Fresh Ideas Brings New Renovations to PSC Dining

Marivelle Magaña
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the majority of campus may have noticed, there has been a big difference in Peru State College’s dining experience since the beginning of this semester. This change can be directed towards the college’s new dining vendor, Fresh Ideas, and the way that they choose to engage the campus through their food experiences.

So, what exactly is Fresh Ideas? Jack Conley, Regional Director of Operations for Fresh Ideas, explained, “Fresh Ideas provides innovative and creative foodservice management solutions. We focus on scratch cooking, offer extensive dining options, and make changes to the program from student and community feedback. We have a passion for food and for serving the Peru community.”

These changes not only come in the form of changing the food we eat but where and how we eat it. Besides those who are new to the PSC campus, walking into the Main Line Café at the beginning of the semester may have stopped you in your tracks, as your eyes took in the physical changes to the layout of the dining venue and hall.

Knocking out the wall that had separated the Main Line Café and what used to be the Bob, these two rooms have now merged into one large dining venue that allows students to visit several different food stations throughout the dining venue. Changes also include new carpet within the dining hall and new, additional seating for those eating in the cafeteria. These renovations offer a refreshing change from the old dining area and as Jack Conley explained, “The dining hall is your kitchen, dining room, family room, and study. We want the dining experience to be comforting and fun; as well as providing fuel and energy for your day.”

The Main Line Café was not the only dining area to be given an update. What formerly was known as the Den, now goes by The Roasterie and offers an updated, more modern feel to the experience of quick dining. Knocking out a partial piece of the wall that separated the room from the library, The Roasterie is no longer closed off from the rest of the building as the Den was, but instead opens into the library, allowing students to conveniently order their food and relax inside of the library.

Along with the new name and coffeehouse-style layout, comes new food and drink options, guaranteeing that there is something for everyone. The Roasterie’s menu displays its wide variety of hot and cold drinks to choose from, ranging from expressos to iced tea. While choosing a pick-me-up drink, students can also enjoy fresh muffins, deli sandwiches, and an array of snacks.

Students may have also noticed that there is now a Fresh On-Demand machine. Created as a convenient way for people who are on the go, Fresh On-Demand allows students to grab a quick meal and continue on with their day without the hassle of waiting in line. “Peru is the first campus with the Fresh On Demand micro-market, stocked with fresh food 24/7. This interactive dining experience is convenient and easy to use with your FreshX app or student ID,” explained Jack Conley. “We want to ensure that great food is available to all students, even ones with busy schedules.” Anyone with a campus ID or debit/credit card can quickly scan their card at the machine, choose from a variety of food products inside the machine, and go one with your day as the machine charges your card.

The Peru campus also has the chance to use the FreshX app as mentioned above, allowing students who may have misplaced their student ID to still enjoy the food in the dining area. Students are also able to look up the dining menu and see how many meals and dining dollars they have left on their account.

Wanting to continue with creating new ways to experience dining, Fresh Idea is already developing several new ideas for the way that members of the PSC campus can enjoy their food. “We’re eager for our guests to experience surprise pop up events in the Main Line Café. We’re cooking up ideas like a special Walking Tacos lunch, a Popcorn Bar where you can create and customize with a selection of toppings, a French Toast Bar, and freshly made gyros just to name a few,” explained Jack Conley. “We’re excited to hear what the Bobcat community thinks. Let us know in person or on the Peru State Dining Facebook page, the FreshX app or comment cards located in all of the dining venues.”
Student Senate 2019-2020 Preview

Theresa Woods
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Getting back into the swing of school can be difficult with all the events happening all the time in so many places. Luckily, understanding what to look forward to this year does not have to be an information scavenger hunt. After wondering about Student Senates goals for the year and changes they plan to implement I decided to reach out to Student Senate President Tyler Harms about what exciting things are in store this year and he let me know that "[The Student Senate] currently [has] six goals we are focusing on for the year."

He began with the first goal, “Number 1 [is] outreach. We want students to know about Student Senate and what we do. We are planning on doing a large bbq/yard games with as many student organizations as possible. We want our students to see our organizations as outlets to help them grow and we feel this would be a great way to do that.”

He goes on to say “Our second goal is to try and update the game room and commuter lounge in the Student Center. We feel this is important because many of our students as well as prospective students use these areas and we want them to look as nice as possible. We also want students to enjoy their time here and being able to enjoy common areas with your friends is one of those ways.” and “speaking of updates, we are also looking at any updates the Residence Halls may have such as furniture and pool/ping pong tables.”

“Our fourth goal is to get charging cords in the library so students can charge their phone or laptops even if they don’t have their charger with them.”

“Food availability is our fifth goal. We are looking at getting a Fresh Ideas vending machine put out at the Complex if the one in the Student Center goes well. This is so students do not have to make the walk to campus in poor weather, and they could use their bobcat bucks for a meal.”

Our last, but certainly not least sixth goal is to change Peru’s smoking policy. We want to implement designated smoking areas instead of being able to smoke walking across campus. This is for students with lung sensitivities and so our campus has clear air for any visiting students.”

These are the goals that you can look forward to being implemented. If you have ideas or ways you would like to see them happen it would be good to know who your representatives are.

On the Student Senate our representatives are the President Tyler Harms, Vice President Thomas Veleba, Sergeant at Arms Jared Koelzer, Recording Secretary Bailey Coonce, Corresponding Secretary Danni Barkhurst, Financial Secretary Kayla Myers, Public Relations Secretary Kristin Sanford, Commuter Representative Jarrod Coiner, Freshman Representative Sierra Jones, Delzell Representative Gavin Mass, and our At-Large Representatives Noah Harvey, Noah Wynn, Taylor Coonce, and Reannah Rinchich.

Campus Activities Board Fall Preview

Aubrey Wattier
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

CAB, otherwise known as Campus Activities Board, is a club dedicated to spreading cultural, educational, and social awareness across campus. Free to all students, Cab’s events offer a range of activities opportunities to meet new people, and the occasional raffle for prizes. As Vivian Brown, Committee Director on the executive team of Cab stated, “Some of our big events coming up are our Homecoming events, the big one being the neon glow-in-the-dark party. We are bringing back DJ B-wiz as well, and Mr. Peru is on the Wednesday of Homecoming, which will be super fun!”

