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Students flock to fall festivities



ELIZABETH KLEIN/THE CREIGHTONIAN

At the Homecoming Week Kickoff event, Billy the Bluejay greeted students on the mall as they gathered for a free meal, T-shirts and entered a raffle. Homecoming Week events such as the bonfire and a hypnotist show were also advertised to students.

Blue Crew tryouts blow away

ELIZABETH JONES
News Editor

Creighton’s Blue Crew, which “attends volleyball, women’s basketball and men’s basketball games, along with assisting various events on campus” to promote school spirit, according to gocreighton.com, hosted sixty try-outs last week.

Students showed up to their 10-minute tryout slots in a variety of Creighton spirit gear.

The tryout itself consisted of answering why they want to join the crew, what makes them a good fit and what other activities they are involved in. This was followed by singing the Creighton fight song and dancing to a random song for about 30 seconds. Students were also asked a set of fun questions, which differed in each tryout.

Questions were interview style and the Blue Crew executives said they were looking for students with the best spirit, energy and confidence.

“It is mostly based off spirit,” Blue Crew president Nathan Marquardt said.

The new crew members also need to be able to interact well with the rest of the crew. “We know the energy of our team,” Faith Geis, the executive for public relations, said. “We’re always with a different combination of people for games, but that energy stays the same and needs to stay the same.”

In total, tryouts lasted for about 10 hours. “When you’re sitting in the same spot asking the same questions over and over again, it dragged on,” scheduler Claire Williams said. “It’s a lot of fun, still, though.”

The executive team explained that they spent their breaks trying to keep energy up. “We’re going on hour nine now, so we find ways to make it fun,” Marquardt said in-between tryouts.

For the list of new members visit creightonian.com

Jeopardy night for Universal Healthcare

ELLA GERAGHTY
News Reporter

The Creighton chapter of Students for a National Health Plan held a health policy trivia night for their first ever meeting.

SNaHP is the student branch of Physicians for a National Health Plan and is dedicated to health policy reform, specifically reforming current policy to a single-payer system which would provide equitable healthcare to all Americans.

Creighton’s SNaHP chapter is the first of its kind, including both medical students and undergraduates in the club. The typical SNaHP chapter includes only medical stu-

dents.

India Claflin, a third-year medical student at Creighton University founded this club after interning for a summer with PNHP.

Her passion for working on health policy reform is what led her to start Creighton’s SNaHP chapter with the help of Allison Benjamin, a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences.

“This is our first official year existing in Omaha,” Claflin said, “I’m excited to connect with other chapters and the Omaha community to educate about the benefits of universal healthcare.”

SNaHP’s trivia night covered topics such as the cost-effectiveness of universal health-

care, what countries have begun using universal healthcare and what benefits universal healthcare is predicted to supply to Americans.

With members having all levels of knowledge, two teams competed in the trivia contest while enjoying conversation about our nation’s healthcare system and how SNaHP will be educating on health policy reform.

Isabel Kidd, a sophomore Neuroscience major on the Pre-Med track said, “I find SNaHP interesting because I find our nation’s healthcare system frustrating. It’s refreshing to see how students care about reforming these policies for the good of others.”

COVID-19 INFOBOX

Information courtesy of: creighton.edu/about/covid-19-response

Testing:
At Home test are available in the Mcgloin Market.

If you’re sick:
Contact your professor about how to adapt.

Wear a mask when roommate is present and stay in room as much as possible.

Brandeis has the most to-go food options.

VIP Center and Residential Life promote safety

ALISON FRIEDRICH
News Reporter

The Violence Intervention and Prevention Center and Residential Life held a “Safety Series Thursday” to discuss campus safety. Associate Director of the VIP center Sarika Griffin spoke to students about ways to stay safe on campus. She discussed theft protection, physical and personal safety, acquaintance safety, social media safety, fire safety and what safety resources are available for students.

Many things can prevent theft around campus, especially in the dorms. Keep a record of all valuables and keep them locked up and hidden. Don’t share your room key with anyone. Put your name on all belongings and don’t leave them unattended anywhere on campus.

Most importantly, always lock your doors. “Room robberies were a huge portion of the presentation that will stay with me; they are actually very common,” freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, Bree Doll said. “The presenters were good at reminding us that we should never leave our doors unlocked or opened at any point.”

Acquaintance and personal safety are also very important on campus. Respecting boundaries plays a large role in staying safe. Part of this involves being an active listener, paying attention to nonverbal communication such as body language, and practicing

“The presenters were good at reminding us that we should never leave our doors unlocked or opened at any point.”

**-Bree Doll
Freshman
College of Arts and Sciences**

transparency. To ensure personal safety, always watch out for your peers. If you see something out of the ordinary or suspicious, report it immediately. It can be helpful to walk in well-lit areas and carry some sort of pepper spray or a whistle when walking around campus at night. There are blue emergency stations located around campus that contact police services if activated. Learning where these are located on campus is important. Letting friends know where you are and possible times you’ll be home are important as well. “One tip that I use is the buddy system,” College of Arts and Sciences freshman Marissa Huikko said. “I try not to go out at night without at least one other person, if I do end up walking alone, we learned that we should be aware of our surroundings and make sure someone knows where you are.”



