

U n i v e r s i t y M a g a z i n e

CREIGHTON

the War on Terror: Assaulting Democracy at Home?



The Philosophy of Love

Downward Mobility:
A Realistic Choice?

The Truth About HRT

Spring 2003

Hoop History

Congratulations to the Creighton men's basketball team.

The Jays cracked the Top 10 in the Associated Press poll the week of Jan. 20.

It marked the highest AP ranking in the long and storied history of Creighton University basketball.

The Jays rose to No. 9 in the ESPN/USA Today coaches' poll the same week.

Prior to this season, Creighton's highest ranking in the AP poll came in March 1975, when the Jays reached No. 13.

Follow the exciting Creighton Bluejay basketball action through the thrills of March Madness. Check online for . . .

Alumni parties: www.creighton.edu/alumni

Statistics and game notes: www.gocreighton.com

Schedule and ticket information: www.gocreighton.com

And let potential students know that Creighton's success stretches well beyond the court. They can "pursue the possibilities" at: <http://admissions.creighton.edu>



Creighton All-American candidate Kyle Korver broke the conference record this year for most career three-pointers.

SPRING 2003

CREIGHTON

University Magazine

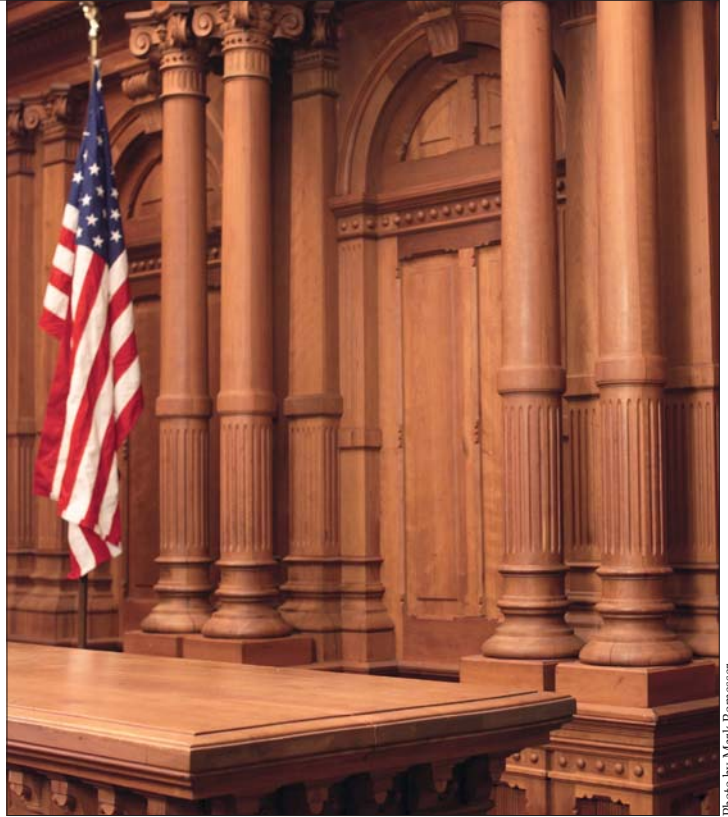


Photo by Mark Romesser

the War on Terror: Assaulting Democracy at Home?

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Creighton law professors Raneta Lawson Mack, J.D., and Michael Kelly, J.D., LL.M., explore how the government's dogged pursuit of terrorists is chipping away at our basic freedoms.



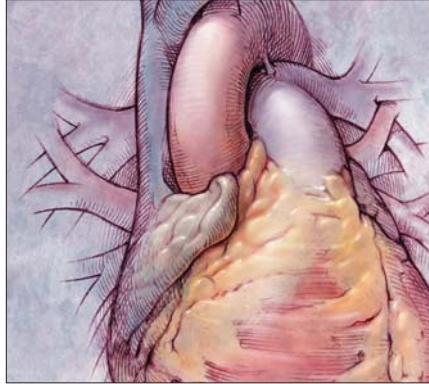
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Photo by Mark Romesser

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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.

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For the latest on alumni gatherings, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-800-CU-ALUMS (800-282-5867) or check online at www.creighton.edu/alumni.

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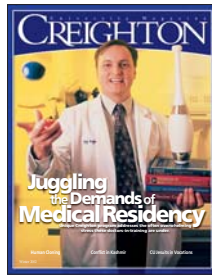
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Letters to the Editor

Human cloning not the answer

As a physician and surgeon myself, I read with great interest the recent article by Dr. O'Brien on human cloning. (*Creighton Magazine*, Winter 2002: "The Threat and Promise of Human Cloning.") The pros and cons, at first glance, do indeed present a difficult ethical dilemma. I found it puzzling though, and indeed troubling, that the Catholic Church's stance on cloning was not mentioned, much less discussed. The Church in her wisdom has much to say about the issue, and Creighton being a Catholic university, I would expect to find mention of her teaching in your magazine. Reports from the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC), established by President Clinton in 1995, were mentioned several times, as well as views published in *Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics*. However, I found no mention of the Vatican's viewpoint: Life begins at conception, and cloning for either therapeutic or reproductive purposes violates the basic sanctity and respect due each and every human life. We must turn our resources elsewhere, to adult or umbilical stem cells for example, in our quest to cure diabetes, Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injuries and other human afflictions. Human cloning is not the answer. If we Catholics are going to listen to the NBAC, we ought to spend at least as much time listening to a living saint, our Holy Father John Paul II.

Peter Zimmer, MD, BS'89
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Wellness works

As a Creighton medical graduate, I was thrilled to see your article on wellness (*Creighton Magazine*, Winter 2002: "Juggling Act: Wellness Program Emphasizes Balance to Stressed Medical Students, Residents"). It has been my interest for the last 10 years. I

have tried to be more specific than "wellness" in scientific prevention and testing for specific things that cause aging diseases and concerns. This has made medicine more interesting for me. My patients, who include the members of the Phoenix Fire Department, feel they are gaining insight and prevention.

Bill Lee, MD'70
Phoenix

Don't forget Jesuit brothers

As a student at Creighton from 1995-1998, as a Jesuit Brother, and a member of the vocation promotion team for those three years, I was glad and saddened to read the article "Creighton Jesuits Promote Vocations" in the Winter 2002 issue. I was glad a piece of such magnitude was written, which in and of itself will cause some men to consider the possibility of life as a Jesuit. I have worked hard over the past 10 years, as a Jesuit Brother, to promote the Society but also to educate others that one can be a Jesuit without being a priest. I was saddened that the vocation of a Jesuit Brother was not mentioned in the article. I have enjoyed my 10 years in the Society of Jesus as a brother and would not trade it for anything in the world. I hope many other men would consider this vocation.

Br. Larry Huck, S.J., BA'98
Berkeley, Calif.

Young Jesuits studied Greek

The smiles on the faces of Paul Lickteig, n.S.J., Rick Ralphson, S.J., and Paul Gilger, n.S.J. (*Creighton Magazine*, Winter 2002: "Creighton Jesuits Promote Vocations") brought many smiles to the faces of their former teachers and classmates in the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies. While these wonderful young men come from very different backgrounds, they share something else in common besides their decisions to join the Jesuits: Each of them seized the opportunity to study Greek while undergraduate students at Creighton. Therefore, each is prepared in a special way to share the Word of God with His people. Peace and praise to all!

Kathryn A. Thomas, BA'68
Associate Professor of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, Creighton University

Correction

Tim Sully's e-mail address was listed incorrectly in the article "Meals with Homeless Break Down Stereotypes" (Winter 2002). Sully, BA'85, director of development for the Siena/Francis House, can be reached at timsully@sienaf Francis.omhcoxmail.com.

CUMC Opens New Women's Community Health Center

Creighton University Medical Center is bringing health care to Omaha's Benson neighborhood with the opening of its new Women's Community Health Center. This is the first women's health center serving the Benson and North Omaha areas.

The center is partnering with Nebraska Health and Human Services' "Every Woman Matters" program, which offers qualified participants free or low-cost mammograms, pelvic exams and other health screening tests. The center also offers area women health information and Internet access at no cost.

"We are delighted to offer these kinds of services to the Benson and surrounding areas," said Florence Triplett, administrator of the Women's Community Health Center. "Women can come to our center to learn their current health status, and empower them to adopt a healthier lifestyle for themselves and their families. We are here to answer questions and make referrals to other health services, if needed."

J.C. Gallagher, M.D., Creighton professor of medicine and director of the Women's Community Health Center, established the center with a grant from Nebraska's Tobacco Development Settlement Fund. He hopes the center will become a vital community resource and that its Benson location will encourage women throughout North Omaha to seek health information and participate in research studies.

"There are disparities in health care," Gallagher said. "If you look at mortality rates from heart disease and stroke, they are much higher in minority populations. Is that because they don't have access to care, or is it something else? It's only by studying different populations that you gain an understanding of what causes these differences. Through this new health center, we want to give women the opportunity to benefit from individual attention and the continuing care that they can receive by participating in health studies."

Creighton Receives \$2 Million Grant to Begin Cardoner Program

Creighton University received a grant for nearly \$2 million from the Lilly Endowment to help prepare a new generation of leaders for church and society.

Creighton, one of 39 U.S. four-year liberal arts colleges to receive a grant, received the funding to establish "Cardoner at Creighton

"On the shores of the Cardoner River ... Ignatius received a fuller realization of his vocation ..."

— from *A Pilgrim's Journey* by Joseph Tylenda, S.J.

University—A Theological Exploration of Vocation." The project, designed by an all-University steering committee led by the Rev. Bert Thelen, S.J., will include programs and events where students, faculty and staff will be able to explore the meaning of their

vocation. Cardoner at Creighton will operate out of the office of Christine Wiseman, vice president for Academic Affairs.

According to the Lilly Endowment, "These colleges have devised programs that encourage university members to reflect on how their faith commitments are related to their career choices and what it means to be 'called' to lives of service."

Creighton's Cardoner project is named for the river where Ignatius of Loyola received profound insight about his own vocation. Some of the Cardoner initiatives will include opportunities to reflect on immersion experiences in inner-city and Third-World settings, and a series of student, faculty, staff, administrator and alumni programs devoted to the topic of vocation.

"Vocation is not 'careerism,' nor is it only limited to nuns and priests. It's also not about helping students gain employment training or skills," Fr. Thelen said. "Vocation means discerning one's connection to God, whether one's career is in medicine, business, education or the church. Vocation is offered to all human beings, inviting them to discern how their life's work connects them to God."

For more information, visit <http://www.creighton.edu/cardoner>.

Leighton Named CU Foundation President

Mike Leighton, BA'70, vice president for University Relations, was named the president of the Creighton Foundation, effective in October.

Leighton has more than 30 years of experience at Creighton University and has been vice president for University Relations since 1990. During that time, he presided over the Creighton 2000 Campaign. More than \$127 million was raised during the Creighton 2000 Campaign, making it the most successful capital campaign in the University's history. During his tenure at Creighton, he has served as assistant director of admissions, assistant athletic



Leighton

director, director of alumni relations and assistant vice president for University Relations.

"Because of Mike's familiarity with the University, his network with our national donors and alumni, and his

proven loyalty to Creighton, I am very pleased Mike has agreed to assume this demanding position," said the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., president of Creighton University.

A search for the next vice president for University Relations is under way. Until such a time when a new vice president is retained, Leighton will continue in both positions.

Brains Rule! Gets Students Thinking

Amy Graff, a third-year Creighton occupational therapy student, passed out brightly colored Play-Doh to an eager group of sixth-graders assembled in front of her booth and turned the students into brain builders.

"OK, you're going to make the cerebellum," Graff instructed one student, then turning to another, "and you're going to make the brain stem."

Graff's station was one of about a dozen science and community health related booths lining the gymnasium floor in Macy, Neb., a small town located on the Omaha Indian Reservation in northeast Nebraska.

As the students crafted their parts of the brain and positioned them together, Graff kept on instructing: "There are two hemispheres of the brain ..."

At another booth, a group of students played Twister — with a twist. Each of the game's colors corresponded to a part of the brain.

When the spinner stopped on green, the students shouted, "temporal lobe!"

"And what's its function?" prodded Marisia Thorn, a senior education major at Creighton who was staffing the booth.



Photo by Montie Kruse, BA '83

Creighton occupational therapy student Amy Graff points out areas of the brain to Cameron Sheridan, a senior at Omaha Nation Public School in Macy, Neb. Sheridan was escorting a group of sixth-graders through Creighton's Brains Rule! fair this fall in Macy.

"Learning and memory!" the students responded.

Welcome to Brains Rule! The ... er ... brainchild of Creighton's Andrea Zardetto-Smith, Ph.D., Brains Rule! introduces elementary students to neuroscience through fun, hands-on activities.

Promoting Healthy Communities

Brains Rule! Neuroscience Expositions have been held throughout Nebraska and in Michigan, Texas and Maryland since 1999. The educational project is funded by a five-year, \$1 million Science Education Drug Abuse Partnership Award to Creighton University by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Zardetto-Smith, an assistant professor of pharmacy sciences, said research she has conducted with her colleagues has shown that the expositions are "very effective in getting kids interested in neuroscience." And she believes the more children know about the brain and the nervous system, the less likely they will be to abuse drugs.

Brian Jimenez, director of Four Hills of Life Wellness Center in Macy, said substance abuse, unfortunately, is prevalent on the reservation.

"What we want to do with the youth is show them what substance abuse can do to their nervous systems," said Jimenez, who also is an assistant professor of occupational therapy at Creighton. "This program gives them an appreciation for what they have and why they need to take good care of their bodies."

Wehnona St. Cyr, the tribal health director for the Omaha tribe, said prevention efforts — such as Brains Rule! — are critical in promoting a healthy community.

"We know that the long-term payoff is to keep our kids well," St. Cyr said. "Once they're diabetic, they're always diabetic. Once they're an alcoholic, they can recover, but they're always an alcoholic. God gives us only one body and one brain, and we have to take care of it."

Brains Rule! not only educates students about the importance of maintaining their health and wellness, but it's fun.

"We make sure the educational objectives are met," Zardetto-Smith said. "But I hope what they will really remember is that science is fun."

That message seemed to get across to the students — from four area schools and representing different tribes — who were smiling and laughing in Macy.

"The kids love it," Jimenez said.

In other activities, students dropped melons

secured in bicycle helmets, tried out equipment designed to assist the elderly and created "neuron" cookies. And, in an element unique to Macy, they had a chance to listen to stories from tribal elders.

"What we want to do with the youth is show them what substance abuse can do to their nervous systems."

— Brian Jimenez, Director
Four Hills of Life Wellness Center

A Cultural Twist

One of the tribal elders began the day with a traditional blessing, burning cedar chips and waving the smoke skyward with an eagle's feather.

"We believe that the eagle flies the highest to heaven and to God," explained St. Cyr, who helped arrange for 10 tribal elders to attend the day-long event.

"We wanted to pull in the cultural piece, because we know that if we're going to have a prevention program that's going to be successful, the kids have to feel good about themselves being an Omaha or Winnebago or Santee or whatever tribe they are," St. Cyr said.

A look around the gym found most students thoroughly engaged in the events.

"You don't see any kids sitting out any activities," said Pat Cross, DPT'02, who volunteered at several Brains Rule! events as a physical therapy student at Creighton.

Cross, who attended the Macy exposition, is now on faculty at Creighton and works as a clinical physical therapist in Macy and Winnebago.

"If it weren't for Creighton, I probably wouldn't be working here today," said Cross,

who came to Creighton hoping to land a job in sports medicine. "One of my clinical rotations was three months up here, and it changed the way I looked at physical therapy and patient care.

"When it came time to get a job, I was offered a job in outpatient sports medicine, working with high-level athletes, and offered this job here, and this one seemed to fit more with my goals and values as a professional," Cross said.

The fairs can have as much of an effect on the volunteers, as in the case of Cross, as on those who attend. Creighton students in physical therapy, occupational therapy and education have assisted with the fairs — gaining insights into how to effectively communicate science to the general public.

"It gives our professional health science students an outlet to put their skills to good use," Zardetto-Smith said.

"I like interacting with the kids and seeing how they learn by doing things hands-on," said Graff, in a break between building Play-Doh brains. "I hope I've helped kids understand something about their bodies and how important it is to take care of them."

Improving and Growing

At the conclusion of each Brains Rule! exposition, the children choose which learning activity they liked best. This information is combined with feedback received from monitors at each booth to revamp or revise the activities as necessary.

The hope is that Creighton can give the sponsoring communities or organizations the tools they needed to make Brains Rule! an annual event.

The concept has drawn plenty of attention. Zardetto-Smith, along with her colleagues and students, has presented Brains Rule! at national and international conferences. A Brains Rule! workbook — which explains the ins and outs of the program — has even been translated into Chinese by the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

But the goal remains the same: to encourage all school children to develop and maintain an interest in science by making science fun.

"And, perhaps, these students will catch a glimpse of a profession that sparks their interest," Jimenez said.

Future scientists?

A Play-Doh brain may just get them thinking.

Wilson to Become President at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center

Creighton University Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the School of



Wilson

Medicine M. Roy Wilson, M.D., will be leaving Creighton to become president of the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center in June of 2003.

"The University is grateful to Dr. Wilson for his efforts on behalf of diversity,

and for enhancing research and the quality of teaching at Creighton University Medical Center," said the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., president of Creighton.

Wilson joined Creighton as dean of the School of Medicine in 1998. A year later, he was appointed vice president for Health Sciences, Creighton University Medical Center.

