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Creighton

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Staff honored at Founders Week Convocation

CORI JOBMAN
Editor in Chief

An update was given on several projects across campus, including a new softball complex, and awards were presented to several faculty members at the Founders Week Convocation and Award Ceremony.

During the update, Creighton President the Rev. Daniel Hendrickson, S.J., revealed a potential location to build a new softball field at 24th and Cuming, across the street from the Creighton University Medical Center.

“They’re in dire need of a new facility,” Marcus Blossom, Creighton’s athletic director, said. “The fact that we’re having conversations about a new softball field/facility for that program, I’m excited for that program, I’m excited for what it would do for the student athlete experience.”

The decision to move softball away from the mall was part of a conception of Creighton in which its campus is divided into three sections: academic, residential and recreational. This plan would include building more residence halls in the area where the softball and baseball fields on campus are currently located and adding a quad in an effort to make Creighton look more like other universities in the country.

Hendrickson mentioned implementing a central hub, which would put all academic services across campus, including libraries, the success center and the writing center, into a single location.

He also discussed three bills Creighton is currently lobbying for in the Nebraska Legislature which would appropriate funds to the university, emphasizing its impact on “brain gain,” as Creighton brings young scholars and professionals into the state.

The awards presentation, which was hosted by Provost Mardell Wilson, recognized a pair of chairholders and awarded the Distinguished Service Awards to faculty across campus.

The Rev. Emmanuel Foro, S.J., was recognized as the Anna and Donald Waite Chair in Jesuit Education for his work in western Africa, and Professor of Accounting Thomas Purcell was recognized as the John P. Begley Endowed Chair in Accounting.

The Distinguished Educator in Teaching as Scholarship Award was presented to Amanda Kirkpatrick, an associate professor in the College of Nursing, and Margaret Knight, a chair in the accounting and business intelligence and analytics departments.

“[Dr. Kirkpatrick] strives to find the best possible clinical experiences, providing opportunities for each of us to find our passion in nursing,” Lauren Curry, a junior in the College of Nursing, said.

Distinguished Services Awards were also presented to Assistant Dean in the College of Nursing Cindy Adams, Professor of Communication Studies Mary Ann Danielson and Senior Director of Student Formation Desiree Nownes.

The Distinguished Service Faculty and



CORI JOBMAN/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Assistant Nursing Dean Cindy Adams receives a Distinguished Service Award from Creighton President the Rev. Daniel Hendrickson, S.J.

Administrator Award was presented posthumously to Neil Norton, former Assistant Dean of Admissions, Professor of Oral Biology and NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative, who died in November.

“It’s a point of pride for Creighton, is the instructional impact, the mentoring, the hands-on activity between faculty and students that happens on a daily basis,” Hendrickson said. “When I meet with students, they routinely say one of their favorite things about Creighton is the care and attention they get from faculty.”

Creighton libraries to merge in fall 2023

Health Sciences Library moving into Reinert

ELIZABETH JONES
News Editor

The Reinert Alumni Memorial Library will be merging with the Creighton University Health Sciences Library in the Reinert building until a new library is built to replace Reinert.

The Health Sciences Library, which is in the Bio-Information Center next to the Boyne Building, will close in May, following final exams, and the university currently intends not to reopen it. Staff areas and study spaces in Reinert will be reconfigured to make up for the loss of space.

The Health Sciences Library is closing because the Bio-Information Center and Boyne Building will close after this semester, and the CL Werner Center for Health Sciences Education will replace them in the fall.

“Regarding the plan for BIC [Bio-Information Center] and Boyne: The University is reviewing options with the buildings and doesn’t have a specific plan yet,” Associate

Vice President for Facilities Management Derek Scott said in an email.

Elizabeth Kiscaden, assistant vice provost for library services and university librarian, said that running the heating, cooling and plumbing in those buildings is expensive and that closing them and transitioning into Werner will save money.

In 2019, a plan was formed to build a new library to house both Reinert and the Health Sciences Library, but this was delayed when donors provided funds to build Werner, although the university still intends to move forward with this plan eventually.

“Initially the plan was to build this new building where the footprint of Gallagher Hall is, and we were going to intentionally create a space to merge both libraries and serve the diverse library users from both libraries,” Kiscaden said. Currently, there is no timeline on the new library building.

TURN TO “Historic” PAGE 3



ELIZABETH JONES/THE CREIGHTONIAN

The Health Sciences Library has been in the Bio-Information Center since the building was constructed in 1977. The library has study spaces, journals and other resources that are regularly used by graduate and professional students. Undergraduates tend to use Reinert instead.

Admitted high schoolers visit Creighton’s campus

Prospective students interview for special programs

ANNIE ELMING
News Reporter

The College of Arts of Sciences and Heider College of Business hosted Special Programs Day for admitted high school seniors to tour campus and interview for various programs and scholarships.

Some of the programs presented consisted of the Haddix Dean’s Fellows, the Honors Program and student panels from current students sharing their experiences in these programs.

268 high school students attended the event and Creighton President the Rev. Daniel Hendrickson, S.J., projected that the class of 2027 will have approximately 1,000 students.

For the admitted students in the Heider College of Business, the day started with a morning welcome from the Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Mary Chase. This was followed by opening remarks from the Dean of the Heider College of Business Anthony Hendrickson.

Admitted business students then engaged in various Ethics Challenge group meetings and sessions regarding admission. They then were invited to attend a student panel of current business students who were there to answer any questions the students may have

had.

“It was really nice to see the new class of students eagerly collaborating with one another to work to resolve a corporate social issue,” Heider College of Business Dean’s Fellow senior Garrett Coester said after one of the ethics activities the prospective students completed.

Prospective students who were selected for interviews then finished the day with interviewing for various programs, including the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, the Global Scholars Program, the Dean’s Fellows Programs for both the Heider College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences, History Fellows, Next Generation Leaders, Pre-Professional Scholars and the Grace Keenan Fine and Performing Arts Scholarship. The Grace Keenan Scholarship also held auditions for music, theater and dance.