BELLE BRADY / THE CREIGHTONIAN

Oliver Halliwell, Kristen Schuling and Sarika Griffin of Residential Life and VIP Center host their first Safety Series of the year.

Considering social media safety, Griffin urged students to never share passwords with anyone, only share your location with people you trust and to have a two-factor authentication system set up on your devices. Fire safety is important to know when living in the dorms. In case of a fire, leave all belongings behind, wake your roommates if

needed and exit together quickly and calmly. There are also bleeding kits in each of the dorms. There are several resources on campus available to all students including Public Safety and the Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, Student counseling services and CHI Health services.



Weekly Campus Safety Report

This is a selection of incidents chosen by the Editor in Chief and is not a comprehensive weekly report. The full report is compiled in the Daily Crime Log which anyone can access in the Public Safety office located at 2222 Burt St.

- 1

September 11 - 01:23 a.m.
A report was filed for vandalism to the Kiewit Hall 5th floor fire exit signs.
- 2

September 11 - 01:34 a.m.
A student reported a knee injury in Swanson Hall. The Omaha Fire Department responded and transported the student to CHI Health CUMC-University Campus.
- 3

September 12 - 09:48 a.m.
A student suffered a seizure in the Hitchcock Building, but did not request further medical assistance.
- 4

September 12 - 10:45 a.m.
A student reported receiving a noticed she was being tracked on her cell phone.

Colors and culture: remembering 9/11



For the full article visit creighton.com

KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

The Tri-Faith United We Walk event featured Creighton’s dance company, members of Omaha’s Tri-Faith Initiative and Creighton SCSJ students; they all attended in reflection of 9/11.

New CSU position to focus on mental health

OLIVIA DIXON
News Reporter

The Creighton Students Union has announced it will add the new position of Student Wellness Coordinator to its team.

The Student Wellness Coordinator will work as a liaison between the student body and Student Counseling Services, as well as other departments across Creighton’s campus.

CSU President Frankie Pastor-Rivera expressed the need for more mental health support in the wake of recent events.

“In addition to COVID and other illnesses, we’re starting to see a worldwide pandemic of mental health,” Pastor-Rivera says. “A lot of people are beginning to become cognizant and aware of mental health implications, specifically in young adults.”

According to a study from PubMed Cen-

tral, “48% of young adults had mental health symptoms” following the COVID-19 pandemic. The study found a strong need for “interventions and further research to reduce barriers to seeking and utilizing mental health care.”

Pastor-Rivera acknowledges that being open about mental health puts one in a vulnerable position, and he hopes that the Student Wellness Coordinator can help to “further remove the stigma” that surrounds this problem.

Rivera hopes that the Student Wellness Coordinator will provide a greater student voice in creating mental health events.

SCS currently offers several workshops and events for all students along with various other services. They focus on various topics including anxiety and stress relief, mindfulness, depression and body image.

“Sometimes we do programming, but per-

haps [do] not have a student voice included in that programming,” Pastor-Rivera says. “The whole point of this role is to be better connected with students.”

Rivera worked with SCS Director Jennifer Peter for two months to design the Student Wellness Coordinator position, which was approved by the student legislature in April 2022.

The position has not yet been filled; CSU is currently working to find a student who will be a good fit for the role.

The Student Wellness Coordinator will work a minimum of 10 hours per week in the CSU office within the Student Leadership and Involvement Center.

“One of their assignments is to think of ways we can continue to connect student government with various departments across campus to address students’ needs,” says Pastor-Rivera. They will also find opportunities

for more mental health programs that are similar to those already held by SCS.

The Student Wellness Coordinator will be advised by SCS and the CSU advisors.

The role is open to all students at Creighton. The term will begin next January; the current fall semester will be used to interview applicants and secure a student for the role.

CSU is providing a link to departments on campus for students who are interested in the role. Interested students can contact CSU and connect with the organization’s social media for more information.

“What I’m looking for in this role is someone who’s open-minded, outgoing and willing to share their stories with students,” says Rivera. “It’s a role that answers to the issues of our time.”



BELLE BRADY / THE CREIGHTONIAN

Alyssa Strode, Cleo Wear, Claire Reid, Erin Guardi, Isabel Gottlieb, Ela Paske and Lauren Knollenberg, pictured L-R, fundraise for women’s heart health.

Carnival fundraiser captures hearts

NAOMI SAGE
Scene Reporter

The sorority group Alpha Phi, organized a fundraising event called Red Dress Kickoff to raise funds and awareness for women’s heart health.

The event was a humble one taking place at the KFC courtyard from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Attendees were treated to various attractions including a cornhole game, carnival food stalls and a dunk tank.

