The University of Cincinnati awarded a combined $100,000 in community engagement grants to 15 local nonprofits to promote outreach efforts in the Cincinnati metropolitan area.

In addition to financial support, UC will provide resources for the recipients to connect with students who are interested in volunteering. Interested students — particularly those with an interest in working with nonprofit organizations after graduation — can get involved with semester or yearlong volunteer programs.

Awards ranged from $2,525 to $10,000. From soup kitchens to educational programs, all recipients have one common goal in mind: to better the lives of Cincinnatians.

Here’s the list of this year’s winners:

**N.E.R.D.S**
Nurturing Educational Readiness and Development from the Start (N.E.R.D.S) is an organization that aims to combat low academic achievement and student disengagement by engaging students in hands-on activities that encourage them to enjoy learning. The organization offers a wide variety of clubs, including robotics club, book club and garden club.

Tonka Bridges, a former teacher, is the founder and CEO.
Student Government holds senate meeting without notifying public

MITCHELL PARTON | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Members of Undergraduate Student Government (SG) held a senate meeting this weekend that was rescheduled without notifying the public.

The meeting was called Saturday, Feb. 2, to address “pressing matters” that were unable to be covered Jan. 30 due to the university’s closure, according to minutes for the meeting provided by SG.

Student Body President Sinna Habteselassie did not say what the “pressing matters” were. In an email, Habteselassie said the phrase was “likely a form of satire” from Secretary Nathan Halbisen, who recorded the meeting minutes.

There was no mention of the meeting on SG’s website, social channels or any other media outlets. SG only announced the meetings to student government members in a Listserv.

All meetings of Student Senate are required to follow the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to public meetings, according to Article 2, Title 2, Section 3 of the Student Government Bylaws.

Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code states the following in regard to both scheduled and special meetings:

“Every public body, by rule, shall establish a reasonable method whereby any person may determine the time and place of all regularly scheduled meetings and the time, place, and purpose of all special meetings. A public body shall not hold a special meeting unless it gives at least twenty-four hours’ advance notice to the news media that have requested notification, except in the event of an emergency requiring immediate official action. In the event of an emergency, the member or members calling the meeting shall notify the news media that have requested notification immediately of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.”

Habteselassie wrote in an email that the News Record specifically was not notified of the meeting due to email miscommunications and because Speaker Vineela Kunapareddi was sick. She failed to respond to requests for a statement on why the meeting was not announced to the public.

Here is a summary of which bills passed during the meeting, according to the minutes:

**Executive Nominations**

Christopher Stone was nominated for the position of Election Facilitation Committee (EFC) Chair. Sarvani Vemuri, Dheeraj Rawal, Gerald Crosby and Reiley Cowart were nominated for Senator-At-Large positions.

**Changes to Election Facilitation Committee Chair Requirements**

Voting members unanimously approved an enactment bill that amends requirements for the position of EFC Chair. The changes will now allow the chairperson to be approved by student senate after the 15th week of spring semester in extenuating circumstances.

It will now also be possible for the chairperson to be appointed with six months of Senate experience rather than one year of EFC experience, campaign team experience or experience running as a slate or candidate in a prior election.

**Co-sponsorship of Dining Services during 1819 Celebration of SG**

Senators also voted unanimously to appropriate $383.97 for food during the 1819 Celebration of Student Government, which will take place at the 1819 Innovation Hub Feb. 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will be hosted by the Student Government Mentorship Program (SGMP), but that program’s budget was insufficient to fully fund the event.

**Former TUC Papa John’s to rebrand**

MITCHELL PARTON | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The pizza restaurant in Tangeman University Center (TUC) that replaced Papa John’s in September has adopted a new name, new offerings and new recipes. MainStreet Squared will now be known as MainStreet Pizza Company.

By surveying students, faculty and staff, Campus Services found that the square pizzas served at MainStreet Squared did not review well, according to an email from Nancy Petersen, director of marketing and publications for Campus Services.

The department also found that diners wanted greater diversity in menu items. The reconcepted restaurant now offers hoagies and calzones as well.

The pizza at MainStreet Pizza Company is now hand-tossed, round and made fresh every day in TUC. The changes should result in a fresher and better-tasting pizza, Petersen said.

M.B. Reilly, university spokeswoman, wrote an email to The News Record in September that the pizza at MainStreet Squared would use the same recipe as On the Green (OTG). However, Petersen said that this was not the case.

“We needed to continue to tweak the recipe and the production of the pizza,” Petersen said. “Students love the OTG pizza, but the new MainStreet Squared was not a direct duplication of that recipe.”

Prices at MainStreet Pizza Company have been modified to reduce prices for individual items. The location also offers combos that include a soft drink and bread side for $2 more than the cost of individual items. The location features a new branding concept chosen from several designs developed by students from the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) employed by Campus Services Marketing. In addition to the new design, new signage, uniforms and pizza paddles were implemented.
UC’s nonprofit grantees

Grants Continued from Cover

The Habitat for Humanity in Greater Cincinnati was one of the recipients of the University of Cincinnati’s bicentennial grant.