College of Arts and Sciences freshman Jordan Belton was involved in Special Programs Day as a volunteer checking in students for the Next Generation Leaders program, which is offered by the Creighton Intercultural Center for minority students.

Belton said the Next Generation Leaders program “meets about once a month and discuss things like diversity on campus, leadership skills and how to better yourself as an individual so you can be a better leader and help

others.” Belton added, “Many students had questions about what exactly the program entails, so I got to share my experiences in the program so far. I also talked a lot about the Creighton community and how welcoming it is. I talked a lot about how understanding professors are and how they truly care about their students. I also talked about the diversity and inclusion events on campus that the CIC puts on and how it’s helped create the amazing Creighton environment.”

The Honors program is a student community in which freshmen live on the 9th floor of Swanson Hall and students are encouraged to follow their passions, both academically and socially. The Global Scholars program allows students to immerse themselves in a minimum of four global experiences during their time at Creighton, as well as once a semester attending a special companion seminar, allowing the global learning aspect to remain incorporated in the student’s major. Creighton offers programs in places such as Bologna, Italy and Dominican Republic.

Another program offered by the Heider College of Business is the Menard Family Business Research Fellows. Research Fellows are encouraged to connect their academic focus with their business classes, as well as have granted access to alumni and staff.

Dean’s Fellows for the Heider College of Business allows students to have conversa-

“My goal on Special Programs Day was to highlight the authenticity and support that makes up not just our special programs, but the Creighton community as a whole.”

-Grace Jaworski
College of Arts and Sciences
2023

tions with top business executives, networking opportunities, and converse with Creighton alumni and companies in the area who provide valuable experiences.

Senior Grace Jaworski said, “My goal on Special Programs Day was to highlight the authenticity and support that makes up not just our special programs, but the Creighton community as a whole. I wanted every prospective student to fall in love with Creighton and want to come here whether they got into a special program or not. The day is so much bigger than just interviews- it’s about welcoming them into the Creighton family.”



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

January 31 - 06:30 p.m.
An unoccupied and running U-Haul truck was blocking lot G97 (not pictured on map). OPD was contacted after attempts to find the driver were unsuccessful.
- 2

January 31 - 06:55 p.m.
Public Safety officers detained an intoxicated non-affiliate who was previously banned from Creighton’s campus. OPD arrested the non-affiliate for criminal trespassing.
- 3

February 01 - 09:30 a.m.
A student reported the theft of her purse from her vehicle while parked in lot E99 (not pictured on map).
- 4

February 01 - 11:06 a.m.
Two students were involved in a vehicle accident in Lot E85.

Historic Health Sciences Library building to close



COURTESY OF CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Health Sciences Library used to have mirrored ceilings; round, silver lights that resembled disco balls; and bright red, yellow and green carpet, according to Kiscaden. Assistant Archivist Thomas Haggstrom said in an email that these photos of the Health Sciences Library and students studying there are believed to be from the 1970s, but they are unable to date them exactly.

Continued from Page 1

All of the library staff will stay on, and the Research and Instruction teams have already moved from the Health Sciences Library to the upper level of Reinert. The rest of the Health Sciences Library staff will move after that building closes.

“We’re going to be putting more work stations in, so we need to redesign our cubicles,” Kiscaden said. “We’re hoping this is an opportunity for us to freshen up some of these as well, because if you look around our cubicles are all castoffs from other departments, other projects. And so, we’ve got a real ‘Frankenstein’ experience.”

The proposal for these new cubicles and staff spaces will be presented to the Space Committee this month, and construction plans will follow.

Public spaces in Reinert will also be altered to create additional study areas. According to data on the Creighton University Libraries webpage, in 2022 the Reinert Library had approximately 148,469 visitors and the Health Sciences Library had about 83,605; so, the Reinert Library will need to accommodate roughly 232,074 students. However, that same data shows that Reinert had about 316,770 visitors in 2018 and 271,776 in 2019 so the building has served this many people before. According to library data and Kiscaden, library usage vastly declined during the pandemic but has been increasing in the last year.

Plans to provide more space include installing new compression shelving, condensing the collection of print materials, creating more seating for students and adding more group study rooms. Kiscaden said that the team working on this suggested moving as many group study rooms from the Health Sciences Library to Reinert as possible.

The process of removing print journals and books has already begun. Creighton partnered with Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a large library consortium, to analyze their collection. This data was used to make a list of legacy print, which Kiscaden described as materials seeing low use, to use as a guide for what to retain and what to remove.

“Over at the Health Sciences Library, for example, we had a lot of print journals. We owned most of that content electronically, so a lot of our print journals over there were re-

tired,” Kiscaden said.

Everything library officials decided to remove was content that had not been used in over 15 years and that professors agreed was not necessary for research purposes. They also compared the content to other university libraries.

“We’re a part of a network of Jesuit colleges and universities and they all have libraries as well,” Kiscaden said. “We have resource-sharing agreements with them. So, if you wanted to borrow a book that we didn’t own but one of our peer libraries did, they’ll send it to us for free and you can use it for a set period of time, and then we’ll send it back. So, we used their holdings to compare it with ours to make sure that we weren’t getting rid of something that none of our peers held, because we wanted to be able to share that with them.”

It has already been decided what content will be removed and all of the journals that are being retired have been taken down. The process of removing the books is ongoing, but it is almost completed in the Health Sciences Library.

Other ideas to maximize space include creating a makerspace and piloting a graduate student lounge. A makerspace would be a staffed area for students to use equipment such as sewing machines, 3D printers, laser cutters and other tools to create things and build prototypes. The graduate student lounge would require keycard access to a quiet study space. This is intended to help students who are losing their space because graduate and professional students use primarily the Health Sciences Library while undergraduates already frequent Reinert.

