Recently, Bill Rosken resigned from the Nebraska State College Board of Trustees after eleven years of service. Omaha business leader Jess Zeiss has been appointed to fill the position for the remainder of the term, which expires January 1, 2015. The Nebraska State College System board manages the three state colleges located in Peru, Chadron and Wayne and serves over 9,000 students and 50,000 alumni.

“I would love to serve longer as it is very difficult to become acclimated within a 10 month period,” stated Zeiss in an interview.

Zeiss serves as the managing director of First National Capital Markets. Within the company, he has served in varying capacities since 1998, including management and sales. As Rosken’s replacement, he will serve on the financial, facilities and audit committee. With his strong financial background, he says he brings an “understanding of the effects of rising costs of tuition and balance sheet management” to the board. He “also has a keen interest where funds are spent and how capital projects are prioritized.”

Zeiss sees “keeping Nebraska kids here in Nebraska to go to college” as one of the biggest concerns the state colleges are currently facing. “I see applicants everyday that are born here but leave for college. When I ask why, most say the economics of finding a job are easier somewhere else. That is the furthest from the truth. Our business community loves in-state kids and will always give them an opportunity first.”

“Another big topic that hits home with everyone is the ever increasing tuition costs. How do we manage that and still give kids a top notch education?” asks Zeiss. He will be in a good position to answer that question when he gets fully involved with the board.

Zeiss, raised in Wayne, Nebraska, has a unique interest in the NSCS. “I have had many people in my family attend WSC and the connection between the school and the community is very unique. It is personal, since I have so many connections there.” One thing he would like to see come about would benefit business majors at the state colleges. “One program I would love to see expanded into the business market, would be mirroring of the RHOP program. This program [incentives] kids to work in the small communities within Nebraska while at the same time getting educated at a minimal cost.”

His advice for the students of Peru State College is this: “Your personal ‘equity’ is so important. You are in charge of it and you can control it. What this means is doing the right thing when no one is looking. In addition, you build personal ‘equity’ by reaching out to people to understand them and what they do. Ask questions and seek input. Get involved whether it’s through sports, social clubs, fraternities/sororities, or educational clubs. This all builds personal ‘equity’ to which people want to be around.”

“I have a great affection for the state I was born and raised in,” Zeiss admitted. “I think everyone should serve in some capacity as a volunteer for their state, community, school, etc. It is very self-fulfilling.”

Students return from an international learning experience

Devin Hart
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Traveling for hours in an airplane, enjoying fresh fruit, learning about a new culture and making new friends in the process. Sounds like a dream right? Nope, it is one of the many opportunities that Peru has to offer which is the study abroad program.

Over Mid-Term Break a group of 10 students and group leader took a journey to the Dominican Republic. Each of the students had a wide range of skills and past experiences to offer on this trip.

Brooke Earnest, Senior, Criminal Justice Counseling major, states that, “The trip was an unforgettable experience! I had the time of my life traveling, learning about a new culture, learning a language, and meeting so many new people. I had never traveled outside of the States, so this whole experience was brand new to me. I loved everything about the Dominican Republic. The people really welcomed us ‘home’.

Our group really embraced the opportunity to learn the language and to live how the people of the Dominican Republic live. Also, the service learning aspect of the trip really made me feel powerful. The women of the Dominican Republic don’t do hard labor, as American women we came in doing what only the men do. It felt good to make an impact and help change a stereotype and prove that women can do just as much as the men.”

The biggest culture shock for Earnest was seeing all of people who live in shacks; you do not see that in the States. Another factor that Earnest found shocking was how nice everyone was. “People in the Dominican Republic welcomed us into their homes without even knowing who we were.”

Earnest offers some great advice to those who are considering going abroad. “Traveling abroad is to embrace the experience. Get to know the people, the language and the culture. Know about the country you are traveling to, take some time to learn their history. Take every chance you get and don’t hold back and you will have the time of your life.”

Students can either attend class for eight weeks or do an independent study. Dr. Kelli Gardner, Associate Professor of Psychology and Sociology states that, “Independent study option lets students get research experience. Students are the primary investigator, student design the project, do all the research. Faculty members are the coach/mentor however, the student takes the lead.”

Dr. Gardner also mentioned the study abroad program is a way for students to graduate with distinction if they are in the honors program. Dr. Gardner would like to remind students on April 7th there will be an honors program poster session in Jindra before and after the distinguished speaker series. This is a great opportunity to learn about the independent study program.

When asked what you are most looking forward to Baird, Senior, Psychology and Criminal Justice major, stated “I am most looking forward to exploring other countries, learning about the cultures, and seeing the Alps. We may think that some of the countries in Europe have a very similar culture to ours, but there are some major differences, too. It will be interesting to learn about the different lifestyles and interact with people from other countries.”

“My independent study will be through the honors program with a psychology foundation. I am looking at what motivates people to study abroad and the differences between genders and those who have traveled experience,” states Baird.

Baird has some advice for those that want to study abroad. “My advice for those that want to do an independent study is to do it early and make sure you are ready to do a lot of research before actually determining their topic. I have changed mine a few times while reviewing the research that has been done.”

Very soon another study abroad trip will be announced. Stay tuned for this exciting opportunity and scholarships will be available as well. It is a great chance to learn about a new culture and get great experience.
**Parking problems spread across campus**

Ama Bikoko  
FACEBOOK MANAGER

Parking spaces this year have been hard to come by. This is mainly due to the fact that there are more students on campus this year than there has been in previous years. Currently the college has 861 available spots. Of those spots, 391 of those are dedicated to residential students, the rest of the 470 spots are dedicated to commuting students, employees and visitors of the college. According to statistics that the college holds, residence hall parking is currently at 91% capacity. The ratio for this lot is 1.5 vehicles to every one spot.

