Juggling the Demands of Medical Residency

Unique Creighton program addresses the often overwhelming stress these doctors-in-training are under.

Human Cloning  Conflict in Kashmir  CU Jesuits Promote Vocations
Finally, a “rerun” worth watching.

Watch exciting, televised Creighton University basketball action with alumni and friends in your area — and cheer on the Jays as they make another run at winning their conference titles and returning to the NCAA Tournament.

For alumni gatherings in your area, visit the Alumni Relations website at www.creighton.edu/Alumni.

Creighton Men

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Creighton Women

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Times and dates are subject to change. Visit the newly redesigned Creighton athletics website at www.gocreighton.com for the latest information and complete schedules.

Juggling Act

A unique program developed at Creighton has medical residents learning to juggle objects such as scarves, rings, balls and clubs. This juggling act is part of the new wellness curriculum in Creighton’s Department of Radiology. Its goal: To assist these doctors-in-training in maintaining their own well-being — physical, spiritual, emotional, social and intellectual — in the high-stress residency environment.

About the Cover

Edward Fogarty, M.D., chief resident in Creighton’s Department of Radiology, juggles the demands of medical residency with other demands, including being a husband and a new father.
Features

Kashmir: Between Heaven and Hell

The physical beauty of this Himalayan valley stands in stark contrast to the bloody dispute for the region’s control. Creighton history professor Ross Horning, Ph.D., and political scientist Philip Meeks, Ph.D., explore the history of Kashmir and the increased threat of nuclear conflict.

Creighton Jesuits Promote Vocations

How are Creighton Jesuits and Creighton alumni in the Society of Jesus promoting religious vocations? And are young adults listening? Eileen Wirth, Ph.D., chair of Creighton’s Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, examines the issue.

The Threat and Promise of Human Cloning

Scientists have been working diligently on human and animal cloning, bringing the technical ability to clone humans ever closer to reality. The science offers both hope and concern. Creighton medical professor Richard L. O’Brien, MS’58, MD’60, explores the debate surrounding the issue.

Departments

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5 University News

More Than a Meal

Creighton students who visit Omaha’s Siena/Francis House each week eat a meal with the patrons and come to know the plight of the homeless.

Teachers on a Mission

Through a new program, called MAGIS, recent college graduates are teaching in underserved Catholic schools while pursuing tuition-paid master’s degrees at Creighton.

40 Development News

Stock Gifts

Year-end stock gifts have become a popular method of donating to the University for many Creighton supporters. Steve Scholer, JD’79, director of Estate & Trust Services, provides some general guidelines for these types of gifts.

44 Alumni News

Feeling God

Creighton alumna Kay Rosenthal, BSN’75, resigned her job as director of nursing at a Colorado hospital to start her own community wellness program.

A Shrine Addition

A bronze statue designed by Creighton alumnus Tom Foppe, BA’90, graces the entrance to one of the largest outdoor shrines in North America.

55 The Last Word

A red-nosed reindeer, colored lights, Christmas trees, gifts wrapped in colorful paper and ribbons. What do all these have to do with Christmas? Creighton’s Larry Gillick, S.J., explores the symbols of the season.

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Visit the magazine online at: www.creightonmagazine.org

Creighton University Magazine’s Purpose

Creighton University Magazine, like the University itself, is committed to excellence and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in all its forms. The magazine will be comprehensive in nature. It will support the University’s mission of education through thoughtful and compelling feature articles on a variety of topics. It will feature the brightest, the most stimulating, the most inspirational thinking that Creighton offers. The magazine also will promote Creighton, and its Jesuit Catholic identity, to a broad public and serve as a vital link between the University and its constituents. The magazine will be guided by the core values of Creighton: the inalienable worth of each individual, respect for all of God’s creation, a special concern for the poor, and the promotion of justice.
Credit Sisters of St. Francis

As a graduate of Creighton Memorial St. Joseph Hospital, School of Nursing, Class of 1965, I question your reference to the hospital as being established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1870, and the omission of any reference to the Sisters of St. Francis, Western Province. (Creighton Magazine, Fall 2002: “Saint Joseph Hospital and Creighton University Launch New Medical Center Name.”)

Although the date is correct, it is my understanding that the Sisters of St. Francis established the hospital and certainly operated it for more than eight decades. It is also my understanding that the Sisters of Mercy established St. Catherine’s Hospital and School of Nursing, well north of St. Joe’s Hospital on South 10th Street.

Please credit the Sisters of St. Francis for their contributions. They ran an excellent School of Nursing and developed many future professional nurse leaders.


Editor’s Note: The Sisters of Mercy were the original administrators of the first St. Joseph’s Hospital (Mercy-St. Joseph’s) in 1870. In 1882, they transferred ownership of the hospital to the Sisters of St. Francis. Both orders deserve credit for the hospital’s success. The Sisters of Mercy also administered St. Catherine’s Hospital, which was established in 1910. (From A Century of Teaching and Healing: The First 100 Years of the Creighton University School of Medicine by Carolyn Boro and Beverley Mead, M.D., 1991.)

Sisters of St. Francis slighted

I read the article “Saint Joseph Hospital and Creighton University Launch New Medical Center Name” with interest and sadness. In my opinion, the Sisters of St. Francis of Colorado Springs, former owners and operators of Creighton Memorial St. Joseph Hospital were slighted by not being mentioned in the article. As their former administrative employee for 30 years, I know that it was because of them that Creighton University Medical Center exists today.

On a lighter note, I consider it an honor and a privilege to know the author of the excellent article, “Chance, God and the Economy” by Dr. Robert Heaney (Creighton Magazine, Summer 2002). As a former director of stewardship, I must say, if one wants to know what stewardship is all about, I encourage you to read his article.

Herman H. Guenther, BSBA’59, Tucson, Ariz.

Fr. Reinert cared

I was inspired to share the following story about Fr. Carl Reinert. When I was choosing a college, I really wanted to attend a Jesuit school. However, Regis College, in my hometown of Denver, didn’t admit women in the day school then, and I was not a night person. The closest Jesuit school was Creighton, but my mother was worried to send her girl so far away. My dad, who played football with Fr. Reinert at Denver’s Regis High School, said all would be fine because Fr. Reinert would take care of me!

When I first came to campus in September 1958, my dad asked for Father Carl. Heaven knows what he was busy with, but Father met with us and assured my mother and dad that I would be safe at Creighton. After that, every time my parents came up, Dad always asked to see Father, and, if he was in town, Father would make time to say hello. Because of Fr. Reinert, I always felt that I was at home and safe at Creighton.

Anna Mary Lyons Delaney, BS’62, Plymouth, Minn.
Sen. Hagel Headlines
Health Care Forum at CUMC

Issues range from drug costs to serving growing immigrant populations

By Eugene Curtin

Chuck Hagel surveyed the long line of medical experts gathered to discuss Nebraska’s health care problems and confessed he was short on answers.

He was there, he said, to listen and learn. Nebraska’s senior U.S. senator busily took notes throughout the Aug. 27 three-hour Health Care Forum hosted by Creighton University Medical Center and organized by Hagel. His diligence proved necessary since the 23 health care professionals who filled two, 90-minute sessions brought a long list of concerns. They included efforts by pharmaceutical companies to circumvent patent expirations, the shortage of physicians in rural Nebraska and the growing demands of immigrant populations.

Pharmacists complained that drug companies try to cut costs by slashing reimbursements to pharmacies, while doctors were criticized for bowing too easily to patients who demand the latest name-brand drugs even though older drugs, or even generics, are often equally effective.

“Health care is the one defining common denominator for all people,” Hagel said in his opening remarks. “It doesn’t matter who you are or where you are.”

Currently, Hagel said, the nation’s health care system is lurching from one crisis to another but that a solution to soaring costs will not be found in that frantic environment.

“Crisis management is not good management,” he said. “We must find an answer; we will find an answer to this great challenge. That is a noble and an important objective.”

But doctors, nurses, administrators, business leaders and pharmaceutical representatives who traveled to Omaha from across the state to join Hagel’s forum seemed keenly aware of the problems but very much in search of answers.

Richard L. Manning, director of economic policy analysis for Pfizer, Inc., sprang to the defense of drug companies whose work, he said, lengthened lives and improved their quality by ensuring better health.

But Manning won little sympathy from Richard Raymond, M.D., who serves as chief medical officer for the State of Nebraska. Raymond acknowledged the medical value of drugs but said he is concerned that drug companies, about to suffer the expiration of a patent on a popular drug, create a very similar “new” drug and market it heavily.

That translates into patients pressuring physicians for the new drug, he said, and diluting the beneficial impact of generics.

Raymond said bulk purchase of drugs by the state, a practice common in Canada, might provide purchasing strength that could counter the advertising practices of the major drug companies.

Though the rising cost of drugs was a hot topic at the forum, the growing cost of caring for immigrants also was high on the list. Many immigrants do not speak English, do not know how to access the health care system, and frequently resort to emergency rooms, the most expensive way to provide medical care.

Michael J. Horn, M.D., vice president for medical affairs at St. Francis Medical Center in Grand Island, Neb., said his hospital has experienced an influx of Hispanic and Sudanese immigrants, many of whom have no health insurance.

He said his hospital willingly provides such unreimbursed care because it is a “mission-driven” institution, but that the issue must be addressed eventually.

Nebraska State Sen. Jim Jensen, who moderated the forum, said that many smaller communities are experiencing the dual challenge of an increasing immigrant population but a shortage of physicians and other medical professionals, who have access to better facilities elsewhere.

Horn acknowledged the severity of the problem, noting that some hospitals have recruited nurses from South Korea.

He said working conditions are hard, and pay often inadequate.

Terry Padden, chief executive officer at Box Butte General Hospital in Alliance, Neb., saw things in a similar light.

He said he polled between 30 percent and 40 percent of his medical staff and found that most would not choose medicine as a career if they had it to do over. He said they also would not encourage their children to enter the field. Overwhelming paperwork was cited by Padden and others as a major disincentive.

“We must find a way to return humanness to what we do,” he said.

Hagel said the information provided by the forum would not be wasted. All comments would be transcribed and provided to senators and policymakers in Washington, he said.

“I want the American public, and especially the Nebraska public, to get some understanding of the pressures providers are under,” he said.

About the author: Curtin is a freelance writer working in Omaha.
Wright Named Kenefick Chair

Wendy Wright, Ph.D., professor of theology, was named the John C. Kenefick Chair in the Humanities on Sept. 24. She is the second person to hold the Kenefick Chair at Creighton University. The Chair is multidisciplinary and recognizes an outstanding scholar/teacher who will further enhance the image of the humanities at Creighton and in the community.

“I am honored to become the new Kenefick chairholder and through creative programming hope not only to highlight the role of the various humanities disciplines at Creighton but also to explore the humane life,” Wright said. “More than ever, we need models of humane living, humane relationships and humane ways of life. The humanities can mentor us well in this exploration.”

Wright began her tenure at Creighton in 1990 as an assistant professor in the theology department. She earned promotion to associate professor in 1994 and to professor in 1998.

The Kenefick Chair was endowed by the Union Pacific Railroad Foundation in honor of former Union Pacific President John C. Kenefick, a longtime Creighton supporter. Kenefick was a member of Creighton University’s Board of Directors for more than 20 years. He served as chairman for 10 years.

CU Programs Spark Interest in Science

Roselea Cook can now picture herself as a scientist, thanks to two Creighton University programs.

Cook was a struggling high school junior when she first attended Creighton’s annual Native American Retreat, which introduces Native American youth to college life.

She participated in the retreat again her senior year, after which she applied for and was accepted to Creighton University’s Summer Research Institute.

The Institute, which annually selects 10 students from Omaha high schools and eight college students nationally, is designed to increase interest in the biomedical and health science professions among underrepresented minority groups.

Creighton University has administered the program, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, since 1988.

Cook participated in the program this past summer, following graduation from Omaha North High School. For eight weeks, she worked in the osteoporosis research lab of Mohammed Akhter, M.D., assisting with a bone metabolism study.

Cook wrote a paper and created a poster on her research, which she presented in front of a panel of judges at the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D.C.

Her presentation won two distinguished awards, one for presentation style and another for the content of her research project.

Loggie, Roth Fill Key Faculty Positions at CUMC

Creighton has hired two physicians to fill key faculty positions in the medical school.

Brian W. Loggie, M.D., has joined Creighton as chief of surgical oncology and director of the Cancer Center at Creighton University Medical Center. Prior to joining Creighton, Loggie was professor of surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and director of surgical oncology at the University of Texas Moncrief Diagnostic Center in Fort Worth.

He earned his undergraduate degree from Loyola College in Montreal, Canada, and his medical degree from McGill University in Montreal. He completed his residency/internship in surgery at Montreal General Hospital and his fellowships in surgical oncology at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Loggie has held a number of academic appointments including clinical instructor of surgical oncology at the University of Illinois; assistant professor of surgery at Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, N.C.; and professor of surgery, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

He developed a clinical program for the treatment of peritoneal carcinomatosis and has received more than 20 grants, including a 1995 National Institutes of Health research grant for surgically directed hyperthermic chemotherapy, a procedure that combines heat and chemotherapy during surgery. He
College of Business Collaborates with Gupta School of Management

Creighton University’s College of Business Administration is extending its reach beyond international borders to India. It is partnering with the Indian Institute of Technology and the Vinod Gupta School of Management (IIT-VGSOM) at Kharagpur, India, to introduce graduate students from India to American business practices and to exchange faculty, administrative leadership and academic materials. The partners also will develop a joint graduate certificate program.

“We are tremendously excited to be able to partner with IIT-VGSOM and Vin Gupta to offer this unique exchange of business education and knowledge between students and faculty from two continents,” said Robert Pitts, Ph.D., dean of the College of Business Administration at Creighton. “We are grateful for the tireless support of Mr. Gupta to enable this partnership to become a reality,” added Pitts.

“Creighton and IIT have been working together for the last 10 years. This new alliance between IIT-VGSOM and Creighton takes that relationship to a new level. We look forward to developing outstanding management professionals capable of playing a leadership role in today’s global economy,” said Vin Gupta, founder, chairman and CEO of infoUSA.

