



More sun means less winter fun

By KELLY FITZGERALD
 Assistant Editor

Your Christmas tree will be dead by Jan. 14th, so you might as well come back to school, even if that means a shorter break. Creighton will have 24 break days instead of 31 like last year.

"The less time I have around Christmas break, the less time I sit around and do nothing," Arts & Sciences senior Allison Hardy said, who was not one of the students too bothered by the shorter Christmas break.

On the other hand, Brigid Daly, Arts & Sciences senior, would rather have a longer Christmas break so that she can get home, relax and do some shopping before the holiday comes.

Not that students or administration really have a choice. Each year the schedule varies depending on the perpetual calendar and the day Creighton can book the Civic Auditorium for commencement.

"The graduation date really drives the whole calendar," University Registrar John Kreck said.

The registrar has an edict from the president saying graduation can be no later than the 20th of May. This year's graduation is on the 15th.

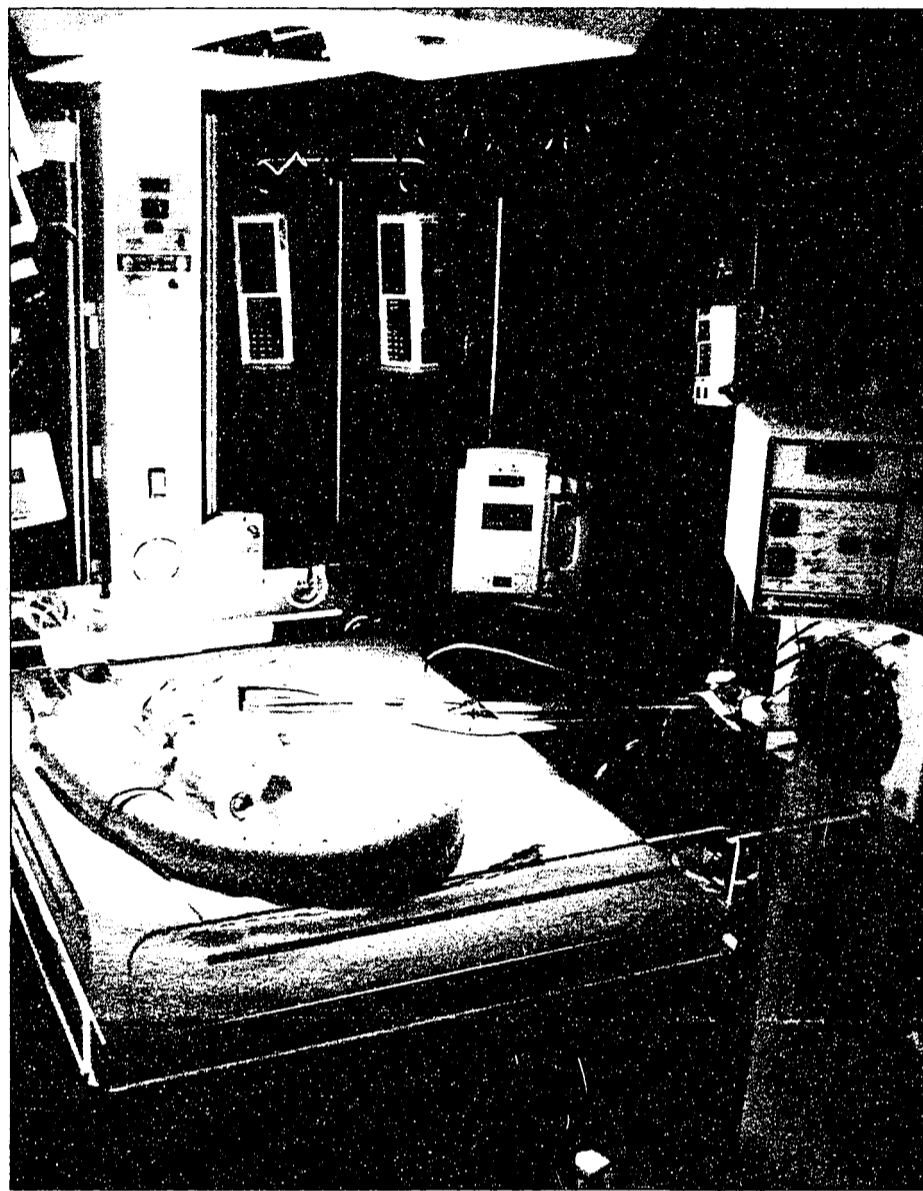
"It's not that you're getting cheated out of something, it's just that you're getting it at a different time," Kreck said.

Guidelines require the registrar to design each semester so that there are 15 weeks of net instruction. This includes final exams time but excludes holidays and breaks.

"We have about the same number of weeks in the fall, spring and summer, so we really get the same number of weeks of

PLEASE TURN TO "BREAK" PAGE 2

Better care for infants



Creighton University Medical Center opened its improved Neonatal Intensive Care Unit on Tuesday. The repositioned incubators were holding cabbage patch dolls for the open house/ribbon-cutting ceremony. Babies were to be moved into the unit yesterday, replacing the dolls.

Photo by Dan Ramirez

■ Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at CUMC is renovated, dedicated.

By MICK FORGEY
 Reporter

Premature newborns will be able to develop more comfortably and safely in a new state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Unit wing of the Creighton University Medical Center.

The new NICU, which attends to the needs of prematurely born babies, contains 21 spacious rooms and a soothing atmosphere, with light-blue walls painted with clouds and stars in a celestial motif.