Later this month, invitations will be sent to students to be part of focus groups for Reinert’s public spaces. The goal is to present a formal proposal for student study spaces to Creighton administration this semester, so that plans can be executed over the summer in order to have the library ready for students in the fall semester.

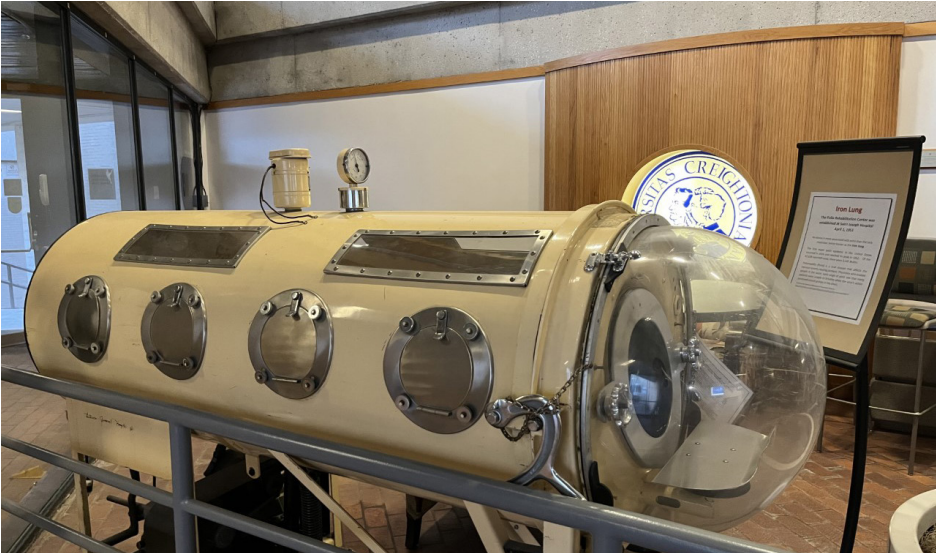
All archival material will be moved from the Health Sciences Library to Reinert, including an iron lung, which has been displayed in the library lobby. The iron lung was used to treat polio patients from 1943-1961 at the Saint Joseph Hospital, which was then Creighton’s teaching hospital.

“We are building out a new archival storage space in our lower floor of the main li-



ELIZABETH JONES/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Items in the Health Sciences Library are being taken down and packed in preparation to move.



ELIZABETH JONES/THE CREIGHTONIAN

The iron lung is currently on display near the entrance of the Health Sciences Library. It will be moved to the Reinert building over the summer, along with other archival materials.

library. That is where the iron lung will live,” Kiscaden said. “That is what we intend at this point; we may decide that we want to put it on display like it is at the Health Sciences library.”

Before the Health Sciences Library closes, Creighton will host an event to honor its history. The building was designed by Leo Daly and constructed in 1977. It was awarded The American Institute of Architecture Central States Region Honor Award after it was built.

“It’s hard to tell in some of these old library buildings, because they’ve been renovated so many times that you lose the original structure,” Kiscaden said. “You can’t see the sight lines anymore and you look around and you think ‘this is a weird and ugly building.’ But, it’s often due to changing needs and renovations that took place. Back in its day, it was a really cool space.”

The event for the building will showcase original design plans and renderings.

The Creighton University Libraries Strategic Plan can be found on its webpage.



JACIE LEIBFRIED/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Faculty art from pottery to painting, and everything in between is currently being shown in the gallery in the Lied Education Center for the Arts until March first.

Exhibition showcases faculty art

JACIE LEIBFRIED
Scene Reporter

The Lied Education Center for the Arts is currently hosting a faculty exhibition displaying pieces created by professors and assistant professors in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts' Lied Art Gallery.

Pottery, printing and painting are among the art styles available for viewing. Jess Benjamin, the gallery director and an adjunct assistant professor, said that she has “worked on this series of works for several years” and her art was not created specifically for this exhibition.

Each artist’s statement explained the work beside it, and Benjamin’s was no exception. Her piece “Dried Up On the Ogallala Aquifer” was prefaced with the statement that it “focuses on water usage in the Great Plains area: a regional concern that is related to the phenomenon of global drought.”

Many artists focused their pieces on issues that are important to them, including Assistant Professor Rachel Mindrup. Her paintings “Waiting Room Whispers” and “Ill-Fitting” are centered around her family’s experience in the hospital due to her son’s neurofibromatosis. “Over the years, I’ve had plenty of time for quiet contemplation while

in pediatric neuro-oncology waiting rooms. These observations are what is on display in this exhibition,” she said in the statement.

In specifics to the exhibition, Mindrup also said that it motivated her to put the finishing touches on her artwork.

“The painting of the kid with neurofibromatosis was my favorite,” said MJ Marin, a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences who visited the exhibit and connected to Mindrup’s piece the most. “It has to do with the idea of health, and these last couple of years people have been in and out of hospitals more and it’s hard. Two years ago, I had ganglions taken out of my wrist [...] it certainly draws to my own experience of being in hospital for family who was sick and myself.”

Each of the two rooms in the gallery had mixed art forms to promote the flow of the art in relationship to each other and keep viewer’s eyes moving and engaged.

The exhibition is open until March 1 from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. each weekday and 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. on weekends.





ELIZABETH JONES/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Chaplan Gretchen Olson Kopp hits the bull’s-eye on her first (and last) throw! Student Drew Nielsen is pictured taking his turn to throw alongside her celebration.

Common Well ‘throws’ a popular event

BISHOP SCHUGEL
Scene Reporter

For their semesterly off-campus event, the Common Well walked to Craft Axe Throwing in downtown Omaha for an evening of games and good times.

Part of Creighton’s Campus Ministry, the Common Well is a community of worship and fellowship for Creighton students from a wide variety of Christian backgrounds. Led by Creighton’s Protestant Chaplain Gretchen Olson Kopp and a team of core members, the group meets every Sunday evening at 8 p.m. in the St. Peter Faber SJ chapel in the Harper Center for worship.