Our non-residential parking capacity is at 143%. The ratio for this lot is three vehicles to one spot. Non-residential parking capacity is based on total students and employees and does not take into account the number of students/employees who have purchased a parking permit from the college. According to Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Michaela Willis, “If the figure were to be used in figuring capacity percent we would be much lower than 143% capacity (likely lower than 100% capacity).”

The Nebraska State College system targets our non-residential parking capacity is at 143%. The ratio for this lot is three vehicles to one spot. Non-residential parking capacity is based on total students and employees and does not take into account the number of students/employees who have purchased a parking permit from the college. According to Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Michaela Willis, “If the figure were to be used in figuring capacity percent we would be much lower than 143% capacity (likely lower than 100% capacity).”

“Taking these facts into account, parking has become a problem despite the fact that we should have adequate amount of parking. The dissatisfaction of parking by students and faculty led to a lot of complaints last semester.

In response to those complaints security has enforced parking regulations this semester a lot stronger than in previous semesters. This enforcement has led to more tickets being issued for various parking violations all across campus.

**Diversity Conference comes to Peru**

Peru State College hosted its sister college Wayne State for the 5th Annual Diversity Conference. This year’s theme was “Were All in this Together”. Students from both college gave different presentations on the theme and discussed how unity can come from diversification. The conference was held from March 21- March 22.

Photos courtesy Ama Bikoko

**The Peru State Times**

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All letters to the editor are welcome, and the writers of those letters need not be students. Letters, cartoons, articles, pictures and any other material submitted to the Times must be signed by individual(s) submitting them and will be published at the discretion of the staff. The Times reserves the right to edit all letters, articles and other submitted materials for grammar, length and clarity. The Times also reserves the right to decline the publication of any materials, including paid advertisements, for any reason.

To reach the Times, send material to the Peru State Times through campus mail or to: PSC Times, Peru State College, P.O. Box 10, Peru, NE 68421 or e-mail us at perustatetimes@gmail.com.

**Bobcat Talk**

What did you do over Mid-Term Break?

“I went to Denver with Alyssa and Rae. We spent a week going to different towns in the mountains, shopping, relaxing and destressing.”  
Nukita Baird  
Senior, Criminal Justice and Psychology

“I mostly just relaxed and did the least amount of homework possible”  
Mary Fielder  
Senior, Art Education

“I went to Waverlt Hills Sanitorium in Louisville, KY with my wife. We saw ghosts and she got scared like a bababy. It was great! Best vacation ever!”  
Robert Plympton  
Senior, Wildlife Ecology
Nebraska author to speak at Peru State College

A private pilot who has overcome multiple amputations and a Peru State alum who wrote a book about him are coming to campus to share their story.

The pilot, Brian Thomas, is a mechanic for Duncan Aviation in Lincoln. The author, Lisa Kovanda, is the current president of the Nebraska Writers Guild.

The two will talk about the book they co-wrote, Modified Flight Plan, and share Thomas’s remarkable story of overcoming obstacles during a presentation set for 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 1, in the Conference Room in the CATS Building.

Published in 2013, Modified Flight Plan tells how Thomas left work one day in April of 2009, thinking he had the flu. Four hours later, he was comatose and on life-support. According to the book, Thomas, now in his early 30’s, has battled a rare bleeding disorder, Idiopathic Thrombocytopenia Purpura (ITP) since he was two years old, so fighting illness was new to him. Previous medical treatments, however, had compromised his immune system.

When he awoke after 10 days in a coma with his hands, feet and face developing gangrene, he faced the prospect of becoming a quadruple amputee. Surgeons saved his left hand, but Thomas, who has had a private pilot’s license since he was 16, also faced the reality that he might never fly again. Undaunted, he battled through a long recovery and regained not only the ability to lead a normal working life but also his pilot’s certification.

Kovanda and Thomas’s presentation is sponsored by the English Department at Peru State and is free and open not only to the college community but also to the general public. The authors will have copies of the book available for sale and signing.

Questions about the program should be directed to Dr. Dan Holtz, PSC professor of English, at dholtz@peru.edu. People wanting more information about Kovanda and Thomas can find it at this web address, which features a program broadcast on Omaha’s KETV: http://www.ketv.com/news/KETV-Chronicle-Overcoming-Obstacles/21349590

Housing selections and changes

Jessica Merrill
COPY EDITOR

With the end of the spring semester in sight, it’s time for annual housing selection to begin. Peru State’s Residence Life department offers housing in multiple locations including Morgan Hall, Delzell Hall, the Centennial Complex, and Oak Hill. The week of March 24-28, housing selection will begin for all current residents and there are some big changes coming next year.

Delzell Hall will be starting up an outdoor adventure program for any interested residents that will include activities and opportunities for leadership development.

In Nicholas and Pate, there will be a new leadership living community that will focus on upperclassmen. Oak Hill will be the new location for the Neighbors Program, which gives upperclassmen the opportunity to learn life skills before graduating and going out into the ‘real world’. Of course, the Fusion Program for freshman in Mathews and the Wellness program in the Morgan Hall basement will still be offered for interested residents to participate in as well. The benefits of living on campus are endless and include an enthusiastic and helpful Residence Life staff consisting of Resident Assistants, Hall Directors, an Assistant Director of Residence Life, and a Dean of Students who are all well-trained in emergency responses and always willing to help residents.

Also, safety and security of students is much more of a possibility because students are able to call the Security department for any assistance necessary. The residence halls offer internet access all hours and cable television. Living in the residence halls gives students a community feeling and gives Bobcats the opportunity to build lifelong friendships and connections. The Residence Life office is located on the main level of the Student Center, the number for contact is (402) 872-2246, and the e-mail address is resilife@peru.edu for any students who have questions about housing for the 2014-2015 school year.

