Somally Nuth, a California State North Ridge graduate, has taken office as Assistant Director of Residence Life at Peru State College. Nuth, arriving at PSC from Santa Rosa, CA, has settled into Peru and is acclimating well to the new culture. “I have always wanted to live somewhere different,” Nuth said. “I want to experience what I can, when I can. So far, I’m loving it.”

Nuth oversees the campus resident assistants as well as serving as a sponsor for the newly reinstated Residence Hall Association. Nuth has immersed herself in her work, creating goals and setting expectations for herself as well as the students and resident assistants she oversees. “I believe each endeavor should be treated as a professional development opportunity,” stated Nuth. “Students should walk away with skills that provide a professional foundation.”

Though she has only been here a short time, Nuth is delving into the close-knit Peru community by volunteering for the area rescue squad and fire department. Nuth noted that her previous institution, California State North Ridge, and PSC are extremely different, but she enjoys the change of pace. As her office is located across from the student mailboxes and right next to the cafeteria doors, she gets to observe students frequently. “It amazes me to see how friendly students here are. They hold the door open for each other and call each other by name. That didn’t happen frequently at North Ridge,” she said.

Beyond the student body, Nuth was immediately impressed with the amount of programs and activities happening here; however, she would like to see more programs implemented on the weekends. “Not scheduling weekend events because some students may be going home is the wrong way to look at it,” Nuth explained, “We want residents to get the full experience. This means providing them with as many opportunities as possible.”

Nuth reported that she is excited to embark on the journey that this first year at PSC holds for her and she is looking forward to meeting new people.

If students are interested in contacting Nuth, they may stop by her office in the Student Center or contact her via email at snuth@peru.edu.

Upper Right: During the Homecoming football game’s halftime, the coronation of the Homecoming king and queen thrilled the audience. Queen Jennifer Trapp and King Christopher Hawkins received their crowns at this time.

Bottom Left: NADAA’s float embodied a metaphor about lifeguards and designated drivers. The winners from the Homecoming parade were as follows:

- Decorated Vehicle, winners received money: (1) Stepping Saints (2) Biology Club (3) Support Staff
- Best Float, winners received money: (1) Student Senate (2) NADAA (3) Phi Alpha Theta
- Classic Car, winners received trophies: (1) 1954 Purple Ford Truck (2) Green Chrysler (3) Army Jeep

Bottom Middle: During the Homecoming football game, cheerleaders and the mascot threw toy footballs and T-shirts to the audience.

Bottom Right: Cheerleaders kept the crowd excited during the Homecoming football game.

Photos courtesy of Rebecca Amen
PSC includes five new clubs for students to explore their interests

JESSICA MERRILL
Staff Writer

Getting involved once you get to college can be pretty difficult. Between having a full schedule of classes, having to work full time and the overall added stress that college can bring, being in clubs and organizations is probably the last thing on most college students’ minds, but it’s so important.

Being a part of a group can help with build networks and give the opportunity to meet new people and make friends. Also, college is a really important time to build your resume, and being involved can certainly help with that as well. In addition to the many clubs and organizations Peru already has on their campus, the school has added five new clubs this year.

These clubs include the Rotaract Club, which is a community-service based club that last year hosted “Movember” (a moustache growing charity event to raise awareness for men’s health) and brought the “Invisible Children” to our campus.

Also new to our campus is the Young Democrat and the Young Republican’s clubs, which provide students with outlooks on political parties and upcoming elections. Jacob Buss, a senior music education major and President of the Young Democrat’s Club, says, “Young Democrats hope to bring a new sense and side to the political spectrum at Peru State College. As a state chartered chapter, we hope to bring new experiences and resources to our members and the campus as a whole. While being political, we are also a service group and we will help different organizations and charities. We also assist in the voting process helping people get registered to vote.”

In addition to those three clubs, Peru also welcomes the Residence Hall Association, which in the future will provide programming and activities through Residence Life for on-campus students to enjoy. Finally, Peru will have the Writer’s Guild on our campus. Writer’s Guild is a club of young aspiring writers; they also put together an anthology at the end of the year, in addition to holding an annual writing contest. “Peru State’s Writer’s Guild offers an amazing opportunity to those interested in writing to explore new ideas, practice their skills, and publish a few pieces in our anthology,” said Rebecca Amen, senior language arts major who joined the club in its infancy last year.

Along with these five new clubs offered on campus, Peru also has other organizations like the Campus Activities Board, which specializes in event planning; Student Senate, which gives students a glimpse of the political side of a college campus and many other clubs specifically for majors such as business, criminal justice, education and more. If students have any questions about leaders of any organizations or how to get involved, they are encouraged to check out www.peru.edu/student-activities for a full list of clubs and a brief description of what each one is about.

Club meeting times:
Rotaract Club: 7:30pm on Wednesday
Writer’s Guild: 3:00pm on Friday
Young Democrats: TBA
Young Republicans: TBA
RHA: TBA
Interview with SEAN and PSEA President Megan Brown

CHLOE LANGFORD
Contributing Writer

Tell us about your new role as the president of Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN).

I have numerous duties as the SEAN president; however, more than anything it is my most sincere goal to ensure that our members are provided with high quality opportunities, activities, and events at the state level that empowers them to be even better teacher candidates.

