January

Advancing affordability. Ohio State saved students $47.6 million in fiscal 2018 by expanding financial aid, reducing textbook costs, providing digital learning technology and discounting the cost of summer tuition. A new report highlights these initiatives along with several efficiency measures — all helping to make college more affordable for Buckeyes. Access, Affordability and Excellence, and Operational Excellence and Resource Stewardship are key pillars of the university's Time and Change strategic plan.

Coming up roses. The day before the Buckeyes took care of business on the field at the 105th Rose Bowl, students and alumni helped lead a service project at Goodwill Southern California. It was the 21st year that Ohio State's Office of Student Life organized a service project in order to give back to a bowl game's host city. Meanwhile, the Ohio State Marching Band stepped into the spotlight for the Rose Parade — just weeks after performing for the first time in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Research impact. An Ohio State startup company has set a university record for the largest initial funding round, raising $59 million for biotechnology to treat previously "undruggable" illnesses. Entrada Therapeutics — based on research from Professor Dehua Pei of the College of Arts and Sciences — is developing new ways of treating devastating diseases by delivering drugs into target cells. Ohio State's startup portfolio, which now totals 83 companies, has nearly doubled in the past five years.

Driving breakthrough solutions. Surgeons at the Wexner Medical Center are the first in the United States to implant a new device designed to relieve knee pain and help prevent or delay the need for knee replacements in people with osteoarthritis. The university also announced that Dr. Benjamin Segal, an internationally recognized physician, will join Ohio State from the University of Michigan to serve as chair of the Department of Neurology and co-director of the medical center's Neurological Institute.

Activating (more) talent. The American Talent Initiative is celebrating its two-year anniversary — and showing results. Ohio State is a founding member of the partnership, which includes Bloomberg Philanthropies and more than 100 schools dedicated to enrolling an additional 50,000 low- and moderate-income students nationwide. The initiative has so far increased enrollment of students who receive federal Pell Grants by 7,291. This fall, Ohio State enrolled 7 percent more new first-year Pell students on the Columbus campus at a time when admissions have never been more competitive.