solve.”

This led him to take their menu in an intriguing direction with items such as barbecue macaroni bowls and cook those menu items using traditional barbecuing methods.

“Our meat is still smoked as legitimately as possible for 16 hours the hard way, so finding that cool balance and making young people excited about it too was a big thing for me,” said Butcher.

Butcher was named the number one student entrepreneur in Central Ohio and the Entrepreneurs Organization placed him in the top 25 in the United States in 2016 and 2017, according to a press release.

Opening a new space

The Fairfield Commons location of Flyby BBQ opened in Feb. 2018.. This location was chosen because of its traffic as well as the proximity to WSU and the Air Force Base.

The dish of choice for Butcher is the brisket macaroni bowl topped with ghost pepper pickles. According to him, the secret to making a good barbecue dish is not rushing the process.

“If somebody takes the time and puts the hours into smoking their meat right, that’s the most important thing,” Butcher said. “It’s something that no matter how busy we are, even though now we’re in a big restaurant and serve a lot of customers, we still do it the right way.”

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WSU student Kenna Thomas has been to Flyby BBQ and is a fan of the restaurant.

“It has the right balance of sweet and savory,” said Thomas. “I’m not necessarily one for barbecue because it’s just too sweet, but Flyby makes some good barbecue.”

Continuing through the coronavirus

Flyby BBQ was the first business in Dayton to close because of the coronavirus pandemic, according to Butcher. Starting in December, the business began utilizing “fly-through” service by situating the food truck between the main entrance to the mall and Panera Bread. This will be continuing for at least the next two months, though in-store ordering and delivery through Doordash are also available.

“We closed two days before we had to because we saw it coming, and we wanted to make sure that our customers were as safe as possible,” said Butcher. “This was our way of continuing that trust with people and giving our customers an option, if they aren’t comfortable coming into the store, to still have our food.”

Fundraising and the future

Student organizations at WSU are able to do fundraisers with Flyby BBQ and keep 25 percent of the sales brought in during fundraising nights. Interested organizations can apply through the business’s website.

Butcher believes that the future of Flyby BBQ will be spreading a love of barbecue as far as possible, partly because many of their customers make long drives in order to eat at the business.

“Some of our cult followers come from Columbus or Cincinnati just to get us, so if we can expand and make ourselves more available to the people that love us, that would be the best way forward,” said Butcher.

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WSU Annual Report Highlights Dwindling Crime Rates on Campus

Nicolas BenVenuto

January 21, 2021

The Wright State University (WSU) Annual Fire Safety Report was issued on Dec. 22, 2020 and highlighted dwindling crime rates on the university's Dayton campus over the past three years in nearly all categories.

Giving credit

Interim Director of Public Safety Kurt Holden says that positive community relationships play a prominent role in the university's ability to boast much lower crime rates as compared to other universities in the area.

"I give credit to the low crime rates on campus compared to neighboring cities by the way we are proactive in educating our community through safety programs and are intentional to have and maintain wonderful working relationships with the students, staff, and faculty," Holden said.

Holden reinforced that Wright State officers will continue to provide the community with the services and support that have allowed Raiders to feel at home on the Dayton campus even after recent consolidation efforts within the police department are finalized.

"The restructuring and reorganization under the model of a Department of Public Safety will not diminish the way we provide police services for the community," said Holden. "The Department of Public Safety model is not going to impact the way the campus police department provides safety services to the community."

Title IX

10 pages of the 2020 Annual Fire Safety Report cover gender based harassment and violence; a primary concern for university officials and police.

Title IX says that, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

WSU's Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator Debra Monk has been working with Title IX since her career began in 1995.

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“My role was created to investigate and adjudicate reports that violate the university policy ‘Sex/Gender Harassment and Discrimination’ which includes behaviors that violate Title IX. In addition to my Title IX duties I serve as the campus instigator for any report of discrimination and harassment based on a protected class,” said Monk.

The 2020 Fire Safety Report states that, “There is no time limitation on the filing of complaints, as long as the responding party remains subject to the university’s jurisdiction or a remedy is available to the reporting party. The university encourages prompt reporting because witnesses’ memories and availability typically are better closer in time to the incident(s).”

Monk says that there are numerous ways for reports to be made to her office.

“I can be reached at my email debra.monk@wright.edu, my telephone at 937.775.3207 or those making reports may come into my office,” said Monk.

Informed community

“One of our most important tools for ensuring a safe environment is information,” said WSU in the Fire Safety Report.

Director of Residence Life and Housing Dan Bertsois echoed the importance of communication and the free flow of information amongst university officials and WSU police officers.

“We have staff on call at all times and are in constant communication and collaboration with campus law enforcement staff,” said Bertsois.

