February

For the kids. Once again this year, BuckeyeThon — Ohio State’s largest student-run philanthropic organization — raised funds with the goal of ending pediatric cancer. Those efforts culminated with a 24-hour dance marathon, bringing together students and children from the community and their families. BuckeyeThon has raised more than $11.5 million since its inception, including over $1.6 million this year to support Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

OH-IO! In his State of the University Address, President Michael V. Drake spoke of Ohio State moving forward with unprecedented momentum. Many of the university’s most important indicators are at record levels, including the academic excellence and diversity of incoming classes, research funding, graduation rates, patient care, donor support and more. Drake also shared that, by this summer, Ohio State will have committed $200 million in additional need-based aid for students and families — doubling the goal of $100 million set five years ago.

Access, affordability and excellence. The university has made creating greater access to an excellent and affordable Buckeye education a strategic priority. Ohio State is also helping to lead this effort nationally as a founding member of several collaborations, including the American Talent Initiative. The initiative is committed to enrolling an additional 50,000 highly talented, low- and moderate-income students at U.S. colleges and universities — and its latest report identifies Ohio State as among the top institutions for growth in this area.

Faculty excellence. An Ohio State professor has received the National Postdoctoral Association’s 2020 Garnett-Powers Association Inc. Mentor Award — recognizing a single faculty member in the U.S. for exceptional mentoring of postdoctoral scholars. John Beacom, Henry L. Cox Professor of Physics and Astronomy in the College of Arts and Sciences, has served as a mentor for dozens of postdoctoral researchers as a direct research supervisor and through his role as director of Ohio State’s Center for Cosmology and AstroParticle Physics.

Innovating for health and wellness. Ohio State students need look no further than their mobile devices to find a new online tool provided by the university that is designed to support their well-being. The “Ohio State: Wellness” app has been developed by students, faculty and staff. As part of the university’s Digital Flagship collaboration with Apple, an Ohio State team spent three days at the company’s headquarters to jumpstart the creation of the app. That team then completed the app in-house, building on the concepts developed during those meetings.