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Creighton

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Omaha, Nebraska

Nebraska turns blue



KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

TURN TO PAGE 7

The Creighton Women's Basketball team defeated the Nebraska Tuesday, Nov. 15 at D.J. Sokol Arena. Led by junior guard Molly Mogensen, the women defeated the Cornhuskers 77-51. Pictured above, junior guard Lauren Jensen.

CSU President and Vice President transition power

ANNIE ELMING  
News Editor

Creighton Students Union hosted a full board meeting on Monday, November 14th. The introduction of the new President, Finneas Herrera, and Vice President Jason Cao took place, and topics such as funding and Program Board events also were discussed.

Call to order began at 5:18 pm, with an invocation stated by Stephanie Janczewski. An open discussion was held, followed by Finneas Herrera's and Jason Cao's introductions to the board. Their positions will be held for the rest of this year until the fall of 2023.

Outgoing President Frankie Pastor Rivera stated "With things winding down, I feel a sense of excitement & renewal. I'm particularly interested to see what the next CSU team has done, but I'm also ready to embrace whatever the future May have in store for myself. I'm particularly proud of our accomplishments, especially with some in which I played a small role in facilitating like having the bookstore sell LGBTQ+ Pride merchandise for the first time, advocating for the wording of Men and Women for and with others to People for and with others, speaking candidly about mental health in a campus-wide address, the establishment of the CSU Student Wellness coordinator, or leading fellow student government colleagues from our colleague Jesuit institutions in declaring support for the US Congressio-

nal Legislation Youth Voting Rights Act. I am happy that I did the role, but I'm excited to see for what is next."

There was an introduction of a Bylaw change that was voted on to amend the specification of what the protocol will be moving forward if an election candidate does not get the popular vote.

The Vice President of Finance Josh Jacobsen then discussed funding requests and adjusted the budget, which was approved and passed.

Incoming Vice President Jason Cao shared, "We were there to observe because in the next meeting [...] Fineas and I will be in office. They were also discussing bylaws and voting, and I was pretty excited because you should observe first before you do it."

In January, Jason Cao will begin his term as Vice President. He and Herrera attended the meeting to learn how the process works in delegate meetings, and what to expect when they begin their term.

Vice President for programming Xander van der Berg then discussed a Program Board event on Tuesday hosting a comedic magician as well as Wednesdays After Class the following day.

On Thursday, there will be a Thursday midnight movie excursion. The following Monday, November 28 Program Board will host Mondays After Class.

Farewell letter from the Editor in Chief

CHARLIE HARRINGTON  
Editor in Chief

My time as Editor in Chief of The Creightonian is coming to an end after this, the Nov. 18 issue, and I will be passing the reins to Cori Jobman, class of 2024, recently declared Journalism major, former News editor and copy chief, and current Sports editor.

Cori's experience on The Creightonian is nothing short of qualified for the position of Editor in Chief. I know that The Creightonian will be in good hands, continuing to be a valuable source of information for Creighton's student body.

That's what I hope to have accomplished during my time as EIC; digestible, timely and accurate information for the student body. I have made friends, built sources and covered difficult subject matters. Some of those highlights and lowlights, with respect, have included the passing of Mary Kate Phelan and the passing of two distance pharmacy students, Matthew Hay and Annie Semb.

These stories have truly helped me see the Creighton community come together in times of great sadness, and the stories I have written, specifically about Mary Kate, have helped me develop as a writer.

Yet another lesson learned in my time as EIC was honed writing skills. After over 30 published pieces, all available at creightonian.com, I have learned how to write concisely and efficiently. I plan to continue to contribute to The Creightonian next semester and look forward to writing stories that are researched, investigated and additive to The Creightonian's credibility.

It has also been a pleasure to be able to occupy this office during the newspaper's 100th anniversary. My full-page spread on the history of the paper was a highlight of my Creighton career as it combined two of my passions, writing and design.

I am also pleased with the progress The Creightonian website has made. The return of the E-Version has been one of my proudest accomplishments. After nearly four years

of little-to-no online presence, The Creightonian is making prideful strides to be more digitally savvy. I have also updated the look and feel of The Creightonian website to reflect, more closely, the look and feel of the newspaper. Is this starting to feel like enough of a shameless plug for creightonian.com yet?

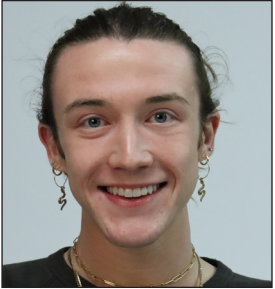
In any case, I am so pleased with our progress digitally because news is no longer a solely print business; it has evolved with the times. News is now timelier than ever, and I can't wait to see how much further we can push that.

This position has helped me hone my leadership skills among the company of my colleagues and fellow students. It has, at times, tested my leadership abilities in delegation and encouragement and has not been an easy ride.

Moving forward, as a graduating third-year senior, I will be applying to reporting initiatives and internships in preparation for graduation. My time at Metropolitan Utilities District has interested me in a water quality

or environmentalism beat.

Lastly, I want to thank the two professors I have had the pleasure of working with. Rich Johnson, Ph.D., who saw the potential in me during my second year and who is now at Arizona State University in the Cronkite School of Journalism, helped me to make a bold choice, push myself and boost my career. I'd also like to thank Carol Zuegner, Ph.D., who took over as faculty adviser this fall semester. Zuegner has helped me grow immensely as a journalist, a leader and a person. My thanks cannot be expressed in words alone, and I will continue to use what I've learned during my time to be successful.



CHARLIE HARRINGTON  
Arts and Sciences Senior



# News

ELIZABETH JONES  
ANNIE ELMING  
News Editors

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## FLP Thanksgiving raises \$1,500



**Students share a meal while guest speaker Joy Bartling discussed Scatter Joy Acres.**  
**JOSIE TALLEY**  
**News Reporter**

As Creighton students eagerly await Thanksgiving and the prospect of a break before the stress that is finals, the Freshman Leadership Program celebrated an early Thanksgiving meal.

The goal of the dinner was to raise funds for Scatter Joy Acres and provide a great din-

KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

ner for guests.

Izzie Nielsen, a member of FLP, attended and enjoyed the event. She shared some details about the fundraiser. “Scatter Joy Acres is a non-profit, large animal rescue, and they also provide animal therapy options for people,” Nielsen said.