There are many events planned for the coming months aside from Homecoming week, such as The C-Word Consent, Family Feud, Mocktail Hour Luau, and an array of Craft Nights. The C-Word Consent is “an interactive, educational program that uses thoroughly researched information to break down walls and have a frank, difficult, but needed conversation about sex” cwordconsent.com. The wide array of Craft Nights coming to Peru focus on crafts that help alleviate stress and holiday-themed do-it-yourself crafts that get you in the holiday spirit! Stress Ball Making is the most recent of these events, happening on September 17 at 6:00 pm in the Commuter Lounge, followed by Pumpkin Carving, Smashing, and Painting on October 29th, Craft Night on November 19th, and Craft Night: Stocking Decorating on December 11 in the Live Oak Room.

These events are open to all PSC students, and CAB stresses that these events are completely free to attend. Some events, like the recently held music festival Oakstock, offered free live music from a variety of different artists, various yard games, and other small activities set-up across the quad. Aside from free fun (and sometimes food) there will be the occasional raffle held by CAB at their events with impressive prizes at stake. In past years they have raffled away prizes including: Xbox One console bundles, Big Joe bean bag chairs, essential oils and diffusers, giant teddy-bears, and more. All at no cost to you. In most cases the raffle begins at the same time as the event and ends when the event does.

CAB doesn’t put on events just for the enjoyment of the students, but to make connections between the club and those who attend, and for the possibility of making new connections between the students. CAB’s main goal is to bring enjoyment to the small city of Peru and educate the campus at the same time. Past events have been collaborations between CAB and other organizations on campus, such as Student Senate or PRIDE, providing a larger message or educational reach. One such event was the Second Annual Second Chance Prom, held last year in collaboration with PRIDE. This event is held annually, often in the second semester, and is a second chance for those who weren’t able to attend their high school prom. Altogether, CAB is not only a club for those who want to help bring life to campus, but for each and every PSC student that wants to have an experience that they’ll remember for the rest of their lives.
New Assistant Director of Residence Life: Clara Edwards

Clara Edwards is the new Assistant Director of Residence Life. She was involved in Residence Life at the University of Lincoln. She held several volunteer and paid positions within the UNL Residence Life department. She decided to pursue a career in Student Affairs, and more specifically Residence Life. She chose this career because she enjoys making connections with students. She loves being in a position where she has several opportunities to leave a positive impact on a student. She also enjoys the variety of tasks that her job provides. Edwards states that “No two days are ever the same in Residence Life”.

She chose to work in Peru after she was charmed during her initial interview. She was amazed by the red brick buildings and scenic greenery surrounding the campus. Edwards appreciated the authenticity and openness of everyone she met. She favored the environment that comes with a smaller campus and the chance to be able to work with people in all departments and levels.

Edwards job consists of mostly working with the Resident Assistants (RAs). The RAs arrive on campus two weeks before school starts for training. She plans and leads sessions with them for the duration of those two weeks. During the school year, she helps RAs with any concerns or plans they have for their residence halls, floor communities, and Living Learning Communities (LLCs). She also helps students through office visits, emails, and phone calls. Edwards is willing to answer any questions a student might have about Residence Life, assist in the Residence Life office with anything that needs to be done. She can also help in advising the Residence Hall Association (RHA).

Edwards has some progressive goals and plans for Peru State. She is excited to be here and ready to work. She would like to have more programs in the residence halls to support learning outside of the classroom. She believes that everyone can benefit from knowing general life skills, and how to seek opportunities for being lifelong learners. She is excited to advise RHA and would like to see her chapter grow in numbers and influence on campus.

Edwards graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln May 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in English. After she graduated, she continued working at Scooter’s Coffee. She worked there while she was an undergrad and became the Assistant Manager. Edwards then started working at a law firm but decided not to pursue a career in the legal field. She finally started at Peru State College as the Assistant of Residence Life in July of this year.

Edwards is from Millard in Omaha. She has no pets that live with her currently, but her fiancé has a corgi named Percy. She loves taking Percy on walks. She has an impressive affinity for wiggling her ears. Edwards has a mostly vegetarian diet due to health reasons but eats meat once a week. In her free time, she enjoys reading, jigsaw puzzles, knitting, crocheting, cooking and baking, and making coffee.

To Spend a Day in the Life of Me

A typical day for me is waking up early which for me is around eight o’clock in the morning. I pick up the house, put dirty dishes in the sink for later, and feed our cat. After that I lay in the living room to watch television until someone (usually my daughter) wakes up. Definitely read that correct - I said my daughter. I’m an almost 21-year-old mother and wife. I’ve heard it all before: “You’re too young to be married.” “Gosh you were busy!” Yeah, yeah, yeah, I know I got my stuff together and figured out what I wanted at my age. OMG sue me!

After my daughter wakes up, I change her diaper and get her dressed just so she’s ready to go if need be. I turn off whatever I’m watching and change it to one of her shows or movies. Then I wait for the hunger scream. She walks up to me saying “Mom” on repeat and grabs my finger, guiding me to the kitchen and into the freezer for her mac & cheese. Man, that mac & cheese is going to be the death of me. Once her food is done, she starts getting impatient because it needs to cool, so I have a toddler crying in my arms because her food is too hot and a cat eyeballing me cause she’s crying. I put her down to grab the food out of the freezer, test the temp, walk away and then BAM! The cat attacks my ankles because she was crying… nice.

Eventually she gets distracted and stops eating so I put it in the fridge for later, turn around and she disappears. I check the room and there she is messing with her father’s wallet cards EVERYWHERE! Who knows what happened with everything? Of course her father wakes up at this time and all he sees is her and his wallet and starts telling me to get her as I’m walking in the room. I grab her and she just goes dead because she wants her dad’s wallet. This child is so dang heavy I almost dropped her. We go back to the living room, where she’s watching TV and dancing along with the music. She then runs to the kitchen and grabs the broom and dustpan and starts sweeping the carpet.

This little girl is spoiled. All I had to say was her name and she just starts balling. She knew why I was calling her. Babies are so smart - it’s crazy how fast they can pick things up, especially when it involves my phone. Anytime I take it we get into an “argument” about why she can’t have it. Lastly, she goes down for a nap and that’s when I do homework and just relax until I hear the little moan of fear when she wakes up and I’m not there. Even if her father is, that’s not enough for her.