Despite its small size and seclusion amongst the trees, a high turnout of ticket sales was observed during the event’s lifespan. All ticket sales will go to Alpha Phi’s philanthropic efforts.

“I love how my sisters come together for such a special cause that we’re all very passionate about,” said Kate Youngers, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences and Chapter President of Alpha Phi.

“Everyone had different duties throughout the day, whether it was in charge of the corn dogs or the popcorn, snow cones or dunk tank.”

The carnival isn’t the only time this month that Alpha Phi will put on the red dress. On Sept. 17 is the Red Dress Gala, an event on a much larger scale that the Red Dress Kickoff was designed to promote.

“I love how my sisters come together for such a special cause that we’re all very passionate about”

**-Kate Youngers
Senior
College of Arts and Sciences**

The Red Dress Kickoff was a resounding success in the eyes of both guests and organizers.

“I think it was really well put together,” said Ian Christie, a senior in the Heider College of Business and guest at the Kick-off. “They made it easy, and they made it fun.”

Through the Red Dress Kickoff and Gala, they accumulate funds that they put towards these causes and funding future events.

Members of Alpha Phi also encourage people around campus to support vital causes in whatever ways they can.

“I recommend getting involved through various clubs,” said Jackie Kay, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences. “I think we have a lot of various clubs on campus that support very good causes, and there are a ton of them available to everybody.”



BELLE BRADY / THE CREIGHTONIAN

Food such as popcorn, corndogs and snowcones were available to the patrons of the event.



BELLE BRADY / THE CREIGHTONIAN

Olivia Benson, Faith Phan and Kamryn Coauette sold tickets to the event supporting women’s heart health.

DIVE into the Bubbly Boba Fundraiser event

JACIE LEIBFRIED
Scene Reporter

Wednesdays After Class had a tabling buddy on the mall this past week, the Bubbly Boba Fundraiser from Diverse Individuals with Valor and Empathy.

DIVE is an interest group at Creighton whose ultimate goal is to become an Asian-interest sorority on campus. Their mission statement on CUIInvolved explains this further, stating that, “although it is an Asian-interest sorority, it is not Asian-exclusive.”

“We promote diversity, inclusion, and women-empowerment through service and philanthropy events based on our intended sorority. In addition to advocating our values, the purpose of our group is to demonstrate that we are capable of being a self-sufficient chapter of our chosen sorority through event-planning and communication with other chapters.”

Kassidy Trang, a junior in the College of Nursing, added to this and said “our main goal is to bring diversity and inclusion into Creighton, bringing new and different cultures into the community.”

The pop-up shop opened its containers of boba and tea at 12 sharp, and business went well right away.

“We are basically sold out, so we are here until 3:00 or until we sell out. It took about

five minutes for people to start coming, but it was right when everyone got out of their 12:15 classes so a bunch of people saw it then,” Trang said.

The line of students that were observed down the mall solidified this success. Showing just how dedicated the members of DIVE are to their fundraiser and cause.

“We made the boba and the tea,” Amanda Flores, a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences said. “We have a lychee iced tea and then a regular milk tea. We chose boba because it was a way to bring in diversity because boba is a diverse drink and it’s from a different culture. Also, it’s really good.”

Reviews of this home cooking reflected Flores’s sentiment well.

“I tried the milk tea with boba, it wasn’t as sweet as I expected but still good because some people don’t like it as sweet,” College of Arts and Science sophomore, Rexton Suzuki said.

“It was a good balance between sweetness and milk. I was introduced to their group’s goal today, but I first saw them at Skutt Shutdown. I was very quick to find out that they are very inclusive of all types of members and that they are trying to develop into a larger organization.”

Academic Greatest Hits orients new students

JACIE LEIBFRIED
Scene Reporter

The Creighton Edge has rebranded as the Academic Success Center this year, and its college readiness programs for freshmen and beyond have continued as usual.

The Hippocampus Success Seminar has been on Creighton’s campus for seven years. Ryan McLaughlin, assistant director of Academic Success, has led the program for five years.

“Hippocampus is a workshop we gear towards freshmen in their first semester,” McLaughlin said. “We kind of consider it the greatest hits of academic success.”

This series happens each fall, and “the main goal is that each week they will leave with strategies and skills that they can put into practice, and when they leave the last session, they are well-equipped to be successful Creighton students,” McLaughlin said.

In terms of real-life success of this program, he states: “I do think this program is relatively successful at giving people a leg up at Creighton,” McLaughlin said. “It’s rooted in being academically successful, but I also touch on the idea of being socially successful at Creighton and in Omaha as a whole.”

The topics of the seminar were focused on having a growth mindset, grit and resiliency. This paired with the strategic talk of the pitfalls of multitasking and the importance of exercise in studying and overall learning.

Olivia Salsberry, a student in the Heider College of Business, said that her main takeaway from the night was that, “you don’t have to study everything all at once, you can break it down and it makes it a lot less stressful.”

When asked if she would be returning to another session, the freshman in the Heider College of Business replied with an enthusiastic yes.

