Wright State fights hate speech vandalism on campus

Sarah Cavender
News Writer

Throughout the last couple of weeks, the Wright State University police department has investigated several incidents of hate speech written on bathroom stalls on campus.

The graffiti attacked several different groups of people, and included phrases from, “Black Lives Don’t Matter Here” to “Women are our property” and “Submit as God commands you to.” The graffiti also targeted those of Jewish and Islamic background and those with liberal beliefs.

The locations of these incidents have been a subject of debate. Photos of graffiti have circulated on social media, but there have also been incident reports with no photos. The incident at the Medical Science building has been confirmed.

Other incidents of hate speech were reported at the Boonshoft School of Medicine, Millet Hall, the Student Union, and Oelman Hall.

“I don’t think they are fit to be in this community; we will do everything we can to address this behavior to whatever extent is possible under the law and university policy,” said Matthew Boaz, Officer of Equity and Inclusion.

“Many students feel threatened within the organization. Students don’t feel comfortable coming forward because they see that administrators won’t do anything,” said Asia Miller, Vice President of the NAACP student chapter.

After the second incident President Schrader tweeted out an emergency meeting with students to listen to their thoughts. A little less than 100 people attended the meeting, demanding answers and change.

The meeting left many students feeling less than confident. “The school is handling this because it’s vandalism, not because what was written. It’s not reassuring,” said Jasmine Howell, President of Black Women Striving Forward.

“If people feel strongly about what was said, people should actively seek out the black organizations or other organizations that were affected by this,” said Howell.

These incidents are not reflective of the WSU community, according to Boaz.

"This is someone or some people who don’t embrace what we’re truly about and when that happens we have to respond in a way that says we are taking our community back,” Boaz stated. “We heard you. We can do better and we will do better.”

The school is currently working on gathering information through surveys and seeking other solutions.

There is an ongoing police investigation of these incidents.

“I want people to know they can come to me,” said Dominique McPaul, Director of Diversity, Inclusion, and International Affairs of the Student Government Association (SGA). “SGA is trying to find ways to remediate on campus.”
A typical “flu season” lasts from October to February, and is characterized by the significant increase in flu outbreaks. This is the time of year when many individuals flock to get a flu shot before they become infected with the influenza virus.

The traditional flu vaccine is made to combat three different viruses.

Student Health Services on campus are currently offering the vaccine. “No appointment is necessary, but please bring your health insurance card and Wright1 ID. The flu vaccine will be available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. until the supply has been exhausted,” according to their website.

Although needles can be scary for some, Dr. Leatha Ross, director of Student Health Services says the shot is important. “The flu shot can help an individual from getting the flu. If you get the flu vaccine and still get the flu the flu illness may be less severe. Also, getting the flu vaccine helps keep you from spreading the flu to your family and other people.”

On campus, the vaccine is only delivered by needle, not nasally and it is not a live virus vaccine.

“Since we received our vaccine we have given between 50 to 75 per week,” Ross said.

For more information on the vaccine or other student health services call (937) 775-2552 or email studenthealthservices@wright.edu.
Men’s soccer beats NKU, 1-0

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

The WSU men’s soccer team won a close game on Saturday, Sept. 21 by beating Northern Kentucky (NKU) 1-0 at Alumni field.

The game got off to a slow start, with neither team scoring in the first 30 minutes of the game. Both teams swapped possessions numerous times throughout those first 30 minutes. WSU shot twice in that time, with only one going on goal.

Then in the 38th minute of the game, Stefan Rokvic scored his seventh goal of the season off an assist from Sam DeRoy to give WSU the 1-0 lead.

The second half saw more of the same defensively. Neither team could get consistent shots on goal, and when they did the goalies shut them down.

WSU goalkeeper Alex Williams recorded the shutout with four saves. WSU had a total of ten shots, five on goal, while NKU took eight shots, four on goal.

The difference in the game was WSU’s midfielders and defenders. Only allowing four shots on goal is rare in a college game, and they continued to dominate despite the offense only scoring one goal for them the entire game.

WSU got their ninth win of the season, and travel to Cleveland State on Saturday, Oct 28 to take on the Vikings.
Comedian "The Hearing Aid Guy" a hit at WSU

Angel Lane

Features Editor

Dj Demers, a deaf, hearing-aid-wearing comedian, recently stopped at WSU on his "Here to Hear" tour.

"Many people express the sentiment to me that 'it must be very hard' to perform stand-up comedy with a hearing impairment. They are absolutely right, and I am a goddamn hero," Demers joked in an interview with Hearing Like Me.

American Sign Language students and other students gathered in the Medical Science lecture hall for a night of laughs put on by the University Activities Board.

