Search for a Director of Admissions underway

MARY JOHNSON
Copy Editor

As of February 15, 2012, the Peru State College has been accepting applicants for the Director of Admissions position.

Earlier in the semester, Dr. Daniel Hanson, president of Peru State College, announced the college’s intent to hire a new Director of Admissions. Michaela Willis, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, has been serving as Director of Admissions since 2005. When she was promoted to Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs in 2009, she retained those duties and served in both capacities.

Willis stated that “the offered position will be funded through strategic planning resources” as well as that having a new Director of Admissions would help Peru State meet the goals of greater distinction and importance.

As Director of Admissions, Willis led a campus-wide market development and recruitment effort, centered on students. The Director takes advantage of available technologies and resourceful personnel to improve enrollment. They also work with several groups both within the college and without to create and put in place recruitment and marketing plans specifically designed for Peru State.

Willis states that she has “enjoyed serving in this role for the past seven years and will definitely miss the day to day interaction with students exploring Peru State, the challenges of recruitment, and the relationships I have built with the staff in the Office of Admissions.” However, she does say that she looks forward to the opportunity to focus on her other duties, such as the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan.

According to the Peru State website, this plan focuses not only on increased recruitment of students, but also on better rates of retention for current students and higher graduation rates. Willis is a co-chair on the committee to develop, implement, and monitor this plan at Peru State. The plan has been in development since 2009.

Wende Bergmeier, Coordinator of Admissions Services, stated in an interview that “the Office of Admissions is always looking for new ideas.” Some that have been implemented recently include a “Discover Peru” program, which not only invites students to visit campus, but also brings in high school guidance counselors, who can recommend Peru State to their students.

Another program that the Office of Admissions is working on is EMAS. Bergmeier explained that this is a customer relationship management software communications system that will allow Admissions to communicate through other technological mediums, such as social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. The Peru State Website states that it will help in communicating with pre- and post-applicants, as well as current students.

Senior Art Exhibitions showcase student work

SARAH MATHEWSON
Contributing Writer

Students should be on the lookout for the openings of the two Senior Art Exhibitions this semester.

As many students know, most majors at Peru State College include a Capstone Course requirement. Students can begin taking the Capstone Course their junior or senior year. It just so happens that part of the Capstone course for Art Majors includes presenting their art in a Senior Exhibition. This spring, the campus community can expect two different Senior Exhibitions.

The first exhibition runs from March 12 to April 4. This is a gallery showing Graphic Design Pieces by three students: Jake Halverson, Rachel Rippe, and Kellen Sailors. The grand opening and reception for this exhibition took place on March 11.

Though the exhibit has already opened, students are encouraged to check out the artists’ work before the gallery closes.

The second exhibition will run from April 9 to May 3. This will be a gallery showing pottery, paintings, and drawings by five students: Megan Boyle, Lindsay Dannelly, Kristen Husen, Katie Langlais, and Jasmine Schwisow. The grand opening and reception for this exhibition will take place on April 15 from 1-3 p.m.

In regards to the exhibitions, Megan Boyle stated, “The Senior Show showcases all of our hard work and dedication as PSC students. It is what we have all been working towards for the last four or more years.” Boyle is a senior Art Education major with a Coaching Endorsement.
Council for Exceptional Children hosts events on campus

LAURA SHESTAK
Contributing Writer

The Council for Exceptional Children hosts two big events on the Peru State Campus.

CEC is an organization that is dedicated to improving the education success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. The Peru chapter puts on several events for special needs children all around Southeast Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri.

In the fall they put together an event at the end of September called Games on the Green. “Students in the Adaptive Physical Education class help organize and run Games on the Green,” said Dr. Loretta Zost, professor of education, and CEC’s advisor.

CEC meets on Tuesdays at 11:00 in TJM room 230. The students are working on their event they will be putting on March 27 from 9:30-12:00. The event is called Wacky Day at the AWAC.

“Dr. Greg Zost’s Diagnostic and Remedial Math class is going to run a fun math related station at wacky day,” Zost said.

Several other activities will be available for the kids to do, such as taking funny pictures in costumes, karaoke, making things, and parachuting. If you are interested in helping with the events, come to the meetings or contact Dr. Loretta Zost.

While the members of CEC help the kids and organize everything for the day of the event, “It takes a lot of help to pull off the two big events,” said Zost.

Besides CEC putting on two of the biggest events they also plan smaller events such as reading to ESU #4 in Auburn, said Tim Oehring, CEC treasurer.

“While we have an impact on the student that come for the activities, the greatest impact is made on the Peru students and faculty that work with these kids,” said Oehring.

Attention: Student Workers
The Human Resources/Payroll Office is excited to announce the launch of Employee Self Service (ESS). With ESS, you will be able to access valuable HR/Payroll information any time and anywhere you have an internet connection.

Highlights:
Review paystubs, View W-4 information, Review and Update contact and banking information

Note: To access ESS, you will need your NUID as it is your username. Your NUID is the 8 digit number on your PSC Campus ID card.

In a Web Browser, enter: firefly.nebraska.edu (do not enter www)
Enter your User ID and Password, then click “Login”
The Firefly homepage should appear- and in the upper left side of the screen, there are three tabs; Home, SAP Logon, Employee Self Service.
Click on the Employee Self Service tab- and the following tabs appear: Overview, Time, Payment, and Personal Information. You may examine and update your Personal Information. **Please note** Any changes you make will affect current information in SAP (Payroll/Financials).

IN THE NEAR FUTURE, PSC WILL CONVERT TO PAPERLESS TIME ENTRY. PLEASE BEGIN FAMILIARIZING YOURSELF WITH THE PROCESS OF LOGGING ON TO ESS.