How does this new title affect your role as Peru State Education Association (PSEA) president?

Upon learning that I was voted as the SEAN president, I assumed I would vacate my role as PSEA president. However, after careful consideration, I decided to maintain my presidency in PSEA. I care deeply about the local and state associations and with such a great support system in our members, I feel I can adequately handle both leadership positions.

You seem to be very involved and a happy student. What is some advice you would give to freshman about getting involved, and staying active with the campus?

I definitely try to stay involved on campus and to be a positive person. I think all members of our group have special skills, thoughts, and unique perspectives to bring to the group. The collective action of individuals who take ownership of our group is what makes our organization great. We are a group run by students, for students and I am here to serve the group to my greatest ability.

When I was a freshman at Peru State College, I knew that I wanted to join an organization through which I could give back to my community. At the time I joined, PSEA was planning our annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash and that got me hooked. The spring semester of my freshman year I became Media Officer. Since my freshman year, I have held a position at the local and state level and won two national awards, the NEA-SP Jeffery J.D. Miller Outstanding Underclassman Award and the NEA-SP Outstanding Local Leader Award. It was by taking on one small leadership role that I was able to grow as a leader and future educator and accomplish great things. Having a stellar resume and attending expensive-paid trips to New Orleans, Chicago and Washington, D.C. are incredible perks to being active in our organization, but those perks cannot compare to the sense of achievement I feel and the benefit of the amazing friendships with association members from across the nation.

Tell us a little about yourself, your family, what you like to do in your free time.

Being an active leader in my education association is an honor, privilege and a position in which I love to serve; however, the time it takes to succeed in these roles, on top of being a single parent, leaves little time for much else. The spare time that I do have I spend with my daughter, Kamber. She is now three and more adventurous than ever. We enjoy going to museums, parks and the nail salon and she will soon be starting dance classes.

Performance-based pay fails students

MEGAN BROWN
Advertising Manager

We entrust public schools to keep those we most cherish safe and engaged in the powerful learning process. Teaching is not only a science but an art in itself. It takes highly educated and skilled professionals to be able to enter the classroom and teach quality lessons that are differentiated, aligned to standards and involve all students. Public educators take all children into their classrooms regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, gender or learning level.

Into these diverse classrooms, politicians have thrown mandatory standardized tests. The purpose of these tests is to provide local businesses, politicians and school boards with the ability to compare scores from classroom to classroom, school to school, district to district and state to state. Then, federal and state governing entities feel they can appropriate funding in accordance to how well schools and districts scored on standardized tests.

Unfortunately for the students and teachers, this method of comparison is not plausible. Each classroom is different. In each classroom there are different students who have different capabilities, previous learning experiences in prior classrooms, home lives and some individuals have learning disabilities. However, schools and districts are being “graded” solely based on their students’ standardized tests scores, regardless of the very real differences in student diversity.

Many self-proclaimed political and business leader education reformers feel that teachers should be given “performance-based pay.” This means that teachers would be paid based on their students’ test scores. Many think that this sounds great in theory, but just as a standardized test is not an accurate reflection of what a student knows, it is not an accurate reflection of what a teacher has taught.

According to the National Education Association, “paying for higher tests scores ignores the qualitative aspects of teaching critical to student success, such as the ability to adapt instruction to individual student needs and to engage students to increase their motivation. It also ignores the wide variance in levels of parental involvement and other types of student support.”

Teachers need to be held accountable but true comprehensive education reform is needed. However, teachers need to be included in the conversation on how this reform should occur.
Nebraska Court of Appeals visits Peru State College

Mary Johnson
Copy Editor

The Nebraska Court of Appeals was held in Peru State College’s Theater Thursday, September 13, in two sessions; from 9:30 am to 11:15 am and from 1:30 pm to 3:15 pm. This session of the court was the first time the court of appeals had been held on an undergraduate campus. The meeting of the court on the Peru State Campus was an opportunity for criminal justice and social science students to view formal court proceedings.

One student who attended, Tedd Merrill, a sophomore business administration-management major, said, “It was interesting as an audience member to see how the court of appeals actually works, and it was great for Peru State College to have exposure like it did for something like that. Hopefully more is to come.”

Other students shared Merrill’s interest—another audience member, Mary Fiedler, a junior art education major, said she was surprised at the number of people who attended. “My own class was canceled in order for us to go the court and I knew other teachers would send their students as well, but I was still surprised at the number of people who actually showed up. Most of them were taking notes for one class or another,” Fiedler said.

Three judges presided over the cases in the afternoon session: Chief Judge Everett O. Inbody, Judge Moore, and Judge Reidmann. The second of the four cases presented was the State of Nebraska versus Juneal Dale Pratt. This case concerned a motion for DNA testing. The Pratt counsel, Tracy L. Hightower-Henne, argued that it was possible to determine the source of the contamination by using DNA testing, therefore separating the contaminated stains from the remainder of the evidence. This was the Pratt defense’s second request for further DNA testing.

