One Stop Office Offers Students A Simpler Solution

Aliyah Telpner
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

College can be a pretty daunting experience for some people. Or, it can at least seem that way when students first arrive, and they have so many questions but have no idea who to talk to or where to find the answers.

Some of the biggest questions freshman and other incoming students have when they arrive on campus have to do with student account information, making payments, signing up for a payment plan or receiving financial aid, and issues with dropping and adding classes. There are a million other questions that have been asked as well, those are just to name a few.

It becomes difficult for students to ask these questions when it seems like they are running all over campus to do so, especially when they do not know where all the offices are at, or what services each office offers.

For others, they know exactly where to go, but they are too lazy to make a stop in more than one place. The main places for students to go to are the Business Office, the Financial Aid Office, and the Student Records Office. While these offices used to be all in the same building, students would still have to run back and forth between rooms and could potentially have to talk to many different people.

When this happens, it is easy for information to become jumbled or misinterpreted. It would be so much easier if these offices were combined into one, and students only had one place to visit to get the answers they need.

Now they can, thanks to the new One Stop office that just opened on January 2. According to Dr. Timothy Borchers, Vice President for Academic Affairs, the One Stop office was created to help better serve students. Dr. Borchers explained that by having one office on campus that can address multiple student issues, the college hopes to more quickly answer questions and help students progress towards graduation.

The One Stop office is located on the second floor of the CATS building. If a student cannot make it into the office one day but has an important question they need to ask, they can email onestop@peru.edu. The office is a combination of the Business Office, Financial Aid Office, and the Student Records Office. The office aides are Katrina Delezene and Courtney Tanner.

If a student has a question about financial aid, they can ask Winkelhake, the Financial Aid Technician in the office. She can be contacted at twinkelhake@peru.edu. Financial Aid services include: answering questions about the FAFSA, reminding students to complete the FAFSA, report status of financial aid and/or disbursements, answer questions about verification, help with the process of accepting scholarships and other financial aid, collect “thank you” letters for scholarships, accept financial aid forms, answer questions about financial aid warnings and suspensions, and assist with student loans and loan status.

Lastly, if a student has a question about student records, they can ask Hicks, the Academic Advisor in the office, or email her at shicks@peru.edu. Student records services include assistance with dropping or adding classes, helping with change of name requests, process change of address requests, assists with requests to withdraw from the college, assist with completion of student record forms. These forms include change of major, graduation application, the release of information, and course reinstatement. Students can also find answers to general questions related to academic holds and registration.

The opening of the One Stop office is a very exciting thing for this campus. Not only is it in one place, which eliminates running around, but it will potentially give students more confidence when asking questions. Knowing that there is one office where almost any question can be answered will eliminate the stress and/or embarrassment of showing up at the wrong place with the wrong question. Hopefully, over the course of the semester and the years to come, students will find answers to their questions much faster and feel better about starting or completing their college experience.
Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 29, 2020</td>
<td>Intramural Bowling Registration Closes</td>
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<td>January 29, 2020</td>
<td>Bobcats On the Road: Ice Skating &amp; Indoor Rock Climbing</td>
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<td>January 31, 2020</td>
<td>Mahoney State Park Ice Skating and Activity Center</td>
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<td>February 03, 2020</td>
<td>Home JV WBB vs. Metropolitan CC (Onesie Night)</td>
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<td>Hot Chocolate Bar</td>
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<td>Home JV WBB vs. Graceland University (Outer Space/Alien Night)</td>
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<td>Home V MBB vs. Evangel University Annual Chili Feed</td>
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Marivelle Magaña
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

While it is usually new members of Peru State College's faculty and staff that receive a large amount of the spotlight each year, this can sometimes cast a slight shadow on other members of PSC's campus who are also deserving of recognition. This is especially true of Peru State's own Amy Oestmann, a staff member that has spent the last eight years working diligently to make this college feel as much of a home as possible to everyone who steps foot on this campus.

Oestmann initially began her career at Peru State working for Student Records in 2012. She credited the exciting and lively college atmosphere as one of the reasons that she was drawn to the Peru campus, leading her to spend four years working alongside other members of the Student Records team. “Records taught me a lot about how the college operates in terms of academic policies and procedures, a student’s path to graduation, major changes, transcripts, diplomas, commencement, VA benefits, and more! It was a great team to be a part of,” explained Oestmann.

It would not be until the summer of 2016 that Oestmann would receive the opportunity to move to the Office of Residence Life in the role of Project Coordinator. The position change allowed Oestmann to support students and the college in a new, rewarding way. Serving as support to the Student Life Department, Oestmann also assists the Director of Residence Life as needed.

As Project Coordinator of Residence Life, Oestmann has many responsibilities tied to her position, ranging from processing paperwork related to residence hall programming to collaborating with various departments for campus activities. Her primary focus, however, is to assist with anything related to campus housing. This includes, but is not limited to, providing RA support, helping with student orientation in relation to on-campus living, and managing student office staff within Residence Life.