Another freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, Norah Dietzel said: “It was nice to discuss as a group, different aspects within the presentation, and see how everybody felt about topics like studying habits and multitasking. With everyone sharing, it felt more personal, and we connected well. I will definitely be returning to the next session, and I recommend it to others; it was interesting and motivating for me.”

The next session of Hippocampus is at 7 p.m. Sept. 28 in Criss 452 for anyone who wants to learn more academic success skills.

| Saturday | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| 8 a.m. | 5 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 5 p.m. | 7 p.m. | 1 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. |
| JayWalk 2022 | Men’s Club Soccer Game | These Hands Don’t Haze | “Snacks & Skills” Series: Mindfulness | Hippocampus Success Seminar | Paws to Talk | Fresh Fruit Friday |
| A walk/run to raise money for Jesuit Academy, a local boys school in Omaha. | Support Creighton Men’s Club Soccer at the UNO Caniglia Field. | As part of the VIP Center’s Safety Series, a presentation on the harmful effects of hazing and sharing anti violence strategies. | Join Student Counseling Services for mindfulness skills as well as fun giveaways and snacks. | Get connected to campus resources. Designed to orient new students to the college classroom. | Join Cocoa and Student Counseling Services in Skutt to take a moment to slow down and pet Creighton’s unofficial mascot. | Come out to the KFC to grab a free piece of fresh fruit from the Recreation & Wellness table. |

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The rose-colored life is a myth

MAXWELL SCHUTZE
Opinion Editor

Back in March of 2021, I wrote an article about what books can do other than just entertain us. It was charged by a pressing fear that my dream job of being a fiction author ultimately had no purpose.

Presenting an argument that I still stand by today, that article was the culmination of my obsession with thematic takeaways as an essential part of any story and, by extension, any work of art.

My obsession has reached a point where I will pause a show just to write down what I believe are thematic takeaways, oftentimes copying down lines of dialogue verbatim, and it's something I've been doing for a couple years now.

With a multitude of notes full of inspirational messages saved to my computer, I wanted to spend some time in my next few articles cataloging some of the most prevalent or powerful themes I've come across in reviewing these lists of themes.

Specifically, I wanted to focus on those that are especially applicable to college students.

The first theme I wanted to discuss, and the inspiration for this article series, comes from a TV show called "The Tatami Galaxy."

Before I trudge further though, I want to fully disclaim that I'll be spoiling a show that I truly think is a great work of art.

With that being said, "The Tatami Galaxy" is about a college student who finds himself in a supernatural time loop, allowing him to live through the beginning of his college career over and over as he searches for the "rose-colored campus life."

This leads him through a multitude of

adventures, shaking off a companion he perceives as a parasite, joining clubs he has no business joining, and trying to impress girls despite his constant failures.

To the main character, Watashi, the "rose-colored campus life," is his primary goal.

As he strives to make the most of his college career, he idealizes the perfect future, one where he strips himself of his manipulative friend, succeeds in a club and gets the girl.

Nevertheless, over and over he finds that something is missing, so he restarts the loop each episode as he doubles down on his quest for a life that's sparkling and tinted with that rose color.

Throughout the show there is the motif of a dangling light switch shaped like a keychain, the same keychain that the main female protagonist loses each loop. Despite this, Watashi never acts on it. Instead, he keeps thinking that there's a life, a choice, or a possibility that would leave him satisfied and fulfilled, something that he could palpably do.

This leads to the last couple of episodes where the time loop stops, and Watashi finds himself stuck in his tiny apartment, agonizing as he fails to break free.

Still though, the light switch remains but is constantly ignored until Watashi comes to realize who the keychain belongs to. In that moment, he pulls the light switch and is freed from his psychological and physical prison.

In the end, the root of Watashi's suffering was in his constant focus on unrealistic possibilities instead of what was right in front of him the whole time, the light switch.

It's through this storytelling that "The

Tatami Galaxy" reveals a theme that I think many shows try to shed light on.

There is no rose-colored world, just a bunch of mixed shades. With each possibility, the color changes, yet not once are these colors bland and hapless. As a result, accepting that you can only become the person you are capable of becoming is a realization everyone must make.

In my three years of college, I have tried to make the most of my time, which is by all means, what I should be doing. I'm constantly told to enjoy it while it lasts, but such a viewpoint does little to recognize that even if the color changes, life will never go gray.

For anyone starting something new, whether it be a club, hobby, college for any freshman out there, or anything at all, it's necessary that you focus on what you can do.

Behind the theme of existential optimism found in "The Tatami Galaxy," there is an emphasis on doing what's realistic.

Oftentimes, people come into something with otherworldly expectations for themselves. They expect to master the skills of their craft, achieve their dream job, or succeed socially and relationally.

These people stake their personalities, how they define themselves, on fickle personal constructs that crumble at the onset of failing to achieve one of the very goals they now use to measure their self-worth by.

However, while it's perfectly fine, and normal, to strive for a goal, a theme I hope to explore through TV examples in a later article, it's equally important to make sure that you're not avoiding the light switch dangling in front of your face.