During the dinner, the executive of Scatter Joy Acres, Joy Bartling, spoke to the attend-

ees. She shared the good work Scatter Joy Acres has done. One story she told was how a young child, unable to communicate well with others, was able to connect with a porcupine. The preparation FLP students put into planning the event, such as the tabling to sell tickets and making of decorations, did not go to waste, as the tables for dinner were all full.

“We did reach the fundraising goal of \$1,500,” Nielson said.

Melia Minnich, a freshman at Creighton, attended the event with some friends. She, along with the others, enjoyed the Thanksgiving meal.

“Definitely a good break from Brandeis. The stuffing was my favorite.” said Minnich.

The meal included all the typical Thanksgiving components, such as turkey, mashed potatoes, rolls, stuffing and pumpkin pie. It could certainly be considered a step up from the cafeteria meals. Minnich enjoyed the sit-down meal with friends and the opportunity to connect with others. She also found value in supporting Scatter Joy Acres.

### Countdown to Winter Break

**November 23-27 (Wed-Sun)**  
Thaksgiving Recess

**November 30 (Wed)**  
Empty Bowls Event

**December 5 (Mon)**  
Late night breakfast at Brandeis

**December 5-10 (Mon-Sat)**  
Final semester examinations

**December 10 (Sat)**  
December Degree Conferral Date



## 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

Nov. 11 - 8:52 p.m.

Public Safety responded to The Admiral Theater to assist an intoxicated student. The student was taken to CHI Health CUMC - University Campus and TRAAC'd.
- 2

Nov. 12 - 6:24 p.m.

A student reported a theft of their property from the Reinert Alumni Library. Public Safety later tracked down the property from a different student and returned it.
- 3

Nov. 13 - 2:52 p.m.

Public Safety responded to Swanson Hall to help a student with an injured arm. The student was taken to CHI Health CUMC - University Campus.
- 4

Nov. 14 - 9:40 p.m.

A student experienced a medical emergency in Heider Hall. Public Safety transported to the CHI Health CUMC - University campus.



# Prayer service offered in the style of Taize

EMILY SQUIRES  
News Reporter

Campus Ministry hosted an event titled “Prayer in the style of Taize” which sought to build community and give students a break from their hectic lives.

Through song, prayer and quiet reflection, students could ground themselves in their faith and take a moment out of their busy day to enjoy a time of peace. “It, [the prayer service] brought me so much peace and happiness and the strength to finish the semester strong,” said Katheryn McGovern a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Prayer in the style of Taize has a long tradition in English religious faith tradition and provides a way for people of a wide diversity of Christian faith backgrounds to come together to worship God.

“Prayer in the style of Taize is an ecumenical kind of service so whether you are Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, or just exploring faith this is a worship service that does not have a sacramental component to it which is the point in the worship service where often people in other tradition rub up against each other,” Gretchen Olsen Kopp, the part time protestant chaplain of Campus Ministry said.

“So, this [service] is music, prayer, candlelight, and scripture readings that allow us to come together, and everyone can participate in every element of the service.”

Events such as this also have a community building effect, strengthening Bluejay relationships: “There was a shared sense of community and gratitude,” said Colin Mac-

**“We get to focus, not just on God, but experience together those things that bind us together.”**

**-Gretchen Olsen Kopp  
Protestant Chaplain, Campus Ministry**

Kelly a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The singing, beautiful scripture and outside poetry readings gave this service an aesthetically enriching component that brought joy to students across different faith traditions, showing students a certain universality to faith that might be difficult to see otherwise.

“The great beauty of worship opportunities like worship in the style of Taize is that it is a time where we get to focus, not just on God, but experience together those things that bind us together,” Gretchen Olsen Kopp said.

Students interested in campus ministry events should look on the campus ministry website or visit campus ministry, located below Swanson Hall with any questions. The next prayer in the style of Taize is going to occur in January, with another off-campus Creighton sponsored service tentatively scheduled for April.

# Employees reflect on jobs as Starbucks extends hours

ELEANOR HUDEPOHL  
News Reporter

The campus Starbucks locations in Harper and Skutt are frequented by students, and until now, lines were long and the wait time uncertain. Now, to the joy of Creighton students, the hours have been expanded, and the two locations will be open more frequently for students on both ends of campus.

Both the Skutt Student Center and Harper Center Starbucks will now be open Monday - Thursday 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Saturday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Student employees must work hard to prepare and serve the tired students waiting in line. This balancing act between school and work is one lesson that leaves a lasting impression on the baristas, such as Grace Buss, a sophomore in the Heider College of Business, spoke on her prioritizing abilities.

“I have always had a job, so I have learned to balance things pretty well just because I have always had to do it. I also think that I just know what and when I need to prioritize certain things. It’s about good time management and knowing when to take breaks or take your time.”

Nicole Vrkljan, a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences, shared similar sentiments about work and school.

“I have been able to truly maximize my time outside of my busy schedule by planning out my day ahead of time to just make sure I can get everything that I had wanted to do for the day. It gets hectic from time to time, but life never gets boring, and it keeps

me going.”

Vrkljan has found much fun on the job through the relationships she has established with not only her coworkers but also her fellow students.

“You really get to know your coworkers, but also the customers that come in. I’ve been able to learn names and faces, and if they’re regular enough, I can learn people’s drinks as well! It’s a very social job, and I really do love it.”