According to Hospital Associate Administrator Chris Hyers, one of the more important attributes of the new wing is a private room for each premature infant. The old NICU featured an L-shaped wing where premature infants laid in bassinets lined up against the walls, alongside the care-taking machinery.

In such an environment, Hyers said infants dealt with lots of ambient noise, including the traffic of nurses and technicians coming and going, unlike the new space.

"It's an isolated environment where its focused just on them. The noise is just their noise and they get a chance to develop cognitively on their own, without all that overstimulation, but rather correct stimulation," Hyers said.

The new NICU offers other beneficial living conditions. Each private room contains a single bassinette, around which a flat-screen monitor and other life-sustaining technology slightly juts out from the rear wall. The open rooms are equipped with curtains for privacy,

PLEASE TURN TO "NICU" PAGE 2

Peaceful SOA trip forms community

By HEIDI DUNKLEMAN
 CU 125 Editor

As Arts & Sciences freshman Allison Stafford crossed the line onto the property of the military base in Fort Benning, Ga., she burst into tears.

"I definitely wasn't as emotionally prepared as I should have been for it," she explained.

During the protest the weekend before Thanksgiving, at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Social Concern, formerly known as the School of the Americas, each protestor had a white cross, which they put in the fence at the military base in a procession. All of the crosses had the name of someone who had died in Latin America at the hands of the graduates of the school.

"I broke down when we were crossing the line and just seeing the fence with all the crosses and holding hands with people from the Creighton group," said Stafford. "That was just really emotional."

Last summer Stafford worked at an orphan-

age in Mexico. As she was going to place her cross, with the name of the Rev. Rutilio Grande, S.J., in the fence, someone was reading out the names and the ages of the people who have been murdered in Latin America. Stafford said that it was then that they read out the names of many children. She thought of the kids in the orphanage that she had worked with and this made the deaths very real.

However, the whole weekend was not spent in tears. Stafford also had a lot of fun experiences. Sister Helen Prejean, author of "Dead Man Walking" that gave way to the movie of the same name, spoke at the Jesuit teach-in that the Creighton protestors attended on Saturday.

"I was really influenced by watching the movie and I just had to meet her," Stafford said. "She was really funny, a little firecracker. She was really happy that she influenced me in that way and that's the sort of response that she loves getting."

PLEASE TURN TO "SOA" PAGE 2



Trip leader Sean Burke, Arts & Sciences junior, third from right, is followed by some of the 42 Creighton students as they march toward the line at this year's School of Americas protest.

Photo by Brian Flannery

News

■ The list of 125 most important events in Creighton history continues.

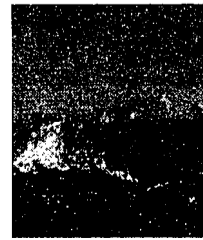
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The Scene

■ The Scene gets out of the O and visits other cities within driving distance.

PAGE 6



Commentary

■ The Scene Asst. Editor, Evan Green, gives his take on the Christmas season.

PAGE 7



Photo by Dan Ramirez

During a ceremony celebrating the opening of the revamped Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, from left Phil Gustafson, the Rev. John Schlegel S.J., Dr. Cam Enarson, Anita Larsen, Jan Wintle and not pictured, Dr. Terrence Zach and Dosh Winn, cut the ribbon.

NICU continued from page 1

with two chairs for visitors and 500 square feet of space.

Another important feature each room contains is twinkle lighting. Several illuminated movable color-changing beads of light are dispersed like stars along the ceiling, directly above the bassinets where future newborn patients will lie. As the twinkle lighting changes colors and rotates, it also promotes infant stimulation, which Hyers stressed was important.

"The idea is not just to take care of the baby, but to allow it to continue to work developmentally and make progress," Hyers said.

Construction of the NICU took about 18 months to complete. On Tuesday an open house/ribbon-cutting ceremony was held.

University President the Rev. John

Schlegel, S.J., Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Phil Gustafson, Vice President of Health Sciences and Dean of the Medical School Dr. Cam Enarson, NICU Medical Director Dr. Terrence Zach, Chief Nursing Officer Anita Larsen, Nursing Manager Jan Wintle and Nurse Dosh Winn cut the ribbon and marked the opening of the new NICU. Gustafson congratulated the NICU staff for their perseverance on the new facility.

"[The facility] reflects a lot of care and a lot of ideas about how to serve our families better," Gustafson said. "The facility reflects 27 years of service of the NICU staff and we totally appreciate everything you've done."

The new NICU is phase one of the entire project, which itself will cost an estimated 3.7 million dollars, according to Associate Administrator Carol McCormick.

Weekly
Campus **SAFETY REPORT**

11/28/03 4:48 p.m. A vehicle break-in was reported at 21st and Chicago Streets. The owner was contacted and she reported the faceplate missing from her stereo.

12/1/03 11:06 a.m. A student fainted at St. John's Church and was transported by squad to Creighton University Medical Center.

12:55 p.m. A student reported his vehicle missing at 22nd and Davenport streets.

4:22 p.m. A student lost consciousness in Ahmanson Law School and was transported by squad to CUMC for observation.

Safety Tip:
Winter storms will soon be upon us. To find out if the university is open or closed, call the Weather Hotline at 280-5800. When a decision is made to close the university, that information is posted immediately on the Weather Hotline. An announcement also will be broadcast over local radio and television stations.

BREAK continued from page 1

break, it just depends on how the calendar is set up," Krecek said.

The break cannot be set specifically around Christmas, as the exact day of the week that Christmas falls changes every year, and each semester is supposed to start on a Wednesday.

It is best if semesters begin on a Wednesday in order to accommodate new students and their parents for Welcome Week activities and help them acclimate to the campus before all students arrive.

