



Marissa enjoying the nice weather.



Ray Bucko in SSS.

## Hoots and Salutes

Congratulations to the following students who were selected for the South Dakota Spring Break Immersion trip:

**Elizabeth Ramos,**



**Chevas Anderson,**



**Willie White,**



**Adrianna Edmonds,**



**Samuel Phan,**



**Matthew Kor,**

**Patrick Lam,**



**Awatif Elias,**



**Yan Dan Chen, and**

**Nhu Le.**



Congratulations to the following students who were selected for the Winnebago Spring Break Immersion trip:

**Angel Le,**



**Michelle Wang,**



**Rachel Wang,**



**Josh Phelps,**



**Adrian Sandoval,**



**Steele Valenzuela, and**

**Jason Nguyen.**



Congratulations to **Alexandria Bell** who has started her own business out of her home doing manicures and pedicures.

Congratulations to **LeBree Perry,**



**Amber Bennett**

and **Jamillah**

**Hinson** who attended the annual 2010 Big XII Leadership Conference in Austin, Texas.



Congratulations to **Monica Ibarra** who was selected as the 2010 YWCA Tribute to Women Youth Leader.



## Black History Month *by Samantha Riley*

Black History Month was created by Dr. Woodson after he noticed the lack of attention paid to Black Americans in the history books. This celebration is a remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African Americans. Black History Month is annually celebrated in February as a celebration of

the many contributions made in the United States and around the world by those of African descent.

Woodson chose the second week of February to honor those who greatly influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans. He selected February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly

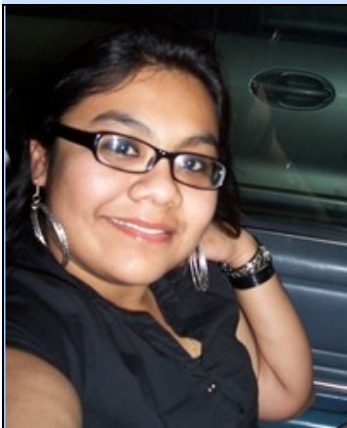
influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans: former President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist Frederick Douglass. Some of the month's events include several church services, religious events, symposiums and banquets.

**TRiO**  
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

## Spotlight on Maricela Bustamante *By Autumnne White*



Maricela's beautiful smile.



Maricela going for a ride.



Maricela is happy.



Maricela and Caitlin.

**Maricela Bustamante**, nickname Mari, is a freshmen this year and will be graduating in the class of 2013. She is currently majoring in Photography/Pre-Medicine and hopes to one day become an OB/GYN.

Her hometown is Chicago, Illinois and she chose Creighton University because she knew the exceptional reputation Creighton holds and she also likes Omaha. **Maricela is thankful for the SSS program because of the free help that is available and the support team of mentors. What she likes most about SSS are the free events and the many places that you are able to go and visit.**

Maricela received several scholarships such as the Creighton Academic and Leadership Scholarships. She is currently a CULSA (Creighton University Latin

Student Association) Member as well as being part of the Pre-Med Club and the Minority Association for Pre-Health Students Club as well.

Her greatest achievement so far was being accepted to Creighton University. Her favorite professor at Creighton is Professor **Dr. Dawn Irlbeck** because of the way she explains her lectures and gives life explanations as well.

Maricela enjoys cooking in her spare time and sleeping whenever she can. Maricela is a first-generation college and high school student. One of her most prized possessions is her teddy bear, which has been with her all her life.

She enjoys listening to Latin music and Chuckie Cheese's was one of the funniest places she has ever been to. Her biggest pet-peeve is people chewing with their mouth open. One of the most embarrassing moments of her

life was when she was hanging out with her two guy friends, she had juice in her mouth and they were all laughing, in fact, they were all laughing so hard that the juice flew right out of her mouth and she barfed! If she could be any animal she would be an eagle because of the freedom of flight and how they can soar through the sky.