ALEX MARTIN | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

of N.E.R.D.S. Due to insufficient funding, Bridges began paying out-of-pocket to fund several student clubs and initiatives. At one point, she needed multiple copies of the book “Wonder” for the students in book club, so she reached out for help on Facebook.

The response was overwhelming. The wave of contributions from Facebook users allowed Bridges’ club to raise enough money to provide each student with their own copy of the book. The experience inspired her to start N.E.R.D.S.

“Everyone is a nerd, because everyone loves to learn,” Bridges said. “A lot of times, they just haven’t tapped into that part of themselves ... We aim to inspire that inner nerd in everyone.”

Bridges said the grant funding will help to financially support the organization, but the biggest source of support is the volunteers who work in clubs and other services the organization offers, such as ACT prep.

“I hope to have retention with the volunteers,” she said. “What I would love to see is UC students working with our students throughout their college career ... to build bonds with our students.”

St. Francis Seraph Ministries

Based in Over-the-Rhine, this nonprofit aims to nourish Cincinnati’s low-income population through several ministries, including low-income women’s empowerment, soup kitchens, bagged lunch initiatives and the “Cooking for the Family” program.

Cooking for the Family teaches families how to shop for groceries and cook nutritious meals for less than $10.

“Cooking for Families mostly consists of single mothers who learn to take control of their own lives through cooking,” said Chris Schuermann, executive director for the ministry. “Instead of looking to the Dollar Store for dinner, they can cook a wholesome sit-down meal for their families with what they’ve learned through our services.”

The organization hopes to launch five separate locations for the Cooking for the Family ministry in the near future, Schuermann said. All that’s needed is enough volunteers to help run the program.

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati (IHN) used its grant funding to help provide homeless families with emergency shelter and assistance. IHN’s main goal is to keep families experiencing homelessness together while they find a new home.

The organization has teamed up with more than 100 local congregations to make sure the homeless receive warm meals and a bed to sleep in. It has partnered with more than 1,000 volunteers of various faiths who open up their houses of worship to help those in need.

Garrett Parsons is the pet program coordinator and housing specialist for IHN. The pet program assists animals whose owners became homeless or are at risk of homelessness until the owner finds a permanent residence. Most of the animals in the shelter are cats and dogs, but according to Parsons, the most exotic animals they’ve taken care of include “a turtle and a bearded dragon.”

Between 30 and 35 volunteers help each week to care for the animals. With the grant money from UC, IHN hired a social work intern to help run the shelter and train volunteers.

Once the pet and its owner are reunited, IHN helps the owner gain eligibility for federal welfare programs, such as Medicare and food stamps. Parsons hopes to work with landlords to make Cincinnati a more pet-friendly city.

“Most people with pets are evicted because of their animals,” said Parsons. “We want to work with landlords to allow pets in more affordable housing, and [we also want] to work with pet owners in training their animals so they are well-mannered.”

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati

Habitat for Humanity works to ensure affordable housing for hardworking families. The program helps families build and buy their first home with an affordable mortgage through a variety of programs, such as the homeowner education class.

Classes are open to anyone interested in learning about buying a home. These classes also address other common home-related issues, such as lawn care and general maintenance. Habitat for Humanity also utilizes the Financial Peace University program, which aims to help people achieve their financial goals.

This year on April 13, HFHGC is hosting “Rock the Block” — a neighborhood cleanup project in the Five Points neighborhood of Fairfield Township. Volunteers will work on a variety of mini-projects throughout the day, including painting and landscaping jobs.

Beth Benson, vice president of development and communications, said the organization hopes that the grant from UC will encourage students to volunteer for the Rock the Block event.

“The UC Bicentennial Grant will help involve first-year UC students in planning and executing Rock the Block events,” said Benson. “Many partners are needed to reach out to neighborhood residents, plan all the logistics of a big event, promote it inside and outside the neighborhood and accomplish all the day-of-event tasks.”

Daniels Hall flood could cost residents thousands

Flood Continued from Cover

tens of thousands of dollars in electrical and equipment damage.

The water did not dry overnight, however. Yellow liquid began seeping through the floor and, after no follow-ups and little communication from maintenance, students ended up cleaning it themselves.

“It was kind of frustrating that we’ve been waiting around a lot — it felt like it took a while to get everything resolved,” said Emily Timm, a first-year architecture student and Daniels Hall resident.

“It’s hard to deal with schoolwork and this on top of it.”

Timm, Miller and Madison Mitchell, a first-year marketing student, estimate they lost roughly $200 in personal belongings due to flood damage. April Gable, a first-year political science student and the president of Daniels Hall, reported no damage to her room or belongings.

