ISU Police make arrest related to racist act

AMES, Iowa – Iowa State University Police arrested 18-year-old Nathan Page in connection to criminal conduct discovered Saturday, Aug. 22 at Roberts Hall.

Chief Michael Newton says officers were called to the residence hall after a staff member discovered their residential storage room was burglarized and vandalized with a racist slur, historically targeted at the Black community. Officers also discovered damage to furniture and property in other areas of Roberts Hall. Page is facing charges of criminal trespass with vandalism and 3rd and 4th degree criminal mischief.

“Our crime scene investigators did a great job of collecting evidence, which helped identify a suspect,” Newton said. “This was a cowardly act and it was important that we could quickly make an arrest.”

Iowa State’s Department of Residence and Division of Student Affairs continue to provide resources and support for the staff member and other students in the building. Students also have the option to move to another residence hall.

“We will not tolerate this type of the behavior on our campus,” said Toyia Younger, senior vice president for student affairs. “The university is working hard to make sure we protect all students and provide a welcoming environment.”

In addition to criminal charges, the Dean of Students Office will consider student code of conduct charges. Due to federal privacy laws, the university will not discuss nor share information concerning a student’s conduct record.

ISU Police are working with the Story County Attorney on the possibility of additional or enhanced charges.