Despite the large number of duties that her position embodies, Oestmann has throughout the years continued to do her best to be helpful to the PSC campus, greeting those who step over the threshold of Residence Life with a smile and open arms. For a number of students on the PSC campus, and even former Bobcats, Oestmann’s unwavering kindness has led her to be considered by many as their mother away from home.

Oestmann noted that her favorite part of working at Residence Life is the opportunity that the position allows her to connect and interact with Peru State students. She also stated that she could relate to the difficult transition that students and their families may go through while attempting to adapt to college life.

“College can be a hard transition for families as well as the students themselves. I can definitely relate to the parents that are touring the first time, bringing their kids in for Freshman Orientation, or moving them in for New Student Weekend. I’ve been there! It can be stressful, but so exciting, too!”

Outside of her work for the college, Oestmann also enjoys an array of hobbies. Oestmann noted that her daughters reaching adulthood had led to her finding new, fun ways to fill her time when she is not working. “Empty nest is new to me! It’s becoming increasingly more apparent that I need more hobbies,” said Oestmann. “I love to ‘play’ in my flower beds. I look forward to April and love summer... and eating out, traveling, and spending time with my hubs and kids.”

To contact Amy Oestmann, email reslife@peru.edu or call Residence Life at (402) 872-2246. She can also be reached during Residence Life’s office hours Monday-Friday.

PSC holds Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Brunch

Peru State College celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 20. As part of a new policy, classes were postponed to better focus on activities and events dedicated to the principles of unity and equal rights.

A Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Brunch was held on Monday, January 20, to celebrate the life of Dr. King and his vision of equal rights for all. The event hosted presentations and performances by Peru State students as well as a performance by the Hoyt Street Jazz Ensemble.

Crystal Hutson, Director of Student Activities and Programs, said: “It was so exciting to see so many faculty, staff and students at the first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Brunch. I was very proud of all of our student performers and the other students that helped make this event possible.”

Kortnie Sheppard and Jalen Tate gave a historic presentation on behalf of the Black Student Union. Sheppard is the president of BSU and is a senior from York, Neb. Tate is a junior from Omaha, Neb.

Rontonyo Hubbard sang “Lean on Me.” Hubbard is a sophomore from St. Louis, Mo.

In addition to organizing the luncheon and other activities through the week, Hutson sang “Live Every Voice and Sing” by James Weldon Johnson.

A showing of the documentary, “I am MLK, Jr.,” was held later that evening.

Rontonyo Hubbard. Image courtesy of Peru State Marketing

Justin Neyland read a poem of his own composition, “Invest.” Neyland is a senior from Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Article is courtesy of Peru State Marketing
New Year, New Problems

Marivelle Magaña
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It seems that although the new year and new decade gave barely just begun, the world has already gotten off to a rough start. This may be a new year, but it is certainly not without its share of new problems. Welcome to the not-so Roaring Twenties. For only the third time in United States history, the House of Representatives has voted to impeach a sitting president. After much debate within the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, President Donald Trump was impeached. Trump is currently facing two articles of impeachment, including abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. These allegations primarily come from House Democrats who state that Trump abused his presidential power by pressuring Ukraine to investigate into former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter Biden, the former of which is currently running in the 2020 Presidential election, while he withheld almost $400 million in aid. Trump's second article of impeachment focuses on his obstruction of Congress, in relation to his refusal to release any documents related to his former actions.

Impeachment proceedings have already begun, as Democrats presented their closing arguments on Friday, January 24, after laying out their argument over 24 hours spread throughout three days. The following day, Trump's defense team will have their own 24 hours to present their argument with the Senate convening Saturday and resting Sunday. After both sides have provided their arguments, questions will be submitted by senators of each party to Chief Justice John Roberts, who is overseeing the impeachment trial.

Amid the impeachment proceedings, is the ongoing conflict that has emerged between the United States and Iran. On January 3, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a drone strike assassination of one of Iran’s most prominent military generals, Qasem Soleimani. The reasoning behind the assassination of Soleimani can be connected to reports detailing that Soleimani was planning a series of future attacks on American facilities that are spread throughout parts of the Middle East. This move ordered by President Trump opens the door for possible retaliation from Iran, such as the ballistic missiles that were fired at Iraqi military facilities housing US troops, only a few days after the death of Soleimani. So, what does this mean for the United States? Well, for many Americans this means making a wide array of WWII jokes and memes, keeping with Americans’ inclination to hide behind humor when faced with the country's ongoing dilemmas. While these jokes may be seen as a harmless way to avoid the elephant in the room, they may also hit closer to home than people care to realize, as America’s conflict with Iran is only predicted to grow even more strained.