“I wear hearing aids myself, I was very intrigued. I am always interested in learning different perspectives of those with hearing aids,” sophomore Sarah Phillips said. “Personally, I found him to be quite funny. A number of his comments on hearing loss were things I could relate to. I loved that he brought awareness to hearing aids in a humorous way.”

Demers said during his performance he embraces the fact that he started to become known as “The Hearing Aid Guy” because he knew that people were enjoying those jokes the most and he used it to his advantage.

After his success performing on season 11 of America’s Got Talent, two performances on Conan and winning the 2014 Homegrown Comics Competition at the Just For Laughs festival in Montreal, Demers recently released his first album “Indistinct Chatter.”

Phillips said she would absolutely watch Demers again if he were to return. “At one point, DJ remarked that he wouldn’t want his situation to be any different. I can identify with this,” she said.

Even with a physical disability and many medical challenges, Phillips said she relates to Demers in having a positive outlook on her life.

"I wouldn’t want to change my life for anything in the world. I am completely content, and my life is more meaningful because of what I’ve been through. I am one of the lucky ones,” Phillips shared after watching Demer’s performance.

Check out Demers Conan performance here and his America’s Got Talent Performance here.
Rockafield Cemetery commemorates donors

Sarah Cavender
News Writer

Those who have hiked the trails at Wright State University may have noticed a small cemetery located in the back of the school.

For some, this may seem eerie and confusing, but this cemetery is actively used by the medical school as a place to honor and lay to rest those that have chosen to be a donor of the Anatomical Gift Program.

The program, which was started in 1975, allows men and women to donate their remains to the WSU Boonshoft School of Medicine for research about the structure and functions of the human body. Some donors choose to be buried within the Rockafield Cemetery after the students’ research is complete.

The Anatomical Gift Program is specific to Wright State and is not affiliated with other organ donation agencies.

The walkway in the cemetery is composed of memorial bricks with the donors’ names, dates of birth and death engraved on them. The bricks are purchased by family members or friends, even if the donor is not buried in Rockafield Cemetery.

There are over 100 bricks that lay on the paths of the cemetery along with flowers, flags and memorial benches.

The university also holds a yearly Ceremony of Appreciation for the friends and family members of those that donated to the Anatomical Gift Program. The last ceremony held was in September with students, faculty members and administrators actively involved.

The cemetery is open to the public except during the Ceremony of Appreciation.

Those that are interested can find out more information on the Boonshoft School of Medicine’s website.
Viral comedian Action Jaxon now enrolled at Wright State

Brian Patch
Sports Editor

Jaxon Trammell, better known as Action Jaxon, is a comedian with over 600,000 followers on Facebook, and over 70,000 subscribers on youtube.

The popular social media star chose to further his education at Wright State University starting this year.

Born and raised in Dayton, OH, Trammell went to Thurgood Marshall High School.

Trammell got his start on social media by posting a “roast” video of a popular comedian/actor named DC Young Fly. The video went viral, even causing DC himself to share the video among his followers. From there, Trammell continued to make roast videos on various people and things, and as his popularity grew he began booking gigs at various comedy clubs across the country.

Trammell also got to do a tour with some of the cast members from a MTV series called "Wild’N Out", which was created by comedian Nick Cannon, and has featured comedians such as Kevin Hart and Brandon T. Jackson over the years.

Trammell went on tour with fellow comedians Matt Rife, Emmanuel Hudson and Darren Brand at the Atlanta Comedy Theatre.

Trammell said that even though he is a comedian, he was never a class clown type of person growing up, mostly being reserved and quiet.

“I’ve always been really quiet, even antisocial at times,” he said. “But I was always told by my family and good friends that I was funny and that I can be goofy at times too. Social media has been a great platform for me to make people laugh, and I’m really thankful for that.”

Even with being an up and coming comedian, Trammell still wanted to further his education. Wright State became the ideal place for him because of its proximity to his home and the diversity WSU has to offer.

“I chose WSU because it’s really close to home," he said. “It’s also a really diverse school and I love being around a diverse group of people. They also have a great nursing program which is what I’m interested in. Those things made WSU an easy choice for me."

Trammell says that going to school full-time while also being a comedian can be challenging at times.

“When I get booked to travel and go out to different cities, sometimes I have to decide if I want to let that interfere with my class or study time. I like putting my education first as much as I can, but sometimes it can be difficult." 

Despite the challenges, Action Jaxon is living his dream. He does what he has a passion for while also continuing his education in a field that interests him.
“I just want to keep working on my craft. Just continue to be me and not change up for anything, both as a comedian and a student,” he said.

Car assistance on campus
Angel Lane
Features Editor

Wright State’s parking and transportation services offer a motorist assistance help line for students and faculty on the Dayton campus in need of a battery jump, air for tires or a gallon of gas, according to their website. A campus shuttle is also available to transport students to certain locations.

