



Willie, Daniel, and Marissa
chilling in Tami's office.



Saw is enjoying delicious food.

Hoots and Salutes

Let's hear it for
Autumne White
for receiving
the Reach Your
Potential
Scholarship!



Congratulations to **Loc Hoang**
for
being named
Coordinator of
the Spring
Break Service
Trip.



Congratulation to our
December graduates:

John-Paul Gurnett



And a big
applause for
Shelagh Hardrich
for receiving the
Reach Your
Potential

Scholarship!

Congrats to
Bijou Fidgenon
for becoming a
National
Collegiate
Scholar for this
semester.



Way to go **Trang Hoang** for
being named Coordinator of
the Spring Break Service Trip.

Congratulations to **Luis Vazquez**
for
being named
Coordinator
of the Spring
Break
Service Trip.



Harriet Mullin



Congratulations to
Antwonette Hobbs
on
becoming
Vice
President of
Advocacy for
CUASA.



Tiffany Ramelb



Angela Schroeder



Spotlight on Juan Jaimes *by Jared Good*



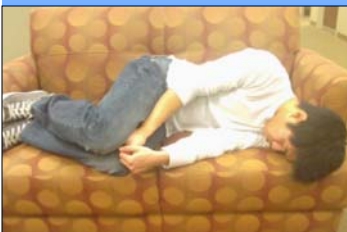
The very intelligent Juan Jaimes in front of a statue.



Juan just having fun.



Marissa Begay, Lilly Valadez, and Adrian Sandoval.



SSS—a great place to nap!



Sam and Tai studying..

Juan “Giallo” Jaimes is a sophomore with junior standing, who is considering majoring in accounting. Juan was born in Guerrero, Mexico, but has lived in The United States for the past 15 years. He is a graduate of South High School in Omaha.

Juan picked the wonderful Creighton University to attend because he was active with the Gates Workshops and because Tami, with her infinite persistence, would not let him go anywhere else. He is glad that he went with her strong suggestions to come here.

While Juan made it only to semi finalist, for the Gates, he did get the Creighton Diversity Scholarship and the Kiewit Foundation Scholarship.

He joined SSS for all the various help they offer students, such as technical support. When asked what he likes most about SSS, the answer was quite clear:



He doesn't play when it comes to school work.

support from staff and the other students. He benefits most by the help offered by SSS with registration, staying on track, and meeting new friends.

One of Juan's greatest achievements was making the Dean's list. When it comes to professors his favorite is **Tim Bastian** because he makes learning fun.

The most exciting event Juan has participated in was the diversity retreat in September.

While school and work do take up a good chunk of his time,

he loves to play basketball when he gets the chance.

A little more about Juan: his favorite music is the Corridos; he hates the word “wetback” even though he sometimes jokes around about it with friends. His most embarrassing moment was during a speech. He could not finish his speech, because he could not stop laughing long enough.

Juan loves the ROAR of a motorcycle because the sound just spews out raw power whenever one screams by. If he could have any super power, it would be the power of flight. Not very many people know this, but when Juan was five, he almost died from a scorpion bite.

Juan's number one goal in life is to own his own business so that way he can be in charge, and he jokes, so that he can boss around people. More importantly, Juan wants to be able to give back to the community. In parting, Juan just one piece of advice for everyone: **“Never give up”.**

**CIRQUE DREAMS
ILLUMINATION**

**SSS students
demonstrate their joy
after attending the
Cirque Dreams
Illumination. Tickets
courtesy of Arts
Access Program**



Spotlight On Lela Coleman *by Autumnne White*



Willie & Angel at the Ranch.



Happy Holidays SSS!



Chant in deep thought.



Willie enjoys a free meal.

Lela Shanette Coleman is a freshman majoring in Exercise Science who hope to become either a doctor or a personal trainer. Lela is originally from Des Moines, Iowa, and she selected Creighton University because she liked the campus and heard great reviews about the education she could have here.

She joined SSS because she wanted a support system, especially, during her first year at Creighton, as well as a way to easily meet new people. She finds SSS most helpful because of the endless support from the advisors and the tutors math, science, and writing. Lela has benefited from SSS through being awarded a scholarship that has helped her financially. Lela also received several scholarships in high school, including the Delta and Alpha scholarship.

Lela and her high school drill team performed for **President Barack Obama** in the inaugural parade!