"The creation of the calendar is a complicated task," Krecek said, explaining there are other variables to consider as well.

For example, availability of students and faculty for summer sessions is a consideration. The schedule needs to work around teaching calendars so that people

are able to teach or attend Creighton summer classes.

Creighton has a tentative schedule for the next 10 years, but things can change. Krecek explained that this year, along with next fall's semester, began on Aug. 27, a week later than some semesters. This, along with other variables, caused Christmas break to lose a week.

In the words of Krecek, "We can pay you now or we can pay you later."

This year and next, Creighton students will be paid early with an extra week of August summer.

This is the final issue of the Creightonian for the Fall 2003 semester. The Creightonian will have its next issue on Jan. 23, 2004.

SOA continued from page 1

Luke Carroll, Arts & Sciences freshman, attended Creighton Prep's trip to the SOA last year and as a college student he came again.

"The thing that struck me most about this trip was meeting 40 people who want to change the injustice that they see."

Carroll still has many unanswered questions about the school and he plans to return with Creighton next year as well.

This is the second trip to Fort Benning for Sean Burke, Arts & Science junior, who was one of the leaders of this trip. Burke enjoyed the Jesuit teach-in, where many

people from Jesuit communities gathered to hear speakers.

"The teach-in was so important because it grounds us in some sort of the faith community that says this isn't easy, this isn't normal, per say. But this is powerful and this is life-giving," he said. "In some ways, this teaches you how to experience yourself as a human being."

Burke especially liked the Mass that took place as part of the teach-in on Saturday night. He enjoyed the way that the young and old celebrated together, clapping and singing with so much energy.

"If you don't enjoy this Mass, then there is no sense in being Catholic, because this is the best celebration of spirituality and faith and community that the Catholic Church is capable of," Burke said.

Burke loves the energy of the whole experience of the trip.

"There is so much passion and so many things to think about that even if you wanted to, you can't contain the trip and it's not supposed to be self-contained," he said. "Our goal is to educate people about this and at least bring back some of that energy and life that you felt."



Photo by Brian Flannery

Forty-two students from Creighton attended the protest in Fort Benning, Ga. All 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States were represented at this protest, along with other Jesuit-based groups.

CREIGHTONIAN

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classified ads effective 9/19/2003.

Students grant opportunity to smile

By LAURA DOMEIER
Reporter

Allison Kinney knows firsthand how special the smile of a child is.

An Arts & Sciences freshman, Kinney traveled to Barinas, Venezuela, for 10 days around fall break as part of Operation Smile, a group that travels to poor countries and helps children who are born with a cleft lip or cleft palate.

As a student on this mission, Kinney's job was to comfort the children during the screening process. She also comforted them before and after surgery.

"The children are scared, nervous, hungry and tired, and so our job is to keep them entertained, to keep their minds off of the upcoming procedure, and just to be with them, show them that they are loved," Kinney said.

One of the most exciting parts of the trip for Kinney was being able to see the children before and after the surgeries. Additionally, the parents' reactions and emotions were extremely exciting to see.

Besides performing operations, the team of 71 people also went to grade schools, orphanages and family centers to educate children on dental hygiene and nutrition. This education provided the community and doctors with the information they would need to treat the children once the team was gone.

Doctors, nurses, students, dentists, in-country volunteers, coordinators and other specialists made up the team in Venezuela. This mission also included a film

crew to document the team's work.

Another student has affected lives through Operation Smile. After being involved with the program in high school, Arts & Sciences senior Joe Nahas came to Creighton and began to work on starting a chapter at Creighton. Operation Smile is now in its first semester, with many students interested in the program.

The Operation Smile chapter will raise money and supplies to help with the costs of missions. Anyone can join the organization, but members have to be a part of the group for two years before attending a mission like Kinney's. Kinney and Nahas went to the same high school and both have important roles in getting the program started at Creighton.

"I have talked with her about ideas for the organization, and we will be working together to plan different fund-raising activities and events," Nahas said.

After returning home, Kinney has shared her experiences with others. Arts & Sciences sophomore Megan Lembke knew of Kinney's trip before she left and was excited to hear about it.

Kinney shared a story about a young child who gave her a bracelet. It was only a little, yellowish-green plastic bracelet, but it meant so much coming from this child who had few possessions. This small gift showed just how important this mission was to the children whose lives were changed by Kinney and the others on the trip.

"The most important part was to be present and available with these children,"



Photo courtesy of Allison Kinney

Allison Kinney comforts these Venezuelan children before and after their mouth surgeries performed at Cartina's Clinica in Venezuela. Kinney volunteered to help out for 10 days over fall break this year.

Kinney said. "To show love and compassion to all."

Kinney was chosen to be a part of this trip after starting an application process during her junior year of high school. She went to a four-day leadership conference and also had leadership roles in her high school chapter of Operation Smile. She also had to write an essay, raise \$750 and gather letters of recommendation. After sending in the application and fulfilling all of the requirements, 30 students were selected to go on a mission in the upcoming year.

This trip taught Kinney many things, one of which was that language does not have to be a barrier when communicating feelings and emotions.

"I learned that every child is beautiful and is a child of God, regardless of what they look like," she said.

Another important lesson for Kinney was a reminder of how blessed she is, but also how the children were blessed with

such unbelievable spirits.

"Their faith and love for God and others was so apparent," she said. "These children are truly gifts from God, and I learned to see Christ in every one of them."

She said that these children have an innocence that everyone should strive toward. The children were the people that Kinney was saddest to leave at the end of the trip.