However, this Sunday was an exception, as TCW hosts one off-campus event per semester. In semesters past the group has gone ice skating and gone to a high-ropes course, and this spring they chose to go to Craft Axe Throwing.

After meeting in the Campus Ministry office in the basement of Swanson Residence Hall for cookies and introductions, the group of 20 or so students made the one mile walk from campus to the event location.

Following a quick safety presentation from the Craft Axe staff, students took turns throwing axes, playing bean bag toss and cheering each other on when a bull’s-eye was hit.

“We wanted to do something off-campus that people would enjoy,” said Hannah Reynolds, a member of the TCW core team and a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences. “Typically, we are on campus for weekly worship or our once-a-month social events, but we try to do different things.”

TCW is a relatively new program at Creighton’s campus, with its inception coming at the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.

“The goal of the Common Well is to provide a weekly place of worship for students from a wide span of faith traditions,” said Olson Kopp. “Our worship services pull a lot of different pieces from different faith traditions while also providing an inclusive atmosphere where students can partake in communion. It’s really a beautiful thing.”

Creighton shows its love on campus

GABBY DAMMKOEHLER
Scene Reporter

Inspired by the pagan fertility festival Lupercalia, St. Valentine’s Day was adopted by the Catholic Church in the 5th century, according to the History Channel. While no one is certain who the real St. Valentine was, legend has it that he secretly wed couples when marriage for soldiers was banned by the Roman government. He was eventually imprisoned for encouraging these forbidden acts of matrimony and fell in love with the warden’s daughter. On the day of his execution, February 14, he passed his love a note saying “From your Valentine” starting the centuries-long tradition.

Here at Creighton the sending of Valentines is a little less life and death.

From sweetheart dances and Valentine’s golf, to love letters in the classifieds, Bluejays have always loved Valentines. Valentine messages were a favorite for decades with messages from sweethearts being sent in the Creightonian throughout the 70s, 80s, and 90s.

While students may no longer put their letters in the newsprint, Valentine’s Day still remains popular on campus.

Creighton senior in the College of Arts and Sciences Abigail Dolata has plans to spend “Galentine’s Day” hanging out with her friends. “It’s really sweet that people have the genuine opportunity to celebrate love.” Dolata is not alone in feeling the love as the day approaches.

“I love seeing everyone happy and joyful,” said junior Autumn Scheer, who plans to spend the big day with her girlfriend.

At Creighton, despite the cold and snow, hearts are warming up for Valentines and there are plenty of Valentine’s activities to get you in the spirit. If you’re looking for a

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!!!

Matt Haynes--Gimme some lovin' Big boy. You're such a dog!

Wayne Kempf--you're such a hunk! Hope you have a lovin' Valentine's!

Xiomara--Take 'em by the hand. Happy Valentine's Day!

Jennifer Ann, The little 1 is growing bigger every day. Once I found your favorite color I knew you were the Ace of Hearts in my life. I'll always remember when you died for me and the 53 mile drive for a 2 mile dinner at my house in this, The Year of the Rooster. Garrett.

Steve Walsh--I love you--BE MINE

Mr. Ode wishes the three sexiest women in the world a Happy Valentine's Day: Andrea Binooder, Nhung Nguyen, and Sylvia Kim

To the Phi Psi, the Readhead, and the UPS man: Happy Valentine's Day! Love Jane, Charissa, and Steph

THE CREIGHTONIAN ARCHIVES
Valentine’s Day messages featured in the Creightonian in 1993.

last-minute Valentine’s gift, check out SLG’s Smashmallow sale on Valentine’s Day in Skutt from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you’re looking to show off your moves, check out the Valentine’s Day Dance hosted by the Salsa and Swing dancing clubs at 8 p.m. on Feb. 11 in Skutt.

Need some self-care? Head to CUASA’s Valentine’s self-care in Skutt From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 12 for yoga, crafts, snacks and more.

There are also Valentines of thanks to send to Sodexo workers and Valentine’s parties in McGloin, Heider, and Davis Square.

An heir and a ‘Spare’: full of honesty

GABBY DAMMKOEHLER
Scene Columnist

“Spare” by Prince Harry is a surreal and dystopian glimpse into royal life in the 21st century.

Like many, my idea of the royal family before reading this book had been a fairy tale full of luxury, palaces and cute little corgis. “Spare” shatters this idea and brings forth a shocking depiction of life in a gilded cage.

It’s not a puff piece of a book but rather the sad and honest narrative of a son who lost his mother too soon and a world that values entertainment over the lives of actual people.

At one point, Harry references a biography in which the author describes the royal family as like pandas in that they “are expensive to conserve and ill-adapted to any modern environment. But aren’t they interesting? Aren’t they nice to look at?”

This encapsulates the story Harry shares. His entire life he was harassed by the press. Portrayed as everything from a grieving son to a drug addict, a Nazi, a philanthropist, a playboy, a ne’er-do-well and more, Harry’s been through the ringer when it comes to the press. While the memoir tells the story of his military service, philanthropy, and whirlwind romance with Megan Markle, it focuses

mainly on his immense grief over the tragic death of his mother, Princess Diana, and the ensuing PTSD and anxiety that resulted from this grief being coupled with paparazzi harassment.

He lives under a microscope with the entire world watching his every action. No mistake goes unnoticed, no slip-up undocumented. In many ways his life is that of a circus animal: captive, displayed, a creature who’s enjoyed by the public as entertainment.

He saw his mom was chased to her death by the press and was never allowed to fully grieve her loss. He was forged into a killing machine by the army and then was unable to

seek therapy for fear of it being leaked to the press and facing the wrath of public opinion. He watched countless friends be driven away by the press and his own wife and children suffer heinous racism.