I repeat the routine; change her diaper, change her clothes, warm up the leftover mac & cheese, turn on her show, she dances, gets into stuff she’s not supposed to. Then it’s off to wrestle her to bed. Finally, mother and father time, but of course he’s playing Fortnite or (now) 2K20. My plate is beyond full, I have to juggle motherhood and wifehood along with being a full-time student and part-time worker. I have moments when I’m overwhelmed by everything, but I wouldn’t change it for anything in the world. I love my little family and can’t imagine my life being any other way. I know in my heart and soul that this is where I should be in my life. I have a devoted husband and a beautiful ball of energy that’s literally a piece of me. I love waking up next to them every day and watching my daughter reach a new milestone every day is worth more than anything I’d have without them. My family is what I live for and my motivation for anything difficult thing that comes my way.

XOXO, Mama Bear
What is it Like in Trump’s Divided America?

Marivelle Magaña
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If you had asked me at the beginning of my senior year of high school who would win the 2016 presidential election, I would have confidently stated “Definitely not Donald Trump” all while rolling my eyes at how ridiculous that question was. Obviously, I thought wrong.

Fast forward to me in the middle of my freshman year of college, juggling homework and club obligations, all while trying to keep up with the 2016 presidential election. I had made sure that my absentee ballot had been mailed in time and went to bed on November 8, 2016, positive that America would have its first female President. Instead, I woke up into a world that had shown its true colors.

That isn’t to say that discrimination, sexism, and all-around prejudice didn’t exist before Trump was elected. These issues have existed for all of America’s history, Trump just managed to capitalize on the divide between the majority and minorities, pushing for a world where Caucasian men sit on the gold throne. P.O.C., women, and members of the LGBTQ+ community were now seen as the bad guys instead of fellow humans. For wanting to exist, for wanting rights to their bodies, for wanting to be themselves, these minorities were now considered to be the people holding our country back from “being great again.”

I quiver in anger whenever I hear people state that they didn’t vote in the 2016 election or that they voted for Trump as a joke. I’m glad that their privilege allowed them to consider the future of others as a joke because the joke of a President we have in office has spent the last three years allowing hatred to spread into the lives of others based on his platform, all while not batting an eye.

This summer, I accidentally cut off another driver because I thought that he had a stop sign. He didn’t and I felt horrible that I had accidentally cut him off, but nowhere near as horrible I would feel when he pulled an illegal u-turn, got out of his vehicle, and proceeded to scream at me while his wife calmly sat in the front seat.

Apologizing profusely while he threatened to physically make me get out of my car, I had no choice but to sit there while this man looked me in the eyes and called me a “stupid f’ing immigrant” and stated that “all of you guys are f’ing idiots” before getting back in his vehicle and driving away.

I spent the drive home choking back my tears and wondering what made him feel comfortable enough with labeling me as an immigrant, as if the label was something to be ashamed of. As the granddaughter of Mexican immigrants, I hold pride in the fact that my family was able to create a life in a country that did not welcome them with open arms.

For the rest of the summer, I became so paranoid that I would come into contact with this man again, I would work myself into mini anxiety attacks. It was only when I returned home at the end of each day that I felt that I could release the breath that I had been holding all day. This wasn’t the first time that I have had to deal with people who judge me based on how I look or how they perceive me, but it had never escalated to the point where I felt my life could possibly be in danger. How many people go through similar situations, forced to sit and take the abuse thrown at them, scared to speak out? How many people have to prepare themselves for another day in a world trying to silence them, all because they know that our President has created an environment where people filled with hate could thrive without consequences?

What is Trump’s America? It’s people who turn their backs on refugees, but forget that the pilgrims on the Mayflower were refugees too. It’s people who spew hatred towards immigrants but enjoy DNA tests that let them brag about where their ancestors immigrated from. It’s people turning their backs on their fellow man, despite this being the UNITED States of America. This is Trump’s America and we’re all just living in it, but we don’t have to continue to do so.

The 2020 presidential election will be a big test for America. Are we destined to repeat the history we had just lived through? Or will America wake up and realize that united doesn’t just have to be a word in the name of our country?

Do Colleges Take Into Consideration the Introverts that Attend Them?

Alexa Cline
COPY EDITOR

Three years ago, I started my college education at Peru State College. Three years ago, I also had severe anxiety, and the idea of starting at a new school terrified me. Now, I had been forced to move many times in my youth; so it wasn’t the idea of new people, new teachers that had scared me. What scared me was the overwhelming amount of substantially sized welcoming activities I would be forced to endure. At the time, I remember thinking that this was just how things were, and I was being a child for getting so worked up about it.

Now that I’ve had the privilege of being taught by some of the amazing education teachers on campus, as well as the challenge of putting a younger sibling with even worse anxiety through college, I’ve realized that this struggle isn’t unique to “big babies” like me. One of the many duties of a teacher is to identify the differences in our students and adjust our techniques appropriately. It’s only logical that the school these teachers work at follow suit.

One of the most crucial ways colleges could implement this new approach is by focusing on Welcome Week. This period is extremely sensitive for freshmen, who are already experiencing a higher amount of anxiety than usual during their transition. Furthermore, when entering a new school, us students look at the first week and take that as a sign as to how the rest of the year is going to go. At this point, the more introverted students who find themselves feeling overwhelmed or exhausted from the first week, may already be dreading the rest of the year.

To be perfectly clear, I am not suggesting the expected Welcome Week be scrapped. The traditions are incredibly vital to the campus culture. However, I do think colleges should give their incoming freshman the opportunity to opt in for an “alternative introverted orientation”. This option could take place on the same day as normal orientations, but it should absolutely not take place at the same time. If the two events take place simultaneously, campus will be crowded with strangers, negating the very purpose of having an alternative option in the first place. It’s a much smarter idea to schedule the traditional event for the morning/afternoon and the alternative for the late afternoon/night. Introverts typically feel much calmer at later points in the day and won’t have to worry about exhausting themselves socializing before the day is done, so this would be fairly ideal. This is also a helpful idea for campus staff, as they won’t have to plan for and show up to even more orientation days. They’ll just have to stay later on the days already put in place.

Another action colleges could take is sending these students a schedule in advance, detailing the events of the day and what to expect in each portion. Being told, “At 11:30, a professor will help enroll you in classes and get you signed into an email account” a week ahead of schedule, rather than being told “You have a breakout session in this building” gives new students a sense of control and comfort in that they know exactly what they will be doing.

Another way to combat an anxiety inducing crowd, is to only allow so many students to sign up for each alternative orientation. This is to ensure the groups stay relatively small, so as not to go against its original purpose. It could also be beneficial to allow these groups to stay in one designated spot, rather than deal with the stress of navigating campus on such a packed full day.