"I have enjoyed my time at Creighton, and I am grateful to the many hard-working and talented individuals associated with the Creighton University Medical Center," Wilson said.

Prior to joining Creighton, Wilson was the associate medical dean at UCLA and the dean of the College of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles.

His primary area of scholarly interest is ophthalmology and epidemiology, with an emphasis on glaucoma.

During his tenure at Creighton, Wilson saw an increase in research grants, construction of a new Integrated Science Complex, the alignment of the School of Medicine and Saint Joseph Hospital under the name Creighton University Medical Center, and attracted a number of talented faculty members.

Creighton Receives NSF Funding to Expand Computer Science Curriculum

Creighton University received a grant for nearly \$75,000 from the National Science Foundation to create a pilot program that will develop the experimentation skills of computer science students.

As computers become more complex and integrated into society, there is a growing demand for computer-driven empirical research skills. There also is a national trend to integrate computer science with other disciplines such as physics, biology and sociology. David Reed, Ph.D., assistant professor of computer science at Creighton, will lead a project to develop curriculum for teaching computer science experimentation and empirical skills. As a result, Creighton University will host a central repository of computer science teaching resources that could be adopted by instructors worldwide.

"Empirical skills are becoming increasingly important in computer science and in our society. However, to date,

computer science studies have paid little attention to developing empirical investigative skills such as designing, conducting and analyzing experiments to study complex systems," Reed said. "As computer and software systems grow in complexity, empirical methods for assessing their performance are fast replacing standard methods. Also, the extensive use of computers across disciplines requires a deep understanding of experimentation as a tool for solving real-world problems."

To ensure the broad application of the developed materials, Reed will collaborate with faculty from DePaul University in Chicago and Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. The applications and laboratories developed will be reviewed and tested by faculty at each school, followed by outside review and assessment.

"This project has the potential to make significant contributions to research in teaching methodologies and effectiveness and to establish Creighton as a center for research in this area," Reed said. "If this two-year pilot program is successful, funding for a larger-scale initiative will be sought."

CU Doctor to Advise Mexican Government

Jose Romero, M.D., an associate professor of pediatric pathology and microbiology at Creighton University Medical Center, is one of 100 U.S. residents whom Mexican President Vicente Fox has appointed to a special advisory council.



Romero

The purpose of the council is to advise the Mexican government in the design and formulation of

policies directed at Mexican communities in the United States. The advisers were elected through an effort coordinated by the 45 Mexican consulates across the U.S.

Romero, 47, was born in Mexico and is a naturalized U.S. citizen. In addition to practicing medicine, he is the president of the board of the Chicano Awareness Center in Omaha.

Fr. Schlegel Receives First Champion of Greatness Award

Special Olympics Nebraska honored Creighton University President the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., with the organization's first Champion of Greatness Award. The

honor recognized Fr. Schlegel's outstanding commitment to the Special Olympics, as well as his leadership role in improving the quality of life for Nebraskans. The award was presented at the Second Annual Special Olympics Breakfast of Champions on Jan. 9. Creighton has been a partner for the Special Olympics Nebraska Summer Games for more than 30 years.

Culhane Elected to American Board of Certification

Creighton University Law Professor Marianne B. Culhane has been elected as a board member of the American Board of Certification (ABC). Culhane is



Culhane

internationally recognized for her work on bankruptcy law.

ABC is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the public and improving the quality of the bankruptcy and creditors' rights bar.

The rigorous ABC certification standards are designed to encourage legal practitioners to strive toward excellence and to recognize those attorneys who are experts in the field.

Culhane also will serve as the Robert M.

Zinman Scholar in Residence for the fall semester of 2003 at the headquarters of the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) in Alexandria, Va. The ABI-funded research that Culhane and her colleague, Creighton Law Professor Michaela White, did on means-testing, which led to the article "Taking the New Consumer Bankruptcy Model for a Test Drive: Means-Testing Real Chapter 7 Debtors." The article and study were singled out in a recent commentary in the *Texas Law Review* as having a profound impact on the national debate regarding bankruptcy reform.

Pharmacy and Health Professions to Establish Toxicology Center

The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions at Creighton University Medical Center has received a three-year, \$850,000 grant from the Health Future Foundation to establish a toxicology center. According to Sidney J. Stohs, Ph.D., dean of the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, the new center will serve as a nucleus for research, consultancy services and educational activities in toxicology, the study of poisons.

As primary investigator, Stohs will oversee the researchers studying nutrients in food, food additives, chemicals and drugs used in our everyday lives.

"Everything we consume can be toxic, depending on the amount used," Stohs

Heart Education Project Targets African-Americans

Creighton University Medical Center's Cardiac Center has received a three-year contract for a new heart-health education project from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Creighton University is matching \$450,000 provided by the NHLBI for the Creighton Heart Education Center (CHEC) project, one of only six new projects nationally to receive NHLBI funding for

communities with the highest heart disease and stroke death rates.

The CHEC program, in collaboration with the Creighton University Cardiac Center's Cardiovascular Risk Factor Screening and Intervention in African-American Adults (CARSI) program, will use a community-oriented approach to conduct education and intervention programs targeted to African-Americans in Omaha.

The Cardiac Center's CHEC program will work to assist members of the community, particularly African-Americans, in meeting the NHLBI goals. These goals include promoting heart-healthy behaviors to prevent cardiovascular risk-factor development, encouraging early detection and treatment of risk factors, and educating

individuals on early recognition and treatment of heart attack and stroke and on prevention against recurring complications.

The CHEC program will employ community health advocates to conduct a comprehensive awareness campaign to increase the adoption of heart-healthy lifestyles, operate a mobile education and screening unit and sponsor heart fairs and nutrition education seminars.

According to the NIH, heart disease and stroke remain the first and third leading causes of death in the U.S. However, certain geographic areas and racial/ethnic groups are disproportionately affected. The Federal Government's Healthy People 2010 initiative seeks to eliminate those disparities and improve health care for all.

said. "Our studies will help determine at what point a helpful product becomes harmful."

In addition to Stohs, co-investigators for this project include Debasis Bagchi, Ph.D., Creighton professor, and Sunny Ohia, Ph.D., formerly of Creighton, now at the University of Houston.

The toxicology center will be located in the Criss research facility at Creighton University. Researchers will collaborate directly with Creighton's pathology department and the Poison Control Center at Children's Hospital in Omaha.

Austin Elected to Nebraska Humanities Council Board

The Nebraska Humanities Council has elected Timothy R. Austin, Ph.D., dean of the Creighton College of Arts and Sciences, to serve a three-year, once-renewable term on its board of directors.

The Nebraska Humanities Council began in 1972. The Council continues to provide high-quality humanities programs throughout Nebraska, such as the Great Plains Chautauqua and the Nebraska Books Festival and also funds *Connections*, a radio program broadcast on Nebraska Public Radio. Every year the Nebraska Humanities Council presents a speaker who has contributed to the understanding of American history and culture in the Governor's Lecture in the Humanities.

"Significant disparities exist among the minority and the general populations of Nebraska regarding awareness of the risk factors for cardiovascular disease and access to quality health care," said Syed Mohiuddin, M.D., director of the Creighton Cardiac Center and principal investigator of the CHEC program.

"These disparities, in large part, account for the higher rates of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in minority populations. Significantly larger effort and commitment is needed to meaningfully reduce the cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in the minority populations of Nebraska. The Creighton Heart Education Center is a first step towards changing some of these disparities," Mohiuddin said.

Taylor Finds Inspiration in Chair's Namesake

It's a simple picture — a black-and-white portrait of a man.

But to Mark Taylor, Ph.D., Creighton's new John P. Begley Endowed Chair in Accounting, the large, framed photo hanging prominently in his office is an inspiration.

It's a picture of John P. Begley, for whom Taylor's Chair is named.

"John Begley was not only a pioneer in his profession, he was also a man known for



Taylor with a photo of the late John P. Begley, which he proudly displays in his office.

his integrity," Taylor said.

John Patrick Begley was a distinguished accounting professor at Creighton for some 50 years. Begley grew up poor, the sixth of nine children born to an Omaha family.

He worked at an Omaha meat-packing plant from the age of 16, and continued to work there 10 years later while attending night classes in the newly created Creighton College of Commerce, Accounts and Finance. In 1924, at the age of 30, Begley earned Creighton's first Bachelor of Commercial Science degree. That same year, he began teaching at Creighton.

In 1927, Begley became the sixth person to be licensed as a Certified Public Accountant in Nebraska.

The John P. Begley Endowed Chair in Accounting was established in 1973, a year before Begley's death, through contributions from grateful Creighton business alumni. Taylor is the third person to hold the Begley Chair.

The opportunity to contribute to the legacy of John P. Begley through the Chair was one of the reasons Taylor decided to come to Creighton. He joined the faculty in July from the University of South Carolina.

But that's not the only reason he came to Creighton.

"The reputation that Creighton has was also very attractive," said Taylor, an associate professor of accounting. "It's also somewhat of a homecoming."

The Salt Lake City native taught at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for five years before going to South Carolina. And his great-great grandfather, John Taylor, an early leader in the Mormon church, guided the first large company of settlers to the Great Salt Lake Valley by way of Omaha. In fact, Taylor/Pratt Hill in nearby Council Bluffs, Iowa, part of the historic Mormon trail, is named after John Taylor and one of his associates.

Taylor received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Brigham Young University and his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. His

primary research interests are auditing and forensic accounting, which involves detecting fraud and other white-collar crimes. This spring, he is teaching the College's first course dedicated entirely to corporate fraud. He also works with FraudWise, a fraud detection, investigation and prevention firm.

Taylor is editor of the *Auditor's Report* for the American Accounting Association. He is also a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the American Institute of CPAs and the Nebraska Society of CPAs.

"Through the Chair, I hope to continue to build Creighton University's reputation locally and nationally through high-quality research and teaching," Taylor said.

Dorwart Shines in Drama About Patients' Rights

A Creighton theater production, *Whose Life is it Anyway?*, caught the eye of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. After achieving recognition from the center as an outstanding production, Creighton received the honor of performing a scene from the play at the Kennedy Center's invitation-only regional festival held in January in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The play starred Jason Dorwart, a December graduate and theater major, who breathed his own life experience into the role.

Dorwart was paralyzed in a diving accident in summer 2000. In the play, his character is sculptor Ken Harrison who, paralyzed following a car accident, awakens to find himself kept alive by life-support machines.

Dorwart suggested the play, and Creighton's theater division agreed to produce it. *Whose Life is it Anyway?* allowed him to replace the leading role he lost in another play because of his accident.

In the play, Harrison, who retains his intellect, decides that he does not want to live. As conflicts with the medical staff ensue, he hires an attorney who represents him in a trial scene staged at the hospital. The judge's verdict allows Harrison the right to discontinue medical care.

While the character wins the freedom to decide his own fate, Dorwart said he believes Harrison made the wrong choice in exercising his rights.

"As long as his mind worked," Dorwart said, "I believe he could offer something of value to society. Harrison's answer is not my answer."

The University's health policy and ethics, religious and medical communities took an interest in the production, leading to an opening night panel discussion sponsored by the Center for the Study of Catholicism.

Following many *Whose Life is it Anyway?* performances, audiences responded with standing ovations.

"People often stop me and say how the play touched them and how it made them think," Dorwart said. "Playing Harrison helped me see how others respond to him and how they feel about themselves. I also learned a lot about myself."

Director Alan Klem compares the play's



Photo by Robert Caudillo

In the play, *Whose Life is it Anyway?*, Jason Dorwart portrays a character who decides he does not want to live after a car accident. Pictured with Dorwart is Creighton student Adam Stafford as the doctor.

attention from the Kennedy Center to going to the NCAA Tournament in sports. He said the honors answer errant comments he heard following Dorwart's accident.

"I heard people say, 'Too bad, Jason *was* a good actor,'" Klem said. "Jason showed, through his performance, that he *is* a good actor. I hope that people reflect on this as they relate to people living with acquired disabilities. We should not discuss their lives and talents in the past tense."

Dorwart, the son of Jack, BS'68, JD'71, and Penni (Bogaard), BA'69, Dorwart of Castle Rock, Colo., married long-time girlfriend Stephanie Kidd, BFA'02, in July 2002. He plans to pursue a master's degree in creative writing.

CUMC Receives Two Minority Health Awards

Creighton University Medical Center has received two awards from the Nebraska Minority Public Health Association, part of the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. The Outstanding Minority Health Service Provider was awarded to Creighton University's School of Medicine, and the Outstanding Minority Health Community-Based Program was awarded to a program directed by a professor in Creighton's School of Pharmacy and Health Professions. The awards were presented at an October Nebraska Minority Health Conference.

The Outstanding Minority Health Service award was accepted by Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, M.D., associate vice president for Health Sciences, on behalf of the School of Medicine and M. Roy Wilson, M.D., vice president for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine. The award is given to a direct service provider who demonstrates leadership in improving health services to racial/ethnic minority populations.

According to award documents, Creighton's School of Medicine "reaches out to Omaha's substantial populations of elderly poor, immigrants and underserved minorities, including African-Americans, Native Americans and Hispanics, in keeping with its Jesuit Catholic mission."

The Outstanding Minority Health Community-Based Program award recognizes a program that promotes the development of effective community-oriented minority health care services. Brian Jimenez, OTD, Creighton professor of occupational therapy in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, helped develop the Omaha Nation's "Strengthening Family Partnerships" program. Created in response to issues that youth and their families face on the Omaha Reservation in Macy, Neb., the program provides families with information, guidance and a support system that promotes the strengthening of family relationships through education and direct support. Jimenez practices on the reservation, providing patient care, a clinical site for Creighton students and social leadership.

Inter Residence Hall Government Receives Award

Creighton University's Inter Residence Hall Government received the Large School of the Year Award at the annual conference of the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (MACURH) in November.

The Large School award is MACURH's most prestigious award and is presented to the best campus governments at schools that have more than 1,000 students in the residence halls. This marks the first time that Creighton has won this award.

MACURH is composed of Residence Hall Associations from Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba.

MACURH is one of eight regions that make up the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH). NACURH is the largest student-run, non-profit organization in the United States. NACURH originated in 1954 at Iowa State University.



Photo by Creighton Media Services

Alpha Sigma Nu Honors Three Alumni

Sr. Audrey Tramp, O.S.B., MA'62, MSGuid'69, received the Alumni Special Award at the Alpha Sigma Nu induction ceremony held Dec. 7 on the Creighton campus. The award was given to Sr. Audrey in recognition of her long-time service to Alpha Sigma Nu. She became affiliated with Alpha Sigma Nu while working with the late Rev. William Kelley, S.J., at Creighton University. In 1995, she was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu as an honorary member. In addition, the Rev. Thomas Bannantine, S.J., MA'63, and the Rev. Aloysius McMahan, MSGuid'69, were inducted as honorary members at the ceremony. Pictured above are Sr. Audrey and the Rev. Thomas Shanahan, S.J., moderator of the Alpha Sigma Nu Alumni Chapter.

Studies Shed New Light on Hereditary Cancers

A collaborative effort by researchers at Creighton University Medical Center and the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) has yielded encouraging information about hereditary hematologic (blood-borne) cancers such as leukemia. Studies published in three separate journals have indicated that familial tendencies toward leukemia, multiple myeloma and lymphoma provide important clues to the causes and pathology of these diseases.

Two medical journals, the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* and *Cancer Genetics and Cytogenetics*, have published the group's studies involving hereditary factors in hematologic malignancies and multiple myeloma. A third study involving genetic

links to chronic lymphocytic leukemia is scheduled to appear in the *American Journal of Medical Genetics*. Each of these studies was supported, in part, by revenue from the Nebraska cigarette taxes awarded to Creighton University and the University of Nebraska Medical Center by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Researchers from Creighton University include Henry T. Lynch, M.D., medical oncologist, cancer geneticist and professor; Patrice Watson, Ph.D., biostatistician and geneticist; Brigid Quinn-Laquer; and Jane F. Lynch. Researchers Dennis D. Weisenburger, M.D., hematopathologist, and Warren G. Sanger, Ph.D., cytogeneticist, are from UNMC. In August, the CUMC-UNMC colleagues sponsored an international meeting devoted to hereditary hematologic cancer.

Lynch acknowledges that until recently, medical genetic evaluation of families prone to hematologic cancer has been limited.

"Fortunately, we have been able to tap into the vast resource of individuals being treated at UNMC as well as the researchers' expertise in hematopathology and cytogenetic activities. Combined with Creighton's expertise in medical oncology, cancer genetics and biostatistical genetics, we are able to further extend work on these particular disorders," Lynch said.

"We are ultimately seeking a way to prevent these diseases through a better understanding of their natural history and possible interaction with environmental effects," Lynch continued. "With the latest developments in molecular genetics during the past decade, it may be possible to develop DNA-based pharmaceuticals that target these diseases."

Lynch said he and the other researchers are seeking more families prone to hematologic cancer. He can be reached at htlynch@creighton.edu, (402) 280-2942 (phone) or (402) 280-1734 (fax).

Images from Creighton's 2002 College Cup match against Stanford, courtesy of Don Doll, S.J.



Jeremy
SHELTON

Did You Know?

Creighton is one of only four schools to have its men's and women's soccer and basketball teams appear in NCAA Tournaments in 2002. The others are Connecticut, Notre Dame and Stanford.

Mike
TRANCHILLA

Creighton Men Make Third Appearance in NCAA College Cup

Creighton men's soccer solidified its standing as one of the dominant programs in the country with another trip to the NCAA College Cup in 2002 — collegiate soccer's version of the Final Four.