Bertsois also spoke to the university’s Simplex building alert system mentioned in the 2020 Fire Safety Report, which is designed to prompt on-campus residents to perform a certain emergency action with a pre-recorded message. Prompts include actions such as take shelter, evacuate the building, etc.

“The system has been tested, but not yet used,” said Bertsois.

For the full 2020 WSU Annual Fire Safety Report, visit:

<https://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/page/attachments/2020-annual-security-and-fire-safety-report.pdf>

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WSU Student Accused of Sexual Assault Pleads Not Guilty by Way of Insanity
News Team
January 21, 2021

Former Wright State student Zachary Turner, 28, has pled not guilty by way of insanity to at least two cases of sexual assault charged against him.

Currently, Turner is indicted for two sexual assaults, four counts of rape, four counts of abduction, and two counts of kidnapping. The two cases of sexual assault occurred in October of 2020 on WSU's campus at 2050 Village Dr.

In addition, two more women have come forward with assault claims against Turner. Information has yet to be released at this time regarding their possible connection to WSU.

On Jan. 6, Turner pled not guilty to these charges by way of insanity. According to Greene County Court records, on Jan. 19 Turner's attorney also filed for competency evaluation to determine if he is adept to stand trial.

Turner's final pretrial hearing will occur Feb. 2.

Prior to his arrest on Dec. 11, Turner was a psychology major living on the second floor of building 2050 in the Village Apartments on WSU's campus. On Oct. 20, the first woman to come forward against Turner reported to WSU police she had been kidnapped, held at knifepoint, handcuffed for several hours, and sexually assaulted in Turner's apartment.

This was followed by another report to WSU police of an additional incident of sexual assault which occurred Oct. 9 in Turner's apartment. Neither of these women were WSU students.

In response to these events, WSU issued a warrant for Turner's arrest, trespassed him from campus, and provided students with an informational safety bulletin with tips to help protect students from sexual assault.

The Greene County Prosecutor's Office was contacted for this story but has not yet responded.

This is a developing story.

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WSU Alum Advocating for Disability Awareness

Maxwell Patton

January 22, 2021

Galen Spiegler, an alum of Wright State University (WSU), has spent his time after college advocating for disability and recently wrote a book giving insight into the lifestyle of a disabled person.

Spiegler, who lives in Keene, N.H., was born with cerebral palsy, a condition that affects how his brain and muscles communicate.

College life and career goals

Spiegler graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from WSU in 2016 and works to assist those in the same position.

“Growing up, I had about ten doctors who were worried about my physical body but not one professional who would help me cope with the mental side of having a disability, so all through high school, I suffered with anxiety and depression, and I was like ‘why is there not more help for people with disabilities who have mental health issues?’,” said Spiegler through his aide Abby Shenk. “I want to be that person.”

Spiegler was informed about the university by a friend and attended school there due to its accessibility.

“Wright State is actually in the top five colleges in the country for disability accessibility. They have a program where students can work for the college and help people with disabilities get up and eat and do their personal care,” said Spiegler. “Also, the infrastructure they have really caught my eye, like the underground tunnels. I really hate the cold.”

Spiegler wants to use his degree to be a rehab psychologist, helping disabled individuals who struggle with mental health issues. Spiegler is a disability awareness specialist, which involves writing and educating people about life as a disabled person.

Problems, questions and solutions

Spiegler spent time traveling and giving presentations to students while he was in college.

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“People without disabilities have some great questions, and I love listening to them and helping to bring [the students] into the crip world,” said Spiegler.

Soon, Spiegler will be moving to Cincinnati to enroll in graduate school.

One of the problems that he sees with how the disabled community is treated became evident when he went to a party during college.

“I would roll up to a party and people would be like ‘where’s your mommy?’, and I tried to explain that I’m in college. My mom lives 500 miles away, but they would never understand, so the police would be called and by that point, I would think that it wasn’t worth it and go home. It was very isolating,” said Spiegler.

According to Spiegler, people need to be more educated on disabilities so that individuals like himself can have a nightlife. Another problem he sees has to do with how the aides of these individuals are treated.

“We have a big problem all over the country where I need Abby to wake me up but the government only pays her minimum wage,” said Spiegler. “She can get more money at McDonald’s than with me, and if she quits, I am out of luck.”

Spiegler mentioned that these aides should be paid more so that individuals like him can have that assistance.

“It is a crisis that nobody sees,” said Spiegler.

A new book of insight

Spiegler’s book “The Ability Almanac: 365 Tidbits of Crip Wisdom in Bite-Sized Pieces” was published on Dec. 22 and features daily readings that give insight into living with a disability.