By implementing these strategies, Peru State College would be one of the first schools to take the “diverse classroom strategies” out of the classroom and begin applying it to other campus events. Not only does this have the potential to improve student mental health and happiness, but it could also subsequently lead to a reduced number of dropouts.
My Experience with the New PSC Bookstore

Theresa Woods
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Waiting on textbooks can be tricky. Ordering in June could mean getting books that are not needed. Ordering last minute could mean not having the materials needed to complete homework. The new Peru State College Virtual Bookstore stepped up to help out, but how helpful are they? I am going to walk through the steps I took to order my books through the new bookstore and the opinions I formed during the process.

I received my voucher email on August 15, 2019 at 11:36 AM. Another student says they received their email on the same day but at 6:15 PM. This was four days before school started on the 19th so I ordered my books as soon as I got the voucher. I was concerned about getting them in time and I needed to order five books in total.

The checkout process was simple in some ways and more complicated in others. A link was provided in the email to the Virtual Bookstore website. Once there, I saw a button that said “Order Textbooks”. From that point there is a series of information that can be selected like the semester, department, course type, and course number of the classes. With the previous website, classes and books required were already a part of the account attached to your school email so this was a step back as far as convenience goes. Selecting the class number turns the selection box another color and adds a checkmark. An option to remove the class appears next to that, so if you accidentally pick something you did not mean to you can remove it without backspacing. After classes have been selected, pressing continue shows the course and the textbook(s) required underneath. It will also display the prices for renting or buying it new or used. It also informs you that there is free shipping on orders to The Cat Cave. I certainly am not one to turn down the offer of free shipping so I selected that option.

Then a series of emails will appear in your mailbox confirming the order and when the order(s) ship and arrive. It was, quite frankly, way too many emails. I received roughly 20 emails pertaining to the ‘arrival’ of my textbooks.

Once I’d been thoroughly notified that my books were in The Cat Cave, I discovered that the pick-up window was between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Two hours during the day where I might be able to pick up my textbooks. Yet, because of class scheduling, on any given day I can either pick them up from 12 p.m.-1 p.m. or 11 a.m.-12 p.m. That means, during the week I only have a 3 and a half hour window total where I can pick up my books. The line for books is typically at least three people long and the wait time (that I experienced in the three times I managed to get there) can be anywhere from 5-15 minutes. This was because the pick up portion seemed to be understaffed. The understaffing of what must be a fairly busy location during a narrow time frame seems unfair to the people who are compelled to work. I hope in the future, time is taken to hire more hands to help with the distribution of textbooks that students need for the classes they’ve signed up for.

Overall, the new Peru State College Virtual Bookstore did the function I expected it to. I have received all five of my textbooks and am able to do the work assigned in my classes. I hope this walk through my process helps anyone confused about how the new Virtual Bookstore works.

Area 51 Event Set For September 20, 2019

Maricela Magaña
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“I sparked a movement while I was bored at 2 a.m.,” said Matty Roberts, creator of the famous Facebook post for the Area 51 raid. Matty Roberts was just a college student like any of us and was just trying to get through life. One night Matty decided to create a Facebook page titled “Storm Area 51: They Can’t Stop All Of Us.” When he woke up the next morning, it had a few dozen likes and people started creating some memes about it. He didn’t think it would get any bigger, so he went along with his day. Over the next week, however, he noticed that more and more people were reposting his post. Pretty soon he had over a thousand likes and reposts. That was 10 months ago, before his post went viral. People started RSVPing to this event and soon over a million people had signed up. People soon started commenting and DMing Matty on what they should do. Some people thought that they should all use the forward-leaning running style that is used by a famous anime character named Naruto Uzumaki, to increase speed and outrun security. Roberts was not up for this idea as he said, “I’m not very fast.”

He is the center of the internet phenomenon of the summer, a plan to organize a mass raid on September 20 on Area 51. About 8,000 people were expected to attend this over popularized event. The plan quickly fell apart when the FBI had a visit with Matty. The Air Force also issued a statement warning people to stay away. This led to an outdoor event that would be called Alienstock. Matty Roberts originally wanted to have the event in Rachel, a small town with a population of just 58 people. Rachel is a popular site for Alien 51 aficionados. Looking around the small town, he thought it would be a great place to have concerts under the stars. After teaming up with the local Las Vegas promoter, the town gave him the permits to host his concert series. But not everyone in the town was excited about it. Some of the townspersons thought that law enforcement would be overwhelmed and that local residents would step up to protect their property at all costs. The town of Rachel voted that if things got out of hand, they would declare a state of emergency. Roberts was getting concerned with how he would respond to these emergencies so he decided to take his event to a more appropriate place.

Alienstock is set to start on September 19 of this year in Downtown Las Vegas. This event is free to all who come in peace and is for one night only. The Downtown Las Vegas Events Center is partnering with Collective Zoo and Bud Light to bring you this out-of-this-world experience. Alienstock is bound to be a great event that will let people with the same ideas and theories get together for one night and not feel weird in any way. I personally will not be attending this event. Don’t get me wrong, it would be really cool to go but I honestly would only go for the music. Maybe even to listen to some people’s weird theories and what they think is really in Area 51. It sure will be an event that people won’t forget.
Bobcats Make A Return
to the PSC Campus

Images courtesy of Aliyah Telpner and Peru State Marketing
Zurek Leads Cross Country

For the second meet in a row, senior Julia Zurek (Louisville) has led the Peru State cross country team. Zurek finished 56th out of 118 runners in the Bronco Stampede hosted by Hastings College on Saturday.

Fort Hays State (Kan.), an NCAA Division II team, won the Stampede with a team score of 34. Concordia was second with 45 points.


Julia Zurek’s finish in 22:39.62 was 44th for scoring purposes. Sophia Schroeder (Ravenna) was the next Bobcat runner as she finished 81st/57th in 24:20.64.

Jacey Sutton (Wahoo) was 99th/65th in 25:45.17 while Hailee Lynn (Malcolm) was 101st/67th in 26:12.20.

Alyssa Brink (Oakland, Iowa) was 102nd/68th in 26:13.57. Peru State’s other finishers were Aubrey Wattier (Malcolm) – 104th in 26:48.87, Brealynn Wattier (Malcolm) – 105th in 27:06.13, Marissah Wingert (Panama, Iowa) – 109th in 28:37.49, Makalah Scheele (Beatrice) – 114th in 30:25.27, and Annika McDonald (Tecumseh) – 117th in 32:21.51.

