

Creighton in elite company: Bluejays win in four sets to advance to NCAA regional final. Sports



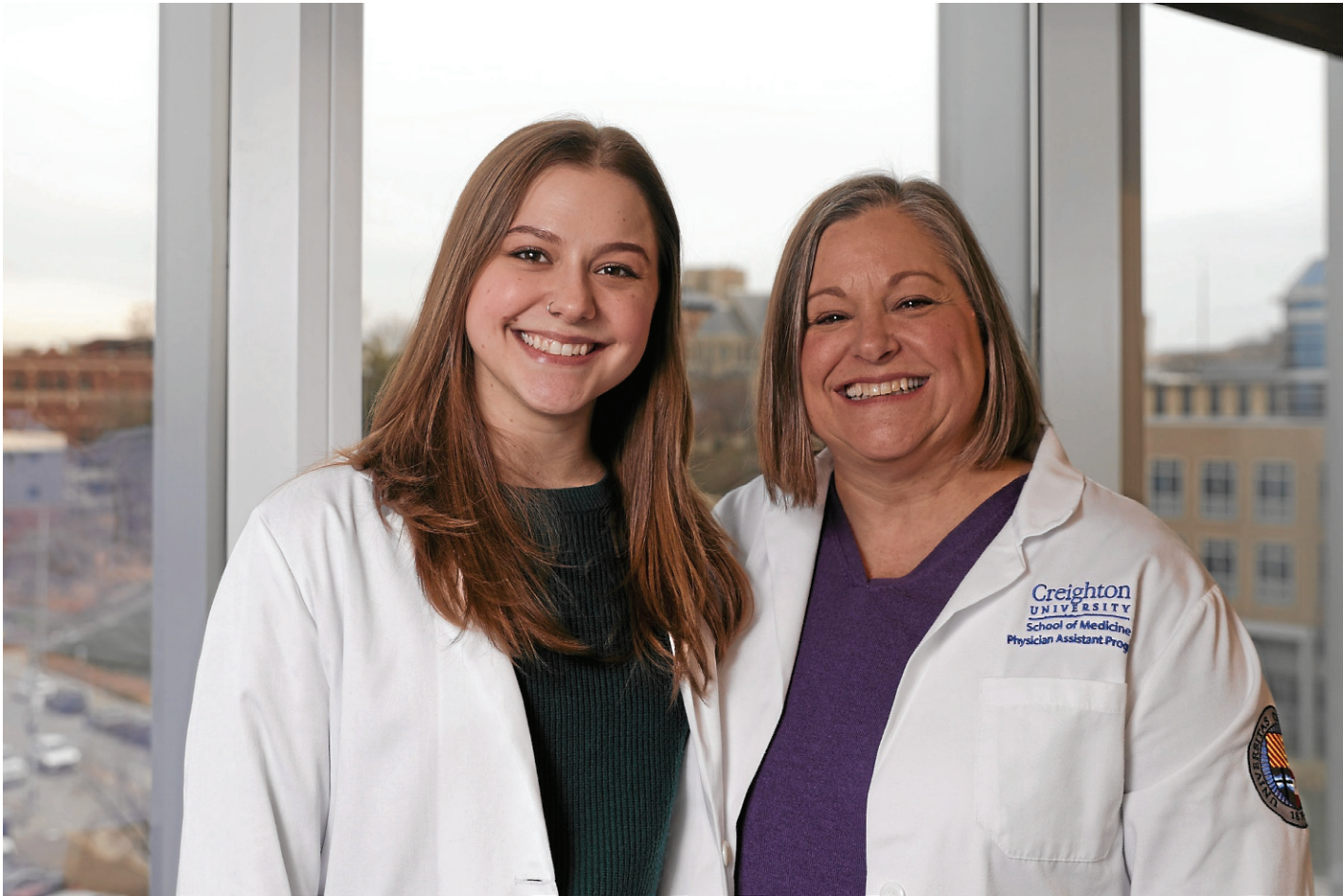
‘Making spirits bright and boozy’: Some Omaha bars go all out for the holidays. Midlands, Page A3

Omaha World-Herald

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MATTHEW MUELLER, THE WORLD-HERALD

Grace-Ann Myers said she'll be a mess Friday watching her mom, Mary Myers, graduate from Creighton University. "I don't know if I can put into words how proud I am of her," Grace-Ann said.

Mother, daughter tackle Creighton's PA program

They've taken on the rigorous 28-month medical training together

MARJIE DUCEY
World-Herald Staff Writer

Grace-Ann Myers doesn't mind finding her mom, Mary, waiting for her after class. Something that might have been embarrassing in high school is now kind of fun for both her and her fellow students in the physician assistant program at

Creighton University. For conquering the rigors of the 28-month intensive medical training at the age of 52, Mary Myers, who graduates Friday, is an inspiration to everyone. Grace-Ann often hears, "If Mary can do it, so can I." "All my classmates like to ask how my mom is doing," Grace-Ann said. "They get all the good tips and tricks from her." Mary was accepted into the program in October 2022 and started in August of 2023. She had always

been interested in being a doctor but she also is dyslexic and suffered from ADHD as a child. The medical field, she thought, was way beyond her reach. That belief seemed to play out during her first stab at college. She spent more time having fun than studying. Further education was put on hold as she and her husband, Tony, who was in the Air Force, raised three children while moving around the world.

Please see **PA PROGRAM**, Page A2

Extension of subsidies is rejected by Senate

Health care costs are set to rise for millions of people at beginning of year

MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate rejected legislation Thursday to extend Affordable Care Act tax credits, essentially guaranteeing that millions of Americans will see a steep rise in costs at the beginning of the year. Senators rejected a Democratic bill to extend the subsidies for three years and a Republican alternative that would have created new health savings accounts — an unceremonious end to a months-long effort by Democrats to prevent the COVID-19-era subsidies from expiring on Jan. 1. Ahead of the votes, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer of New York warned Republicans if they didn't vote to extend the tax credits, "there won't be another chance to act" before premiums rise for many people who buy insurance off the ACA marketplaces. "Let's avert a disaster," Schumer said. "The American people are watching." Republicans argue Affordable Care Act plans are too expensive and need to be overhauled. The health savings accounts in the GOP bill would have given money directly to consumers instead of to insurance companies, an idea that has been echoed by President Donald Trump.

Please see **HEALTH CARE**, Page A2

Economy is dragging but market thriving

Handful of companies called the Magnificent 7 driving stock gains

EMMA NELSON
The Minnesota Star Tribune

From jobs to housing to grocery prices, the U.S. economy has been weakening for months. But the stock market is telling a different story, thanks to a handful of companies called the Magnificent 7: Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, Meta, Nvidia and Tesla. These tech giants, which deal in everything from e-commerce to software to chip manufacturing, make up a disproportionate share of the market and have pushed it to record highs in the AI boom.

Without spending by the Mag 7 and other tech companies, the U.S. economy "would have barely grown" in the first half of the year, Oxford Economics lead economist Adam Slater wrote in an Oct. 3 research briefing. In other words, tech is helping keep the economy afloat. But if these companies' fortunes change, the downstream impact could be severe. Though economists aren't forecasting an AI crash, they have acknowledged similarities between the AI boom and previous bubbles, from the dot-com bust of the early 2000s to the ultimately catastrophic bull market of the 1920s.

Please see **MARKET**, Page A2



ANGELA WEISS, AFP

The Charging Bull sculpture is seen April 8 near the New York Stock Exchange in the Financial District in New York City.



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Measles cases
Hundreds are quarantined in South Carolina as measles spreads in two US outbreaks. **Page A8**

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