It's time we had original, female superheroes made

GABBY DAMMKOEHLER
Opinion Columnist

What do Sylvie aka Lady Loki, She-Hulk, The Almighty Thor, Kate Bishop's Hawkeye, and Spider-Gwen have in common?

They're all female versions of male characters.

There is a very obvious trend these days of taking male characters and making a female version just for the sake of having an easy-to-make female character. And, if you ask me, it is not a good thing. It's just lazy writing.

Making a female version with the same power set and often the same personality is just straight up lazy. It's essentially saying, "Ope, we're out of ideas so what if we gave Iron Man boobs? And then said it was a win for feminism because now there's a girl superhero?"

A: That's not really making a new character and B: slotting out a man for a woman and calling it feminism does not actually make it feminism.

By making female versions of pre-existing male characters, it's telling girls that female characters can only exist as derivatives of men.

Women and girls deserve to see female characters who are new and exciting, characters that were created as women instead of being shoe-horned into being the girl version of a man.

It's time to stop hitting copy and paste and do better.

Your name says a lot about what your personality is

GRACE CLEMENTS
Opinion Columnist

I'm a first-semester freshman, which means I am constantly meeting people.

I probably introduce myself to someone new at least once a day.

I am not one to judge people based on their first impressions. Someone could be having an off day or not in the mood to randomly strike up a conversation with the extroverted blonde girl before their 8:00 a.m. (that is me by the way).

However, I would like to believe I can get a pretty good read on a person based on their name. Over the course of my 18 years on this planet I have met many people and I believe your name can say a lot about you.

Let's start with the best name anyone could ask for: Grace. Believe it or not, I didn't always love my name. The main reason was because of its popularity.

I went to Catholic school my entire life, so

I was bound to run into another girl named Grace. Growing up, I was never Grace at school. I was always Grace C., and let me tell you, that one extra syllable drove me crazy.

When I got to high school, I thought it would change. However, I soon found out that I was one of eight Graces in my grade. That means one in every ten girls were named Grace. I tried many different nicknames to pull me apart from the crowd, but none of them stuck.

It wasn't until my junior year of high school that I realized how much I loved my name. I think Grace is a great representation of who I am as a person, and I have discovered this in other names as well.

From pure observations, I have found that people with solid and traditional names tend to be pretty standard people.

I am not bashing these people at all. I grew up in a family where all our names were pretty basic.

However, if you think about it, people

with traditional or classic names tend to be run-of-the-mill people.

This is not always a bad thing. My younger brother's name is Charles and he is a pretty classic guy. He is hardworking, very future-focused, kind-hearted, and sometimes stubborn. I feel as if he fits the name Charles almost perfectly.

My other brother's name is Jack and he is pretty similar to Charles. Jack and Charles are super similar people, and their names are almost identical in overall vibe. Jack is hardworking, super sweet, and stubborn, but he differs in the sense that he is more free-spirited. He beats to his own drum.

People I have met with more unique names tend to be more unique people. I have yet to meet a boring or "normal" person with a unique name. They are all different in a unique or special way.

An example of this would have to be the people who go by their last name. They are often the funniest people in the room, and I

think that most people would agree that they all have distinct personality traits that you just can't put your finger on.

I have also noticed that people with similar names often gravitate toward each other. An excellent example of this is my best friend from back home, Claire. Claire and I are very similar and tend to agree on almost everything. Like Jack and Charles, Claire and Grace have a very similar vibe to it.

I have seen this with other friendship duos throughout my life as well, Avery and Sophie, Matt and Josh, Lily and Hannah, and the list goes on.

Another example of this would be my love for people named Grace. I find that I am very similar to most Graces I meet. I have yet to meet a Grace that I have disliked.

I know it is terrible to stereotype people, but I'd like to think I can get a good read on someone based on their first name or nickname.

Think about your own name, what do you think it says about you and your self-identity?

Find someone who can help you, not enable you

MAXWELL SCHUTZE
Opinion Editor

To call me a romance connoisseur would be an understatement. Oftentimes, I find myself flocked by disciples who can only dream of reaching the heights I have reached during my time in the field.

After years of studying and achieving a Ph.D. in relationship advice from the University of Schutze in My Apartment, or the USMA, I think I am qualified to speak on what it takes for any relationship, platonic or otherwise, to succeed.

When approached by desperate clients,

they often ask first whether my Ph.D. is from an accredited university, which is when I inform them that of course it is because I founded it.

Then, they face the light and ask the question, "Dr. Schutze, how do I know if this person in my life is a cancer or not?"

It is then that I answer a question with a question like any logical person, asking "well, do you know yourself enough to know what your weaknesses are?"

You see, during my studies where I often watch film of relationships in-action by filtering streaming services by their romance genre, I witness the critical failures that cause

relationships to turn sour.

Oftentimes, the unfulfilling relationships are rooted in each side's personal projects not aligning.