Creighton has appeared in three College Cups since 1996, advancing to the title game in 2000. This season, the Jays finished one game shy of another shot at playing for Creighton's first national championship.

Creighton won its league-leading eighth Missouri Valley Conference Tournament title to become one of just five programs to advance to the NCAA Tournament each of the past 11 years.

The Jays began their 2002 NCAA Tournament run with a 1-0 victory over Wisconsin-Milwaukee to advance to their seventh Sweet 16.

The 11th-ranked Jays then knocked off third-ranked St. John's and sixth-ranked Boston College to reach the

College Cup in Dallas.

Creighton's bid for a second shot at a national title fell one game shy, as the Jays lost to Stanford and former Creighton coach Bret Simon in the semifinals 2-1 in double overtime.

The Jays finished the season with an impressive 18-4-2 record and a pile of accolades.

Coach Bob Warming was a finalist for National Coach of the Year honors. This past season, Warming became the first CU soccer coach to notch 100 victories at the school. He now holds the program's record for most wins (101-32-10, .741).

Two Jays earned All-American honors — senior Mike Tranchilla and junior David Wagenfuhr — and Mehdi Ballouchy was named to the All-American Freshman first-team.

Creighton also had two players on the College Cup All-Tournament Team — Tranchilla, a two-time honoree, and senior defender Joe Wieland, who made

two goal-saving plays in the match against Stanford.

With 55 career goals and 140 points, Tranchilla became the conference's all-time scoring leader. He also was a two-time finalist for the Missouri Athletic Club's Hermann Trophy, finishing fourth in this season's balloting for Division I soccer's best player. The Barnhart, Mo., native was selected by the Dallas Burn in the fourth round of the 2003 Major League Soccer SuperDraft in January. He also was a second-round draft pick of the Dallas Sidekicks of the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Creighton loses six seniors from this season's squad: Tranchilla, Wieland, goalkeeper Mike Gabb (whose 41 career saves rank second on CU's all-time charts), Luiz Del Monte, Skylar Nelson and Jeremy Shelton.

Creighton Women Capture First Conference Titles

It was a splendid season of firsts for the Creighton women's soccer team.

The Jays won their first Missouri Valley Conference regular-season title in 2002, and followed that by winning their first conference tournament championship.

Creighton's dramatic 1-0 overtime victory over Illinois State in the conference final gave the Jays another first — a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

Sophomore Kelan Brill knocked home the game-winner against the Redbirds, scoring with 19 seconds left in overtime.

She was named the tournament's MVP.

Jaimie Thompson, Creighton's junior goalkeeper, earned the conference's Most Valuable Player award — marking the first time a goalkeeper has won that honor. Thompson recorded 106 saves and seven shutouts on the season and helped guide the Jays to an undefeated record in league play.

Six Creighton players, including Thompson, earned some level of All-Conference honors. The others were Franny Hylok, Lulu Quigley, Regina Moench, Lissa Waid and Krystle Campa. Waid and Ivonne Valentin also were named to the All-Freshman Team.

Head Coach Bruce Erickson was named the league's Coach of the Year, and, collectively, the Jays were awarded the 2002 College Team Academic Award.

The fantastic season came to an end in the first round of the NCAA Tournament as the Jays lost to 2001 champion and this season's runner-up Santa Clara, finishing the year 12-8-2.



Thompson



Erickson

Julian
NASH

the As



Michael J. Kelly, J.D., LL.M., assistant professor of law,
and Raneta Lawson Mack, J.D., professor of law

War on Terror: Assaulting Democracy at Home?

By Raneta Lawson Mack, J.D., professor of law, and
Michael J. Kelly, J.D., LL.M., assistant professor of law

On Sept. 20, 2001, President George W. Bush addressed a Congress and a nation still reeling in horror and disbelief from the unimaginable acts of cruelty that the world witnessed on Sept. 11, 2001. In his speech to a devastated nation, President Bush articulated the collective sentiment of most Americans when he said, "All of this was brought upon us in a single day, and night fell upon a different world." A different world indeed.

The tragic events of Sept. 11 will undoubtedly be permanently etched in the memories of all Americans who were old enough to struggle with comprehending and rationalizing actions that were, by design, incomprehensible and irrational. For several weeks, the surreal imagery of jetliners colliding with occupied skyscrapers on American soil played repeatedly to a stunned international audience. As with other acts of unspeakable violence throughout our nation's history, most Americans viewing the deadly imagery of Sept. 11 will forever recall where they were the moment they first became aware of the unprecedented terrorist onslaught that, without warning, indelibly marked yet

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

— Fourth Amendment

another day that will live in infamy. If the goal of these sudden and deliberate attacks was to instill fear and uncertainty in a seemingly invincible nation of people, then the attacks were an unmitigated

success. For in the immediate aftermath, not only did the attacks engender a sense of vulnerability "in our own backyard," but they also induced widespread skepticism concerning America's ability to anticipate and prevent terrorism inside its own borders and within its current political, legislative and judicial framework.

Indeed, in an effort to address the myriad concerns that arose in the wake of the terrorist attacks, the following fundamental changes to America's institutions have been proposed and/or implemented:

- ★ Congress enacted the USA Patriot Act in record time with little or no debate. Among other things, this far-reaching piece of legislation grants the government unprecedented authority to invade the privacy of American citizens with minimal judicial and congressional oversight.
- ★ President Bush issued a controversial military order establishing secret military tribunals to try detainees in the war on terror.
- ★ A cabinet-level Office of Homeland Security was created to coordinate U.S. national security efforts.

- ★ The FBI arrested and indefinitely detained hundreds of men of certain ethnic backgrounds while inviting hundreds more to “voluntary interrogations.”
- ★ The FBI was given broader authority to scour the Internet and other sources of public information for criminal activity — including entering public places (e.g., churches, schools and sporting events) for such law enforcement gathering purposes.
- ★ FBI rules have been relaxed to make it easier for federal agents to get secret terrorism wiretaps.
- ★ Attorney General John Ashcroft has proposed establishing a registry for foreigners who might be considered “international security concerns.” This means that men 18-35 years of age from approximately 20 Muslim and Middle Eastern countries could be fingerprinted, photographed and required to complete a lengthy form.
- ★ A program called TIPS (Terrorist Information and Prevention System) was proposed to allow citizens to “help” in the antiterrorism effort by using their common sense to identify and report unusual, suspicious and potentially terroristic activity. This idea was scrapped after a public outcry against it.
- ★ Ambiguous “high alert” warnings are issued periodically to serve as constant reminders that random terrorist violence is now a part of America’s daily existence.
- ★ Off American shores and presumably outside the jurisdiction of U.S. courts, hundreds of suspected Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorists have been captured, labeled “enemy combatants” and are currently being “detained” at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, without any apparent plans for implementing any type of judicial process to determine their guilt or innocence.
- ★ Within the U.S. judicial system, American citizens suspected of or charged with terrorist-related crimes have endured differential treatment and, in the name of national security, have been denied some of the basic

protections afforded criminal defendants by our Constitution. For example, John Walker Lindh (the “American Taliban”) was processed through the federal court system, eventually pleaded guilty and is currently serving a 20-year sentence. Whereas, Jose Padilla, an American citizen accused of plotting to build and detonate radioactive “dirty bombs” on U.S. soil, was labeled an “unlawful combatant,” turned over to the military, and is now being indefinitely detained and denied most of the basic rights granted American citizens suspected of criminal activity.

- ★ The Pentagon is currently creating a computer system that would act as a vast electronic dragnet, searching for personal information to aid in rooting out terrorists around the globe — including within the United States. Overseeing this domestic spying initiative is former Reagan administration national security adviser, Vice Admiral John M. Poindexter, who left office in disgrace over the Iran-Contra scandal. Poindexter has touted the system as capable of providing intelligence analysts and law enforcement officials with instant access to a variety of information, including e-mail, telephone records, financial transactions and travel documents, all without the unnecessary burden of a search warrant.

- ★ The terrorist attacks have also spawned a renewed interest in the role of the military in domestic law enforcement, which portends a possible revocation of the long-standing Civil War-era doctrine of *posse comitatus*, a law that prohibits the use of Armed Forces in civil law enforcement.

As this illustrative, although by no means exhaustive, list indicates, sweeping reforms within U.S. political and judicial systems have been effected with very little debate, consultation or analysis. Because this unparalleled transformation affects, and in some cases, runs roughshod over fundamental principles inherent to a democratic society, America’s overall

response to the 9-11 terrorist attacks has brought into sharp focus basic notions of liberty, fairness and justice memorialized centuries ago with the ratification of the U.S. Constitution. That is, in the seemingly directionless quest to eradicate terrorism, foundational principles once considered inviolable are now being called into question or brushed aside altogether.

For example, in this new era of fear, suspicion and uncertainty, it is commonplace to question and debate whether America’s criminal justice system, with all of its flaws and foibles, is an appropriate venue for the terrorists who allegedly masterminded and perpetrated the worst terrorist attack in world history. Such debate often ignores the centuries of delicate give-and-take within the American constitutional form of government that facilitated the compromises so crucial to a justice system committed to principles of equality and fairness under the law. Why is this system suddenly so profoundly inadequate that it cannot be trusted to exact fair and just punishment for terrorist defendants? The answer certainly cannot be that the U.S. has never charged, convicted or punished terrorists who planned and committed deadly acts on American soil. For one only has to look at the court proceedings in the first World Trade Center bombing and the Timothy

Why is this system suddenly so profoundly inadequate that it cannot be trusted to exact fair and just punishment for terrorist defendants?

The proposition is this: that in a time of war the commander of an armed force ... has the power ... to suspend all civil rights and their remedies, and subject citizens as well as soldiers to the rule of his will. ... [I]f true, republican government is a failure, and there is an end of liberty regulated by law.

— Civil War-era
Supreme Court Justice David Davis,
from *Ex Parte Milligan* (1866)

(In *Ex Parte Milligan*, the Supreme Court ruled that an American citizen not connected with military service could not be tried by a military commission in a jurisdiction where the civil courts were open and unobstructed.)

McVeigh trial to dismiss that notion. So we are compelled to dig much deeper for a rationale that may, in the end, require confronting the unwarranted fears, suspicion and paranoia that have no legitimate place in shaping a system committed to fairness and equal justice under the law.

However, even allowing, for the sake of argument, that the American justice system requires alterations to fight (and presumably win) the war on terrorism, further questions remain, such as: What specific changes are necessary, and how should they be proposed and implemented? Because it appears that the current restructuring trend is in the direction of piecemeal, ad hoc pronouncements and determinations that have the potential to result in differential applications and outcomes, a number of other questions that take into account historical precedent and

consistency with America's guiding principles must also be considered. For example, how would this patchwork of changes comport with traditional notions of fair play and equal justice for all? Are there lessons from America's history of wartime treatment of citizens and non-citizens that may be instructive in the current circumstances? If the U.S. justice system framework is dramatically overhauled solely to address concerns arising from the 9-11 attacks, what message does this send at home and abroad? In short, the overarching question is this: Can America, a nation rooted in democracy, liberty and justice, remain true to its commitment to equal justice under the law while simultaneously taking a leadership role in eradicating terrorism throughout the world?

While these questions permit no easy answers, as history has demonstrated

time and again, pursuit of justice through repression of fundamental freedoms in the name of protecting a free society serves neither. The incongruity of this familiar trap is self-evident. Succeeding generations of Americans have wrestled with it: from the foundation of this fragile republic in the 18th century through the Civil War of the 19th to the communist scare of the McCarthy era in the 20th century. The events of Sept. 11 have now thrust this dilemma on our generation in the 21st century. We must face it truthfully, with due regard to credible concerns on both sides of the argument. Balancing freedom and security in the scales of justice is no small task. But it perhaps becomes easier to comprehend when we step back and realize that justice is in the balance as well.

U.S. Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Woodrow Wilson recognized the temptation to tip the balance between law and security in favor of security during war. Lincoln noted, after he suspended *habeas corpus* and disregarded the Supreme Court's opinion during the Civil War, that "[t]he Constitution is different in its application in cases of Rebellion or Invasion, involving the Public Safety, from what it is in times of profound peace and public security." And Wilson observed "[t]here is an old saying that the laws are silent in the presence of war. Alas, yes; not only the civil laws of individual nations but also apparently the law that governs the relation of nations with one another must at times fall silent and look on in dumb impotency."

However, both presidents were faced with different kinds of wars than the threat posed by terrorists to our country. Congress had declared war in both instances when those executives decided to tip the balance toward security over justice. The nation was literally torn in half during the Civil War. And America, not yet a superpower, was embroiled in its first global conflict during World War I. Neither circumstance validates those actions, but may explain them.

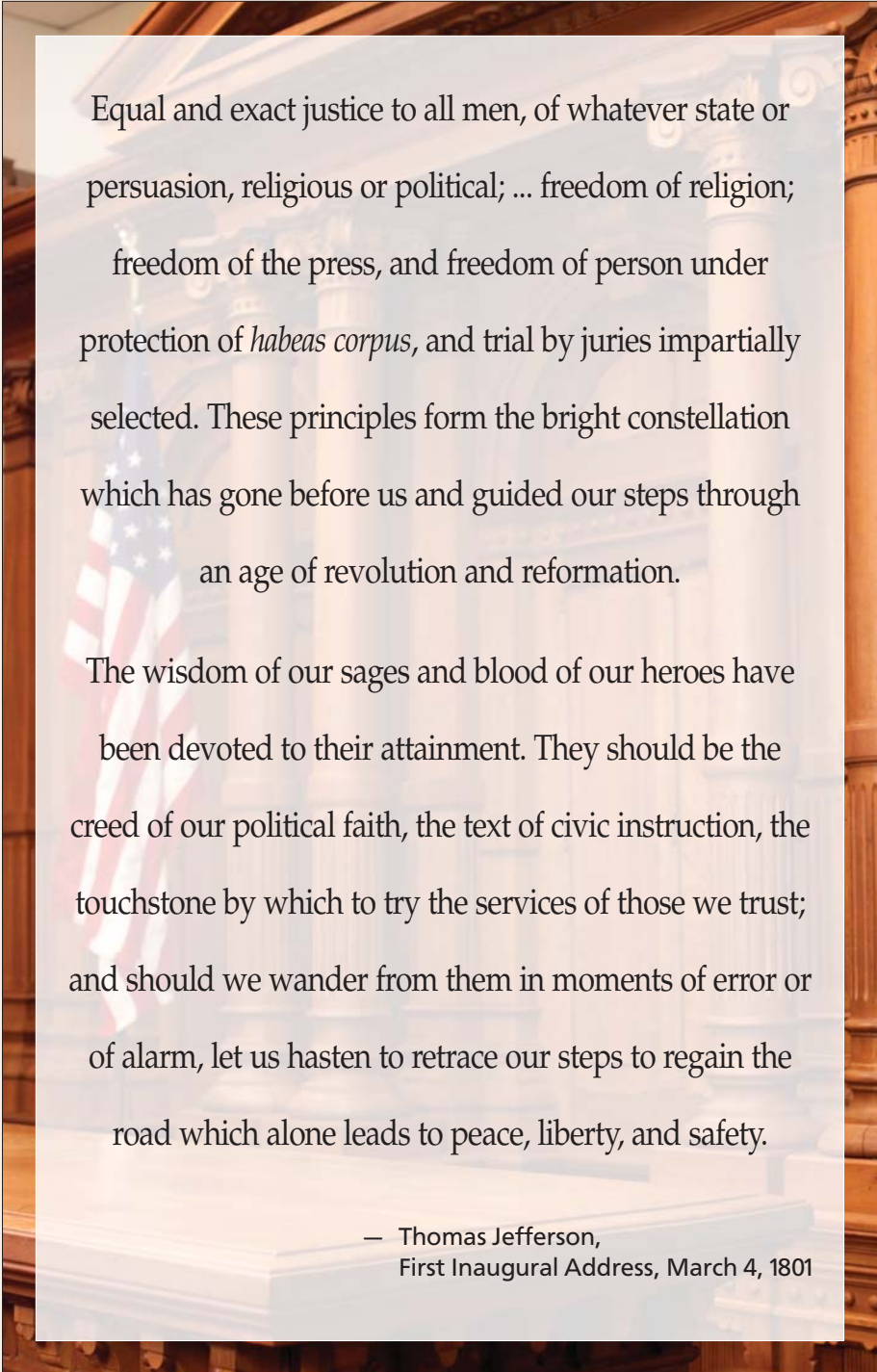
In the war on terror, there is not always a visible enemy, no one country

at which to direct our military might beyond Afghanistan or Iraq, and no pronouncement of war from the people's representatives. Indeed, statements by congressional representatives admitting their irresponsible reaction to Attorney General Ashcroft's scare tactics indicate that Congress was coerced into passing the USA Patriot Act, a piece of legislation fraught with possibilities for injustice. While many of those possibilities remain inchoate, others have risen to the level of probable, and still other injustices have been realized. The major thrust of the Act — providing federal agencies with more surveillance options that are easier to activate while simultaneously decreasing judicial supervision of that process — may encourage abuses which will never come to light. Indeed, those who are watched under its provisions may never even know they're being observed or their privacy probed.