Zurek ran nearly 41 seconds faster than in her first race of the year in the Bearcat Invite. Also showing an improvement from the first week were Schroeder (79 seconds), Lynn (64 seconds), Brink (59 seconds), Brealynn Wattier (2 minutes, 26 seconds), Wingert (over four minutes), Scheele (two minutes), and McDonald (over three minutes).

This article is courtesy of Peru State Athletics

Athletics Earn Top Champions of Character Mark

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has revealed the organization’s Champions of Character Five-Star Award winners. Peru State was one of only 15 institutions nationally to hit the rankings top mark with a perfect score of 100.

The award is presented annually to institutions that advance character-driven athletics by promoting competitive athletics, academic excellence and character values.

This is the first time in ten years that Peru State has earned Gold Level status and to earn the perfect mark. Gold Champions of Character Bobcat athletic director Wayne Albury was very pleased that the Champions of Character information was finally released. Albury stated, “I am so proud of what our student-athletes and the entire athletic department has accomplished by reaching the pinnacle of the NAIA’s Champions of Character program.”

Continuing, Albury added, “Each team has contributed to the success of the department from their academic efforts to the servant leadership – it truly has been a ‘team’ effort.”

A total of 181 colleges and universities and 16 conferences earned the Champions of Character Five-Star Award. To receive the award members scored 60 or more points on the NAIA Champions of Character 100-point Scorecard and conferences named to the list had at least 60 percent of its member schools making the grade with 60 or more points.

Peru State and Clarke (Iowa) were the highest-ranked members of the Heart on the Five-Star Award honor list, both hitting the 100-point mark. The College of St. Mary is the only other Nebraska institution to earn the top ranking.

Sixty-three institutions achieved Gold Level status. Seventy-six institutions achieved Silver Level status while 42 institutions were named to the Bronze Level. Institutions are measured on a demonstrated commitment to Champions of Character and earned points in character training, conduct in competition, academic focus, character recognition and character promotion. Institutions earned points based on exceptional student-athlete grade point averages and by having minimal to no ejections during competition throughout the course of the academic year.

The Scorecard process is based on the NAIA’s flagship program Champion of Characters, which emphasizes the five core values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership.

Ally Hazen (North Platte), the current leader of the student-led advisory council noted, “As the liaisons with our various athletic teams, we try to encourage our teammates to do their best, whether it be on the field, in the classroom, or in our community service efforts. Obviously, it has paid off!”

This article is courtesy of Peru State Athletics

Sept. 15 Volleyball Game: Bobcats vs. Pioneers

(Peru, Neb.) – While it was close throughout, the MidAmerica Nazarene (MNU) Pioneers were not nice guests as they swept the Peru State volleyball team Friday night.

The Pioneers won 25-22, 25-20, 25-21 to improve to 9-4 overall and 2-0 in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (Heart). The ‘Cats fell to 3-12 on the season and 0-2 in the Heart.

First Set Action

The Bobcats jumped to an early lead as Claire Cudney (Marysville, Kan.) put down a kill from Alexandra Chavarria (Hollister, Calif.). This was followed by two service aces by Darlene Quinonez Holguin (Anthony, N.M.). An attack error by the Pioneers made it 4-0 before MNU put down a kill. The set was later tied at 5-5 and 6-5 before MNU took the lead.

Later, after the score was tied at 12 each, Quinonez Holguin had another service ace. Peru State would still have a lead at 14-13 after a service error on the Pioneers only to see MNU go out to a 17-14 lead. The Bobcats would later tie the score at 18-18 on a Tyra Mollhoff (Lincoln) kill off an assist from Quinonez Holguin. Once again the Pioneers would regain the lead and hold on for the 25-22 set win.

Second Set Action

The second set was tied many times throughout with the Bobcats again having an early lead. The ‘Cats led 6-3 after Chavarria put down a spike from Quinonez Holguin. Again, the Pioneers would take the lead and the teams would continue to battle back and forth with many ties and lead changes.

Peru State would again have a three-point lead late in the game at 19-16 after Dawson Sharman (Sidney) got a kill from Quinonez Holguin. The Pioneers would come back with four straight points before having an attack error which knotted the set for the last time. MNU would finish off with five straight points for the win.

Third Set Action

MNU jumped out to a 7-1 lead in what was the deciding set. Peru State would slowly chip away at the deficit and pulled within four at 12-8 after an error on the Pioneers. MNU would again extend its lead as many as eight only to see the ‘Cats pluck away. Peru State got within three at 24-21 only to see the Pioneers nail the win with a kill.

Team Statistics

Peru State was out hit by the Pioneers .202 to .116. MNU finished with a few more digs and had a big difference in blocking as they finished with seven total blocks compared to three for the ‘Cats.

Quinonez Holguin had three service aces while Alexsis Cox (Brighton, Colo.), Arianna Waschowski (Bellevue), and Cheyenne Birkle (Holden, Mo.) each finished with one service ace.

Quinonez Holguin finished with a double-double as she led the team with ten digs. Sharman and Cox each had nine while Cudney contributed eight. Waschowski and Birkle each had six digs.

Sharman was credited with the lone solo block. Mollhoff had two block assists while Sharman and Matthis each had one block assist.

Peru State hosted Central Methodist Saturday morning prior to the football game. On Tuesday, Sept. 17, the Bobcats will host William Penn at 7 p.m.

This article is courtesy of Peru State Athletics
Peru Theatre Company 2019-2020 Season Preview

Amelia Roth
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While you are all settling into the 2019 Fall Semester, keep an eye out for Peru Theatre Company's upcoming events! This year’s season is themed “Bodies and Souls,” described as an exploration of “the ephemeral, the immortal, and the space in between,” and we have plenty of exciting events to come! Faculty advisor and Director Laura Lippman says about the club: “PTC’s primary focus is to create high-quality theatrical productions for the campus community and the community at large.”

Members collaborate on PTC Projects/Productions as a part of the creative team (actor, director, playwright, etc.) and also have the opportunity to attend field trips to see theatre around the region, collaborate with other clubs on campus to create community-building events, and attend workshops with guest theatre artists. This year’s board is headed by Josh Osborne, President of PTC, Vice President Zach Steele, Social Chair Devyn Jeffries, and Marketing Team Halee Jeffries and Austin Martin. As last year’s President, I am very excited about what one of these talented humans brings to the table. Their creative and forward-thinking ideas will be great for PTC’s future. All of that being said, here’s what you need to know about PTC’s upcoming events during the 2019-2020 year:

First up, a production entitled “Two Two-Handers” features student directors Kaity Baker and Amelia Roth as well as actors Panashe Jacha, Halee Jeffries, Joslyn Edmonds, and Alfie Steele. The event contains two full-length plays done as staged readings, a version of theatre where the actors have scripts in front of them, allowing for a shorter turnover time and a unique perspective of the production. Stage Directions (read by Emily Holmer for both productions) are read aloud to help fill in the gaps where traditional theatre usually plays out. This allows the audience to create their own pictures, and see two beautiful plays in their entirety in a new way. The show runs from October 16th-20th in the Performing Arts Center. Look out for specific times soon!