People often think that opposites attract, but this doesn't bear fruit when both sides only accentuate the others' weaknesses. For example, if someone's tragic flaw is that they are submissive and struggle with opening up and the other member of the relationship perpetuates that dynamic by telling them not to change, then it's a bad relationship.

On the other hand, a relationship where someone's personal projects include trying to break out of their shell and the other member

of the relationship pushes them to do so is a recipe for success.

In this scenario, both members recognize the others' flaws, a recognition that comes firstly from each reflecting and acknowledging their own personal projects. By doing so, they complement each other instead of holding each other back.

It is in this way that the true cancers in our lives are the ones who keep us from working to better ourselves by incentivizing us to remain complacent or push us away from the personal projects that define our improvement as human beings.

Trust me, I'm a doctor.

Want to read more?
Find us at www.creightonian.com

CORI JOBMAN
Sports Editor

Women's soccer ends non-conference with an undefeated record



Senior forward Jenny Grissom dribbles the ball toward the goal against Colorado College.

AUTUMN SCHEER
Assistant Sports Editor

The Creighton women's soccer team finished its non-conference schedule with an undefeated record after securing a win and a tie over the weekend.

The Jays opened the scoring quickly with a goal from senior forward Jenny Grissom in the 13th minute off of an assist from sophomore forward Hannah Luke. The Bluejays took that 1-0 lead into halftime.

Colorado College scored a goal of their own in the 57th minute, tying the match early on in the second half. The tie was short lived, though, as junior midfielder Lara Kazandjian scored the game-winning goal in the 59th minute. The goal was assisted by junior forward Ariana Mondiri.

"We didn't let it [the tying goal] affect us, we actually did the opposite we held ourselves together and we got the goal, so I am really

Creighton hosts tenth annual Socctoberfest

CHARLIE VONDERHEID
Sports Reporter

The music and smell of fresh barbeque coming from Morrison Stadium last Friday evening was in celebration of Socctoberfest.

This year marked the tenth annual Socctoberfest at Creighton University. Festivities kicked off with the women's soccer game at 4:30 p.m. against Colorado College on the North side of Morrison.

There was a large tent set up with live music from Radio Pilot, and lots of food and drinks. Creighton fans could purchase tickets with access to the tent for both games for \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door before tickets were sold out.

Complimentary with the tickets, fans received a 20oz Creighton Socctoberfest glass stein with a free fill, and a meal stub. The tent was packed from the start of the women's game until the end of the men's game that started at 7:30.

"It gets really busy," said Manny Arenas, who has been on the event staff for Socctoberfest for the last nine years. "A lot of alumni come down and a lot of students come down, it's a good time."

One group of students that came down

KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

proud of us," Kazandjian said.

Head Coach Ross Paule agrees even though the Bluejays did give away a goal, it didn't affect them.

"I love the response because it's not going to be the last time we get scored on, you can't get down, you are never out of the game, you have to continue to manage the game," Paule says.

The Bluejays played once again on Sunday, playing the South Dakota State Jackrabbits to a 1-1 tie. Sophomore forward Hailey Rothwell came off the bench to score the game-tying goal for the Jays in the 70th minute. The tie finished off Creighton's non-conference schedule leaving the team with an undefeated record in nonconference play.

As Creighton returns to Omaha, the Jays will have 11 days to rest and train for their Big East conference opener against the Connecticut Huskies on Thursday at 6:30 in Morrison Stadium.

were the Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity members, who hosted a recruitment event at Socctoberfest.

"For us it was an inclusive event for all members of the student body," said Executive Vice President of Alpha Kappa Psi, Grace Elsner. "We knew that our attendance would not only be appreciated there but we could also show our appreciation to our student athletes."

The fans not only had a good time with the festivities, but also watching the on-field product. The women's team won 2-1 over Colorado College, and the men's team tied in a competitive match against second ranked Stanford.

The energy from Socctoberfest seemed to translate onto the field as well.

"The crowd was way bigger than I thought it would be, probably because of the combination of Socctoberfest and playing second Stanford," said freshman in the Heider College of Business, Will Osborne. "The energy in the stadium was electric the whole night."

The second Socctoberfest after COVID-19 was a huge success with lots of food, drinks, and of course: soccer.

Sports

Men's soccer ties with strong Stanford squad

ABBIE GALLANT
News Reporter

The Creighton Men's soccer team thrilled fans on Sept. 9 with an incredible match, fending off the second ranked Stanford Cardinals to finish with a 1-1 draw.

The stands were packed, and the atmosphere electric as Socctoberfest began, Creighton fans rallied together to support their Bluejays as they took on the Stanford Cardinals and played a match the community would never forget.

Coming off a hard loss to San Diego the week before, the Bluejays began their attempt at redemption, coming off the whistle with an intensity fueled by the fan energy. However, after just 46 seconds, the Stanford Cardinal scored, and the Bluejays fell behind 1-0 early.