Her greatest achievement so far is making it to college. The most interesting moment that has happened to her is when a kid asked her, "What are



It isn't always who we are, but what we represent.

you?" The kid was trying to figure out her ethnicity (half black, half white). His question made her laugh.

Her favorite Creighton professor so far is **Father Harmless** because he is so enthusiastic about teaching theology and motivates students to become college level learners.

Lela has enjoyed Creighton, especially meeting people from all over.

Lela is a fantastic dancer in all categories and also enjoys working-out. Her most prized possession is the scrap book that her best friend made for her that captures everyone she loves and cares about.

Her favorite music is R&B and the most fun she ever had was at her senior party after graduation. At this party, her school, Roosevelt High, was turned into a cruise ship to celebrate.

However, some things annoy her, like people sniffing instead of blowing their nose. The most embarrassing experience she had was when she was a freshman in high school. She was at a basketball game and fell at the concession stand in front of everyone.

Lela loves to hear music, and in fact, it is what motivates her in life. If Lela could be any animal she would be a dolphin because they are beautiful and intelligent.

Her favorite childhood experience was when her dad took Lela and her sister to the store to get candy and then enjoyed the rest of the day at the park. The most exciting place Lela has been was a Denver Nuggets game where she and her school drill team performed during half-time!

Lela advice to others: **"Do what makes you happy!"**



One big SSS Happy Family. Enjoy the Holiday Season. Be safe and have FUN!



Michelle Wang thinks Students Support Services deserves two thumbs up!



Look at Angel's new finger nails! Don't ya wish your fingers were HOT like hers?



SSS Students enjoy each other's company at the Ranch of Terror (light).

SSS Makes an Impact! *By Michelle Wang*

The Student Support Services program at Creighton University has a strong, positive impact on incoming and current students. The SSS program has assisted approximately 4,020 students over the past 30 years.

The SSS program helps students academically, financially, socially and personally. According to the 2008 SSS annual report, of the 165 SSS participants served, 32 were on the Dean's List and 97% were in good academic standing for the 2008-09 academic year. However, if these numbers do not convince you about how effective and valuable SSS is at Creighton, perhaps these opinions will:

Anthony Allee, a Pharmacy III student, says he joined SSS because "An invitation to join SSS was sent to me prior to starting my career as a student at Creighton University. I had no idea what SSS was; however, what I have come to find out is that it has been a cornerstone for me throughout my time here. The entire staff described to me that I had nothing to lose, and they were right. It was a win-win situation. As an advocate for diversity, I also wanted to get to know others at Creighton. SSS was that true channel of opportunity to do so."

Samuel Phan, a freshman, says that SSS has impacted his life because the program helped him meet new people who have become great friends. He also adds that his academic life was also impacted because he receives much needed help from the Math tutor, Pat. He says his favorite part of SSS is the people, regardless if he knows them or not, "because they are all friendly".

Audri Edmonds, a sophomore, says, "As the first generation in my immediate family to go to college, I had no clue about the college process. Karen Thurber is very informative about things that will help me move towards success. I also like how everything is free, there is good advice given here, and the people are down to earth and understanding."

Sheila Fields, a junior, says that she appreciates SSS because of the tutoring from Rich, the financial aid she receives, and how the SSS staff keeps her grades in check. She says that, by tutoring with Rich, SSS has definitely made a positive impact on her academic life.

Melissa Choi, a nursing student, says "I joined SSS in order to be around the always friendly environment. Plus, SSS is the perfect place for me to get assistance. SSS has helped my academic standing and enabled me to meet new friends."

Autumne White, says "I love everything! From the free study rooms and computers available to the tutors for math, science, and English. The events and free food are awesome too. However, this program would not be as successful without Tami, Karen, and Sandy. They hold SSS together, and I love working with them and talking to them! I am so thankful for this program, for it has helped me tremendously, and I am eternally grateful."

Kathy Daotay, another nursing student, replies with "SSS is the one and only place that I can say this is my home. I just love how every time when I stop by the SSS, I can hear Tami's contagious laugh spread throughout the place. I love how Sandy always greets me with a warm welcoming "How are ya?" I love how Wade is always in his business suit. I love how Denise is always there to tell me what is wrong with my paper. I love how Pat always looks at me with his confused face like "Do I know you?" I love how Karen always manages to cheer everyone up. It is like she is the SSS's cheerleader. And I especially love how Rich always eats his lunch around 2:30 in the afternoon because his schedule is filled with tutoring sessions."