The state’s counsel, Assistant Attorney General James D. Smith, stated that this was speculation, and that there was not reasonable likelihood of more accurate DNA testing. In addition, the counsel said that the three requirements set out by the DNA Testing Act had not been completed; namely, that the evidence had been compromised, not held to its original composition. This appeal for DNA testing was denied.

Fiedler also shared some other impressions of the court. She said, “The cases were surprisingly easy to follow. There was some terminology that I was not familiar with. I was able to guess at the meanings of most of those terms though, and I never felt completely lost.” She also expressed surprise at the lawyers’ behavior. She said, “I was surprised at how nervous some of the lawyers seemed. They got lost in their notes and flustered by the judges’ questions. I was expecting them to be more confident and prepared.”

Megan Bottcher, a senior business major with a minor in history from Talmage, NE, said about her internship in Ag Sales, “Completing my internship at a small business was truly an inspiration to pursue my own business aspirations in the future. Although owning one’s own business requires a lot of self discipline and motivation, the rewards are certainly worth it. This internship truly has shaped my outlook on future goals and plans!”
Five steps to getting creative

MICHAELA WOLVERTON
Contributing Writer

Being famous is something many people dream about. Some people do nothing about it, and just let the thought be a form of pleasant wishful thinking. Others do very little, as they have the “real world” tying them down. And then there are the select few who choose to put all they have into this dream of theirs, and they make something of it.

Writing a song is not rocket science. Painting a vision is not brain surgery. Learning a dance move is not as difficult as walking and chewing gum. It’s all about a creative process.

The creative process starts with drive and motivation. You can’t go out and ride a bike if you have no motivation to do so, why would you be able to write a song, paint a picture or learn a dance if the motivation isn’t there?

So the first step is plain and simple: You want to do something creative! Then you need to want to do it badly enough to start, or nothing will get accomplished.

The second step is figuring out what you want to do. I personally work on the song writing aspect of the creative side of things, so that’s what majority of the following steps will include. However, the creative process is similar for all forms.

Once you’ve figured out what creative outlet you want to work on, you draw inspiration from anything and everything. For song writing, it’s not just about one thing. Sure, pop culture songs on the radio are generally about one subject, but there’s more behind a song than a topic.

Write down any words you feel like writing. They don’t have to make any sort of sense at all. Back when I was in high school, my speech coach called this “vomiting our thoughts” onto the page. So vomit away. And when you have a good page or two of words, sentences, etc. is when you can begin writing your lyrics.

This is where the “subject” comes in. Find words within what you’ve written down that fit together. Phrases that seem to particularly flow well together unintentionally will happen quite often if you’ve truly expressed yourself on the page.

Contrary to popular belief, your song does not need any rhyming scheme to it to be considered a song. While rhymes do flow well and are quite popular to use, they are not a necessity in a song. So don’t be discouraged if you wrote down the word “orange” on your vomit page -- you can still use it!

One of the more difficult parts of song writing is finding the music behind your song. If you’ve done the creative process correctly, you will hear your song as a finished composition before you’ve even figured out what instrument(s) you plan to use.

If you’ve never touched a musical instrument in your life so far, don’t fret. Instruments can be made out of anything, or you can find a musically inclined friend to assist you.

As far as recording goes, there are dozens of free programs available on the internet, or programs you can pay to download as well. There’s also a nifty recording studio in the Jinda Fine Arts building, but that’s only accessible with permission of the people who have the key to the door.

The creative process is quite different for each aspect of creativity. However, each form shares similar steps. To point them out in a nutshell, the creative process is as follows:

**Step One:** Find your motivation.
**Step Two:** Figure out what creative outlet is best for you.
**Step Three:** Put your thoughts on paper so you can see them.
**Step Four:** Don’t go with the norm. Creativity is all about just that -- CREATIVITY!
**Step Five:** Don’t get discouraged and keep working.

Everyone has the ability to be creative and follow the process to come up with something great. Whether you choose to share it with the rest of the campus is definitely up to you.

PSC students get informed on politics

MARY JOHNSON
Copy Editor

I am not enthusiastic about politics. While I know that politics do affect my everyday life, I have no motivation to participate beyond voting. Despite my obvious lack of interest, many people consistently attempt to persuade me that politics is something everyone should be involved with. Since I know other students struggle with this as well, I decided to look into reasons why politics should be important to college students.

Many college students are involved in politics, as shown by the recently formed Young Republicans and Young Democrats clubs. So I asked a couple of the officers of these clubs why they got involved, and why they felt it was important for others to get involved, too.

Jacob Buss, senior music education student and President of Peru State’s Young Republicans club, said “I got involved with politics because I firmly believe that if I want to see change happen in the government, then I have to be part of that system. And being part of the political system ranges everything from being the president of the United States to voting.”

He went on to say, “It is important for people of our age, and all ages, to get involved in politics because it affects our everyday life, whether we want it to or not… Regardless of what we are going into, politics can and will change our jobs and how we live our lives.”

Cassie Leonard, junior mathematics major student and treasurer for PSC’s Young Republicans club, said “I got involved in political activities on campus because I care about the future of my country… Our country is a democratic republic and unless everyone, young and old alike, are involved with politics the country won’t serve us justly.”