"You have been through the most life-changing experience of their life with them, and you have seen them change and grow. It is extremely difficult to say goodbye after an experience like that," she said.

Kinney said she would definitely go on another trip like this if given the opportunity.

"I enjoyed it because it was an experience that taught me so much about myself, about others, about service, and about my relationship with God," she said.

Procrastination is root of writing aggravation

By MONICA NORONHA
Reporter

Have you ever found yourself in the situation where it is 11:45 p.m. and you have not started writing that seven-page term paper due tomorrow?

If you answered yes, you are not alone. Rob Dornsife, associate professor of English and director of the Writing Center, said that waiting until the last minute to begin a paper is one of the leading problems students come across.

In order to have a well-written paper, students need to allow themselves enough time to revise. Dornsife said to produce a quality paper, it needs to be rewritten on an average of at least three times.

"Once a student has procrastinated, almost all of the qualities that determine good writing are likely forfeited, as they can only be attained through careful rereading and re-imaginings — things that require exactly what procrastinating makes impossible — time."

Finding a topic that interests the student also is helpful in writing a good term paper. Dornsife said even if students are writing a paper in a subject that does not interest them, they need to find a connection to that paper.

"I also suggest that students find a way to connect to the assignment as much as possible. While such self-motivated passion will vary, at least we can try to find an angle that we care about as much as possible," Dornsife said.

By caring about the topic, it transforms the entire writing process from one of drudgery to one of potential joy.

Another helpful tip to use when writing term papers is to make an outline, and



Photo by Tetona Dunlap

Dr. Connie Schomburg, English professor, proofreads a paper for Lan Anh Tran, Arts & Sciences freshman, at the Writing Center in Hitchcock.

be prepared to revise it. Dornsife said the problem with outlines is people tend to assume that they are set in stone and do not think to revise them.

Take advantage of the Writing Center on the third floor of the Hitchcock Communication Arts Center. There are six staff members there five days a week to help any Creighton student with his or her paper. If students are to benefit from this resource they need to make an appointment at least a week in advance. People may get an appointment on short notice, but the Writing Center encourages students to plan ahead.

"The Writing Center is here to help all writers good or not," Dornsife said.

To make an appointment for the Writing Center call x4707.

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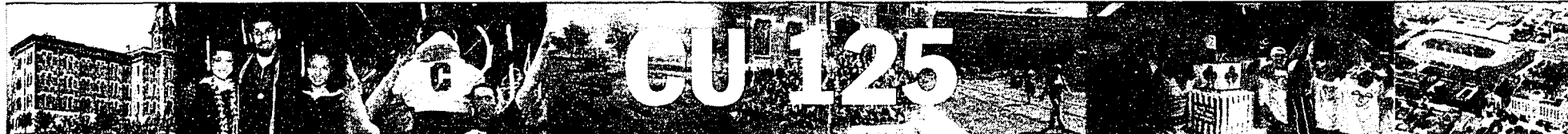
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Creighton's history brick by brick

■ Pioneers take first steps in space, buildings and more.

By MIKE FALCO
News Editor

Welcome back to the wonderful world of history. After a three-week hiatus, it is time to return to examining Creighton history in all its glory.

This is the second part of a series highlighting the 125 most interesting or important events in Creighton history.

We already have covered the first 50 events. All of the information was obtained through various sources, books, archives and old Creightonians.

Without further ado, part two of the history tour begins.



Photo courtesy of Public Relations

Michael P. Anderson was the first Creighton grad aboard the MIR Space Station. Anderson earned his master's degree in 1990.

Creighton firsts

Everyone knows the importance of firsts. Parents cannot wait for their babies first words, George Washington was the first president and the Kansas City Chiefs played in the first Super Bowl. Meanwhile, Creighton has been no stranger to firsts. Reader beware — these are the firsts in Creighton history to this reporter's knowledge.

51. 1891: First graduating class of

Creighton college.

52. 1892: Kate Drake attends class at the Creighton Medical School, the first woman at any Jesuit college in the United States to do so.

53. 1894: Christine Offerson graduates from the medical school, becoming the first woman to earn a degree from Creighton.

54. 1906: William Lynch is awarded Creighton's first letter sweater.

55. 1922: The university begins charging tuition.

56. September 1923: First issues of The Creightonian are published.

57. 1940s-50s: The USS Creighton Victory becomes the first armed cargo vessel named after the university. The vessel was used during World War II and was later used during the Korean Conflict.

58. May 7, 1962: First Jewish-Catholic interfaith discussion takes place at Creighton, the first ever held at a Jesuit university.

59. Aug. 25, 1976: Creighton dorms, with the exception of Degelman, go coed.

60. Winter 1979: Creighton purchases two new computers, the Sperry Univac 1100/60, with two megabytes of core memory. These were the first such computers in the Midwest.

61. March 1, 1980: The first rescue mission with the St. Joseph's LifeFlight helicopter took place to transport someone who fell into a frozen pond.

62. Jan. 26, 1996: The grade of B+ is added to the grading scale.

63. Fall 1996: Creighton offers guaranteed admissions into the medical school.

64. Jan. 22, 1998: Michael P. Anderson becomes the first Creighton graduate to go into outer space, aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor.

Buildings

Although this is not the most glamorous subject, it does deserve attention. Over the years Creighton has developed into a unique blend of random looking buildings. The following lists the opening or closing of buildings around campus.

65. March 1877:

Land is purchased for the b Creighton campus construction.