"Stanford is a high energy team, especially out of the gates," reflected Head Coach Johnny Torres. "Unfortunately for us, we were looking at a one goal deficit forty seconds into a pretty big match."

After a shot that went high by sophomore defender Miguel Ventura in the third minute, the match became a battle of disciplined defense on both sides of the ball.

In the 21st minute, fifth-year senior goalkeeper Paul Kruse made a series of two incredible saves, preventing Stanford from gaining control of the match.

"He was brilliant, but that's just Paul," stated sophomore midfielder Jackson Castro when asked about Kruse's contribution to the outcome of the match. "I had faith in him."

As the clock ticked down in the first half, Creighton seemed to be gaining momentum, but the shot couldn't find the net. After another major save by Kruse in the 42nd minute and solid defense to keep Stanford from stretching the lead to two goals, the Bluejays left for the locker room at halftime in a 0-1 deficit.

"We just stuck to our game plan," commented Castro when reflecting on the early Stanford goal. "Obviously you don't want to go down 1-0, but we didn't want to change our game plan just because they scored. We kept at it and kept doing what we do because we know it works."

Coming out of the half, the fans were on their feet, the atmosphere pulsing with tension as the Bluejays attempted to tie the game. After senior midfielder Charles Auguste narrowly missed the goal in the 66th minute and Kruse made yet another incredible save in the 69th minute, the momentum began to shift and the Bluejays

took control.

Pushing the ball down the field, the Jays entered the Cardinal zone, pulling off a spectacular four-man sequence. Anticipation rippled through the crowd as Creighton made their move. The result? A clutch goal from Castro scored in the 74th minute, thanks to a double assist from freshman defender Ben Foulks and Charles Auguste, tying the match 1-1.

The crowd went wild, fans leaping out of their seats and cheering for their Bluejays. When the buzzer sounded to signal the end of the match, the Bluejays emerged, withstanding Stanford and competing for a 1-1 draw.

When asked about the result, Jackson Castro expressed his confidence in his team: "It just proved what we think about ourselves, which is that we are the best team in the country and that we can compete with anyone."

And following such a crucial tying goal in a huge match, it was clear that Socctoberfest 2022 would be a special moment for him. "I can't forget that."

Coach Torres expressed similar sentiments about the Socctoberfest outcome. "To be able to do it in the best venue in college soccer, in front of the best fans in college soccer, is just special."

Castro's incredible tying goal also sparked excitement in Torres. "It was going to take a special sequence to be able to break them down, and fortunately for us, we had the presence of mind to take that extra touch and be patient with the ball."

Playing such a high-caliber match and competing at such a high level, Torres expressed admiration for the team, and the opportunities they will have in the coming weeks. "I think the boys showed tonight that they're a special group and they can play anybody."

As of Sept. 12, both Castro and freshman defender Ben Foulks were recognized by the Big East, Castro voted Offensive Player of the Week and Foulks selected as Defensive Player of the Week, accolades reinforcing the positive direction the team has been going all season.

The Bluejays hope to capitalize yet again at home in Morrison Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 17, as they take on the University of Connecticut at 6:30.



KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Sophomore midfielder Jackson Castro dribbles the ball past a Stanford defender. Castro's goal tied the match for the Jays and earned him Big East Offensive Player of the Week.



KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Preseason Big East Player of the Year Norah Sis tips the ball over a pair of Omaha blockers. Sis had the winning block in Saturday’s five set match. Sis also set the school record for attempts in a match against Florida State on Friday. She also set a new career-high in kills.

Sophomores duel in five-set thriller as Creighton wins Omaha Invite

CORI JOBMAN
Sports Editor

The Creighton volleyball team went 2-0 in the Omaha Invitational on Friday and Saturday, winning a pair of five-set thrillers over Florida State and Omaha.

The weekend began against the red-hot Florida State Seminoles, who were on a five game winning streak coming into the match.

From the opening serve it was tightly contested, trading points back and forth early, with the Jays playing heavily through sophomore outside hitter Norah Sis, who had already racked up three kills when Florida State called their first timeout at 12-9 in favor of the Jays.

As the set progressed, Creighton slowly extended their lead, ultimately winning the first set 25-19. Sis led the way with six kills and no errors.

The Jays’ hitting success quickly was halted, though, as FSU jumped out to an 8-3 lead, prompting Creighton head coach Kirsten Booth to take the team’s first timeout of the set.

The second set saw the return of senior outside hitter Jazz Schmidt, who had missed several games with an injury. Schmidt tallied two kills in as many attempts in the set, but the boost was not enough as the Jays dropped the set, 25-19.

The third set looked to belong to Florida State early on, forcing the Jays to take a timeout as FSU jumped to a 12-7 lead. Senior outside hitter Jaela Zimmerman, who has missed the entire season to this point recovering from an injury sustained during last year’s NCAA tournament, took the lead in the huddle.

Creighton came out of the timeout with a newfound fire, taking control of the set, including a 7-0 run with Sis on the bench, giving the Jays a 19-17 lead.