I propose that students take these words into account as the fall approaches. While you don’t have to be extensively involved in politics, a couple of actions are important to take: first, to educate yourself on the issues, and second, to vote this November. Politifact.com is a Pulitzer Prize winning website that separates the political facts from rumors, and will help start a quest for knowledge on the issues. No matter how you vote, the outcome of the election will affect your life—don’t you want some say in that?
Healthy choices when it comes to fast food

ALLIE BUESING
Contributing Writer

When it comes to eating healthy, fast food is not the place to go. Sometimes, though, we are put in situations where we end up eating fast food. That doesn’t mean our healthy eating is done for. It’s challenging, but healthy eating can be done at fast food restaurants.

When it comes to choosing a drink with your meal, go for the cheapest option, water. Not only do most fast food restaurants not charge you for water, it’s also the healthiest choice when choosing a drink option. If you aren’t in the mood for water, another option is unsweetened ice tea. Many think diet sodas are a smart choice when it comes to choosing a drink. They don’t contain any calories but they do contain artificial sweeteners. These artificial sweeteners have been shown in studies to have the reverse effect, and actually cause weight gain and lead to diabetes, heart disease, cancer and other chronic conditions.

Now here is the hardest part—choosing what to eat. A salad can always be a great choice if you make the right decisions. When it comes to choosing a salad, choose one that is low on calories, but even those low calorie choices can contain a high amount of sodium, unhealthy fat and unhealthy carbohydrates as well. To become a healthier, you should try to avoid fast food restaurants as much as you can. Try packing your lunch or going to the grocery store to grab a healthy option.

Take the fast food healthy choice quiz and see how well you can make healthy choices.

1. You go to Subway to grab a quick sandwich; which choice is the healthiest?
   - A. 6 inch tuna sandwich on 9-grain wheat, no cheese, with lettuce, tomatoes, and onions.
   - B. Fresco Grilled Steak Soft Taco
   - C. Black Bean Burrito

2. You go to Taco Bell; which of the three choices is the healthiest?
   - A. Chicken Fiesta Taco Salad
   - B. Fresco Grilled Steak Soft Taco
   - C. Black Bean Burrito

3. You go to McDonalds for breakfast; which of the three choices is the healthiest?
   - A. Fruit and Yogurt Parfait
   - B. Fruit and Maple Oatmeal
   - C. Sausage McMuffin

Exercise Tip: Get a group together or challenge yourself to the 30/30 challenge. The 30/30 challenge is that you must complete 30 minutes of activity for 30 days straight. Whether the activity is walking, playing volleyball, or biking, it doesn’t matter. This not only gets you up in moving, it makes it a habit and part of your routine to do physical activity every day. If you can’t get it all in at one time break it up. Walk for 10 minutes over lunch break and then another 20 minutes at night.

Politics: How do they expect us to pay for college?

JACOB BUSS
Contributing Writer

The Democratic Party wants to continue with the path that they are on with reforms for higher education finances. One thing they have done and want to continue to do is a complete reformation of student loans, which has already saved over $60 million by taking banks out of student loans and having the loans come from the government. So far, the party has doubled investments in Pell Grants and created the American Opportunity Tax Credit. To keep rising costs down, the party has set a stipulation for public institutions by saying that the colleges need to keep costs down or federal aid to the college itself will be reduced.

The Republican Party has a very different view on what they believe should be done to help manage costs. One of the main things they would like to do is privatize student loans, taking the government out of giving out funds to help students pay for college and then providing regulation on the interest rates. They feel that there need to be new and expanded systems of learning to compete with traditional four year colleges, such as expanding community colleges and technical institutions, private training schools, online universities, lifelong learning centers and work based learning centers in privatized sectors. They also feel that it is necessary to advance the affordability and to make low-cost degrees (such as community colleges and training schools) more accessible for students who may not be able to pay for a traditional four year college.

Mark Twain said, “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” I first heard that quote when I was in 8th grade. At the time, I did not really understand what Twain was talking about. These past few weeks living in America have been interesting in so many ways. I have met many different people, gained multiple experiences and done things that would not have been possible if I had not moved to America. With all the craziness that goes into living in a brand new environment and culture, I have begun to understand what Twain meant.

As college kids we are here because we want a better life. We want to be able to look back in twenty years and have no regrets. So we dare to dream, find the courage to explore, and discover new things about ourselves, others, our environment, and the world we live in. What I have found fascinating about this culture is that with this common mentality to want a better life, there comes a very, very strong sense of individualism. I find this captivating because I come from a place where there is a very, very strong sense of community. There is an African proverb which says, “It takes a village to raise a child”. Back home, I can walk into nearly any neighborhood and ask a child who lives in each house in that neighborhood. That child will be able to tell who lives there, where in my country they are from, and where I can probably find them if there are not at home. The community plays a huge role in your life and you always know that they are there for you. Over here it is not like that. Your community does not take as large of a role, if any, in your life. This simple fact about the American culture is really mind-blowing for me.