Ileene Archer in Parking and Transportation Services confirmed these motorist assistance services are free, and the information for parking and transportation and motorist assistance are on the back of parking permits. There is no limit to how many times students can call for help.

The campus police can also help you if you get locked out of your car. Mass communications senior Angel Lane called the campus police earlier this semester when she locked herself out of her car on campus.

"It wasn't likely that I could get the spare [key] any time soon -- if even that same day” because of the distance between campus and her mother’s home. Following the recommendation of her mom, Lane then called motorist assistance on campus.

An officer arrived at her location within 10 minutes and was able to get into her car in about five minutes with tools.

“I was terrified and embarrassed, but the officer was such a cool guy,” Lane said.

“I’m very thankful that this service is offered on campus and that the officer was so understanding and nice."

The number for motorist assistance is 937-775-5678, and the campus police department number for a battery jump is 937-775-2111.
Season Preview: Women’s Basketball

Brian Patch
Sports Editor

The Wright State Women’s Basketball team is coming off a historic year for the program. This year, they went 25-9 on the year, including a 14-2 record at the Nutter Center and a 13 game winning streak from Jan. 5 -- Feb. 14.

Coming off such a successful season, the team is looking to take the next step this coming season by winning the conference and getting a bid into the NCAA tournament in March.

Last season, first-year head coach Katrina Merriweather won the 'Horizon League Coach Of The Year.'

The team only graduated one senior, and is returning seven players, which leaves Merriweather excited for what this year’s team can accomplish.

“Our veterans that are coming back have done a really good job improving this offseason,” she said. “They’ve also been very good at taking the incoming players under their wing. There’s a lot of peer coaching going on in a positive way.”

With such a talented team returning, the expectations are as high as they’ve ever been at Wright State. Even with that, the team has set no season win total goals or individual goals.

“A lot of our success last year happened because we took one day at a time,” Merriweather said. “We looked up and saw the 13 straight wins, and of course the media had mentioned it, but we as a team never talked about it. We approach every game the same way, which helps us to not underestimate any opponent and therefore always put our best effort out on the floor.”

Playing with a competitive nature should be easy this season with the return of players like Chelsea Welch, who averaged almost 19 points a game last season, and Lexi Smith, who added close to 13 points and nine rebounds a game.

The women’s basketball team opens up their season with an exhibition match against Indianapolis on Wednesday, Nov. 1 at the Nutter Center.
Is Wright State haunted?

Angel Lane

Features Editor

Whether you believe in ghosts or not -- scary things happen on campus. It is rumored that Wright Patterson Air Force Base have a couple of haunted buildings and planes. The base is built around the “haunted” Arnold House. A team of ghost hunters even investigated and confirmed multiple entities were discovered.

Many deaths have occurred on the WSU campus, according to past news sources. The names are left out, in respect of the families. One of these deaths happened in the Woods campus housing. It is rumored to have been a medical emergency, but students say you can still hear video games coming from the empty room.

Another student committed suicide in campus housing, and an employee died at the Starbucks on campus. Currently, there are no rumors of a “haunted Starbucks.”

In the Hamilton Hall dorms, unexplained things happen regularly. It could all be put off as electrical issues or explained in some other un-ghostly way, but it is one of the oldest buildings on campus. Elevators will randomly go when no one is in them, lights that were certainly off are suddenly discovered back on.

When theater studies major Lawrence Matthews was just a freshman living in Hamilton Hall, he was trapped in an elevator for over an hour. The terrifying event that would haunt anyone with a fear of tight spaces forever -- happened when someone crashed into a transformer, causing the power to go out.

“It was about an hour and a half wait and I kept thinking about going through the top of the elevator to find a way out,” Matthews shared.

Matthews said everyone in the Hamilton Hall lobby could hear him yelling about how hot it was getting in the elevator, when finally the power came back on, and the elevator went back to normal.

Matthews escaped unharmed.
Volleyball falls to NKU
Tevin Carter-Tolbert
Sports Writer

The Wright State Women’s volleyball team had a Horizon League matchup against Northern Kentucky University. Wright State's team lost 3-1 to Northern Kentucky at McLin Gym at Wright State's campus.

The first set went to the Raiders, and could’ve been used to set the tone for the match; however the Norse proved to be too much in the next three sets. The Raiders tied the game three times at 22-22, 23-23, and 24-24 before taking the lead at 25-24 after an error by the Norse.

Wright State finished the set with 19 kills, for a .326 hitting percentage, while Northern Kentucky finished with 15 kills for a .326 hitting percentage.