Next for the Fall semester: “Dead Man’s Cellphone,” starring new PTC member Bridget Dalton as the titular role of Jean. The story digs deep into our connections with each other as human beings, what waits for us after death, and the hidden stories that lie beneath every person’s surface. Other actors included in the production include Josh Osborne, Zach Steele, Theresa Woods, Amelia Roth, and Devyn Jeffries. The show runs November 12th-17th in the Black Box theatre located in the Jindra Fine Arts building.

In addition to these productions, PTC also holds regular meetings every other Tuesday in the Black Box at 5:30. EVERYONE is welcome to come! Learn about theatre, get involved, and expose yourself to positive, fun, and beneficial experiences such as the KCACTF theatre festival attended in January, or the Research and Creativity Expo in the spring! PTC also holds an Improv group (new to campus this year!) every Monday at 5:20. No experience is needed, everyone is welcome to visit and try out the group! As for next semester, get ready for the return of the Disco Citizens, a campus favorite, and other events to come.

“Peru Theatre Company, Making Art since 1867.” Come make art with us this year, and get ready to see what we’ve got!

The Peru State Writer’s Guild 2019-2020 Preview

Val Emerick
COPY EDITOR

Writer’s Guild has returned to Peru State College again this fall! For the last three semesters, the small group of writing enthusiasts has struggled to regain its footing as an official club on Peru’s campus. It has been a hard couple of months as the club’s new members learn all of the requirements of campus organizations, such as community service, hosted events, and decorations for Homecoming.

“We are a very small group,” said President Val Emerick. “We only have six members, and there’s a lot of work we need to do. But we are very excited for the upcoming school year.”

The Guild's primary focus is to provide anyone who is interested in writing a place and time to actually write.

“We meet every Tuesday at 11, and alternate our focus every week. The first week we just hang out and write, and the next week we read each other’s works and give feedback,” said Emerick.

“I’m always hoping to improve [my writing], but I’m hoping that we can all improve together,” said the Guild’s treasurer Callie O’Donnell when asked about what they most look forward to achieving in the Guild this year.

The Writer’s Guild has gone through many ups and downs on its return to being an official Peru State Organization. In 2017-2018, all senior members of the guild graduated, and the mentor, Jeff Alessandrelli, moved to a different school. This loss of membership caused the club to completely disband. When the new Assistant Professor of English, Dr. Charles Hicks, was informed about the guild, he immediately began working to revive the organization. Dr. Hicks’ hopes for the club include providing resources for finding editors and agents to students who are interested in becoming published, and to encourage students to write more in their free time. The tool is intended to be used for anyone who wants to be a part of the guild but cannot make it to the meeting times.

“Writer’s Guild is for anyone who is interested in improving their writing, or even people who just want to read the works of their classmates. We’ll take poets, essayists, play-writes, fanfiction authors, people who’ve never written a word in your life outside of school but are interested in trying - anyone! Even if all you want is some feedback on papers for class, this is the club for you!”

If students who are interested in the guild cannot make it to official meetings on Tuesdays, Writer’s Guild offers an alternative.

“We have a Discord server that allows everyone to communicate and stay in touch,” said Emerick. “We post updates about what we discuss at each meeting. We intend to begin posting weekly writing prompts, general advice, and resources for agents and publishers as well.”

Discord is a free app available to any device that functions like Skype. It allows users to chat in servers, create individual groups within those servers, and instantly message anyone both privately and publicly. This tool is intended to be used for anyone who wants to be a part of the guild but cannot make it to the meeting times.

“We’ve also used Google Docs to share writing with each other and leave comments,” said Emerick.

With all the new tools readily available to the guild, communication for sharing and feedback is easier than ever and allows for greater freedom for the members.

Even though the Writer’s Guild is small, it is tenacious and is taking on the new year with renewed enthusiasm. Anyone who is interested in learning more about Writer’s Guild is encouraged to email the president at writersguildpsc@gmail.com or to join them at their next meeting.
Album Review: Post Malone’s Hollywood’s Bleeding

Stephanie Culling
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“I just keep on hopin’ that you call me. You say you wanna see me but you can’t right now. You never took the time to get to know me. We’re scared of losin’ something’ that we never found. We’re runnin’ out of reasons but we can’t let go. Yeah, Hollywood’s bleeding but we call it home.” - Lyrics from Post Malone’s newly titled song, Hollywood’s Bleeding.

That was just a small taste of Post Malone’s inspiring new album, Hollywood’s Bleeding. When listening to this album, I couldn’t help but think to myself that Post Malone is really putting himself out there for this new record. Every track on this album has a totally different feel from the previous one and I feel as if this record has so many different artistic directions. This album compared to his last album, “Beerbongs & Bentleys” has so much more creative direction. I don’t think anybody should be able to criticize Post Malone for not being creative enough after this.

Some songs on this record still have those inappropriate lyrics, but overall, I think Post Malone tried a new sound and creative direction and it just plain worked for him. You can’t say that about most new artists coming into the spotlight. Tracks on this album encompass so many different genres. Post Malone is mashing together Hip-Hop, Rap, Pop, Rock, Country and even a little bit of Punk. The different genres mesh very well together in this album and it’s so amazing and so unique to Post Malone’s style. Since he sings to so many different genre types, there is no shortage of fans for this artist. Any song on this new album could be a top hit and I have no doubt that many songs on this album will be just that.

Breaking down between individual songs, my personal favorites were: “Hollywood’s Bleeding, On the Road, Take What You Want and I’m Gonna Be.” Not that I didn’t like every song, but I thought those specific songs had a good energy. The song, Hollywood’s Bleeding is a song that is about love and the glamorous lifestyle of Hollywood is being used as a metaphor throughout the entire song. The song, On the Road sings about how Post Malone won’t fold under the pressures of people criticizing him and also about how people are trying to be his friend or be around him to try and take credit for his success. It’s basically a track telling everybody who is trying to take what he has. The song, Take What You Want has two guest artists joining Post Malone. Those two artists are, Travis Scott and Ozzy Osbourne.