Professor Spotlight

by: Dr. Dan Holtz

Why do you teach at PSC?

The reasons I teach today are certainly not the same ones I had when I started teaching in 1973. Nor do I think they should be.

People in any profession should evolve; I know I have. I still get a thrill when the “light bulb” goes off for a student struggling with a difficult concept.

I get even more satisfaction when a student gets excited, as do, about a piece of literature or a particular writer. But those things alone would not have kept me in the game all these years.

So I am grateful for the many opportunities I have had to challenge myself and to satisfy my intellectual curiosity, for the interesting people whom I have met, and for the exceptional colleagues with whom I have worked.

To begin to explain my evolution, I will say that I certainly did not get into teaching with the idea of becoming somewhat of an expert in Nebraska or Civil War literature. However, I was interested in those topics, and opportunities arose for me to teach courses in those areas. I do not like, though, to confine my study and teaching of a particular literature to the pages of books. I like to walk the ground writers walked, to visit the cities and towns they frequented, and to converse with people who live in the places where they lived.

Fortunately, I have found that other teachers and students really like doing this sort of literary touring as well. Consequently, I have gotten great satisfaction from arranging dozens of single, multi-day, and week-long tours to literary and historical sites and from seeing the enthusiasm and wonder on student tourists’ faces as they see, for the first time, the desk on which a renowned writer wrote or the hill on which an important battle turned.

I have also gotten great satisfaction from meeting many of the writers and scholars I admire. I know I would have met some of these people if I had continued teaching high school English, as I did the first two years of my career. Teaching at the college level, though, has given me more opportunity and latitude to connect with these people, and these experiences have been extremely enriching. It is one thing to read John Neihardt’s Black Elk Speaks, for example. It is another thing altogether to meet and become friends with his daughter Hilda, who accompanied her father to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota when Neihardt did his weeks-long interviews with Black Elk in 1931.

As much as anything, though, I have appreciated the exceptional long-time colleagues with whom I have worked: Dr. Sara Crook, Dr. Bill Clemente, and Dr. Spencer Davis, to name a few. They continually inspire me with their creativity, their dedication, their wit, their probing questions, and their deep understanding of history, literature and human nature. They motivate me to want to be a better teacher because their interests, which are different from mine, continue to remind me that I can always learn something new and still be excited about the process.

I continue to teach because I still want to introduce students to new things and to see them get excited about the process of learning and discovery.
STAFF WRITER

○ Chelsea Turek

College can be described as juggling act. Students have classes, clubs, work, and friends that require attention. The things I am involved are either community service oriented, help with my future career as a teacher and counselor, and a few are just for fun. Personally, I am involved in the Peru Theatre Company, Red Cross Club, Psychology Club, Martial Arts Club, PILOT, PSEA, CAB, the improv troupe, Who Are You? and an ambassador, and not to mention I work for the Times. I am also a double major in English Education and psychology. How do I handle all of this?

For starters, I have two schedules. One schedule is for homework and another on my phone for activities. Many students may also know the pain of doing things early or else they will not be done at all. I now have four assignments due on Sunday and two are papers. As for my social life, I have to schedule those out as well sometimes. On my desk currently sits a movie that I borrowed and a month later it still sits on my desk, unwatched. I do miss out on a movie or a walk with my friends once in a while, but I do enjoy being busy. Why sit around doing nothing when I can fill my time with something worthwhile?

The Red Cross Club is raising money for disaster relief, PSEA is planning on a conference soon to help me with my future teaching career, and the theatre company is putting on a Tony award winning play that I get to act in. It may seem that I don’t have time, but in reality I have filled my time with events that are memorable. The next time you feel stressed; just remember that it will help your future and that the stress will be worth it in the end.

Nearby, it’s the perfect place to be, and you can’t even tell they are any different. Most of the time someone that is receiving support can be treated and kept under control.

By major depression and bouts of hypomania. Other type of bipolar, Type-2 is characterized by full mania and bouts of depression with more normal person is aggravating as well as rude. That was, until I began to get to know people with mental disorders, educated myself with psychology classes in college, and then finally was diagnosed with the disorder myself. Once I was educated more on the disorder I knew better than to believe the stigma. Also, getting to know some people with with whom I realized how each and every case of bipolar different. Just like we all have our own individuality, each instance of bipolar is unique to the individual. The type, severity, and symptoms can vary greatly from person to person. You can’t base your whole idea of how you think of bipolar on just one person’s expression of it.

Personally, as a student I have been lucky in dealing with the stigma of bipolar. I have type two bipolar and a mild case of it at that, and so I don’t present strong symptoms of bipolar. So, that in turn has spared me from people freaking out or being wary of me in general. Though, I have had to deal with some stupid and don’t know what you’re doing. Just because I’m bipolar doesn’t mean I have no intelligence, control, or common sense, it just means I have a chemical imbalance that affects my emotions. I, like everyone else, just wants to be treated with the kindness and respect I deserve. So, from now on, when you think of a bipolar person, remember that they are just like everyone else and want to be treated like a normal person, not with distaste or prejudice.

Being a student with bipolar

Jacob Dean
STAFF WRITER

When you hear the word bipolar, what do you think of? For most people nothing good comes to mind. Usually things like crazy, violent, even suicidal are what are associated with bipolar. All are usually the result of the “stigma” or set of negative beliefs that are associated with bipolar. The truth is, you probably either know or interact with a person afflicted with bipolar on a daily basis. With treatment, a person with bipolar can be just as “normal” as anyone else.