Figures from History: Mitt Romney’s past includes religion, love, and education

Willard Mitt Romney was born March 12, 1947, in Detroit, Michigan, to George and Lenore Romney. Romney grew up in the Bloomfield Hills, area of Michigan and went to the prestigious Cranbrook School. Romney spent one year at Stanford University when he was called to do missionary duties. Romney was raised in the Mormon Church, the Church of Latter-Day Saints. In July of 1966, Romney participated in a 3-month long mission trip to France. This was considered a right of passage for young Mormon men. There he started at the bottom and slowly worked his way up the ladder. During this mission trip he converted people to the Mormon Church.

When his mission was complete Romney returned to the United States and continued to court Ann Davies. Romney and Davies got married on March 21, 1969. One year later the first child to the couple, Taggart, was born while the couple tended to their undergraduates studies at BYU. As life went on for Romney received his undergraduate degree in English from Brigham Young University in 1971. Later Romney attended Harvard where he received a master’s degree in Business Administration, and a degree in law.

Once done with college Romney joined the Boston Consulting Group where he consulted many different companies. Later on, Bain & Company would take on Romney and other former employees of BCG. While at Bain & Company, Romney worked with many companies like Monsanto Company, Outboard Marine Corporation, and many more. In 1984, Romney left Bain & Company to help found Bain Capital. Bain Capital’s original focus was venture capital opportunities, also known as the startup of a company, Bain Capital’s first high risk and highly successful venture was Staples Inc.

I don’t think I am ever going to get used to this aspect of the American culture, and I don’t know if I want to. What I do know is that in these past few weeks, I have discovered what I like most about the American culture: the food. There is so much diversity in food choice that I really like. It think it is awesome that this culture has managed to incorporate other cultures food into their food.

Life at Peru State College continues to surprise me, and the American culture as a whole continues to leave me dumbfounded. As I continue to try to find my balance in this surprising culture, I can’t help but smile because I am gaining a once in a lifetime experience that I am thankful for.

W. Romney won. In 1968, George W. Romney ran for president and lost. When Romney came home from his France mission trip he found that his father was part of President Nixon’s cabinet. In 1970, Lenore Romney ran for senate and lost. Romney himself stayed out of the political spotlight for a good portion of his life.

It wasn’t until February of 1994 that Romney put his hat in the political ring; Romney lost against Ted Kennedy. In 2002, Romney ran for Governor of Massachusetts. Romney was considered a political outsider. He considered himself, “not a partisan Republican,” but rather a “moderate,” or “progressive” republican. Romney became the 70th Governor of Massachusetts in 2003. Romney was in the primaries for the Republican Party Presidential race.

This year Willard Mitt Romney is running for the 2012 Presidential Election under the Republican Party. Romney’s running mate is Paul Ryan.

Next issue: Barack Obama
Bobcat golf finishes 13th in NAIA fall preview

(Peru, Neb.) – Playing in the largest meet and with one of the strongest fields they would ever face, the Peru State College (PSC) Bobcat golf team finished 14th in the Doane College/NAIA Fall Preview Invitational on Sept. 24 and 25.

The invite, featuring 21 teams from all over the country, was completed at the Wilderness Ridge Golf Course in Lincoln, the site of the May 2013 and 2014 NAIA National Championships. Sinae Montoya of Lubbock Christian University was the medalist, shooting a two under par for the 36 holes with a score of 140. Montoya shot a five under par 66 on the opening day. Tied for 6th was Katie Potter (Omaha) who had a 92 while Jacey Stoner (Alda) was tied for 41st with a 118.

Kathryn Donovan and Lierz who had a 92 while Jacey Stoner (Alda) was tied for 41st with a 118.

The only Bobcat player that contributed to the team with 5 and four aces, respectively. Following behind them was Kaitlyn Donovan and Lierz who both helped contribute to the team’s high score of 11, having one ace a piece. The only Bobcat player that had double digit digs was Marlesh, with a total of 18 digs. She was followed by Becky Boshart who added eight digs. Nelson had the lone solo block, but the Bobcats did account for 12 block assists. Peterson had four while Tara Gonzalez, Riza and Petak each added two aces.

The Bobcats’ second game was against Grace University on September 19 who they defeated 3-1. The Bobcats were led by Lierz who had 14 kills on 28 swings with only three errors to hit .393 against the Royals. Peterson and Nelson helped by having 12 kills each and hit .450 and .429. Following behind them was Gonzalez with seven kills.

Riza and Jurek again led the setting with 21 and 19 assists. Jurek also added one service ace. Marlesh had a season-high of seven service aces while Donovan also had a season-high of three aces as PSC matched their previous season-high of 11 service aces. Marlesh also led the team in digs with 14 while Boshart was also in double digits with 11. Peterson collected the lone solo block and all had four block assists. Gonzalez and Riza each had two block assists. The Peru State College Bobcats couldn’t pull it off against the 25th ranked MidAmerican Nazarene. The Bobcats tried hard but couldn’t quite pull it off as they lost 25-13, 25-11 and 25-18.

Leading the Bobcats was Gonzalez, who had eight kills and hit a .375 during the game, while Lierz added seven kills, and Lindsey Nelson added five. Jurek had 16 assists and Riza added seven. Bowers, Marlesh and Jurek all had one ace. Marlesh was the only Bobcat in double digits with 11 digs while Boshart had nine and Jurek finished with six. Peterson had the lone block while Gonzalez and Petak each contributed one block assist.