Citizens can also now be detained as "material witnesses" indefinitely, without being charged, without access to counsel, incommunicado and in solitary confinement. When courts have challenged such detainments, Attorney General Ashcroft has substituted in the label of "enemy combatant" to justify handing Americans over to Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's Defense Department — which then confines them to military brigs, wrapping their detention in a shroud of secrecy. For example, Padilla (the alleged "dirty bomber") and Yaser Hamdi (who, like Lindh, was captured in fighting with the Taliban in Afghanistan and is now being detained as an "enemy combatant" at a Navy brig in Norfolk, Va.) are two Americans who have been subjected to this "parallel" system of "justice."

Does that mean that these Americans have been stripped of their citizenship? No. However, it does mean that the U.S. military is holding American citizens against their will.

Are they being interrogated? Are they being tortured? We don't know the answers to these questions. All we know is that they are Americans who have been summarily denied their rights as citizens. Based on the



Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; ... freedom of religion; freedom of the press, and freedom of person under protection of *habeas corpus*, and trial by juries impartially selected. These principles form the bright constellation which has gone before us and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation.

The wisdom of our sages and blood of our heroes have been devoted to their attainment. They should be the creed of our political faith, the text of civic instruction, the touchstone by which to try the services of those we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or of alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety.

— Thomas Jefferson,
First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1801

government's newfound power to use either of these labels — "material witness" or "enemy combatant" — Americans can now be snatched off planes, streets and even out of their own homes, secretly "processed" and thrown into prison or a military jail indefinitely without the benefit of legal representation.

Basic rights of non-citizen residents in the U.S. have also been infringed upon

wholesale. Protection against preventive or indefinite detention, privacy of the attorney-client relationship, the right to a jury trial, appeal and public hearings have all been swept aside by more Ashcroft initiatives implemented by the INS. The effect has been to construct an alternate justice system for non-citizens weighted in favor of the government to summarily deport people they deem undesirable.

Non-citizens outside the U.S. are not even accorded hearings guaranteed them under the Geneva Conventions. Hundreds now languish below the tropical sun at Camp X-Ray in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, undergoing military, FBI and CIA interrogation without access to counsel. These detainees, known by the new sobriquet “unlawful combatants” could remain at this improvised but expanding prison forever — just beyond the territorial reach of American federal courts. They are victims of a legal status created by our government that refuses to acknowledge them as prisoners of war even though they were captured in the “war on terrorism,” which Congress acknowledged through joint resolution as the constitutional equivalent of a declared war.

The government is also using its power to control information as a means of restricting public access to public records. Under new rules issued by Ashcroft to executive agencies directing them to read the parameters of the Freedom of Information Act as narrowly as possible while the administration’s war on terrorism continues, many formerly available documents are being reclassified and withheld from public scrutiny. As the following newspaper account from *USA Today* shows, even mundane requests are increasingly denied:

When United Nations analyst Ian Thomas contacted the National Archives in March to get some 30-year-old maps of Africa to plan a relief mission, he was told the government no longer makes them public. When John Coequyt, an environmentalist, tried to connect to an online database where the Environmental Protection Agency lists chemical plants that violate pollution laws, he was denied access. And when civil rights lawyer Kate Martin asked for a copy of a court order that has kept secret the names of some of the hundreds of foreigners jailed since Sept. 11, the Justice Department told her the order itself was secret. “They say, ‘There’s a secrecy order barring us from

telling you this. But the language of the secrecy order is secret, so you’ll just have to take our word for it,’” she says.

Without access to basic information, the public, the press, non-governmental organizations and civil society itself cannot sufficiently assess the motives, actions or justifications of our public officials. And if we cannot do that, then we cannot challenge those motives, actions or justifications as illegal or

Section. 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

— From the 14th Amendment

otherwise unacceptable. Public debate in this free democracy is thereby reduced to charges and countercharges based on hearsay and speculation. When public discourse is reduced to such a level, paranoia flourishes and takes democracy as its primary hostage.

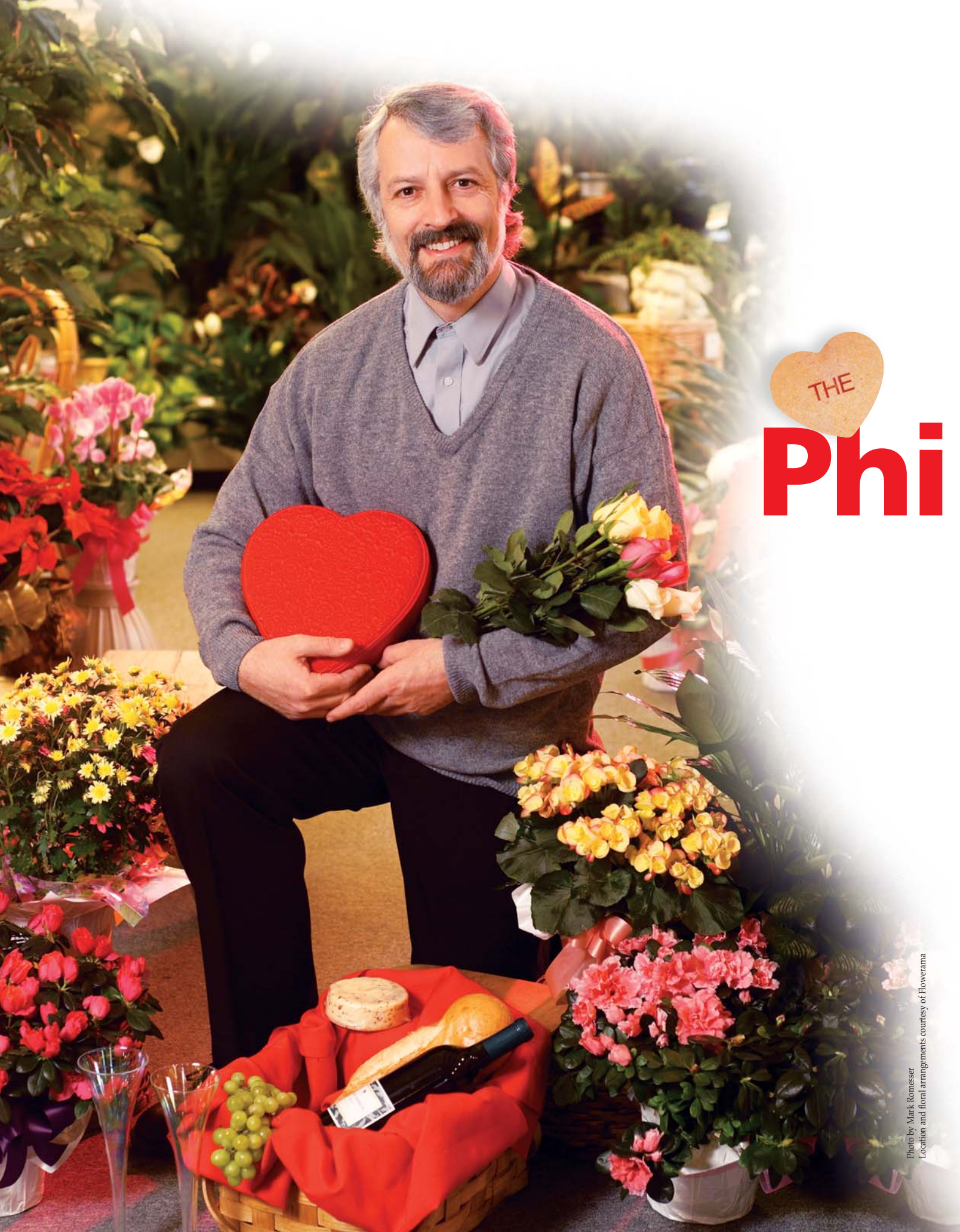
All Americans, indeed most people around the world, understand that there

is an inherent tension between the desire to have a free society and a secure one. In a time of clear threat to our nation, there is a natural tendency to favor a secure one. However, if we compromise our most basic freedoms in order to have this “secure” society, are we truly any better off? Are we consciously trading one type of society for another? Did not the free societies emerge victorious over the closed societies in World War II? In the Cold War? Is it not true now that how we as a society react to the threat we face will inevitably define us as a people?

Law is the foundation of free societies. Observance of it by the government — and administration of it on the basis of equal justice — are essential to securing civil liberty. It is said that in wartime, “law falls silent” as the balance shifts to security. Bush administration policies in the post-9-11 war on terrorism have caused that balance to shift too far in the direction of national security, and away from upholding the constellation of basic rights the framers enshrined as inviolate in the American Constitution.

In a system of divided government, it is the executive’s job to secure the nation against external threats — and power naturally accrues to that branch during wartime. Even so, it is equally the legislature’s duty to oversee the executive’s administration of that power and the judiciary’s duty to mitigate its abuse — reducing it where needed to bring the system back into balance. In prosecuting America’s war on terror, this president has coerced Congress to abandon its oversight role and abdicate its power. Only the courts remain an obstacle to permanent fixture of these new prerogatives in the executive. Although some preliminary rulings give hope, it remains to be seen whether the courts will rise to function as guardians of civil liberty and equal justice during this crisis. ●

About the authors: Kelly and Mack are co-authors of a new book, Equal Justice in the Balance: Assessing America’s Legal Responses to the Emerging Terrorist Threat, which will be published this year by the University of Michigan Press.



THE
Phi

Photo by Mark Romnesser
Location and floral arrangements courtesy of Flowerana

One of the most successful courses that I've taught at Creighton has been PHL 479, The Philosophy of Love and Sex. I think there are some obvious reasons why students would be drawn to this particular class. For one thing, everyone is interested in human relationships.

Teaching more traditional philosophy classes in metaphysics, logic or epistemology can be frustrating because students sometimes need to be convinced that these are important topics that are worth studying. But that's never an issue with PHL 479. My students have a lot to say about the rights and wrongs of friendship and

(such as the ultimate nature of the universe), you might think that love and human relationships are quite beneath their notice. But that's not a vision of philosophy that I share. I believe that philosophy is the most important subject because it allows us to make some sense out of the world in which we live. Love, in all of its different forms, is one of the most important human realities, and a philosophical approach to love should be capable of illuminating what love is.

And so, I decided to write a book on the nature of love. The book really emerged from the class on love that I

passionate love, since the latter was based on feelings rather than virtue. And for many early Christians, including Saint Augustine, to love another person profoundly was not necessarily a good thing, since it detracted from the love that ought to be reserved for God.

In modern times, we have come to believe in the absolute necessity and importance of romantic love, but in past ages, romantic love was often viewed as an aberration. In Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, the ardor of the two young lovers is magnificently portrayed, but it is also seen as dangerous because it

Philosophy OF Love

By Richard White, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy

romantic love.

Like everyone else, they are profoundly influenced by the images of love and relationship that they see in popular films and books, and they have expectations about the place of love in their own lives that are shaped by the culture around them. Now, there are some classical philosophers, such as Plato and Aristotle, who write at length about the nature of love and friendship. But strangely enough, modern philosophers have been rather silent about the issue of love. I'm not sure why this is. Are philosophers afraid of love?

There is a perception that philosophers tend to be out of touch with everyday human realities, and if you think that philosophers spend all their time contemplating abstract truths

had been teaching, and it was shaped by student interest and concerns. There were some very basic questions for me to think about: What is love? What are the most basic kinds of love, such as friendship, romance and the religious love of God, and how are they related to each other? Is love an enduring part of human nature that remains the same in all human societies? Or should we say that love has its own history?

Romantic love, for example, seems to be a feature of modern life. The ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans had their own love poetry, but it is only recently we have come to believe that without romantic love, our lives must be wretched and unfulfilled. For the ancient Greeks, of course, friendship was much nobler and superior to

threatens the harmony of the state. For much of history, marriage was a matter of property and alliance, and it's only quite recently that we have come to think, in this part of the world at least, that the most important question is whether the individuals involved are actually in love with each other.

I began writing this book as a philosopher who wanted to use his philosophical skills to clarify the nature of love, to describe its "necessary and sufficient conditions," and to construct a theory of what love is. What I soon came to realize, however, was that love cannot be captured by any set of abstract concepts. Since my goal was to understand the nature of love, I realized that I would also have to think about the experience of love and the history of

Richard White, Ph.D., left, says romantic love is a feature of modern life.

Creighton Couples

Creighton has a total of 3,767 alumni couples living all over the world. We guess that most of them met here at Creighton, as students. In the boxes on the following pages, we offer a small sampling of love that blossomed on Creighton's campus — a celebration of this Valentine's month. But we know there are a lot more stories — and we'd love to share them with you. With this in mind, jot us a quick e-mail about how you met, and we'll post it on the Creighton Alumni Relations website (www.creighton.edu/alumni). Send your love stories to creightoncouples@creighton.edu.



Drafted into Love

When Kathi Hermann, BS'68, stood in line at the Old Gym on the last day of freshman registration, she was stumped by a blank on a form that read, "Selective Service Number." "I didn't have any brothers, so I sure didn't know what that meant." The solution? Ask for help. The freshman from Denver steered her way to the nearest table of volunteers, staffed by the brothers of Alpha Phi Omega. (She learned much later that the guys chose this volunteer project on campus to get a firsthand look at the freshman women.) Hermann said she had her own eye on a tall blond to ask for his assistance. But Jack Balousek, BA'67, jumped in before his fraternity brother could respond. "Here I was, heading for someone else, only to be intercepted by my soulmate," Kathi recalled. The two quickly resolved the Selective Service question and headed for the nearest Kings restaurant to get acquainted over french fries and iced tea. His parting words? "I'll see you tomorrow at the freshman dance." "But you need a 'beanie' to get in," Kathi laughed. "I'll see you then," Jack replied. Somehow, Kathi recalled, Balousek showed up, beanie on head, the next evening at the dance. They've been married for 34 years.

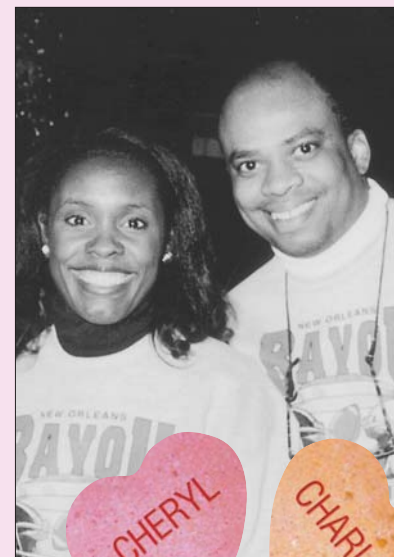
love, and pay particular attention to the different ways in which poets, novelists and psychologists like Freud have described it.

I also realized that any account of love would have to be critical in nature: There are so many received ideas and myths about love that we inherit from our parents and teachers, as well as from society at large. It is often said, for example, that a mother's love is soft and yielding and practically unconditional (the Virgin Mary is regarded as the ideal mother), while a father's love is conditional and strict. Hence, mothers may feel incredibly guilty when they become angry with their children, and fathers may also feel that they have failed as parents if they don't act as strict disciplinarians. In each case, an idea about love, and what it means to be a loving parent, is accepted without question, and the result is often an unhappy one for all the individuals involved.

Similarly, romantic love seems to call upon people to make sacrifices. "I would do anything for you," the singer croons, and there is the idea that anything can be justified by love. Quite often, though, it is the woman rather than the man who will sacrifice her career or educational opportunities to follow her partner. Could it be that romantic love is inherently sexist? In today's society, women are often held to be the experts on love, and they seem to have the chief responsibility for maintaining relationships. But does it therefore follow that they must sacrifice everything for the love of a man?

Many of our students who are about to graduate will face practical and philosophical dilemmas like this one. Last semester, in a Senior Perspectives class for graduating seniors, I had four students (out of 25) who planned to get married just as soon as the semester was over! In terms of academic and professional opportunities, there is probably a lot more equality between men and women than there ever has been in the past, but this makes me wonder to what extent traditional ideas about romantic love may also be in the process of changing.

As most people realize, there are different forms of love. I don't believe that anyone ever experiences "pure



Going to the Chapel

Cheryl (Hill) Polk, BA'84, believes she and husband Charles, JD'86, were possibly the first (and last) couple who were not Catholic to be married in St. John's Church. Cheryl said she met her future husband at church, but not at St. John's. "I gathered up a group of my friends at Creighton one Sunday and said, 'Hey, I've been going to Mass with you all year ... and it's time you went to my church with me.'" The group headed off to Newlight Baptist Church in Omaha, where Cheryl's father, the Rev. Raymond Hill, is pastor. While there that Sunday, Cheryl met Charles, then a student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. As they got acquainted, and she learned he hoped to be an attorney, Cheryl persuaded Charles to come to Creighton's School of Law. "I've always loved Creighton," said Cheryl, whose sisters were educated here, as well. "It's like a family to me."

love" in the abstract, but each of us can experience passionate (or romantic) love, friendship, parental love and the "love of humanity."

Romantic love and friendship are easy enough to grasp; "parental love" means the love of parents for their

children (who may or may not be friends with them), while the “love of humanity” is expressed in the story of the Good Samaritan or in the lives of non-religious individuals like Oskar Schindler and other rescuers of Jews during the Nazi Holocaust. These people loved and cared for others, not out of a sense of “duty,” but because they felt profoundly connected to them as fellow human beings. There are certainly other kinds of love — such as the love of animals — but I think that they can all

be understood by analogy with the four basic kinds of love that I have just described. In some ways, for example, my dog is my friend, but I also have to take care of him and make sure that he is fed, and this suggests that our relationship is also like that of a parent and child.

Likewise, in the Christian tradition, the love of God is sometimes viewed as friendship (“Jesus is my friend”), while

in Christian mysticism, the intensity of the relationship with Christ is sometimes described in erotic terms. God is also thought of as a loving father, but the word most often used to describe God’s love in the New Testament is “agape.” This signifies a love for others regardless of who they are and whether they have merited love or not. Agape is another version of what I call “the love of humanity.”