I believe the stigma of bipolar primarily stems from the lack of education about the disorder. Students, especially, at the young age most are when they come into college are generally naïve and prone to believe the general idea that most people have about bipolar. This is portrayed the most in the news when someone commits a horrific crime or commits suicide and the result of the “stigma” or set of negative beliefs that are associated with bipolar. The thing the news fails to tell you are the type and severity of bipolar the individual had. Most of the time the stereotypical bipolar that people think of is type one, which is the more extreme form of bipolar. Though, the truth is there is also a bipolar two which is considered to be the milder for which most people don’t even know exists. Type-1 Bipolar is characterized by full mania and bouts of depression with more erratic behaviors and thus why most people have that image in their mind of bipolar. The other type of bipolar, Type-2 is characterized by major depression and bouts of hypomania. Both types with medication, therapy and proper support, can be treated and kept under control. Most of the time someone that is receiving adequate treatment for bipolar disorder you can’t even tell they are any different from someone without a mental disorder.

The secondary reason for the stigma of bipolar along with lack of education is that people that have no experience with bipolar as in knowing someone with it or having a family member who has it. Experiencing it from a friend or family member puts a different perspective on the way you think, you get to experience firsthand what bipolar is like. I know I was guilty of believing the stigma when I was younger. I thought bipolar meant crazy, and I was kind of wary of people that had the disorder. That was, until I began to get to know people with mental disorders, educated myself with psychology classes in college, and then finally was diagnosed with the disorder myself. Once I was educated more on the disorder I knew better than to believe the stigma. Also, getting to know some people with with whom I realized how each and every case of bipolar different. Just like we all have our own individuality, each instance of bipolar is unique to the individual. The type, severity, and symptoms can vary greatly from person to person. You can’t base your whole idea of how you think of bipolar on just one person’s expression of it.

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Opposing Opinions: McDonald’s or Burger King?

Grace Cole
STAFF WRITER

We all have that one thing that we want to eat when we are upset or stressed. For me, that one thing is a number 16 at McDonald’s: a ten piece chicken nugget with a medium fry. And of course you can’t skip out on the Frappe. There’s just something about the Golden Arches that speaks to me at eleven o’clock at night when I’m hunched over my desk studying for a test, writing a five page paper, and reading my assigned history chapters, all at the same time. That twenty minute drive to Nebraska City is just what I need to clear my head, and those crispy, gloriously salty fries are the perfect prescription for calming those jittery nerves that come with cramming.

Now, why do I choose McDonald’s over Burger King? It’s a very good question, considering all the news stories we are bombarded with that tell us exactly what their food is made of. But the awful fact is that’s us exactly what their food is made of. But the awful fact is that’s what they put in Mountain Dew. It will blow your mind!) So with that aside, and as absurd as it may sound to some people, I genuinely sound to some people, I genuinely consider all the news stories that come with cramming.

For me, there’s only one real choice.

Chlo Langford
STAFF WRITER

Two words: flamebroiled. There is no question in my mind that Burger King is better than McDonald’s.

With their slogan being “Have it your way,” that is truly what they deliver to the people. Customers aren’t charged extra for requesting heavy onions or extra ketchup. Also, Burger King has many more vegan options then McDonald’s does. Every Burger King restaurant has one of those awesome soda machines that have five hundred different flavors of soda for you to choose from. All of these things being factors of customers truly having it “their way.”

Employees of Burger King are required to wear gloves at all restaurant chains, which isn’t the case with McDonald’s. EW!

McDonald’s French fries are very skinny, dainty, incredibly greasy and salty, while Burger Kings fries taste like warm golden potatoes.

Comparing McDonald’s and Burger King’s chicken sandwiches is equivalent to comparing dollar store paper plates to fine china dishes. Burger King may have perfected the fast food chicken sandwich. Reports and statistics prove that Burger King is a lot healthier of a choice than McDonald’s, and although I am not promoting the fast food industry, life can get busy and hectic, and when it does, choose Burger King because you are less likely to clog your arteries or suffer from a heart attack.

But, the true why Burger King is better than McDonald’s? The Mr. Tiny Hands commercials. So everybody give a big thanks to Burger King for assuring you “Have it your way”.

Nebraska weather: A bane to those who cannot adapt

Andy Medina
STAFF WRITER

Springtime is upon us and this usually means that the plants will be in full bloom. That would be the case if we didn’t live in Nebraska, where it takes spring quite a while to actually be spring. What do I mean by this? The first day of spring was last week and yet the wind still has a bite to it, there is still an ominous overcast that always looks like it is threatening rain, but we know it is spring because the robins have returned and every so often there will be a sunny day. There have been a select few days where one would not necessarily need a jacket, although it would not hurt to have one. “Better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it...” and what have you. If spring has sprung don’t you think there should be some difference in the weather? It has remained the same, more or less, for quite a while now. The sun may peek out around noon, but soon enough it will hide behind clouds again, which leaves us only a short time to praise the sun.

Springtime usually means allergies, but since it doesn’t feel or look much like spring yet, we have been spared, to some degree, the agony of pollen and the like, i.e. sneezing, constantly blowing noses, itchy throats, all that nasty stuff people who suffer from allergies have to go through. This delay in the “feel” of spring is perhaps the only “good” thing about this weather we’re having.

This being said, I cannot wait for spring time to come full bloom, the flowers are blooming, the trees are blooming, the animals are blooming, everything is blooming and it all looks so beautiful, but I guess I’ll just have to wait until almost summertime for that feeling of spring being sprung.
Students to walk at local Relay for Life

**Ama Bikoko**
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Dr. Gordy Klatt, That is a name that you probably won’t remember in a few weeks. However most of people know the legacy he started. Who is he? He was a colorectal surgeon who lived in Tacoma, WA. On a spring May day, in 1985 Klatt spent 24 hours on the ambulating the track of Baker Stadium at the University of Puget Sound. In that time period, Klatt raised $27,000 to fight cancer. 300 people watched him do that. On that May day, Klatt completed the first Relay for Life event.