The Vinod Gupta Graduate Fellows Program will enable selected students from India to complete a graduate-level management project at Creighton’s College of Business Administration while taking part in internships with local Omaha firms. The six-month fellows program will enable the IIT-VGSOM students to enroll in nine hours of graduate study at Creighton with an additional 20 hours per week devoted to internship projects.

The faculty and administrator exchange program will enable both schools to leverage communication technology to link their programs and classes, enrich faculty development, and promote joint research. Two faculty members and one administrator from each institution will be included in the exchange program each year.

The Indian Institute of Management-Kharagpur, which is celebrating its 50th year, is the largest and most diversified institution of technology in the IIT system. In 1991, the Institute began a partnership with alum Vinod Gupta to create the first School of Management in the IIT system. It is the first management school in India to partner within an institute of technology.

in the Department of Pediatrics until 1999.

Roth earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Rochester (N.Y.) and his medical degree from Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C. His postgraduate work includes a pediatric residency/fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, and a fellowship in metabolism/genetics at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Roth was a medical consultant for the State of Virginia Program for Phenylketonuria and Other Inborn Errors of Metabolism and served on the Governor’s Genetics Advisory Council on Newborn Metabolic Screening. He has authored and co-authored four books and more than 100 original papers and abstracts.

has filed patents for a multi-lumen catheter system used in this procedure.

Karl S. Roth, M.D., has joined the Creighton University School of Medicine as professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics. Roth comes to Creighton from the Medical College of Virginia, where he was professor of pediatrics, biochemistry and molecular biophysics. He also served as division chief of genetics, endocrinology and metabolism

Two Jesuits Elected to CU Board

The Rev. Gerard Stockhausen, S.J., academic vice president and provost of the University of Detroit Mercy, and the Rev. Robert E. Manning, S.J., president of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, have been elected to Creighton University’s Board of Directors.

Fr. Stockhausen began teaching at Creighton University in 1985. He became chair of the Department of Economics and Finance in 1996. Stockhausen was associate dean of the College of Business Administration and associate professor of economics at Creighton until he accepted his current position in 2000.

Fr. Stockhausen is an active member of the Association for Social Economics and the American Economics Association. He also is a member of Omicron Delta Epsilon, an honorary society for economics, Phi Beta Delta, an honor society for international scholars, and Beta Gamma Sigma, an honor society for business schools.

Fr. Manning was elected to the University of San Francisco board of trustees in 1993. He has served as president of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass., since 1996. He serves on the executive committee of the seminary division of the National Catholic Education Association and is a trustee of the Boston Theological Institute.

Prior to 1996, Fr. Manning was rector of the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. He also served as provincial superior for the New England Province of the Society of Jesus and as rector of the Jesuit Community at Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass.
Meals with Homeless Break Down Stereotypes

Lindsey Anderson still gets butterflies.

The senior from Maple Grove, Minn., is one of a group of Creighton students who weekly visit the Siena/Francis House, a nearby homeless shelter, not to serve food, but to sit down, talk and share an evening meal with the people who come through the doors.

“It’s pretty scary,” Anderson said. The students arrive before the doors open, and each sits down at a different table.

“We don’t want students just talking to other students,” explained Sully, one of two student coordinators for the weekly visits. “We don’t want that comfort level.

“So, it can be really scary when they open the doors and everybody comes in. I still get nervous. ‘Who’s going to sit at my table? Are they going to talk to me? What will we have for dinner?’”

That uneasiness is perfectly natural, said Tim Sully, BA’85, a former assistant director of Residence Life at Creighton and now director of development for the Siena/Francis House.

“It can be really intimidating,” Sully said. “I know the first day I came to work here, I found it intimidating. So, the first time I meet with the students, I tell them, ‘You’re probably intimidated. It makes sense that you are. This is probably out of your comfort zone.’”

But getting students out of their comfort zone, to break down stereotypes and to see the world with fresh eyes, is the whole idea of the program.

“I think it’s wonderful how the students have to confront their discomfort,” said Ken Reed-Bouley, who helps administer the program for Creighton’s Center for Service and Justice (CCSJ).

While Creighton students have long served meals at the Siena/Francis House, this initiative (now in its third year) provides another type of service, one with fewer barriers, that puts an even more personal face on poverty and homelessness.

“Through this initiative, our students get a better sense of the reality of homelessness,” Reed-Bouley said. “It’s more about building relationships, in this case, than it is about serving the food.”

That type of service appealed to Sarah Randolph, one of the program’s first student coordinators. A 2001 graduate, Randolph is now an AmeriCorps volunteer in Boston, teaching English to recent immigrants.

“It made me really understand that we are all human beings, and that we all have that humanity in common despite all of the labels that society places on us,” Randolph said.

“The whole point of eating dinner at Siena/Francis was to break down those barriers,” Randolph said. “It was so wonderful to make a commitment to go each week. I thought it would be a sad and somber experience. But, in many ways, it was joyous. There would be people laughing, and I didn’t expect them to have a sense of humor.”

The students meet with Sully and Mike Saklar, director of the Siena/Francis House, before each meal to reflect and talk about the issues relating to homelessness and poverty. They also reflect as a group afterward.

“We try to help students gain an appreciation for the larger picture of homelessness, poverty and hunger, and why someone might find themselves on our doorstep,” Sully said.

Topic discussions have included chronic addictions, mental illness, and the economic, societal and governmental issues relating to poverty and homelessness.

“I’m now very careful not to blame the people I see there for being in the position that they’re in,” Anderson said. “I can see the larger social structures that are producing these problems.”

Through these experiences, students not only become more aware of the problems, but, in many instances, realize that they can play an active role in finding solutions.

“With the education we are receiving, we are the people who can go out and make those systemic changes,” Anderson said.

“You certainly see a transformation in the students throughout the course of the semester,” agreed Sully.

“After they’ve been here and had time to reflect on the experience,” he added, “it’s my hope that their commitment to service will be strengthened and continued well beyond graduation.”

Randolph said that was true in her case.

“Service now is not something that is separate from my life,” she said. “The service focus at Creighton has been invaluable to my growth as a person.”

Even if that first step is a bit scary.

For more information about the Siena/Francis House, call (402) 341-1821 or e-mail timsully@omhcoxmail.com.
Around Creighton

Creighton Ranks No. 2 in Best Colleges

For the 16th straight year, Creighton University has been ranked at or near the top of U.S. News & World Report magazine’s “America’s Best Colleges” edition. Creighton is ranked No. 2 among Midwest comprehensive universities for 2003.

“Creighton’s continued high ranking is indicative of the quality of education we offer,” said the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., president of Creighton. “We are pleased about our position in the most recent rankings as well. We know that the rankings are just one factor of many that students must consider before choosing a university.”

The U.S. News category, Universities-Master’s, reflects the schools’ mission, providing a full range of undergraduate and master’s-level programs and in Creighton’s case, doctoral programs. The criteria are academic reputation, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving. The category includes 572 schools.

Fr. Hauser’s Book Republished

Finding God in Troubled Times has been republished by Loyola Press. Written by the Rev. Richard J. Hauser, S.J., the book attempts to reconcile the experience of a loving and powerful God with innocent suffering.

Fr. Hauser is the rector of Creighton’s Jesuit community and director of graduate theology and ministry.

The book was first published in 1994. By applying in-depth investigation to deep spiritual questions, Fr. Hauser reminds us that when faith is challenged, God remains with us and is our source of strength.

“This edition is especially relevant in light of the events of Sept. 11 and the nation’s continuing struggle to cope with grief and suffering,” Fr. Hauser said.

More than 500 people attended the multifaith prayer service held in observance and remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001. After the prayer service, those in attendance walked from the Skutt Student Center to the fountain outside of St. John’s Church while a bag piper played “Amazing Grace” and the church bells tolled.

Creighton Remembers 9/11

Creighton University, which lost two alumni in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center, paused with the rest of the nation to observe the first anniversary of the tragedy.

Creighton’s Campus Ministry Office coordinated a daylong series of events that included a moment of silence at 9:05 a.m. to honor those who perished on Sept. 11 at the time that the South Tower of the World Trade Center collapsed, the Mass of the Holy Spirit and a multifaith service in the Skutt Student Center.

The attack on the Pentagon took the life of Creighton alumnus and retired Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith, BA’68. In the attack on the World Trade Center, CU alumnus Michael Tinley, BA’67, lost his life.

Smith’s Last Mission Becomes New Book

Jim Smith’s personal account of the B-29 bombing raid that marked the decisive end of World War II, as featured in the Fall 2001 Creighton University Magazine, is now a new book, titled The Last Mission: The Secret History of World War II’s Final Battle. Smith earned an honorary degree from Creighton in 1994. The Last Mission, published in August by Broadway Books, is co-authored by military historian Malcolm McConnell, who most recently co-wrote Born to Fly with Navy pilot Shane Osborn. Smith’s little-known but historic mission also is scheduled to be the focus of an upcoming two-hour special on the History Channel.

Creighton Receives $35 Million in Grants

Creighton University received nearly $35 million in externally sponsored grants for research and educational projects in 2001-02, almost a 20 percent increase over last year. Federal sources accounted for 51 percent of the funds received, while 20 percent came from industries and corporations, 16 percent from foundations and associations and 13 percent from the state. The School of Medicine received the most grants, 681, for a total of more than $25 million.
CU Ethicist’s Book Focuses on Parents of High-Risk Newborns

“I imagine a pregnancy and the usual expectation of a healthy, fat-cheeked, cuddly newborn. Suddenly, as a parent, you are thrust into the scary, fast-paced world of high-tech medical care where decisions about the life or possible death of your baby are made every hour.”

This synopsis introduces When the Bough Breaks: Parental Perceptions of Ethical Decision-Making in NICU, a book written by Winifred J. Ellenchild Pinch, MSN’85, Ed.D., R.N., professor in the Center for Health Policy and Ethics and the School of Nursing at Creighton University Medical Center. She relates the stories such parents have to tell and explores their perspective — one that hasn’t been well documented in research literature.

The work is based on Pinch’s research, which began in the late 1980s, with parents of high-risk infants. The book, published by University Press of America, includes interviews conducted with selected parents as late as fall 2001.

“It’s startling for parents to see their baby in the unit for the first time,” Pinch said. “It’s a very high-tech area. They notice how efficient and confident the staff is. That efficiency — is reassuring in one way, but very intimidating in another. Parents know they don’t have the skills to meet their baby’s needs at this time. There are specific procedures that parents must undergo before they see their baby, such as scrubbing and wearing gowns. All of this makes them feel even more distant from their newborn.”

With this book, Pinch hopes to fill the gap in regards to decisions made in the NICU. Pinch hopes her new book promotes better understanding between caregivers and parents in regards to decisions made in the NICU. Parents so that there is a richer understanding about everyone involved in decision-making in the NICU. The decisions can have far-reaching implications. Many of these infants are slower in growth and development, and they can have emotional and social difficulties as well. Family and friends may not know how to maintain support.

“It’s scary for parents to see the unit, but it’s less scary to see the unit before your child is there,” Pinch said. “The worst case is to have this intimidating circumstance come up and to have no understanding about what to expect with your child’s care. One father told me ‘I could be the glue to hold us all together if I only knew what to do.’”

“There needs to be better education for everyone, so that we’re not reading only the good news about newborn treatments,” she continued. “We need to increase understanding about families who have had difficulties, what it means to provide support and services. There is a tension between not wanting to scare people half to death with the tragedy that could occur and knowing what to expect. Many parents want to have more information and we need to determine what works best.”

Pinch earned her doctorate in education at Boston University. She also has earned degrees from Creighton, State University of New York and Temple.

CUMC to Host International Congress on Dental Law and Ethics

“Rights, Access and Justice in Oral Health Care” is the main theme of the 5th International Congress on Dental Law and Ethics to be held at Creighton University July 31 to Aug. 3.

Keynote speakers from the U.S., Canada, Latin America, Europe and Asia will discuss a variety of issues, including access to oral health care, justice toward vulnerable patient populations, dentistry at the intersection of profession and business, and the impact of education on oral health disparities. In addition, several breakout sessions have been planned.

“Judging by the success of the previous four Congresses (Louvain 1992, Copenhagen 1995, London 1998 and Amsterdam 2001), the upcoming Congress promises to be informative and thought-provoking,” said Jos Welie, a faculty member in Creighton’s Center for Health Policy and Ethics.

“As in years past, it will be an excellent forum to network and exchange ideas with colleagues from all over the world,” Welie added. “These professionals represent a variety of disciplines, but they all share a common vision: To advance the ethical, legal and professional quality of oral health care.”

The Congress is co-sponsored by the International Dental Ethics and Law Society (IDEALS) and Creighton University’s School of Dentistry and Center for Health Policy and Ethics.

For more information on the Congress, including registration information, visit the IDEALS website at www.ideals.ac or contact Dr. Jos V.M. Welie, CUMC Center for Health Policy and Ethics, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178; e-mail, jwelie@creighton.edu; phone, (402) 280-2034; fax, (402) 280-5735.
Five Receive Alumni Merit Awards

The Graduate School

The Rev. Maurice Watson, MA’97, received the 2002 Alumni Merit Award from the Graduate School on Sept. 19.

Watson became a full-time minister for a Little Rock, Ark., church at age 21. He increased his fold from 150 to 800 during his seven years there. While pastoring, he also majored in education at Philander Smith College and began graduate work at Missionary Baptist Seminary.

In 1988, Reverend Watson answered the call to pastor Omaha’s Salem Baptist Church. Since then, he has made an immeasurable impact on the spiritual life and growth of the Salem Baptist Church family, as well as the city of Omaha.

Watson received an honorary doctorate of divinity from Arkansas Baptist College in 1996. The following year, he completed his master of arts in theology at Creighton.

School of Medicine

The School of Medicine presented its Alumni Merit Award to Vital E. Haynes, MD’52, F.A.C.S., on Sept. 27.

Haynes, a World War II veteran, attended San Diego State College, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 1948. He continued his education at Creighton’s School of Medicine, graduating in 1952.

In 1959, Haynes started a private practice in San Diego and joined the faculty of the University of California San Diego School of Medicine.

During his career, Haynes served several San Diego hospitals. He was chief of the urology departments at Children’s Hospital and Mercy Hospital and chief of staff at Sharp Cabrillo Hospital. For several years, he was a member of the board at Sharp and at the San Diego Hospital Association.

Haynes is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomate of the American Board of Urology.