For additional and more detailed information you may also contact the Human Resources/Payroll office on the third floor of the Administration Building for additional assistance and support.

The Peru State Times

The official student newspaper of Peru State College, is published four times per semester by Peru State College students. The Times office is located in the College Publications Office in Room 126 of the AV Larson Building.

The opinions expressed in the Times may not be those of the entire newspaper staff. The Peru State Times is an independent publication funded by student publication fees. The views expressed in this publication, including the contents of paid advertisements, do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration, faculty or staff of Peru State College.

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 pscetimes@yahoo.com.

Dear Times Reader,

What has been the best practical joke you have been a part of?

“We covered an entire car with sticky notes, and beforehand we colored all of the windows in with window paint. After we sticky noted the car we Saran wrapped the entire thing. This was done in the mall parking lot while the person was at work.”

Kimmy Miller
Senior, Secondary Science Education

“The first week of school I told my mother I wouldn’t be able to come home, and I was already pulling in the driveway. I called her and told her to look out the window, and she came out running and crying! Best heartfelt joke ever!”

Abby Bohling
Freshman, Art Education

“My coworkers decided to put a fake virus on my computer so my keyboard would type when I wasn’t typing or randomly put my CAPS LOCK on. Freaked me out! “

Rachel Rippe
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Institute for Community Engagement to create opportunities

An exciting addition to the campus will help students broaden their horizons and expand Peru’s borders. The Institute for Community Engagement will involve students by using an active approach to learning and engaging with our community.

“The Institute for Community Engagement has come out of the Strategic Planning process where the focus is on engaging students and getting students involved in active learning,” said Dr. Hanson, president of Peru State College, “It applies an active approach to how we learn, an active approach to how we interact with the communities, and an active approach to how we interact with the world.”

The Institute for Community Engagement has the potential to make career connections through these experiences. The Institute for Community Engagement will also benefit Peru State College, one of the few rural colleges to implement a program like this, by making it more visible.

Peru State College has launched a search for a director for the Institute for Community Engagement. The first director the school hires will be responsible for helping to shape the program. This director will be responsible for promoting the institute, developing related programs, working with faculty and students, and a variety of other duties. In addition to the director search, budgeting has begun for the Institute for Community Engagement.

Peru State College has awarded a total of $43,000 in mini-grants to faculty. These grants are being used to fund a trip to Yellowstone Park, blood lactate lab research, a Tales and Trails tour, a pre-professional development mentorship project, and a variety of other experiences. The mini-grants were part of the Student Engagement Enhancement initiative. “These fifteen grants that we’ve given are starting to have an impact on students,” Dr. Hanson said, “I was really proud of our faculty coming in with these suggestions.”

Students find time to worship Christ with CRU

Wednesday nights at 7 pm students who are a part of Campus Crusades for Christ (CRU) can be found in the Live Oak Room at Peru State College singing songs and listening to sermons about Jesus Christ, a man who lived 2,000 years ago.

According to the student organization description, CRU is a college campus ministry of all denominations of faith backgrounds that provides students the opportunity to enhance their relationships with Jesus Christ and with each other.

Their mission on campus at PSC is “to start movements everywhere so that everyone knows someone that is following Jesus Christ,” said Erik Miller, Campus Crusades part-time staff worker with PSC and Doane College.

“New and old Students that attend CRU are seeking the truth, a better relationship with Christ, or fellowship in Christ,” said Miller. These aren’t the only reasons why people attend CRU.

Jenny Deal, a student at PSC, said, “I wanted to incorporate my faith into my stressful college lifestyle.”

“I believe that the Bible speaks the truth when it says ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me’ in Philippians 4:13 and it is easier to follow the Word when in a group such as CRU,” said Deal.

CRU was established in 1951 by Bill Bright at the University of California at Los Angeles. According to CRU’s website, it was established to help lost students find Christ and turn them into Christ-centered laborers. Christ-centered means to let God shape one’s life in light of His Word.
Continued: Senior Art Exhibitions showcase student work

These galleries give the students opportunity to present their work to the campus community for viewing and possible feedback. Students can choose to sell pieces of their exhibition if they desire.

The pieces shown in the gallery are generally work that the student has completed during either their junior or senior year.

Senior Graphic Design major Rachel Rippe stated, “I have spent a good majority of my four years in the art building, and I am so excited to show my work this semester!” Rachel also added that the opportunity she had to work within the marketing department at PSC served as great experience for enhancing her design skill. “The Senior Show is something I am really looking forward to! We put a lot of time into our pieces and we are ready to show them off!” stated Lindsay Dannelly, a Howells, Nebraska native and PSC senior.

If you’re interested in acknowledging these seniors’ hard work by checking out these two shows, you can look for them in the Peru State College Art Gallery. The gallery is located in the A.V. Larson building on the PSC campus. Regular gallery hours are 8:30 A.M. To 3:30 P.M. Monday through Thursday.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the show or the gallery hours, contact Professor Ken Anderson at kanderson@peru.edu

Diversity Committee forms

MALLORY SJUTS
Contributing Writer

This semester, Peru State College has formed a campus-wide Diversity Committee.

The purpose of the committee is to develop and implement an overarching campus diversity effort that focuses on integrating student, faculty, and staff experiences through interactions that are consistent with the College’s Strategic Plan of essential engagement that promotes inquiry, discovery, and innovation.

