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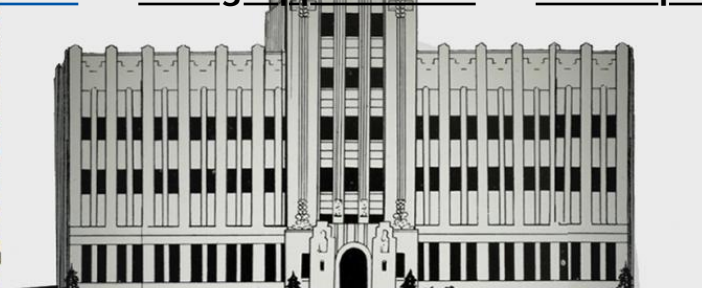
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**WEIRD CREIGHTON HISTORY**



Your podcast to Creighton's past



# WEIRD CREIGHTON HISTORY

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This is the landing page for *Weird Creighton History*, a new podcast exploring the more peculiar corners of Creighton University's sometimes strange past. *Weird Creighton History* is hosted by two weird Creighton employees — longtime alum/writer/editor Rick Davis and wannabe historian Micah Mertes. Have a good story for the podcast? Share it with [micahmertes@creighton.edu](mailto:micahmertes@creighton.edu).

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## EPISODE 14 — FATHER MARKOE AND THE DEPORRES CLUB

On a new episode of *Weird Creighton History*, Rick and Micah speak with local writer Matt Holland about civil rights pioneer Fr. John Markoe, SJ, a beloved and influential Jesuit who worked for Creighton University. Markoe is best known for founding the Omaha DePorres Club, whose members worked to fight for civil rights in North Omaha and encourage businesses to change racially discriminatory practices.

**Be sure to attend the event *Righting History: The Markoe Collection and the Omaha DePorres Club* [🔗](#) on Sept. 28 at the Revive Center to learn more about Markoe and the private collection of materials that Holland recently donated to Creighton.**

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# EPISODES 11, 12 AND 13 — THE MOST NOTORIOUS BOOK THIEF

Law-abiding library patrons Rick and Micah discuss Creighton's relation to the academic crime of the century: the Iowa man who stole 26,000 rare books and manuscripts from about 300 university libraries across the U.S. The collection — estimated at anywhere from \$5.3 million to \$40 million — made Stephen Carrie Blumberg the most prolific book thief in world history.

After Blumberg's 1990 arrest, a group of Creighton librarians helped the FBI return thousands of books to their rightful owners. This drew Blumberg's ire, and he warned Creighton that the Reinert library would be the next target of one of his elaborate heists.

More than 30 years later, as a Creighton archivist, professor and class of students recently discovered, this story is far from finished.

Check out parts 1, 2 and 3 of the series below.

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

**[Read the story of the book bandit, the Omaha Project, and the Creighton detectives here.](#)**

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# EPISODE 10 — THE FOUNTAIN, THE MALL AND THE NAKED SCULPTURE

With the St. John's Fountain and Plaza under renovations (and it being the 30-year anniversary of the Eternal Flame sculpture), Rick and Micah decided to explore the history of Creighton's fountain and Mall and ended up talking a bunch about a controversial nude sculpture and its long, sad campus journey. Some weird details here. Did you know they once wanted to put a pond/ice-skating rink on the Mall next to Gallagher? [You can read a whole bunch about the fountain's history \(and see dozens of photos\) here.](#)

[Story and photo gallery: The history of the Fountain, the Mall and the naked sculpture](#)

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## EPISODE 9 — RETURNING TO THE OLD GYM, 75 YEARS LATER

We're gonna start doing more *Weird Creighton History* episodes that bring in folks besides just Micah and Rick. No offense to them, but c'mon, they're not the only two people in the world. For this episode, Micah interviewed Doug Ryan as he was taking a tour of campus. Doug, 86, is a lovely guy. He basically grew up on campus, with Creighton Stadium and Old Gym as his childhood playground. He was also a waterboy for the Creighton men's basketball team (in the 1940s!). Hear what Doug has to say about his first visit to campus in nearly 75 years. [And be sure to read the story about Doug here.](#)

[Read all about Doug Ryan, his return to campus and his many memories of Creighton basketball history.](#)

[See our gallery of archives images of the Old Gym.](#)

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# EPISODE 8 — THE BOMB, THE BOSS, THE JESUIT, THE SHADOW

The story of Creighton's Jesuit astronomer Fr. William Rigge, SJ, who — in 1910 and 1911 — became one of the first expert witnesses in an American criminal trial. Using a shadow in a photograph, Fr. Rigge helped an Omaha attorney (and Creighton parent) exonerate a man charged with planting a bomb on the front porch of Omaha crime boss Tom Dennison. This episode's got it all.