On the other side of the world, Australia has been going through its own inferno. While Australia typically goes through a fire season every summer thanks to the growing heat and dry weather helping smaller flames grow into full-on fires across the country, these past few months have seemed to bring forth the fiery gates of hell to Australia. The fires initially started in October 2019, as lightning struck down dry trees on the Gospers Mountain, igniting a fire that has now led to several other fires that have now run rampant throughout the country. Amid the growing concerns against climate change, many people have placed the blame of the Australian fires on the ongoing droughts and rising temperatures, factors that have poured even more fuel on the fight against climate change in Australia. In the few months that these fires have managed to burn, they have left a growing trail of destruction in their wake, with seemingly very little hope of ending anytime soon. According to The New York Times, the fires have destroyed 16 million acres in New South Wales and Victoria alone, roughly the size of Virginia, and this does not include the millions of other acres that have also been through destruction. The tragedy that has blazed through Australia has also left a large number of animals struggling to survive without their natural habitats and the death toll of these animals ranging anywhere from millions to a billion. For those interested in donating to organizations that are focused on helping those impacted by the Australian fires, there are multiple associations that can be found all throughout major social media sites and online.

As the first month of the new year comes to an end, it brings forth the question as to how the following months will treat mankind. Only time will tell if this new decade will be one that goes down in history for the right reasons.

Note: As this article was written during the beginning of the impeachment trial, there may be new information regarding the trial that will not be able to be included before this issue goes to print.
How Will the Marvel Cinematic Universe Continue to Expand?

Sam Knihal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Marvel movies can be quite hard to predict when it comes to figuring out what might be next to happen in the universe, especially since there is going to be a lot more Marvel content coming out with the new Disney+ streaming service adding Marvel Cinematic Universe related content like WandaVision and Falcon and the Winter Soldier. For once, the MCU will actually acknowledge its TV shows, and that is interesting because there were so many before now that haven’t gotten acknowledged, like Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. and the Netflix shows. There are a lot of things in the Marvel Cinematic Universe that it appears to be setting up from the comics.

One of the most likely things the MCU is attempting to set up is a Young Avengers team. In the comics, this was a team of teenagers who had connections to the original Avengers. This is likely because the MCU already aged up Cassie Lang, Scott’s daughter in Avengers: Endgame, and made a point to bring back Harley Keener, the kid from Iron Man 3 at the end of Endgame as well. WandaVision also seems to support this given that it appears to be setting up the Scarlet Witch and Vision’s twin sons from the comics as well, given that it appears to be a sort of parody of those old 1950s shows like Leave it to Beaver or the Andy Griffiths Show. It means that we would also be getting canon LGBT representation from Marvel in the form of Billy, one of the Scarlet Witch’s sons who is canonically gay and in a relationship with another member of the Young Avengers. Hawkeye will also introduce a key Young Avengers character in the form of Kate Bishop, the female Hawkeye.

This is also a possible way for them to bring in the X-Men that Disney recently bought from Fox, given that there is also comics precedent for this, although, in reverse, given in the comics, Scarlet Witch brought her kids to life through magic, and then stripped many mutants of their powers. Here though, it seems like they would probably use it bring in characters who were previously never mentioned or even acknowledged in-universe because at the time they didn’t have the rights to do that. This would be a great way to make it so that it does not just seem like these characters were a last-minute addition, even though in a way they kind of are.

It has also been hinted that they might be introducing the Thunderbolts into the MCU, which is sort of Marvel’s version of the Suicide Squad. It seems very possible given that Marvel is supposed to feature Baron Zemo, a character who was on the original Thunderbolts team in the comics, seems pretty possible, though there is less evidence to conclude that this is a sure thing, if it is something they do in the future, it would be interesting to see.

There are also other things that are supposed to be in the MCU that so far are going to be interesting to see. They announced a Blade reboot that will now be in the MCU. That ought to be interesting given that it will be one of the first times we are likely to see supernatural creatures in the MCU. She-Hulk will be interesting because at the moment it seemed as if the Netflix shows are unlikely to be considered canon now, which means that this will be the first time we see a canon law shown in the MCU, and Ms. Marvel will be one of the first times we see a Muslim superhero in the MCU. Shang-Chi similarly will also introduce a mostly Asian cast.

There is a lot to look forward to in the MCU in terms of both diverse characters and new teams now that the main cast of the Avengers is mostly done, which means that there are new characters to be introduced. It will be interesting to see what else happens with these new teams and characters that they are introducing and, if done well, these may lead to other new characters being introduced. No matter what, it will be interesting to see what the future holds for Marvel.

Should People Care More About What They Post on Social Media?