Created by Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Michaela Willis, the committee is chaired by Student Success Services Math and Science Skills Specialist Mara Giles. Committee members are Head Athletic Trainer Brent Melvin, Student Activities Coordinator Chelsea Allgood, Assistant Professor for School of Education Greg Zost, Student Senate Representative Jacob Buss, Dean of Student Life Karla Fraser, Coordinator of Admissions Services Keiaya Arnold, Instructor of English Kristi Nies, Student Senate Representative Mallory Sjuts, Academic Credentials Technician Phyllis Davis, and Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Vijay Sharma.

The committee’s main goal is to create a campus environment that is responsive, respectful, and inclusive of student, faculty, and staff cultural and experiential backgrounds and identities that include, but are not limited to, physical appearance, ethnicity, cultural influence, age, family lifestyle or status, religion, spirituality, philosophical beliefs, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and cognitive ability, and educational background.

One of the first steps in reaching that goal is the upcoming Campus Climate Survey. All PSC students, faculty and staff will be asked to complete the survey. The survey is completely anonymous and done through a third party, EBI. Watch your email for the survey.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to contact any Diversity Committee member with questions, comments, or concerns.

PSC Times accepting applications for editor-in-chief

The Peru State Times is now accepting applications for the position of student editor-in-chief.

The student editor-in-chief of The Peru State Times must be a full-time, preferably on-campus, Peru State College student in strong academic standing. Outstanding oral and written communication skills, including advanced grammar knowledge, are essential to the position.

Duties of the student editor-in-chief include, but are not limited to: setting the production and publication schedule for each semester; scheduling and conducting staff meetings at least once per semester; recruiting and training new staff; generating story ideas and assigning stories, photos, and graphics for each issue; editing stories for grammar, clarity, and factual correctness; overseeing the production and layout of each issue; updating the Times website for each issue; providing instruction and direction for the assistant editor, layout editor, copy editor, distribution manager, and staff writers; meeting and communicating on a regular and ongoing basis with the Times faculty advisor; supervising the Advertising Manager; preparing the annual Times budget and semester payroll; and other duties deemed as necessary or assigned by the Times faculty advisor.

The student editor-in-chief will receive a scholarship that covers full tuition and fees for up to 12 credit hours each semester. Their responsibilities will officially begin at the start of the Fall 2012 semester, though training for the post will be required earlier. Performance and continuing appointment will be evaluated each semester.

Those interested in applying for the position are asked to submit a cover letter explaining why you are applying for the position, a resume and two (2) writing samples to Faculty Advisor Kristi Nies by Friday, April 13, 2012. Writing samples may be from a high school publication, short papers or essays from a college class, or articles from The Peru State Times or another student-run collegiate newspaper.

Application materials can be submitted to Nies at knies@peru.edu or Peru State College, Attn: Kristi Nies, P.O. Box 10, Peru, NE 68421. Materials can also be hand delivered to Jindra Fine Arts 139. Contact Nies at 402-872-2281 or at the email address provided with questions.
It’s time to give the respect and gratuity deserved by service people

JACOB BUSS
Contributing Writer

It has been all over the news lately thanks to Rush Limbaugh and Sandra Fluke: contraceptives. When I heard

Contraception: Quells hormones, causes contraversy

BROOKE ASHFORD
Contributing Writer

It is that time of year again! Graduation is around the corner. Many of you will be journeying back to your hometowns for the summer, or whisking off on a dream vacation, but most of us will be hitting the workforce. I wanted to take a minute and help everyone remember to treat service workers appropriately and with respect. A large percentage of all working adults work in some kind of service industry and the pay is never too great. When you are out eating at a restaurant or drinking in a bar, always remember to tip your server the appropriate monetary amount. It is often too easy to just ignore such little tasks but in the end the gratuity from each server’s tickets is what makes up most of their income. More than half of food service employees make less than $4.00 an hour, so always try and leave a tip of 15 percent of the total bill. Most phones come with a tip calculator so there is no excuse for stiffing the server. With or without a college degree, the job market is a thinning pool and many of you will end up working in the service industry for lack of another available job. This does not just mean food service, but also hair stylists, laborers, parking attendants, bellmen, etc., so you will personally know the toils of serving ungrateful guests that disregard any responsibility for gratuity. These jobs require a great deal of work for a modest salary so your pay must be compensated with tips. Keep that in mind when you venture out in to the working and consumer worlds and remember to always put your best effort forward to earn that tip, and when the shoe is on the other foot, always tip for a job well done.

Contraception costs

Prescription birth-control prices vary widely. Costs below are per year except for the IUD and implant, which are one-time prices for several years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contraception</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>$48 to $1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUD</td>
<td>nearly $1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implant</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patch</td>
<td>$660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shot</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy; Drugstore.com; Kroger.com

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Photo courtesy of http://blogs.babble.com

Photo courtesy of govconexecutive.com
Single Mom: Tech savvy kiddos are everywhere!

MEGAN BROWN
Contributing Writer

Technology: Its prevalence in our daily lives and emergence as a cornerstone of modern society has transformed the way we learn, do business, communicate, and socialize. The consequences of technology have been debated as some oppose the overwhelming cultural reliance on it and others view it as a revolutionary tool. Nonetheless, when you see your toddler navigate your iPhone for the first time, you start to wonder, “How much is too much?”