This book, while sometimes funny, romantic, harrowing and admittedly biased, is above all else a plea for the public to realize the dangers of the press and irresponsible journalism. Harry is by no means a perfect person. He’s had numerous slip-ups and lapses of judgment, but his message is clear: No matter how famous a person is, a human is a human, and they deserve to be treated with dignity.

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 p.m. Valentine’s Day Dance	1:00 p.m. Self Love and Self Care Day with CUASA	11:00 a.m. Galentine’s Day	Happy Valentine’s Day!	9:30 a.m. Power To Her	5:30 p.m. Omaha Spring 2023 Health Humanities Lyceum	12:00 p.m. All-Majors Spring Career Fair
Come with a date or by yourself to learn how to Swing and Salsa dance and meet new people!	Join CUASA for Valentine’s Day themed self care and self love day! There will be snacks, facemask making, crafts, nail polish, yoga, and more!	Come visit the Lieben Center in Skutt to make a Galentine for a special person in your life!		DZ and TPA will be collecting items for the Omaha Women’s Center for Advancement.	Multi-disciplinary panel and small group discussions about Population Health Perspectives on Access to Care.	Creighton students and recent alumni can visit with employers about job and internship opportunities.

Is BeReal just another social media app?

BEN POWERS
Opinion Columnist

Last weekend was fun, right? You might as well open up Instagram to post a recap of all of it, right?

They're all going to think you're so cool. You threw on a stylish outfit, went out with friends for some drinks and indulged in an expensive meal all before hitting the Dub.

You ask your friends for advice on which photos to post, think of a witty caption, then open up the app.

In a fraction of a second, it hits you: impossibly ideal body types, flashy supercars, unaffordable designer clothes. You throw your phone across the room, where it lands on the carpet.

Crying, you exclaim to your friends how Instagram sucks and that you feel like you have to sacrifice a part of your authenticity to gain followers.

Naturally, as good friends, they try to calm you down and tell you about BeReal. Tears streaming down your face, you argue with them about how more social media won't fix the social media problem —a valid argument. They hear you out and heed your concerns, although a bit too literally, as they snap your phone in half like a Kit Kat.

You jerk awake, now realizing that it was all just a dream. You check your nightstand.

It's 4 am on a Monday morning, and your

phone is still there. Everything will be alright. A sense of relief flows over you, and you start to sink back to sleep.

You're about to doze off, when, out of nowhere, your phone dings. You sit up to check it and see the notification, "Time to BeReal." You start crying again. You didn't fall asleep after that.

Let's be real for a second. All of us know that social media is fake, and most of what we see on apps like Instagram is not reality. Each and every one of us has our own unique experiences that shape us in real life.

On the contrary, in the digital space, people are only what they present themselves as.

Whether it be through posts, videos, Reels, TikToks, or simply social media notoriety, we can craft our image to be whatever we want it to be.

This begs the question, is what we both input and receive from social media actually real?

This "authenticity crisis" is precisely what prompted former GoPro employee Alexis Barreyat and software developer Kévin Perreau to create BeReal. They released the app in 2020 but didn't see much mainstream attention until 2022 when it spread like wildfire amongst the Gen-Z communities of high schoolers and college students.

BeReal gives users a two-minute window to create a post every day in which they take a photo using both the front and back cam-

eras to showcase their environment and what they're actually up to.

By taking away the mere possibility for users to stage photos, edit them and curate them to what they want to be seen as on social media, the app gives users a more intimate, unedited glimpse into others' lives.

In the pursuit of authenticity, however, BeReal's design philosophy spawns an accountability problem.

The notification for a BeReal goes off at a random time throughout the day, meaning that users must stay alert for their notification to avoid missing it.

If users don't post within the 2-minute window, they are considered "late" to posting, which all of their friends can then see.

This is harmful because users can take as much or as little time as they want to get the perfect shot, which undermines the whole aim of the app as spontaneous.

A possible fix for this is to have more accountability for users, such as preventing them from posting a BeReal for that whole day if they miss the 2-minute window.

Contrary to apps like Instagram and Snapchat, competition is not a prominent aspect of BeReal, since users are not able to see viewership and engagement metrics on their posts.

The one thing this app does right, if anything, is detaching us from social media's attention problem. Too often social media

takes advantage of our brain chemistry and tailors its algorithms to keep us hooked to our devices and get lost in scrolling, but BeReal does not play into that.

For this, I am grateful for BeReal.

I am a former BeReal user and social media survivor. I was caught in the BeReal wave back in March 2022, and for months I thought it was the coolest new thing.

Finally, a social media app I can use authentically. I'd been longing for a place where I could show people what my life is actually like with none of the toils of Instagram or other social media.

After the initial talking stage with this app, though, I kept losing interest and I just became more frustrated with it. The one problem I kept having with BeReal was the notifications since I always have my phone on do not disturb.

I always ended up missing the BeReal notifications, which was quite annoying. It seemed kind of like an "authentically living" challenge to me, and it pushed me further away from using it.

This raises some important questions I'll leave all of you patient readers with. Can there be an "anti-social media" social media, ever? And is it possible for us to "be real" in the digital space?

College friends hit different

GRACE CLEMENTS
Opinion Columnist

I had a great day last week.

My classes went smoothly, I was feeling happy and cheerful, and my little brother Jack called to check in on me, which always makes my day. However, by late afternoon I was bombarded with an excruciating migraine.

All I could do was stare up at the ceiling from my bed. Looking at my textbooks hurt my brain and I could barely watch TV without my head pounding. My friends came into my room to check on me because I wasn't answering my phone and they immediately went into mom mode and took care of me.

One tried to distract me from my headache by updating me with the latest residence hall drama while the other ran to get me dinner from the dining hall. My entire friend group came in and kept me company and helped me work through my headache.

After many hours of laughter and a lot of distractions, my headache went away. I thanked them all profusely and told them all that I would pay them back somehow and they all told me they knew I would do the same for any one of them.

The majority of my friends here at college I have only known for a short amount of time, but I know for a fact that these girls will be in my life for a long time.