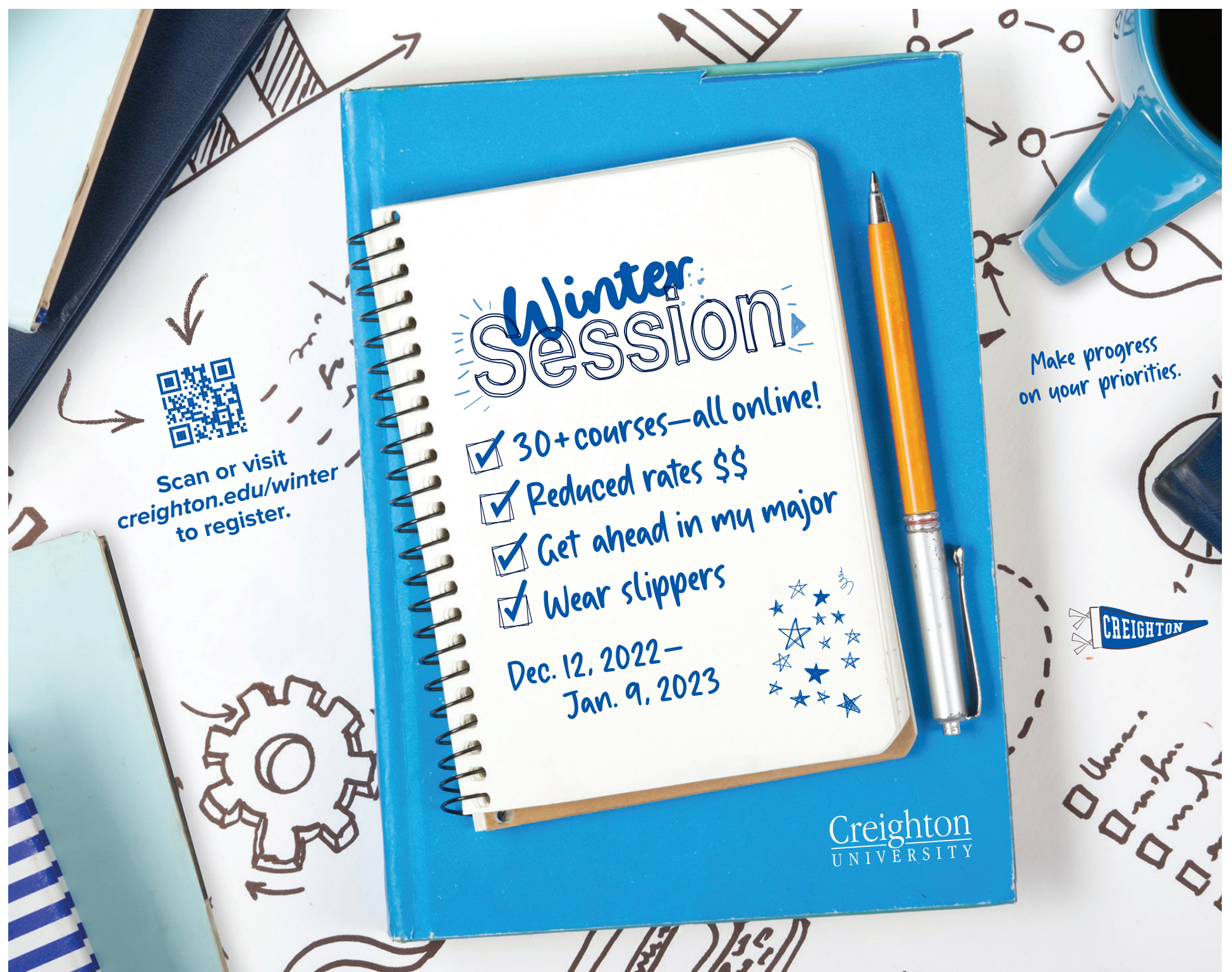
The connections made are also significant for Buss, “My favorite part of the job is getting to work with the amazing people I work with and being able to change the world one drink at a time.”

Despite the constant onrush of customers, she emphasized the opportunity to make an impact on campus.

“I get to write little messages on people’s cups, and my only goal is to make sure that everyone knows they are always loved.”

Small acts of kindness such as this are just one of the ways baristas carve their niche to make a difference on campus while at work.

The show only runs due to the hard work of student-employees as baristas for the rest of campus. Visit either the Skutt or Harper Starbucks to chat with the baristas and grab a drink during their newly expanded hours. Both locations are now open later into the evening, and a full schedule of the hours is available at starbucks.com or can be found on Sodexo’s Creighton website at creighton.sodexomyway.com/dining-near-me/starbucks.







XAVIER RINCON/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Creighton students packed the Admiral Theater to watch headliner Bryce Vine and opener Stacey Ryan perform hit singles and unreleased music. Both performers found fame on TikTok.

# CU swarms Bryce Vine

JACIE LEIBFRIED  
Scene Reporter

Bryce Vine headlines Program Board's Fal-lapalooza this year.

The 34-year-old singer went viral on TikTok earlier this year with videos of his concerts and production process. His most streamed song is called "Sour Patch Kids," the second track on his 2014 EP "Lazy Fair." This is followed closely by his 2021 single "Miss You a Little," which has garnered almost 30 million streams in just over a year.

These songs were sung along to by Creighton students in The Admiral Theater on Friday night, along with "Drew Barrymore" off Vine's 2019 "Carnival" album.

Ainsley Hecox, a senior in the College of Nursing, said, "I've always been a big fan of his, so it was really exciting to hear he was coming. It was awesome to see him perform, and that Creighton could put on a great experience."

All of this followed the opener Stacey Ryan, who also went viral on TikTok, although she is a newer artist. The 22-year-old singer from Canada had her video about an open verse challenge to her song "Don't Text

Me When You're Drunk," with the most views on a duet ringing in at over 24 million views.

Concert coordinator Clayton Sapp, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, said of getting Vine and Ryan to perform: "We work with outside contractors, and we send a list of artists to them. They gave us Bryce for a better vibe for a Creighton concert. I know the opener from TikTok so we found her from there, and it thought it would be fun to get someone who got famous that way."

Ryan's set consisted of covers of "American Boy" by Estelle and Kanye West and "Just the Two of Us" by Grover Washington Jr., as well as her own songs "Not My Job" and "Over Tonight." Her own songs were performed for the first time, live, in front of her Creighton audience, as they are unreleased.

Her set's instruments were mixed between acoustic guitar and keyboard, both played by herself. This was largely contrasted by Vine's set, which had high levels of bass and an electric guitarist, drummer, and DJ behind the singer. This crew is Canadian and named Loud Luxury and have been working with Vine for a while, even appearing with him on



the "Late Late Show with James Corden" in 2019.

Sophomore in the Heider College of Business Kara House said, "I thought he was super lively and made the energy high. The crowd and him kind of messed around and it made the experience one hundred times better."

Program Board's free bucket hats given at

the door matched the performance of "Sour Patch Kids," following his songs "Waste Your Time With Me in California" and "Why Can't We Be Friends" remix. Vine also performed a song he had not done live before entitled "Graduated," released just two weeks ago on Nov. 4.