66. August 1878: The Administration Building is completed.

67. April 1886: Observatory construction is completed, the first observatory west of the Mississippi.

68. October 1903: Law school at Creighton begins with 23 students enrolled in the program.

69. Sept. 5, 1905: School of Pharmacy opens.

70. Aug. 31, 1906: Creighton acquires the Omaha Dental College.

71. 1910: Health Sciences Library opens for the School of Medicine.

72. 1920: College of Commerce and Finance is established.

73. Oct. 21, 1925: Duchesne College, a Catholic women's college, becomes affiliated with Creighton.

74. 1928: School of Nursing is added to Creighton University.

75. August 1933: Journalism department is established. I know many departments have opened, but I am particularly fond of this one.

76. 1947: Creighton purchases a duplex located near the Hitchcock Communication Arts building. The duplex served as home to Jesuits and the Philosophy department.

77. 1956: Brandeis Student Center opens in what is now the Creighton Bookstore.

78. 1958: Creighton Prep high school leaves the main Creighton campus and moves to 72nd Street and Western Avenue.

79. 1961: Reinert Alumni Library is completed.



Photo courtesy of Archives

In 1981, Creighton University was desperate to sell the Astro Theater for financial reasons. Rose Blumkin bought the building. Today it is known as the Rose.

80. Fall 1962: Fallout shelters around the campus are completed and stocked with enough shelter space for 5,354 people.

81. 1962: Eppley College of Business Administration opens.

82. 1963: Criss I is completed.

83. Feb. 25, 1966: People begin moving into Kiewit Hall.

84. Aug. 31, 1966: Criss II is completed.

85. Feb. 8, 1968: Rigge Science Building opens for classes.

86. June 1, 1973: Boyne Dental School is completed.

87. 1974: Ahmanson Law Center opens.

88. Nov. 3, 1976: Kiewit Fitness Center is dedicated.

89. July 1977: California Street, which ran through the middle of the campus, is closed to traffic. Students are no longer able to pull up in front of their classes.

90. Dec. 17, 1977: St. Joseph's Hospital, now called the Creighton University Medical Center, officially opened.

91. August 1980: The Skinner Mall is opened in the fall, after construction began in May.

92. Jan. 6, 1981: St. John's Church is designated a landmark by the Omaha City Council.

93. June 24, 1981: Creighton sells the Astro Theater to Rose Blumkin. Today the Astro Theater is known as the Rose Theater.

94. Nov. 15, 1986: Beal's Grill, a popular Creighton hangout, closes after 46 years of serving Creighton students and faculty.

95. December 1987: The Skutt Student Center opens.

96. 1988: Student Health is moved to the Kellom Shopping Center.

97. Oct. 8, 1993: Beirne Research Tower is dedicated.

98. Fall 1995: Lied Center for the Arts opens.

99. Oct. 7, 1995: The Philosophy Duplex is demolished, after serving as the Philosophy department's home since 1976.

100. August 2003: Hixson-Lied Science building opens with the governor and mayor in attendance.

63% of Creighton University students have **0-4 drinks per week**

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Based on data collected in 2001, 2002, and 2003 from a survey of randomly selected Creighton Students.



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Broaden your horizons, get out of the O

By AMANDA SHAW,
BONNIE JACOBSEN & EVAN GREEN
The Scene Editors

After a semester or two around here, the Omaha bubble has a tendency to burst. But do not worry, The Scene staffers have scoured the Midwest region to bring you the best of the best in things to do and see outside of Omaha.

Twin Cities

Just 400 miles from Creighton are the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Do folks here really line up for an hour in 15-degree weather to watch a parade where every float is lit up with numerous strings of Christmas lights? You betcha.

Things up north are a little bit crazy, but there's always so much to do. The Mall of America sits just five minutes from the airport and about 15 minutes from downtown. There are over 300 specialty shops and four major anchor stores. The mall houses an indoor amusement park, Camp Snoopy.

Both downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul are wonderful destinations, and both have a much more cosmopolitan feel than Omaha.

There is nothing like walking by Marshall Field's outdoor Christmas displays or seeing the Carmichael Lynch building decorated with unique wreaths in every window in downtown Minneapolis. Nicollet Mall is a pedestrians-only street with great shopping.

Every January, St. Paul is host to the St. Paul Winter Carnival. There even is an entire castle out of ice and numerous ice sculptures from local artists.

Do not forget to check out numerous sports teams like the St. Paul Saints minor league baseball team, the

Lincoln's equivalent to Omaha's Old Market is the Haymarket. This downtown area is easily accessible from the Interstate. Just take the exits that direct you to 9th Street. The shops and restaurants cater to UNL's student population and this area definitely has a college feel.

While in Lincoln, also check out who's playing at the Rococo Theatre on 140 N. 13th St. The Cherry Poppin' Daddies play there on New Year's Eve and the Confidential's play on Jan. 24.

Colorado Springs

If you go about 600 miles to the southwest, you eventually will arrive in one of the most beautiful cities in the country, Colorado Springs.

If you are hungry, the quality Mexican food can provide quick warmth on the rare cold days. El Taco Rey, located at 330 E. Colorado St., is an out-of-the-way restaurant that offers big-time good food. Its avocado pork burrito is a local favorite, which results in this small restaurant often overflowing with people.

A nacho craving late at night is easily satisfied by the numerous 24-hour Mexican restaurants in the Springs. Taco Express' various locations offer quick, authentic food any time of day.



Minnesota Twins, the Vikings and the Wild. All offer a much more relaxed sporting environment than scary Huskerland.

Lincoln

About an hour's drive east on I-80 puts you in Nebraska's capital. Lincoln is a fun place to explore on the weekend, especially since it is home to a massive state college campus.