Fast forward 29 years later, over 4 million people in 20 different countries, come together and participate in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life events. Every one of the 4 million people has a reason as to why they participate.

How does it work? “Teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around the track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event.”

The students are passionate about helping others on the campus of a thousand oaks, and by doing so they have not only bet- tered themselves, but other people around them. Community service projects take three things: want, need, and passion.

There needs to be a want to help those who need help. Student organizations have to want to put themselves out there and do whatever they are able to accomplish. There is always a need. Students can find out what the needs are in the community, and do what they are able to do.

A community service outreach project does not need millions of dollars to make a difference, just people who care enough to put the needs of others first. Finally there has to be passion. Students must be passionate about wanting to make a difference. Passion is a valuable resource to a student. A passionate student can move mountains.

A passionate student can move mountains. Passion is a valuable resource to a student. Students must be passionate about wanting to make a difference. Passion is a valuable resource to a student. A passionate student can move mountains.

The event isn’t just to raise fund for the fight against cancer. It also celebrates survivors of cancer. This is done by have an opening lap that is named the Survivors Lap. Survivors lead the way around the track while other participants honor them and celebrate them.

The event also gives the opportunity for people to come together and remember the loved ones they lost with Luminaria Ceremony. A luminaire, bearing a name of a person who has gone through the battle of cancer is lit and placed around the track during the night.

The goal of Team Bobcat is 50 walkers, 50 hours (an hour for each walker). The goal is to have a walker on the track at all times. If you are interested and want to walk for an hour (or more) that day you can sign up with Chelsea Allgood or Peggy Groff for the event.
April is Autism Awareness Month. For those who are unaware, Autism is a developmental disorder that affects the brain's normal development of social and communication skills. It is very common and more often found in boys than it is in girls. Often times these children are bullied in school-and life in general—for being different. Evan Plympton--son of Homecoming Queen nominee, Dawn Plympton and PSC senior, Robert Plympton--was one such child. Evan is an Auburn High School graduate and has a great passion for Husker football. Ask him anything about the Huskers and he'll have an answer. He has accompanied Dawn to help deliver a demonstration speech about learning Sign Language and has participated in Games on the Green for a few years. Shortly before the 2011, Auburn Prom, Evan was faced with the cruelty of his classmates. They had told him that he felt like Cinderella after taking MJ to prom. "He told me that he felt like Cinderella after taking MJ to prom." In 2012, he was accompanied with Ellen Larsen, Homecoming Queen of the PSC community. Dawn is so eternally grateful for the PSC community has done for her as well as Evan. What the community has done cannot be written on a piece of paper, but holds so much more meaning that the diploma that she has worked on so hard.. Evan can walk onto the Peru campus and isn't looked down on for being different. He will always get a hello because of Peru's community being so accepting to anyone that steps foot on this campus. After taking MJ to prom, Evan was no longer teased at school. It's the little things in life that can make someone's entire world a real fairy tale. With the love and support that Peru students have shown Evan, he is a different person. It took a group of college students to show high school kids that there is a person behind the handicap, that Evan is a person is needs the amount of respect that everyone else deserves. Dawn goes on to say, "had Evan not been inspired by former Peru students, he would have never had the guts to even ask anyone to the prom. He would have stayed home and accepted that he was too retarded to get a date for prom,“ this just goes to show that even the littlest bit of kindness can change a person's life forever."You know, our [campus] motto is 'Campus of 1,000 Oaks'. After everybody volunteered from different areas; we had cheerleaders, we had this, we had that, you know, down to the grunts. Everybody volunteered to take Evan to the prom. We have a campus of 1,000 personalities, 1,000 angels that are all willing to their part to help."
Softball started off their season with the Tucson Invitational. The invitational took was held in Tucson, AR from March 3, 2014 to March 13, 2014. During the invitational the team faced a multitude of teams, including teams from Dordt College, College of St. Mary, Braiar Cliff University and University of Great Falls. The team finished the invitational 10 – 5. The ladies then came back home the next week and played four double header games. The team managed to win 3 of their games. It was a tough week for the ladies and the team struggled to find their footing. Their first Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) game was a double header against Evangel University that happened on March 20. In both of those games, the softball team struggled as the Crusaders managed to take early leads and maintaining them. This resulted in two losses for the ladies with the Crusaders winning 7 - 2 and 11 - 4. With this game the softball drops 15 - 12 and currently has a conference record of 0 – 2. The softball team are off to an average start and hope to improve as the season continues.

Baseball started their season a little shaky, with 3 straight loses. However, the team managed to find their feel and came back with five straight wins and have been going strong ever since. Their first HAAC game was a double header against Graceland University on March 15 in Lamoni, Iowa. The men demonstrated their desire to take it all this year with an early lead in the first inning and maintaining that lead to win 7 – 0 in their first game. This continued in their second game against the Yellowjacks, as the managed to gain a 3-0 advantage and again maintain it winning the game 7-2. Currently, the baseball team has an overall record of 14 - 5 and a conference record of 5 - 1.

*The above statistics do not take into account games played between 3/25/14 – 3/31/14*

Recently in Bobcat Athletics

Congratulations Coach Wayne Albury on his 600th win! Albury is the head baseball coach and has been coaching at Peru State College for four years.

Congratulations to Brittany Peterson on being named the Daktronics NAIA Division I Scholar -Athlete. Peterson, a Utah native, is a senior English major with a minor in journalism and a member of the basketball team. Peterson also received this honor this past fall for volleyball.