It’s absolutely mind blowing that Post could get both of these artists on the same track. This song is overall the most exciting, entertaining and the most completely different vibe than what we were all expecting. This track definitely deserves a Grammy, if not more tracks on this album. Finally, the song, I’m Gonna Be is about how Post is becoming and being what he wants to be. Despite people trying to make him something else by criticizing his every move, he is standing tall and never looking back on that.

I think overall, this album definitely sets the standard for any other album coming out in 2019. Other artists most definitely have something of a competition if they want to beat Post Malone’s “Hollywood’s Bleeding” at the Grammy’s.

Fall Preview for Upcoming Netflix Shows

Aubrey Wattier
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Netflix is known nowadays as a common staple in almost every household. The relatively affordable streaming service has been around for a while, but has only caught traction in recent years, in large part with college students who have extra time on their hands over the weekend or in between classes. An aspect of Netflix that has been garnering attention, not only with the general population but the media as well, has been Netflix: Originals. These are productions put on by Netflix; all original shows with great storylines and interesting characters, no matter the genre.

As the weekends draw on it can be hard to find new tv series or movies to get interested in. Luckily, Netflix keeps its users sustained with monthly (and sometimes in the case of a series, even weekly) updates with new shows to binge-watch in bed for hours on end. The tv series that has just been released as of Friday, September 13, is “Marianne”. A French-language horror story in which a woman’s novels, based on her horrific past, are starting to come to life as she is dragged back to her hometown to figure out what is happening and if she can stop it. A definite must for any horror-buff that enjoys a good suspense, some supernatural, and a mind-bending plot.

Another must-see of the season is “Seis Manos”, or Six Hands, Netflix’s first ever anime original series set in Mexico. The series was produced in part by VIZ Media LLC and Powerhouse Animation Inc., and will be released on October 3. The storyline revolves around three orphans who have taken up martial arts, and from what the trailer has to offer it looks as if the group of orphans are up to their heads in demonic possession. Another interesting series that is sure to blow up once it releases on the streaming platform.

One of the more long-awaited seasons to come to Netflix has been the famously watched, “American Horror Story: Apocalypse.” The tv series has long since finished airing on its regular channel, but has delayed coming to Netflix. The release date for it is sooner than you’d think, premiering on Tuesday, September 24. Just as the title of the FX show states, Apocalypse (being the 8th installment in the series) centers around a nuclear blast decimating the entirety of humanity, leaving the scraps of who is (or what’s) left to put everything back together.

Another fan-favorite being Riverdale, season 4 releasing on Thursday, October 10. The first episode will be bittersweet, following the passing of one of the main characters, Luke Perry as Fred Andrews, the father of Archie, the leading man of the series. The season has been met with excitement, following the quick look into the future of the group of melodramatic teenagers burning what looks to be bloodied clothing. Either way, it is sure to be a rollercoaster of emotions as the characters work their way around the new season.

We all know Netflix is known for its wide variety of genres, including but not limited to: Horror, romance, anime, thriller, comedy, and more. In the coming months there are a wide variety of shows to keep even the least work-loaded student interested for hours on end. The shows listed here are some of the most anticipated, but there are definitely more hidden gems to find - and binge - so get to streaming!
Is Disney+ the New Netflix?

Maricela Magaña
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If you’re a Disney fan like me then you will love what Disney is releasing on November 12, 2019. Just for $7 a month you can watch all the Disney movies you want and more. Recently Disney has slowly been taking all their movies off of Netflix and has released posts on their social medias stating that they are going to stream their own video service. Disney+ will have all your Disney favorites, from the classics to the newest editions Disney has to offer. It plans on offering high-profile exclusive content and nearly every movie in Disney’s expansion library, including a great quantity of hard-to-find animated features.

Disney+ didn’t forget about the Star Wars fans either. They plan on streaming the live-action Star Wars series The Mandalorian, which will follow up after the events of the original Star Wars trilogy. The first season of The Mandalorian will be eight episodes long, and a second season is in the making. A new season of the award-winning Star Wars: The Clone Wars animated series will debut on Disney+ in February 2020. On the Marvel front, Disney+ will include at least seven live-action series connected to the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Some of these will include Falcon and the Winter Soldier, Doctor Strange and the Multiverse of Madness, and Hawkeye.

An animated series called What If? will dive into what would have happened if certain events during the MCU had happened differently. What If? will run for 23 episodes and each episode will be focused on one MCU film so far. Some other original Disney+ series include Muppets Now, which will be a short unscripted series, and Monster at Work, a cartoon based on Pixar’s Monsters, Inc franchise, a Toy Story 4 spin-off called Forky Asks a Question, and last but not least a Hannah Montana revival. Disney+ will have a collection of their previous existing content. This will include new Disney movies like Toy Story 4, Frozen 2, and the live-action remake of The Lion King. By December 11, Disney will have the conclusion to the Marvel’s Infinity Saga, Avengers: Endgame.

Disney+ is issued to have over 7,000 episodes of television series and 400 to 500 movies. But compared to Netflix that’s not a lot. According to a study presented by the Ampere Analysis, the Disney+ television show totals only 16% of what Netflix has to offer. Netflix’s movie library is 8 times bigger then what Disney+’s library has to offer. But before long Disney+ will be the only place where you can find some of their biggest franchise, making it a must-have for fans that enjoy Star Wars, Marvel, the Disney Channel, or even just Disney’s classic animated features.

Spiderman’s Not Feeling So Well Right Now

Steven Allgood
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Disney has really backed themselves into a corner for being greedy and petty. They had backed out of their agreement with Sony over the terms of a favorite character: Spiderman. With no deal, Disney will have to write out the character just as he was becoming more intertwined with the universe by gaining the trust of Tony Stark and Nick Fury. That, and he had so much potential as being one of the few leading Avengers. Well, there seems to be no evidence that there will be an agreement, so the writers have their work cut out for themselves.

Originally, according to Eliana Dockterman from Time, in the article “What the Future of the Marvel Cinematic Universe Looks Like Without Spider Man,” the two companies came to a “landmark deal to share the rights to Spider-Man after Sony’s two Amazing Spider-Man movies starring Andrew Garfield met with disappointing results in 2012 and 2014.” Those movies are not bad by any account, the second one just had elements from Spider Man’s more tragic timelines and a disappointing ending. The second movie also tried to hint at possible sequels with the Sinister Six easter eggs. If the film had done well, there might not be a Spider Man played by Tom Holland at all.