# Gene Leahy Mall is redesigned

ELISABETH THOMPSON  
Scene Reporter

Described by some as "Omaha's Central Park," Omaha locals and Creighton students alike have been making the most of the Gene Leahy Mall.

Gene Leahy Mall, located at the Omaha Riverfront, opened to the public on July 1, 2022, after undergoing major renovations. The construction, beginning in March 2019, was made possible through a city contribu-

tion of \$50 million and an additional \$400 million raised by the Downtown Riverfront Trust. From there, daily operations were overseen by the Metropolitan and Convention Authority (MECA).

The Gene Leahy Mall is complete with a dog park, overlook and sculpture gardens, an events lawn, a performance pavilion and more. The events lawn, which offers 50,000 square feet of green space, has since housed a plethora of events, from performances by the Omaha Symphony to barre fitness classes.

Gene Leahy offers its frequenters unique

multimedia features such as video projection, coloring-changing lights, sound systems and an LED panel. These designs were implemented with event organizers in mind, giving them the ability to project videos onto the Burlington Building and onto the performance pavilion.

Since its grand opening, the mall has lived out its purpose of serving as a place to gather, enjoy live music, and celebrate the rich culture and community Omaha has to offer. Holly Scheppers, Creighton senior, spoke highly of her time spent at Gene Leahy.

"The atmosphere offers something for everyone, from families to young adults," said Scheppers.

To round out the experience, lighting designers have prioritized visitors and their safety by ensuring that the space is well-lit. Per a comment from senior Adrea Faschingbauer, "my friends and I did a picnic there, and even when the sun went down, we felt equally as secure as before."

Looking ahead to the colder months, mall goers can look forward to holiday lights and other festivities.



# ‘Don’t Worry Darling’ Review

GABBY DAMMKOEHLER  
Scene Columnist

Combining an idyllic aesthetic rooted in 1950’s Americana and progressively spine-chilling occurrences, “Don’t Worry Darling” is a terrifying slow burn with the tension and suspense of a classic episode of, “The Twilight Zone.”

While critics on Rotten Tomatoes gave it a 38% on the Tomatometer, audiences gave it 74% and reported especially enjoying the performances of the actors.

The star-studded cast includes Florence Pugh, Harry Styles, Chris Pine and Gemma Chan and all of them give stellar performances, with Harry Styles’ excellent acting coming as the biggest surprise of all. Florence Pugh is also marvelous, as always, and portrays that gut-wrenching role of Alice with nuance.

The critics consensus, according to Rotten Tomatoes, is that “the film is a ‘muddled rehash of overly familiar themes.’”

I’d argue it was supposed to be muddled seeing as it’s told from the perspective of the incredibly confused and continually gaslit, Alice. If she knew everything and thus, we knew everything, then it wouldn’t be a very good thriller.

As for rehashing old territory, it does, but this isn’t necessarily a bad thing. We’ve seen it before, the utopia that’s hiding something. And because we’ve seen it before we think we know where everything is going. Except we don’t, and that’s what sets this film apart from other similar works.

If you like similar TV shows and movies like “WandaVision,” and certain episodes of “Black Mirror” and “The Twilight Zone” then you’re sure to love this too.

This isn’t a film for everyone, but I did really enjoy it and if you’re a fan of psychological thrillers then you’ll like it as well. It is not a slasher or an action packer movie, but it packs a good amount of suspense and intrigue all wrapped up in sugar-coated mid-century flair.

If you’re a big costume fan, you’ll also love this film. It has marvelous costumes that would have any vintage fan drooling. The soundtrack, as well, is a confection of old pop and jazz that will make you feel like you’re getting a root beer float at the soda shop.

It’s the rose-tinted world of this film that makes it all the more horrifying. “Don’t Worry Darling” is the perfect combo of retro aesthetics and terror and I highly recommend seeing this film.

“Don’t Worry Darling” is currently being streamed on HBOMax free with subscription. Alternatively, you can buy or rent the film on other streaming platforms.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADDIE BARNHART  
The ‘Puffs’ cast raise their wands in preparation for opening night. The cast has been working on the show since the start of the semester.

# ‘Puffs’ tell their side of the story

## CU debuts Harry Potter spoof show

**BAYLEE JOHNSON**  
Scene Editor

Harry Potter wasn’t the only important student at his school. “Puffs” is a comedy that tries to tell the story of seven years at Hogwarts in roughly 110 minutes.

Wayne Hopkins was just living his regular life when he got a letter from an owl and found out that he was a wizard. He then goes to school in England where he has adventures with his two best friends.

The plot of this show may seem familiar but Wayne was sorted into the house Puff and his journey at school is very different from Harry Potter’s.

The Puffs always come in fourth place for the House Cup, but during Waynes’s journey as a Puff, they decide to change this; learning wizardry while avoiding evil wizards.

“My favorite aspect of the show are the little quips and one liners that only die-hard Harry Potter fans would know or understand,” said Hannah Juday, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, who plays the

Hannah Track in the show.

“This script is so well written and funny, and I love the humor.”

The show is extremely fast paced and high energy. With a surprise guest, references to Creighton/Omaha/Nebraska and a beloved story told from a different perspective, there is never a dull moment during the “Puffs” show.

“This show is really unique in that improved moments and silly mess ups are accepted and make the show even better,” said Katarina Wilson, senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, who plays Susie Bones and the Harry track.

“It’s really freeing being able to explore all of my characters and to be given the challenge of keeping the silly energy up for 110-ish minutes.”

Most actors in the show plays multiple characters which presents an exciting challenge. Many quick custom changes are required to pull this off. This show is also uniquely technically heavy.

“There is so much that happens backstage that the audience can’t see, which I think sets apart any previous shows I’ve been a part of.” said Madi Barker, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, who plays Leanne as her main character.

There are hundreds of lights and sound cues in the show and the set itself had to be completely removable from stage less than a week before the show’s opening. An orchestra performance was set to take place on stage the weekend before opening week.

All the walls within the set on stage were hooked up to the stages fly system so that they could be lifted out of sight. The platforms and stairs were built in moveable pieces that could be separated and taken off stage.