Congratulations to Brett Pierce for being named a Daktronics NAIA Division I Scholar-Athlete. Pierce is a Missouri native majoring in K-12 health and physical education, and sport management and exercise science. A senior, Pierce received this honor for basketball.

Congratulations to Tommy Barnes for being the HAAC Baseball Player of the Week the week of March 18.

Information courtesy of press releases
Cheyenne Dalrymple wins Player of the Week twice

Need a quiet place to do homework?

Come to study hall every Wednesday

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Basement of CATS Building

Tutors will be available

Contact Tadiyos Gebre

Trio SSS

.862

Dalrymple’s slugging percentage, for which she is ranked twenty-seventh nationally.

50

The total number of bases Dalrymple has taken. She is ranked twenty-eighth in the NAIA for this statistic.

2.632

The number of bases per game Dalrymple takes on average. She is ranked twenty-ninth for this statistic in the NAIA.

.500

Dalrymple’s batting average, which is the leading batting average in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) and ranked seventeen in the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

1.526

The number of hits Dalrymple makes per average in each game. She is ranked fortieth nationally.

247

Number of total assists the entire softball team has made this season, for which they rank eighteenth in Division I.

253

Number of total hits the softball team has made this season, for which it ranks twenty-first in Division I.

5

The number of home-runs Dalrymple has hit, for which she is ranked number one in the HAAC and thirtieth in the NAIA.

.263

This is the average number of home runs Dalrymple makes per game. She is ranked forty-third in the NAIA for this.

.500

Dalrymple’s batting average, which is the leading batting average in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) and ranked seventeen in the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Schedule of Remaining Nearby Athletic Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team and Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/1/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Grace University (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Wesleyan (Lincoln, Neb.)</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Benedictine College (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/6-7/2014</td>
<td>Golf Invite (Nebraska City, Neb.)</td>
<td>10:00 a.m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/6/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Benedictine College (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/6/2014</td>
<td>Softball v. Hastings (DH) (Hastings, Neb.)</td>
<td>2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/8/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Doane College</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Avila University (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14-15/2014</td>
<td>Golf Wesleyan Spring Invite (Lincoln, Neb.)</td>
<td>10:00 a.m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/13/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Avila University (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/15/2014</td>
<td>Baseball v. Grace (DH) (Omaha, Neb.)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/15/2014</td>
<td>Softball v. Midland University (DH)</td>
<td>3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/19/2014</td>
<td>Softball v. Avila University (DH)</td>
<td>2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/26/2014</td>
<td>Softball v. MidAmerica Nazarene (DH)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/20-23/2014</td>
<td>Golf NAIA Championship (Lincoln, Neb.)</td>
<td>Time TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If not otherwise indicated, all above are home games.
Not Entirely Human: Moments of Truth

Bri Urrutia
STAFF WRITER

It’s been a month since I found Nel lying at the end of the hallway--in a pile of glass and wood that had once been the trophy case--with a bloodied nose, spitting blood from his mouth. He looked disoriented as he pulled himself up with the assistance of a nearby door handle.

“You’ve got one hell of a swing,” he’d commented, wiping blood from his nose and walking down the hall towards--what I had assumed was his attacker.

I walked into the hallway, turning as I heard the sound of my roommate’s voice. “I’d be more than happy to demonstrate my right hook again, if you were so impressed.”

“Sometimes I think I’d like to actually go to my science classes, then I think, nah...better not.” Nel remarked.

Sondra’s face was actually pretty scary, “Just keep in mind, Enos, you can be kicked out much easier than I can,” she threatened, “so you better watch yourself.”

Nel had held up his hands in surrender as Sondra turned on her heels and walked away. He’d turned around then, shrugging his shoulders, “Well she’s just the sweetest little cookie I’ve ever met.”

“Try living with her,” I replied.

His eyes had grown, “You live...with that?” I nodded, “Wow, I’m so sorry,” he apologized.

I’d only shrugged, “You learn to ignore it, but she isn’t always so...pleasant.”

“No? Well isn’t that a shame. I’m sure that living with her is a wonderful experience,” Nel had teased.

I’d laughed and invited him in, where I then proceeded to tend to his already swelling face. I’d thought about asking him why Sondra had sent him flying down the hall, but I refrained from doing so. I figured that I’d get an earful from Sondra, when she came back for the night.

To my surprise, she didn’t say much when she came back for the night. She just walked in, said hi, did some homework, then popped in a movie before crawling into bed. She hadn’t said a word about the book I’d taken from her nightstand or the fight she’d had with Nel earlier that afternoon.

Nel and I had been hanging out a lot since I found him bleeding outside my dorm room. He’s probably the closest friend that I’ve ever had, it was...nice. He’s one of the most animated people I’ve met; he’s always got some kind of smart remark about everything and anything--no matter if its positive or negative. The more we got to know each other better, I couldn’t help but feel something more. We were sitting at lunch when I finally worked up my courage, “Hey Nel, can I ask you something?”

I looked up at Nel, “Don’t tell me...”

For the first time since I’d started hanging out with this guy, never have I ever seen his face light up as bright as it did when I implied that the adorable child balanced on the drop-dead gorgeous woman’s hip was in fact his son.

“My dear...it holds information that I require to bring this prophecy to its conclusion,” I mumbled. The page next to the prophecy contained a picture of what I assumed was the ‘sword of the prophecy.’ It was pretty elaborate with what looked like strips of silver woven into the blade. I ran my fingers over the page, feeling the texture of the old pages and even the sword. It was really weird, so I shut the book quickly before something bad happened.