“The Ability Almanac” was inspired by his time at WSU. Spiegler was in a therapy group for students with disabilities and, wanting to spread the wisdom he acquired with that group, started a blog. He found it difficult to write about a new topic every day with no structure and felt that the book format would work better.

He hopes to educate everyone, whether they are disabled or able-bodied, about what it is like to live with a disability.

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“I want society to understand that crips have the same wants and needs as everyone else,” said Spiegler. “I basically want to shine a light on the parts of disability life that people don’t understand.”

Spiegler’s book can be purchased [here](#).

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Raider Sports: Weekend Look Ahead

Noah Kindig

January 22, 2021

Ahead of the Weekend for both the Men's and Women's Basketball teams, It might be a good idea to look at how both teams will fare in their matchup, along with predictions on how the game will go.

With the Men's recent 36-point win over Cleveland State and the Women's side winning their last 7 Horizon League games, as well as their last two being against Robert Morris, it's hard to look at this upcoming weekend with anything other than a 4-0 prediction for the Raiders.

Because of IUPUI's recent double wins over Northern Kentucky and Robert Morris looking for some revenge, neither team can get complacent if they want to dominate.

Men's Games: Will Basile, Finke and Calvin make up the difference?

When we talk about Wright State Basketball this year, it's easy to say that Loudon Love and Tanner Holden are the stars of this team. But, IUPUI have some very impressive attacking threats as well, in Marcus Burk and Jaylen Minnett.

Both Burk and Minnett had over 35 points scored for the Jaguars in their two wins over Kentucky, as they are the focus of the attack. For Wright State, it is important to keep these players in check defensively and share the scoring as they have been in past games.

The Raiders have had 5-6 players averaging double-digit scoring games all year, while the Jaguars rely almost completely on Burk and Minnett.

With Grant Basile, Trey Calvin, and Tim Finke able to share the scoring with Love and Holden, they should be able to dominate both offensively and defensively.

While on paper, the IUPUI defense is #3 in the league, the Raiders are at #1 on offense and defense, and they beat #2 defense Cleveland State by 36 points on Saturday.

I expect a high-scoring game for the raiders against the IUPUI's defense, while the Jaguar offense of Minnett and Burk is shut down by the strong WSU defense.

Women's Games: Looking for Hale and Frierson

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With the Lady Raiders already beating the Colonials twice this season, the Raiders have to look at what worked for them.

In both game one and game two last week, the Raiders found the least success when trying to play the Colonials game, relying on three-pointers and a less-physical style.

They were able to dominate in the last quarter of both games by drawing out fouls with quick breakaways to the rim with Angel Baker and getting easy baskets by pushing the ball to Tyler Frierson and Shamarre Hale.

Since both teams play a defensively strong game, drawing out fouls like they did in their game two and focusing on points under the basket was the Raiders' ticket through the defense.

The Raider defense was able to keep RMU's Esther Castedo in check and will be able to do so again. The only worry is focusing on playing a simple game, rather than a fancy one.

eSports: A New Kind of Competition Coming to WSU

Noah Kindig

January 22, 2021

The world was put to a halt in 2020 and this included sports. Because of this, eSports reached its highest point ever in 2020 and continues to explode in growth to this day.

Because of people in quarantine looking for something new to watch, eSports last year exploded in viewership and winnings with crazy numbers.

Whether you enjoy these games or you don't think these games deserve a seat at the table, the truth is that eSports is here to stay. As Mike Sepso, co-founder of Major League Gaming said, "It doesn't matter if the old guard considers it a sport or not... It's a matter of when, not if."

What is eSports?

eSports is competitive video games with teams facing off against one another. It encompasses hundreds of video games, capturing the attention of millions of fans.

Just as traditional sports are also played competitively by high school and college teams, eSports has begun to trickle down to colleges, and even here at Wright State University (WSU). Over the past couple years, the club has announced its first big competitive teams in games like Rainbow 6 Siege and League of Legends, and has begun playing in tournaments.

Wright State Raider eSports

"You should think about them like any other sport," said President of the WSU eSports Club Ryan Slater. "There are teams that compete to go to a tournament to be the best at whatever game they are playing."

Slater, who has been president of the club since they began to build eSports competition, is working to push eSports in Dayton and the club forward.

"My whole goal is to take this club, and push it towards being the center for eSports in the area," he said.

eSports exploded during quarantine. For Slater, the club has been able to succeed through the coronavirus because of the nature of eSports.

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“eSports is independent of in-person events,” he said. “We’re able to still run our competitive teams and hold weekly events, no matter what. The world could burn, and we’d still be able to keep running.”

From a player standpoint, League of Legends Midlaner Branden Williams says that the main difference between traditional sports and eSports is the focus on working with your coach.