Residents said staff were not organized or clear about the problem.

“When we were trying to cooperate with them, they didn’t seem to care about anything that had happened,” said Mitchell.

Resident advisors were instructed by community coordinator Katie Noah to call floor meetings and inform residents they will be held financially responsible if the culprit is not caught.

Noah declined to comment. Gable said Noah is working to solve the situation and ensure no residents are forced to pay unless they are found at fault for the incident.

Still, when damage is purposely inflicted to campus property, Resident Education and Development often reserves the right to charge the applicable residential community for repair costs unless the responsible party can be identified.

“A charge to the residential community may not ultimately be necessary,” Reilly said. “But depending on the above factors, it is always a possibility.”

Reilly estimates cleanup costs and materials could amount to $500 — not including personnel costs for those involved from Campus Services, Resident Education & Development, Code of Conduct and other departments.

However, the total cost of damages is projected to be much higher than UC’s original estimate.

“We have yet to be told an exact number, but we do know it is upwards of six figures of damage,” said Gable.

If the perpetrator is not caught, the 776 student residents in Daniels Hall could end up paying between $13 and $1,288 each.

For now, UC has not found the party responsible for the damage.

“I was told they were close, but I have yet to be told if they have officially caught them,” said Gable. “But we residents have yet to hear anything really recently.”

The flood water lifted the glue from the floor tiles on the seventh floor of Daniels Hall at the University of Cincinnati on Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019. PROVIDED BY EMILY TIMM
Mamie Smith (1883-1946)
The Blues Queen has no apparent connection to UC, but UC Clermont helped sponsor research to prove that Mamie Smith was born in Cincinnati. She began touring the nation in 1910 with an African-American musical troupe, according to a biography by the African-American Registry. In 1912, she married singer William Smith and moved to New York. For many years, she worked as a cabaret dancer, pianist and singer until she performed in the musical, “Made in Harlem” produced by Perry Bradford. Her career soon took off, and she became the first African-American female singer to record vocal blues. The record “Crazy Blues” sold more than a million copies, leading to many more recording deals and the rise of the “race records” market. With her newfound fame and fortune, Smith lived a comfortable life in Harlem, where she later passed away in 1946. Smith paved the way for female blues and jazz artists in the years to come, and Cincinnati is proud to be the birthplace of the Queen of the Blues.

Ada Hart Arlitt (1890-1976)
In 1925, Dr. Ada Hart Arlitt became the first teacher of the UC Nursery School and a prominent figure in early childhood psychology, according to the center’s website. The center serves as an early childhood practicum site for students on UC’s campus as well as a research center for faculty and students. Arlitt was born in New Orleans and received her undergraduate degree from Tulane and then received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. After teaching as an associate professor in educational psychology at Bryn Mawr College, Arlitt came to Cincinnati in 1923 to become the chief psychologist of the Mental Hygiene Clinic. In 1924, she was invited to UC to develop a program in child development for the School of Household Administration and accept a position in the psychology department. She is regarded as a preschool pioneer and produced research that became prominent in child and adolescent psychology. After her death in 1976, Arlitt bequeathed roughly $250,000 to UC for the preschool program, which now is called the Arlitt Child and Family Research and Education Center.

Jane Froman (1907-1980)
Though she is best known for her career in show business, Jane Froman did it all. She sang on the radio, acted on Broadway and starred on both the silver and big screens in Hollywood. Born in Missouri, Froman was the daughter of a music teacher, according to UC Magazine. However, she developed a stutter by the time she was 5 years old, and it impacted her onstage presence throughout her career. Despite her speech impediment, Froman worked hard and graduated from a local community college with a degree in French. She later went on to the University of Missouri with the intent to earn her journalism degree. But her life plan changed after she participated in a school musical, and she soon found her way to the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the predecessors to CCM, in the 1930s. After teaching as an associate professor in educational psychology at Bryn Mawr College, Arlitt came to Cincinnati in 1923 to become the chief psychologist of the Mental Hygiene Clinic. In 1924, she was invited to UC to develop a program in child development for the School of Household Administration and accept a position in the psychology department. She is regarded as a preschool pioneer and produced research that became prominent in child and adolescent psychology. After her death in 1976, Arlitt bequeathed roughly $250,000 to UC for the preschool program, which now is called the Arlitt Child and Family Research and Education Center.

Lucy Oxley (1912-1991)
As the first African-American woman to graduate from UC’s College of Medicine, Lucy Oxley endured racism from not only her peers but her professors, according to a biography from the Cincinnati History Library and Archives. The Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, native was the daughter of a teacher and Episcopal minister who moved to a biography from the African-American Registry. In 1912, she graduated as valedictorian from Prairie View Normal College. She then moved on to Samuel Houston College, where she obtained a degree in education and later graduated from the University of Colorado in educational psychology. She spent much of her life working as a teacher. The experience led Prosser to pursue her Ph.D. in psychology, and her dissertation focused on the personality differences between black children attending segregated versus integrated schools. Her research proved influential in developing research on the connection between racism and psychology in African-American children. Tragically, Prosser was killed in a car accident in Louisiana in 1934.

