

Wright State University

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The Guardian Student Newspaper

Student Activities

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## The Guardian, Week of April 26, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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Johnson and Johnson Vaccine Pause Lifted

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

April 26, 2021

On April 23, the CDC announced that the pause on the Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) Covid-19 vaccine would be lifted after being in place for ten days. The vaccine labels will be updated to include the risk of severe blood clots.

### **Johnson and Johnson pause**

On April 13, the FDA and CDC announced that a pause would be placed on the disbursement of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine after six women were diagnosed with both thrombocytopenia (low levels of blood platelets) and cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST, a severe form of blood clot).

“Right now, these adverse events appear to be extremely rare,” the FDA said on April 13. “COVID-19 vaccine safety is a top priority for the federal government, and we take all reports of health problems following COVID-19 vaccination very seriously.”

When the pause was announced, over seven million people in the United States had received the vaccine. College campuses across the nation, including Wright State University (WSU), were issuing the Johnson and Johnson vaccine in an effort to boost the vaccination rate among college students.

“Student Health Services and Wright State Physicians have paused the administration of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine based on a recommendation from the U.S. Federal Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,” WSU Physicians said in a public message on April 13.

### **Pause lifting**

After nearly two weeks of CDC and FDA joint effort to determine how to handle the Johnson and Johnson vaccine risks, the CDC announced on April 23 that the pause would be lifted, and vaccine bottle labels would be updated.

“We have concluded that the known and potential benefits of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine outweigh its known and potential risks in individuals 18 years of age and older,” acting FDA Commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock said in a statement to CNN.

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Johnson and Johnson vaccine clinics are able to resume as early as April 24. It is unknown at this time when WSU Physicians will resume providing the vaccine.

WSU Physicians offers the Moderna vaccine through April 30.

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WSU Baseball: Out of Conference Series Sets Good Feeling for Regionals

Noah Kindig

April 26, 2021

Because of their series against Oakland being canceled, Wright State University (WSU) Baseball played a series of hard-fought games against Florida Gulf Coast at a neutral site in Jacksonville, Alabama.

The Eagles currently sit third in the ASUN conference and took a 3-1 series against Kansas, and a 3-0 sweep against the University of South Florida.

Against such tough competition, it seemed like after the first five innings of game one FGCU would run away with all three games, but nine runs in four innings for WSU proved that the Raiders can play hard against the best of other conferences.

While FGCU did take the series 2-1, WSU's losses were only by a combined three runs, and their win in the second game was by seven runs.

Their play against Vanderbilt and Alabama before the regular season with their recent scores against FGCU set a good trend coming into the back half of Horizon league play.

## **Pitching up wins**

A big factor in the Raiders' success this year has come from the mound, with Austin Cline and Jake Shrand leading the charge.

Cline is averaging the best ERA in the Horizon League, and the 30 best in the Nation. He has also given up the least runs and the least hits in the league, while only allowing two home runs so far in the season.

Shrand and Bradley Brehmer aren't far behind, with all three in the top 10 for ERA in the HL, and top five in total strikeouts, each with 55 or more.

"Austin Cline [has been] phenomenal on the mound for us," Alex Sogard, Baseball Head Coach, said. "Our pitching has really been big for us."

Coming from the bullpen, WSU's other pitchers are also great at closing out games, and have proven themselves not only against FGCU but Horizon league teams as well.

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Mitch Gremling only allowed one run in the last two innings of WSU's win over the weekend series.

## **Hitting hard late**

Along with having great closing pitchers, the Raidergang's batters also have a knack for playing their best baseball in the last few innings.

In game one, the Raiders scored nine in the last four innings to nearly finish a comeback against FGCU, losing by one run 12-13.

In game two, it looked like the teams were in for another down to the wire game, with a 3-4 score coming into the eighth inning. Six runs in a single inning for the Raiders smashed through the game and gave them a 10-3 victory.

With the Raiders still first in the Horizon League after their weekend at NKU, if they can carry their later strength into full games, WSU Baseball could be a force coming into the postseason.

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Upcoming Graduates Reflect on the Wright State Experience

Maxwell Patton

April 27, 2021

As commencement for the Wright State University (WSU) class of spring 2021 approaches, seniors are reflecting on their time at the university and what they plan to accomplish afterward.

## Experiences at Wright State

One student who is reflecting on their time at WSU is mass communications major Samantha Ervin.

“There’s been some good times and there’s been some bad times, but that’s for everyone,” Ervin said. “College is what you make of it.”