The technical crew also uses a fog machine, bubble machines and air castors on the stairs to bring the magic of the show alive.

The show has strong language and adult situations and is recommended for ages thirteen and up. The show runs until Sunday, Nov. 20.

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12 p.m.	12 p.m.	12 p.m.	5 p.m.	5 p.m.		
Community Kitchen Food Packing Event	Thanksgiving Food Drive	Drink Time with DIVE	Snacks & Skills	Thanksgiving Feast	Happy Thanksgiving!	Happy Black Friday!
Join Community Kitchen to pack leftover meals to deliver to homeless shelters in the Omaha Community.	Hui ‘O Hawai and DIVE will partner together to host a canned food drive for Heartland Hope Mission.	Come pick up a small care package of warm winter drinks in Skutt and learn about the Women’s Center for Advancement in Omaha.	The third topic in the series, Mindfulness will be led by a trained mental health professional from Student Counseling Services.	Join Campus Ministry in Lower St. John’s Church for a free, full traditional meal. Vegetarian lasagna will also be provided.		



# Opinion

MAXWELL SCHUTZE  
Opinion Editor

Want to read more?  
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## Brandeis is a place of wonder and awe

MAXWELL SCHUTZE  
Opinion Editor

What if Brandeis was the friends we made along the way? This simple and seemingly nonsensical question has been on my mind since the moment I decided to hang up my meal plan and call it a career.

For three years, I had devoured meals in Brandeis like an absolute machine. I have articles written in this newspaper about the doors leading into Brandeis and the optimal ways to carry to-go boxes back to one’s dorm.

I documented my complaints about salsa going AWOL from the omelet station, which returned for only one week in order to subside the public backlash my article filled into the Creighton community. To this day, that pitiful PR meltdown is the only offense Brandeis has committed against me.

Needless to say, Brandeis and I go way back. We’ve built each other up these last few years, pushing each other to become the best we can be – unlike Harper, who has turned into some pay-to-enter monstrosity.

In turn, it’s time we all admit how much

Brandeis has meant to us because regardless of your opinion about the food, it is more than just a place to get food.

Among the other articles I’ve published in the Creightonian, a couple talked about the intimate nature of meals. One, in particular, talked about how food naturally unifies us through the preparation, cooking, completion, and consumption of meals.

While Brandeis eliminates most of these stages, it’s the final one that made me want to write that article in the first place.

Breaking bread with another person is a small yet magically intimate moment that we don’t always get to do. As I noted in an article several weeks ago, people move off campus and begin eating meals in their apartments or houses, and because of people’s schedules, it’s sometimes done alone.

Those same groups of roommates who went to the upper deck of Brandeis around 7 p.m. almost nightly and sat at tables around my sophomore year roommates and I are still faces I recognize around campus today. Do I know them? Not even one. But do I remember them? Hell yeah, and I bet they’re great dudes too.

You see, what makes the meal is never the flavor profile; instead, it’s the people who enjoy that flavor profile alongside you. It’s seeing someone walking by, asking them if they want to join you, and then having a stimulating conversation about whatever comes to mind. And if you enjoy the food like I did, trips just become better.

Furthermore, it’s because I look back on the meals I ate alone in Brandeis with a sense of irrational embarrassment brought about by my own sense of insecurity that I can fully acknowledge the power of those meals I did share with others.

Some of the most paradigm-shifting and manically hilarious conversations I’ve ever had have happened in that dining hall. Even if you don’t enjoy the food, I think everyone can admit to some degree that life is just better once you’ve scanned that card.

In that bustling hall is that nostalgic cafeteria vibe with all the social and physical nourishment that I always have and always will yearn for. So, although I’ve graduated from eating in the dining halls, and I’m happy that I’ve moved on, no one can tell me otherwise: Brandeis slaps.

## Embrace the cold and face your fears this winter

ELIZABETH PASKE  
Opinion Columnist

It’s that time of year again: the leaves have fallen, the Target dollar section is stocked with kitschy Christmas decor and the Starbucks menu has transitioned from pumpkin-laden spiced beverages to white mochas and peppermint lattes. Also, our cars struggle to start, the sun sets in the afternoon, and the Creighton classrooms adopt tropical climates to compensate for the plunging temperatures outside. Welcome back, winter.

It’s difficult to enjoy a season that makes mother nature feel like a cryo-chamber treatment and even harder to put a smile on your face when your chattering teeth are louder than the construction of the new freshman dorm. But my goal this season is to embrace the chill rather than bracing against it, and I encourage you to do the same.

Fun fact: the cold is good for your skin.

It shrinks your pores and slows the aging process. Little do the Kardashians know that they could spend some time outdoors in the Midwest and get the same skin-tightening results that they undoubtedly pay thousands of dollars yearly for. Free Botox, anyone?

Secondly, the cold gets more bearable if you stop fighting it. Relax. Embrace the pain. They say you appreciate things more if you have experienced a lack thereof (i.e., warmth and comfort). So temporarily suffering only enhances all the time you spend in the warmth.

There is something to the concept of giving and gratitude that arrives with the colder weather; it’s easy to complain about the cold until you think about all the resources we have that others don’t in these conditions.

Thirdly, sweatpants and sweatshirt season is arguably superior to shorts and t-shirt weather. You can only get away with wearing slippers and pajama equivalents (or just plain pajamas) to class in a cold climate. We may look like furry, shapeless blobs walking around campus, but hey, at least we’re comfortable.

Is there anything better than watching the snow fall outside the window and basking in the comfort of a blanket and a good movie or book? Well, maybe a beach day in the Bahamas, but that’s beside the point.

The cold is almost an excuse in and of itself to forego productivity in favor of snuggling up and doing absolutely nothing. Leaving the warmth of your bed is hard enough, after all.

Lastly, and most importantly, the cold brings people together. It’s a commonality of our collective Nebraska experience, and there’s nothing Midwesterners like talking about more than the weather. No matter where you are on campus, whether in passing on the mall or in a Starbucks line, you can probably hear at least two conversations about how frigid the weather is at any given time. We may be divided on topics like NFL teams, but we love to complain together. Next time you step outside, try to embrace the cold that smacks you in the face. Remember: no pain, no gain.