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Anthony Joseph Beraldi, BSPharm’86, received the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions’ Alumni Merit Award on Oct. 4.

Since graduation, Beraldi has been a community pharmacist at Oard-Russ Drug in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He has been active in the Southwest Iowa Pharmacists Association, including serving as president for six terms. He also has served for many years as the area continuing education coordinator for the Iowa Pharmacists Association and has served on the board of trustees of that Association.

Beraldi continues to serve Creighton as a preceptor for pharmacy students. He also has served on the School’s Alumni Advisory Board, the Pharmacy Continuing Education Committee, the Web-based Non-traditional Doctor of Pharmacy Advisory Committee, and the Pharmacy Leadership Committee.

College of Business Administration

On Oct. 9, the College of Business Administration presented its Alumni Merit Award to Mary Pat Statz McCarthy, BSBA’77, CPA.

McCarthy is the vice chair and global line of business chair of KPMG’s Information, Communication and Entertainment practice based in Silicon Valley. In this position, she leads a team of more than 300 assurance and tax partners in serving some of the most dynamic firms in the country, including Adobe, Apple, Informix, Macromedia, Microsoft and Motorola.

McCarthy is the author and co-author of several books including Security Transformation: Digital Defense Strategies to Protect Your Company’s Reputation and Market Share; also the best selling Digital Transformation — The Essentials of e-Business Leadership; and Agile Business for Fragile Times. She also serves on the Digital Divide Task Force of the World Economic Forum, which explores creative ways to engage stakeholders worldwide in dialogue and action to bridge the global digital divide.

McCarthy has been an active member of the San Jose Alumni Chapter, serving on its board and as its president. In 2000, she was a part of the College’s Executive-in-Residence program.

School of Law

Amy L. Longo, BSN’70, JD’79, received the School of Law’s 2002 Alumni Merit Award on Oct. 18.

Longo, an attorney and partner with Ellick Jones Buelt Blazek and Longo in Omaha, specializes in health and employment law.

In 2000, she became the first woman to serve as president of the Nebraska State Bar Association (NSBA).

Longo also served the NSBA in a variety of roles since her admission to the Bar in 1979. She is past chair of the NSBA House of Delegates, the NSBA Publications Committee and the NSBA Committee on Volunteer Legal Services. She is a member of the Nebraska State Bar Commission, the Nebraska State Bar Foundation board of directors and the Omaha Bar Association.

She also served as the feature editor of The Nebraska Lawyer in 1997. From 1982-1989, she was an instructor of legal research and writing at Creighton’s School of Law.

Longo currently is a member of the Omaha Alumni Club and serves on the School of Law Alumni Advisory Board.
Religious sisters, brothers and priests who dedicated their lives to teaching in Catholic schools inspired and influenced generations of Catholics.

But as the ranks of these religious educators shrink, Catholic officials are asking themselves: Who will nurture future generations in the faith?

There’s no simple answer. But Creighton University — in collaboration with the Omaha Archdiocese and Catholic schools in the diocese — is proactively engaging the question through a new program called MAGIS, Mentoring Academic Gifts in Service. (Magis, Latin for “more” or “greater,” is derived from the Jesuit motto Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam — “for the greater glory of God.”)

Through this unique multifaceted program, recent college graduates agree to work full time for two years in underserved Catholic schools in the diocese, training as teachers.

In return, they have the opportunity to simultaneously pursue a tuition-paid master’s degree in secondary education at Creighton. They also receive a stipend and health insurance.

“The MAGIS program is just what our schools need,” said Sr. Michelle Faltus, OSF, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Omaha Archdiocese.

“We have a desperate need for teachers who understand the values and are committed to the ideals taught in Catholic schools,” she said.

The first eight MAGIS participants began their teaching duties this fall at nine different Catholic schools in Omaha, Columbus, West Point and Humphrey, Neb.

In addition to professional development, the program is designed to foster community and to promote spiritual growth among the participants. The MAGIS teachers live together (five in Omaha and three in Snyder, Neb.) and share expenses.

“They minister to each other personally and professionally,” said Jim De Mott, director of the MAGIS program for Creighton. “They are a support system when teaching is painful or difficult.”

The MAGIS teachers also come together during the school year for retreats, which provide them with another opportunity to share their experiences and explore and deepen their commitments to becoming professional educators.

“I am extremely excited to be in the program and to have the opportunity to serve God in this way,” said Brian Fuchser, who graduated from Creighton this past May with a bachelor’s degree in journalism and religious education. He is teaching religious education at Scotus Central Catholic in Columbus.

“I feel that teaching will enable me to fulfill my desire to serve and my desire to help others become better people.”

Susan Raff, who is teaching English at Omaha’s Holy Cross School and is a 1999 graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, considers her entry into the teaching profession a calling. She was working at a company in Lincoln, Neb., and considering relocating to Kentucky when she attended a Mass on Vocations Sunday.

“I remember sitting in church and listening to the priest talk about a true vocation,” said Raff, who has a bachelor’s degree in psychology. “I realized then and there that teaching would be my vocation and that it was truly a calling.”

Ben Hamilton, a University of Nebraska-Omaha graduate who is teaching Spanish at St. Francis High School in Humphrey, said one of his goals is to create a classroom environment “where everyone respects one another, desires to learn, is mindful of his or her education, and is willing to help out classmates who are struggling.”

Rob Chesire, a graduate of Skutt Catholic High School in Omaha and Creighton University, said he views the program as a way to return the favor for the outstanding Catholic education he has received.

“At school, the desire to do my best was encouraged and strengthened,” said Chesire, who is teaching religious education at Creighton Prep High School in Omaha. “I also learned to care deeply about what I was doing and try to make a positive impact on people’s lives.

“In teaching, I want to give back to the schools a little of what I have been given. I learned that teaching requires a person to act as a competent, concerned and inspiring guide. My teachers gave themselves to their students and to the pursuit of knowledge. I want to do the same for others.”
CU Offers Web-Based Exercise and Sports Pharmacy Course

Creighton University’s School of Pharmacy and Health Professions introduced a new “Exercise and Sports Pharmacy” course to educate students on providing patient care about exercise — a topic that is not usually taught in pharmacy school.

The elective course gives pharmacy students the skills that will enable them to provide appropriate pharmaceutical care about exercise to patients with chronic diseases where national guidelines list exercise as a foundation for prevention and treatment.

The course also provides students with information regarding sports pharmacy issues such as the role of the team pharmacist, sports pharmacy in the community setting and sports supplement information.

Thomas Lenz, assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Creighton and professor of the new course, said that the Creighton pharmacy school is now offering this course in order to fully educate students on pharmaceutical care.

This fall semester marks the first time that Creighton has offered this course, both in the traditional classroom setting and as part of the Web-based program. Fifteen students are taking the course, including three in the Web-based program.

Creighton has not previously offered a course that educated pharmacy students on lifestyle modification for patients.

Creighton’s School of Pharmacy and Health Professions first started offering courses through the Web-based program during fall 2001. There are currently 110 Web-only students enrolled in the school.

Flanery Named Head Women’s Basketball Coach

Creighton’s new women’s head basketball coach will have no problem finding his way around campus, and he’s a familiar face to all the players.

Jim Flanery, BA’87, the Jays’ top assistant for the past 10 seasons, was named the program’s sixth head coach on July 19. The 37-year-old Flanery replaces Connie Yori, BA’86, who resigned to accept the head coaching post at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

“Jim Flanery has been involved with Creighton University for nearly 20 years as a student, a volunteer assistant and assistant coach and has represented himself, the program and the University extremely well,” Athletics Director Bruce Rasmussen said. “I’m confident that Jim will continue to lead our program to be competitive at the national level.”

Flanery played basketball at Creighton from 1985 to 1987, and, following graduation, joined the women’s program as a graduate assistant. He was an assistant to Yori at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and followed her back to Creighton in 1992-93. Over the past 10 years, Flanery has helped guide the Jays to three post-season appearances and develop 20 all-conference players, two freshmen of the year, two newcomers of the year and one defensive player of the year.

Flanery inherits a team that went 24-7 last season, won a school-record 16 conference games and qualified for the NCAA Tournament. The 2001-2002 Jays also claimed the program’s first Missouri Valley Conference regular-season title and swept their way to a conference tournament crown.

For more information on Creighton athletics, including schedules and game highlights, visit the newly redesigned Creighton athletics website at www.gocreighton.com.

Schaefer Named Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Nebraska Health and Human Services System

Joann Schaefer, M.D., associate professor of family practice at Creighton University Medical Center, has been appointed deputy chief medical officer for the Nebraska Health and Human Services System.

She will coordinate the state’s bioterrorism preparedness planning and readiness assessment efforts. She also will chair the Child Death Review Team, which was created in 1993 to examine the causes of death of Nebraska children and alert physicians to possible trends.

“I’m pleased to be able to use my family practice experience to impact issues of public health and in turn, use my public health service experience to impact my students,” Schaefer said.

Schaefer is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Medical Association, the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians, the Metro Omaha Medical Society and the Nebraska Medical Association.

Cyber Terror Focus of Speech

The threat of cyber terrorism is real, and Americans — both at home and in their businesses — need to be vigilant to safeguard the country’s technology infrastructure.

That was the message of Richard Clarke, President Bush’s special adviser on cyberspace security, who spoke to more than 200 IT professionals in Omaha Oct. 10.

Clarke was the keynote speaker at the fourth annual Information Technology in the Workplace Conference. The conference is hosted by Creighton University’s Joe Ricketts Center in Electronic Commerce and Database Marketing.
In a third-floor hallway at Creighton University Medical Center, five medical students tossed scarves, balls, rings and bowling pin-shaped clubs into the air.

“They are really doing pretty well,” said James Brown, M.D., as the novice jugglers chased and fumbled the elusive objects.

Right then, a club bounced with a thwack on the carpeted floor.

“I just hope there’s another hallway beneath us,” Brown said with a grin.

Indeed, this was no tryout for the circus. This act provided a lesson in life, an insight into the journey to come, for these doctors-to-be.

“Juggling serves as a metaphor,” explained Brown. “They will be juggling many important facets of their lives during their medical training.”

And one thing Brown doesn’t want them to neglect is their own health.

“It’s kind of ironic, but physicians, in general, don’t take very good care of themselves,” Brown said. He pointed to actuarial tables that show physicians have a higher annual risk of death after age 55 than other professionals and to other studies showing that physicians have higher than average rates of divorce and stress-related ailments and diseases.

“‘Physician, heal thyself’ is no joke,” he said.

The demands can be especially difficult on medical residents, who must balance the stresses of patient care, constant learning and financial concerns with relocation issues, family and personal obligations and grueling on-call schedules.

The work hours alone can be staggering. In a benchmark study conducted in 1991, and published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, 25 percent of medical residents surveyed reported being on call more than 80 hours per week. More than 10 percent indicated that sleep deprivation was an almost daily occurrence, and 70 percent reported observing a colleague working in an impaired condition — most often that condition was lack of sleep. All of this has an effect on patient care.

By Rick Davis, BA’88

Wellness program emphasizes balance to stressed medical students, residents

At left, Creighton’s James Brown, M.D., looks on as medical students try to master the art of juggling.
A 1991 report published in the journal *Academic Medicine* found sleep-deprived residents more prone to make errors on routine, repetitive tasks — often the types of tasks that form the bulk of their workload.

“The stress on residents is tremendous,” Brown said. In addition to the long work hours, he said, “they have to know an incredible volume of material, and people’s lives are in their hands.”

Brown found that residents were sacrificing their own health and wellness under the demands of the job.

“I thought, ‘This is absurd. Why is this happening? And what can we do about it?’”

The result: Brown has pioneered a new wellness curriculum for the radiology residency program — a program he directs at Creighton.

This unique program covers five basic dimensions of wellness: intellectual, spiritual, physical, emotional and social.

Brown initiated the wellness concept when he became residency director three years ago. Since then, the curriculum has expanded and has begun to receive national interest.

Brown and his chief resident, Edward Fogarty, M.D., have discussed the wellness curriculum at national conferences and workshops.

“It’s so rare in medicine that doctors actually care about their own well-being,” Fogarty said. “I think it’s a real change in the culture of residency training.

“In our academic medical centers there is a lot of decision-making that goes on by young physicians who are still in their residencies, and they’re making those decisions on 22 or 23 hours of wakefulness,” Fogarty added. “Even in the last few years, it’s not uncommon for residents to work 36 hours in a row.

“If the American public were to see how American doctors educate themselves, they would probably be astounded.”

In March, Fogarty and Brown presented a workshop at a meeting of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The ACGME has set work-hour limits and competency requirements for residents. In addition, this past June, the American Medical Association, for the first time, approved policies imposing limits on the number of hours residents can work.

“We focused on something, with the wellness program, that I think was a gap for a lot of people,” Fogarty said. Brown’s wellness program begins with the medical students and continues with the residents.

“During their month-long rotation in radiology, medical students have to learn how to juggle.

“They kind of roll their eyes when they first hear about it,” Brown admitted. But when the scarves or rings hit the air, the medical students and residents loosen up, laugh and, hopefully, even learn a thing or two.

Brown got the idea from his wife, Justine, an Omaha counselor who uses juggling to break the ice when working with troubled families.

Juggling also requires being focused and “present in the moment” — important elements of the wellness curriculum.

“‘You can’t juggle very well if you’re thinking about something else,’” Brown said. “And that’s what I try to get across. If you’re doing something, do it 100 percent.”

And that goes beyond medical school or residency training.

“If you’re a parent or a spouse, if you’re in that role, you have to be in it 100 percent,” Brown continued. “Too often medical students and physicians, for example, might go to the movies and feel like they should be studying. I try to teach them to be present in the moment.”

Chad Eicher, M.D., a first-year radiology resident, is a husband and a father of two young girls, ages 5 and 3, with a third child due in January. He appreciates the curriculum’s focus on family.

“It’s important to have balance between your work and your general well-being,” Eicher said. “A lot of times in residencies, you’re so busy trying to learn everything that you lose perspective and you don’t always take care of yourself and your family.”

In a study published in 1986 by the *Journal of Medical Education*, more than 40 percent of residents surveyed reported experiencing major problems with their spouses or partners. Of these, 72 percent believed that these problems were due to the residency.