One place that had created a significant memory for her was Millennium Park because of everything there is to see such as the beautiful gardens, it is close to downtown, the art exhibits, and it is also close to the beach. Maricela's advice to you....

***"The simple happenings in life, give us the greatest joy."***

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## Spotlight on Steven Buffalohead *by Josh Phelps*



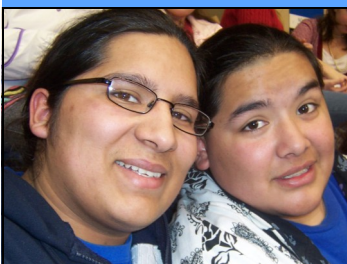
Steven posing with his art.



Steven having fun at the SSS laser tag event.



Steven and his family at the Cedar Ceremony during freshman move in.



Steven with brother Shawn at a CU Girls' Basketball game.

**Steven Buffalohead** is a freshman at CU and is a very hard-worker, and a very funny guy. His friends' nickname for him is Stev-o the Beaver. Steven was born in Cleveland, Ohio and he plans to obtain a degree in Art and go on to become an auto-body technician combining his love of art with his love of cars. He also hopes to open his own auto-body shop one day.

He chose Creighton because of the excellent academics and he wanted to stay close to home. He joined SSS because he said "Tami made me." The things that he enjoys the most about SSS is the academic help and of course the free printing and he believes he has greatly benefited from SSS.

Steven was awarded tribal scholarships and Creighton aid which made the cost of attending Creighton feasible. Right now he says that his major involvement at Creighton is pushing buttons on the elevator for others. But he plans to get more involved in the future.

His greatest achievement thus far is purchasing a 1994 Cadillac Eldorado which has been his dream car for his entire life.



Steven with his Sister, Sierra.

Steven's favorite professor at CU is **Mr. Cassidy** because he was cool and Steven learned something new everyday. The most exciting thing that has happened to him so far at Creighton was the foam party during welcome week.

There are many things that are extraordinary about Steven but two of the most notable are his Native American culture (Southern Ponca, Navajo and Algonquin) and his long hair that he has maintained throughout his life. One unique thing about his family is that his Grandpa Steve, who he is named after, was an excellent boxer and won the Golden Gloves two consecutive years in that sport when he was younger.

Two interesting things that Steven does outside of school is work on his car and paint. He said that his most prized

possession is his car which has been a dream of his and when he bought it the dream came true. When jamming out he mostly likes listening to Rap but he will listen to almost everything except country. The most fun he has ever had was hanging out with friends in the olden days. He is annoyed most by people that lie and his least favorite word is ambiguous because he thinks it is overused.

His most embarrassing moment is a tie between two events: breaking his collar bone on a kid's bouncy slide or breaking his ankle while sledding. Some of his favorite sounds are tornado sirens in the morning, a hair dryer and a vacuum. His fondest childhood memory is running around the neighborhood with friends in Cleveland. He thinks that his favorite animal is definitely a liger, half lion and half tiger, because he likes the stripes on a tiger but likes a lion's mane. His favorite place that he has been is Canada because it was apparently perfect there. His best advice to others is

***"Up with hope,  
down with dope."***





Hands Up Panda!



Staring contest with Nhu!



Chanelle with peer mentor Ashley.



Chanelle tangled in the human knot!

## Spotlight on Chanelle Ajimura *by Autumnne White*

**Chanelle Marie Ajimura**, nickname Chan, is a freshmen this year and will be graduating with the class of 2013. Her current major is undecided, but she has chosen Pre-Pharmacy.

Her hometown is Kauai, Hawaii and she Creighton University because of the excellent Pharmacy program and her need to get off the island.

**She joined SSS because of the tutors, financial aid, and the student support offered. She her favorite part of SSS is Pat (math tutor) because he is not only wonderful help, but he is hilarious. She had benefited from SSS because her grades and increased with the tutors, Pat, Rich, and Denise.**

She is currently involved in the Hawaii Club and MAPS



Chanelle and her Panda Poses.