Inez Beverly Prosser (1897-1934)
In 1933, Inez Beverly Prosser not only became the first African-American woman to earn a doctorate in psychology at UC, but also the first African-American female psychologist in the country. She grew up in a small town in Texas, according to a biography from Webster University. In 1912, she graduated as valedictorian from Yoakum Colored High School, then went on to graduate as a valedictorian from Prairie View Normal College. She then moved on to Samuel Houston College, where she obtained a degree in education and later graduated from the University of Colorado in educational psychology. She spent much of her life working as a teacher. The experience led Prosser to pursue her Ph.D. in psychology, and her dissertation focused on the personality differences between black children attending segregated versus integrated schools. Her research proved influential in developing research on the connection between racism and psychology in African-American children. Tragically, Prosser was killed in a car accident in Louisiana in 1934.
Available on news stands now!
Roof Rabbit hops into Top Cats

Chloe Rosenberger | Contributor

Emerging band Roof Rabbit, formed at the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), is making its mark on the Cincinnati music scene Feb. 9 at Top Cats on Short Vine.

Roof Rabbit formed in February 2018 as a group of Commercial Music Production (CMP) students searching for a creative outlet during a semester of intense coursework. Co-founders Grant Garner, 21, and Ethan Kimberly, 20, had the idea to form a band for most of their freshman year.

“We needed to do something or we were going to go insane,” Garner said.

The duo pulled together a five-piece ensemble, including CMP students Johnny Lee on guitar, Sydney Shapiro on lead vocals and keyboard and Mickey O’Toole on bass. Garner plays guitar and sings on some Roof Rabbit tracks, and Kimberly mans the drum set.

The name “Roof Rabbit” holds no specific meaning for the band. Garner said his attachment to “rabbit” stems from his background in folk music, which he hopes to pursue as a solo career. But the pleasant alliteration of the final product came from a collaborative process with Kimberly and Shapiro.

“I think it was the three of us throwing together as many words as we could until something stuck,” Garner said.

Roof Rabbit’s self-described “dream pop” style takes inspiration from bands like Fleet Foxes and The Cure, Kimberly said. Seeing them perform echoes the otherworldly tones of alternative genre predecessors — Garner and Lee trade complex rhythms back and forth, while Kimberly and O’Toole drive the percussion tempo and Shapiro blends harmonies with her voice and the synth.

Their songs are blissful marriages of new-wave 80s sounds and contemporary electronic trends. The band’s Instagram bio reiterates its goal of wanting to make people dance — a goal that remains at the heart of each song.

Top Cats will mark the third venue where Roof Rabbit has played. Previously, the band performed at house showcases for Leftfield Recordings, a Cincinnati-based studio and music collective. Garner and Kimberly connected with Leftfield through a friend at CCM, which led them to land their first gig in April: Leftfield’s Kickback.

Since Roof Rabbit’s beginnings, the group has worked to create a full set that will be performed this weekend. As headliners, and as part of Top Cat’s first year of music since the venue reopened in August, the group has a chance to start building what will likely become a loyal following Cincinnati music lovers.

For now, a video for Roof Rabbit’s song “Wander Away,” filmed in cooperation with Leftfield Recordings, is available on YouTube. The band hopes to release more music soon.

“We got picked in a giveaway for a day’s worth of free studio time, so we’re hoping, provided that works out, to go in and record a song to release as a single,” Garner said. “But that’s not set in stone yet. And then hopefully we’ll put out an EP.”

The Top Cats show will start at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. and tickets are $5.

Jack Blair and the Bop Its, Campus Rex and Typhoon will also perform.

Get out and do something: Feb. 8 to Feb. 10

Erin Couch | Senior Reporter

Friday, Feb. 8

CCM Opera: “Die Fledermaus”: CCM Opera d’arte, the conservatory’s undergraduate opera series, returns this weekend with Johann Strauss’ 19th-century operetta “Die Fledermaus” with an updated setting in the roaring 1920s of Vienna, Austria. “Die Fledermaus” — or for us English speakers, “The Bat”— is a light-hearted story with captivating melodies and a few wry surprises, according to CCM’s website.

Reserve your free ticket by calling (513) 556-4183.

8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday.

Cohen Family Studio Theater, CCM Plaza. Free.

My Furry Valentine: Do you need someone to keep you warm on a significant other-less night this Valentine’s Day? This weekend, you can find your furry soulmate in a huge adopting event at Sharonville Convention Center. Over 800 kittens and doggos will be under one roof, waiting for their future mom or dad (aka you) to rescue them at the largest animal adoption event in Cincinnati.