Sheila flashes her beautiful smile!



Sheila at an APO event.



Sheila at the 2009 SSS Soiree. Because she is so dedicated to SSS she deserves her own page in the newsletter.

Woman's Access to Health Care *By Sheila Field*

Recently, the Democratic women Senators came together for a press conference, a Senate floor speech, and an appearance on the talk show "Larry King Live" to talk about the need to improve women's access to health care.

The need has been increasing because women usually earn less wages than men but have to pay one and a half times more than men for health care premiums. Women are also denied health care coverage because of pre-existing conditions such as a c-section or pregnancy due to domestic violence. Preventative and maternity care like mammograms and basic maternity care are rarely covered.

For one woman in particular, getting access to health care has been so difficult that she was willing to stay with her abusive husband because if she left she would not have any health insurance.

Senator Kay Hagan said, "The Senate is working on sending the president a reform bill that ensures women are treated fairly, expands coverage, and provides security and stability to people who have health insurance. If health insurance reform is to accomplish the goal of fixing our broken health care system, it must prevent discrimination within the insurance industry and address the specific health needs of women."

As a woman and a future nurse, I am glad that the

Senators are taking notice of this issue and are pushing for changes. It is unfair that sometimes women are turned down for health care because they have a pre-existing condition. It is especially troubling that some insurance companies do not provide maternity care or preventative care for women. This means that if a woman needs this type of care, they have to either pay for the services out of pocket or be married to a man with better insurance. Women should have the same opportunities as men to get their own health coverage if they wish. Hopefully, if more people take notice of this fact, the insurance companies will start to change their health policies offered to women.

Saving Money on Text Books *By Sheila Field*

.When buying text books, it can be tempting to go to the bookstore and get them. However, if you take the time there are many ways to save a substantial amount of money. The easiest way to save money and shop around is to shop online. When shopping online, be sure to check return policies before you buy. because some places may not accept returns or exchanges.

Reserve your books online as soon as you know what books you will need. Reserving books early will get you the best deal because most bookstores sell used books first. Reserving books

is free, Just contact your local bookstore to get your books reserved!

Another resource to use is the library. Many times the library has books that they will allow you to check out and use while you are in the library. To see the books the library has, go to the library and explore or look on the library's website.

Listed below are great resources to check out when you are getting ready to buy books again. As always, look for the best deals If you are still having trouble finding books, check with other SSS students and, as always, SSS staff members.

Buy books online (you get to keep them):

- www.allbookstores.com
- www.bestbuybooks.com
- www.bigwords.com
- www.bookfinder.com

Rent books online (you will have to send them back once you are done using them):

- www.BookRenter.com
- www.CampusBookRentals.com
- www.Chegg.com

Electronic Books (these are online; you don't get a paper copy):

- www.CourseSmart.com
- www.iChapters.com



New Moon



A hot new movie 2012 all about how the world ends.



Monica enjoying her meal.



Posing for pictures.

Good's Picks *by Jared Good*

Hello, friends. **Jared Good** here to once again give you advice on which movies you should see and which movies you should avoid. As a fellow college student, I know that coming by some extra cash is a miracle in itself. It especially makes me frustrated when I spend nearly 20 bucks on getting into the movie and concessions, and then the movie turns out to be crappy.

Well, friends this is why I am here to tell you which movies to avoid and which to watch. So enough of this chit chat. Let's get started. Please note, my ratings are out of a possible five stars.

The Twilight Saga: New Moon: 2 ½ Stars

Ok, so first movie up on the block is the new Twilight movie. I am not going into

great detail because I don't care to have a mob of Twilight fans after me. If you like the books and loved the first movie, then this movie is right down your aisle. It has all the characters from the books and it is packed full of action and misguided teenage romance. However, if you are not a fan of the series, then avoid this movie like the plague because this is a strictly fan-based movie. Now, if you are in the middle, then this movie is just a sub-par average movie with a little depth, though not much, and enough action to keep your interest. If you are one of those people in the middle, I would just say ask any teenage girl for their copy of the first movie, watch, then see if you enjoyed that before you waste your money on this one.