<b>Opinions on the Plaza</b> How much time on average do you or have you spent socializing in the dining halls?		<b>“You see your friends; you’ve got sit to by them. Eating goes on the backburner. I go for an hour to an hour and a half tops.”</b> -Shannon Mead, Senior	
<b>“60% of the time that I’m there I’m socializing.”</b> -Ben Bradley, Sophomore	<b>“Most of it. Probably 30 to 45 minutes.”</b> -Elizabeth Graveline, Freshman	<b>“We’re usually there for 30 minutes with people we’ve communicated with beforehand.”</b> -Abigail Beaumont, Freshman, and Maddie McNally, Freshman	
<b>“Depends on the meal. Breakfast or lunch, you’re trying to get it in before class. For dinner, you’re going with your friends for 30 minutes to an hour.”</b> -Isabelle Fleming, Senior		<b>“In the dining halls, I spend more time socializing than eating.”</b> -Roshan Ries, Sophomore	

## What happened to celebrating Thanksgiving?

JOSIE TALLEY  
Opinion Columnist

It’s Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m., and people are finishing their Halloween celebrations for the evening. It was a long but enjoyable Halloween, and Halloween on a Monday didn’t disappoint either. Then the clock strikes 12; it’s officially Nov. 1.

The Halloween decorations and costumes disappear, immediately replaced by Mariah Carey in a sparkly red dress. She starts singing, “I don’t want a lot for Christmas, there is just one thing I need” – wait, hold on a second. Aren’t we forgetting about something? Oh right, Thanksgiving.

It isn’t December yet, folks.

Now I know it’s tempting to start blasting Christmas music and put up the decorations the second Halloween ends, but let’s just

take a deep breath. Christmas already has the month of December. Does it really need November as well?

If you consider the fact that Creighton is Catholic, students could also continue celebrating Christmas until Jan. 8, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and the end of the Church Christmas season.

Part of the magic of Christmas is that it is not celebrated every day of the year. We don’t wake up every morning to a pile of presents under the tree. This same idea applies to the Christmas season. The longer the Christmas season is, the less special it is.

Now, I’m not saying you can’t celebrate a little early, but could you at least wait to put up your tree until after Thanksgiving?

What’s worse than celebrating Christmas all December and Thanksgiving only the day of, is not celebrating Thanksgiving at all.

According to a survey completed by Personal Capital, one-fourth of Americans are planning to skip celebrating Thanksgiving this year. It’s sad that we are skipping a holiday of gratitude and family in order to focus two months on Christmas, an over-commercialized holiday that honestly doesn’t need more than a month to celebrate.

There are many ways to enjoy celebrating Thanksgiving this year. You can watch the Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade, any or all of the three NFL games on Thanksgiving, or “A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving.” Friendsgivings are always a good time, especially if your family is chaotic during holidays.

No matter if the company is good or not, Thanksgiving debatably has the best food of any holiday, so enjoy it.

Christmas can wait a little longer.

## It's important to have a stick of gum with you at all times

GRACE CLEMENTS  
Opinion Columnist

I’m a snacker. I always have been and always will be. I always carry gum, chocolate, and some sort of granola bar on me at all times.

I will most likely be the weird old lady that will always have a butterscotch at the bottom of her purse.

There are lots of weird reasons why I do this; the majority of them are that I like being prepared. When someone asks if anyone has a piece of gum, I like to make their day a little bit better by providing it for them.

Is it slightly weird that I think ahead on such

a minute detail? Maybe, however, this does not stop me from doing it.

Think about it. Have you ever been sitting in class craving a piece of candy or a piece of gum, and the person next to you happens to have exactly what you want? This little piece of happiness can make someone’s day. Thus, due to my people-pleaser tendencies, I always have chocolate, gum, and snacks on me.

More people need to do this. Just the other day, I was having a very bad day. I was doing homework in Skutt, and nothing seemed to be going my way.

To help fix this problem, I slipped out one of my beloved Dove Chocolates (dark choco-

late, of course) and popped that bad boy into my mouth. It altered my brain chemistry, allowed me to take a small mental break, and motivated me to push through my assignment.

I am telling you, this is life-changing stuff. Do you know the Extra Gum commercials that are always super corny? Well, there was one the other day that sparked the inspiration for this article. An entire relationship formed just because the girl offered the guy a piece of Extra Gum. We watched them go on their first date, attend prom, get into fights, watch their relationship grow, and in the end, he asked her to marry him with the help of all their gum wrappers. Although odd, this commercial

helped prove my point: small interactions like this can be pivotal in someone’s life.

I am not saying that if you offer someone a piece of gum or a piece of chocolate, you will find your soulmate, but you might make a connection with someone. This small gesture can easily lead you into a conversation.

I might be overanalyzing a simple interaction; however, I have never had anything bad happen after offering someone a piece of gum.

All in all, the Extra commercials are extremely cheesy, but are they that far from the truth? Next time you are nervous to talk to someone, offer them a piece of gum and take it from there.



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CORI JOBMAN  
Sports Editor

# Sports

## Women crush Cornhuskers

Jays beat rivals by 26 en route to 3-0 start



Creighton point guard Molly Mogensen shoots a three against Nebraska. Mogensen led the Jays with 22 points and shot 4/5 from beyond the arc in the win.

KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

### ABBIE GALLANT Sports Reporter

With the first ever sellout at D.J. Sokol Arena, the 20th ranked women's basketball Bluejays dominated in four quarters to secure a 77-51 win over 22nd ranked Nebraska.

On Nov. 15, the Bluejays took down the rival Huskers to keep their season undefeated at 3-0, executing a dominant performance with junior guard Molly Mogensen leading the charge with 22 points on the night.

From the whistle, Creighton looked extremely composed and confident, and Mogensen's first midrange jumper of many throughout the night gave the Bluejay's their first points of the game.

Creighton continued to build momentum, their sharp passes and constant movement on and off the ball giving them a 13-5 lead over the Huskers halfway through the quarter.

"When we move the ball and involve everybody, and make teams have to defend, I think we have a chance to be really special," commented head coach Jim Flanery.

On defense, the Bluejays' played equally strong, their aggressive playstyle limited the number of open looks for the Huskers and led to a series of unforced turnovers.

By the end of the first quarter, Creighton led the Huskers 22-11, shooting a very efficient 47.4% from the field.