Noon-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Sharonville Convention Center, 11335 Chester Road, Sharonville. $5.

Saturday, Feb. 9

Valentine’s Dinner at the Zoo: According to the Cincinnati Zoo website, the Queen City’s own animal sanctuary is “the sexiest zoo in America.” Take that as you will. Grab your valentine and head to the zoo this weekend for a romantic evening of gourmet food, close-up animal encounters, Champagne toasts and more. More info and tickets here.

6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, 3400 Vine St., Corryville. $200 per couple.

Sunday, Feb. 10

Flowers, Chocolate and Romance at Krohn Conservatory: The weekend before Valentine’s Day is upon us, which means scrambling to Kroger to buy a bouquet, some heart-shaped candy and some sad-looking, cliché teddy bears. But why give in to the capitalist money hole that is Valentine’s Day when you can learn how to make those delectable chocolates yourself? Come to Krohn Conservatory this weekend and participate in some chocolate-making workshops while you take in the flowery sights at their Fabulous Foliage exhibit.

1-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Krohn Conservatory, 1501 Eden Park Drive, Mount Adams. $4.

Art on Vine: Looking for a unique gift to give your SO for V-Day this week? Show your love for Cincinnati artists Sunday at Art on Vine and get your boo a handcrafted gift. With up to 70 local artists showcasing their wares, there should be plenty of present-worthy options. The art fair donates to a local nonprofit after each event every month, so you can feel extra good about dropping some cash for your valentine.

Noon-7 p.m. Sunday.

Rhinegeist, 1910 Elm St., Over-the-Rhine. Free.
Mike Bohn celebrates five years leading UC Athletics

MATT HUFFMON | SPORTS EDITOR

If someone were to walk into Mike Bohn’s office on the eighth floor of the Richard E. Lindner Center for the first time, they might mistake it for a sports memorabilia museum. Each wall is covered with photos, signed baseball bats and football helmets that are tokens from his 30-plus years of working in intercollegiate athletics.

Feb. 6 marks five years since Bohn was hired as the University of Cincinnati’s athletic director by former UC President Santa J. Ono.

“To be a part of a team that is aligned for excellence in making impact across the board is extremely fulfilling and something I’m very, very proud to be a part of,” Bohn said.

I feel immense pressure to ensure that [the] trajectory of the intercollegiate athletic programs match that of the institution.”

Bohn’s experience in college sports began when he played football and baseball while earning an undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas in 1983.

Before coming to UC, Bohn gained experience as the athletics director at the University of Idaho (1998-2003), San Diego State University (2003-2005) and the University of Colorado (2005-2013). He has also held positions at Colorado State University, United States Air Force Academy and the College Football Association.

“Mike was already an experienced athletic director at Colorado and San Diego State,” Ono said. “The thing that really stood out when I interviewed him was that he has an outsized personality. Even if he doesn’t know you very well, he’s incredibly warm. He’s the kind of guy who would give you a high-five and have tremendous enthusiasm. I’ve never met anyone like him anywhere.”

Ono felt Bohn’s outgoing personality and passion matched his long-term vision for UC Athletics.

“Part of the reason why I chose him was because of his enthusiasm,” Ono said. “One of the goals that we had was to supercharge the environment. If you go to basketball or football games, you can feel it. He’d really accomplished that. It was also important to create a kind of unity between the student-athletes in different sports and have them show up at each other’s games and root for each other.”

One of the more influential hires Bohn has made in his five years at UC is Luke Fickell, who was named the 42nd head football coach in school history in December 2016.

After leading the Bearcats to an unimproved 4-8 record in his first year, Fickell turned the program around to finish 11-2 in 2018, concluding the season with a victory in the Military Bowl.

“When you’re an athletic director, there’s good times and bad,” Ono said. “[Bohn’s] the kind of person who has the attitude — whether teams are doing well or not, or he has to find a new football coach — he has the temperament and focus to really look at the bright side all the time.”

Bohn believes the best days for the UC athletic department are yet to come. He has high hopes that the current coaches are teaching the same values the University stands for.

“I’m extremely proud of every one of our coaches,” Bohn said. “Not just the ones I’ve hired. I recognize that we have some programs that aren’t the class of the league yet, but we believe in what we’re doing, and we believe in our model of integrity, competitiveness and recruiting the right type of student-athletes.”

Outside of the office, Bohn can often be seen interacting with several facets of the UC community, including CCM and student leadership organizations.

“I like to take pride in being ubiquitous,” said Bohn. “If the athletic director isn’t out and about and engaged and listening and growing and trying to figure out a role for athletics to help move the entire institution forward, then I think it’s a missed opportunity.”

Ono believes Bohn’s dedication goes beyond supporting student-athletes and extends to the loyal supporters and those who take pride in watching students compete.