Student designers rise to 'Top Girls' challenge

By KEVIN COFFEY
Reporter

The Lied Center Studio Theater will be traveling through time this and next weekend. "Top Girls," the most recent play at the Lied Center, starts with a woman's dream where she meets historical women.

In her dream, other women from the past come out from paintings and have dinner with her. She is able to share all of the successes of these historical women and put her own life in perspective.

The show opened on Thursday and will run Friday, Saturday and Sunday and also will play Dec. 11 through 13. All shows are at 7:30 p.m. in the Studio Theater.

The play includes characters from many different time periods, including the 1200s, the 1300s, the late 1800s and the present.

"Top Girls" also has the theme of a kaleidoscope, said Katie Beacom, the play's costume designer.

The lights and colors on the sets are different colors from a kaleidoscope. Even different actresses that play different characters always wear the same color, signifying the kaleidoscope jewels that move but always show the same color. Beacom said.

"It's a really empowering show about women that have succeeded and broken

out of the woman stereotype," Beacom said. "They are not going to get a traditional play."

"It is very intellectual," said Homero Vela, the play's set designer.

Creighton has never done a play like this, Beacom and Vela said. The characters from "Top Girls" are all women. In addition, the play also is being entirely designed by students.

Vela said that at most schools, undergraduate students do not get to do set design. They usually have graduate students do all of the designing.

Beacom said, "It's my first time designing and it's very...fulfilling," Vela said, finishing her sentence.

The play was written by Caryl Churchill and is directed by guest-director Tammy Meneghini.

Meneghini is an actress and acting instructor from New York. She works with performers at University of Nebraska-Omaha, University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Ticket prices are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for Creighton University faculty and staff and seniors and \$5 for students. For ticket reservations call 280-1448.

Strings sound the season



Photo by Dan Ramirez

From left: Kelly Riedmann, Jessica Sapp and Josh Howard practice for the Wind Ensemble and University Orchestra concert on Tuesday at 7 p.m. on the main stage of the Lied Center. Admission to the concert is free. The annual Christmas concert will be held on Sunday at 2 p.m. in St. John's.

Artist's message of peace visits campus

By THERESA FARRAGE
Reporter

What the world needs now is what the world needed then.

"Voice that Still Speaks," the new exhibit by Corita Kent on display in the Lied Art Gallery, conveys this message.

Kent uses vivid colors of her perceptions of peace, love and anti-war to illustrate her point through a form of art called serigraph.

Serigraphs are a form of printmaking that involves using various stencils to apply the colors. The colors are applied one by one onto a silk screen.

Twenty-two of her serigraphs are on display in the gallery through Dec. 21 and can be viewed from noon until 4 p.m. daily.

The intense, color-drenched serigraphs portray religious themes as well as abstract themes.

Kent used quotes from famous people, advertising slogans and song lyrics to demonstrate her brightly colored messages of peace and love.

The Rev. Ted Bohr, S.J., assistant pro-

fessor of art history and gallery director, brought the display to Creighton.

According to Bohr, this is one of the most famous artists who have been showcased in the gallery. Because he knows the art director at the Sioux City Art Center, he had the chance to obtain the serigraphs on loan.

The art director loaned Bohr the serigraphs in the hopes of spreading Kent's messages. At a time when war is evident and terror still lurks on the horizon, it is appropriate to have them in the gallery.

"It happens to work well," he said.

Although Kent died of cancer in 1986, her colorful artwork is still very much alive.

"She put her art at work to support peace. University students should put all of their work to building up a more peaceful world," he said.

Her insight of the ongoing importance of love, peace and anti-war sentiments still lives on through her art.

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Scrooge's reasoning to hate Christmas



Rants & Raves

Evan Green
The Scene Asst. Editor

It comes but once a year, and even then I dread it. It's not the first day of school, it's not even tax day, it's Christmas.

Yes, I said it, I do not like Christmas, and it seems to start earlier and earlier every year.

I was shopping at Wal-Mart on Halloween. The store's workers were taking the mini candy bars off the shelves and piling them in the aisles. In place of the candy, the workers were shelving boxes of candy canes. It was still Halloween and too early in the day for kids to even ring doorbells, but the green and red were pushing out the orange and black.

The main reason I don't like Christmas is because how people act. It should be a time of love and warmth, but often these feelings are false and take a back seat to stress, animosity and depression.

Take this for example: Holiday shoppers would belong in a circle of hell if Dante were alive today. I know people who go out the day after Thanksgiving and return home upset because the lines were too long and the stores too crowded. When I have to go shopping, I get shivers up my spine. Over Thanksgiving, I had to run to the mall to get my glasses fixed. The whole time I was gritting my teeth at the sight of Christmas trees and the sound of the same Christmas songs I have been hearing since October.

With all of the commercialization of Christmas, people often talk about the whole Jesus thing being the real meaning of holiday. I am not the most religious person, but I go to church on a fairly consistent basis. It does piss me off that I have

to get to church an hour early to sit in the back because of all the people who only show up once a year. Most people have done a pretty good job of damning themselves during the year, but going to church once during that time does not warrant a get-out-of-jail-free card.

People worry themselves too much during the holidays, especially about presents. Not only do you stress about what to get people, you stress about what you are going to get, and whether you will like it, not to mention how you are going to have to fake it if you don't like your presents.

I have a relative who is one of these people. She is 50 plus years old, and is livid if her gifts do not arrive well before Dec. 25. If a pair of socks are neglected in a thank you note to this same relative, she assumes you didn't like them and will bring up your ungratefulness in casual conversation with complete strangers for the next decade.