From my iPhone, Kamber can independently look at my camera’s pictures and videos, get favorite clips on YouTube, stream movies and shows on the Hulu era’s pictures and videos, get familiar with technology. Seeing a two-year-old in a carseat tinkering with a tablet is becoming the norm. As toddlers grow and develop even greater mastery of tools such as smartphones, tablets, and computers, they will be able to actual retrieve information, process it, and engage in learning. According to Dr. Bruce Perry, “Modern technologies are very powerful because they rely on one of the most powerful genetic biases we have – the preference for visually presented information.” However, for technology to be impactful as a learning tool, it needs to engage and provide opportunities for the child to manipulate and control different aspects of a task or exercise. It is crucial that parents and educators use interactive media technologies as a tool for learning and avoid passive technologies such as television. Without interaction active engagement will not occur.

The way students will learn in the future is anticipated to evolve as technology develops. Furthermore, emerging research is focusing on the impact of exposure to technologies on synaptic pruning and brain development in young children. From birth, the brain grows and neurons develop synapses. The synapses link neurons to neurons and transmit information. As individuals reach toddler age, their brain begins to discard unneeded synapses to promote efficiency in the transmission of information. The synapses and neurons that were most used will avoid being pruned, allowing for the brain to more effectively absorb information. As more toddlers have access to consistent technological stimulation, the way their brains prune their synapses could be influenced and impact how they learn and process information in the future.

Whether it’s a three-year-old updating their parent’s Facebook status as gibberish, or a 6 year old who thinks he’s a Call of Duty god, it is indisputable that technology is now becoming a part of early childhood and its effects could potentially influence the way individuals learn and develop throughout their life.

Peru State College student obtains position in courtroom advocating for children

BECKY AMEN
Assistant Editor

A Peru State College student represents the college while defending the interests of children in the courtroom.

“I’m the only actual player in the case that will look at the interests of the child,” explained Antonio Edwards, Peru State Criminal Justice major set to graduate this fall.

Edwards, who came to Peru from Miami, FL, was sworn in Wednesday, February 8, 2012 as a Court Appointed Special Advocate. As a CASA, he will speak for the children involved in court cases in a volunteer position.

When the judge deems it necessary, he will issue an order for a CASA which allows them to look at all of the child’s records by court order. For example, Edwards can see how much school the child he is assigned has missed if he thinks it’s applicable. CASAs also spend time with the child, whose age may range from toddler to seventeen, and become friendly with them.

Edwards explained that he is interested in meeting the children and learning about the families they come from. It is important for him to understand that every family is not the same, and that he must put his own values aside when considering his position. His main concern is caring for the child.

30 hours of training was required before Edwards could be sworn in on February 2, 2012. In the two months of training, he learned about diversity and law practices, among other things. Although the CASA position is a volunteer one, he considers it a great experience for personal and professional growth.

Peru State Times
Vol. 89 Issue 7
March 26, 2012

This Day in History

March 26th-April 22nd

- March 22, 1920- The announcement was made that Germany’s campaign for the revision on the terms which were settled in the Treaty of Versailles.

- March 23, 1913- A series of horrible tornadoes touched down near Omaha, NE and Iowa, killing 115 people.

- March 24, 1958- Elvis Presley was inducted into the U.S. Army as private #53310761 and completed basic training at Fort Hood, Texas.

- March 25, 1969- The former U.S. president Dwight D. Eisenhower died of heart failure at the age of 78 years-old.

- March 26, 1979- Camp David Peace Treaty was signed.

- March 27, 1980- After a week of small earthquakes in a small area below Mount St. Helens, Mount St. Helens blasted a mushroom cloud of ash that covered most of the state of Washington. Just two months after this first eruption, Mount St. Helens blasted catastrophically.

- March 28, 1969- The former U.S. president Dwight D. Eisenhower died of heart failure at the age of 78 years-old.

- March 29, 1971- Charles Manson and three of his followers received the death penalty for the 1969 murders of Sharon Tate and six others. California abolished the death penalty before they could be executed.

- March 30, 1981- Ronald Reagan was shot at close range as he left the Washington Hilton Hotel.
He said/ She said: Are summer classes a blessing or a curse?

CHLOE LANGFORD
Contributing Writer

Sleeping in, grilling out, sun-kissed skin, and a carefree attitude; these are all things associated with summer. We are all starting our countdown until summer vacation, but for some people the wait is far from over. While some students are finishing spring courses and packing up for the beach, others are jumping right into their summer courses, and cracking open the books. For some people, even the thought of summer courses makes them cringe, but let’s take a look at it from a different angle.

As an incoming freshman, the only thing on my bucket list was living up my last summer before college, so when I got the offer to come and participate in the Summer Bridge Program, I was far from excited. For those of you who are not familiar with SSS’s Summer Bridge Program, it is a 3 week program that offers incoming freshmen to earn up to 6 credit hours. You arrive on campus three weeks early; food, room and board are all covered and the classes you take are also paid for, along with these intensive classroom hours you go on educational “field trips,” for example, to Brownsville’s Community Theater and to the Botanical Gardens in Omaha. This sounds great, but from my perspective at the time I thought it was going to be awful. I thought of leaving home three weeks early, going to class all day, and going on boring field trips when it’s 1,000 degrees outside, but when I got here I realized I had the wrong attitude. Summer Bridge was one of the best decisions I ever made; it helped me to get ahead of the game. I felt more comfortable on campus, and in my classrooms. I was not scared of the new “college classroom setting,” and I was already ahead of my peers by having 6 credit hours under my belt. Not only did I have to work really hard in order to earn my credits, but I also had a blast meeting new friends and going to all these historical places in Nebraska that I had never heard of. I built new relationships with students and staff members, and was able to be myself and work harder than I had ever worked in school before. I encourage anyone to participate not just in Summer Bridge, but to sign up for summer courses. Summer courses help you to get ahead, keep you grounded, and encourage continuing learning all the time, and all seasons.