“I think it’s important for any administrator to see how students are doing, and in his case, it’s really important to see what the fan experience is like,” Ono said. “When he’s not in the office, he’s interacting with not only fans, but also the cheerleaders and the band. He likes to interact with the student section.”

One of the initiatives Bohn has developed for the athletic department is “class of the league,” which he defines as having the ability to rise above challenges and become the best person one can be.

Top: Mike Bohn accepts recognition from the U.S. Army on behalf of the University of Cincinnati for its support during a men’s basketball game at Fifth Third Arena. @MIKEBOHN_UC | TWITTER

Bottom: Mike Bohn poses with Dr. William Ball. @MIKEBOHN_UC | TWITTER

“TNR FILE

New University of Cincinnati Director of Athletics Mike Bohn addresses the media at a press conference Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014. “I’d like to think we’ve made significant progress,” Bohn said. “If we are the class of the league in every category, I think good things will happen for us. All the different potential league changes are down the road, so we’ll see what happens there. We want to be the class of the American Athletic Conference and let everybody know that the Cincinnati Bearcats are the ones to mimic in any effort associated with an athletic program.”

The most notable facility improvement during Bohn’s tenure was the $87-million renovation to Fifth Third Arena.

“One of the last things I worked on at Cincinnati in terms of athletics was to finalize the Fifth Third Arena design and go-ahead with the renovation plans,” Ono said. “I’ve been really, really happy with how that turned out with Mike there. It’s great to see. The student sections are really into the games.”

Bohn’s dedication to his career is evident in his effort shown through projects such as these and the leadership he’s provided to student-athletes and coaches in the program.

“He knows the athletes and he truly cares about them and the coaches,” Ono said. “That’s the kind of leader who really develops a community. Student athletes really need someone who’s there for them because it’s extremely demanding to be a student, as well as an athlete who is competing at the highest level.”

UC’s athletic department finished with a 3.312 departmental GPA for the fall 2018 semester. It was the 21st consecutive grading period of a 3.0 or higher departmental GPA.

“We all want to win, but I think that [academic success] is a first and foremost an accomplishment that the entire institution can take pride in,” Bohn said. “It all goes back to teamwork and collaboration.”

"Teamwork and collaboration."
Takeaways from Bearcats’ taming of the Mustangs

SPENCER SCHULTZ | SENIOR REPORTER

The University of Cincinnati men’s basketball team won its seventh straight game in front of a sellout crowd Saturday night, defeating Southern Methodist University (SMU) 73-68.

The Bearcats improved to 19-3 (8-1 American Athletic Conference), while the Mustangs fell to 13-9 (4-5 AAC).

UC was hitting on all cylinders in the opening minutes, knocking down five three-pointers on the first seven shot attempts. Junior Jarron Cumberland and Sophomore Trevor Moore each hit three three-pointers in the first half, leading Cincinnati to a 42-31 halftime advantage. The Bearcats finished the half converting 8-of-17 three-point attempts.

Despite taking a 12-point lead into the locker-room, UC head coach Mick Cronin was displeased with his team’s defensive effort. “I thought the game should’ve been over at halftime,” Cronin said.

“Right now, we’re the best offense in the AAC,” Cronin said. “We finally played Bearcat basketball the last seven minutes,” Cronin said. “We were able to get stops, rebounds and second-chance points. I thought SMU played tremendous … We did not do a good job on our scouting report defense.”

Cumberland finished with a game-high 24 points accompanying nine rebounds and five assists.

Below are a few takeaways from the win:

Home Dominance
Saturday night marked the Bearcats’ 100th victory at home under Cronin since 2013. UC has lost only nine home games in the past five seasons, and the team is off to a 14-1 record at home this season. Since dropping its opening home game to Ohio State, the Bearcats have won the past 14 games by a 16.4-point margin on average.

Trevor Moore continues to improve
Moore has seen an increase in minutes the past two games and has taken full advantage of the opportunity. The 6-foot-5 shooter converted on three of six three-pointers Saturday night, hitting all of them in the first half. Despite having only one game in double digits, Moore has shot 40 percent from beyond the arc his past three games.

In spite of the offensive success, Moore said he’s seen more time due to his effort on the other end of the court.

“[More minutes] started in practice,” Moore said postgame. “I’m trying to get my game to translate from practice to the game.

It’s starting to happen a little bit — that’s why my minutes are going up — but I honestly don’t think they’re going up because of the offensive end. I think its stuff I’m doing on defense, like the dirty work. [I] just have to keep doing it.”

The Bearcats travel to Memphis, Tennessee, for their next conference game to face the University of Memphis Tigers Feb. 7. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. EST.

Lacrosse in search of another record-breaking season

MATT HUFFMON | SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Cincinnati lacrosse team will compete in the American Athletic Conference (AAC) this season after posting the best record in program history (8-9) as a member of the Big-East Conference in 2018.