(Minority Association for Pre-Health Students). Her biggest accomplishment so far is being able to survive to cold.

Chanelle's favorite professor at Creighton is **Father Harmless** because he teaches very well and is incredibly smart. Something unique about her/family is that every new year they make Mochi, which is a sweetened ball of rice. Two important activities

that she is involved in are outside of school are volunteering and tutoring.

Her most prized possession is her stuff animal Herky, because he has been with her all her life. She enjoys any music and the most fun she ever had was her 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Her most embarrassing experience was falling down the stairs in front of a guy she liked. Her favorite childhood memory is being young when there was no drama. If she could be any animal she would be a lion because they are so cute and furry.

The most exciting place she has ever been is Washington D.C. and her advice to you is...

***"Everything Happens for a Reason."***

## Money Saving Tips *by Alicia Amedee*

As college students we have many demands on our time. Is it surprising that many of us don't think about money management? When some students shop, they may not think about price. But paying just a little more attention to the way you spend money, could leave more money in your wallet. One way to decrease your spending is to keep track of where you spend your money and how much you spend. Shopping weekly and eating out less can have a positive effect on managing your money.

When shopping for food consider buying the cheaper brand of some foods. Most people do not realize how much they can save by buying the same food in a different box or at a less expensive store. Shopping at Wal-mart, Walgreens, or K-mart can lower some costs. Another store to try is Aldi's Supermarket, located on 30<sup>th</sup> and Sorenson. My mother and I found that buying our food from Aldi's saves even more money than Wal-mart.

When shopping for clothing and shoes, giving up name brands is another way to save

money. By buying the \$10 shirt and not the \$35 shirt, whether online or in the store, is a smarter way to shop. Paying less for shoes won't "cramp" your style. Shopping less often can put more money in your pocket. No one truly needs a new pair of shoes every week. Checking out thrift stores are another way to save money. Using coupons and buying items on sale can boost the amount of money left in any wallet. The moment we start shopping smarter, is the moment we start saving money.





Ken Vela and Mary Roy.



Ken Vela enjoying laser tag.



Ken with his Laser tag team.



Ken Vela smiling!

## Spotlight on Kenneth Vela *by Samuel Phan*

**Kenneth Vela**, or Ken as his friends call him, is a freshman, an enthusiastic and friendly person, who greets everyone with a big cheerful smile. Under the influence of his sister, Ken decided to follow her steps and attend Creighton to pursue higher education. For Ken, becoming part of the Creighton community is exciting, and he feels welcomed into the Blue Jay family.

As a native of Papillion, Nebraska, Ken is a regular volunteer at his local church. Here he works as a Catechist, a person who teaches children about the Bible and God, much like a Theology 100 course, but on an easier scale. Teaching about the Bible to the younger generation has been a bonus for Ken because it not only helped him connect spiritually to the higher being,



but also it prepared him for the THL 100 course with **Father Harmless**.

Besides helping his community, Ken loves to enjoy the beauty of Mother Nature. His passion for nature has influenced him to take wonderful pictures of plants and animals. At night he finds the sound of crickets irresistible. When asked what animal he wants to be, he chose the falcon because of its ability to fly freely and majestically. His passion and care for nature is boundless.

In addition, Ken is also an

artistic person who has the same zeal for music and art as he has for nature. He was once a violinist in training but stopped practicing because of other time consuming activities that congested his busy life. Even though he stopped playing an instrument, he still has the enthusiasm to play the piano. He has fine taste in music as well as enjoying any kind of music except country.

Overall Ken is an extremely kind person and a gentle fellow. His enthusiasm is very pure, and he is caring toward everyone. So the next time you see him, greet him and become a friend. I would like to end with Ken's words of knowledge:

***"Keep up with school to avoid the stress."***

## Restaurant Review *by Alicia Amedee*

Most people want good quality food when they go to a restaurant. However, not many think about the general quality a restaurant has when it comes to service, cleanliness, and the atmosphere. Here, I will shed some light on a restaurant where I had the pleasure of recently dining.