KYLE AMEN
Distribution Manager

It’s hard enough going through the school year while working a part time job, doing all the homework, and still finding time to be somewhat social. Summer time is meant for fun. It’s been imbedded into our head since elementary school. Suffer through months of learning the alphabet and eating horrible cafeteria food to have a few months of summer to do whatever you want! I’m just not a big fan of summer classes. Why spend more time going to classes than you need to? Isn’t spending 9 months doing school work enough? Some people would argue that it helps speed through classes. Why? Is jumping into the work force all that important? Being in college is the happy middle ground between school and the work force.

Summer is a time to relax and have fun! I use that time mostly to catch up with my family. It’s really hard trying to maintain school work, a job, friends, and family. One of them is bound to suffer. For me, that is family. I miss my family very much. If I were to take summer classes, I might as well not have four other siblings to hang out with. There just isn’t enough time during the school year to see them for more than a day. If I would have taken summer classes last summer, I would have had to move my wedding date. I wasn’t going to do that. It was the one time of the year where everyone wasn’t busy. It also allowed me to go on a honeymoon. Summer classes would have being going around the time of planning.

I will take summer classes if a class is only offered then that I desperately need. However, I try my best to avoid that. I want my summer to be free. I want to be able to spend time with my friends and family, without having to plan everything around more classes.
Bobcat Softball Takes Two from Midland

(Peru, Neb.) - After playing their last thirteen games on the road, the Peru State College (PSC) Bobcat softball team seemed to have no problem getting back into the swing of things after sweeping Midland University (MU) at home.

The 'Cats took game one 2-0 and kept a steady lead for most of game two to win 6-3. With the two wins, PSC improved to 11-8 while Midland fell to 1-10. Neither team was able to put a point on the scoreboard until the top of the fifth inning, when PSC scored two runs, which coincidentally would be the only two runs of the game, giving the Bobcats the win.

Devon Massengale (Elkhorn) had two hits, while Toni Blackwell (Papillion), Devin Choate (Beatrice), and Kristen Bodyk (Paris, Ontario, Canada) each had one hit. Stephanie Holdsworth (Bennet) and Blackwell had one RBI each.

Massengale pitched a complete game, only giving up four hits and no earned runs. Massengale added five strikeouts while improving to 3-1.

Game two brought another win for PSC with a score of 6-3. The game started off with a little more action, with Midland scoring two runs in the bottom of the first. However, the Bobcats answered back quickly in the top of the second with five runs scored.

Bodyk started things off with a single, followed by Emily Maresh (Central City) getting walked. Following a Bobcat out, Jordan Walker (Peyton, Colo.) reached first on a fielder’s choice, with Bodyk being put out at third. Miranda Lyndes (Peyton, Colo.) singled, which brought in Maresh and Walker went to third. Lyndes then stole second and Walker scored on the throw to second. Blackwell stepped up the plate and was hit by a pitch.

The score remained 5-2 until the top of the fifth inning, when PSC scored two runs, which coincidentally would be the only two runs of the game, giving the Bobcats the win.

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Game two brought another win for PSC with a score of 6-3. The game started off with a little more action, with Midland scoring two runs in the bottom of the first. However, the Bobcats answered back quickly in the top of the second with five runs scored.

Bodyk started things off with a single, followed by Emily Maresh (Central City) getting walked. Following a Bobcat out, Jordan Walker (Peyton, Colo.) reached first on a fielder’s choice, with Bodyk being put out at third. Miranda Lyndes (Peyton, Colo.) singled, which brought in Maresh and Walker went to third. Lyndes then stole second and Walker scored on the throw to second. Blackwell stepped up the plate and was hit by a pitch.

The score remained 5-2 until the top of the sixth when PSC scored one run off of a single by Moffatt, allowing Blackwell, who had also singled, to come in for the lone run for the inning and final run of the game for the Bobcats.

Midland was able to pull off one more run in the bottom of the seventh, but was not enough as the Bobcats finished with the win.

Moffatt had four hits, while Choate and Lyndes each contributed two hits. Moffatt provided three RBIs, while Choate and Lyndes each had one.

Lauren Johnson (Seward) pitched six and one-third innings giving up seven hits and three earned runs, and got the win. Johnson had four K’s and improves to 3-2 for the season.

Trista Hutchings (Cambridge, Ontario, Canada) pitched two-thirds innings giving up no hits or runs. Hutchings earned the save and had one strikeout.

The Bobcats will host a home double header with Ottawa University on Wednesday, March 14, and then will travel to Crete on Thursday, March 15, to take on the Doane College Tigers. Game time for both days is 3 p.m.

Then, on Monday, March 19, the ‘Cats are traveling to Seward to play the Concordia University Bulldogs. Another trip west on Tuesday, March 20, will find the Bobcats playing the York College Panthers. Monday’s game time is 4 p.m. and Tuesday, the games will begin at 3 p.m.

Staudt and Tighe Earn 2012 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete Recognition

(Peru, Neb.) - The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has announced that 55 Division I Men’s Basketball student-athletes have been named 2011-12 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

Andrew Staudt (Westminster, Colo.) and Kevin Tighe (North Platte), Peru State College men’s basketball seniors, were among the 55 earning honors.

In order to be nominated by an institution’s head coach, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and must have achieved a junior academic status to qualify for this honor.

Staudt, a marketing major, and Tighe, a human performance and systems management major, both came to Peru State as transfers in the fall of 2010. Staudt previously played at Lamar Community College in Lamar, Colo. Tighe was a member of the North Platte Community College basketball team.