2012: 3 ½ stars

This is a movie that is high in anticipation. If you are the type of person who is up for a good old disaster movie that is just jam packed with lots of special effects, then this is the movie for you. This movie stays true to its previews. It has scene after scene of destruction. However, even though it is sporting an all star cast and a great director, the movie does not have a whole lot of depth. However, that should not deter you from seeing this movie because in movies like this, it is more about the destruction then the actual story line anyway. This movie is lengthy at two and a half hours, and it does start to feel lengthy at bits in the middle. I would say that this movie is definitely one you should see, but wait to rent it when it comes out on DVD.





SSS students after the Shaolin Warriors.



Mikhail Abad showing off one of his many amazing talents.



Nhu Le is ready to dig in.

Everybody was Kung-fu Fighting! *By Angel Le*

The curtain slowly rose, the exciting music grew louder and louder, and BANG: The Shaolin Warriors, more than 20 kung fu masters with remarkable skill and stunning moves, tumbled on the stage. These masters have perfected the art of hand-to-hand and weapon combat. As they quickly twisted and turned weapons in their flexible hands, the audience would gasp and applaud loudly in appreciation of their amazing skill.

These astounding masters have trained since they were very young in mental and physical disciplines, thus giving them the power of mind to perform with such great excellence. The Shaolin Warriors demonstrated the most deadly art form in this kung fu theatrical display.

Mikhail Abad liked the acrobatics and how humorous the program was. It was a great stress reliever, and he felt it was a privilege to attend this amazing display of marital arts and theater. Mikhail was called on stage to help

out during one of the stunts and that was his favorite part.

Michelle Wang loved the Shaolin Warriors. Her favorite part was when the little kids went on stage to learn the Shaolin way. Her second favorite part was when Mikhail went on stage and tried to pry the bowl off the Monk's stomach, but Mikhail was too weak to do it. She said it was awesome attending because she was with great company, and she had so much fun. It was a way to relax her mind from her hectic studies.

Rachel Wang also loved the scene when the kids tried to imitate the kung fu masters and how cute they were while doing it all wrong.

Peter Khong thought the Shaolin warrior experience was wonderful. As a boy, he wanted to see them perform live, which was much better than watching them in the movies.

Cheree Hatfield wanted to go see the Shaolin Warriors because she thought the martial arts would be fascinating. She enjoyed watching the warriors teach the audience children

because it was so funny watching the children imitate the warriors' moves. She surprised by the skill of the two young warriors, and their ability to do all of the things the older warriors did.

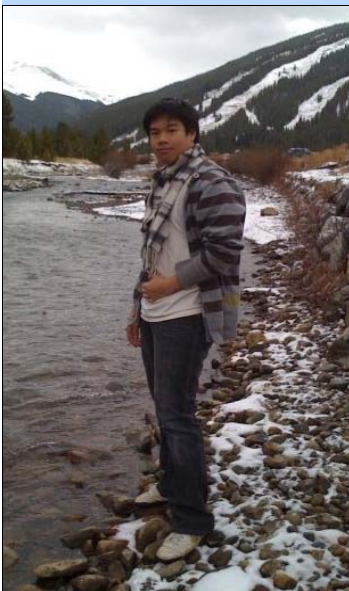
Danielle Hudspeth decided to go to the performance because the Shaolin lifestyle and culture interested her. She was impressed by the dedication and determination of the men and young boys and enjoyed seeing members of the audience up on the stage. The biggest surprise was when they laid on knives and metal pokers and were placed on top of each other with these weapons in between them and were not hurt or pierced. She was greatly impressed by one performer who used a butcher's knife to chop up lettuce on his abs and didn't cut himself.

Overall, Student Support Services was able to take 35 students, courtesy of the Arts Access Program, to the Orpheum Theater to enjoy the amazing Shaolin Warriors and gave them a chance to encounter a different art of Asia and time to socialize with other SSS students.





Good luck to Nina Nguyen in Korea. She will be studying abroad for one year.



Peter Khong standing in front of a beautiful view during an Immersion Trip to AZ/NM.



Sam and Chanelle smiling happily on a road to SD for their Immersion Trip.

Spotlight on Kimberly Richart *By Alicia Amedee*

Kimberly Richart is currently a high school junior. She attends Cristo Rey Private High School. As a student at this prestigious school, Kimberly goes to school four days a week and works one day per week. She is assigned to work at Creighton University in our Student Support Services office. We are glad to have her!