Be sure to help support your volleyball team the next time that they have a home game. It is always fun for the team to see a large group of fans.
Sarah Williams wins Dean White Invitational

PATRICK KING  
Staff Writer

The Peru State College women’s cross-country team went on the road to Doane College to compete in the Dean White invitational on September 22nd.

The team consists of five runners; Sarah Williams, Danielle Prchal, Kesha Beethe, Kristen Penny and Danielle Aldrich. The girls are coached by Johann Murray who is coaching for the eighth season this year. He has experience with being competitive because he was captain of the cross-country and track team at Rowan Murray. He also held the record at his school for the outdoor mile, indoor mile, indoor 1000 and set the cross-country course record.

It was a good performance for the Bobcats as they came in sixth place with a total of 158 points during the meet.

The Bobcats were led by senior Sarah Williams (Hiawatha, Kan.) who came in first place; in spite of not being completely healthy, just beating the second place runner by 41 seconds as she won the race with a time of 18:55. The race consisted of a total of 63 runners.

The other Bobcat runners also had a good performance in the 5K as they all ran their own personal best times.

Danielle Prchal (Omaha) finished 37th with a personal best time of 22:12.29. Prchal, a senior social science education major at Peru said, “It felt great to run my personal best. Everyone ran very well, it was a great race. Sarah did awesome winning the race.”

She was followed by Senior Kesha Beethe (Tecumseh) who cut nearly a total of three minutes off of her time from last year and ran the course in a time of 23:26.05 to finish 50th. Followed closely behind her was Senior Kristen Penny (Henderson, Nev.) who finished in 53rd place with a time of 23:42.57.

The final Bobcat to finish the race was freshman Danielle Aldrich (Daykin) who finished 62nd with a time of 26:16.47.

This win for Sarah Williams led her to be elected as the Heart of America Athletic Conference Woman’s Runner of the Week on Monday September 24th. In doing this, she added a third-straight weekly honor to her resume after finishing the race in first place out of a total of 63 runners.

Bobcat Homecoming loss brings out best in players

TEDD MERRILL  
Contributing Writer

Peru State College Bobcats football season is currently sitting at 2-3 following the loss to Graceland on Homecoming Saturday, September 29th with a score of 28-20. The Bobcats’ three turnovers ultimately were the momentum changers on the game. Statistically, both teams were about equal; Peru had more rushing yards - 257 to Graceland’s 233, but the Yellow Jackets had more passing yards - 120 to Peru’s 110. Following the 49-7 loss to Benedictine Ravens in Atchison, Kansas on September 22, Coach Schneider and the other coaches challenged the players to pick up the intensity every week in practice from now until the end of the season. NFL Hall of Fame Coach Vince Lombardi once said, “The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”

The players are buying into the coaches new ideas, which are being implemented into each practice to improve everyone, not only as individuals, but as a unit. Vince Lombardi also said that, “Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.”

All is not lost for the Bobcats, however; there is still quite a bit of football left to the season progresses, which has not been a huge issue for the Bobcats. Coaches and players need to keep the aggressiveness and energy up not only in games, but also every day in practice, and on and off the field. Bobcat fans, do not get discouraged; being in a new conference, especially one as strong as the HAAC, things take time to develop. As long as the Bobcats compete and play their hearts out every game, no matter what the outcome of the game may be, this season is just a stepping stone to great success down the road. Former Alabama and College Football Hall of Fame Coach Paul ‘Bear’ Bryant said it best, “Never quit. It is the easiest cop-out in the world. Set a goal and don’t quit until you attain it. When you do attain it, set another goal, and don’t quit until you reach it. Never quit.”
**A Thousand Cranes**

Based on the book by Eleanor Coerr, *A Thousand Cranes* is a drama based on a true story about Sadako Sasaki. Adapted by Kathryn Schultz Miller, the play is set in Japan during the 1950’s.

The play itself tells the story of a 12 year-old girl who is diagnosed with leukemia, a disease brought on from the radiation after the bombing of Hiroshima. Her friend tells her this story, “If a sick person folds a thousand cranes, the gods will grant her wish of being healthy.” The story continues with Sadako starting to fold the cranes to get well again.

Chelsea Turek plays Sadako while Nick Girard and Jessica Johansen play multiple characters in the play.

The director of this play was Lomus Khatiwada. The actor and actresses in the play were fantastic in their roles, especially with Girard and Johansen playing multiple roles. They managed changing roles flawlessly. Some skills had to be developed for the play, such as the creation of origami cranes and counting in time with one another. The music, handled by Thomas Horky, was mainly used for effect, such as the use of a gong at an intense part of the play. The lighting was also very well done, helping along with the scene changes. Jake Acers and Mary Fiedler handled the lights and sound wonderfully.

The stage itself was quite nice. The backdrop was very nice. The backdrop was very well done, helping along with the scene changes. Jake Acers and Mary Fiedler handled the lights and sound wonderfully.

Other PSC Theatre shows take place this year. EAT It’s Not About Food, a play that dramatizes eating disorders, takes place on November 1-4. Mr. Marmalade, the other main play this year, takes place in March. Shortly before school ends for the year, Devised Theatre for Young People will take place, which is written by a few of PSC’s theatre students.