The time spent with family during the holidays can be a double-edged sword. When you have all your family together during such an emotional time, you know there's going to be drama. I have relatives that not only say mean things, but hold secret grudges. It can turn into a semi-private Festivus, where people discuss how they were disappointed by everyone else.

The one part about Christmas I do enjoy is my time at home. No school, no work, no real responsibility. It is an excellent time to be with my family, and once you get by the holiday hang-ups, it is a pretty fun time. I know all my evil law-breaking and offensive demons wait all semester to be unleashed with my friends during Christmas break.

I know that every year I get older, these opportunities will be less and less available. I consider my time at home to be enough of a gift, because it makes something that I will always have: memories.

Letters to the Editor

Consider love in argument

"According to His revelation, homosexuality is a sin..." Mr. Burgeois' words seem harsh and unrepresentative of the God I have come to know. I would like to help Mr. Burgeois in clarifying what exactly is the sin in this situation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church articulates that acts of homosexuality are the sin; it has to do with the Church's teaching on chastity, which all people, homosexual or not, are called to before marriage.

Being homosexual is not a choice, the Catechism of the Catholic Church even admits this. It also states that homosexuals "must be treated with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (2358). The language Mr. Burgeois uses doesn't seem to reflect any of this, nor the loving and accepting God many, if not all, Christians identify with. I urge Mr. Burgeois to be more considerate in his argument, especially when representing the Christian community.

Brigid Walsh
Arts & Sciences sophomore

Editorials miss point

The arguments for and against same-sex unions in the Nov. 21 edition of The Creightonian missed the central issue entirely. Same-sex unions ought not be allowed because they are not in the best interests of America's future. The many studies done to prove children are just as well off with homosexual parents as with heterosexual ones, typically only compare two homosexual parents to single-parent heterosexual families, not traditional, two-parent heterosexual households. Traditional marriage typically boasts many positive effects on those involved and society in general. In traditional marriage, adults and children are significantly healthier, happier, safer, wealthier and live longer. If we extend marriage rights to homosexuals, then we need to at least have scientific evidence saying it is as good as traditional marriage, which at least right now doesn't exist.

Patrick Garmoe
Creighton Alumnus, 1998

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Campus Voice

What is your ideal Christmas present?



Tiffani Morehead
Arts & Sciences senior

"I'd like an engagement ring."



Katie Faro
Nursing senior

"I would have to say that I would like lots of new clothes."



Rory Audino
Arts & Sciences senior

"A night at Neverland Ranch."



Nick Flood
Business senior

"I know this sounds boring but all I want is money."

Crunchin' numbers with Huskers



That's Sweet

Tim Schulte
Asst. Sports Editor

Don't let the numbers fool you; we're a better team than Nebraska. Sure, Creighton trails 14-21 in the all-time series versus the Huskers, but that does not mean much heading into Wednesday's 7:05 p.m. tip-off at the Qwest Center Omaha.

The 21-14 all-time lead the Huskers have over the Jays is a bit deceiving, at least from a Bluejay perspective. Yes, it tricks you into thinking the Huskers have had more success over time, but the numbers need to be broken down a bit to get the real perspective.

The two teams met seven times between 1922 and 1932 and took a 45-year hiatus before meeting up again in 1977. Creighton led the early series 4-3, but that was so long ago it does not count. Getting rid of those games puts the series at 18-10 in Nebraska's favor.

Fast forward to the 1980s. Under the direction of former NBA star Willis Reed, Creighton dropped six straight games to Nebraska between 1981 and 1985; and the Jays lost seven consecutive games between 1990 and 1997, which was highlighted by the less-than-glorious Rick Johnson era and Dana Altman's first years of rebuilding the program. Removing those streaks puts Creighton ahead in the series 10-5.

Most recently, Creighton has won four straight, including five of the last six. The loss, which saw Creighton squander a convincing halftime lead, came against the 1998-99 Nebraska squad. Then again, the Huskers were led by the 1999 Big 12 Player of the Year, Venson Hamilton.

So if you take out the last five games, the Jays still lead the series 6-4. Not much breathing room, but proof that over recent time we have been a more successful basketball program. Without further ado, let's check out this year's match-up.

I'll get it out of the way right now: We don't have Kyle Korver anymore. Or Larry House. Or DeAnthony Bowden. But hey, bringing back two starters, Mike Lindeman and Tyler McKinney, is a lot better than bringing back only one, like the Huskers.

Guard Nate Johnson is the lone returner from last year's team that went 3-13 in conference play, good enough for 12th place. And you're right, in the Big 12, 12th place is not where you really want to be.

The Jays' recent success versus their interstate rival does not mean it is a game that gets overlooked; it is one that definitely gets circled on the calendar according to sophomore forward Jimmy Motz. For Motz, who grew up in Lincoln, this game is extra special. A loss means a year of hearing about it from the locals; a win means another year of bragging rights.

This year's matchup will be the first played at Creighton's new home, the Qwest Center. With the likelihood of a sold-out 15,500-seat arena for the big game, it would not be a bad idea to play the game in Omaha every year. The Qwest Center boasts 2,000 more seats than Nebraska's Devaney Center and would provide a more electric environment for the annual game. That would be great for the Jays, who are 10-8 versus Nebraska when hosting the game.

And while I cannot guarantee anything, I suspect that Wednesday the Jays will give the people of Nebraska another glimpse at the state's new winning tradition - Creighton Athletics.

Three down; three to go

By BRIAN AYERS
Sports Editor

Riddle: What do Kangaroos, Toreros and Cavaliers have in common?

Answer: They cannot beat the Bluejays.