Ervin kept to her studies during her time at the university.

“I mostly kept towards the books and studying and trying to hurry up and get to where I am now, where some people, they’d rather go party,” Ervin said.

Psychology student Shanice White has had a positive experience while at WSU. White’s best experiences at the university occurred during her freshman year.

“I think that’s really important, to go through school and to have that when you first come,” White said.

The experience of political science student Alexandria Applin, who is also a young mother, has also been positive.

“I get to walk away from Wright State having what people would try to say is a traditional experience, being involved in clubs, but I like to say that I was nontraditional in the best way possible,” Applin said

Applin says she likes to think that she was crazy to put so much on her plate.

Ervin is satisfied with what she has accomplished at WSU and does not wish she had done anything differently. According to White, however, they would have been more involved with student organizations, while Applin believes she would have joined an organization focused on building social relationships.

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The graduating class of spring 2021 experienced periods of both in-person and virtual learning. The transition for some students was difficult, while others have adjusted well to online classes.

“The professors are able to work with me and the class to not put so much work on us and just make sure they’re communicating how we’re feeling and extending deadlines,” White said.

## Looking ahead

Commencement for the class will be on April 30 and May 1, and Ervin, White and Applin are excited about the upcoming ceremonies.

“I’m just trying to get through finals, but right now, it doesn’t really feel like it’s happening but I know it’s going to come,” White said.

The biggest thing on Applin’s mind is finishing the semester with good grades.

“I have exams to get through, but I don’t want to end just not trying,” Applin said. “I want to give credit to my academic career and at least finish strong.”

Ervin likes that the commencement ceremony will still be broadcast live since many of her family members wished to attend and each student only receives four tickets.

After graduation, Ervin looks to obtain a job in the public relations field. White hopes to begin working and graduate from a clinical mental health program to become a mental health therapist. Applin will be attending the University of Cincinnati for law school and pursuing a fellowship with the Ohio Innocence Project.

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Miracle Makers Raise Over \$20,000 During Raiderthon Despite Pandemic

Jamie Naylor

April 27, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) philanthropic student organization Miracle Makers fundraised over \$20,000 during their modified Raiderthon despite the ongoing pandemic.

## **The organization**

Miracle Makers, a student-run organization that raises money for the Dayton Children's Hospital, normally hosts one large event called Raiderthon. Due to the global pandemic, however, they had to split their fundraising efforts into different events.

At the beginning of April, they hosted Penny Wars in the residence halls, a drive-in movie night, and a Grilled Cheese hotline. These combined made up this year's "Raiderthon."

According to Gina Keucher, staff advisor to the organization, their original fundraising goal for these events numbered \$69,000 dollars to represent the founding year of Dayton Children's Hospital. Adjusted down to \$20,000 due to the pandemic, the organization reached its goal. Together, these three events raised \$20,127.13, exceeding their adjusted goal.

## **Opinions from Miracle Makers**

Not able to do their traditional Raiderthon fundraiser, Miracle Makers still expressed success at these events, particularly their drive-in movie night.

"I was so glad to get back on campus and see the Miracle Makers team in person again. I am very proud of the hard work my team members put in to accomplish raising over \$20,000 this year for the kids," Abigail Addams, president of the organization for the 2021-2022 academic year, said.

Addams included that the success of this event caused the group to create plans to do another drive-in movie night in the 2021-2022 academic year. It is still unclear whether the traditional Raiderthon dance marathon will be back in Fall 2021.

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WSU Track and Field Prepare for HL Outdoor Championships

Noah Kindig

April 28, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) Track and Field finished up the regular season this past week with the Grizzly PR classic, the Gina Relays and the Redhawk Invitational.

The Raiders finished fourth out of eight in Oakland, with 18 top 10 finishes across all events at the Grizzly PR Classic, led by a 4×100 meter relay with a time of just over 50 seconds.

The Gina Relays had a sixth-place finish by Shelby Nolan in the 5000-meter championship, along with a 12th place overall finish for WSU.

In the Redhawk Invitational, a 4:13 in the 4×400 relay and big performances in sprints earned the raiders four top 10 finishes on the track, and a personal best in triple jump with another personal best in the high jump gave them 10 top 20 finishes as well.

## **Coming in at your best**

The team's times are still getting better coming into the HL Outdoor Championships.

A star playing is freshman Callista Hess. Along with a second-place finish at the Grizzly PR Classic in Triple Jump, she earned a personal best in the triple jump and in the high jump on the same day at the Redhawk Invitational.