In the second quarter, Creighton's defense continued to get stronger, as the Bluejays consistently limited Nebraska's second-chance opportunities on their attack. On the other side of the court, the Bluejay offense, led by Mogensen, consistently put up points to widen the lead.

At the half, Creighton led 45-28, shooting 50% from three and the field. Mogensen alone put up 19 points in the first half, her

mid-range jumpers and three-point shots proving deadly for the Nebraska defense.

"They were switching everything [on defense] in the first half, so I knew that I could attack their bigs, and that float jumper was open a lot, so I took it," Mogensen stated about her first half stats.

The third and fourth quarters demonstrated the same Creighton dominance on the floor, with offensive sequences in the paint allowing senior forward Carly Bachelor and junior forward Morgan Maly to finish at the rim.

With 2:35 remaining in the third quarter, the Bluejays extended their lead to 60-38 over the visiting Huskers.

At 7:18 in the fourth quarter, following another three-pointer by Maly, Nebraska called a time out, and Sokol erupted in cheers as the Bluejays went into the huddle with a 68-44 lead.

When the buzzer signaled the end of the game, the Creighton Bluejays defeated the Huskers 77-51.

Following the game, junior guard Lauren Jensen commented on Mogensen's performance in the first half.

"It was super cool to see her go off like that... she was hot, she was making them, and it just shows how important she is to our team," Jensen said.

When asked about the feeling in Sokol for their first home match, Maly talked about the atmosphere and the energy.

"The fans were great tonight," Maly said. "Bluejay nation showed out and it was good to get this color on top tonight."

The Bluejays hope to remain undefeated as they play an away game against Northern Iowa on Nov 20.

## Men's basketball dominates Holy Cross

### MAX FRITSCH Sports Reporter

The 10th ranked Jays soared to a 94-65 victory over Holy Cross at the CHI Health Center Monday, moving their record to 3-0 on the season.

The blowout win was highlighted by career performances from junior center Ryan Kalkbrenner and sophomore guard Ryan Nembhard.

Kalkbrenner tallied an impressive 17 points in the first half, many of which came by sheer domination in the post. Late in the half, the star big would also hit a 3 pointer, shocking the crowd. Due to limited minutes in the blowout, he finished with 22 points on 10-10 shooting, making him 19 for his last 19 dating back to Thursday's win over North Dakota.

"My teammates have done a good job of putting me in a good position to take good shots," Kalkbrenner said. "Not many of the shots I've taken have been too hard and that's credit to the guys I play with."

One of those teammates was Nembhard, who provided 12 assists for Creighton, 9 of which came in the first half. The sophomore point guard was not only the first Bluejay with 12 assists since Maurice Watson in 2017, but the first Bluejay to do so with no turnovers since 2002. Through the first three games, last year's Big East Freshman of the Year now has an impressive assist-to-turnover ratio of 23:2 and an unselfish mark of 17 shots attempted.

"He knows where I'm gonna be, I know where he's gonna be," Nembhard said of finding Kalkbrenner for assists. "We know where we likes screens, we know where he likes the ball, our relationship has just grown a lot."

The Bluejays kicked the game off with an 8-0 run and coach Greg McDermott's game plan was clear from the start; feed the post. The Jays, who had six total dunks in the first two games, posted eight dunks in the first half, six of which came from Kalkbrenner.

As the Jays boasted a 52-27 lead at the end of the first period, McDermott's bench saw

**"Not many of the shots I've taken have been too hard, and that's credit to the guys I play with."**

**-Ryan Kalkbrenner  
Center  
Junior**

more action on the court than the starters in the second half.

"Five games in nine days [coming up], I'll take any rest I can give these guys," McDermott said. "We did what we had to do and the bench got some valuable minutes with some good teaching moments."

Leading the Bluejays bench offensively was true freshman guard Ben Shtolzberg with 13 points in as many minutes, while three others came off the bench to score eight plus. Junior

guard Shereef Mitchell showed a glimpse of his 2019-self with four assists and a team-high three steals.

"I think people got a taste of what's to come of [Shtolzberg]," McDermott said. "These last two games have been really valuable for him to take a step forward and gain a little bit more confidence."

By the final buzzer the score read a 29-point win for the Jays over the Crusaders on an impressive 57% shooting from the field and 37.5% on 32 attempts from beyond the arc. Eight different Bluejays finished with at least one made 3 in the contest.

After a matchup with UC-Riverside Thursday the Bluejays will hit the road for the first time this season, heading to Hawaii for the competitive Maui Invitational. They will face off against No. 23 Texas Tech on Monday and could matchup with other top-25 teams in No. 9 Arkansas, No. 14 Arizona or last season's March Madness first-round foe, No. 17 San Diego State.



# Men’s soccer wins Big East, advances to NCAA tournament



KAITLYN TUCKER/THE CREIGHTONIAN

The Creighton men’s soccer team watches the selection show for the NCAA tournament, awaiting their opponent. The Jays discovered they would play at home against Missouri State on Thursday, Nov. 17.

## ABBIE GALLANT Sports Reporter

The sixth-seeded men’s soccer Bluejays become 2022 Big East Tournament champions after two stellar wins over second-seeded Seton Hall in the semi-finals and top-seeded Georgetown in the finals.

Following a 6-0 win over Seton Hall and a 3-0 win over Georgetown, the Bluejays brought home a Big East trophy and were selected to play Missouri State at Morrison Stadium for the first round.

On Nov. 10, junior forward Duncan McGuire got his second hat trick of the season, scoring four of the goals that led the Bluejays to a 6-0 clean sheet against the second-seeded Seton Hall Pirates.

From the whistle, the match was physical, both teams working to gain the advantage early. In the 34th minute, senior midfielder Callum Watson drew a foul in the box after charging in on a high arching ball. McGuire took the penalty kick and scored, giving the Bluejays a 1-0 lead.

In the 47th minute, McGuire got his 2nd goal of the match, as a Georgetown turnover allowed McGuire to shoot through a Seton Hall defender to give the Bluejays a 2-0 lead.

But McGuire wasn’t finished yet. On a crossing pass from sophomore midfielder Jackson Castro in the 57th minute, McGuire found the back of the net, getting his second hat trick of the season and giving Creighton a 3-0 lead.