Established over twenty years ago, Grisanti's Restaurant, located at 10875 West Dodge Road, is an Italian restaurant that has house-made and imported pastas, soups, salads,

seafood, steaks, and other delicious foods. Since Grisanti's is a fun, casual restaurant, some would automatically assume that it is an extremely expensive place. Actually, Grisanti's prices are reasonable, and the food is delicious, and the staff friendly.

From first entering, a warm, welcoming feeling greets everyone at the door. For an appetizer, I ordered the Mozzarella Marinara, which is awesome. My favorite dinner dish is Grilled Pork Chops with Gorgonzola Butter. I would

recommend this to anyone who loves pork chops. The staff is kind, patient, and understanding. They show you that they are not just chefs and waiters, but they are real people who face life's challenges as well. They try to make our dining the best possible experience.

This homey, spacious restaurant will keep you coming back for more. I would recommend this restaurant to everyone, but don't ask me to go see for yourself. Check it out!



Asian to the Max!



Nhu Le, Ashley Hauger and Brittney Buder-Rencher.



Patrick Lam getting his award.



Shelagh Hardrich hard at work.

## Etiquette Dinner *by Angel Le and Sheila Field*

On Tuesday night, February 16, the SSS students had the opportunity to attend the **Etiquette dinner with speaker Jodie Beach**. We learned etiquette for business dinner. When getting dressed for a business dinner, men should wear light colored long sleeve shirts with a tie that does not have a distracting pattern. The tie should fall right in the middle of the belt buckle. The shoes should tie and not be tennis shoes. The socks should match the pants, not the shoes. Also, the suit should be black, navy blue, or dark charcoal gray. The jacket should button up, leaving the last button undone when standing up.

Women should not wear glitter shirts or short sleeves. Shoes should be closed toes and darker than the hem line of the outfit. Women should



Angel Le and Sheila Field.

wear make up, but less is more!

Beach also explained how important it is to be ready when shaking hands with others when holding a glass. The glass should be held in the left hand, so the right hand is free and ready to shake instead of struggling to change hands and possibly spilling the drink. Also, the name tag should always be

on your right upper chest.

When ordering food, she advised picking food that is easy to eat oppose to messy ribs. Never lick your fingers! That is what napkins are for. Beach shared several neat tricks for remembering where everything how to set a table. For example, k-n-i-f-e and s-p-o-o-n has five letters it should be placed on the r-i-g-h-t which also has five letters. F-o-r-k has four letters it should be placed on the l-e-f-t. Another great trick was forming your index and thumbs in a circle making the letter "B" on your left hand and a "D" on your right hand to know where your bread and drink should be placed.

Overall, this event was very helpful, and it offered great tips to future business men and women.

## CUASA's Soul Food Dinner *By Alicia Amedee*

On Sunday, February 21, 2010, in the Harper Center Ballroom, the **Annual Soul Food Dinner** presented by Creighton University's African American Student Association (CUASA) was a complete success. Many people truly enjoyed themselves that evening.

Most of the guests were not expecting that we would run the show. Instead of having a "regular" host, a skit was used to introduce the events of the evening. A grandmother sat down and talked with two of her granddaughters who were



Shelagh and Alicia.

watching a television show about the history of the African American people. The theme for the program was "A Stroll Down Memory Lane." Beautiful poetry, elegant singing, marvelous dancing, and a wonderful tribute to President Barack Obama contributed to the celebration.

After an evening of spectacular entertainment and great soul food, the guests left the Harper Center Ballroom feeling satisfied and happy and with a full stomach. Beautiful pictures and videos of this special occasion are on Facebook. If you would like to view some of the videos and photos, or even join the Facebook page, search Cuasa Fam and friend request us. Hopefully you will see what you missed and plan to join us next year for another great evening of food, friends, and celebration of African American history.