“Andrew and Kevin have both been integral parts of the men’s basketball program for the past couple of years,” said Bobcat men’s head coach Troy Katen. In conclusion, “Not only have they done well in the classroom and on the court, Andrew and Kevin have participated in the men’s basketball team’s community service projects and are also involved on campus.”

Ward Named 2012 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete

(Peru, Neb.) – The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has announced that 127 Division I Women’s Basketball student-athletes have been named 2012 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

Among those 127 was Courtney Ward (Bartlesville, Okla.) of Peru State College.

In order to be nominated by an institution’s head coach, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and must have achieved a junior academic status to qualify for this honor.

Ward, a criminal justice-counseling major, was one of the key leaders on the Bobcat basketball team. In addition to earning two Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) Player of the Week honors, Ward was selected to the HAAC’s All-Conference Second Team.

Bobcat head women’s coach Maurice Ivy is proud of Ward’s accomplishments this year. Ivy stated, “Courtney is one of our leaders, not only on the floor, but obviously in the classroom. She is able to balance her time effectively.”
With the 2012 baseball season well underway, the Bobcats of Peru State are off to a 13-5 record after just over a month of play.

The season started with a trip to Shawnee, Oklahoma for a double-header with Oklahoma Baptist University.

The Bobcats fell in both of the outings, with a 0-3 pitching duel in the first game and a high-scoring 11-12 loss in the second.

The tour of Oklahoma continued in the Bobcats’ next appearance as they took on Southern Nazarene University of Bethany, Oklahoma.

This time it was Peru who came out on top, blowing past Southern Nazarene 8-4 to claim their first win of the season.

The winning ways continued for the Bobcats in their next series, as they swept a three-game outing with Friends University of Wichita, Kansas with an 11-7 win in the first meeting, a 2-1 nail-biter in the second, and a 13-0 blowout in the final game.

The Bobcats made another stop in Kansas, this time in McPherson for a four-game series with McPherson College. Peru again swept the series with an impressive offensive attack. The Bobcats took the first game 11-4, the second with a score of 18-2, they won the third game 18-6 and capped off the sweep with a 9-4 win in the final game.

After the McPherson series, the Bobcats record stood at 8-2 as they headed north for tournament action in Minnesota.

The Bobcat winning streak continued out to 12 straight games, with a clean sweep of the Metrodome Classic Tournament with four wins in a pair of double-headers against University of Winnipeg Wesman and Mayville State University.

Next up for the 12-2 Bobcats was Ottawa University (Kansas). Their previous momentum could not carry the Bobcats past Ottawa, as they fell in both games of a double-header, 3-5 and 2-5.

Peru next settled in for their first home game of the season against Nebraska Wesleyan. The result was not what the Bobcats had in mind as the Wesleyan bats exploded to drop the Bobcats 17-7.

The Bobcats sought revenge in their very next game as they squared off with Wesleyan again, this time in Lincoln. Everything worked to perfection this time as the Bobcat bats produced 10 runs while the Peru pitching tossed a shut-out.

With the win in Lincoln, the Bobcats record sits at 18-5.

Peru as a team is putting up impressive numbers so far this season.

Individually, the Bobcats have a few players who are making a big splash early as well.

Jeff Eubank ranks number one in Division I in Runs Batted In per Game (.388), as well as first in slugging percentage (.558). Jeff Eubank also ranks second in all of Division I in RBIs (.492), sixth in home runs per game (.120), eighth in RBIs (34) and 10th in batting average (.492).

Will Scott leads the pitching staff with a 2.60 ERA on his way to a 3-1 record.

Joining Scott with a 3-1 record is Bryan Duncan who also leads the team in strike-outs with 26 in his five appearances.

Bobcat baseball team off to a solid start this spring season

MATT JURGENS
Contributing Writer

Photos courtesy of Nicolette Dannelly
Mass Effect 3 wraps up the bittersweet trilogy

KYLE AMEN
Contributing Writer

The Reapers are here. All races across the galaxy have joined in the cause to destroy the Reapers, who are in the process of harvesting every human on planet Earth. All cards are on the table in one of the greatest game series this generation has to offer: Mass Effect 3 doesn’t disappoint.

The Mass Effect trilogy is one of tragedy. The Reapers, an advanced group of machines that are both organic and synthetic, reside in deep space for thousands of years until it’s time to destroy the galaxy again. Commander Shepard, who has been telling everyone for years that they are coming, has a lot to deal with. The Reapers finally arrive on Earth, but it’s too late. Shepard now has to join the galaxy together, convince everyone to set aside their differences, and band them together to destroy the Reapers once and for all.

Mass Effect 3 takes the save files from the previous two games, takes the choices from them, and puts together the consequences of the player’s actions. Whether it’s saving an Asari in the first game or destroying a base in the second, they all have an affect on the story of Mass Effect 3 in some way. It’s fun watching the characters that were made a make a effect on the overall storyline.

While the shooting in the game is much busier, with new enemies arriving with shield generators, or turrets, it’s more or less the same as the previous two games. That can be either good or bad depending on the player. Some enemies die instantly, making the battle seem quite boring. There are other enemies that act as bullet sponges, taking countless retries of the same power to defeat them.

The ending hits hard, almost like hitting a wall. Depending on previous choices and emotional involvement in the characters, the games ending will rip anyone’s heart out. That can also be said for certain scenes with other characters. Mass Effect 3 wraps them all up in clever way. While the ending will upset some or make others cry for weeks, Mass Effect 3 is one of those games that must be played. There are countless scenes where the emotional level is off the charts. That’s one thing Bioware always succeeds at. The universe is their stage, making it one of the most breathtaking games ever.