Let’s first consider friendship. We can still learn a lot from the ancient writers. Aristotle, like Cicero and most of the other classical philosophers, understood that friendship is a profoundly moral relationship.

I think that we have lost sight of this today. We tend to think that two people are friends if they just enjoy spending time together, and we don’t have a problem with the idea that two bad people can still be good friends. What we don’t see are the ways in which friendship can help us to become good. It’s because we value our friends that we want to be valued by them, and this makes us strive to become better people than we otherwise would be. Our friends usually have similar values to us — presumably that’s why they became our friends in the first place — and so we are encouraged to stick to our principles because of our friends, when we might have given up without them.

On the other hand, Aristotle and the other ancient philosophers seemed to believe that only men are capable of true friendship. This is a mistaken view, and we don’t need Thelma and Louise to show us that women can be good friends.

The truth is that men and women have somewhat different ideas of what it means to be a friend. Probably because of the different ways in which they are socialized, men often believe that any kind of emotional disclosure is “dumping” and hence burdensome to the friendship. But in friendship between women, emotional disclosure and sharing is all-important since it is an expression of openness and availability. This is one way to think about the famous dilemma posed by the film, *When Harry Met Sally*, when the character played by Billy Crystal asks, “Can men and women ever be friends?” Well, part of the



Moving (Van) Memories

When Duchesne College closed in 1968, that meant student Sandy Cooper, BS’70, had to head “down the hill” to Creighton to finish her last two years of college. Soon she would meet Charles Mendes, BS’69, DDS’73, in front of the Creighton library (“Notice,” she said, “I didn’t say ‘in the library!’”) and the two would become part of a group of good friends. One day, out of the blue, she got a call in the Kiewit dorm from Charles, asking her for a date, a Creighton basketball game. That date went fine, Sandy said, though it was probably a good thing that their first date hadn’t been to the spring dance at Omaha’s Peony Park. “We had a fun group of friends,” Sandy recalled, “and the guys kept saying they had something special planned for that evening.” So, at about 6 p.m. on the night of the dance, a huge moving van appeared at Kiewit, driven by one of the girl’s dates. Soon, “the back door of the van dropped down to reveal a fully carpeted and furnished living room,” with refreshments thoughtfully provided. “We climbed on board — and all was well until our driver peeled off the van’s roof in the process of picking up one of the dates!” In spite of a spring rainstorm, laughter reigned all evening and continued until the guys got the bill from the rental company, Sandy said. “Charles says it was his most expensive date,” she recalled, but apparently worth the bill. The couple were married in 1972 and have sent three of their children to Creighton.

problem is that men and women usually have a different understanding of what friendship involves.

Friendship and romantic love are often described in exalted and even sublime terms: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"; and at the end of the day, the passion between Romeo and Juliet, or Cathy and Heathcliff seems to eclipse everything else.

But what about parental love? To be a parent is to be firmly grounded in the

mundane realm: making meals, washing clothes, nursing and preventing sickness, keeping things clean and keeping things calm. When we love a child and take care of her, most of our concerns, thoughts and activities are fixed on this routine level.

But the very significance of everyday life, or what Nietzsche called the depth of the present moment, is also revealed through the ongoing joy of parental love. For as we continue to care for the child from one moment to the next, we become aware of our strength in caring, and our most complete involvement in the process of life itself.

Of course, we know that our children will grow up. This is the way it should be, and then they will not particularly need us. We hope that they will continue to love us. But what we hope for most of all is that our children will be able to love and care for others as we have loved them. Perhaps they will have their own children and continue the circle of caring. All of this is an act of gratitude to life and shows our deepest attunement to it.

Romantic love is often associated with the most complete intensification of personal experience in the physical, emotional and spiritual sense. Of course, it is quite easy to parody the passionate devotion of the lover, as when Goethe's hero young Werther exclaims, "I have no prayers left except prayers to her, my imagination calls up no other image than hers, and I see everything in the world only in relation to her."

Romantic lovers often inhabit a world of their own, and one sign of their passion is their apparent obliviousness to everything else. "Let Rome in Tiber melt," says Mark Antony in Shakespeare's play, because the world means nothing to him once he is with his Cleopatra. But these are extreme literary models, and in the end, it must be allowed that such passionate love can make us very keenly aware of how all of our love is focused on the mystery and wonder of another person.

To be in love means that one is continually surprised and astonished by the reality of another. It means being forced out of our usual self-absorption to grasp the reality of that person through loving attention and concern. Romantic love may be associated with passionate excess, but it can also be the most intense and urgent experience of love that allows both lovers to flourish in their encounter with each other.

Finally, the love of humanity is profoundly important and real. It may be easy to love our own friends and family, and, since we have a shared history with them, it isn't difficult to grasp that our own well-being must be bound up with theirs. But it is much harder to care for a stranger and to love that person and take account of her needs when there is nothing that we



Courting 'Joan of Arc'

It was St. Patrick's Day, 1955, and Owen Neary, BSArts'55 — "a senior by then and taking it easy on this holiday" — spotted attractive Elizabeth Pitner, BSEdu'58, MSGuid'76, dutifully on her way to class. "It was 10 in the morning," recalled Neary, who together with a group of friends, was on his way to a pre-noon party — and urging the attractive underclassman to do the same. But Betty would have none of it — and Owen would have to wait a few weeks for a first date with this popular roommate of his best friend's girlfriend. Both Owen and Betty were involved in Creighton theater, in their day situated where the Reinert Alumni Memorial Library now stands. Owen said the crumbling structure must have added a further note of terror to Betty's portrayal there of "Joan of Arc." By that time, Owen was in the military, but remembering the old theater, he said, "It wouldn't have taken much to imagine the whole building going up in smoke." In spite of his time in the service, Owen never forgot Betty, whom he persuaded to take his hand in marriage at St. John's Church in 1958.



© Tate Gallery, London/Art Resource, NY

The tragic love affair between Paolo Malatesta and Francesca Da Polenta, renowned in literature and art, is depicted in this 1855 painting by Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828-1882). Gianciotto Malatesta murdered Francesca, his wife, and Paolo, his brother, when he discovered they were lovers.

share beyond the fact of our common humanity.

In 1913, Albert Schweitzer abandoned a successful career as a theologian and organist to set up a hospital in Lambarene, an outpost in the Cameroon. He certainly had a religious motivation for going there, but he went to heal people, not to convert them, and for the love of humanity he stayed for the next 50 years until his death.

A cynic might say that someone like Schweitzer was acting for selfish reasons, for the sake of religious rewards in heaven, or just to avoid feeling guilty. I would say instead that those who are willing to care for a stranger must experience a deep sense of connection and identification with all human beings. It is as if they were saying, "I care for you because I experience your life to be just as important as my own, and I cannot separate my own well-being from yours."

This is probably one of the deepest truths about the nature of love and it applies equally to friendship, parental love, romantic love and the love of humanity.

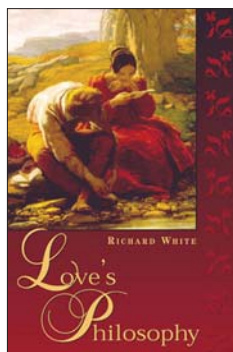
As I like to think of it, as human

beings, we are not solitary and isolated. We all belong to each other. We are all related to each other. And we are all responsible for each other. But this does not mean that we must cease to live our own lives or must deliberately relinquish our own specific goals. It simply means that we must love and care for our neighbor. In the love of humanity, which is expressed in the caring and compassionate involvement with another, a stranger, or simply one in need, we thereby confirm the ultimate solidarity of human existence. And in striving to care for such an individual — whoever he or she may be — we are also affirming the value of every individual life, and the ultimate good of humanity itself.

Perhaps philosophers are a bit unsettled by love because love is supposed to involve the triumph of passion over reason. According to Plato, and other philosophers, reason should be in charge of the well-ordered soul, and so the lover is someone who has dangerously abandoned herself to the inferior parts of her nature.

Obviously, I think we need to challenge this model of philosophy and what it means to be a human being. Love is not opposed to autonomy. To love someone does not involve losing yourself. In fact, the different forms of love are ways of achieving the most significant connection with the reality of other people, while at the same time love also enlarges our own self-understanding and sense of who we are. ☺

About the author: White is the author of the book Love's Philosophy, published by Rowman and Littlefield Press. "It's a work of philosophy," White explained. "It includes detailed discussions of Plato, Aristotle and Freud, as well as Simone de Beauvoir, Charlotte Bronte, St. Augustine and St. Paul. But it's also a book that would be accessible to the intelligent lay person."



Lovin' Fillings

When Heather Roeber, BSChm '95, made an appointment at the Creighton Dental School to get her teeth cleaned, she didn't know it might lead to a lifelong arrangement. Dental student John Reardon, BSPhy '91, DDS '95, discovered Heather needed a filling and asked her to be his patient for board exams. "All of this transpired before we were dating," Heather recalled. Heather still has the appointment card John gave her when she agreed to be his patient for boards. "He put his home number on it and said for me to call. I don't know to this day if I was to call for dental or personal reasons. But I called for personal reasons!" The Reardons were married in May 2000 and are expecting their first child this April.



The Truth About HRT

By Mary Kay Shanley, BA'65



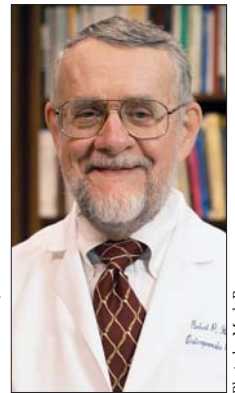
It's been a little over six months now since the National Institutes of Health (NIH) stopped the part of its Women's Health Initiative (WHI) study that considered the effects of estrogen plus progestin hormone replacement therapy or HRT on postmenopausal women who had not had a hysterectomy.



That study, which was one arm of a multifaceted study, concerned 16,608 women. In a nutshell, the WHI said the risks of taking the estrogen plus progestin were exceeding the benefits.

Because the combination HRT had been commonly accepted and widely embraced, the cessation became headlines in newspapers and lead stories on the evening news; it snapped up the covers of magazines, clogged phone lines into doctors' offices, lit up Internet websites and — in general — threw millions of women into, if not a panic, at least a quandary. After all, 40 percent of postmenopausal women in the U.S. were using HRT, including 6 million on combination therapy and 8 million on estrogen alone.

Within two weeks of the announcement, Robert Heaney, BS'47, MD'51, the John A. Creighton University professor who specializes in endocrinology, saw a personal injury attorney's newspaper advertisement suggesting that women who use Prempro (one of the primary drugs that combines estrogen and progestin in HRT) should "call now to find out about your legal rights."



Heaney

Photo by Mark Romesser

The ad was, at the least, a source of irritation to the doctor. "Just because that part of the study was stopped was no reason for women to be scared," he said.

He points out that the combination HRT study only tested Prempro (a combination of estrogen and Premarin plus Provera) and only in one specific dose. Plus, there had been no apparent increase in the risk of breast cancer with the group using estrogen only (women who had had hysterectomies). "Had there been a significant increase in the estrogen-only part of the study, that arm would have been stopped, too," he said, adding, "This means the progestin probably was playing a more important role than we thought."

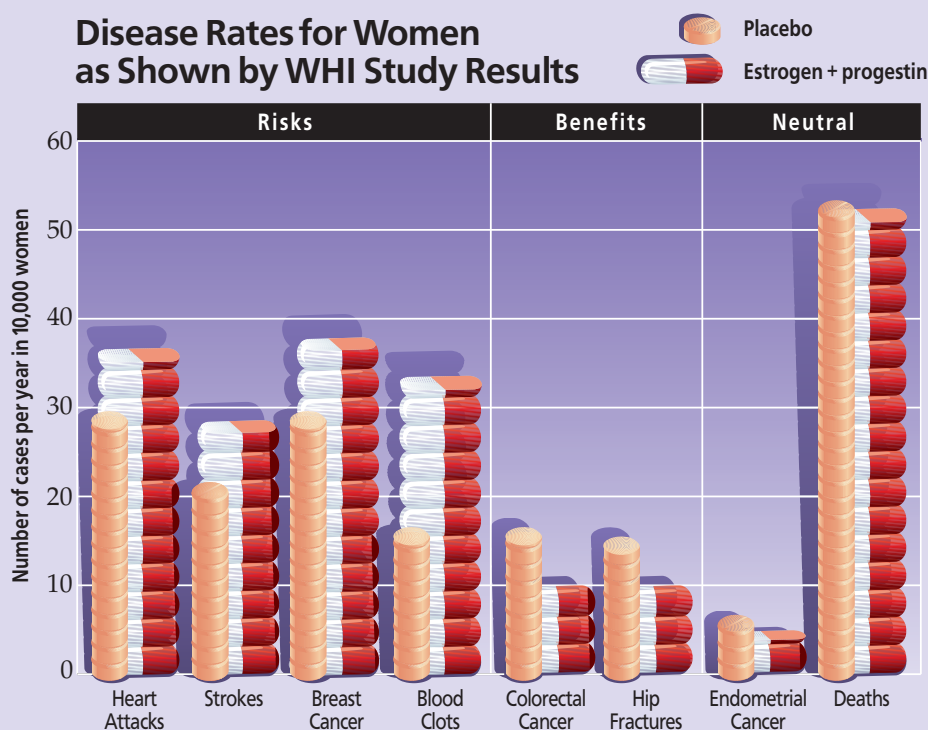
Heaney views the cessation of that

The NIH Study

Over the years, a number of research studies presented a complicated picture of the risks and benefits of HRT; also, estrogen's continued use for prevention of cardiovascular diseases was based on uncertain evidence. Consequently, the NIH launched a multifaceted study. While the arms of the study interacted, one part primarily examined the long-term effect of estrogen plus progestin on prevention of heart disease and osteoporosis (mostly hip fractures), while monitoring for possible increases in risk for breast and colon cancer. (See chart at right.) A second part focused on the effect of estrogen alone on heart disease, osteoporosis and breast cancer in women who had had hysterectomies. A third evaluated the effect of a diet low in fats and high in fruits, vegetables and grains on prevention of breast cancer, colorectal cancer and heart disease. A fourth looked at the use of calcium plus vitamin D for bone density, fractures and colon cancer.

The estrogen/progestin section of the study was cancelled in July. The remainder of the study will conclude in 2005.

Disease Rates for Women as Shown by WHI Study Results



Source: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health and National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute

part of the study as appropriate, but is quick to add, "The risk to women in the study was very low." Heaney said that part of the study had as its primary goal assessing the effectiveness of HRT in preventing cardiovascular disease, "and it became apparent that estrogen was not having this expected effect. So, it would have been unethical to continue a trial that cannot achieve its primary goal."

Now, Heaney and the other Creighton doctors interviewed for this article see a new awareness of estrogen's role emerging, along with alternative options and, most importantly, the need for each woman to educate herself so she can work with her physician to find her best approach.

Let's take a look at the health issues affected by HRT — cancer, cardiovascular disease and osteoporosis.

HRT and Cancer

The NIH said the specific reason for stopping the HRT study was the increase

in breast cancer among the study's participants. Still, during the study's five years, there had been neither an increase in deaths from breast cancer because of HRT nor in deaths from other causes. Additionally, there was a 37 percent decrease in colorectal cancer.

Henry T. Lynch, M.D., chair of the

Department of Preventive Medicine and president of the Hereditary Cancer Institute, feels that, despite stoppage, "the public health benefit will be enhanced as a result of the HRT study because there has been so much controversy about estrogen and progestin in the case of such common cancers as breast, ovarian, endometrial



Lynch

Photo by Mark Romesser









and colon. Still, the research didn't produce enough information about ovarian and endometrial cancer to even draw conclusions. And given the remedial aspects of hormone replacement such as osteoporosis protection and the fact that HRT's impact on other organs remains elusive, there needs to be further investigation."

Lynch says that prior to the study's cessation, doctors were prescribing HRT for protection against postmenopausal side effects such as osteoporosis, heart disease, depression and physiological sexual effects. "I never looked at HRT as a protection against cancer," he said. "Studies in animals, for example, have clearly shown that estrogen promotes cancer. The dilemma has been the extrapolation of these findings from animals to humans."






In fact, Lynch has been "loathe to prescribe estrogen to my patients with cancer of the breast as well as those who are at inordinately high risk for cancer

Oral Estrogen and Estrogen/Progestin Pharmaceuticals

Estrogen products:

- Cenestin 
conjugated estrogens
 Manufacturer: DuraMed
- Estinyl 
ethinyl estradiol
 Manufacturer: Schering
- Estrace 
estradiol
 Manufacturer: Mead-Johnson
- Estratab 
esterified estrogens
 Manufacturer: Solvay
- Menest 
esterified estrogens
 Manufacturer: Monarch
- Ogen 
estropipate
 Manufacturer: Pharmacia & Upjohn
- Ortho-Est 
estropipate
 Manufacturer: Women First Health
- Premarin 
conjugated estrogens
 Manufacturer: Wyeth-Ayerst

Estrogen plus Progestin products:

- Activella 
estradiol and norethindrone acetate
 Manufacturer: Pharmacia & Upjohn
- Femhrt 
ethinyl estradiol and norethindrone
 Manufacturer: Pfizer
- Ortho-Prefest 
estradiol and norgestimate
 Manufacturer: Ortho
- Premphase 
conjugated estrogens and medroxyprogesterone
 Manufacturer: Wyeth-Ayerst
- Prempro 
conjugated estrogens and medroxyprogesterone
 Manufacturer: Wyeth-Ayerst

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute, Medical Economic Company, Inc. and Walgreens

due to family history. I would suggest other non-estrogen pharmacological agents. Estrogen is a stimulus to the glandular portions of breast tissue that produce cellular proliferation that could, over the long term, be part of the process leading to cancer."