## Women's History Month *by Samantha Riley*



Rachel Wang



Marissa Begay



Samantha Riley



Cheree Hatfield

Women's History Month highlights the contributions of women and girls to U.S. history. The women's movement in the sixties contributed to the emergence of women's rights. Women questioned their invisibility in traditional American history texts. This movement also raised the opportunities for women and produced a growing number of female historians. This struggle led to the recognition of women's contributions to society culminating in the celebration of Women's History month.

**Rachel Wang** said that the one woman in contemporary society who has inspired her is **Kim Yu-Na (Kim Yun-Ah)**. Wang said, "she is the best role model for Korea, and the whole country looks up to her. How she performs reflects our whole nation, and she has done very well." Kim Yu-Na was the Gold medalist in the 2010 Vancouver Olympic figure skating. Says this person is "inspirational because she is so courageous and has a lot

of weight on her shoulders. Yet she can be so calm and graceful on the ice. She skates flawlessly and with such passion. She made an impact on my life by showing me that anything is possible. With hard work and perseverance, there are no limits to what you can dream up. She is the epitome of 'dreams can come true.' "

**Chanelle Ajimura** said the woman in contemporary society that has inspired her the most was "**Tyra Banks** because she has gone through many obstacles to become the successful and independent woman in the entertainment industry." Tyra Banks is a Victoria Secret model and host. Ajimura commented "With her hard work, she will be an inspiration to many women—and to teach them that each and every women can make something out of themselves. She made an impact on my life because she always helps other women to strive and work harder. It reminds me to never give up and put in the extra effort to achieve. Even if people doubt you, you can

always prove them wrong by trying your best. Success is the best type of revenge."

**Marissa Begay** said the historical woman that has inspired her the most was **Jane Austen**. Marissa says "I read her book *Pride and Prejudice* in high school and fell in love with it, because of how she portrayed Elizabeth (the main character). Austen believed that women can speak their mind and that somewhere, someone would accept your thoughts on life. Basically, she taught me that I should not be afraid to think the way I do and to be strong even in unpromising environments. Even if you are around bad things, you have the power to turn those things into good. It is up to you as to how great things can turn out."

Women in history and in modern day society make an impact on those around them. If it were not for the emergence of women's history things would not be how they are today. We appreciate the many contributions made by women today and in the past.



Rev. Don Doll, SJ





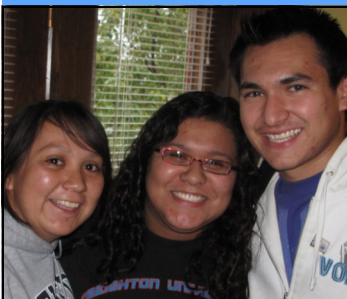
Josh and Ashley posing for a picture.



Josh and Steven enjoying the Native American potluck food



Dr. Rudi and Cheree Hatfield having fun.



Marissa, Lily and Adrian.

## Impact of the Economy on students *By Josh Phelps*

In the past three years our nation has been on a roller coaster ride of economics that has sent fuel prices through the roof and then back to the floor. It sent real estate prices from extremely expensive to terrible in many parts of the country.

At the end of the summer 2008 the stock market plummeted and the lay-offs began which has sent the unemployment rate for the United States at 10%. Thankfully in Nebraska the unemployment rate is at 5% yet some people have lost their jobs.

SSS students have had different reactions to the economy and how it has affected them and their families. Many people such as **Adrian Sandoval** and **Monica Ibarra** said that their families have cut back spending due to rising prices and job insecurity.