I packed up my bag and decided to take my studying back to the dorm room. I heard Sondra as I got closer to the room, so I quickly quieted my steps in hopes of eavesdropping on my roommate and whoever else she was talking to.

“...said that he’d get me that stupid book, but he has yet to follow through on his promise,” I heard Sondra say, “I’m sure that you’ve heard more than you should.” I could tell by her tone that she was a little girl and her voice was reaching way past its time.

I stood, whatever it was that Sondra had gone on in our room, I wanted no part of it. As I turned, I happened to bump into someone, looking up I noticed that it was that mysteriously gorgeous guy from the library, Rhett. “He-Hello,” I managed to blurt out.

He smiled, making my knees grow weak, “Good afternoon, Willow,” he replied, “what’re you up to?”

I shook my head, “Oh nothing, I was just on my way out.”

“Is that so?” he nodded and he continued, “Because it looked to me like you were eavesdropping on this room,” he said, gesturing to my dorm.

“What? No...Shh...no...that’d be stupid, right? I mean, I live here, so why would I want to eavesdrop on my own room?” I babbled.

“I’m not sure,” he replied, taking a step closer, “perhaps because you were spying on your roommate?” I could feel his breath against my face and my body started to relax. I felt terrified all of a sudden and I wanted to run away, but my legs wouldn’t listen. He smiled again, only this time it wasn’t as alluring, it was almost sadistic. He waved his hand over my face and everything went black.

I awoke in a haze. I could see a person, no...two people standing not far from where I was laying. They were talking, but I couldn’t make out anything that they were talking about. I blinked my eyes a few times, but the haze remained. I tried to make an effort to push myself up, but I found that my body didn’t want to listen to my brain.

“...don’t kill her, not yet,” I heard one of the voices say, it was the Pages of a Book...that much I was sure.

“Why not? I’m sure she heard more than she should have,” that was Sondra’s voice.

“Oh of that, I have no doubt, but you know as well as I do, Sondra, that we need her to find the sword,” this was a different man, Rhett, maybe?

“As soon as I have the sword, you can kill her. Agreed?” the first man said.

“Agreed,” Rhett and Sondra replied in unison. My heart immediately sank, it seemed that I wasn’t going to be leaving this place alive.
Divergent continues trend of distopia in film

Rae Carbaugh STAFF WRITER

The idea behind the story line of Divergent is an old one, but they went about it in a new way. As a person who has never read the books, I found the movie thrilling and on point. The idea behind a post-apocalyptic utopia is a new fad in young adult literature, and the new fad for young adult literature is turning books into movies. I felt that the special effects were phenomenal, and I enjoyed the casting choices. The character development of Triss, the main character of Divergent, was very well thought out, and Shailene Woodley was well suited for what I know of the plot line from the books. This role was a huge step for this young actress; a difference between her role in The Secret Life of an American Teenager whiner to a strong heroine who keeps her morals.

The movie score was very well put together because the audience was able to identify how they were supposed to feel through the music and the acting. The story line contains these groups called factions. Factions are organized groups based on human tendencies. There are five factions in the world of Divergent. Amity: the peaceful; these people are basically the hippie farmers. Abnegation: the selfless; these people run the government and take care of the factionless. Erudite: the intelligent; these people are those who have intellect and attempt to create their own “utopia”. Candor: the honest; these people are honest, they are kind of like lawyers. The Dauntless: the brave; these people are the soldiers, and they are totally awesome. The Factionless: people who do not belong in any faction; the homeless people. What I found really funny is that all these factions describe human nature, which is the one thing the factions were supposed to erase. The one idea that all these factions have in common is “faction before blood,” meaning you have a higher duty to your faction than you do to your family. This is a very old idea brought to you by the Roman Empire, thus renewing a historical idea for the new generation. The biggest flaw in the faction system is the development of Divergents. These are people who are not susceptible to the assimilation of the factions; they are different from everyone else, and they are the ones everyone fears.

My favorite character was Four, and if you go see this movie you will understand why. I developed the perfect love-hate relationship. This movie had the perfect ratio of love and warfare to keep both male and female viewers on the edge of their seats. I hate to say that I saw the cheesy love story coming, but what was nice is how Triss, the main character, sticks to her morals.

I plan to read the books to give myself a better opinion of this movie, but until then I highly suggest going to see this movie, and I suggest you see it not because I liked it, but for you to generate your own opinion.

Social media take over

Carliena Grove STAFF WRITER

To whomever who reads this, put your phones down. Don’t answer or pick it up until this article is over. Now picture this: You walk into class and sit down. The person to your right is on twitter and the person to your left is on Facebook. One would think that a student would spend time in class paying attention to the material not to various social media sites Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Tumblr and Pinterest; however, this is not the case. Students would rather “tweet” about being in class when they are in class then be active in class discussion. “In 2013 alone, 36 million people sent 900 million tweets,” according to Nielsen SocialGuide. Did you ever anticipate that number to be so high? That’s 7.5 hours a day that people are on social network sites. Why is it that our generation spends so much time on social media? Could it be the constant need to update one’s status? Or the need to brag about what a person owns? We have become so wrapped up in social media. We, as humans, are social creatures. It is common to have social media sites to be socially involved but to be that socially involved is crazy. Children now play games on their phones instead of playing outside. Why must a child need a cell phone? When I was a little we made phones out of cans and string. With the increase of technology we lose the creative imagination. We have our phones attached practically to our hands with super glue. If our phones are out of our hands for more than one moment we go crazy. Most teenagers won’t go places if there isn’t internet connection. Things such as wishing someone a happy birthday face-to-face has become outdated. Instead a person receives a “notification” that a certain someone wished them a “happy birthday” on their “facebook wall.” The need for constant, instant gratification is endless. There are more ways to communicate than social media. The article is over, now pick up your phone. How many notifications/ text messages did you receive while reading this? See how many times you could have been distracted? Those potential notifications are not important. Spend some time away from the social realm.