I love all of my high school friends wholeheartedly, but for some reason, I have never

experienced friendships as strong as the ones I have right now.

One of my main guesses on why that is so is because of the lack of adult supervision. I get that we are technically adults right now, but no one truly feels that way after their first year of living alone.

Since we live in an entirely different state away from our parents, whenever we need something, we go to each other. Friendships in college are looked at more like a family rather than a friend group.

Last week I started telling my best friend a story about myself in high school, and she reminded me that I had already told her that. We laughed and then came to the realization that we had told each other almost everything about ourselves.

I only have one other friend that I feel this way with, and she has known me my entire life and has lived every story with me.

I remember my parents telling me that they met their best friends in college, and both of their wedding parties consisted of their siblings and their college friends. I didn't quite understand the bond college creates between people until I experienced it myself.

The friends you make throughout college seem to have a different impact on you than your high school friends. Although all of my high school friends are held near and dear to my heart, the friends I have made in college treat each other more like family than friends.

Steak is not good enough alone

MAXWELL SCHUTZE
Opinion Editor

When I told my former high school classmates that I was going to school in Omaha, their inner, Dallas elitist attitudes shined. They made fun of how I was going to corn country, but the realists focused on another food.

They emphasized how the steak would be high quality, and since then, I can firmly say that I'm unimpressed not by the city's steak but the item as a whole.

Given my propensity to chew thoroughly, regardless of how it's cooked, it takes forever to get through.

It doesn't melt in my mouth like good barbecue, and I always feel sickly after trudging through it.

It's too much meat, and it doesn't flavor blast my mouth like other meat-forward meals. I'd rather eat a prime cut of meat chopped up in a high-quality stroganoff or beef stew.

To anyone who enjoys dropping premium for a slab of meat, I say learn to eat a salad. It outshines the steak anyway.

Romance is difficult to judge

MAXWELL SCHUTZE
Opinion Editor

Valentine's Day is coming up, and you know what that means. All the single individuals moan in self-loathing so loudly that the holiday loses all meaning, their misfortune on full display as they critique the love birds trying to celebrate.

And you know what? I'm with them.

Let's be miserable people together because I have had enough of these fake relationships.

I'll be chilling, and a so called "couple" won't interact with each other in the slightest.

I'm no coward. I can take your PDA no problem.

Now, you might be asking why I'd want to see that.

Well, my judgmental friends, it's because when these types of couples are around other people and not with each other, they sure don't pull any punches on how much they flirt.

It's ridiculous.

In the company of others that they are not dating, they'll laugh and giggle as if a single sentence out of someone else's mouth was the work of a comedic genius.

Guess what? It wasn't.

You're talking about what's for lunch. I assure you that it's not worth fawning and teasing over.

If you're going to act like a flirt, then do it with the person you're dating, not someone else.

It's weird. It's off-putting. And you know I'll create a gossip column about it if you don't stop.

In all seriousness though, just as our impressions of people can quickly go sour from a few miscellaneous, negative thoughts, it's incredible how quickly a relationship's reputation on the surface can be tarnished by a few events.

When a situation similar to what I described earlier was brought to my attention, I was urged to write an article about it, and as I thought about it, I realized how rapid it all was.

At first, I'll admit, I was hooked. Like any normal person, I have a gossip-o-meter, and it was going off when I heard the news. I wanted to dig into this couple's personal life because it's just that spicy.

As someone who wears multiple hats depending on who I'm socializing with, I find it difficult to see differences in how one acts in front of their significant other versus a friend as much of anything.

Depending on the personality of who we're interacting with and the context we find ourselves in, it is only natural for us to change the ways we act.

Often called self-monitoring in psychology, everyone lays on a spectrum ranging from those who change often to fit the situation they're in and those who stick to their guns and rarely change.

Of course, no one is going to interrupt the gossip train and proclaim that maybe the couple doesn't seem outwardly flirtatious because it's a part of a healthy, psychologically normal dynamic they've created.

After all, that isn't spicy.

There needs to be underlying tones of drama, and believe me, I'm all for drama if it's well-founded.

As a result, I do think we need to be careful when we judge relationships, especially romantic ones.

There are a lot of nuances, a lot of hidden factors, and a lot of irrational rationalizing resulting in the most bafflingly overcomplicated logic of all time.

In short, our perceptions of people and relationships can be simple, but they can also be a web of unnecessary detail whether it reflects reality or not.

If we don't know what's under the hood, we may never know the truth, and we'll remain ignorant bystanders.

So, this Valentine's Day don't be toxic, just be happy that at least you aren't the couple being ridiculed.

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ABBIE GALLANT
Sports Editor

Sports

Jays remain undefeated after UNO victory



CORIJOBMAN/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Sophomore Malvika Shukla sets up for a backhand during her match against UNO. Shukla and senior Leanne Kendall beat UNO 6-0 in No. 1 doubles.

RILEY LINK
Sports Reporter

In what ended in two nail-biting singles matches, Creighton defeated the University of Nebraska Omaha 4-3 at the Miracle Hills Tennis Center on Feb. 3, improving to 3-0 on the year.

Starting off the match, junior Malvika Shukla and fifth-year senior Leanne Kendall dominated with a quick 28-minute, 6-0 win at the No. 1 doubles position. However, Creighton fell slightly short in the No. 2 and No. 3 doubles matches, losing both doubles point overall.

When asked about doubles, head coach

Tom Lilly said that “UNO always beats us in the doubles, and we have been struggling to get over the hump the last several years.” However, he also stated that this has been, “three matches in a row where we lost the doubles point and we won the match and sometimes you can go two years without that happening.”

After losing the doubles point, the Blue-jays quickly took the lead back with two singles wins at the No. 1 and No. 5 positions. After Omaha evened the match out 2-2, Kendall won a tight singles match at the No. 4 position to bring the lead to 4-3.