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

[See photos and headlines of and about the bomb, the boss, the Jesuit and the shadow.](#)

[Listen to past \*Weird Creighton History\* episodes in our archive.](#)

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## EPISODES 5, 6 AND 7: CREIGHTON'S 2023 ANNIVERSARIES

Another year, another list of Creighton anniversaries. In this three-part series of episodes, Rick and Micah cover such historic events as ... the birth of the Bluejay, the start of women's sports, the arrival of air conditioning in Swanson Hall and the belated graduation of an alum whom Eisenhower called "the man who won the war." [See our series of articles on 2023 Creighton anniversaries here.](#)

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

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# EPISODE 4: A WEIRD CREIGHTON CHRISTMAS

Dreaming of a weird Christmas? You're in luck. We've got a two-part *Weird Creighton* Christmas extravaganza. Part 1 recounts strange tales of Creighton Christmases past — like the 2000 Christmas tree controversy and the story of the campus Grinch who stole (then returned) Christmas. For Part 2, we *It's-a-Wonderful-Life* Creighton, by asking ... "What would the world be like if the University had never existed?" A few alums shared their responses! [You can read more about how the campus found Christmas here.](#)

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

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## EPISODE 3: THE ALUM WHO SAVED 200,000 LIVES

He was one of the most consequential individuals ever to graduate from Creighton University, though few know his name. In a not-weird (though inspiring and heartrending) episode of *Weird Creighton History*, Rick and Micah explore the life of John Pehle, a man whose actions helped save the lives of 200,000 European Jews during WWII.

[Read the full story.](#)

[Watch \*The U.S. and the Holocaust\*](#) [↗](#)

[Read the full report Pehle cowrote for FDR](#) [↗](#)

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

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# EPISODE 2: THE EXORCISTS

Rick and Micah explore Creighton University's connection (via three Jesuits) to the exorcism that inspired the book and movie *The Exorcist*.

You can listen on the player below or [your favorite podcasting app](#) [🔗](#) . **Be sure to subscribe!**

[🔗](#) We'll release a new episode at least once a month.

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# EPISODE 1: THE MANURE

In their first episode, Micah tells Rick the forgotten tale of the big pile of manure left on Creighton's doorstep and how it changed the face of campus forever. ([Check out accompanying images to the story.](#))

You can listen on the player below or your favorite podcasting app.

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*Read more stories from the Creighton Archives.*

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# ***Policies and Procedures***

<i>SECTION:</i> <b>Administration</b>	<i>NO.</i> <b>2.2.15</b>		
<i>CHAPTER:</i> <b>Human Resources</b>	<i>ISSUED:</i> 4/18/89	<i>REV. A</i> 9/10/92	<i>REV. B</i> 10/17/2022
<i>POLICY:</i> <b>Drug and Alcohol Use</b>	<i>PAGE 1 OF 5</i>		

## **PURPOSE**

Creighton University policy prohibits students and employees from unlawfully purchasing, manufacturing, possessing, consuming, using, selling, or otherwise distributing or dispensing alcohol or drugs in the workplace, while on University property or as part of any University-sponsored event or activity.

In the event of confirmation of any such prohibited unlawful activity, the University shall, within the scope of applicable federal and state due process requirements, take administrative or disciplinary action. Acts in violation of federal, state, or local laws or ordinances shall be subject to referral to law enforcement officials for arrest and prosecution.

## **SCOPE**

The policy applies to all faculty, administrators, staff, students, and any contractors or visitors with access to students, Creighton property, or who may perform work in conjunction with Creighton University operations, whether as an employee, student, or temporary affiliate, or an individual affiliated with the University in any other capacity.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Covered Persons** means all persons defined above under the SCOPE, while on University property or as part of any University-sponsored event or activity on or off campus.

## **POLICY**

Creighton University policy prohibits Covered Persons from unlawfully purchasing, manufacturing, possessing, consuming, using, selling, or otherwise distributing or dispensing alcohol or drugs.

In the event of confirmation of any such prohibited unlawful activity, the University shall take such administrative or disciplinary action as set forth under Disciplinary Sanctions below.