The study also concluded that family relationships and social contact could buffer the stress of residency training.

Patrick Harty, MD’00, a native of Sacramento, Calif., and a second-year radiology resident, said there is a strong bond among the radiology residents.

“One of the reasons that I stayed here (after graduating from Creighton medical school), and the wellness program feeds into this, is the feeling that this department is like an extended family,” Harty said.

“I tell students who are looking at residency programs to ask themselves, ‘Is this a place where I’m going to get up everyday for the next five years and be excited about going to work?’ This place definitely feels like that for me.”

And happier, healthier doctors and residents, Brown said, make for better patient care. Accountability to patients...
is a major component of the wellness curriculum.

“It doesn’t help to be well-rounded if you’re not going to be responsible and accountable,” Brown said. Residents must be attentive to patients’ needs — whether it’s taking extra time to explain a procedure, keeping patients in the waiting room informed of delays, or making follow-up calls to a patient’s primary physician to make sure nothing falls through the cracks.

“The most important thing for patients may not be the diagnosis; it may be how you treat them. You may be the only person who talks to them. That’s an important part of being a physician.”

Brown regularly discusses these responsibilities with his residents.

“We have to teach them the science of radiology, and we do that rigorously,” Brown explained. “But they have to be accountable to the patient, as well.”

The wellness curriculum also requires that the residents maintain good professional relationships with their hospital colleagues — from nurses to billing clerks.

An extensive questionnaire is distributed annually among non-physicians within the department to assess the quality of daily interpersonal interactions.

“From a team approach, there are radiology technicians, the billing office, nurses, the front desk; they are all part of a functioning organization that is our department,” explained chief resident Fogarty. “And our department is part of a larger organization that is Creighton University Medical Center.

“When we are performing as we should, then those evaluations should reflect that. When we find something we need to work on, that’s a point of constructive criticism. It sets a standard that if something comes up — good or bad — it should be discussed. For me, it’s a symbol of a change in the culture.”

Brown said that change is not always easy.

While wellness programs have proliferated in the corporate world since the 1980s, medical residencies have been slow to embrace the idea.

“There is so much knowledge that residents have to absorb,” Brown said. “We’ve gone along with the idea that the residents are here to learn the scientific knowledge to go forward, and that is all.”

Perhaps that explains why medical residents surveyed in 1991 reported only a moderate level of satisfaction with their first years of residency training, with relationships with their families and friends and personnel support services being rated as the least satisfying part of the experience.

Brown said he’s been lucky. The wellness program fits perfectly with Creighton’s Jesuit mission of educating the whole person, and radiology’s small size (with some 12 residents annually) makes the wellness curriculum easier to manage.

That’s not to say Brown’s wellness curriculum couldn’t serve as a model for other medical residencies.

“I think other programs are getting more interested in this,” Brown said. “It’s just a matter of accepting it as a priority.”

The radiology residents seem to have embraced the wellness curriculum.
Kristi Sobota, MD’00, of Columbus, Neb., like other first-year residents in the radiology program, began her residency July 1 after completing a one-year internship in general medicine. It will be another four years before she can become a certified radiologist. It can seem like a long road.

“Every once in awhile, you want to sit back and take a deep breath,” Sobota said. “But that’s why they started this wellness program. You can keep up with your physical fitness and your outside interests so that you don’t become completely burned out or bogged down.”

Brown knows about physician burnout. After practicing pediatric radiology at Children’s Hospital in Omaha for 10 years, Brown spent a year and a half away from medicine. He moved to Oregon and did sculpting, mostly in bronze. His sculptures of endangered species — one of his favorite artistic subjects — have appeared in galleries on the West Coast.

“The word recreate means to ‘re-create’ — to concentrate on something else for a time. I found that sculpture did that for me,” Brown said. “It allowed me to sort of rest and re-create myself so that I could be a good physician.”

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Brown said he talks to the residents about the dangers of burnout.

“The first things you hang up and let go of are the spiritual, social and physical, because you don’t get graded on those — not in this life anyway,” Brown said.

The wellness curriculum addresses those issues of personal health through regular speakers — many of whom are on the Creighton faculty. The residents also have an opportunity to take psychological and personality tests, and undergo a fitness assessment.

Anthony Bull, Ph.D., an assistant professor of exercise science at Creighton, is one of those who speaks to the residents. His topic: How to fit physical activity into a busy lifestyle.

“Even though physicians focus on improving the health of their patients, many physicians don’t have the time, or take the time, to keep themselves physically healthy,” Bull said.

Bull talks to the residents about exercise and basic nutrition principles, and the Department of Exercise Science’s Fitness Testing Laboratory develops a fitness program for each resident.

The residents and their spouses also are invited to an annual spiritual retreat held on campus — a casual evening that includes having dinner together.

“We spent quite a bit of time exploring who they are in relationship to others — patients, family, other health care providers. It was that sort of self-discovery,” said medical school chaplain Marcia Cusic, who facilitated last year’s retreat.

On a separate occasion, Cusic also showed the residents a video on the life of St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuits.

“My point in doing that was that, while Ignatius was forced to take time out of everyday living — as we do with the retreat — he thought about, What is my calling? What should I be doing with my life? What I said to them was, ‘Dr. Brown is giving you an opportunity to do the same thing in a shorter version.’”

Fourth-year radiology resident Sushama Kunnathil, M.D., a native of India and a Hindu, said she appreciates the inclusiveness of the spirituality lectures.

“They really do make an effort not to focus on one religion,” Kunnathil said. “They always have a broad view of things that they place in front of us.”

Kunnathil, like many of the residents, also liked the financial talks that are part of the wellness curriculum. A local financial consultant meets with each of the residents.

“Right now I’m a mom (her 2-year-old son, Vija, was born during her residency training), so it really helps me when they come in and talk about..."
having a family life. I wanted a program that would understand that I’m more than just a resident in training. I’m also a person, and I have other things that are important to me.

“When I learned more about the wellness curriculum, that definitely played a big role in how I ranked Creighton,” Himmel continued. “I thought that showed some exceptional insight into what needs to be done in medical education. And I was just impressed that they were willing to take that step and acknowledge some of those issues.”

Chief resident Fogarty is looking to expand the curriculum to include community service. He began mentoring students at Sacred Heart grade school in Omaha this fall, teaching a course on digital photography. As the wellness curriculum continues to develop, Fogarty believes the program will attract more and more young doctors.

“There is a change in attitude in some of the younger physicians,” Fogarty said. “They are recognizing the need for these types of programs.”

He added that there will always be stresses associated with medical residencies. “The wellness curriculum is not designed to help us opt out of those stresses,” he said. “But it’s designed to help us cope with them.”

Amy Badura, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology at Creighton, administers the psychological tests, which she described as a general assessment of the residents’ mental wellness. The test results are shared privately with each resident to use for his or her own benefit.

“We then talk about stress management techniques,” Badura said. “Basic things like making sure they have balance in their lives and making sure they have some time for fun and time for family or friends.”

Badura said she has been impressed with the wellness curriculum. “I think it’s a wonderful program,” she said. “And I think it makes the residents better role models for their patients, as well.”

Radio residents Kristi Sobota, MD’00, and Patrick Harty, MD’00, like the new wellness curriculum. Harty said it promotes the feeling that the department is like “an extended family.”
If there is a Heaven anywhere on this Earth, it is here, it is here, in Kashmir.”

This ancient Asian verse, passed by generations orally before it was transcribed and translated, tells only part of the story of today’s Kashmir. A scenic valley located in the shadows of the towering Himalayan mountains, Kashmir’s natural beauty has led some to call it the “Switzerland of the East.”

But this small, beautiful land, about the physical size of Utah, is the focus of tremendous political strife. Kashmir and its roughly 12 million
inhabitants are controlled by three separate nations — India, Pakistan and China.

The valley’s history is steeped in tension.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir, in 1965 and 1971. And these two countries are still in a deadly tug-of-war over control of the region.

Now with India and Pakistan both possessing nuclear weapons, the stakes in this bloody, longstanding feud have been raised to global proportions.

In the following pair of articles, Creighton University Magazine explores Kashmir’s past and its future — and our future — under the cloud of possible nuclear confrontation.

First, Creighton University Professor of History Ross Horning, Ph.D., examines the region’s history. Professor Horning lived for a time in Kashmir and listed the region as one of the world’s political “hotspots” in a fall 2000 Creighton University Magazine article.

Then, Creighton’s Philip Meeks, Ph.D., associate professor of political science and international relations, discusses the significant role nationalism has played in this conflict. He also explores the threats raised by nuclear proliferation and the political importance of this region to the United States, with Pakistan being a key U.S. ally in the Middle East.
The Tapestry Unravels: A Brief History
By Dr. Ross Horning, Professor of History with Pamela A. Vaughn

Despite its small size — roughly 82,000 square miles of some of the world’s most beautiful real estate — Kashmir is once more in the headlines around the globe, the object of civil and religious strife.

Lying like a beautiful tapestry along the spine of Asia, Kashmir seems all of one piece when viewed at a distance. But taking a closer look, the land reveals its complexity, a culture crisscrossed with hundreds and hundreds of threads that are political, social and religious in nature. It is these threads, said Ross Horning, Ph.D., that may be about to unravel.

But to understand Kashmir’s complexity, one must comprehend its history, Horning said. Kashmir was always a natural route to India, Horning explains — and India has been throughout history a land of tremendous riches. Particularly coveted were its spices. Thus, control of this Indian gateway meant access — or protection from access, if you were on the Indian side of the gateway.

Because of its beauty and its strategic location, Kashmir has been ruled by many over the years — from Moguls, who called Kashmir “the terrestrial paradise,” to Afghans; Sikhs to the British Raj.

Even independence from nearly 130 years of British colonialism hasn’t brought relief. Today, rather than being ruled by one distant colonial power, Kashmir’s roughly 12 million people are controlled by three separate neighboring nations:

- Pakistan, having taken by force just under one-third of the country;
- India, controlling about 60 percent of the nation as a state;
- And Kashmir’s giant neighbor to the east, China, laying claim to about 10 percent of the land, the spoils of a 1962 war.

How did such a small country become so contentiously divided? Horning reminds us that Pakistan and India became independent from Britain on Aug. 15, 1947, to become two separate nations. Kashmir, then a free country, was invaded two months later by Pakistan.

In desperation, Maharajah Hari Singh of Kashmir, a Hindu, appealed to India for help. Lord Louis Mountbatten, India’s last governor general and Queen Elizabeth II’s uncle, recommended that India help Hari Singh, on the condition that Kashmir would become part of India, with a plebiscite to follow allowing the people of Kashmir to decide their own destiny at the polls. Singh complied, signing an instrument of accession, and roughly 60 percent of Kashmir handed over its own foreign affairs, defense and communications to become an Indian state. The plebiscite has never been held. As the spoils of war, the balance of Kashmir remained with Pakistan — about one-third — with the remaining portion later going to China.

But Pakistan refused to accept this accession — with the result that contemporary Kashmir is a flash point between India and Pakistan, each country claiming its rights to rulership and backing up its claims by going to war twice in recent memory — in 1965 and 1971.

Today, a Line of Control — established in 1972 and similar to a 1949 demarcation — runs like a slash along the tapestry of Kashmir, separating the Indian-controlled Kashmir-Jammu and the area of Kashmir controlled by Pakistan. Rebel forces within the Indian state are violently trying to force Kashmir-
Jammu to separate from India or to join Pakistan. Horning believes, sees this “Freedom Fighter” movement in Kashmir today as a Pakistani-approved effort, though that approval has so far been tacit.

Whether or not Pakistan is behind the movement, however, at least 30,000 people have been reported killed in armed fighting that resumed in the late 1980s and continues to this day. Further, the violence has forced thousands to live in exile from Kashmir.

These political lines, Horning points out, also mark religious boundaries, a separatist concept that has not always been characteristic of Kashmir.

For, historically, Kashmir was religiously tolerant, Horning said, its people of many faiths — Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists — weaving a rich tapestry of mutual respect. In fact, the word, “kashmiriyat” was coined to refer to this very concept, and, loosely translated, means, “We all have different religions, but we all live in peace in Kashmir.”

In many ways, Horning said, this concept echoed that of Emperor Asoka of India, 273-232 B.C.E. Asoka, in an edict on stone, had written: “The King, beloved of the gods, honors every form of religious faith, but confers no gift nor honor as much as the increase of the substance of religion, whereof this is the root: To revere one’s own faith and never to revile the faith of others. Whoever acts differently injures his own religion, while he wrongs the faith of others.”

Today, however, that tolerance seems to be on the wane, as an estimated 400,000 Hindus have since 1989 been forced to migrate from predominantly Muslim areas in Pakistani-controlled Kashmir toward Jammu and the Vale of Kashmir, with its allegiance to India.

Horning said a look at sheer population numbers helps give a student of this complex part of our world some perspective and shows the conflict here not to be as simple in nature as it might appear in the headlines.

Pakistan lists a population of 138 million people, with 97 percent Islamic, or about 134 million. A country created along religious lines, Pakistan is 77 percent Sunni Muslim and about 20 percent Shiite Muslim. Its remaining population is largely Hindu.

Along Pakistan’s southern and eastern borders and directly south of Kashmir lies the giant India. With its population of more than 1 billion people, India is the second most populous country in the world, behind China. Although India is 80 percent Hindu, its vast population still includes a 14 percent Islamic segment. “That’s 140 million Muslims,” Horning said.

“Two Muslims have been presidents of India,” Horning said. “In 1950, India approved for itself a secular constitution. India does not see itself as a religious state but a secular state, and a democracy.”

Pakistan takes a different view. Horning notes that in 1953, India’s neighbor to the northwest declared Islam its official state religion. “These are two very different views of the role of religion and the state,” Horning said.

Each understands Kashmir in entirely different terms, as well. To India, Horning said, Kashmir is a state of India and Pakistan over Kashmir in chiefly religious terms overly simplifies a complex situation, according to the Creighton professor.

I awoke at 6 a.m. on the houseboat on Dal Lake, Srinagar, Kashmir. Slowly, I became aware of the chanting on the lake. I dressed, went out on the low porch overlooking the water, sat on the steps, absorbed in the exquisite atmosphere of the moment and listened to the chanting floating from far out on the lake.