Finally, No. 3 freshman Ana Paula Martinez fought a close match after winning the first set 7-5, but lost the second 4-6. In the final set, Martinez came back and won dominantly, clinching the overall match for Creighton.

When asked about what changed in her mentality between her close doubles match and her singles match, Martinez replied, “I just started playing for Creighton and for the team and that’s what kept me going and kept me fighting for points.”

Coach Lilly stated that the team, “doesn’t always have the best body language and attitudes but they always fight and that’s the key.” This fighting spirit was backed up by freshman Martinez as she stated that to keep a positive mindset, she tried to, “look at my side, my team, my teammates and Tom, my coach, [who have] helped me all the way. I try to do something for my people”.

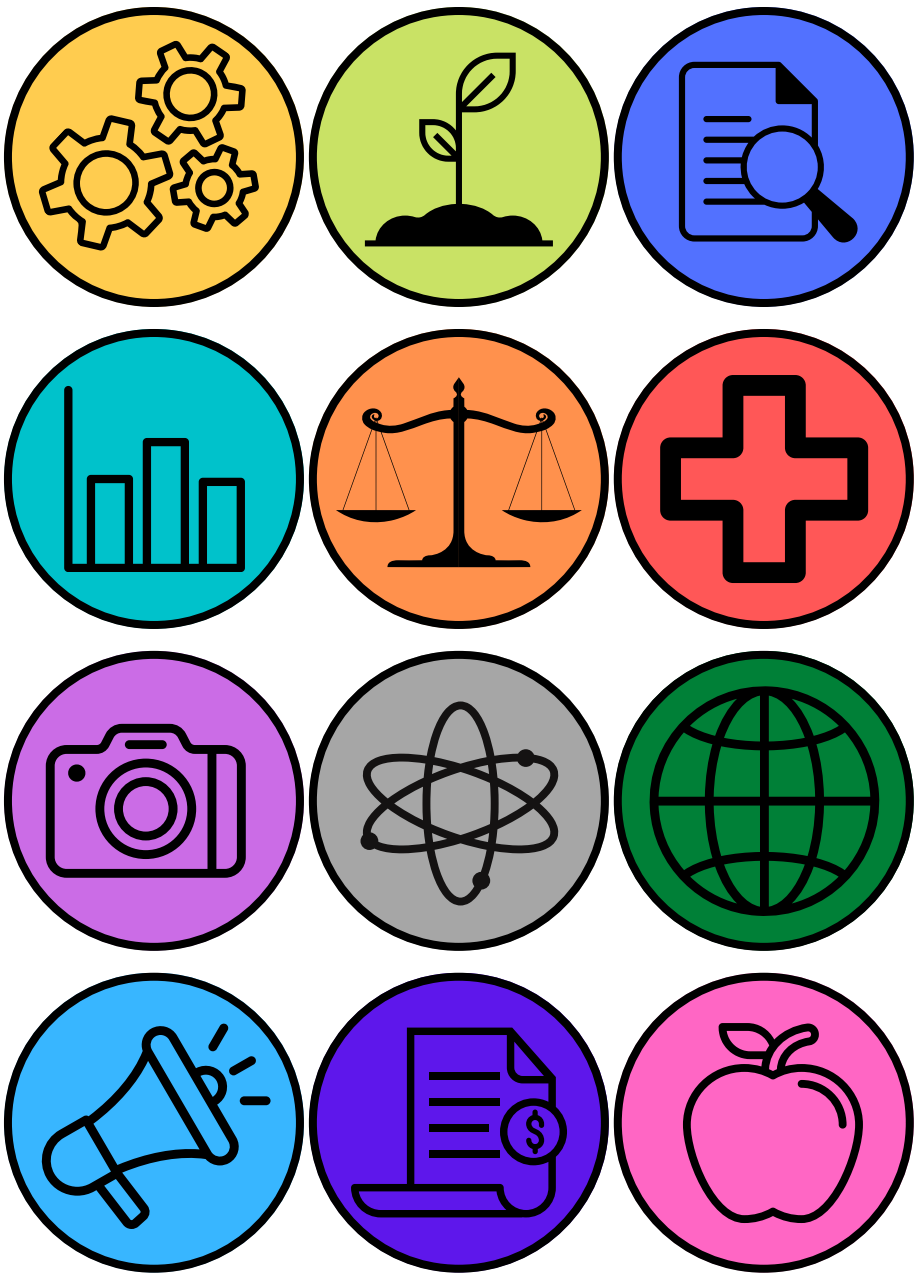
The crowds were alive during this cross-town rivalry and showed out by cheering for

“I just started playing for Creighton and for the team and that’s what kept me going and kept me fighting for points.”

-Ana Paula Martinez
Freshman
Creighton Tennis

every single point. Graduate transfer Oscar Alvarez and the rest of the Creighton men’s tennis team supported with chants of “Blue-jays”, “It’s a blue city”, “We work on those after practice”, “Suiiii” and many more, filling the Miracle Hills Tennis Center with encouragement for the players.

In the next coming weeks, Coach Lilly stated that the team needs to keep improving and working as sometimes, “we are a little bit one-dimensional in some spots and our opponents can kind of pick up on that as the match goes on.” However, Lilly is not discouraged on Creighton’s chances in the Big East, as he commented that, “if we are healthy then we can compete with anybody in our conference and we know that, so we just got to get there.”



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08

Sports

St. John's rematch win propels Jays to 16-6

ABBIE GALLANT
Sports Editor

Women's basketball came up with an important rematch win against Big East competitor and 17-4 St. John's, giving the Bluejays an 81-65 victory over the Red Storm in a critical part of the season.

Despite losing a close game against St. John's in early December 66-62, Creighton came out with an in-sync, team-oriented push on Feb. 4 to defeat the Red Storm in DJ Sokol Arena. Crucial performances from junior guard Lauren Jensen and junior forwards Morgan Maly and Emma Ronsiek propelled the Bluejays to 16-6 on the season.