Born and raised in Omaha, Kimberly aspires to become a doctor. She is considering Creighton University for postsecondary education because of its background and because the campus is close to home.

Meeting people is what Kimberley likes most about working at SSS. She also says it's fun (sometimes). She is learning how busy it is in the SSS office: there is always something to be done. One of the benefits from working in SSS she mentions is that she is getting to learn more about the campus.

Kimberly has been on the honor roll and has received



many scholarships for high school and hopes to receive even more for college. So far, her greatest achievement is being selected to work at the college, and we know that there are many more achievements to follow.

We also talked about some of her experiences in high school. I noted that her favorite teacher is Ms. Miller, "...because she's fun" according to Kimberly.

Talking about being risky or extraordinary, I learned she and her friend once played hide-and-go seek in a museum. We all know that everyone has a life outside of

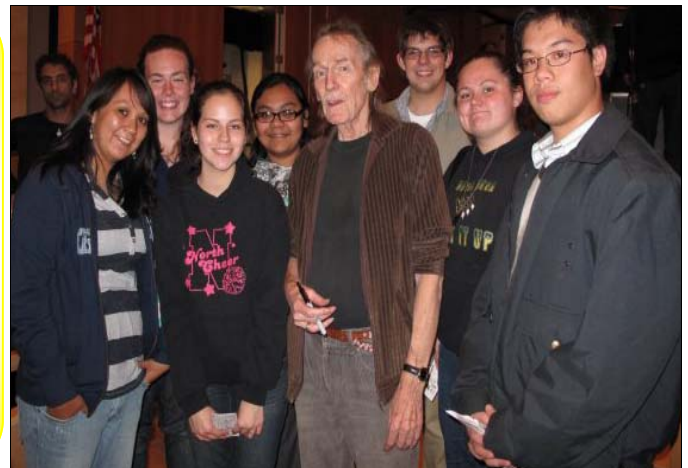
school. Kimberly likes to swim when she can get away, because it is very relaxing. Her most prized possession is her driver's license because it gives her freedom.

The most fun she ever had was at her sophomore retreat. She loves retreats and also likes just about every type of music. Kimberly gets greatly annoyed when people put their feet in her face and when people at her school say "ratchet" as if it's a real word. Her mother embarrasses her every day, so there really isn't just one embarrassing moment.

She loves the sound of rain and playing hide-and-go seek, which is her favorite childhood memory. If she were an animal, she would be "a polar bear because they look cuddly and cute and soft.". If you have ever been to Florida, maybe you would know about Downtown Disney which is the most exciting place she's ever been. Kimberly leaves you with this advice; **"Love, peace, and soul."**

Gordon Lightfoot

SSS students are happy after attending the concert and meeting Gordon Lightfoot. This was a special treat for Marissa Begay since it was also her birthday. Tickets provided courtesy of the Arts Access Program



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**“Education is a companion
which no future can depress,
no crime can destroy, no
enemy can alienate it and no
nepotism can enslave.”**

Ropo Oguntimehin

SSS is one of the five federally funded TRIO programs at Creighton University under the Department of Educational Opportunity Programs. SSS is grant funded through the Department of Education to provide comprehensive services to help students achieve a successful college experience by increasing academic performance, retention, and graduation rates. SSS also works to foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of economically disadvantaged students, first generation students, and students with disabilities. The strength of the SSS program is providing comprehensive support to eligible students at Creighton University who have the ability and desire to succeed at Creighton University but would benefit from additional advocacy, academic, personal, financial, and career support. SSS is a resource that provides personalized and comprehensive support services for eligible participants to help them achieve their full potential.

Counselor's Corner *with Karen Thurber*

We had 37 students at the Potluck on Friday. If you forgot to sign in, please let me know.

A thanks to everyone for getting appointments and workshops completed. We have **168** students with all the requirements completed.

This fall, we have 184 participants who are in Omaha going to school.

Congratulations to **Harriet Mullin, JP Gurnett, Tiffany Ramelb,** and **Angela Schroeder** who will be

graduating this December. We wish you the best.

Good luck on papers and finals. Have wonderful holidays.

Be safe and careful in your travels.

Have a great day!

Adaptability, Harmony, Maximizer, Consistency, Arranger

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