A single oarsman, chanting and plying his ‘shikara’ boat across the lake; the magnificent Himalayan Mountains, averaging 26,000 feet; the sun’s bright rays striking the snow on dozens of these peaks and reflecting it back onto the calm water of Dal Lake — all created an atmosphere of quietude.

The oarsman will pass on, as will all others now in Kashmir, but the Himalayan Mountains and Dal Lake forever will continue.

For one brief moment, I was able to live in this enchanting and serene atmosphere and to reflect upon the Eternal Presence.
India, much as Oklahoma is considered part of the United States. “India fears that if Kashmir leaves the country, largely Sikh Punjab (in northwestern India) might follow. They remember what happened to the Soviet Union, its dissolution. India doesn’t want to willingly preside over that kind of dissolution today.”

One of India’s 25 states, Punjab holds to its Sikh tradition, which can be understood, in a sense, as a blend of Hindu and Muslim beliefs, Horning said.

Pakistan, on the other hand, has to look no further than its own name for its claim to Kashmir, Horning said. Concocted by Cambridge University students in England in 1933 and adopted by the country itself in 1947, the name Pakistan, later, Pakistan, was an acronym for Muslims living in the Punjab, in the Afghan (North-West Frontier Province), in Kashmir, in Sind and in Baluchistan.

Horning cautions us to remember, too, that the forces seeking to tear apart alliances and boundaries in this part of the world — and that have wreaked recent havoc here — have long been at work. Memories of old claims and traditions thousands of years old do not yield easily to new political schemes.

Even Gandhi, in his remarkable struggle for freedom from oppression through nonviolence, paid for his vision with his life. “Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi was assassinated on Jan. 30, 1948, by Nathuram V. Godse, a 19-year-old who today would be called a terrorist. Gandhi’s ‘crime’? He had envisioned a free and united India,” Horning said.

Is such a grim reminder repeating itself today? Will the Kashmir rebels succeed in purging the tapestry of its Hindus and force upon it Pakistani statehood? Will the region remain forever divided? Or will the people be allowed to speak, to choose their own destiny, as Gandhi and Mountbatten would have wished?

“To those for whom Kashmir is home,” Horning said, “it will be a long time before a peaceful life will come again to this beautiful, haunting land.”

Kashmir may be one of the most beautiful mountain valleys in the world, but it has seen nearly 30,000 deaths (some say as high as 80,000) since 1989 when a rigged election sparked the most recent chapter of ethnic and religious violence. This complex and culturally diverse region has long been at the crossroads of warring empires in spite of its 15,000-foot peaks. But the acquisition of nuclear weapons, first by India in the mid-1970s and in 1998 by Pakistan, has raised the stakes of this struggle from a regional to a global problem.

For most of the Cold War era, from 1950 to 1990, most of the world’s security attention was focused on the “vertical” dimension of nuclear weapons proliferation. The number of nuclear weapons grew rapidly as the United States and the Soviet Union raced to develop and deploy ground, sea and air-based offensive nuclear weapons systems. Britain, France and China soon developed their systems but with many fewer warheads. At its height in the 1980s, there may have been as many as 50,000 to 60,000 nuclear weapons of various sizes and ranges.

By 1990, the economic and political strains of this arms race and ideological polarization led to the collapse of the old Soviet system. The United States became a partner with Russia to rebuild its economy on free enterprise dynamics and helped pay for the dismantlement of its nuclear weapons. A decade later, both sides have cut back to only 6,000 warheads each and are negotiating to cut back to as low as 1,000 to 2,000 for each country.

As the vertical dangers have lessened, focus has now fixed on the threats of greater “horizontal” nuclear proliferation, that is, the increasing number of countries and non-state groups that have nuclear weapons. The original five members of the nuclear club have been joined by Israel, India and Pakistan. And, most recently, North Korea admitted to having a nuclear weapons program. Iraq, Iran and Libya also are constantly cited as potential suitors for black-market nuclear weapons. Although they have not yet developed their own technology, there is great concern that “rogue” warheads could be or have been obtained, possibly from the former Soviet republics where some of these systems had been deployed.

The tragedy of 9/11 has raised new fears about the vulnerability of the United States and other countries to nuclear terrorism by non-state actors and groups. Many experts believe that the rationale of the mutual assured destruction of both superpowers’ enormous arsenals ultimately dissuaded them from ever utilizing their force. Conversely, now a “limited nuclear war” is more believable because it may involve countries that only have a few “symbolic” weapons. It may be especially possible when one of the parties has a substantial conventional disadvantage and would likely lose in a non-nuclear conventional war.

This is precisely the case of India and Pakistan, where India holds a decisive advantage in conventional military strength. Both countries have more than a million troops deployed along the border in Kashmir. India has nearly 800 military aircraft to Pakistan’s 300, but India’s air force consists of old Soviet models, which are suspect in reliability. Fighting in the mountains would largely neutralize India’s tank advantages. But...
both countries are certainly capable of using 25 to 50 nuclear weapons configured as classic aircraft-delivered, Hiroshima-type bombs on each other’s troops.

The Tensions of Nationalism

International relations scholars have debated for decades whether nationalism has been more of a constructive or destructive force in world affairs over the past 200 years. Nationalism holds out the promise and benefits of unity, identity and autonomy for those people whose common culture has been shaped by geography and history. Even for a country of immigrants, like the United States, a common culture can be created which blends and molds a new set of loyalties and allegiances when people cherish their diversity and are respectful of cultural differences.

As Ross Horning points out in his article, Kashmir was one of those regions of the world that was proud of its religious tolerance. The challenges of life in the world’s tallest mountains and valleys together with a common language, Kashmiri, bonded them as a people in spite of their religious differences. The force of a Muslim sword did not conquer Kashmir, as it did much of India, before British colonialism. The majority of the country follows a unique blend of Muslim beliefs tempered with Sufi tenets and values. (The Sufi tradition emphasizes the mystical side of Islam.) The rivalry between Sunni and Shiite Muslims also has spilled over into Kashmir with Shiite websites on the Internet decrying daily the atrocities carried out against them by Sunni fighters hardened by years of fighting in Afghanistan.

Ironically, it was the common desire for national autonomy and independence from Britain that united Muslims and Hindus for nearly 200 years. When independence did arrive after World War II, however, the local leaders of the regional areas of the subcontinent had very different ideas of the kind of political systems that they wanted. Some preferred a strong central state to marshal the resources necessary to develop a country capable of fostering life for hundreds of millions of people. Others preferred looser confederations where local leaders could exercise substantial authority and power.

The latter was the case in Kashmir. There have been many historical interpretations of Maharajah Hari Singh’s actions at the time of partition between India and Pakistan. One popular theory in Kashmir is that he needed British and Indian help to stave off the takeover attempt by Pakistan in 1947, but the plebiscite he promised was never held because he dreamed of a
future as an independent country. Pakistan never accepted this accession and believed that the unity among Muslims would overcome language and other cultural differences. As they painfully learned in the early 1970s with the Bengali-speaking people of East Pakistan, this was not always the case. India was more than happy to assist these Muslim people to become the country of Bangladesh to weaken and humiliate Pakistan.

Nationalism has seen another contested dimension in the India-Pakistan-Kashmir conflict. It was the goal of the Congress party in India and of its two great leaders, Mohandas Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, that India be a secular state not a religious one. By contrast, Pakistan was explicitly formed as an Islamic nation. The Congress party, which ruled India for its first 30 years of independence, is the only major Indian political party that sees itself as a nationwide party dedicated not only to minimize religious differences but also regional differences. Since the murder of Indira Gandhi by Sikh separatists from the Assam region of India in 1984, both Hindu “fundamentalist” and “anti-Delhi” regional political parties have become much more popular.

Without the leadership of the nationwide and secular Congress party, Hindu nationalists now dominate the current Indian government coalition.

**Pakistan Nationalism and Kashmir**

Zulfikar Bhutto, who ruled Pakistan in the 1970s until he was overthrown and eventually executed by the military in 1979, was also a proponent of strong central government and opposed greater Bengali autonomy in East Pakistan. His “secularist tendencies,” together with his close association with the United States, also were suspect in the minds of the clergy. During his administration, the Kashmir issue was one of his favorite nationalist rallying cries. Some historians believe that he hoped the acquisition of Kashmir would help compensate for the embarrassing loss of Bangladesh.

Likewise, his daughter Benazir, who became the first female prime minister of an Islamic state in 1988 and served from 1988-90 and 1993-96, used the Kashmir issue to defuse her critics in the military and the clergy that she was not Islamic enough and not nationalist enough with India.

The implications of this struggle for the United States quickly caught the Bush administration’s attention after new violence and troop mobilizations escalated this spring. Pakistan, more than India, has been a key U.S. ally in the Middle East and Central Asia. Without Pakistan’s help along its 1,500-mile border with Afghanistan, the U.S. would have found it impossible to contain and destroy the Taliban and its Al Qaeda allies. If Islamic radicals were able to topple the shaky military regime in Pakistan, those nuclear weapons could fall into their hands and be a much greater threat than just in Kashmir.

China has already been suspected of helping the Pakistanis solve the final pieces of their nuclear weapons puzzle and has also helped the Iranians improve their missile capability. China even occupies part of Kashmir, some of which was ceded to the Chinese by the Pakistanis.

In the ever-changing world of alliances and revolutions, the United States has been slow to learn about the long-term consequences of massive military assistance to unstable and unpopular governments in developing countries, as was the case in Vietnam and Iran. The Clinton administration ended U.S. military assistance to Pakistan to protest its nuclear weapons testing, but this was quickly reversed when the Bush administration needed Pakistan’s help in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. This kind of reversal is not a good precedent on the part of the United States. Other developing countries contemplating the costs and benefits of joining the nuclear club of nations may sense that the United States is willing to lift sanctions if a country is important tactically.

As the immediate threat of war in Kashmir has retreated in the wake of intense diplomacy by the U.S. and others with India and Pakistan, more attention has been focused on a U.S. war
with Iraq. Worldwide there has been little support to preemptively attack Saddam Hussein before he is able to gain more capability in biological, chemical or nuclear weapons. In fact, such an attack might ignite the Kashmir tinderbox as anti-U.S. and Muslim nationalists respond. A victory by India in Kashmir would almost certainly bring down the current military government in Pakistan and could create another radical Islamic state like Iran but with the very military threat that the U.S. is afraid will eventually emerge in Iraq.

Kashmir’s Future
As for the future of Kashmir, elections were held in Indian-controlled Kashmir this past fall. Independent public opinion polls before the elections showed that more than 60 percent would rather remain with India in spite of widespread distrust and alienation with the current government. Only 6 percent felt they would be better off with Pakistan and the rest were undecided.

Understandably, many Kashmiris would rather take their chances with sporadic violence from a few radical groups than be incorporated into a very poor authoritarian country that would force them to learn Urdu instead of their own language. Like most poor, rural people, they want an end to the violence and new economic opportunities. They resent being a pawn fought for by two neighbors with little regard for Kashmiri welfare. Like other isolated peoples, they are afraid of globalization and centralization that threatens their cultural identity.

Unfortunately, the autonomy option was not a choice the Kashmiri peoples were allowed to make. Muslim-based political parties decided to boycott the election in order to delegitimize any result favorable to India and reputedly threatened to kill voters and their family members if they participated. In the end, those voters who did cast a ballot rejected continued rule by the Muslim Abdullah family dynasty and its National Conference Party, which had held power for some 50 years and supports the government in Delhi. Some observers hope that these state election results will restore some credibility to democratic processes in spite of the estimated 44 percent turnout.

The new Kashmiri government will likely be the National Congress Party together with the People’s Democratic Party, a regional party that broke with the Congress Party three years ago. It will be a fragile government that will need support from small independent parties to form a majority, and renewed missile testing in October by both India and Pakistan has once again raised anxiety about a future conflict. India has already conceded special autonomy to the Kashmir and Jammu state but complete autonomy would provide new momentum to Sikh separatism in the Indian state of Punjab and Tamil separatists in south India.

Nationalism is much easier to deal with in small homogeneous countries. In both India and Pakistan, religious and linguistic divisions on the scale of tens or hundreds of millions of people are incredibly difficult to reconcile with the needs of national development. Kashmir has often been compared to Switzerland, but people have often forgotten that the Swiss are as fiercely proud of their independence and neutrality as they are of their watches and chocolates.

The most peaceful long-term solution for Kashmir would be a new autonomous state with democratically chosen leadership and guaranteed religious freedoms. Kashmiri nationalism, if allowed to flourish, would not only keep its language and unique customs alive but might even teach its larger and more powerful neighbors a few lessons about respect for religious diversity.

The nuclear genie has proven impossible to put back into its bottle. The United States and other countries have tried to persuade other governments to do without nuclear weapons with both threats and incentives. The nuclear powers have reduced their stockpiles but can’t seem to overcome nationalist sentiments to do away with them forever. The Bush administration has refused to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty to stop testing newer and more destructive nuclear weapons in the future. Even if the nightmares of nuclear Armageddon between the United States and the Soviet Union are hopefully in the past, the crisis in Kashmir is a painful reminder of how tentative our grip is on the forces of nuclear armed nationalism.

A Pakistani military officer points at a Kashmiri map to discuss Indian troops’ concentration along the “Line of Control.”
It’s the quietest fraternity at Creighton — so quiet that it doesn’t even have a name.

Every three weeks, its half a dozen anonymous members assemble at Ignatius House, a comfortable home-like Jesuit residence overlooking the Jesuit Gardens, to discuss the direction God may be calling them.

The priesthood. The Society of Jesus.

In today’s society, these are counter-cultural life choices, said the Rev. Richard Hauser, S.J., theology professor and current rector of the Jesuit community. In 1975, Hauser organized the nation’s first “discernment group” on a Jesuit campus. Men considering these options need to know they aren’t alone. They need to bond with others making the same decision. They are referred to the group by friends, Jesuits, faculty and staff.

Under the guidance of Hauser and Daniel Hendrickson, S.J., a Jesuit seminarian who teaches philosophy at CU, the students discuss their evolving feelings about priestly/Jesuit vocations and related issues: celibacy, obedience, poverty, girlfriends, reaction of parents.