This year marks the AAC’s inaugural season for sponsoring women’s lacrosse and will include current full-time members East Carolina University, the University of Connecticut and Temple University, as well as associate members Vanderbilt University and the University of Florida. The Bearcats will face each conference team once during the regular-season before the AAC Championships take place May 2-4 in Cincinnati.

UC was picked to finish fifth in the preseason coaches’ poll, while Florida was predicted to win the conference.

Junior attacker Monica Borzillo, senior midfielder Amanda Donovan and redshirt junior midfielder Sam Mikky were named preseason all-conference Jan. 24. Donovan was named second-team all-conference at the conclusion of the 2017 season, while Borzillo held the honor in 2017 and 2018.

Borzillo started all 17 games last year and scored a team-high of 42 goals, which broke the single-season record at UC. She added a team-high of 27 assists for 69 points.

Seventh-year UC head coach Gina Oliver has focused on preparing Borzillo to play at a high level while being the focal point of an opponent’s game plan. With a roster full of young talent, Oliver would like to see Borzillo continue to be an unselfish player who gets her teammates involved.

“The big thing for her is recognizing that people know who she is, and people are going to key on her,” Oliver said. “They see how she helps us win, even when she’s not putting points on the board … We talked to her a lot this year about controlling what she can control and building chemistry with other people, so that way, everything is not on her back.”

UC lost three seniors from last year’s roster but brought in a strong recruiting class with seven freshmen.

“We’re just trying to get as many talented kids as we can to come here to build our program,” Oliver said. “In [next year’s] recruiting class, we have 12 kids coming in. We’re just building and continuing to get better as a program.”

The Bearcats open the 2019 season Friday, Feb. 8, at home against the Ohio State University Buckeyes at Gettler Stadium. The match has a start time of 3 p.m. They finished the weekend with another home match against the Kent State University Golden Flashes Sunday at 1 p.m.

“Right now, we’re the best team in Ohio because we beat [Ohio State] last year,” Borzillo said. “But, they beat us the year before, so it’s about having that constant competition going toward conference play.”

Borzillo will have a little extra motivation for the Feb. 15 matchup with former Big-East rival Marquette, as her sister, Jackie, played for the Golden Eagles and is on the staff as the director of lacrosse operations.

“Seeing her earlier in the year will make it that much greater,” Borzillo said. “When you see your sister on the other sideline, it’s becomes a rivalry between each other.”
Potential Democratic nominees

RYAN HOLBROOK | SENIOR REPORTER

The 2020 presidential election is less than two years away, but it’s already evident that the Democratic primaries will be hotly contested. With prominent Democratic figures like Sens. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) already running and others like Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders waiting for the opportune moment to launch a campaign, the race is fully underway.

The U.S. is in a state of turmoil. Wealth inequality, racism and LGBTQ+ discrimination is law, and we have maybe 12 years to reverse the course of catastrophic climate change. We still don’t provide guaranteed universal health care for all, and our students and graduates are crippled by loan debt. These are just some of the many crises that face the country.

That said, the Democratic candidates are frankly disappointing. Some may come out in favor of progressive policy, like Gillibrand calling for the abolishment of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Harris calling for criminal justice reform, but exactly how trustworthy are they? Harris spent her pre-senate career prosecuting mothers of truant children in California and protecting prison labor while Gillibrand was busy representing big tobacco company Phillip Morris and was anti-immigration as recently as 2006. Joe Biden wrote the 1994 crime bill that led to a racial epidemic and he supported the Iraq War. He voted against bussing and anti-segregation legislation. And when you look at his entire life, has been consistent in fighting for change that offers Americans a better way of life and take after Sanders’ movement.

But until then, who better than the man who has been consistent in fighting for change for over 10 years. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, among others — who are bringing new ideas to Congress and the national spotlight.

Donald Trump’s campaign and presidency have been marked by blatant cruelty, stupidity, incompetence and carnage. From the Muslim ban to the border wall and the appointment of Brett Kavanaugh to a Supreme Court that threatens women’s rights and more, Trump and the Republican Party are digging an already-fractured country even deeper into a hole. Without true progressive leadership that fights for Americans and the world, we soon may be in too deep to climb out.

Defeating Trump is crucial in 2020, but what good is it to replace him with ineffective centrist Democrats when real change could be had? Millions of Americans need genuine help — not empty promises. Sanders isn’t perfect and hasn’t yet announced a campaign, but it’s time to start thinking deeply about where we want go from here.

It is my hope that 2020 candidates can find it within themselves to offer progressive change that offers Americans a better way of life and take after Sanders’ movement. But until then, who better than the man who has been consistent in fighting for change his entire life?