In the second set, the Norse turned it around, winning 25-20. The Norse started out hot on a 6-1 run over the Raiders. The Raiders came back with a 6-1 run of their own later in the set, to draw the game within 2 points.

A service error by the Raiders gave the Norse the final point of the set. Wright State finished set two with 12 kills, while Northern Kentucky finished with 11 kills.

The third set saw both teams jockeying for momentum, trading points back-and-forth for a great portion of it.

Despite this, a 5-1 run by the Norse late in the game ended the third set with Northern Kentucky winning 25-17. This set left the Raiders hanging on, needing to win set four.

Set four saw both teams come out strong, trading back-and-forth from the beginning of the set. However, in this set the Norse had a couple of runs which ultimately was too much for the Raiders to handle.

Northern Kentucky ended winning this set as well, 25-11.

This loss moves the Raiders to 3-6 in the Horizon League, and 9-13 on the season. The Norse sits at 5-4 in the league, with an overall record of 9-9.

The Raiders look to bounce back as they have a few more Horizon League matchups on the schedule in the near future.
WSU football team dominates Pittsburgh 33-6

Brian Patch
Sports Editor

The Wright State football team got a huge home win beating the University of Pittsburgh Panthers club football team 33-6.

WSU dominated the game, only allowing Pitt to score once the entire game, while scoring five touchdowns themselves.

Freshman quarterback Darian Arteaga had a great game for the Raiders, finishing with three touchdown passes and consistently moving the WSU offense down the field. His ability to throw on the run helped WSU extend plays into positive yardage the entire game.

Arteaga was helped tremendously by his offensive line and his receivers, including junior slot receiver Drew Danner. In the third quarter, Arteaga found Danner three times on one drive alone, which ultimately resulted in a touchdown.

On the defensive side, the Raiders shut out Pitt in the first half. The front seven of the Raider defense dominated the line of scrimmage, which shut down the Panther run game. Even more so shut down was the Panther passing game. Pittsburgh’s quarterback never threw the ball over 20 yards down the field, and several times he had to throw the ball out of bounds because no one was open.

The game ended with a bit of controversy from both teams. Up 20 points with less than two minutes to go, WSU chose to continue to throw the ball and score a touchdown instead of running out the clock. This ran up the score, while also giving the Panthers the ball back with only 30 seconds left in a blowout.

When the Panthers got the ball back, several players from both teams started pushing and shoving each other in the middle of the field, which resulted in coaches and referees having to break the two teams up. One Pittsburgh player had to be restrained by two coaches, and he eventually slammed his helmet on the turf as he walked off the field.

Nevertheless, both teams met midfield after the game to shake hands, and almost all players left in good spirits and showed good sportsmanship.

WSU plays the Ohio State University club football team next week in Columbus, Ohio.
Movies to enjoy the Halloween season
Kelsey Powell
Contributing Writer

Whether you love classic horror movies, horror comedies or family friendly Halloween movies there are many different streaming services and stations so you can watch all your Halloween favorites.

Netflix has so many horror movie categories -- but they offer something for everyone. I even watched two of their horror comedies, and was not completely disappointed.

The first one I decided to watch was "The Babysitter", which is about a young boy who spies on his babysitter. He finds unsettling news when she invites her friends over so that can sacrifice him to the devil.

He outsmarts them all and ends up killing them without really trying and he realizes he’s more grown-up than he thought.

It’s one of those good old coming of age stories only with a horror comedy twist, it was better than I thought it would be and I would say it's worth the time to sit down and get a few laughs. It is somewhat gory so if you’re not into that, then this probably isn’t for you.

Next, I watched "Little Evil" which is also a Netflix original horror comedy.

"Little Evil" is about Gary (Adam Scott) who marries the love of his life and becomes a step-father to what he believes a six-year old Antichrist.

Once Gary starts to bond with his step son, he realizes that all he needs is love to make the child whole again. Gary realizes how much he loves his step son and sacrifices everything to save him.

This movie was good but not great, I felt like it took a little while to get to where it was going. When we got there, it was good and there were tons of dry comedy which I’m a fan of.

Again, I would say it’s worth your time because it gets better as the movie goes on but it is an acquired taste so keep that in mind.

If these or anything else on Netflix doesn’t interest you, there are other ways to watch your favorites.

Freeform has already started their 13 Nights of Halloween, but you can still catch all your family friendly favorites like Hocus Pocus and ParaNorman.

AMC FearFest has started already but all the classics will be playing like Halloween, Freddy vs. Jason, Nightmare on Elm Street and Curse of Chucky.

Some other TV channels you might want to tune into are Scifi’s 31 Days of Halloween, Monstober on Disney Channel and TCM.
Celebrate Halloween this year with all your favorite scary, classic or horror comedy movies -- and maybe add some new ones to the list.