**Letter to the Editor: Bobcat statue confesses intense loneliness**

**Jenny Trapp**

Distribution Manager

Dear Editor,

Why is it that no one ever talks to me? I am there. I never move from my post, yet no one ever comes to talk to me. I am so very alone! Just because I am cast in metal doesn’t mean I do not have feelings.

People walk right past me without even looking at me anymore. Have I lost my shine? Am I turning green? Smokers stand around me, giving me second hand smoke. I suffer daily: all I ask for in return is for someone to talk to. I hear all the gossip. And, boy is there a lot of drama going on around here! I am great at giving advice, but I can never help because it would be rude if everyone knew I eavesdrop on their conversations. I would hate to butt in when no one even cares that I am there. It is as if no one knows I can hear them or something. Campus visitors always stare at me and pose for pictures around me as if I am famous. Am I? If I am, then why doesn’t anyone talk to me? Sometimes people rub me like I am some kind of genie lamp. What do they think, Genie from Aladdin is going to come out of my nose and grant them three wishes? Come on people! I am a darn bobcat statue. I heard one ambassador tell a bunch of kids that it is good luck to pat my head. Who comes up with this stuff? What part of “metal statue” don’t they get? I am not magic. I am just a statue who wishes to have someone to talk to.

Has no one ever seen the Toy Story movies or Night at the Museum? “Inanimate” objects aren’t always inanimate, and I am one of those guys. But what those crazy kids have that I do not is company. At night or when alone, they can move about and have fun or go to parties, but when I am alone, it is just like every other day: I am alone. I have no friends. I sit up on my pedestal in front of the Administration building all day and all night with only the characters inside my head to talk to. The crazy stray cats don’t even talk to me. And I scared Jerry the Squirrel when I tried to start up a conversation with him. I think he thought he was going nuts.

I know I am not alone. I have heard that I have a couple cousins in the neighborhood. Somewhere between the T.J. Majors building and the student center, and down by the AWAC. Perhaps they, too

are, unhappy with their lives? Lonely little bobcat statues.

I have the perfect solution to make it so that I will not be so miserable day in and day out. It is simple, really! Move the other bobcats down to be around me and my pedestal. Or if it would be so bad for them to leave their posts, find some new bobcats. Maybe a cute lady friend for this handsome stud? All I want is a friend to talk to so that I can drown out the whiny college kids that complain about their pathetic lives. Let us compare levels of pathetic lives.... I am a metal bobcat statue who is stuck up on a brick pedestal. I can’t move, have no friends, and no one ever talks to me. I think I win the pathetic life contest. Editor, will you be my friend?

Forever alone,

Robert (Bobbie) Bobcat
Administration Building Bobcat Statue
Dredd improves upon previous movie

KYLE AMEN
Distribution Manager

_Dredd_ is the second attempt at bringing “Judge Dredd” to the big screen. While 1995’s “Judge Dredd” was absolutely terrible, this second attempt at bringing “Judge Dredd” to the big screen worked. It’s dark, gritty and just all around violent. While that might scare off some, it’s exactly the way it should be made.

Judge Dredd, one of police offers in Mega-City One, starts the movie right away with a police chase. Mega-City One is massive, taking up most of the entire eastern coast of America. Outside the city is a wasteland filled with radiation. Since the city has to hold almost 800 million people, the city needs help with the 17,000 crimes reported daily. That’s where Dredd comes in. The police in the city act as the judge, jury and executioner for every crime committed. It saves on time and man power.

After he puts a stop to the chase, he heads to HQ to find out that he failed the tests to become a full Judge. Both of them respond to Judge Anderson, a physic who is tasked with evaluating rookie officers all the way to the top, capturing or killing everyone that stands in their way. While _Dredd_ doesn’t have the budget other comic book movies get such as _The Dark Knight Rises or The Avengers_, it uses its budget wisely. Rather then spend it all on special effects, they put the money towards details. Graphic displays, make-up, sets, little things in the background that help make the movie more real.

While the setup has its good parts, it also comes with some bad ones. There is almost no emotion in the movie at all. Anderson, almost like a Doctor Who companion in a few ways, carries what emotions are in the movie. The emotions, however, are in one single scene. There is no real opportunity to know more about the characters or back story. The movie is basically a good cop versus bad guy movie.

_Dredd_ isn’t for everyone. It’s loud, gruesome and very violent. It doesn’t have the big boom or emotional level that big budget superhero movies have, but _Dredd_ was never about that in the first place. Much care and passion went into making this movie happen. It deserves to be supported and hopefully allow for a sequel - one single scene. There is no real novelty in the U.S.