## ***Policies and Procedures***

<i>SECTION:</i> <b>Administration</b>	<i>NO.</i> <b>2.2.15</b>		
<i>CHAPTER:</i> <b>Human Resources</b>	<i>ISSUED:</i> 4/18/89	<i>REV. A</i> 9/10/92	<i>REV. B</i> 10/17/2022
<i>POLICY:</i> <b>Drug and Alcohol Use</b>	<i>PAGE 2 OF 5</i>		

### **Prohibited Conduct**

The following list provides examples of prohibited conduct. The list is meant to be illustrative, not exhaustive.

- Illegal possession, sharing, use, manufacture, sale, or resale of drugs or alcohol
- Reckless disregard for the illegal presence or use of drugs or alcohol in one's residence hall room
- Possession of ingredients (in sufficient quantity) used to manufacture drugs
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Directly providing alcohol to an underage individual
- Hosting an event at which alcohol is served with reckless disregard as to whether an individual under the legal drinking age is consuming alcohol provided at the event
- Sharing or selling prescription medication
- Engaging with external sources to purchase illicit drugs or alcohol illegally for personal consumption, distribution, or resale
- Inviting persons to campus for the purpose of buying / selling drugs
- Alcohol possession or use of any kind in the first- and second-year halls
- Activities that promote rapid consumption of alcohol

### **Alcohol Use**

The University recognizes that the consumption of alcohol in moderation by persons of legal drinking age can be a component of the University's social environment. Therefore, Covered Persons of legal drinking age, are granted the privilege of responsible possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages on campus, except in residential halls designated for first and second-year undergraduate students. For overseas programs, see Travel Policy.

For all University events at which alcohol is served, see Policy on University Sponsored Events with Alcohol, 2.2.18.

Student organizations holding off-campus events where alcohol is present must follow Student Handbook policies related to student organizations.

## ***Policies and Procedures***

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### **Marijuana Use**

The University does not permit possession, use, manufacture, or transfer of marijuana for any purpose other than University-approved research on University property or at University sponsored events. Marijuana remains a controlled substance under federal law, and the University remains bound by federal laws prohibiting marijuana on University property and at University sponsored events. Covered Persons who qualify under state or local law to use marijuana may not possess, store, use or share marijuana on University-owned or controlled property or during University-sponsored events on or off campus. Covered Persons who wish to request reasonable accommodation for disabilities treated by state-authorized prescription medical marijuana should contact Office of Student Accessibility Services (students) or Human Resources (employees) and proceed through the University’s disability accommodation process to determine appropriate accommodations.

### **Disciplinary Sanctions**

The University will determine and implement disciplinary action or other corrective measures for violations of this Policy. Any such actions will comply with the Faculty Handbook (for faculty), the Student Handbook (for students), and Human Resources’ policies (for employees). In addition to any University discipline, the University may refer to law enforcement officials any known or suspected violations of federal, state, or local laws.

### **Sanctions under Applicable Law**

State, local, and federal laws prohibit the unlawful use, manufacture, possession, control, sale, and dispensation of any illicit or dangerous drugs (“controlled substances”). These laws carry penalties for violations, including monetary fines and imprisonment. More information regarding US, Nebraska and Arizona laws can be found in the annual safety report found at [Creighton.edu/safety](http://Creighton.edu/safety) and the annual Drug Free Schools and Communities Act notice provided to students and employees.

The University cooperates fully with law enforcement authorities. Violations of Creighton’s alcohol and drug policies as found in the [Student Handbook](#) under Standards of Conduct that are also violations of federal or local law may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency. In such situations, cases may proceed concurrently or consecutively at the University and in the criminal justice system. Discipline by the University does not preclude prosecution under applicable law, and prosecution does not preclude discipline by the University.

## ***Policies and Procedures***

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The University recognizes that Covered Persons may conduct their work and learn in many states and counties. The University will implement this policy in accordance with applicable federal and local law.

### **Health Risks**

The misuse and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs, and prescription medications affect the health and well-being of millions of Americans. The associated risks are numerous and include physical and mental impairment; poor academic and job performance; serious short- and long-term health problems; psychological or physical dependence (addiction); devastating effects on personal, family, and professional lives; and increased incidence of dangerous risk-taking behavior and acts of violence.

### **Education and Support Resources**

Creighton will provide resources to educate students and employees about the dangers of alcohol and drug misuse and abuse and programs and services to assist those with substance dependency problems and addictions.