“In soccer, the coach kind of runs the team,” Williams commented. “I played defense when I played soccer, so as a defensive unit, we had to be constantly communicating. Playing league reminds me of playing defense because the teamwork between the players is just as important.”

Interested in joining?

“Come and make some new friends,” Williams said. “I’ve made some of my closest friends here.

It’s a great time to get involved with eSports, especially with tryouts coming up for their competitive teams. The tryouts for their Rainbow 6 Siege and League of Legends teams are coming up on the 23rd and 24th of this month.”

If you’re interested in trying out or just want to get involved with the club, you can reach out with all of their socials here.

Discord: <https://discord.gg/smmV38d>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WrightEsports>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wrightstateuniversityesports/>

Twitch: <https://www.twitch.tv/wrightstateesports>

Engage: <https://wright.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/esports>

How Does Social Media Impact Politics?

Jamie Naylor

January 22, 2021

Social media has come under fire since the Jan. 6 capital riots for its negative impact on politics, yet Wright State University (WSU) professors and students explain how this issue is much more complex with ramifications and benefits far-reaching.

Negative

During the 2016 and 2020 election's social media played a critical role in displaying politicians' platforms and motivating citizens to vote.

In 2020 social media took a turn for the worst as far-right extremist groups like the Proud Boys and QAnon found their home and audience on platforms like Twitter and Parler.

These groups were able to reach a larger audience when the public started spending more time on social media platforms. The global coronavirus pandemic forced people to move their work, school and social lives online.

Freshman Rylee Thompson reported that she now spends three to four hours a day on social media while, before the pandemic, she reportedly only spent two to three hours on social media platforms.

"The lack of outside stimulus because of the pandemic, has pushed people further to their respective ends of the political spectrum," said Chad Dudash a third-year double major in media studies and psychology.

Apps like Twitter and Facebook ask about a user's interests when they create an account, this allows their algorithms to find posts and communities they think the user will be interested in.

"With people like QAnon with far-right extremism, they end up in these places where they're on these Facebook groups or parlor or these message boards and they find like-minded people and it kind of validates what they believe in," said Austin Lucous a senior political science major and a student researcher for WSU's School of Public and International affairs.

Rules and regulation

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Over the past year, there has been a public push to get social media companies to crack down on false information and extremist groups.

Dr. Edward Fitzgerald, a political science professor at WSU, explains the legal questions behind regulation.

“Are these places of public space where it’s first Amendment and you can’t really intrude upon them or are they private spaces where people can say ‘we don’t want you on here because we don’t want to associate with your particular ideas’? That’s going to be interesting to try to regulate this in terms of stepping all over the first amendment again,” said Dr. Fitzgerald.

Positive

Like most modern-day inventions and concepts, social media has its negatives and its positives.

During the pandemic and quarantine, social media was used to not only spread lies but also kept people connected to their friends, families and schools.

It also helped mobilize the Black Lives Matter movement in the summer of 2020 and is cited as one of the contributing factors to the increased voter turnout among the younger population in the 2020 election.

“Social media can be used any good and in a bad way and I will always stand by that,” said Thompson.

Life as a College Student Now: A Lot Has Changed

Tracy Evatt

January 23, 2021

College students today are dealing with a different reality than college students of the past lived through. Although professors try to keep some normalcy, the everyday lives of students have changed.

Day-to-day interactions

The coronavirus impacted life in a variety of ways. The nature of the pandemic made personal interaction with teachers limited and has disrupted routines for students.

“None of my professors require us to meet at a set time so I work more hours and don’t have a set routine for school,” said Wright State University (WSU) student Abby Armstrong.

Armstrong, like many students, prefers a routine during school. There was, however, a positive for Armstrong; due to having more free time to study, she found her grades have been the best they have ever been this past semester.

Finances

Another issue students have faced is finances. The coronavirus has prompted many retailers and restaurants, among other institutions, to close indefinitely at some points.

Another WSU student, Brooke Shade, found some good in the pandemic even though they experienced issues with finances.

“We closed work like mid-March last year for a few weeks but then the stimulus checks that we got and unemployment stuff we got helped a lot,” said Shade.

Mental health

These peculiar circumstances have taken a toll on the mental health of students like costume design major Carrie Wieland.

“I guess when COVID started it was bad, but it kept going downhill through the summer,” said Wieland.

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According to Wieland, the reasons for their declining mental state were not being able to go out to do activities and being cooped up inside.

Fortunately, Wieland found that coming back to school and finding a semblance of a routine has certainly helped quite a bit.

Though it has been an unusual time, to say the least, there is hope to be found in people remaining resilient when the future seems so bleak.