“What a glorious feeling!” Singing in the Rain remains a classic

KARA WESSEL
Contributing Writer

Singing in the Rain was released in 1952 but will live on in the hearts of movie fans forever.

Singing in the Rain has something that all types of people want to see. This movie takes place in 1927 when silent films were popular. It shows two main characters, Don (Don Lockwood) and Lina (Jean Hagen), that are famous silent film actors. But when their director decides to add voices into their film, Lina discovers she can’t sing. This is when Kathy (Debbie Reynolds), one of the background dancers, comes in handy. She sings as Lina’s voice. This is when things get interesting; we see a movie within a movie, 1920’s fashion, music, and dance, and the relationships between the characters intensify.

This movie has a little something for everyone: love triangles, songs that make you want to get up out of your seat and sing, and perspective into what it would have been like in the 1920’s. There are also random dance numbers in the movie that focus only on dancing. It is fun to watch the dance steps and fun choreography in these dance numbers. Getting to watch 15 minutes of great dance moves without hearing anyone talk at all is rare in our day and age, and in most times, this is a quality that few movies possess. The fun thing with Singing in the Rain is that it came out in the 50’s, way after the time of silent films, so it was rare to movie goers then just as it is to us today! When watching this film fans can find themselves shocked right in the middle of the dance number. No matter how many times fans watch it, it’s always astonishing to realize halfway through a dance number that it’s been about 10 minutes since there has been any sound. The voices of Kathy (Debbie Reynolds) and Don (Gene Kelly) are smooth, soft, and whimsical. The music brings in the styles of the twenties; it has a fast beat and happy lyrics. This musical is so popular that not only is the movie still watched, fussed over, and remembered today, but there are a couple songs that premiered in the movie that we still sing today. “Singing in the Rain,” of course, is one, everyone at least knows the famous lyrics “I’m singing in the rain, just singing in the rain” from the famous scene with Gene Kelly’s famous dance number that takes place out in the rain in the middle of the street under his umbrella. Most people know this even without seeing the movie. “Good Morning” is another song that will always be remembered. These songs are still passed around in song from neighbors and friends today and “Good Morning” has been in commercials in the past.

Singing in the Rain has love, good music, and fun details that relate to the time of the 1920’s. It is a movie that has that edge, that different something that fans look for. This is why Singing in the Rain will always remain in the hearts of movie fans.
Dead men don’t pull triggers

TRENT GROOMS
Contributing Writer

It’s been almost 18 years since the untimely death of Nirvana’s front man Kurt Cobain, and his death still remains a mystery to those who have been following the story.

The media has shoved the word “suicide” down our throats since day one, but for some people it just doesn’t make sense. Sure Cobain spoke, wrote, and sang about suicide for years, but who doesn’t talk that way sometimes?

He was a kind-hearted, loving individual with a lot of built up animosity towards the mass media and fame, not to mention his struggling battle with heroin.

On April 1, 1994, Cobain left the rehab center he was staying at in Marina Del Rey California. Cobain was there voluntarily and was able to leave at any time, so when he decided it was time to go, instead of walking out the front doors, he scaled the wall out back while he was having a smoke break. Cobain got on the first flight back to Seattle, WA.

After landing, Cobain went to and purchased a Remington Model 11, 20-gauge shotgun and returned home. He grabbed a few belongings and then headed to a cheap hotel in the slum area of the city where he hid out for a few days. Most speculate that he stayed in this room while on a massive heroin binge. No one knew where Cobain had run off.

On April 5, 1994, just days after he left rehab, Cobain was dead. An electrician who was there to install security lighting discovered his body in the green house above his garage on April 8, 1994. It was apparent that he had died from a shotgun blast to the head. Family, friends, and fans were floored. The police quickly ruled the scene a suicide, and finished up. Over the next decade, private investigator Tom Grant would unravel many clues and bits of evidence that would flip this case on its head. Grant has uncovered substantial information, such as the lack or evidence that Cobain pulled the trigger.

There were no fingerprints anywhere on the gun, and no markings on Cobain’s hands indicating that he had touched the gun. On top of this, the shotgun shell had been ejected to the opposite side of the gun that the chamber was located at. Blood tests showed that Cobain had three times the lethal amount of heroin in his system. This would be enough heroin to take down a large horse in a few minutes. But somehow Cobain was able to inject himself with this much heroin, neatly put all of his needles and drugs back into their handy dandy pouch, zip up the bag, set it on the counter, walk across the room, and blow his head off.

To top it all off, there’s the “suicide note.” Cobain was known for constantly writing down whatever was on his mind. Piles and piles of notebooks are evidence of this. So when he states that he’s no longer satisfied with the way his life is going, it’s not a huge shock. There is no indicator that this was a suicide note until the last few lines. The note was looked over by a professional writing examiner, and the results came back that the last lines were not in Cobain’s handwriting. Who else was there that day? Grant is still trying to reopen the case and is determined to bring justice to Cobain.

To learn more on the case visit www.justiceforkurt.com. The truth may never be uncovered. The only thing we know for certain is that in Cobain’s short life he changed the face of music forever, and he will never be forgotten.

“Call of The Wildman” proves an unexpected must watch

BROOKE ASHFORD
Contributing Writer

Anytime I hear a story start out, “in the back woods of Kentucky,” I get a little weary, but that is just how the show, “Call of The Wildman,” on Animal Planet starts every show. This show follows Ernie Brown Jr. as he travels through Kentucky helping people remove problem animals from different situations.