The Jays eventually pulled out to a 24-

23 lead, and after failing to convert four set points, they managed to put the set away 29-27. Sis tallied eight kills in the set.

“I thought the wheels, they weren’t coming off, but they were close,” Booth said. “I thought we showed tremendous grit.”

The fourth set was another tight one, with neither team ever managing over a three-point lead.

Midway through the set, Sis knocked down her 24th kill of the night, securing a career high. She ended with 28. Sis also recorded 93 attempts, a new school record.

The Jays eventually got out to a 24-22 lead, getting a shot at match point. They couldn’t put it away in three attempts, though, allowing Florida State to take the fourth, 27-25.

Creighton got out to a strong start in the fifth set, jumping out to a 3-1 lead. FSU fought back, bringing it back to a 6-6 tie, but the rest of the match was all Creighton, as Sis took the Jays on a 6-0 run from the service line, earning them a 12-6 lead.

“We learned from Wednesday, we have to go get this thing in the fifth game,” Booth said.

The match came to a close on a kill from freshman outside hitter Ava Martin, who notched a career-high 11 kills.

“I’ve been working on my hands, and it’s finally starting to click, so that’s exciting,” Martin said. “It was so fun. I was so excited.”

The Jays were back in action the next day against cross-town rivals Omaha. The Jays were unable to stay away from excitement, seeing another close first set.

Neither team was ever able to pull away, with both teams failing to put away several set points before the Mavericks finally managed to put away the first set, 31-29, following a pair of late kills from Mavs junior outside hitter Mariah Buss.

UNO appeared to control most of the second set, holding the lead for most of the

set, including a late 23-20 lead for the Mavs. The Jays proceeded to go on a 5-0 run, with back-to-back kills from Sis winning the set for Creighton.

Martin set the tone for the third set, sending home a kill on the first point of the set, and the Jays proceeded to roll, 25-14. The Jays hit .444 in the set.

The fourth set was another back and forth, with the lead trading off several times. The Mavs took a lead late though, getting ahead of the Jays 24-20. The Jays rattled off another late run, but it was too little too late, as UNO won the set 25-23.

As the fifth set began, it quickly became a duel between the two teams’ sophomore stars, Creighton’s Sis and UNO’s outside hitter, Shayla McCormick, both of whom had five kills in the set.

UNO began forcing the ball to McCormick, culminating in a play in which McCormick got blocked multiple times before the Jays managed to secure a kill. McCormick came back and secured her final kill of the match, though, to tie the game at 13-13.

“She did incredible that game,” Sis said of McCormick. “I think it took us a long time to change what we were doing against her, and those last couple points we wanted to shut her down super badly.”

The rest of the match was all Sis. Sis secured a kill to give the Jays match point, before getting a solo block on UNO middle blocker McKenna Ruch to secure the victory for the Jays, winning the fifth set 15-13 as her teammates rushed her on the floor.

“Everyone just started tackling me,” Sis laughed. “She told me to dive and I dove.”

The match against UNO was Creighton’s sixth in eight days, including the third in a row that went to five sets.

Creighton will be back in action on Saturday at the Rice Adidas Invitational II in Houston, Texas.

Last week’s action

Volleyball



3 - 2





2 - 3



Women’s Soccer



2 - 1





1 - 0



Men’s Soccer



1 - 1

Stanford



6 - 1



Logos courtesy of respective universities

Women’s soccer is on the rise

CORI JOBMAN
Sports Editor

The Bluejay Buzz #1

The women’s soccer team is undefeated, and nobody’s talking about it.

A team that returned its entire starting lineup and hasn’t dropped a match yet this year is undefeated, yet their games continue to get little to no attention. If the undefeated record isn’t impressive enough, their numbers back it up.

The Jays lead the conference in shots per game.

They are second in goals allowed per game.

They boast the second highest save percentage and allow fewer shots than St. John’s, the conference’s save percentage leader.

Creighton Keeper Keelan Terrell leads the league in shutouts; yet their numbers for attendance per game are second worst in the league.

These are the numbers for a team that has a legitimate shot at a conference championship, all this coming from a team that finished eighth in the conference last year.

Their results so far include ties with Gonzaga and South Dakota State, two teams that had win percentages north of .750 last year.

Their wins include defeating Tulsa and Iowa State, both of whom beat them last year.

Last year’s team was held back by injuries, but with 11 returning starters, this is the most experienced team in the league.

This isn’t a new phenomenon for Creighton women’s sports. Last year’s women’s basketball team was historically good, making the program’s first Elite Eight, yet most games had almost no students in attendance beyond the spirit squads.

This soccer team, just like that basketball team, is off to a truly incredible start following a season in which a very young team showed flashes of greatness.

Looking at the rest of the Big East, Georgetown and Xavier have both fallen out of the rankings after being ranked preseason, along with Butler who was ranked 17th following the first week of matches.

With several other Big East teams having down years, the opportunity is there for the Jays to take the conference, and Bluejay fans need to start paying attention before they miss out on another very special team.