Who should be especially wary of estrogen? Lynch said women: who are at high risk of cancer because of heredity; who have never had a pregnancy; whose first full-term pregnancy is after age 30 (which is becoming increasingly common); who had an early first menstrual period and or/late menopause; and who are obese. "Age, too, is a factor," he added. "The older you get, the higher the risk."

HRT and Heart Disease

The combined estrogen-progestin portion of the study resulted in a 29 percent increase in heart attacks, a 41 percent increase in strokes, and it doubled the rates of blood clots in legs and lungs. (Heaney emphasizes that, despite how the numbers may sound, the risks were low.) The increase in strokes and clots in the lungs and legs probably represents the effect of estrogen on the changes in the clotting of the blood and has been reported with oral contraceptives.

Syed Mohiuddin, M.D., chief of the Division of Cardiology and director of the Cardiac Center, and Claire Hunter, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, were not surprised by those study results. "I think we were prepared to learn that there was no positive effect between taking estrogen-progestin and reduction of cardiovascular disease," Mohiuddin said. "Two other (major

studies had said there was no benefit, and maybe some harm, particularly with an increase in strokes."

When estrogen was first beginning to

"It is certainly a woman's prerogative to make a decision about what to do, but she must have all the correct information. She needs somebody to bring all the information together about HRT's benefits and risks."

— Dr. Syed Mohiuddin

be prescribed in the 1960s, linking it with an improved cardiovascular system wasn't even on the periphery. Rather, the new drug was touted for its ability to counteract hot flashes, night sweats, vaginal dryness and mood swings that many women experience as their own natural hormone levels begin to decline. But by the '70s, studies indicated that estrogen also lowered LDL (the bad cholesterol) and elevated HDL (the good cholesterol), so doctors began prescribing it to prevent heart disease as well.

Certainly, there were other considerations, too. Said Hunter, "Generally, women are 10 years older than men when they get heart disease. This is a consistent pattern of the onset of heart disease, and we thought it was because women (were protected before) menopause by the estrogen-progestin their bodies were producing."

By 2002, estrogen also was being



Mohiuddin and Hunter

Photo by Dave Weaver

WHI Findings on Estrogen Plus Progestin Therapy

Compared with a placebo, after about 5 years of use, estrogen plus progestin resulted in:

Increased Risks:

- 26% increase in breast cancer
- 41% increase in strokes
- 29% increase in heart attacks
- Doubled rates of blood clots in legs and lungs

Increased Benefits:

- 37% less colorectal cancer
- 34% fewer hip fractures

There was no difference in the number of deaths.

But what does this mean in terms of the real number of women who would be affected?

Researchers calculated that for every 10,000 women taking estrogen plus progestin, over a one-year period, one would expect:

- 7 more women with heart attacks. (In other words, 37 women taking estrogen plus progestin would have heart attacks compared to 30 women taking a placebo.)
- 8 more women with strokes.
- 8 more women with breast cancer.
- 18 more women with blood clots.

As well as ...

- 6 fewer colorectal cancers.
- 5 fewer hip fractures.
- Fewer fractures in other bones.

When tallied, more women had adverse health effects taking estrogen plus progestin. That part of the WHI study was cancelled in July.

Source: Women's Health Initiative, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health and National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute



credited with preserving bone strength (true) and youth (probably not!) as well as mental acuity. (Patricio Reyes, M.D., director of the Center for Aging, Alzheimer's Disease and Neurodegenerative Disorders, said estrogen has been shown in experimental conditions to increase the lifespan of brain cells. *See box on page 30.*) So when the HRT study was terminated last summer, some of the medical community and most of the public began to wonder how they could have been so far off track as far as estrogen's possibilities were concerned.

Mohiuddin said, "First of all, these were healthy, well-to-do women in these studies who had access to all kinds of health care, so possibly they were also taking other steps such as regular exercise, an aspirin a day in addition to the HRT. None of this was accounted for in these earlier studies.

"If you take any drug faithfully, it changes your prognosis," he said. "For example, if you take vitamin E, you will do better than those who do not take it."

He said taking HRT to treat such postmenopausal symptoms as hot flashes, sleep disturbance, urogenital atrophy and possible mood changes may still be appropriate for the short term. "But," Mohiuddin added, "there are also short-term risks, including increased risk of stroke and coronary heart disease. And there is a potential increase in incidence of breast cancer, but not deaths for breast cancer, in those women using HRT longer than five years."

To further complicate the issue, there are long-term benefits for using HRT, studies indicating that optimal benefits are obtained when the use is begun early in menopause and continued indefinitely — and there are higher risks in the long-term, depending upon various factors.

"The key is to weigh benefits against possible risks and presence or absence of other modifying factors," Mohiuddin said. "This is going to be more or less a very individual decision."

Hunter adds an interesting postscript: "Five years ago, we were

promoting HRT for cholesterol and heart disease and were amazed to find women not on the therapy. We thought it was good and now know that it wasn't, as far as cardiovascular disease is concerned. But we used to think beta-blockers, which treat certain cardiac conditions, would make things worse and now beta-blockers are viewed as the standard of care. Patients need to keep an open mind. This is not clear cut."

Both doctors also agree on positive steps people should take to protect their hearts: Stop smoking or don't start; exercise; maintain as normal a weight as possible; and treat high blood pressure and cholesterol.

HRT and Osteoporosis

The HRT section of the study reported 34 percent fewer hip fractures and 24 percent fewer total fractures. This was the first trial to evaluate or test whether estrogen reduced hip fractures within a population not at high risk of fractures.

For postmenopausal women — the

most likely group to experience osteoporosis — such good news has made the HRT dilemma more difficult. Robert Recker, M.D., chief of endocrinology and director of the Osteoporosis Research Center, said, “I felt like the reporting of the cessation was designed for maximum public hysteria, which it should not have caused. I think the NIH, and maybe the investigators, felt the need to get a higher profile in the country, which they need. Some years ago, a study by Research America determined that something like 85 percent of the public



Recker

Photo by Mark Rommesser

knew what NASA did, but only 10 percent knew which government agency was responsible for health and biomedical research. So they have a recognition problem.”

Still, Recker was not surprised about the HRT results, citing involvement in a 1992 study on low-dose estrogen that excluded people who had had a coronary event the previous year, as well as people who had a disease event due to clotting. (That study also indicated that Premarin and a progestin produced a positive effect on bones.)

In general, Recker does not advocate avoiding estrogen but rather taking it in lower doses. “Estrogen dosage may have been higher than necessary to begin with,” he said. “At first, doses were formulated on the basis of almost anecdotal evidence that relief of menopausal symptoms required quite high doses. We thought a woman

needed 1.25 mg per day of Premarin to relieve menopausal symptoms. HRT was viewed like any other glandular deficiency replacement.”

“I’d say that now, individual risk assessment is more important than ever. A woman with a small frame or poor bone density and strong family history of osteoporosis may need to be on estrogen.”

— Dr. Robert Heaney

Heaney agrees. “We have pioneered at Creighton the use of low-dose estrogen, perhaps half as much as was being prescribed, plus plenty of calcium and vitamin D. In the past, many used estrogen instead of calcium. It is, instead, a question of using both.”

Both doctors believe the decision to use HRT now must be made by weighing risks against benefits. “If a woman experiences depression, mental dullness or other symptoms without HRT, she may want to accept the risk,” Recker said. “If she’s at risk of osteoporosis, same thing.”

The risk of fractures at the onset of menopause and for five years out is very small, but picks up after 10 to 15 years. Women can, in fact, lose about 15 percent of the bone in their spine over five to seven years because of loss of estrogen. And it is much easier to save bone than to restore it.

“Now,” Recker said, “if bone mass is not too low and a woman doesn’t have postmenopausal symptoms and is

HRT and Alzheimer’s

What about estrogen-only HRT and Alzheimer’s? Although that combination is not a focal point in the Women’s Health Initiative (WHI) study, Patricio Reyes, M.D., said, “Because Alzheimer’s is much more common in women, we think estrogen — or the lack of — may have something to do with Alzheimer’s.”

The doctor, professor of neurology, pathology and psychiatry, said studies looking at HRT and the incidence of Alzheimer’s in older women suggest that HRT protects brain cells from degeneration. “Alzheimer’s is a progressive disease that leads to

degeneration and the formation of lesions,” Reyes explained. “While estrogen is not known to prevent either the progression of degeneration or formation of lesions, it is known to increase the lifespan of brain cells.

“But there is a fine line here,” he continued. “Protection from degeneration is different from treating it. Estrogen was not meant to treat Alzheimer’s. You must use it before you have Alzheimer’s, not after.”

He emphasizes that he is talking about estrogen only, not about the estrogen-progestin combination that was, for awhile, the focal point of the WHI study.

His advice to doctors? If a woman has no medical complications and recognizes that there are different viewpoints in this field, she could be on HRT that involves estrogen.

His advice to women? Discuss concerns with the family doctor. If you aren’t comfortable with the results, talk with a specialist. “Reading about HRT in newspapers is good,” he said. “We need to be well informed, but those articles don’t discuss details of studies, methodologies and how to arrive at conclusions. In that regard, people need the assistance of experts. They should not make decisions about whether or not to take estrogen on their own.”



Reyes

Photo by Bob Ervin

taking HRT to reduce facial wrinkling, she might want to weigh that decision, given the risk of coronary disease and breast cancer."

There are also alternatives, such as bisphosphonates (a class of medicine used for osteoporosis), such as Actonel and Fosamax. "Bisphosphonates are not without risk," Recker said. "You put a 50-year-old woman on a bisphosphonate, and she'll stay on it forever in order to sustain the benefit. But until I know what a bisphosphonate will do after two or three or more decades, I'd be reluctant to take it for an extended period of time."

Adds Heaney, "I feel more comfortable replacing a natural hormone that our bodies had been producing than I do giving foreign chemicals at high doses that you have to take for the rest of your life."

Another alternative would be a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), which is used to reduce loss of bone tissue. "Evista (a popular SERM drug) engages the estrogen receptor pertinent to the bones, but not to soft tissue," Recker said. "It doesn't accumulate in the body the way Fosamax does, but I'm not sure it's as reliable or potent as the bisphosphonates."

Heaney also points to calcium — 1200 to 1800 mg per day — along with vitamin D and exercise. "That's mandatory," Heaney said. "Exercise is to the bone what it is to muscle. If you don't exercise, your bones will say, 'Hey, my owner isn't using me so I'll just get rid of some of this excess baggage.'" Best are impact exercises like running and jumping because the force stimulates the bones.

And he emphasizes the importance of family history. "If your mother broke her hip, you have an increased risk of doing that as well," he said, "and if you have any fracture after 40, you have increased risk. You're also at risk if you have a small frame."

What's Next?

Heaney hopes that, as a result of the trial's cessation, the pharmaceutical industry will begin to explore different delivery systems such as a patch that puts estrogen into the body systemically. "Estrogen is naturally introduced into

"Patients read something on the Internet and make a decision based on that one perspective. They'll say, 'I found this on the Internet. What do you think?'"

— Dr. Claire Hunter

the body through the ovarian vein and it goes into the general systemic circulation," Heaney said. "But when you take estrogen by mouth, it goes into the intestine and, unlike estrogen produced by the ovaries, is shunted through the liver, which creates clotting factors that may cause heart problems."

Heaney said when a drug is selling well, "there is no incentive for the pharmaceutical company to investigate alternative systems. Premarin had 85 percent of the market, so where was the incentive?"

Still, Hunter, the cardiologist, admonishes, "There are all kinds of complicated mechanisms involved when you compare a natural hormone with a synthetic drug. The estrogen-progestin synthetic drug is not the same as the estrogen-progestin your body produces. Plus your body regulates that production, providing natural hormone levels as needed. With HRT, it's a pill you take every day."

Amidst all of this, there is a bottom line. "Women have to exert a little more caution in assessing the risks and benefits of estrogen," Recker said. "It doesn't mean they have to go off it or can't start it. But there may have been times when we were all comfortable with HRT, and now we're not." ©

About the Author: Shanley, a Creighton alumna, is an author and freelance writer living in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Talking With Your Doctor

It's important to be involved in your health care. Ask questions and express your concerns. Here are some questions that may help you talk with your health care provider about hormone therapy:

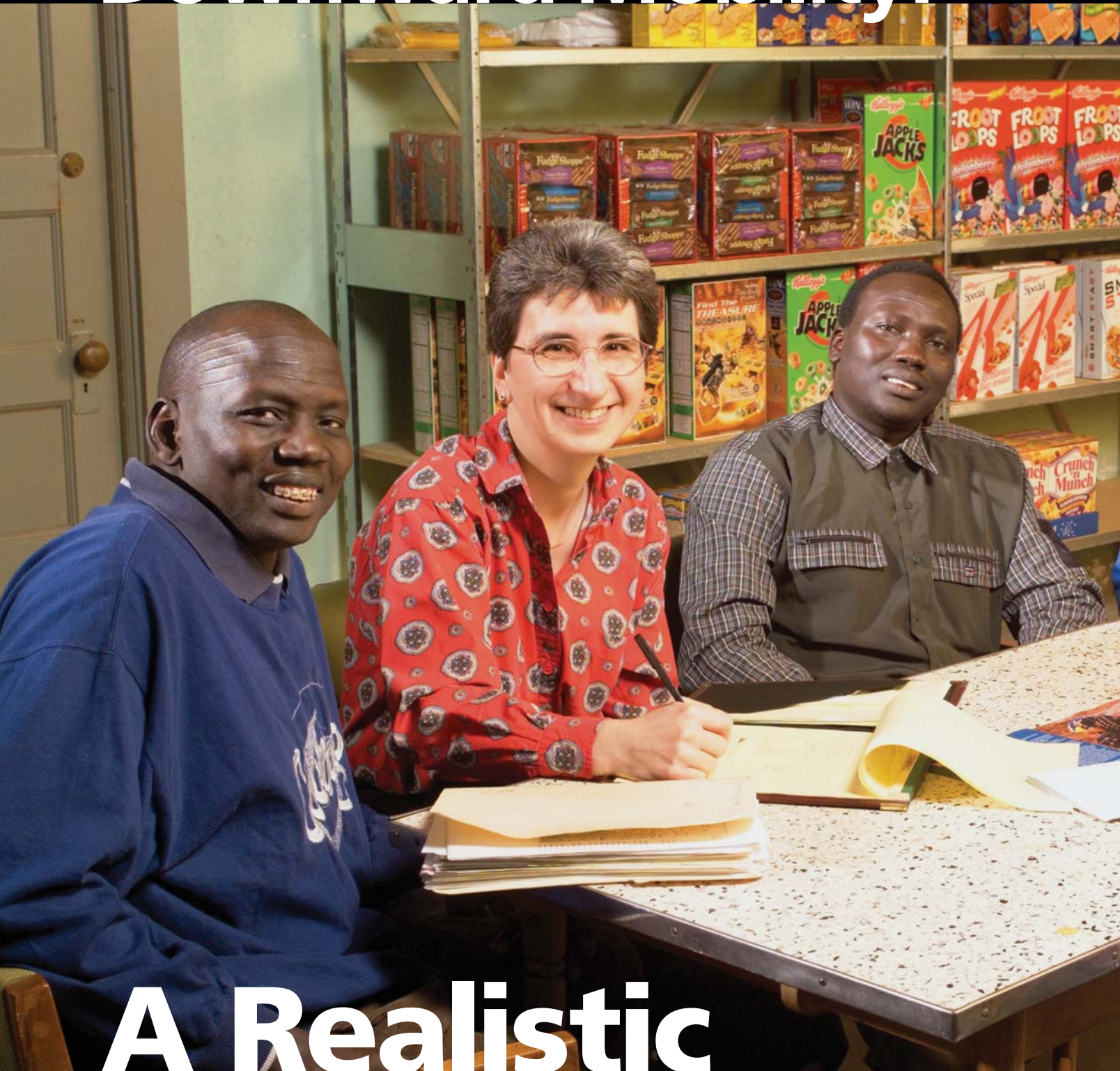
- Why should I take hormone therapy?
- Which hormone therapy am I on?
- What side effects will I have?
- What are my risks for heart disease, breast cancer and osteoporosis?
- Should I stop taking the hormone therapy?
- What's the best way to stop?
- Is there an alternative therapy that I can use long-term?
- What alternatives can help me prevent heart disease?
- What alternatives can help me prevent osteoporosis?
- How can I keep menopausal symptoms from returning?

Your risk for heart disease, osteoporosis and colorectal cancer may change over time. So remember to regularly review your health status with your doctor or other health care provider.

It's also important to bear in mind that your doctor or other health care provider may not be able to answer all of your questions — many questions about postmenopausal hormone use remain. For instance, it's not yet known if increases in disease risk caused by long-term use of estrogen plus progestin drop after use stops. As with any treatment, you need to carefully weigh your personal risks against the possible benefits and make the best choice possible for your health and lifestyle needs.

Source: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health and National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute

Downward Mobility:



A Realistic

By Joan Mueller, OSF, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor of Theology

Choice?