### **Notification Requirements (Employees)**

As a condition of employment, employees are required to notify the associate vice president of Human Resources no later than five days after any charge of or conviction for a criminal drug or alcohol offense committed on University property or as part of a University-sponsored program off-campus. Failure to comply with these conditions will be grounds for disciplinary action.

The University will notify the appropriate granting or contracting agency within ten days if required.

Employees who drive University vehicles must notify the associate vice president of Human Resources no later than five days after any pending charges or conviction for a criminal drug or alcohol driving offense.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATIONS**

This policy references state and federal laws pertaining to alcohol and illicit drugs.

## *Policies and Procedures*

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Please refer to federal, state, and local laws for additional information relevant to the jurisdiction where you work or learn.

Questions related to this policy can be directed to the Office of the General Counsel.

### **AMENDMENTS OR TERMINATION OF THIS POLICY**

Creighton University reserves the right to modify, amend, or terminate this policy at any time.

## Creighton University Athletics

### No. 9 Men's Basketball Earns Best Preseason Ranking From AP Ever

*Creighton opens the regular-season on Nov. 7 vs. St. Thomas*

Rob Anderson

Men's Basketball

Posted: 10/17/2022 11:00:00 AM

**OMAHA, Neb.** -- The Creighton men's basketball team is ranked ninth in the Associated Press Preseason Top 25 poll, its highest preseason AP ranking ever.

Monday's announcement marks just the fifth time in program history the writers have voted CU to the top-25 in the preseason, joining 2006-07 (No. 19), 2012-13 (No. 16) and 2016-17 (No. 22) and 2020-21 (No. 11). All four of those teams would end up in the NCAA Tournament.

It's also just the 19th time in program history that Creighton has been in the top-10 at any point, with all but one of those weeks happening under head coach **Greg McDermott**. Creighton's best ranking in program history is seventh, done four times (Jan. 16, 2017, March 10, 2020, March 18, 2020 and Jan. 7, 2021).

Including today's ranking, Creighton has now been ranked 114 times in program history, with 86 of those under the direction of McDermott. Creighton is 142-55 all-time as a ranked team, including a 108-43 mark under McDermott. Creighton has been ranked at least one week in nine of McDermott's 13 seasons on The Hilltop after doing it just five different seasons in program history before his 2010 arrival.

Creighton is one of two BIG EAST Conference schools in the poll, joining No. 16 Villanova. North Carolina is atop the poll, just ahead of Gonzaga, Houston and Kentucky.

The Bluejays are scheduled to open the 2022-23 season on Oct. 30 with an exhibition game vs. Drury before tipping off the regular-season on Nov. 7 vs. St. Thomas. Among the opponents on Creighton's schedule who made the preseason top-25 are No. 12 Texas, No. 16 Villanova and No. 25 Texas Tech, as well as potential Maui Jim Maui Invitational foes Arkansas (No. 10), Arizona (No. 17) and San Diego State (No. 19).

#### Associated Press Top 25

Oct. 18, 2022 (Preseason Poll)

Rk	School	W-L	PTS
1.	North Carolina (47)	0-0	1532
2.	Gonzaga (12)	0-0	1479
3.	Houston (1)	0-0	1404
4.	Kentucky (2)	0-0	1364
T5.	Baylor	0-0	1200
T5.	Kansas	0-0	1200
7.	Duke	0-0	1168
8.	UCLA	0-0	1093
9.	Creighton	0-0	1060
10.	Arkansas	0-0	1026
11.	Tennessee	0-0	880
12.	Texas	0-0	844

13. Indiana 0-0 745
14. TCU 0-0 735
15. Auburn 0-0 623
16. Villanova 0-0 578
17. Arizona 0-0 543
18. Virginia 0-0 462
19. San Diego State 0-0 394
20. Alabama 0-0 281
21. Oregon 0-0 260
22. Michigan 0-0 229
23. Illinois 0-0 215
24. Dayton 0-0 170
25. Texas Tech 0-0 122

Others receiving votes: Texas A&M 112, UConn 101, Miami 66, Purdue 56, Saint Louis 36, Michigan State 35, Florida State 32, Xavier 29, Wyoming 25, Ohio State 23, Iowa 13, Rutgers 4, Florida 3, USC 3, Toledo 1, Virginia Tech 1, Memphis 1, Notre Dame 1, UAB 1

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