The Turtleman is a backwoods Kentucky man who has made a living doing a variety of laborious jobs, but he became famous by catching snapping turtles with his bare hands. Ernie is no adventurer or danger seeker; he is just a simple country man who has worked with animals his whole life and finds it better to work with his hands than with the aid of a catch pole or work gloves. When people began posting videos of Turtleman on YouTube, his fame exploded. Soon he had his own T.V. show, and he doesn’t even own a television.

Turtleman’s old fashioned personality has yet to accept internet, television, telephone, and he even lives without indoor plumbing. Neal James is Turtleman’s assistant in the field, and also serves as his secretary, simply because he has a phone with long distance service. Turtleman’s a very family oriented man and spends his free time with his dog Lolly and his Turtlemom.

Turtleman has had more than forty years experience catching animals. He has now gained fame across the U.S. as an animal rescuer with a wild catch phrase, “yee yee yee yee yee, live action!” Of course the phrase must be heard to truly appreciate it.

“Call of The Wildman,” shows Turtleman’s captures of large snapping turtles, but also animals such as raccoons, skunks, snakes, opossums, even rats. His fees for these jobs are often no more than forty dollars and sometimes are even paid in the form of apple pie.

This show is unique in its content as well as its character, and it is hard to imagine watching a near toothless hillbilly reaching blindly into a hole or a crawl space to pull out a wild animal. The show is not wildly intellectual, but it does hold a simple charm. Ernie Brown is definitely not a trained actor and sometimes the cheesy dialogue and fake physical stunts are hard to swallow but all in all it is a great show and worth checking out.

“I Dream”
by Rae Carbaugh
Sophomore Secondary Language Arts Major

Some day you will see
That this heart of mine
Is more divine
Than anything you will ever be
Every day you will know
That this soul of mine
Is more divine
Than anyone will ever show
Once in a while you will feel
That all of mine
Is more divine
Than anything that you know is real

“Letting Go”
by Bri Urrutia
Sophomore English Major

It seems like a lifetime
That we’ve been together
You had been abandoned,
As I had
I took you in,
Nurturing you
Loving you
Never wanting to see you leave
But I knew it was inevitable
The day that you would learn to fly
When we would part
I carry you now
To the place where we first met
Holding you close
Reliving our lives together
I take in a breath
And release my hold
Watching in sorrow
As I finally
Let you go

Poetry Corner

Photo courtesy of newsouthessays.com
Breaking News: Squirrel outbreak

JENNY TRAPP
Layout Editor

There has been an outbreak of insanely crazy squirrels across campus. They have lost their nuts and are furiously trying to find them. They have been allegedly stolen from their hiding spots that the squirrels used at the end of fall to protect them throughout the winter - that never happened.

Famous squirrel whisperer Jodie Squirrelsarenutsfornuts explained, "If these squirrels do not find their nuts soon, they will go nuts. In fact, they will start to make the residents of Peru go nuts. You’re gonna want to lock up your wives and your children because they will be ‘squirreling’ everyone up in here."

It is believed that the missing nuts are the result of a childish college student’s prank. There are reports of seeing a short male in a trench coat digging holes around campus and collecting small round items. The round items are now being speculated as being the missing nuts.

The squirrels are keeping calm as of right now, however there have been cases of squirrels chasing students who just ate peanut-butter or those who carry around trail mix. Be aware of the nutty squirrels: they will do anything to get their nuts back.

Breaking News: Pot hole renovation

There is a constant increase in the number of potholes in the parking lot of Eliza Morgan Hall. Every year there is an effort to conceal these unsightly monstrosities; however, the efforts are rarely successful. By the next winter, the potholes come back.

In the ongoing renovations of Eliza Morgan Hall, there has been a suggestion that the administration is looking highly upon. This would be to turn the potholes into a permanent hot tube for the residents of the hall. The holes will need to be increased slightly in order for this plan to be a success.

There are financial sponsors lining up to help fund this cause. The sponsors feel that it would be a great addition to the campus and the community of Peru. It will allow for a relaxed and enjoyable environment. Be looking for advances on this project in the near future.

Breaking News: Complex is moving

The Centennial Complex is exactly 701 steps from the center of campus. To better unify our campus community and increase the popularity of the Centennial Complex, it is being moved 400 steps closer.

The process is going to be very extensive and involve several Uhaul trucks and a lot of man power. It is going to a gradual process and the entire student body will be helping in the process.

The structures will be deconstructed brick by brick and then reconstructed closer to campus. This is an attempt to increase campus involvement and on campus event participation as well as an ongoing effort to get the Centennial Complex residents out of their rooms and involved in the community more.

Breaking News: MyPeruBookPlus.com

MyPeruBookPlus.com is a new social network that is specifically unique to our campus. It will be a mandatory requirement for enrollment here at Peru State College.

The setup of this social network will be similar to that of MySpace, Facebook, Twitter and Google Plus. It will have the communication styles such as instant messaging and “wall” commenting, as well as photo sharing. You will have a profile that will explain a bit about yourself, your strengths and weaknesses, and your academic standing in your classes. For each course you are enrolled in you will have a different group of friends which will be comprised of individuals in that class with you.

Professors will also be members of this social networking site. They will have total control over your account and your information. There will be an option to view your grades on this site as well.

What is the most popular option that Peru State College has chosen for this networking site is that after twenty minutes on this social network, it will lock your computer from opening other sites that are not directly related to your academics. It records the websites you visit the most frequently and locks you from opening the site if you hit a certain quota of time on that website per week. This time frame will be determined by administration.

Students are excited about the new networking site; however there are a few who are worried that this effort is too much like “big brother.” Administration assures that the data collected from this site will only be used to better the students’ academic future.