Photo by Mark Rommeser

Creighton's Joan Mueller, OSF, Ph.D., works with Sudanese immigrants in the basement of Immaculate Conception Church in Omaha, with the community pantry in the background. Professor Mueller writes that those searching for something beyond the consumerism that marked the economic boom of the '90s can find a good business deal — true joy — in helping others.

During World War II, Americans were asked to save money, to be frugal. Today as our country embraces the war on terrorism, we are being encouraged to spend. Our leaders are counseling us to buy, to invest and to continue to assert our boldness as Americans on the world stage. We are to keep the wheels of consumerism moving, to do our patriotic duty. The world's economy depends on the American demand for goods and services.

As a fallout of our economic woes, many Americans are facing their worst fears. Millions have lost jobs, wages and benefits. Others are forced to take cuts in salary or wage freezes. Still others are finding their hours cut, their work orders diminished and their retirement portfolios butchered by a jittery market.

In a matter of months, we have gone from being a nation whose government was handing back excess tax money to its citizens, to a nation of record budget deficits, massive security risks and an economy that not even our own investors can trust.

What happens now? Should we liquidate our savings accounts, stuff money under our mattresses, fill our pantry with canned goods, home school our children en masse and wait for the worst? Should we pretend nothing happened on Sept. 11 and go back to our normal lives? Should we keep spending, planning and building, knowing that persistent dreamers are sure to reach their goals?

A Hesitant America

We lost our innocence on Sept. 11. We can no longer safely take our security for granted. There are those who rightly or wrongly truly hate us and are plotting our demise. This is not cheery news. We'd all like to go back to Sept. 10, 2001, and do Sept. 11 over — this time checking plane tickets and East Coast passengers more closely. We'd like to bring back fathers, mothers, children and grandparents. We'd like to see the skyline of New York City as it used to be. We'd like to enjoy our old

and carefree freedom again. We'd like to celebrate our diversity again without prejudice and fear.

Americans are not jumping back into the markets. They know that everything isn't all right. There are some who are "buying low in order to sell high," but the multitudes no longer seem to trust the system. How did it happen that we allowed ourselves to think of the market more like a savings account with a guaranteed income rather than like a gambler's crap shoot? Institutions, even school systems, universities, governmental agencies and churches budgeted with investment dollars as though a 10 to 15 percent gain was a "sure thing!" Somehow an otherwise intelligent middle America failed to consider that the excessive luxuries of corporate executives were being funded with its own hard-earned money.

Now that the fruit of our labor has been eaten, we look back at Eden and wonder if we should have done things differently. Did we have any other options? Do we have other options at present that can help us build a new future? Are we really interested in going back to the pattern of consuming more and more, or are we still a bit sickened by our past gluttony?

I remember being employed once as a consultant for a company and being accommodated for a weekend meeting in a very posh hotel in New York City. Waking up one morning, I realized that the toilet seemed to be made of marble. Living myself in a rented apartment with 1950s rose fixtures, I could not help but smile.

Marble toilets! Does anyone really need a marble toilet? Likewise, is it necessary for the future success of our children to have a Game Boy in every home? Do our apartments really need to have an attached golf course? Must every closet have two or three silk shirts spun by the fingers of the children of India? Must we return to the excesses of the '90s in order to be saved from our present woes?

After Sept. 11, most of us did

whatever we could to support our country. Yet, despite our patriotism, we are stuttering in our response to get back to consumerism as usual. We have a sense that "business as usual" wasn't really all that good for us. Perhaps we have a sense that business as usual was not really "good" business.

Consumerism and *Sacrum Commercium*

Where do we go from here? Certainly we must take care of our retirement, our children's college education and take a needed vacation, but couldn't we also use this downtime to dream of a different world, a better world? What do we wish we could have that even the seemingly booming economy of the '90s did not provide?

There is the false perception that business should be separated from religion. In fact, business and religion are closely connected, not only in practical necessity, but also theologically. In the Christian tradition, the early fathers spoke frequently of the *sacrum commercium*, loosely translated as "the sacred business deal." For Christians, the ultimate business deal is the incarnation of Jesus Christ, himself. Frequently one reads in the fathers: "God became human so that human beings could become divine."

This is indeed an incredible deal. God chooses to become a human being, so that human beings could share in the very life and love of God. For the fathers, this sacred exchange was the model for all legitimate business. Business was meant to bring life, love and freedom. It was to partake in the very life of God.

Not long ago, I was at Applebee's and happened to notice a young couple at the table across the way. They were obviously in love. Their eyes were locked, their voices soft, their attention fixed, their hands clasped together. The chemistry between them was definitely there, but this was more than lust. They were respectfully listening to each other, they were appreciating the beauty of

each other's eyes and words. They were truly contemplating each other.

St. Augustine describes Trinitarian unity as the energy of love between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Father eternally begets the Son through love, and the beloved Son eternally returns love for the Father. The Holy Spirit is the bond of love between the Father and Son, in a way similar to the spirit of love that was palpably exuding from the young couple. Trinitarian love is the energy of real love, self-gift, contemplation and appreciation of another.

How did it happen that we allowed ourselves to think of the market more like a savings account with a guaranteed income rather than like a gambler's crap shoot?

In Christian thinking and theology, God chose to become human in Jesus Christ, so that human beings could participate in the love and energy of the Trinity as adopted sons and daughters through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

All world religions struggle to work

out the theology of the human/divine relationship, but in the end, most seem to agree that loving our neighbor is the sign that the love of God is living and active among us.

Christians know that it is through the act of loving, in the concrete practicalities of daily life, that we more fully participate and experience Trinitarian love. As St. Teresa of Avila says: "I cannot know for sure if I love God, but I can tell whether or not I love my neighbor."

Business Dealings and Union with God

As long as we have quoted Teresa of Avila, let us go just one step further with the *sacrum commercium* idea. In her work, *The Interior Castle*, Teresa of Avila describes the depths of prayer simply as the *sacrum commercium*. In other words, for St. Teresa, union with God in the depths of prayer is simply "a good business deal."

What does Teresa mean? Her understanding is actually quite simple. She describes the *sacrum commercium* simply as "God takes care of your business, and you take care of God's business." Practically speaking, this means that the religious person gets up in the morning and says, "OK, God, what do you need me to do for you today?" "Oh, also, God, these are the things that I need you to do for me today."

The *sacrum commercium* is, therefore, simply the habit of living in the love of God by doing the practical, everyday things that one might call the love of neighbor. Since Trinitarian energy is the energy of truth and of love, we participate in this energy by living lives of truth and of love. To do this as human beings, we must love in truth those in our families, those in our workplaces and those in our world.



This 17th century sculpture by Gian Lorenzo Bernini depicts St. Teresa of Avila's vision of an angel piercing her heart with an arrow of love for God. St. Teresa describes her union with God in prayer as a "good business deal."

Discernment is Necessary

St. Ignatius of Loyola also understood that the closer one came to God's love, the clearer one heard the call to love one's neighbor. Always active in the worlds of church and business, Ignatius cautioned that the call to love and to do good needed to be carefully discerned.

When one asks God, "What do you need me to do today?" one must be aware that God speaks in the concrete realities of one's relationships, limitations, time crunches and even one's personality quirks. All these concrete realities must be considered as one listens to God's needs for the day.

A practical example might illustrate my point more clearly. A family might live next to a soup kitchen. During a family meeting, the family might decide that they are able to provide a big pot of homemade soup for the kitchen one day every month. They will also go to the kitchen to serve the soup. Once this is decided, they must approach the managers of the kitchen to see if the facility would appreciate such a gift. If this is confirmed, and they have thought

through the practical issues of making a pot of soup once a month and having members of the family present to serve it, then it seems as though the voice of God has been heard.

However, while at the soup kitchen one of the members of the family sees the vast needs present in the dining room and decides unilaterally that the family can provide soup and service not once a month, but once a week. The family is volunteered, and their service is accepted, but the practicalities are not worked out with all the members of the family. Chaos and tension follow. Eventually, the family, worn out and frustrated by overextension, finds itself withdrawing from the situation altogether. What seemed to be good and generous was, in reality, not practical.

God always works in the practical circumstances of our lives. In answering what God would have us do, we must always be aware of our relationships and our practical circumstances and abilities. God probably is not calling me to be the treasurer of the home and school association if I never really learned how to add!

In the end, three questions have to be answered in order to know whether or not God might be calling me to service in a particular situation: 1) Are my true gifts needed in this situation, or are other gifts needed? 2) Does this service respect the relationships that I am already committed to? 3) Do the practicalities of this service understate or overstate what I am practically able to give?

We see that we enter into the love of God and neighbor not in a vacuum, but in dialogue with others, and in truthful prayer before God. Most certainly, if one loves God, God will invite one into the *sacrum commercium* — God taking care of our needs even as we reach out in

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care and concern for others. But this *sacrum commercium* must be carefully discerned in the context and truth of our relationships and abilities.

Back to the Market

So I have a few bucks, but I don't know if I want to go back to my past behavior of putting everything into the markets. This *sacrum commercium* idea seems inviting. How does one get started? What kind of a real business deal is this?

I worked once in an inner-city immersion project in Milwaukee run by the Capuchins, who are Franciscan friars. We brought people in from the suburbs who wanted to link with people in the inner city and address the needs of those who lived there. For a number of weekends, we organized immersion experiences taking people into the county jail, into a mental health hospital, a Catholic Worker home, a safehouse for runaway children, a health care facility and a soup kitchen.

The last weekend was dedicated to discernment, and those who had been part of the program committed themselves to the project where they thought that they could best use their gifts. Inevitably, however, there were those who could not decide. They did not know if they were good enough. They did not know if they had anything to offer. Or, they wondered if they would become frustrated with systems that were overburdened, understaffed and inefficient. They became paralyzed with questions and indecision.

There was an old friar who would take these folks aside and tell them, "Just do one thing. It doesn't have to be the most important thing, it doesn't have to be the best

thing, but just do one thing." His advice was stellar. We are not asked to be God — to save the world. God just asks us to do one thing. To love one person at a time, while keeping our feet firmly planted on the ground.

My mother was a specialist at this, and I learned these lessons more from her than from my theology classes. My mother worked with my dad in a floor covering shop. She was an interior decorator, and she helped people feel good about their homes. She loved to bake, and she loved people. When she retired, she volunteered to read books to at-risk children, she baked Valentine's Day cookies for the elderly and took the nieces and nephews along with her to deliver them, and she enjoyed her friends. When she died, there were so many people who came to her funeral that after a four-hour wake, the funeral director needed to ask those still waiting to go past the coffin four at a time in order to move the line along.

People told the same stories over and over again. "Your mother helped me pick out my drapes. I still love them." "Your mother brought me cookies." "Your mother brought the children over after my husband died." "When your

mother read to my daughter, she bought her this little purse and bracelet to help her feel good about herself." They were simple stories. They were simple tasks. They were products of a simple, loving and not perfect woman who lived her life wondering who might have a need. She had a retirement fund, she owned stocks, but she also invested her time and treasure in people. My thought as I stood in that line with my sisters and father was, "If all these people love my mother so much, how much must God love her!" We all have been blessed to have known these kinds of people.

The Contempt of Good People

The sisters in my religious community, The Franciscan Sisters of Joy, vow to live without property. This means that, by virtue of our vow of poverty, we are to live our entire lives in rented or live-in situations with the working poor. I have been edified by the choices my sisters have made. Some live in neighborhoods, others have lived in L'Arche communities with the mentally challenged, others have started Catholic Worker homes for women of the streets or those recovering from alcohol and drug addictions.

However, even those sisters who are most generous, and who have discerned carefully what God is asking of them, are soon faced with a common obstacle: the contempt of good people. The contempt of selfish people isn't so difficult to take, but the contempt of good people hurts. Somehow we believe that if we make a loving and a noble choice, that good people will immediately see that it is such. We do not fully realize that in reaching out to someone else, we also participate in the life of another. In



Creighton alumna, Michelle McCamby, PharmD'00, assists at a homeless shelter in San Francisco as part of Creighton's Alumni National Day of Service last year. Mueller writes that "loving our neighbor is the sign that the love of God is living and active among us."

File photo

reaching out to the poor, for instance, we share in the contempt that the poor often face. Other good people will not always understand our choices.

Even Christ felt the contempt of the good, and followers of Christ should not be surprised when their good works are not immediately appreciated.

In the 1200s, Agnes of Prague, a royal Bohemian princess, decided to reject a marriage proposal from the German Emperor, Frederick II, and chose instead to become a Franciscan. She took her royal dowry, a large amount of money, and built and endowed a large hospital in Prague for the poor. She also built herself, and the many other noble women who joined her, a monastery that she refused to endow. In essence, she made an economic choice. The wealth of the rich, she gave to the poor.

Pope Gregory IX, however, did not appreciate her choice, but Agnes insisted. Eventually Gregory became so exasperated by Agnes' persistence that he mandated that the monastery be placed over and enjoy the endowments of the hospital. Agnes of Prague wrote to Clare of Assisi who encouraged Agnes by the authority of St. Francis himself to respect the Pope but not to

follow his advice in this matter. Eventually, Gregory gave in, and Agnes was again able to separate her monastery from the benefits meant for the hospital.

Clare, however, gives Agnes good advice during this time. She tells Agnes to stand firm in her vocational decision, but she also advises her not to be saddened by the contempt of otherwise good people. Even Christ felt the contempt of the good, and followers of Christ should not be surprised when their good works are not immediately appreciated.

In discerning "the one thing" that God is calling one to do, one must remember and prepare for "the contempt factor." Clare advises Agnes to remember the origins of her vocation and not to turn back. She teaches Agnes to strengthen her prayer and to meditate on Christ's own sufferings. She also invites Agnes to not let every little snub get her down and to rejoice in the beauties of God. If one looks at the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius, one will find that he offers the same advice.

Downward Mobility — The Choice to Love

In a country torn by violence, sorrow and loss, we are collectively searching for a way back to joy. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to keep our jobs may have a few extra dollars these days that we hesitate to put into the stock market. What investments in the *sacrum commercium* might we want to consider for ourselves and with our families?

Family: Is there a member of the family who has lost a job? Do I feel any call toward sending a few dollars there? Are there families connected with my children's school who are out of work? Do my children have ideas for service projects that could be enhanced by more serious adult participation and/or guidance? Are there families in my parish/temple/mosque that have special needs? Do I feel called to offer assistance to the Jesuit ministry to

families on the Pine Ridge Indian Mission?

Work: Do my colleagues need a treat at work today? Do I have colleagues who have been financially strapped because of layoffs or wage freezes? Is there a middle manager who needs some emotional encouragement after having delivered difficult news to employees? Is there a project at work that benefits the poor to which I might offer extra assistance?

Community: Does my civil or religious community have outreach programs that need my particular gifts? Can I mentor a child, drive or visit an elder, make a meal or include someone who is lonely? Is my family being called upon to adopt a child? Am I able to pick up garbage along my street or in the park?

Creighton: Can I provide funding for a student who wants to dedicate his or her medical or dental training to the service of the poor? Can I contribute to a scholarship fund, or organize a scholarship fund for service-minded students? Are there needs in my field or place of work that could be addressed by providing service or mentoring opportunities for students? Is it possible for me to provide scholarship monies for a north or south Omaha student who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend Creighton?

Obviously, this is simply a random catalogue of ideas. Many of us were, of course, generous in the '90s out of our superabundance. Now, perhaps, God may be asking us to love our neighbor in a practical way even before we have satisfied all of our desires.

If we choose downward mobility, we will find ourselves not only growing in love and union with God, but becoming part of a community of lovers. There could be no greater dream for those who have graduated and benefited from a Jesuit education. *Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est* — Where there is charity and love, there is God. ☉

Mullanys Endow Student Services Programming

Because Creighton looks after its students so well, Dr. Charles and Anne Mullany of Rochester, Minn., have established an endowment fund to support student outreach programming in the Division of Student Services.

Three of their seven children, Sally, BS'95, MD'00, Julie, BA'96, MA'99, and Edward, BA'99, graduated from Creighton.

"Creighton's faculty and staff were absolutely marvelous to them. It was lovely to know that they were there," Mrs. Mullany said.

"We are grateful to Creighton," Dr. Mullany said. "We had positive experiences and we thought this was a nice way to say 'thank you' and to help future students. Anne and I would be very excited if other individuals or organizations could also contribute to and build upon this endowment."

The Mullany Endowment will provide funding for programming that emphasizes the development of the whole person, integrating aspects of heart, mind and soul, according to John Cernech, Ph.D., vice president for Student Services.

"We appreciate the Mullanys' very generous gift and ongoing concern for our students," Cernech said. "They recognize that our vibrant community is known for its emphasis on values. With their gift, we will present informative, healthy living programs to students for years to come."

"We know our children benefited from Student Services programming," Mrs. Mullany said, "and we believed this would be a good opportunity to provide funding to assist the University."

Michele Millard, director of peer education, expressed gratitude that the Mullanys recognized the value of prevention and outreach programs at Creighton.

"Student health and development programs help with retention, with



Dr. Charles and Anne Mullany ... their gift will help fund student health and development programs.

students' transitions to college and with their successes," she said. "A lot of these issues can have a huge effect on their lives when you think about the long-term consequences of choices."

The intent of the gift fits nicely with Creighton's mission to educate the whole person, Millard said.

The Mullanys, native Australians, moved to the United States in 1988. When they arrived, they were not familiar with the U.S. college and university system. As oldest daughter, Sally, approached her final years in high school, the Mullanys began to seek advice about where they should send her and their other children to college.