Fellow freshman Alicia Neumeier also turned a personal best at the Redhawk Invitational, with a 4:42 in the 1500 meter.

Senior Shelby Nolan recorded her fastest time for WSU at the Gina Relays and will continue to improve coming into the Horizon League Championship.

For the entire team, its recent fourth out of eight finish at the Grizzly Invitational, as well as second at the Cherry Blossom Invitational on April 10, have been their best finishes over the entire season.

## **Look to the relays**

Coming into the championships, the Raiders will most likely look to their relays for the best possible result.

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The 4×100 relay of Morgan Miller, Kayle Willis, Jayla Tarver and Cameron Campell finished fourth at the Grizzly Invitational with a time of 50.61.

The 4×400 relay of Neumeier, Alycia Ruhlen, Emma Carr and Lauren Shuman also got a fourth-place finish, this time at the Redhawk invite with a time of 4:13.33.

Online Exams: Students and Professors Reflect  
Roxanne Roessner  
April 28, 2021

Students and professors are winding down for the spring semester of 2021. Finals season has changed because of the coronavirus, but professors are finding new ways to bring it new life.

### **Projects instead of exams**

English professor David Seitz does not give his students end of the semester exams. Instead, Seitz has the students work on projects that he can help with one on one.

“I’ve never had finals exams because my courses are project-driven. I always see the last few weeks as something more focused on working individually with students as needed. Final projects are either a combination of conferencing and also activities to help students as needed,” Seitz said.

When it comes to conferences, there are always issues with reaching students in the online format.

“When we were in an in-person classroom, I’d just walk up to that person and tell them that they needed to sign up for a conference. There was a lot more opportunity to keep in touch with the student,” Seitz said.

ASL professor Jodi Pierstorff also does not have final exams in a traditional sense.

“Honestly, I would prefer not to have finals. They are stressful not only for students but for instructors having to get them graded and have grades turned in on time. Since going to an online format, I have done away with the final receptive tests. I have, however, added more receptive quizzes and expressive assignments,” Pierstorff said.

According to Pierstorff, she believes, although online teaching has worked, teaching ASL is meant to be done in person. Pierstorff has a few new tricks which she can incorporate into an in-person class setting and misses the interaction between the students and herself.

Both Pierstorff and Seitz plan to incorporate more team activities in their next courses.

### **Final papers and final projects**

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WSU student Natalie Cunningham did not have any final exams this semester, only final papers or projects.

“Since I’m an English major, I don’t mind writing papers for finals and I think it’s pretty beneficial. The due dates for some of my papers or projects were a little earlier into finals week than I would have liked, but overall, no complaints,” Cunningham said.

According to Cunningham, she had good professors and classes that made this semester worthwhile.

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National Poetry Month: Celebrating the Art  
Maxwell Patton  
April 29, 2021

April 2021 marks the 25th annual National Poetry Month which celebrates poets from all walks of life and the art they create.

## **History**

The celebration began in 1996 from efforts of the Academy of American Poets, who wished to spread awareness and appreciation of poetry throughout the United States. The success of Black History Month and Women's History Month contributed to the month's establishment.

Two years later in 1998, Canada began observing the poetic festivities as well.

## **Observing the celebration**

Many events are held throughout the Miami Valley area and across the world to celebrate poets during April. The Dayton Metro Library is holding a poetry contest until April 30, inviting patrons to submit poems fit for a general audience.

The Greene County Public Libraries have created displays of their poetry books and invited patrons to create found poems based on different lines located in books.

"It's really a fun experiment for people who just want to give [poetry] a try and play around with language," Head Librarian of the Fairborn Community Library Ann Cooper said.

Within the larger event is National Poetry Writing Month, or NaPoWriMo, where each day, poets receive different writing prompts that they can use to write poems.

WSU alum Johnathon Gallienne sees National Poetry Month as a time for educators to set aside to focus on teaching poetry.

"They can touch on everything from the sonnets of William Shakespeare, to someone like Emily Dickinson, into the slam poetry scene and even song lyrics," Gallienne said. "It provides an opportunity to step away from the novel, which is what I recall being the main focus of the non-specialized English classes I was in in high school and college."

## **The process of poetry writing**

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Poetry professor Chris DeWeese shares the ways in which poetry can be created.

“For some, the main pleasure of learning about writing poetry comes from the permission I give them to approach reading poems not as riddles to be deciphered but as experiences to be enjoyed and then understood,” DeWeese said.