Their decisions are critical for the Church. A New York Times article
Jesuits Promote Vocations
By Eileen Wirth, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

reported that in the past 40 years, the number of priests in the U.S. has dropped from 60,000 to 40,000 (7,000 retired) even as the Catholic population has reached an all-time high of 63 million. Since Vatican II, seminary enrollment has fallen 75 percent.

Creighton and Creighton alumni in the Society of Jesus play an important role in nurturing Jesuit and other priestly vocations, said the Rev. Warren Sazama, S.J., vocations director for the Jesuits’ Wisconsin Province. The vast majority of men joining the Wisconsin Province have attended four schools — Creighton Prep, Creighton University, Marquette High and Marquette University. Most are in their mid-20s to early 30s.

While the clerical sexual scandals have been a “P.R. disaster” for vocations promoters, “kids are still joining the Jesuits from Creighton,” Sazama said. Patrick Gilger, who graduated in May, entered the novitiate this fall. (See sidebar on page 31.)

“I haven’t had even one person who says, ‘I’m out of here (as a result of the scandals),’” said Sazama.

The Rev. John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., province novice master in St. Paul,
“It’s been a great year,” said Lickteig, but a year of great change from living alone in an Omaha apartment studying theater and theology at Creighton.

“It took a little getting used to living in such a large group of talented and Christ-oriented men,” he said. Occasionally egos clashed as the novices learned to live in community.

Lickteig credited spiritual direction from the Rev. Ted Bohr, S.J., a professor in the Fine and Performing Arts Department, and attending a Jesuit Humanities Program class with Jesuit scholastics as major influences on his decision to enter the Jesuits.

“A year of great change,” added Lickteig. “I’ve loved it. I’m very gratified.”

Another Creighton Jesuit taking up formation duties is the Rev. Gregory Carlson, S.J., who has been a longtime professor of classics. Carlson is the new rector at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, Calif., the religious supervisor of a 92-member Jesuit community that includes the faculty, students, international Jesuits studying to become seminary professors and American Jesuits on sabbaticals. His tasks include making recommendations to provincials about who should be ordained.

“In Jesuit life, the superior’s largest job is to listen to the men he governs,” Carlson said. “The role is closest to that of a spiritual director or a counselor.”

The rector helps members of his community understand “what deep things are going on inside me” and to develop into “good ministers. The task is to accompany them and help them make good decisions.”

Carlson, who first came to Creighton in 1979 as rector of Campion House, a since-closed program for seminarians in the old Jesuit Humanities Program, plans to periodically visit the university in connection with the fable collection he has donated to the Reinert Alumni Memorial Library. The collection consists of about 4,000 books and 3,000 additional items.

All potential Jesuits undergo a background check.

“It’s been a great year,” Fitzgibbons added. “I’ve loved it. I’m very gratified.”

Fitzgibbons, an Omaha native whose parents graduated from CU, became novice master last fall after five years as an assistant professor of English and director of the Humanities Program for young Jesuits at Creighton. He and another Jesuit supervise a house of 18 novices from three Jesuit provinces, including Creighton alumnus Paul Lickteig, n.S.J., BA’01.

“I’m teaching the novices how to be Jesuits,” said Fitzgibbons. His duties include spiritual direction and teaching courses in scripture, Ignatian spirituality and the Jesuit constitution and norms.

“There’s a great deal of mentoring. Most of the teaching is one-on-one. We teach them how to be Jesuits by hanging around Jesuits,” he said. Novices attend Mass daily and learn to integrate contemplation with “apostolic outreach.”

Fitzgibbons said that his most important task is his weekly spiritual direction meeting with each novice. The novitiate’s purpose is to help both the Society and candidates determine whether they are right for each other.

For the past 25 years, Jesuits have carefully interviewed, tested, screened and evaluated candidates, he said.

CU Alum Seminarians

Paul Lickteig, n.S.J., BA’01, called from New Mexico where he was “on pilgrimage” at the end of his first year as a Jesuit novice. He had traveled from the novitiate house in St. Paul, Minn., 20 minutes from his parents’ home in Bloomington, to Santa Fe by bus with no specific plans except to deepen his understanding of Catholics of Hispanic heritage.

He would spend a month in New Mexico, learning to deepen his trust in God by “just visiting places and talking to people,” and learning about priests’ ministry to migrant workers by “just walking around.”

“Lickteig credited spiritual direction from the Rev. Ted Bohr, S.J., a professor in the Fine and Performing Arts Department, and attending a Jesuit Humanities Program class with Jesuit scholastics as major influences on his decision to enter the Jesuits. Rick Ralphson, S.J., who won the Spirit of Creighton Award when he graduated in 1996, is doing graduate work in philosophical studies at Loyola University in Chicago. Ralphson, a Chicago native who majored in psychology and theology, was active in nearly everything at Creighton — an R.A. for several years, Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, retreats, spring break service trips, Best Buddies, among other things.

The Rev. John Lynch, S.J., pastor of
St. John’s Church his freshman year and a chaplain at Swanson Hall, and several other Jesuits encouraged Ralphson’s vocation. “Their love of God and the people at Creighton set me on fire. I had a sense of my own personal call. The Lord invited me, and they were there to help me understand what was happening.”

Ralphson spent a year as a volunteer at Creighton Prep, living with the Jesuit community, teaching theology, working in campus ministry and coaching baseball before entering the Society five years ago.

He said he is bothered by the scandals because of the great number of people who have been seriously hurt and “a confusion (by some people) as to what to do with power.” But he also is hopeful.

“The Church, being human, is weak. In some ways that is discouraging. In many ways the message of the experience of weakness is a turn to God and a turn to humanity. We are realizing how greatly dependent we are on God and others. In the U.S., we tend to think we can do it all ourselves.”

Like Hauser, Jesuits such as the Rev. Charles Kestermeier, S.J., a chaplain at Kiewit Residence Hall who has taught modern languages, and the Rev. Timothy Lannon, S.J., B.S’73, play formal and informal roles in encouraging students to consider a future in the Society.

Kestermeier, a member of Creighton’s vocations committee, said he looks for students who might make good Jesuits, then tells them so. “I look out there and see guys that are respectful, have a good sense of humor and are intelligent.”

Often the students respond that they had been thinking about the idea and Kestermeier sends them to see Hauser.

Lannon, vice president for university advancement at Marquette, runs a highly successful discernment group similar to Hauser’s. Since 1988, 26 Marquette alums have joined the Jesuits.

“We call our group V.A. — Vocations Anonymous,” Lannon joked. He said that Creighton played a crucial role in forming his Jesuit vocation. He had always thought about becoming a priest but never thought he was holy enough.

“When I came to Creighton and met some of the Jesuits, I thought if they could do it, so could I,” he said. He entered the Society in 1974 and left in 1976 but returned in 1977. A conversation with Hauser on the roof of 31

Gilger, who received his B.A. in philosophy in May, said he chose Creighton for its academic reputation and hardly knew what a Jesuit was. However, when he arrived at Creighton, he found a campus that was “so welcoming and open to new ideas,” an atmosphere that he had never before experienced. “People really seemed to care about each other.”

Gilger, who was an Episcopalian, suspected that Creighton’s environment was rooted in its Jesuit identity so he began to explore that in order to better understand the University.

“The Jesuits I met seemed really cool,” he said. During his sophomore year, Gilger joined the Rev. Richard Hauser’s Jesuit discernment group.

After going through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program at St. John’s, Gilger became a Catholic in 2001 and began the “step-by-step process” of deciding to enter the Jesuits. A “discernment weekend” in Chicago helped greatly.

“I met a lot of young Jesuits, and they really enjoy their lives,” he said. “They make serving seem so worthwhile.”

Gilger said that he’s “very nervous and scared” but also “so excited.” Having known novice master, the Rev. John Fitzgibbons, S.J., at Creighton helps allay the fears.
Swanson Hall was a turning point in that decision. Hauser was a resident chaplain at Swanson at the time and the roof area was then open for recreation. It was a good quiet place for a heart-to-heart conversation on a summer evening.

Hauser said he bluntly asked Lannon why he had left the novitiate when he had enjoyed it greatly and liked the people so much. “He couldn’t answer me,” Hauser said. “No one had ever put it to him that starkly.”

Both Creighton and Marquette sponsor activities and prominently display posters and calendars promoting the Jesuits. In addition, individual Jesuits and lay persons such as Residence Life Director Richard Rossi personally nurture potential priestly vocations by encouraging students to think about the option.

Rossi, a member of the campus vocations committee, said it is important to protect the privacy of students considering a priestly vocation but he believes Creighton should “celebrate this option because of who and what we are as an institution.”

Fitzgibbons said he believes Creighton “should be doing more. This is a wonderful, beautiful, healthy life despite the scandals, but people don’t hear about it. We’ve been fairly reluctant to put our best foot forward to get people to consider this life. We need to get more proactive and invite all graduates of Jesuit high schools for an outing or a retreat.”

“When I came to Creighton and met some of the Jesuits, I thought if they could do it, so could I.”

— Rev. Timothy Lannon, S.J.

Requirements to Become a Jesuit

Wanted: Future Jesuits.

Contact Wisconsin Province Vocations Director Warren Sazama, S.J., in Milwaukee. Applicants must be practicing Catholic men with a strong sense of faith, emotionally mature and healthy, able to relate well to people and live in a community, have a strong sense of service and the intellectual capability of doing graduate work in theology. Preferred age: 40 or younger.

Sazama said that the Jesuits seek applicants who have “a sense of ministry, emotional health, are spiritually motivated and have a relationship with Christ and the Church.”

Ironically, “we look for a lot of the same things that a young woman would,” he said.

It takes 10-13 years to become a Jesuit instead of 15 as it used to because most new members already have college degrees and many have graduate degrees, said the Rev. Greg Carlson, S.J.

Today’s Jesuit formation requires:

- Two years of novitiate which culminate in the taking of permanent vows as a Jesuit.
- Three years of collegiate studies consisting of two-thirds philosophy and one-third theology.
- Three years of regency, which typically involves teaching in a high school.
- Three years of theology at either the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley or the Weston School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass., followed by ordination.
- After five to 10 years of ministry there’s a year of “tertianship” for spiritual and academic renewal.

It’s not unusual for today’s new Jesuits to enter after successful careers. For example, Thomas Stark, who received both undergraduate and law degrees from Creighton, and has been a civil rights attorney, is a novice with the Maryland Province in Syracuse, N.Y.

The Rev. Richard Hauser, S.J., said a former member of his discernment group who opted for medical school is considering joining the Jesuits after he graduates.

Sazama can be reached at (800) 537-3736, ext. 231, or vocations@jesuitswisprov.org.
Placing the Call
By Anthony Flott

Bill Ramsey listened for the call.
It was 1948, and he and Terry Kelly, a fellow Irish Catholic and buddy at Council Bluffs St. Francis High School, were going to be priests.

“We both started taking Latin courses figuring that would be one step toward that,” Ramsey, BS’55, recalled with a grin. Terry took another step, enrolling in a Franciscan seminary. Ramsey, meanwhile, checked into the Columban Fathers in Bellevue. “Father said, ‘You’re always welcome.’ But I guess I got discouraged, impatient or something. And then I did the least obvious thing to do at that time.

“I joined the Marine Corps.”

Semper fi would be the only Latin he’d use during three years in the Corps. Ramsey went on to fight in Korea; a land mine nearly severed his lower right arm during an attack in 1951, and he received the Purple Heart.

But perhaps Ramsey would have been fighting for the Sacred Heart if a relative, friend or fellow parishioner had only given him a nudge back in ’48. “I was going to church every day, wondering what I was going to do with my life,” he said. “But nobody asked me.”

Now, more than half a century later, Ramsey is doing the asking.
The Creighton alumnus in June was installed as president of the USA Council of Serra International, an organization of Catholic laity who foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Founded in 1935, the group has 19,000 members in 36 countries, including 14,000 members in the United States (100 in Omaha).

“Vocations don’t just happen,” Ramsey stressed. “You have to ask somebody. If you see a young man or woman in church quite often and they seem to be active and prayerful, boldly go up, make their acquaintance and say, ‘Have you ever considered the priesthood?’ Sometimes that’s probably just exactly why they’re in church. It’s a compliment: ‘Gee, they think I’m good enough to be a priest?’”

Some may find it hard to see the compliment in light of the sexual abuse scandal that has rocked the Church. Ramsey, though, senses a simmering rejuvenation. “It’s a terrible and sad story,” he said of the scandals, “but I just have a feeling that more and more people ... want to work for vocations more than ever.

“That’s one of our subthemes: ‘Serra, Now More Than Ever.’”

The slogan is a Ramsey creation, one he printed onto buttons that were passed out during his installment in Toronto. If anyone can win what’s sometimes seen as a public relations battle for the hearts of religious and lay people, it’s Ramsey. He has spent an award-winning 40-plus years in PR, managing the images and promoting the causes of schools, universities, businesses, etc.

Perhaps this is where God wanted the 72-year-old Ramsey all along.

“I’ve always been very active in Serra,” he said, “but never at any time was I really anticipating being president. I was thinking just 10 months ago that I would go in and have a normal year, never dreaming we’d have this type of a year for everyone.”

Ramsey has set 15 goals to accomplish during his one-year term, including a membership boost, increasing the organization’s visibility, and advocating the cause of sainthood for Blessed Junipero Serra, the organization’s patron.

“It’s kind of a vocation in its own right, being a Serran,” he says. “It’s not just another club to me.”

As for priestly vocations?
“Pray,” Ramsey said. “That’s the easiest thing to do: more and more prayer.”

Who knows who will answer that call?

Ramsey, BS’55, in St. John’s Church at Creighton, is the new president of the USA Council of Serra International, a Catholic organization that promotes religious vocations.
By Richard L. O’Brien, MS’58, MD’60
Professor of Medicine,
Center for Health Policy & Ethics

Human cloning is once more on the front burner, again looming large in the public eye. Of course, it never left the front burner in scientific circles. Scientists have been working diligently on human and animal cloning, bringing the technical ability to clone humans ever closer to reality.

Scientists see cloning as an opportunity to find treatments for human diseases and as a means of developing important insights into human biology. Others see cloning as a way to create new genetic copies of people who exist now or have existed in the past. The Boys from Brazil is looking ominously like a possible scenario. (For those who have forgotten, The Boys from Brazil is a novel in which a clone of 94 youths is produced by Dr. Josef Mengele using cells from Adolf Hitler.)