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In 2019, the U.S. faces problems that only progressive left politics can solve. Bernie Sanders’ 2016 campaign inspired many — young, old and of all different races, religions and backgrounds — to get involved in the political process. His campaign brought national attention to “Medicare for All,” free college and economic and racial justice. Sanders has been consistent in his fight for justice at all levels — from his time as mayor of Burlington, Vermont, to his time as a congressman and now senator. Sanders’ movement inspired progressives and self-proclaimed “socialists” to run for office and organize — including congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, among others — who are bringing new ideas to Congress and the national spotlight.

A recent article by The Hill found that to cover the 30 million Americans with no health insurance, 150 million Americans would have to give up their current health care law, voters would have to give up their current insurance options, only 35 percent support it, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation poll conducted last year. Once people realize that they wouldn’t get to keep their private health insurance, “Medicare for All” loses its luster.

When the Republican Party failed to repeal former President Barack Obama’s health care law, voters punished them by giving Democrats a majority in the House of Representatives. But voters didn’t punish Republicans because “Obamacare” was great; rather, voters simply didn’t like the government being involved in their health care. At one point, “Obamacare” was extremely unpopular — in 2010, voters voiced their opposition to the policy by giving the Republicans the House.

So, despite the drawbacks, why is “Medicare for All” so appealing? Simple: supporters claim it will simplify the complexity of delivering health care. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), for example, supported eliminating private health insurance to erase insurance company paperwork and constant delays. But when has the government ever made anything less complicated?

Overall, “Medicare for All,” like its namesake, is too good to be true.
No wall, no problem: The president’s secret Trump card

SAMUEL SCHELL-OLSEN | STAFF REPORTER

After a record 35-day government shutdown, President Trump opened the government for three weeks after signing a bill passed by Congress. It was a political loss for the president, as the bill did not include funding for a border wall.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has repeatedly said that a border wall is out of the question. “Have I not been clear on the wall?” Pelosi told reporters Friday. “I’ve been very clear.”

In a surprising turn of events, there was more support in the GOP-majority Senate for a bill that lacked financial backing for a border wall (52 - 44) than one that did (50 - 47).

The president countered by threatening Congress with the possibility of declaring a national emergency and redirecting military funds to build a border wall without congressional approval.

“In 21 days President @realDonaldTrump is moving forward building the wall with or without the Democrats,” White House press secretary Sarah Sanders tweeted. “The only outstanding question is whether the Democrats want something or nothing.”

But in a Supreme Court that is occupied by justices who reliably ruled against the government, it’s doubtful that the president’s use of executive power would hold up in court.

So, is this a complete loss for the Trump administration? Not exactly. True, it probably would have been easier to fund a border wall when Republicans held the House majority. Instead, former Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) spent precious time trying to repeal “Obamacare” — an initiative that failed and potentially cost Republicans the House.

The rest of the time, the Republican-majority Senate focused on tax reform, fundraising for midterm elections and confirming judges to the courts. The fact that we are in this situation to begin with does not fall solely on the president; rather, it falls on a formerly GOP-controlled House that mismanaged its time.

So, what can the president do? If he stops tweeting for two hours, Trump might realize that Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) has offered him an escape route. Clyburn has proposed a “smart wall,” saying he is not against the idea of a wall to protect the country’s southern border.

“A smart wall will be using drones, using sensors, using X-ray equipment to be an effective wall,” Clyburn stated on Fox News. “Not just something that would be a monument to one’s existence, but to be a deterrent at the border and to be an effective barrier for people who are trying to get in illegally.”

Other Democrats with considerable power who support the proposal include Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.).

President Trump, I’m begging you: take this deal. You can tout it proudly — is turn the focus back from the government shutdown, which was a political loss for him. It’s easy to picture Bundy as an evil genius, yet the fact that he had sex with the dead bodies of his victims is only briefly mentioned.

The beginning of his killing spree is often attributed to his break up with his girlfriend. With all the talk of Bundy’s attractiveness, it is important to remember that he killed women because he hated them and wanted the control he felt he did not have in his life. Like many other men with inflated egos, Bundy felt like he deserved affection from women simply for existing.

Rather than feature Bundy, I would rather see a documentary about the survivors of Bundy. I would rather hear from the families of the victims or the detectives who worked tirelessly developing profiles and searching databases. It’s cognitively more comfortable to focus on the man rather than the path of destruction he left in his wake.

When consuming all of this media about Bundy, one cannot forget that in the end, he was a coward who gave in to his dark impulses. He’s not a cute guy who could have become a great lawyer. He’s a monster.
Sudoku is played on a grid of 9 x 9 spaces. Within the rows and columns are 9 "squares" (made up of 3 x 3 spaces). Each row, column and square (9 spaces each) needs to be filled out with the numbers 1-9, without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square. Does it sound complicated? Each Sudoku grid comes with a few spaces already filled in; the more spaces filled in, the easier the game – the more difficult Sudoku puzzles have very few spaces that are already filled in.

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