Creighton’s fourth goal came from McGuire again in the 60th minute on an assist from sophomore midfielder Giorgio Probo. McGuire’s goal extended the lead to 4-0 and tied the Big East tournament record for the most goals scored in one match.

McGuire’s four goals, followed by goals

from Castro in the 62nd minute, assisted by Probo, and sophomore midfielder Mark O’Neil in the 77th minute, assisted by junior defender Luke Waters, solidified a 6-0 win over Seton Hall.

McGuire’s breakaway performance in the semi-finals astounded head coach Johnny Torres.

“I’m so happy for him, I’m so happy for his family, for our group... I’m happy for our community.”

Three days later, Creighton took on the top-ranked Georgetown with a Big East trophy at stake.

The intensity and energy were high from the whistle, the Bluejay high press and offensive aggression effective in limiting any dangerous Georgetown attacks.

On the offensive, Creighton’s passes were sharp and decisive, their opportunities in the Georgetown third strong. In the ninth minute, on a corner kick from Probo, fifth year senior Alejandro Maillet sent the ball into the top right corner of the net, getting his second goal on his first start of the season, and putting the Bluejays up 1-0.

Following the goal, Creighton’s offense continued to create high percentage opportunities in the box, while fifth year senior goalkeeper Paul Kruse and the defense held Georgetown at bay. And in the 29th minute, a header aimed at the left corner of the goal by Georgetown was saved spectacularly by Kruse.

The Bluejays left to the locker room leading the Bulldogs 1-0.

After halftime, the Bluejays continued to test the Georgetown backline as they worked to find an opening.

In the 48th minute, junior defender Jake Ashford sent a spectacular long ball to the

feet of McGuire, who maneuvered between two defenders and sent the ball into the back of the net, getting his 19th goal of the season -- giving him the most goals in NCAA men’s soccer -- and giving Creighton a 2-0 lead.

And in the 49th minute, an assist from sophomore midfielder Owen O’Malley gave Probo a high percentage look in the box. After his first shot was blocked by Georgetown, Probo’s second shot sailed into the back of the net, putting Creighton up 3-0.

Creighton’s defense and offense continued to play strong for the remainder of the match, and their hard work paid off. When the final whistle blew, Creighton beat 1st ranked Georgetown to win their first Big East Tournament trophy.

“Extremely proud of the guys,” Torres said. “...it feels great to be able to solidify our Big East Tournament with a trophy for our university and our city of Omaha.”

Winning the Big East Tournament also secured Creighton’s spot in the NCAA Tournament. Creighton will play at home against 12-1-4 Missouri State for the first round.

“For us to be able to go back to the tournament for the second year after missing out for a couple years, it helps us with our momentum for our program,” Torres said. “It’s our standards, it’s where we’re meant to be and we’re here.”

Probo also expressed his confidence going into the first round of the tournament against Missouri State.

“The belief was there since the first day. We got unlucky during the season, but we’re still here [and] we still have the opportunity to play.”

All coverage of the NCAA tournament will appear on our website at creightonian.com

# Record breaking senior day for volleyball

## CORI JOBMAN Sports Editor

Two seniors hit career milestones as the volleyball team swept Seton Hall on senior day, playing almost all of their seniors and winning their 26th straight set, extending their winning streak to 16.

“We just have such a fantastic group of seniors,” head coach Kirsten Booth said.

“Some that are new and have added great attributes to our team, and some veterans that have built and continued to build our program, so it was awesome that they all got to contribute.”

Senior outside hitter Keeley Davis broke the career record for aces and senior outside hitter Jaela Zimmerman, who has missed most of the season with an injury sustained at the end of last season, recorded her 1000th

career kill, only the 15th Bluejay to hit that mark.

Following a five-ace performance on Friday, Davis needed three more coming into the day to break the record, which she did early in the third set.

“It was crazy, I never knew that I could do it, but I could do it with my team, and that’s amazing,” Davis said.

Zimmerman’s 1000th kill came midway through the third on a back row attack that the Jays had been hunting for after jumping out to a huge lead early in the set.

The Jays were dominant from the start of the match, never giving up more than 17 points in any set, following a sweep against St. John’s, both of which the Jays won without sophomore outside hitter Norah Sis.

The Jays were led offensively in both matches by another senior, outside hitter

Jazz Schmidt, who led the team in kills in both matches over the weekend after coming off the bench most of the season.

“I’ve been mentally preparing for this all season long,” Schmidt said. “A good mentality to have is that you’re never out of the fight, and every day in practice, whatever my 100% is, I’m giving it.”

The wins over the weekend propelled Creighton to the #11 spot nationally in the most recent AVCA poll. This is the highest the Jays have been in the polls since 2019.

Creighton will close out their regular season on the road against Xavier and Marquette before returning home for the conference tournament over Thanksgiving weekend, where they have already secured a bye.

All coverage of the Big East championship tournament and NCAA tournament will appear on our website at creightonian.com.

SMP

Men’s Basketball  
Preseason Poll

1.

Gonzaga

(2-0)

+1
2.

Houston

(2-0)

+1
3.

N Carolina

(2-0)

-2
4.

Kentucky

(2-0)

—
5.

Kansas

(2-0)

—
6.

Baylor

(2-0)

—
7.

Duke

(2-0)

+1
8.

UCLA

(2-0)

-1
9.

Arkansas

(2-0)

—
10.

Creighton

(2-0)

+1
11.

Texas

(2-0)

+1
12.

Indiana

(2-0)

+1
13.

Arizona

(2-0)

+2
14.

Auburn

(2-0)

+2
15.

Virginia

(2-0)

+3
16.

Alabama

(2-0)

+3
17.

TCU

(1-1)

-3
18.

San Diego State

(2-0)

+4
19.

Michigan

(2-0)

+1
20.

Illinois

(2-0)

+1
21.

Tennessee

(2-0)

-11
22.

Texas Tech

(2-0)

+2
23.

Dayton

(2-0)

+2
24.

Purdue

(2-0)

NR
25.

Villanova

(2-0)

-8
- Dropping out of Top 25:

Oregon (23)

The red and green trends are based off the team’s ranking the week prior.

*The Student Media Poll is comprised of votes from student sports journalists in College newspapers across the country, including The Creightonian’s Max Fritsch.*