Across
1. Pink, sweet and a summer treat
2. Main liquid ingredient in a shake
3. U.S. state that has the most dairy farms in the Future
4. Country that consumes the most ice cream.
5. Company that owned the world’s largest chain of ice cream specialty stores in 2005
6. Percent of households that have ice cream
7. Some say this green nutty flavor is gross
8. Edible ice cream holder
9. A flavor for voters who like cake
10. A carbonated sundae
11. American ice cream company that boasts the slogan “Ice Cream on the go”
12. The best selling frozen flavor is gross
13. National ice cream month
14. Country that consumes the most ice cream.
15. American ice cream company that boasts the slogan “Ice Cream of the Future”
16. Most popular ice cream flavor

Down
1. Flavor for someone who needs a lawyer
2. Flavor for someone who needs a lawyer
3. U.S. state that has the most dairy farms in the Future
4. Main liquid ingredient in a shake
5. Company that owned the world’s largest chain of ice cream specialty stores in 2005
6. Percent of households that have ice cream
7. Some say this green nutty flavor is gross
8. Edible ice cream holder
9. A flavor for voters who like cake
10. A carbonated sundae
11. American ice cream company that boasts the slogan “Ice Cream on the go”
12. The best selling frozen flavor is gross
13. National ice cream month
14. Country that consumes the most ice cream.
15. American ice cream company that boasts the slogan “Ice Cream of the Future”
16. Most popular ice cream flavor

---When---
When your friends are gone
And when your back is turned

When your blood is spilt
And your heart is burned

When your mind races
But you cannot think

When you are drowning
But you will not sink

When your hands are tied
And the tide is high

When loved ones are calling
And you hear then cry

---Sit---
I sit and stare
at what isn’t there
Its amazing the things you see
The night is cold

But you’re not too old
To be what you’ve wanted to be

To believe in those
That others suppose
Is neither fact nor fiction

Maybe only a myth
But keep coming with
Perfect rhyme and diction

---Sky---
As I lie and watch the stars
I watch memories drift by
And instead of seeing Pluto or Mars
I see your shining face in the sky

As the night grows longer and colder
And the daylight is fading away
For a moment I don’t get any older
Because I know you are here to stay

As I sit and listen to crickets talk
They tell me all that they have to say
I’m reminded of how we used to walk
And then comes the return of the day

As the moonlight leaves
And its fading fast
And then I grieve

As the sun creeps over the horizon
The stars say a final goodbye
The moon decides to just move on
And the last light is the one in your eyes

I cling to the memory
Like a drowning man
I think I’m in love you see
And this is just how I am

---Sky---
As the night grows longer and colder
And the daylight is fading away
For a moment I don’t get any older
Because I know you are here to stay

As I sit and listen to crickets talk
They tell me all that they have to say
I’m reminded of how we used to walk
And then comes the return of the day

As the moonlight leaves
And its fading fast
And then I grieve

And try to make the moment last

---Sky---
As the sun creeps over the horizon
The stars say a final goodbye
The moon decides to just move on
And the last light is the one in your eyes

I cling to the memory
Like a drowning man
I think I’m in love you see
And this is just how I am

Nick Girard, Freshman Chemistry Major
Dear Maebelle,
Where can you go to find cheap, fashionable clothing?

Paper Bag Beauty Queen

Dear Baggy Queen,
Walmart is usually an affordable shopping option for you and others of the frugal variety. There’s also The Neighborhood Closet, a thrift store in Auburn, where if you show your Peru ID you get a fifty percent discount on already-discounted items, so you can’t go wrong there. However, being a thrift store, it obviously isn’t the most “in” of clothing options. Still, beggars can’t be choosers, right?

Mae

Dear Maebelle,
What can I do about a failing grade?

F-antastic

Dear F-,
Study. Do your homework. All of the other things you probably aren’t doing because you have a case of “I’m tired of college because life is hard.” Or, if you are genuinely trying, you could go talk with your professor and try and get extra help and possibly talk about extra credit options.

Mae

Dear Maebelle,
I get bored of Facebook pretty easily. What are some fun things around Peru that I can do to cure that boredom?

Small Town has me Down

Debbie Downer,
Here is a grand idea: Peru State College has supplied every single residence hall, plus the student center, with game rooms. They have plenty for you to do. Also there is the AWAC. Now, I understand that the AWAC is overrun by athletes, but there is a time for open gym, use it. There are things to do on this campus. It just requires you to use some imagination. Now I understand that video games have probably destroyed it, but at least try.

Mae

Dear Maebelle,
Is there really a mountain lion roaming the campus?

Fearful of Felines

Fearful,
No! That is just some silly rumor that some of the seniors started to get out of school. Haven’t you ever heard of mountain lion days? They work like snow days, but instead of missing school because of snow we miss it because of a really big cat. If you could not tell, I was being sarcastic. Peru is in the middle of nowhere wilderness, Mother Nature is bound to catch up some way.

Mae

Dear Maebelle,
I am trying to get the attention of this girl, but I don’t exist to her. What can I do?

Invisible Man

H.G. Wells Lover,
I can tell you what NOT to do. Don’t send her a YouTube link of you singing some romantic song. Don’t leave guitar picks outside of her dorm door. Don’t go sit with her if she’s at a crowded table. Don’t creep on her behind trees. Because bro, all of those are creepy, and she won’t think you’re being sweet -- she’ll think you’re being a stalker.

You know what you can do, though? Go become her friend. Guys worry too much about the “friend zone,” but honestly, no one ever starts off as an immediate romantic interest. So, squeeze your way into her friend zone, and then maybe you’ll be squeezing some other zones later down the road. ;)

Mae