Senior Art Exhibition

Chase Bloomquist and James Dietrich
March 24—April 15, 2014
Peru State Art Gallery, A.V. Larson
Regular gallery hours are
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Monday through Thursday

Pictured to the left, “Masked Man” by Bloomquist.
Misty Blues/Hoyt Street Jazz
German-American Society
Who Asked You? Improv
Omaha Alumni Banquet
Speaker: Lisa Kovanda
Fine Arts Recital Hall
Wednesday, April 30
Commuter’s Lounge
Choir/Band Concert
Wednesday, April 2
Commuter’s Lounge
Thursday, April 24
Sunday, April 6
10:00 a.m.
Women’s Golf
Nebraska City, NE
Monday, April 7
10:00 a.m.
Men’s Golf
Nebraska City, NE
Monday, April 7
7:00 p.m.
Speaker:
College Theatre
Thursday, April 24
5:30 p.m.
Omaha Alumni Banquet
German-American Society
Omaha, NE
Tuesday, April 29
7:00 p.m.
Misty Blues/Hoyt Street Jazz
Concert
College Theatre
Wednesday, April 30
6:30 p.m.
Who Asked You? Improv
Commuter’s Lounge
Sunday, May 4
3:00 p.m.
Choir/Band Concert
Friday, May 9
12:00 p.m.
Feeding 44
AWAC
Saturday, May 10
10:00 a.m.
Commencement
AWAC

Baby, What’s your sign?

Jenny Trapp
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Aries: March 20 to April 20
Mhmmm, girl! You are looking fine today. The world is at your fingertips… hope you got a manicure because everyone is looking at you. Be on point because there are people searching for a way to tear you down. Show the haters that you are too cool for that and you are better than that. Do not stoop to their level. Put on your best bow tie or nicest pair of heels and stomp around this place like you own it.

Taurus: April 20 to May 21
You have never been good at saying goodbye, which is why you are still here. Ask for the check, pack your bags and move on because Peru can’t keep you forever unlike popular opinion. You can take the kid out of Peru but you can’t take the Peru out of the kid. Once you are a bobcat, you are forever a bobcat. But it is time to begin preparing your good byes and share the bobcat power with the rest of the world.

Gemini: May 21 to June 21
There is a time and a place for everything. You will soon learn the true meaning of this cliché when you fall into a bobcat pit during the mating season. Wear hot pink and yellow polka-dots to ensure your safety in this scary setting. Yikes!

Cancer: June 21 to July 23
You are an amazing person with an incredible life ahead of you. Make sure to take control of your life and be the one who makes your decisions. Do not follow the crowd because if you do you will come out short-handed. Take a good look at the people in your life and take the necessary precautions to keep the best one around. There is one person in your life that from the moment you became friends, has had a very special impact on you. They love you and will do anything to make sure you are happy. Take care of that person and do what we all know you need to do to keep them around! Stop being afraid of change and distance… embrace them and show some love.

Leo: July 23 to August 23
Fun and excitement is in the air as a nearby glitter factory explodes and transforms 37 glitter haters into glitter. You will be spared from a glittery death assuming you feel comfortable covering your entire body in rubber glue and feathers. It is a known fact that you cannot attract glitter if you are covered in feathers and look like a dummarasch (Google it).

Virgo: August 23 to Sept. 23
Look at how far you have come! You have grown into such a great person. You owe it all to the people who have walked in your life… those who stayed and those who just passing through. You are in store for a life-changing event that is going to take some serious adjusting. Approach the situation in your normal style; open the door to your future and smile. You have changed lives and this is just the beginning. You have done all that you can and the ball is now in the other team’s court. Be ready because they are going to serve that ball back when you least expect it. Great things come to those who wait. Be patient, open your heart, show emotion and smile.

Libra: Sept. 23 to October 23
You love to smash spiders with your giant clown feet and walk to the bathroom at night with the lights off. The unknown and what is hiding in the dark for you makes you aroused and rushed with adrenaline. This is going to get you into trouble. Carry a flashlight just in case.

Scorpio: October 23 to Nov. 22
There is nothing good that is going to happen. Things aren’t looking good for you at all. There is a dark cloud hanging over your head and there is no sign of it leaving any time soon. You are kind of out of luck. Wrap yourself in bubble wrap; avoid sharp corners and mean people because they hurt and just might break you.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 to Dec. 22
You are at risk for losing your digest. Count them frequently before they start to disappear. Think about gluing together or stapling them to our body to keep them around. Could you imagine trying to snap without figures?… Major failure and you sir are NOT a major failure.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 to January 20
You lost one of the most incredible things in your life. That’s too bad for you. Now you need to rebuild yourself and try to make something of yourself. Rebuild yourself from the rubble. With some time, super glue and a little duct tape you will be able to walk straight again. For now take a deep breath and try to find the beauty in the small things. Life is a lot more than what you see on the surface. Dig deeper.

Aquarius: January 20 to Feb. 18
You are in quiet the bind here. Duct tape can’t even help you with this one….but it can help muffle the sound. Make sure to pick out some cute ductape (like the one with the penguins on it) and keep it on hand. Wrap your body to keep them around. Could you imagine trying to snap without figures?… Major failure and you sir are NOT a major failure.

Pisces: Feb. 18 to March 20
I can’t help you. I’ve been making this stuff up for the last five years.

Peru is...
...being able to spot the difference between a Peru Townie and a Peru Student.

Creative cartoon courtesy of Jenny Trapp