"A friend and Creighton parent at the Mayo Clinic recommended Creighton," said Dr. Mullany, who works as a cardiac surgeon at the renowned hospital in Rochester. "I was educated by the Jesuits for 10 years, appreciated the Jesuit approach to education and life, and have a cousin who is a Jesuit priest. We therefore came and looked at Creighton and liked it."

The feeling of the place, he said, made it very appealing.

"We found the small, family atmosphere inviting," he said. "We liked that Fr. (Michael) Morrison was sitting out in front of the church when we

visited. He talked with everyone who passed, including us."

The Mullanys took Sally to visit several universities.

"But we chose Creighton," Dr. Mullany said.

"I love the fact that professors are so available to students," Mrs. Mullany said. "It really impressed us. I love Creighton. I'm a great advocate for the school."

Sally is completing her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Mayo Clinic. Julie continues to pursue education, studying fine arts in Boston. Edward remains at Creighton, where he is pursuing his master's degree in English in the creative writing track.

Creighton was a great place for them, according to Mrs. Mullany.

"How do I know that?" she asked. "Because they returned for their graduate work."

The Mullanys have four other children. Luke (BS, Notre Dame, '97) is earning his doctoral degree in international public health and works in Nepal. Anna (BA, Holy Cross, '01) works with troubled teenagers in San Diego. Lucy (BA, Loyola, '04) is a college junior studying Spanish and international affairs. Their youngest daughter, Carolyn, is a senior in high school.

Shutzes Follow Hearts Back to Creighton University

For some people, hindsight is 20-20. What they value becomes clear only after years of life experience. For others, however, certain values are unmistakable.

William, MD'60, and Margaret (Rowland), BA'59, Shutze belong in the second group. They have always appreciated Creighton's Jesuit education. The University has held a place in their hearts since they graduated more than 40 years ago.

This feeling for Creighton led them to include their alma mater in their estate plan.

"I think the education I received at Creighton affected my life more than anything else," said Dr. Shutze. "It gave me a good sense of balance between religion and medicine. It really steered me in a good way throughout my career."

His wife agreed.

"Creighton University had the greatest effect on our lives," said Mrs. Shutze.

The Shutzes' estate plan includes a gift to establish an endowed chair in pathology, an endowed scholarship in the School of Medicine and an endowed undergraduate scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"God has been good to us," Dr. Shutze said. "Margaret and I worked hard and accumulated some wealth. We feel that we have a responsibility to give back to Creighton for getting us started with our education and our careers."



William and Margaret Shutze

The Shutzes' estate plan includes a gift to establish an endowed chair in pathology, an endowed scholarship in the School of Medicine and an endowed undergraduate scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences. To provide for these objectives, they established a testamentary charitable remainder unitrust that, upon their deaths, will pay an income to their designated beneficiaries for 20 years. At the end of that term, the balance will be paid to Creighton.

Dr. and Mrs. Shutze remember many Jesuits and professors from their student years, acknowledging the overall excellence of each.

The Shutzes believe they have a responsibility to help further that excellence — something they hope future alumni will believe and act on as well.

"Our dream is that maybe this (estate gift) will have an exponential effect," Mrs. Shutze said, "and future alumni might do the same thing. We believe that many of the troubles in the world are due to a lack of education. To us, education is really the most important thing."

During Mrs. Shutze's student years, she worked in the office of the late Rev. William F. Kelley, S.J.

"Fr. Kelley was just a wonderful man," she said.

"He was my (academic) counselor," said Dr. Shutze, who entered medical school after three years of undergraduate work.

"I had already been accepted to medical school, so I told him I was going to take the minimum number of courses. Well, Fr. Kelley said, 'Oh, I don't think so.' And you just did what he said," Dr. Shutze said, laughing. "He was good at directing you in the right way."

Fr. Kelley's guidance also helped their daughter, Susan Rendon, BS'83, MD'89. After earning her bachelor's degree, she entered the School of Dentistry. The fall of her second year, she decided a career in dentistry was not right for her.

"When she left dental school, I insisted she go visit Fr. Kelley," Mrs. Shutze said. "I called him before she went and he knew in an instant who I was. He said, 'Where have you been for 24 years?'"

Always the sage educator, Fr. Kelley helped Susan get a tedious job in Omaha for the year, ensuring her swift return to school.

"I asked her what she thought of Fr. Kelley, and she said, 'Oh Mom, I think he's like God!'" Mrs. Shutze said, laughing at the memory. "He almost had an aura about him."

Susan returned to Creighton the following fall, this time to the School of Medicine, graduating in 1989. The Shutzes' other daughter, Anne, also graduated from Creighton, earning a master's degree in 1988. Both Susan, who took over her father's pathology practice, and Anne, who works as a school psychologist, live in Leesburg, Fla. Their son William also became a doctor and practices vascular surgery in Dallas.

The Shutzes, who live in New Smyrna Beach, Fla., clearly instilled in their children the value of education, especially in the Jesuit tradition Creighton provides. They hope their gift will allow future Creighton students to have the same kind of meaningful, influential experience.



The School of Medicine Class of 1977 celebrated its 25-year reunion last fall and donated more than \$209,000. (Gifts were received after the reunion event to bring the total from \$203,000 to more than \$209,000.)

Medical School Reunion Raises Record Gift

The School of Medicine Class of 1977 celebrated its 25-year reunion in grand style, contributing the largest reunion gift ever to the school. Fifty-seven class members donated more than \$209,000 to benefit current and future medical students.

Of the total, \$109,000 is designated for Dean's Reunion Scholarships. Another \$100,000, donated by Tu-Hi Hong, MD'77, and his wife, Seung-Hee, of Visalia, Calif., will establish an endowed scholarship for medical students.

The School of Medicine classes of 1982 and 1992 also celebrated landmark reunions with class gifts. Members of the Class of 1982 donated \$64,000 and the Class of 1992 donated \$22,000 for Dean's Reunion Scholarships in honor of their 20-year and 10-year reunions, respectively.

The Class of 1962 took a different approach to reunion giving. They challenged classmates to follow the legacy of Creighton's founders and include Creighton in their estate plans to create an endowment for the School's future.

This is the fourth year for the School of Medicine reunion giving program, according to M. Roy Wilson, M.D., vice president for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine.

"Reunion giving is a wonderful way for alumni to reconnect with the University," he said. "In donating to a scholarship, they demonstrate to our students that a Creighton education is both valuable and important."

Planning for next year's reunion giving program is under way.

Gift from Omaha Restaurant Provides Food for Thought

The Rice Bowl, a Chinese restaurant near campus and popular with Creighton students, recently established several annual scholarships to benefit its regular clientele.

Two students will receive financial support for their education and four others will receive a "meal plan" for up

to four free meals each week of the academic year.

"The Rice Bowl owners, Tak and Betty Chu, truly appreciate the loyal support of their Creighton customers," said Maggie Lanspa, a representative of the couple. "They wanted to acknowledge this by helping Creighton students in return."

Lanspa's husband, Stephen Lanspa, MD'78, is chief of the Gastroenterology Division at Creighton's School of Medicine and senior vice president for Patient Care Services at Creighton University Medical Center.

Hartnetts Make a Difference for Students

Inspiration may come at any moment.

For D. Paul Hartnett, Ed.D., it came after reading Stephen Ambrose's biography of Crazy Horse.

Reflecting on the Lakota Sioux's leadership and profound effect on his people, Hartnett decided to do something to help young Native Americans pursue a better life.

Hartnett and his wife Marjorie S. Hartnett, Ed.D., established an endowed scholarship at Creighton for students with high academic standing and financial need, with first preference given to Native American students.

The initial D. Paul and Marjorie S. Hartnett Endowed Scholarships were awarded in 1999. To date, five students

Creighton Loses Lifelong Friend Dr. William J. Reals

Occasionally, in the life of a university, a student arrives who so badly needs a community to call home that he never forgets the welcome he receives. In tribute to his new home, that person may make such an indelible contribution that, through the university, those good works live forever.

Such a person for Creighton was William J. Reals, BS'44, MD'45, MS'49.

Following a life serving others, Reals died Nov. 12, 2002, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. He was 82.

Born in Hot Springs, S.D., and orphaned at the age of 18, Reals traveled from his home in Denver to Creighton. The University appealed to him because he sought a Jesuit institution with a medical school. A lifelong relationship began.

"My father always viewed Creighton as where he started his career and family," said his son William Reals Jr. of Mission Viejo, Calif. "He viewed the School as the

have benefited from the scholarships.

The Hartnetts devoted their careers to Creighton University as professors in the education department — Paul from 1966-97 and Marjorie from 1971-95.

The University, Hartnett said, was equally good to them and their five children, who are all Creighton graduates.

In fact, when Hartnett was first elected to serve Bellevue in the Nebraska Legislature in 1984, a post he has held for the past 18 years, the University arranged with him to teach only during the fall semesters.

“I felt the University administration really appreciated my service as a state senator in the Nebraska Legislature,” Hartnett said.

In honor of that mutual loyalty and support, the Hartnetts established the D. Paul and Marjorie S. Hartnett Scholarships to demonstrate their continued dedication to the University.

“We simply choose this way to help

students and Creighton at the same time,” Hartnett said. “Creighton has worked hard to attract and retain Native American students.”



D. Paul and Marjorie S. Hartnett

The fall 2002 Native American enrollment of 57 students included 11 freshmen and is nearly double the 1995

enrollment.

In fall 2001, the University introduced a Native American Studies major, the first of its type among Jesuit universities in the United States and the first in Nebraska. The program allows students to explore native history, culture, issues, federal Indian policy and law, and to place those topics within a conceptual framework.

Creighton enjoys a long and rich relationship with Native American communities in the Great Plains. George Blue Spruce, DDS'56, was the first full-blooded Native American to graduate from a U.S. school of dentistry.

The University established its first scholarships for Native Americans in 1959. The addition of the D. Paul and Marjorie S. Hartnett Endowed Scholarships ensure that Creighton will continue to attract and enroll Native American students in generations to come.

starting point in his life.”

After performing his residency at Creighton and marrying Norma Monahan Reals, he moved to Wichita for a position as pathologist at St. Joseph Hospital. He stayed in that role more than 30 years, leaving to become the dean of the



William J. Reals

University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita in 1980 and adding the position of vice chancellor in 1988.

Education became both his vocation and avocation and he

endeared himself to the university, nurturing students as they began their careers.

“He had a soft spot for struggling students because he remembered being one himself,” Reals Jr. said. “He never, ever forgot the help that allowed him to earn his medical degree at Creighton.”

In providing financial assistance to students, Reals relied on KU's Chancellor's Club, a giving program that

allowed him the latitude of allocating money to answer immediate needs. He knew his alma mater could also benefit from a program of large, annual, unrestricted gifts and approached the University about starting the Creighton Society. A man of action, Reals provided one of the Society's first gifts and served as its first chairperson.

In 2001-2002, gifts to the Society totaled \$1.35 million.

Troy Horine, assistant vice president for University Relations, said Reals' interest in the early success of the Society brought them together on the phone two or three times a week.

“When we think about all the good things Creighton Society does, Dr. Reals deserves all the credit,” Horine said. “He pushed us to found it. He mentored our progress. We owe a great debt of gratitude to him.”

In 1986, Reals received the Creighton University Alumni Achievement Citation.

“He ruled his life by the philosophy of the Jesuits,” said Norma Reals, Reals' wife of 58 years. “It gave him a guide. He kept in touch with the University his entire life. It was just a part of him.”

A nationally recognized pathologist,

Reals specialized in aviation safety. During his career, he wrote two books and numerous articles on the human factors concerning flight safety.

Reals acted as an aviation safety consultant to the Federal Aviation Administration and investigated commercial airline crashes. He acted as chief pathologist on the 1977 crash of two airliners on Tenerife in the Canary Islands.

A licensed pilot, he lectured on aviation safety throughout the world.

Reals retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserves as a brigadier general with a 35-year record. Following his service in the Army in World War II, he returned to active duty as a captain in the Air Force Medical Corps during the Korean War. A rated flight surgeon, he held many positions in the Air Force Reserves.

In 1989, he turned down a top Department of Defense medical job.

In addition to Norma Reals and William Reals Jr., Dr. Reals' survivors include sons Thomas C. Reals, MD'86, and John F. Reals, both of Wichita; daughters Ann Coffey and Mary Knorp, both of Wichita; and 18 grandchildren.

Saying Goodbye to Creighton House

By Mary Helen Stefaniak, Ph.D.

If you want to say goodbye to Creighton House, you'd better stop by soon. Our date with the wrecking ball is only months away now.

I'm going to miss living here. My youngest daughter went off to college the year I joined Creighton's faculty, and I can tell you, there is no more effective antidote to empty nest syndrome than living with 25 or 30 college students.

People say, with horror, *You live in a dorm?*

Not exactly. Creighton House is the kind of place where the residents carefully unscrew and remove the antique EXIT light covers *before* they play Frisbee in the hallway.

In spite of the Big Mouth in the House motto — *Magna Corda, Magnae Mentis, Magna Ora* (large hearts, large minds, large mouths) — it's relatively quiet here, apart from the sometimes philosophical late-night discussions that take place in the doorway to Debbie's room, and the occasional hoots of triumph or despair from the Dungeons & Dragons crowd downstairs. We have musicians among us, but the drums are set up way down in the basement, and who can complain about *Moonlight Sonata* on the baby grand, no matter how late it is? Really noisy events like the drums-bass-and-Dr. Dornsife-on-electric-guitar jam that followed a fiction reading in the chapel last fall happen once in a lifetime. Halloween, thank God, comes only once a year.

In August we watched the old brick houses on 20th Street come down, painfully aware that a wrecking ball — perhaps the very same wrecking ball — would soon be crashing through the windows through which we watched it crash through windows and walls a block away.

The grandmother of a Creighton House resident grew up in one of those houses on 20th Street. "My grandpa used to pick her up for dates there," Zach told us at the Eleventh Hour BBQ.



Photo by Monie Kruse, BA '83

Creighton House, built in 1913 and located at 2104 Davenport St., was acquired from Creighton by the Omaha Public School District and is scheduled to be razed this May as part of an expansion effort at nearby Omaha Central High School. Creighton is exploring ways to maintain the Creighton House concept.

On some of those dates, they probably strolled right past this three-story brick house that John A. Creighton built for "working girls" who came from their family farms to the big city. Omaha citizens like W.B. Millard Jr. and V.J. Skutt served on the board of "Creighton Hall" in those early days. Later, it housed the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, some of whom still get mail delivered to our door.

Creighton University acquired the property in 1971 and used it for a variety of purposes until 1989, when it became, under the fearless leadership of Dr. Dick Super, the kind of Creighton House community it still is, more or less, today. One important difference: In Dr. Super's day, extremely ingenious pranks, some of which involved huge — even room-filling — quantities of packing peanuts, were played on the Resident Director with some regularity. Those days are no more.

What are they going to do with the oak banisters, we wonder, and the hardwood floor, with the wooden mantels and tile fireplaces, the monster stove, the wall sconces, the '70s-vintage "chandeliers" in the Weber Room, the highly distressed knotty pine in the basement, the stained glass windows in the chapel?

And even if they salvage all that, who will want the (clanking, hissing) radiators that give the House its distinctive voice and atmosphere?

Somebody should have shot a film here. A marketing opportunity will be lost forever when the bricks fall. Creighton House is the perfect location for films like *Dead Poets' Society*, or maybe a remake of *The Shining*. At the very least, a Creighton student with a video camera ought to get over here pronto. The boiler room alone is a horror story waiting to happen.

But as much as we love the old place, it isn't the building that makes a house a home. When I asked current residents what they'd say to people who asked why Creighton House is a good place to live, Alaina Stedille (political science, '04) answered this way:

"I'd tell them that we have a fantastic, diverse and supportive community full of people who challenge you to think on a daily basis. I have met and truly befriended some of the coolest people around. The atmosphere here is what has allowed me to do that. People actually get out of their rooms, socialize and know about each other. They're not just people you say 'hey' to occasionally. They're your true friends. Plus, we have pancakes during finals week. Who could beat that?"

About the author: Stefaniak is an assistant professor of English and director of creative writing at Creighton. She has served as resident director of Creighton House since 2001.

A Pioneer and A Hero

Creighton University mourns the loss of alumnus Lt. Col. Michael Anderson, MS'90, and his astronaut colleagues who died Feb. 1, 2003, in the tragic events of the Space Shuttle Columbia.

Creighton President the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., described Anderson — who received the University's prestigious Alumni Merit Award in 1998 — as "not only one of Creighton's best" but "one of our nation's best."

Anderson, 43, was the payload commander and a mission specialist aboard STS-107, responsible for the management of the science portion of Columbia's 16-day mission.

Anderson received a bachelor's degree in physics/astronomy from the University of Washington in 1981 and a master's degree in physics from Creighton in 1990, while stationed at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha.

The Creighton alumnus was selected for NASA's astronaut program in December 1994. He was a mission specialist aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour in 1998, and became the first African-American to visit the space station when the shuttle docked with the Russian Mir.

"I can't remember when I didn't want to fly," Anderson said in a 1998 interview with *Creighton University Magazine*. Working aboard Endeavour, Anderson said he often turned to look at Earth in wonder.

"Its thin layer of atmosphere appears so fragile. Yet, I think, how strong it is, too, and what a miracle. The blues are so much bluer than you would ever think, the clouds so white ... There are no borders visible from space. You see the earth as it really is: as one."



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