From the first whistle, Creighton's consistent accuracy from beyond the arch spurred early success. Following a series of free throws that gave the Red Storm an early 2-0 lead, Creighton's first of 13 3-pointers came from Jensen.

After Jensen's basket, the Bluejays and Red Storm fought for the early lead, using physical defense and smart offense to stay step-in-step with one another. Creighton's offensive patience proved imperative to their success in keeping the lead in the first quarter, as senior guard Carly Bachelor and fifth-year senior guard Rachael Saunders created second chance plays that—along with teammate contribution—added up to nine second chance opportunities in the first half.

Creighton retained a 44-30 lead over St. John's as the first half ended, outscoring the Red Storm 24-13 in the second quarter. By the end of the half, Maly had accumulated 14 points, going 6-8 in field goals.

"I honestly felt like we were ahead and felt like we felt good about where we were from the get-go," said Maly. "We were getting what we wanted on offense and then defensively we were making it hard."

The third quarter brought more success for the Bluejays, the team using the entire shot clock to find the highest-percentage shots and capitalize on offensive possessions. With 6:53 left in the third quarter, the Bluejays took a 50-34 lead after a St. John's timeout.

out.

"We're doing better at trusting each other on the offensive end and [being] more willing to work deeper into the clock... [to] trust that what we do off the ball is going to translate into an easier basket or an easier opportunity later," head coach Jim Flanery said.

On defense, Creighton's team-oriented style proved stifling for the Red Storm. St. John's redshirt guard Jayla Everett, who averaged 16.7 points per game this season, was held to just 11 points by the end of the third quarter.

While Creighton lost some focus towards the end of the third quarter with a couple of errant passes on offense, the Bluejays retained a 63-49 lead.

The fourth quarter proved much the same, with Creighton dominating at both ends of the court. At the end of the game, the Bluejays executed an 81-65 win over the Red Storm. Jensen went 6-13 in field goals, scoring 17 points; Ronsiek went 6-9, also ending with 17 points and Maly went 9-12 in field goals - 4-7 in three-pointers - and scored 22 points.

"I can't remember a game where we played better from start to finish," Flanery said following the game. "... I just thought we didn't hang our head, we kept playing, and we shot the three well."

Maly also expressed similar sentiments about their performance.

"We played completely on both ends. I think we executed what we wanted to going in, and I think we just played with a lot of fun out there."

Three days later, Creighton flew to New Jersey, where they defeated Seton Hall for the second time this season 77-64. Ronsiek was the Bluejays high-scorer with 21 points on the night, going 8-10 in field goals. As a team, the Bluejays shot 45.5% from beyond the arch, and went 20-51 in field goals.

Following their victory against the Pirates, the Bluejays return to their home court on Feb. 12 to take on the 7-16 Xavier Musketeers.



XAVIER RINCON/THE CREIGHTONIAN
Junior guard Lauren Jensen drives to the basket against St. Johns. Jensen went 3-6 in 3-pointers and 6-13 in field goals. Jensen scored 17 points against the Red Storm.



XAVIER RINCON/THE CREIGHTONIAN
Junior forward Emma Ronsiek looks for a pass against St. Johns. Emma finished the game with 17 points, shooting 3-4 in 3-pointers.



XAVIER RINCON/THE CREIGHTONIAN
Sophomore guard Trey Alexander drives into the paint against Villanova. Alexander scored 27 points on the night, going 8-15 in field goals.



XAVIER RINCON/THE CREIGHTONIAN
Sophomore forward Arthur Kaluma posts up against Villanova. Kaluma got 8 rebounds on the night.

Win over Nova boosts Jays back into Top 25

MAX FRITSCH
Sports Reporter

Men's basketball edged out the 10-12 Villanova Wildcats 66-61 in a nail-biter Saturday night, good enough to propel the Jays back into the AP Top 25 for the first time since December at No. 23.

Trey Alexander posted 27 points in a decisive victory that saw 11 lead changes between the Big East foes. 15 of Alexander's points came by way of the three-pointer, hitting five of the team's seven shots from behind the arc.

"I felt good during shoot-around and I told Mac I had to get him back for the 1-7 last game [at Georgetown]," Alexander said.

Shots from behind the arc were something the Jays relied heavily on, particularly in the first half. In fact, 15 of Creighton's first 25 points were from threes, which helped them build an eight point lead at the half.

For the majority of coach Kyle Neptune's first season with the Wildcats, they've been without team-leader Justin Moore and have struggled to stay in games once falling behind. Now fully healthy, they fought back strongly to start the second period and by the 10 minute mark they had taken the lead for themselves.

"Villanova is so hard to play against," coach Greg McDermott said. "Full strength with Justin Moore, it's a heck of a basketball team."

Experienced Villanova forward Eric Dix-

on - who had 20 points on the day - certainly didn't fold under the pressure, nailing a go-ahead three with 34 seconds left. On what could have been their last possession of the game, the Bluejays fed the hot hand of Alexander who swished both free throws for the lead.

Alexander got the job done on the other end of the floor too, deflecting fifth-year guard Caleb Daniels' dribble to Baylor Scheierman with 12 seconds left. Scheierman was fouled and scored both free throws to ice the game and push the Jays' win streak to six games.

"When it comes down to these tight games, like one point, tie game going into the last minute, we just feel like we're together, nothing can pull us apart and we're gonna win the game," said Kalkbrenner.

Kalkbrenner provided 16 points in the paint with three blocks. For the second consecutive game however, the Jays bench was scoreless.

Despite the week's unconvincing wins over Georgetown and Villanova, who are 1-12 and 4-8 in Big East play respectively, Creighton was ranked No. 23 in the AP Poll, the only team with eight losses in the AP Top 25.

The Bluejays (15-8) will host No. 21 UConn (18-6) in front of their third straight sold-out crowd at the CHI Health Center on Saturday at 1 p.m.