Recent public concern over cloning began with the report, in February 1997, of Dolly the sheep, the first mammal cloned using a part (nucleus) of an adult sheep cell transplanted into an ovum from which the nucleus had been removed. This process is known as nuclear transfer.

The National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC), established by President Clinton in 1995, examined the issues raised by Dolly and, in June 1997, issued a report recommending that cloning with the intent to produce a human child not be attempted. The Commission reasoned that such attempts are unsafe, carrying a high likelihood of producing deformed fetuses, a high rate of fetal loss and uncertain psychological effects in children produced by cloning. The Commission also acknowledged that there are “other serious ethical concerns” that “require much more widespread and careful public deliberation.” Indeed, these “other serious ethical concerns” are what give rise to and fuel the current public controversy. The debate and controversy extend far beyond the possible use of cloning technology to produce living children.

Since 1997, science has advanced sufficiently that there are now two debates about cloning, each determined by the different intentions and goals of
those who hope to apply cloning to humans. Some wish to produce new offspring for infertile couples, or to preserve or restore valuable human traits. This is usually called reproductive cloning. Others study cloning to produce stem cells with the intent to treat devastating human diseases or to study early human development. The use of the products of cloning with this intent is called therapeutic cloning or cloning for biomedical research.

The National Academy of Science has recently issued a new report, following one issued earlier, that supports human cloning for therapeutic purposes but recommends banning research on reproductive cloning. The Academy report follows one issued in 1999 by the NBAC that recommended that the government not fund research on cloning for therapeutic reasons but that it closely monitor progress in this field because of the potential it holds for treating disease. President Bush’s recently appointed Council on Bioethics issued its report on the subject this past July, recommending a ban on reproductive cloning and a four-year moratorium on cloning for biomedical research. But the Council was deeply divided on the latter recommendation. Some called for a complete ban of cloning for research; others wanted no constraints on cloning for research.

The National Academy report attempted to defuse or avoid controversy by recommending that therapeutic cloning be renamed “nuclear transplantation to produce stem cells.” But this is not likely to diminish the controversy. The reality is that whatever the process is called, the initiation of division and development of human cells with the potential to become a complete human being creates new human life. Some believe this new human life possesses human dignity and rights and deserves protection. Others see only cloned clumps of embryonic cells that are nothing more than a means to produce stem cells to treat human diseases or to advance knowledge of human biology.

What are the roots of the controversy, the vehement disagreements about human cloning? On what grounds is
cloning condemned by some and enthusiastically embraced by others? The Council's internal disagreements and its disagreement with the Academy's report reflect the controversy this subject raises in the American public. A December 2001 Gallup poll reported that 11 percent of the American public favors reproductive cloning, while 87 percent are opposed. The poll also found that 54 percent of the public favors therapeutic cloning, while 41 percent are opposed.

Who are the 11 percent who support reproductive cloning? And why do they support it?

Many are affiliated with fertility clinics and invoke compassionate reasons: the great desire for children in childless couples; the desire to replace with a clonal twin a beloved child who has died.

Others are strong advocates of individual rights. "The right to a custom-made child is merely the natural extension of our current discourse on reproductive rights. [There is] no virtue in the role of chance in conception, and great virtue in expanding choice," wrote bioethicist James Hughes, Ph.D., in Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics. "We are masters of our fate ... we can face the future with confidence ... and change and thrive in a new world lying just beyond the horizon," wrote lawyer and bioethicist Arlene Judith Klotz in the July 22 issue of The Scientist.

Some see cloning as one of several routes to a new eugenics, a way to improve and advance the human species; "... an opportunity to remake mankind in an image of health, prosperity, and nobility: ... the ultimate expression of man's unlimited potential," wrote Patrick Stephens of The Objectivist Center, a national philosophic think-tank.

These arguments, at least those based on compassion and human rights, seem reasonable. Who would oppose them, and why?

Many oppose reproductive cloning on religious and philosophic grounds. God created us and provided a natural means of reproduction. To alter that and reproduce asexually is to violate God's will. This is the major view of the three large Western religions. But, even here, there are dissenters who argue that God gave us or allowed us to acquire the knowledge necessary for cloning. Using it for good ends is doing God's will.

Philosophers and scientists have expressed concern that reproductive cloning (and genetic manipulation) may lead to changes in human nature and threaten the existence of humanity by the development of a new post-human race. Consider the potential for diminished human diversity if all babies could be "designed." Or the growing social gap that might develop between those who have access to expensive technology that can produce offspring with superior traits and those without access.

Many are opposed to reproductive cloning because cloning is inefficient, many cloned embryos are badly deformed, many offspring resulting from cloning are short-lived or monstrous. This argument forms the major basis for the recommendations to ban reproductive cloning by the NBAC in 1997 and by the National Academy of Science. In principle, those who oppose reproductive cloning for this reason may cease their opposition if and when those technical difficulties are overcome.

Though only a small minority of Americans support reproductive cloning, a majority (54 percent) are in favor of therapeutic cloning, the production of cloned human embryos for the purpose of deriving stem cells to be used in treating diseases like Parkinson's disease, heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease and the production of organs for transplantation. They argue that the ethics of health care and human compassion demand the development of treatments for disease.

How reasonable is it to expect that stem cells will have therapeutic value? We are not certain that they will. What we do know is that stem cells possess functions that are missing in some diseased tissues and are able to differentiate and express these functions. There is at least one report that such differentiated cells implanted into brains of mice with a chemically induced Parkinson's-like disease produce neurotransmitters like normal brain cells and provide at least partial relief of the movement disorders of the mice. So it is not unreasonable to expect stem cells to have therapeutic value. The promise is real, but it remains at the present time only a promise. Until more experience is acquired and it is felt safe to attempt to treat human disease in this manner, we will not have a definitive answer to the question of value.

When might the promise be realized? We don't know that either, but it is not likely to be soon. Our ability to control the differentiation of stem cells remains rudimentary at best. At least some stem cells seem to differentiate into the cells of the organs into which they are transplanted, but that is a subject of scientific dispute. Further, in some experiments, implanted stem cells turn into tumor cells, raising a question of safety. And, finally, the production of cloned human embryonic stem cells presents a significant problem. To date, no human embryos or embryonic stem cells have been produced by nuclear transfer. The attempts reported have produced no viable human embryos from which stem cells have been derived.

However, the problems of tumor formation and production of cloned human embryos are likely to be resolved. They are technical problems, and cloned animal embryos have been produced. What remains uncertain is therapeutic efficacy and how long it will take to solve the problems of cloning and controlling differentiation. These are not easy technical problems, and it will be
The Threat and Promise of Human Cloning

some time before they are resolved, unless there is some unexpectedly rapid scientific advance.

The production of stem cells by cloning possesses a major therapeutic advantage. Based on the reasonable expectation that clones derived from an individual will be immunologically identical to the donor, they may be used to treat our own illnesses without fear of immunologic rejection and without need to live under continuous immune suppression by drugs. Embryonic stem cells derived from other sources are likely to induce an immune rejection response.

Some have asked whether stem cells produced by nuclear transfer may contain the same genes and have the same likelihood of developing the disease they are created to treat. This would be a risk if the treated disease is a genetic disease. But it also is possible to conceive of treating genetically abnormal stem cells to modify, ablate or replace abnormal genes.

So, given the promise, even if sometime far in the future, how can anyone be opposed to cloning with the intent to relieve human suffering? Do opponents of cloning lack compassion? Do they not care about or for suffering fellow humans?

Opposition to therapeutic cloning is based largely on strong revulsion and objection to destroying human life, as President Bush put it, “the destruction of nascent human life.”

Herein lies the crux of the disagreement between opponents and...
advocates of cloning for therapeutic purposes. They begin with different premises about human life that define why opposition or support of the use of embryonic stem cells derived from any source, whether it be cloning, aborted fetuses or embryos produced by In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) procedures.

Those who support the use of human embryos to derive stem cells start with the premise that human personhood, and thus human rights, are not attained until some state or stage of development. There is no consensus on what that stage is or how it is determined. Some say it is when the embryo is implanted in the uterine wall, others when organogenesis is well established, others when there is a detectable heart beat, or when there is evidence of sensation, a functioning nervous system. Some place it at the stage of extrauterine viability. Still others withhold recognition of full human rights until birth, arguing that as long as a woman is incubating the fetus, it has no rights she does not grant. Many also argue that “left over” embryos in fertility clinics will only be discarded anyway and it is better that some use be made of them. Some argue that embryos produced by cloning have no potential to become fully human because the intent is to grow them only long enough to derive stem cells; there is no intent to produce fully developed humans from them. They are only means to a good end, the treatment of disease.

Those who are opposed to the use of embryonic stem cells begin with the premise that an embryo formed either by fertilization of an egg by a sperm or by nuclear transfer is a distinct individual human person with the potential, given the right environment and choices, to develop into a functional intelligent, toddling, babbling child, a walking, talking adult. As a human person, it fully possesses human dignity demanding respect and has the same claim on human rights as any other person. Its destruction is a violation of its right to life.

When conflicting conclusions are based on such fundamentally different premises, the possibility for reconciliation is negligible to nonexistent. One side sees an early embryo as a clump of cells, a means to a good end. The other sees the same embryo as a human person with a right to life. If we cannot agree on a starting premise, we cannot reason to the same conclusions. This is a price we pay for living in a liberal, free, diverse society, one committed to individual human rights (even though we may differ on who has those rights) and respect for individual human conscience.

Is there no hope for compromise and agreement? Is it possible to accept as desirable the goals and ends of those who disagree with us and seek different and agreed upon means to those good ends? Those opposed to the production of embryos for the purpose of producing stem cells to treat disease surely support the end or alleviation of suffering from disease. And those who support embryonic stem cell use are not evil people wishing to create life for the purpose of destroying it; they are motivated to do good for suffering fellow human beings. It is possible to find agreement on the ends.

So is it possible to find a middle ground where destruction of human life is avoided and development of treatments of disease can meet? The answer is a good, strong maybe!

There is increasing evidence that adult stem cells, properly tended, have the same potential for therapeutic use as embryonic stem cells. Adult stem cells can be derived from cord blood of newborn infants and from many tissues of fully formed functioning humans. I am aware of no one who objects to the use of adult stem cells for research or therapy.

It is this middle ground that the President’s Council on Bioethics based, at least in part and for some of its members, its recommendation to enact a four-year moratorium on therapeutic cloning or cloning for biomedical research.

Not all will find this middle ground acceptable. Many or most scientists believe it is too constraining, that it is based on scientifically irrelevant moral or religious considerations that have no place in science, that they should have the freedom to go where their consciences and science guide them as long as they do no harm to others. Of course, harm to others is exactly what others see when embryos created by cloning, or any other means, are destroyed.

And so we return to conflicting premises and conclusions. The circle is complete.
Hats off to alumni who agree to participate in CAP.

The New Creighton Alumni Partners (CAP)

What is CAP?
- It's a new program in which Creighton alumni can help recruit talented undergraduate students to Creighton University.

What do CAP volunteers do?
- CAP volunteers contact prospective students, represent Creighton at college fairs and host student receptions.

How can YOU get involved?
- Contact CAP Program Director Garland E. Jarmon Jr., BS'98, associate director of admissions, at (800) 282-5835 or gjarmon@creighton.edu.

The CAP program is jointly sponsored by Creighton University’s Offices of Undergraduate Admissions and Alumni Relations.
Fords Establish Endowed Scholarship in Pharmacy

Doug Ford, BSPh'a69, gets a warm, fuzzy feeling when he hears or talks about Creighton’s School of Pharmacy and Health Professions. “It’s nice to see the School do so well,” he said. “It makes me feel good.”

This year, Ford and his wife, Barbara, decided they wanted to do something more than make their annual donation to the School. They wanted to do something that would have a lasting impact, make a difference for students. The couple pledged $50,000 to create the M. Douglas and Barbara Ford Endowed Scholarship for pharmacy students.

“We wanted to give back,” Ford said, “to perpetuate the Jesuit education. The training I received there is reflected in my career. What I accomplished is the result of my education.”

Sidney Stohs, Ph.D., dean of the School, acknowledged the Fords’ generosity. “We appreciate the past support by Doug and Barb Ford, and we certainly appreciate their gift to establish a charitable donation would allow, their belief in the quality of Creighton’s Jesuit education and the projected shortage of pharmacists motivated them more.

Ford has always appreciated his Jesuit education, demonstrating it each year since earning his bachelor’s degree in pharmacy in 1969. How has he demonstrated it?

“I have donated to the pharmacy program every year since I graduated,” Ford said.

The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions has grown significantly since his student days.

“We had eight or nine pharmacy faculty members,” he recalled. “We got to know them well. I think there were only about 45 people in my class.”

According to Stohs, today’s pharmacy enrollment is 160 students per class between the on-campus and Web-based pathways, taught by 60 faculty.

Ford fondly recalled the influence of several faculty members including Dr. Salvatore Greco, Sebastian “Subby” Pirrucchini, Dr. James Crampton and Dr. Ann Czerswinski.

“Dr. Allen Schlesinger,” he said, “was my No. 1 motivator. I’ll remember that 8 a.m. general biology class forever. He could really get you excited.”

He also noted the leadership of Fr. Carl Reinert and Fr. Henry Linn, and more recently of Fr. Michael Morrison and Fr. John Schlegel.

“You know you’re in good hands when you have those types of guys in charge,” Ford said.

Ford joined the Walgreens, Co., in 1969 and is district manager in Brookfield, Wis.

Alumnus Funds Scholarship for KC Area Minority Students

An anonymous young alumnus and his wife have established the B.J. Roberts Scholarship Fund for minority students from the greater Kansas City area.

The annual $25,000 scholarship provides full tuition, room and board to one student and is renewable for three additional years. It also includes funds for expenses.

“This Creighton graduate feels strongly about supporting minority students from his area because they might not otherwise have the opportunity to obtain a quality education,” said Rich McCormick, regional director of development. “His goal is to help a minority student graduate from college without debt.”

The couple is from the Kansas City area. Denise Russell, a freshman from Independence, Mo., received the first scholarship for the 2002-2003 academic year.

“I really wanted to go to Creighton,” Russell said. “Without this scholarship, I never would have been able to come here. I’m very grateful for the generosity of the donor. It has allowed me a chance to fulfill my dream.”