Even though Omaha has weathered the recession well compared to other states there have still been job losses. **Steele Valenzuela's** father lost his job which has

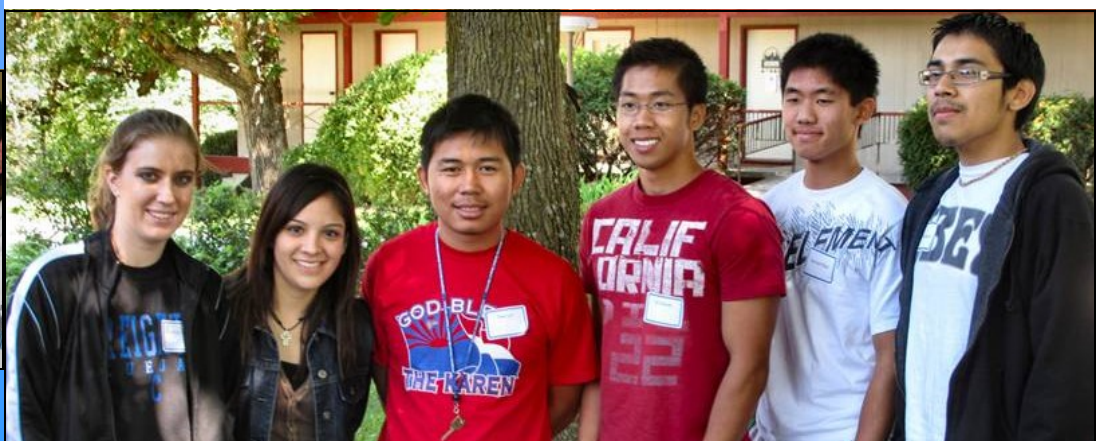
made taking care of his family very difficult especially with a small baby at home. Thankfully Steele found ways to pay for his entire education so his parents don't have to stress. Pat Al-Green advised Steele to try and stay in school by pursuing graduate studies in order to ride-out the recession until the job market becomes better. **Cheree Hatfield's** uncle who she lives with lost his job with Bellevue Tree Service and hasn't been able to find work since and is now on unemployment. **Erica Erixon** says "The economy has impacted my family because this past December my father lost his job of twenty years and has not been able to find a job since."

**Khloe Keeler** said she knows know a lot of parents who have lost their jobs due to the economy. Over winter break, her friends and she had to go to about 10 different places before finding one that was possibly hiring. Also, many of her friend's schools in California are making major cuts and holding protests

(such as faculty holding class outside to make the point that 300 students cannot fit inside a classroom made for 200), and it is difficult for her to find places to take summer courses because classes are being cut at home, and some schools are not even offering summer school.

**Michelle Wang's** family owns the Imperial Palace restaurant in La Vista. She says "The changes from last year to this year has been drastic for my family. Although we still have a stable source of income (due to our money-saving ways), our business has dropped. The economy forces people to salvage their money and the increase in gas prices forces them to stay inside as well. Because of this, our family has seen a dramatic decrease in customers."

The economy has definitely made it more challenging for families to afford any extras and for some made paying for necessities a challenge. Some students find covering college expenses more challenging.





## Student Support Services

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Website:

<http://www2.creighton.edu/eop/studentsupportservices/>

**“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*

**If you have not completed the FAFSA it needs to be done.** Copies of yours and your parents W-2's and 1040's need to be in the financial aid office or they will not process your award. Remember to do the Financial Aid form that is on their web page.

We have 31 students walking during graduation this May. Congrats! Please make sure you complete the surveys and stop by Harper to complete the SSS exit survey.

Everyone should be have scheduled their Midterm meeting.

Registration for next fall will be:

Graduate Students and Seniors—  
April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

Juniors—April 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>

Sophomores— April 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>

First Years - April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Arts and Sciences freshmen remember you can select Karen Thurber, Denise Le Clair, Tami Buffalohead-McGill or Wade Pearson as your pre-major sophomore advisor. If you need help with registration please see Karen or Tami.

### Workshops:

March 18<sup>th</sup> and April 29<sup>th</sup> fourth grade tours of campus

April 15<sup>th</sup> Recognition Reception, free food, honor our seniors

April 17<sup>th</sup> Creighton clean Up

April 21<sup>st</sup> SSS Potluck

April 23<sup>rd</sup> All-American Fanfare

April 30<sup>th</sup> Motown Tribute

May 14<sup>th</sup> Beethoven's Fifth

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Hubbard Street Dance, Chicago

### **Karen Thurber**



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