Now after all this success, Disney started to become greedy and now negotiations are closed at the moment and, “it has been decided that Marvel Studio head Kevin Feige will no longer produce the Spider-Man solo films — which strongly suggests that Marvel studios won’t be involved in the movies at all. In that case, Sony will take back Peter Parker and Marvel Studios will no longer be able to use the webslinger in ensemble films,” as stated in Time.

Now there are several obstacles that the writers at Disney need to consider. Who will lead the Avengers now? How will they write out this character without just killing them off? As a fan of the franchise and what has been presented so far, it will be the biggest disappointment that the writers just have Spider Man die off camera, or sent on some mission and is never heard from again. That is the laziest approach that Disney could take. There is a lot that could go wrong if Disney just ignores this issue. Then again, even if Disney is not even trying, the writing is mediocre at worst, so most likely the movie will get a lukewarm response when examining the film as a whole.

While every fan will be outraged, pan the movie, and label it “the movie that removed Spider Man is removed from the Marvel Cinematic Universe.” Despite the tragedy, Sony does have the opportunity for greatness since the movie Venom was well received financially, there is a possibility that there will be a Sinister Six vs Spiderman movie. There could even be a movie of each Sinister Six member against Spiderman, if done well this could be quite lucrative to Sony. There might be another Venom movie to introduce the relationship with Venom and Spider Man since Sony already have a Venom origin story without any mention of Peter Parker or Spider Man.

Sony needs to tread lightly when approaching this because it will be the second time Sony has rebooted the character. Disney should back down and realize that they are throwing a great investment right out the window. Regardless, I plan to the next Spider Man movie when it is released.
Anonymous Letter to the PSC Campus

Anonymous
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I’m wary to write this article, mostly because it pertains to such a serious topic. Suicide isn’t something the general population talks about often, let alone willingly seeks to read more about. It’s a subject that tends to clear a room rather quickly, and for that, I commend our campus for being able to talk about it. Rarely do I ever see someone dare not only to talk about this sensitive topic, but do so with a large audience. I am genuinely proud of our school for daring to step up to the plate, such as they’ve done with the signs they’ve plastered all over campus.

That being said... I would strongly recommend not doing it again. At least, not in the way that they currently exist.

As someone who is experiencing an almost hilariously long run of depression, these signs felt far from helpful. If anything, they succeeded in making me more aware of my ever deteriorating mental state, and not in a healthy way.

To better explain, those of us struggling with depression might describe our emotional wellbeing as being balanced precariously on the edge of a knife. We might be okay, even better than okay some days, but all it takes is the tiniest suggestion to send our mood spiraling. For me, these signs were that suggestion.

I would be having one of my rare good days, head outside to walk from one building to another, and see a sign that says something along the lines of, “Of everyone to attempt suicide, men are twice as likely to complete.” Nothing says hold onto hope quite like that, does it? These signs made my stomach twist, reminding me not just of how unhappy I’ve been, but how low some of my loved ones have been too. I’ve always considered my walks around campus to be a safe space—one of the rare occasions I actually go outside and enjoy some fresh air. Unfortunately, this wasn’t the case when these signs littered campus. With them, every message sent a pang of anxiety through my chest. I started to dread the little time I was actually forced to go outside. There just wasn’t any such thing as a “good day” on campus. All there was, was an “okay” one. It wasn’t just me either. Several of my friends have admitted to feeling the same way, which was conflictingly comforting and upsetting all at once.

It would have been another thing entirely if these signs contained more positive messages. Maybe reminders to “Reach out to a friend” or “Take some deep breaths”. Signs like these would have shown campus wide support and raise suicide awareness without the discouraging messages that could potentially trigger a major depressive episode in someone, or possibly even something much worse.

I hope this letter doesn’t discourage the efforts Peru State College has made in the fight against suicide. If anything, I hope it inspires Peru to continue the fight, just as it was trying to inspire us. I would love to see this push for suicide awareness return sometime soon. Even if it didn’t have the desired effect on everyone, it is at least a comfort to know we have a school that makes the subject such a priority. Perhaps next year, we can all look forward to seeing less daunting statistics from online and more concerned messages from our friends here on campus.

Letter from the New Times Editor-in-Chief

Marivelle Magaña
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Congratulations on deciding to pick up the first issue of the 2019-2020 Peru State Times! You’re already a rock star in my book.

For those of you who have had the misfortune of never meeting me, I am currently a senior English/Language Arts major here at PSC. This is my fourth and sadly, final, year at the Times, where I have worked as a contributing writer, assistant editor, and now as the Editor-in-Chief. You may have seen my head peeking out from behind a camera at previous CAB events or maybe you’ve called Residence Life before and heard my cheery work voice behind the phone (That joke was for you, Amy).

I inherited this position from Ash Peiman, one of the most brilliant people I will ever have the pleasure of knowing and working with. I know that in ten years I’m going to be watching the news and see that Ash has won a Nobel Prize in Literature or a Pulitzer Prize. I also have the pleasure of working alongside Dr. Kristi Nies, our faculty advisor and the wonderful woman who gave me this opportunity.

As for what my plans are for this newspaper this year, I would like to continue where Ash left off. I want to carry on with bringing forth controversial topics and introducing heavier topics to our readers.

If college is the place where we go to prepare for the real adult world, then I want to actually prepare students for issues that exist in the real world. We are here to be educated and that includes educating the people of PSC about the real world around them, not just the bubble that they happen to live in, but also the parts of the world that people choose to pass them by or willfully ignore.

That doesn’t mean that the Times will no longer publish light-hearted stories about new faculty and what the latest celebrity gossip is. I’m still a 21-year-old college student who wants to know what new shows are coming out on Netflix, much like a good portion of the population here does. I also plan to continue having a page dedicated to the Arts, alongside the Athletics page, pushing to showcase even more of the dedicated students who are a part of this campus.

The Times is always looking for more members, so if you like writing, working with InDesign, or just want a job that pays, contact the Times at perustatetimes@gmail.com. If you have an idea for possible future articles, please feel free to catch me around campus or email me at the email listed above. To end my letter I would like to extend a thank you to every member of the Times staff who helped create this issue and a huge thank you to Dr. Nies. I also would like to extend my gratitude to everyone who decided to pick this issue up and support the hard work the Times staff put into this paper. We really appreciate it.

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