

THE WOOSTER BLADE

on campus	2
focus	3
sports I	4
squibs I	5
spectrum	6-7
squibs II	8
sports II	9
impressions	10
arts	11
views	12

Human Anatomy class attends surgery

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WHS students taking Human Anatomy and Physiology classes had the opportunity that many people will never receive.

They were able to view an open-heart surgery at the Wooster Cleveland Clinic that was being performed in Cleveland.

In these classes, students learn about structure and functions of the human body. A structure of the human body that is very important to the body, is the human heart, and that's exactly what the students, were currently learning about in their Human Anatomy classes.

This is the second year that the Cleveland Clinic has allowed students from WHS to view a live operation

through its Civic Education Initiatives Worldwide Classroom program. Last year students saw a brain surgery.

This program is provided so that students can gain a better understanding of complex structures and processes in the human body.

Todd Patterson, the Anatomy teacher at WHS, was the one of many people who made this experience possible. Patterson was kept on the mailing list because of his involvement in last years program, and this allowed him to share this rare experience with his students this year.

Patterson's favorite thing about this unique field trip is giving the students the opportunity to see surgery in real time. He then added that, " Studying from a book is one thing...actually being

there is a whole different ball game."

Patterson strongly recommends this class to other students that have interests in medicine and health care, and seeing something like an open-heart surgery would really benefit those students.

Lindsey Edmunds (11) and Lauren Milner (11), juniors at WHS, both went on the field trip to Wooster Cleveland Clinic. Edmunds explained that she really enjoyed watching them shut down the heart, which she explained is an arrest. She also explained that the doctors had to shut down the heart and the lungs, and the body was left to survive on a machine.

"It was really different than I thought it [the surgery] would be," she claimed. Edmunds also added that it wasn't as gruesome as she

thought the surgery was going to be.

Milner also enjoyed the trip. "Seeing the heart start beating after they put the valve back in was my favorite part," Milner said.

Students currently taking this class went through a whole unit about the heart before going. Students had to learn the anatomy and the physiology of the human heart along with how surgeons can restructure it.

Patterson also explained the students all have individual projects to create models on some of the functions of the human heart and assess other students heart models.

As a part of the whole experience, on Oct. 5 students dissected cow and sheep hearts. For more information, the Cleveland Clinic can be reached at 330-287-4500.