Men's soccer will look to continue its road rally in the NCAA Tournament tonight. The Jays are one of eight teams left standing, all battling to bring home a national championship.

The Jays will take aim at the National Soccer Coaches of America poll's No. 6-ranked St. John's Red Storm with a trip to the College Cup on the line. A Creighton victory would send the Jays to collegiate soccer's final four for the third time in four years.

St. John's has home-field advantage and will host Creighton at Belson Stadium in Jamaica, N.Y. The Red Storm owns an impressive 15-1-3 record at home, but Creighton handed St. John's its only loss at Belson Stadium and ended the Red Storm's season with the win in the 2002 NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16.

Creighton coach Bob Warming likes his team's chances on the road.

"We have set an NCAA record for wins on the road in the NCAA Tournament...Our players will be prepared and play hard," Warming said. "We will be a tough team to beat and our team knows it."

Part of the reason that Creighton is so tough to beat right now is that the team is playing without being hampered by injuries.

In the Jays' last three games they have



Photo by Dan Ramirez
A Creighton fan braves the cold to cheer on the Jays against UMKC Nov. 22 in the first NCAA Tournament game held at the new Creighton Soccer Complex. Creighton shut out the Kangaroos 6-0.



Photo by Dan Ramirez

Forward Damien Westfield blasts a shot against UMKC in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Westfield and forward Brian Biggerstaff are leading Creighton's offensive surge in its hunt for a national championship with three goals a piece. Westfield missed most of the regular season due to injury.

scored 10 goals, nearly 30 percent of the team's goals this season.

"Fitness, both physical and mental, is essential to good team performance. We are at a peak right now in both areas, but you never stop trying to improve as a player or a person," Warming said.

If the team continues to peak and gets three more wins, Warming and the Jays will be national champs.

"A national championship would be wonderful of course, but more important is what happens along the way to that goal," Warming said. "Our team has improved. Our players have improved in their abilities and knowledge of the game and have been good teammates to one another. We have been positive role models in the community and we've been good in the classroom."

"This is real success, more than a national championship that could be won by not doing these things," Warming said.

On the way to Jamaica, Creighton opened the NCAA Tournament with an offensive explosion in Omaha with a 6-0 win over the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Creighton's six goals tied the NCAA Tournament record for goals in a game and set a school record for margin of victory in an NCAA game. Sophomore forward Brian Biggerstaff's three-goal performance provided more offense than the Jays needed to advance to the second round.

The second round proved to be more of a challenge for the Jays. On the road at San Diego, the Jays were dominated in the first period by the Toreros, who outshot the Jays 11-1, but Creighton escaped to the locker room tied at zero.

Early in the second period San Diego scored a goal, but senior midfielder Matt Jewett answered for Creighton minutes later to tie it up. At the end of regulation and two overtime periods, a shootout was needed.

In Creighton's season opener against Butler, the Jays lost their only shootout of the season, but when it mattered most, goalkeeper Andrew Brown turned away Kellen Hiroto's shot, giving Creighton a 4-3 lead in the shootout. Warming then called on freshman defenseman Tony Odorisio to end the match and his shot gave the Jays a 5-3 shootout victory.

Another comeback road victory was in store for the Jays in the third round, this time against the Virginia Cavaliers. After a scoreless first period, Virginia opened the scoring in the 63rd minute.

That is when Creighton senior forward Damien Westfield took over. Westfield knocked in a header served up by freshman forward Michael Kraus to knot the match at one.

Two minutes later Kraus assisted Westfield again, this time from eight yards out. Westfield blasted in the game's deciding goal. Sophomore defenseman Jered Turner added a late goal and the Jays won by a score of 3-1.

"[Westfield] is truly a special player and person, his impact on the team is tremendous. I only hope he gets to play three more games in his career so that people at the next level can see the talent that is there," Warming said.

Creighton and St. John's will kick off tonight at 6:30 p.m.

Booth bumps team to new level

By BECKY HUGHES
Assistant Sports Editor

This year, the "Miracle on 3-4th Street" is not on 3-4th Street at all. But just 10 blocks away, on 2-4th Street, Creighton's volleyball team has performed a miracle of its own.



Bernthal Booth

After posting a 5-23 record last season, this year's team along with its new coach, Kirsten Bernthal Booth, went 12-17 for the season, tied for fifth place in the Missouri Valley Conference and earned the chance to play in the MVC Tournament.

Although the team lost 3-1 to Wichita State in the first round of the tournament,

just being there was an accomplishment. Creighton was only the third team in conference history to finish in last place one year and make the tournament the next.

"I think this demonstrates how much the players have accomplished this year," Booth said, who was a key factor in the team's turnaround this season. "The players fought all year long in practices and games. Even when we hit difficult stretches, they never gave up. I'm very proud of each of them."

Booth said her focus with the team was that this year was a new beginning. Players need not focus on the past, but rather prepare for the future. Her humanistic approach to coaching gave the women the confidence necessary to believe they could win.

"We told the team that they should go play hard and have fun. When they do those two things, typically, good things

have happened," Booth said.

Junior middle hitter Ashley Williams said she had more fun playing for coach Booth than in previous years.

"It was a total change. She brought a completely different attitude to the team and she made us more competitive," Williams said.

Even when the team had lost a few games, Booth said the team did not panic. Instead, the women took it as a challenge to improve.

This spring, the team will focus on getting better individually, and with hard work, hopes to accomplish even more next season.

"Our staff works every day to make our players better. This means teaching correct technique, good work ethic, good decision making, how to compete, etc. I think doing all of these things and more lead to success," Booth said.