Russell plans to major in child psychology, but issued a caveat.

“I might change my mind,” she said, “but I will do something with kids.”

A scholarship gift allows donors to directly affect the lives of the students who receive the scholarship, according to McCormick.

“It makes all the difference in the world to students,” he said. “They truly appreciate the selflessness of donors whose gifts provide them the chance to pursue their dreams.”

The donors hope to add a second B.J. Roberts Scholarship in the future, McCormick said.
Keller Supports CU with Estate Gift

Despite having detoured from his initial plan as a Creighton University student to become a Jesuit, Martin Keller, BA’41, remained forever committed to supporting the institution and the religious order that influenced his life. Early on, he decided to leave his legacy with Creighton University and the Jesuits with whom he so deeply identified.

Keller’s brother, Carl, described him as a very religious man who attended Mass daily. He also said that his brother remained a faithful supporter of the Jesuit institution through the years.

“He always said he was going to leave his estate to Creighton.”

True to his word, Martin Keller bequeathed his estate to Creighton — a gift worth $550,000 to the University.

“Mr. Keller held the Jesuits and this University in great respect,” said Steve Scholer, director of Estate and Trust Services. “He built an estate of value during his lifetime, and, through this bequest, reflected his commitment to the values he shared with the Jesuit Fathers and the University.”

Martin Keller earned his bachelor’s degree from Creighton in 1941 and left immediately for St. Louis to join the Society of Jesus, Carl Keller said.

For 10 years, he followed the prescribed course of study, teaching for a while in South Dakota, before ultimately deciding that it was not his calling.

He returned to Omaha, living simply in a modest home. He also invested in stock and in real estate, including rental properties in Dundee and farm ground in Nebraska and South Dakota. He died in 1999 at age 81.

To find out how you can convert real estate into a life income gift, or for estate planning information, please call Steve Scholer or Robert Skyrdlak in the Office of Estate and Trust Services at (402) 280-2740 or (800) 334-8794.

Gessert Establishes OT Endowed Scholarship

“The Mother of Geriatric Occupational Therapy” in Nebraska and at Creighton University has established the first endowed scholarship in occupational therapy at Creighton.

Virginia G. Gessert, who served on the committee that helped establish the occupational therapy program at the University and served as a founding faculty member, said she established the scholarship because she believes education is paramount to success in any field and recognizes the increasing cost of a college education.

She also believes in the strength of Creighton’s doctor of occupational therapy program and its faculty, and hopes the scholarships will help continue to attract quality students.

Sidney Stohs, Ph.D., dean of Creighton’s School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, said Gessert substantiated her belief in the program and her profession by making the scholarship gift.

“Mrs. Gessert has been an outstanding supporter of our occupational therapy program in many different ways, and we truly appreciate her continued involvement. The establishment of the endowed scholarship is an extension of her nurturing of the profession,” Stohs said.

Creighton will award the scholarship to occupational therapy students who demonstrate financial need, with a preference given to students interested in rural, nontraditional and/or geriatric practice.

“My concern is that my area of specialty — gerontology — is underserved in Nebraska,” Gessert said. “I thought it was timely to do something to prepare for what’s coming in the next 10 years, as Baby Boomers age and want to stay in their own homes. I wanted to do something to contribute to the quality of life of older people and to see my profession move forward.”

Shirley Blanchard, assistant professor of occupational therapy, said Gessert is very vocal about occupational therapy.

“Every time Mrs. Gessert comes into contact with someone, she’ll tell them what occupational therapy is, then she’ll show them,” Blanchard said.

“‘I wanted to do something to contribute to the quality of life of older people and to see my profession move forward.’”

— Virginia Gessert

Gessert possesses a pioneering spirit. She was the first occupational therapist to establish a nontraditional private practice in Nebraska, the first non-physician to serve as a member of the Nebraska Arthritis Foundation Medical and Scientific Committee and the first non-nurse or physician to serve as a member of the American Red Cross Home Service Advisory Board, Omaha Chapter. She also was the first individual granted personal membership into the Nebraska Health Care Association.

Those who know Gessert would find it no great surprise that she was the first person in the state to establish an endowed scholarship in her field. Those people would also not be surprised that she, having set the standard, now encourages others to do the same.
Dental Alumna Thankful for Caring Faculty

Anlee Kappenman Rola, DDS’77, thought she was at the end of her academic career. As a dental student, she was ready to quit because of the dread she felt about giving patients shots. Richard Hungerford, D.D.S., one of her professors, took her aside and they calmly discussed her fears.

“Some people say, ‘Why do you contribute to Creighton?’ My response? ‘How can you not?’ You can’t put a price tag on the education we received.”

— Anlee Kappenman Rola

“Your patients are the luckiest people on earth,” she remembers him telling her. “You care so much about them that you don’t want to hurt them.” Hungerford then let her know he was there to talk her through the shots so that she didn’t need to worry about causing her patients pain.

“That’s the kind of education I wanted for my children,” Rola said.

Today, she and her husband, David Rola, DVM, are proud that their daughters attend Creighton. Jaclyn, BA’01, is thriving as a sophomore dental student. Their daughter, Angela, is a junior in the premed program. Another daughter, Jennifer, 14, is an active Bluejays fan.

When Rola contributes to the University, she recalls the kindness, empathy and enthusiasm of her professors. She earmarks her gifts to the School of Dentistry’s faculty development and salary enhancement funds.

Rola’s path to Creighton dental school was paved by her father, the late James Kappenman, DDS’46. Three siblings, Jay, DDS’87; Tim, DDS’87; and Tami Kappenman Sopinski, DDS’93, are also Creighton graduates. The four siblings now practice in two Sioux Falls, S.D., offices. Rola began her career alongside her father, working with him for 10 years in a partnership that began at Creighton.

“For one week during my junior and senior years, my father would come to Creighton to work with me and learn the latest techniques in dentistry,” Rola said. “My classmates took him under their wings. They gave him a locker in the men’s locker room.”

When they began practicing together, their high professional standards, influenced by their alma mater, meshed perfectly.

Rola serves on the School of Dentistry’s Alumni and Continuing Education Advisory Boards. She also contributes financially to the school that means so much to her family.

“Some people say, ‘Why do you contribute to Creighton?’ My response? ‘How can you not?’” she said. “You can’t put a price tag on the education we received. The teachers at Creighton teach by example and I believe strongly that if we don’t give our instructors a good reason to stay, we’re going to lose these people. The Jesuits teach that you have a responsibility to give back, to give of your talents, to use them. You have an obligation — no questions asked.”

Rola was impressed when professors stayed late to explore topics with her or to provide more information on a procedure. “They were more than willing to do that,” she said. “When my daughters have something they don’t understand, they find this is still true.”

‘Zealot’ Inspires Coleman to Support Creighton

Herb Coleman, BSpHa’49, a cheerful Texas octogenarian, remembers how crazy he and his pharmacy school classmates thought Nicholas Dietz was.

Dietz served as an assistant to a biochemistry professor who taught in Creighton’s pharmacy and medicine programs during Coleman’s student years, January 1947 through June 1949.

“Dietz ran the lab. We called him ‘Meticulous Nicholas,’” Coleman said.

“One day he told us that he had a lot of nostalgia for Creighton University, and he said he had made Creighton the beneficiary of some of his insurance policies.

“We thought he was a zealot,” Coleman said, chuckling at the memory.

“Turns out some of us are working in the same direction.”

Coleman established three gift annuities with Creighton in the last four years.

“I did that for several reasons,” he said. “I went to Creighton on the GI Bill years

Year-end Stock Gifts Attractive for Donors

By Steve Scholer, JD’79, Director of Estate & Trust Services

Each December, many longtime Creighton supporters make two very important phone calls: one to their stockbrokers and the other to the Development Office at the University. The first call is to let the broker know they want to make a year-end gift of stock to the University. The second call is to tell Creighton that their year-end gift of stock is being electronically transferred to the University’s brokerage account and to expect it shortly.

Gifts of qualified appreciated securities owned for more than one year are deductible at fair market value without the donor being required to report and
The other reasons include the tax benefits and income the annuities provide for him and his wife, Opal Grace. “The older you get, the more you’re looking for income,” he said. “When I established a gift annuity at Creighton, I received a fantastic annuity rate. Interest-bearing savings accounts and CDs (certificates of deposit) don’t pay me that well. With the gift annuity, I’m getting a 9.4 percent payment. I’m 83. I told them at Creighton to be careful because longevity runs in my family. They could end up paying me for a long time. My mother lived to be 94!”

The annuities will fund the Herb and Opal Grace Coleman Endowed Scholarship in Pharmacy.

“The dean (Sidney Stohs, Ph.D.) spoke to me about the need for scholarships. I thought that was a good idea. He’s the boss. He knows what’s needed,” Coleman said.

Coleman has always been open to advice about Creighton.

Upon his return to Omaha after World War II ended, his neighbor, Henry Sprague, proprietor of Sprague’s Benson Pharmacy, recommended that Coleman attend Creighton and pursue a degree in pharmacy.

Coleman remembered that his biochemistry professor would write formulas on the blackboard, writing on the wall below the blackboard when he ran out of room. Then, Coleman said, when he ran out of room on the wall, he would continue writing on the floor.

“Then, when he was finished, he would say ‘Well, there it is. Come up and copy it.’ And we would!” Coleman said, laughing.

Coleman started in pharmacy school in 1947 and married his first wife, Myrna, that year.

“She was an avid believer in education and was a great encouragement to me to go to school,” he said.

When Myrna died in 1996, Coleman began to rethink his financial plans. That’s when he began exploring the benefits of funding a gift annuity at Creighton.

Then, in summer 2001, Coleman married his longtime, twice-widowed friend, Opal Grace.

“I’ve known her for 25 years,” he said. “What we’re doing here, ancient folks getting married … I highly recommend it!”

Since both Herb and Opal Grace are named as annuitants, full payments will be made jointly (or, if one spouse passes away, to the survivor) for the rest of their lives.

“I have to take care of my other half,” he said, chuckling. “Plus, it’s an act of practical value for the future. The scholarship is perpetual. That’s good.”

The future Creighton pharmacy students who will benefit from the scholarship will likely feel the same.

pay tax on the long-term capital gains. Although the stock market is slumping, the potential to convert low-yielding assets into a deductible gift still makes stock gifts very attractive. The same tax benefits may be available for gifts of appreciated real estate and artwork.

To qualify for a 2002 income tax deduction, keep several rules in mind. For shares of stock electronically transferred from your account to Creighton’s, the gift is complete and valued on the date it reaches the University’s account. If actual stock certificates and necessary stock powers are mailed to Creighton, the date of the postmark is the date of the gift. For safety, it is suggested that you mail the certificates and powers or other assets that have appreciated in amounts up to 30 percent of AGI;

• you may deduct contributions that exceed deductible limits for the year of the gift in the five consecutive tax years; and

• you are not limited in the amount that can be given to charity free of federal gift and estate tax.

In early February, the University will send donors who made a single gift of $250 or greater a summary receipt listing the total amount of their support for the year and stating whether they received “any goods or services” in exchange for their gifts. The IRS requires this receipt as proof of your tax-deductible donation for all gifts of $250 or more.

Please call our office at (402) 280-2740 or (800) 334-8794 for guidance on how to transfer stock and mutual funds to the University.
Every love relationship has to be expressed in gestures as well as words. The deeper the relationship, the more words fail us and the more we need symbols to try to say what words fail to describe.

At Christmas time, we celebrate that God did not send us a symbol but the complete revelation of the love relationship between the Infinite Giver and the finite, us. To express our acceptance of what is so difficult to understand, we use symbols to grasp bits of its meaning.

Why bring an outdoor tree indoors? Why decorate it with colored lights and balls and various “things” of meaning to members of the household? Why share presents that are wrapped to hide their contents? Why light candles and hang stars? Why so much emphasis on the “little” being more than enough? Why does Rudolph save the day, and why do the littlest angel and the littlest snowflake become so important? So much of Christmas is too much for words, and so we celebrate with the “things” of the “mystery.”

It is important to recall that our symbols reflect a Northern-Hemisphere perspective. Christmas is celebrated at the darkest and coldest time of the year for us in the north, and so the world seems dead. This was especially true in the lives of our agricultural ancestors. The tree then becomes a symbol for what will be. It is already green, and the colored lights and decorations foretell the promise of fruitfulness. They are reminders of oranges, apples, grapes, plums and all those fruits that support life. In the midst of dark, cold and death, there are reminders. The Source of Life has been permanently planted in our midst to bring us forth as bright produce from the earth. The Christmas tree is the symbol of Jesus, the new Tree of Life.

The giving and receiving of presents has deep symbolic significance. We search for the closest thing to a perfect gift for each person of our hearts. The more we love the person, the more difficult it is to find the “thing” that will express our love. We wrap the gifts to extend the excitement and anticipation for the recipient. We write a little note, perhaps hoping that by adding words the whole package might say it all. It never really does to those whom we love deeply; it is just too hard to express fully our love in a present.

We exchange these gifts, symbolizing God’s love for us and the fact that God offers us the perfect Gift, wrapped in flesh. It is humbling to receive gifts and that is exactly what Christmas is, reception.

The first Christmas Gift was a little Child, born into insignificance, and it took a long time for that Gift to be unwrapped. Little candles of light in the cold dark have many meanings. Candles bespeak warmth, welcome, guidance and safety, all of which we find in the person of Jesus.

The power of a red-nosed reindeer and the littlest star are stories that remind us of how it all began and the dignity God gives to each person. We have all been given the Gift. With the coming of Jesus, what seems important becomes very significant.

The mystery of loving and being loved is Christmas — and the rest of our days as well. Symbols are simple celebrations of “things” that can say only their little bit, but when placed together, we do get a good picture of just what love means.

About the author: Fr. Gillick is director of the Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Creighton.
Traditions: The 17th annual Christmas at Creighton.

Lights: Mall-lighting and Christmas blessing ceremony in front of St. John’s Church, beginning at 5 p.m.

And Merriment: Dinner and Christmas concert in the Skutt Student Center, with performances by Creighton’s symphony orchestra and jazz ensemble. (And don’t miss the popular audience sing-along.)

Join us Tuesday, Dec. 3, for all the holiday cheer.

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