Other times, students can create a well-crafted piece after many attempts. Being able to do this takes a large amount of patience and work.

“Sometimes a lot of that work is clearing away one’s preconceptions about how a poem ought to behave, in order to let the writing of the poem surprise oneself,” DeWeese said.

## **Playing with language**

Poems come in a variety of forms. Some forms involve rhyme schemes, while others invite writers to experiment with unrhymed, free-verse lines. Each lets the writer play with metaphors and other types of language to create visuals in their readers’ minds.

The language of poetry has changed significantly between ancient times and the modern age, though poets from all ages have responded to the world around them with imagination and energy.

“The Roman poet Gaius Valerius Catullus was writing scandalous invectives in 70 B.C. that I think would kill today if he performed them at an open mic night,” DeWeese said.

Venturing into poetry allows individuals to gain inspiration from the mundane and a greater appreciation for the works of their fellow storytellers.

“When you see someone in the slam scene perform a piece that they wrote that means the world to them, you gain a better understanding of who they are as a person, and that in turn, hopefully, expands your view of what we as a people can be,” Gallienne said.

WSU Students and Alumni Celebrate National Bubble Tea Day

Kaylee Raines

April 30, 2021

On April 30, boba fans across the country will celebrate National Bubble Tea Day by splurging on the delicious drink. Bubble tea, also known as boba tea, is gaining popularity across the globe. With a diverse array of flavors and styles, bubble tea continues to gain momentum as a trendy, Instagrammable favorite.

Wright State University (WSU) students and alumni are looking forward to using this special day as an excuse to treat themselves and offer their suggestions for what to order and where to go for boba.

### **What exactly *is* bubble tea?**

According to a Food and Wine article on bubble tea, boba was created in the 80s in Taipei Taiwan. The boba itself is derived from tapioca starch balls that are boiled and then served at the base of these drinks. Over time, it has evolved to include fruity, juicy options in addition to the original milk tea flavors.

“The tea became known as boba because the term is slang for breasts in Chinese (a reference to the spherical shape of the tapioca balls),” Food and Wine writer Priya Krishna said in an article.

### **Where can people find bubble tea in Dayton?**

There are several restaurants and cafes in the Dayton area that serve bubble tea. Some of these options include Yumi Boba Tea, Billie Gold Bubble Tea and Blossom Juicy Bar.

A quick day trip to the Cincinnati area will introduce Paris Banhmi, Kung Fu Tea, Milk Jar and Tea N’ Bowl as additional options for bubble tea.

WSU alumni Shelby Lynn York is a huge fan of bubble tea and is eager to celebrate National Bubble Tea Day. Her favorite places to get boba are Billie Gold Bubble Tea, Yumi Boba and Wat Da Pho.

“I love to get boba tea from Billie Gold Bubble Tea. It’s a local food truck owned by the most adorable ladies. I’ve been following them around the Dayton area since they first got established,” York said.

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As far as her go-to drink goes, York insists that passion fruit with traditional tapioca bubbles and mango jelly stars is a reliable, delicious choice.

WSU student Alex Dang is starting on his Master's degree in Management Information Systems this fall. He is a huge fan of bubble tea and enjoys drinks from numerous cafes and restaurants.

According to Dang, Wat Da Pho and other Asian restaurants in the Dayton area have some amazing boba options. For Dang, it is about the experience and he is open to trying boba anywhere that it is served— not just a cafe or restaurant that is primarily focused on serving bubble tea.

"I like to try different flavors but my favorite would probably be frozen mango with boba and lychee jelly," Dang said.

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Breaking: Sheriff Investigating Shooting at Province Apartments

Maxwell Patton

May 1, 2021

In a campus-wide email Saturday afternoon, Wright State University reported that a shooting occurred off-campus at the Province Apartments at around 11:43 a.m. Saturday morning.

The Province Apartments is a community located at the intersection of Zink Rd. and Kauffman Ave. The apartments are popular among Wright State students.

Wright State Police have confirmed this to be an isolated incident. According to the email, the unidentified suspect is currently in custody and poses no threat to the Dayton Campus community.

Whether any members of that community were involved in the incident remains unknown at the time of writing. The Greene County Sheriff's Office is continuing to investigate the shooting.

This incident is the second nearby off-campus shooting this year. The previous was at the Cimarron Apartments, which is also located off of Zink Rd.

*This story is developing.*