Aliyah Telpner  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It is now 2020, and I think it is safe to say that in the past decade leading up to this year, social media has taken over. Everyone has some form of social media, and if you do not, then you are a recluse. Maybe saying recluse is a bit of an exaggeration, but it is to prove just how prominent social media has become to today’s society. Whether it is Facebook (which some might say is on its deathbed), Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, or TikTok being the new one that everyone is talking about, etc., chances are you use at least one of these apps every day, I know I do.

Something that I have noticed from using social media every day is the extremely wide variety of content that is shared, or not shared. I follow people who have not posted in two years (who then I promptly unfollow since I am not receiving any content), and I follow people who post by the hour (which, again, I will most likely unfollow that person because that tends to be too much).

This may not be as big of an issue with those who hardly post anything on social media, but for those avid users, oversharing can easily occur. This where problems start to arise.

People need to be more careful about what they are putting on social media. Not only do family and friends use it and can see what you post, but teachers/professors, employers, future employers, coworkers, etc., can view the content that is put out there, and if that content is not very appropriate and professional, that can be very damaging to one’s career or reputation, quite possibly both. Privacy settings can only go so far.

Take celebrities for example, and I mean a HUGE example. There have been countless amounts of celebrities, influencers, politicians, and others who may have a large following, that have completely embarrassed themselves in front of that audience with one simple tweet. That’s all it takes. A post that took a couple of minutes to form could ruin an entire lifetime.

Here is what I think needs to happen: do not post anything disrespectful. It is that simple. If you are about to post is degrading towards someone/a group of people’s beliefs, values, whatever, do not post it. Posting about your own beliefs is absolutely fine (if anyone disagrees then they can unfollow and/or block), but as soon as your words turn into harsh targeting, you should probably reconsider the post. They are plenty of other ways to speak your opinions without being rude.

Along with not being disrespectful, I think it is best to refrain from sharing/posting anything inappropriate. Again, privacy settings can only go so far. I think it is safer not to risk having someone see what you do not want them to see, and just keep your social media clean. In the end, however, it is always going to come down to how people choose to run their own accounts.
Remembering My Childhood: A Haze of Childish Abandon

Aubrey Wattier
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I grew up on the end of my driveway. Digging dusty tracks into the white rock with my bike, and chasing my younger sisters through muddy culverts. I spent my evenings nestled into the swaying grasses on the hillside, staring at a far-reaching horizon that I wished I could cross to someday, and my nights amongst rippling fireflies and hollowed-out logs, shooting imaginary lightning bolts at my neighbors, who shot equally painful imaginary Nerf bullets back. My life ended at the edge of the road - the edge of my life, with an even louder voice urging me to see what was out there. I hadn't yet learned the difference between the gas pedal or the brake, or the price of milk by the gallon, but I knew with a certain conviction in my chest the unspoken rules of growing up in the country.

As I grew older, my calloused hands pressed against my window, looking up, up, up. Wishing I could dip my hands into the sparkling indistinct and stir until it all blended together. My home was a secret slice of an eternal garden, always in bloom and always ripe with new memories to make. Whether I was relaxing on the deck, listening to the serene sounds of the country or laughing with friends around a crackling bonfire, I knew I'd always have a place waiting for me at home.

Running around barefoot, I was unaware that my feet had turned purple along with my hands; stained with mulberry juice. Endless summer days merging into each other, only separated by brief flashes of night. I spent most of them with hands

What I Hope to Accomplish Within the Next Decade

Hannah Grell
ASSISTANT EDITOR

With the new year, a new decade has begun. I have seen many predictions on how the year 2020 and the whole decade will go. Many sources have determined that this decade will be the roaring twenties of the century. A small portion of the population strongly believes that this decade will be the end of the good times. War and the natural apocalypse are just beyond the horizon. I have some predictions about the following decade as well. The majority of my predictions may not come true, but that is the nature of the beast.

I am currently pursuing a Pre-Nursing degree. I hope that after the next two years at Peru State College, I will graduate and be able to enroll at a nursing school. I am eager to try enrolling at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). UNMC will hopefully consume at least another four years of the 2020s. After graduating from UNMC, I will hopefully begin my nursing degree at a reputable hospital. I would love to work at an out of state hospital, but working a few years in Nebraska will not hurt anything. After two or three years of general nursing experience, I am planning to transfer to a more specialized area of nursing. I want to either become a S.A.N.E. Nurse or a Forensic Nurse. Hopefully, I will spend the rest of the decade doing my dream job and living life to the fullest.

I wish a lot of things will happen this decade. Unfortunately, a lot of my wishes are simply hopeful dreams. There is no way that they can become a reality in the social and political climate of today's society. I wish that the American political parties would get off their high horses and address pertinent issues. Each party likes the sound of their own voices a little too much. I also wish that society continues to find greener and more sustainable ways to coexist with the environment. The 2019 movement against ocean plastic really made me optimistic about the future of our planet.

I hope that the dispute between different belief systems and different cultural standards are resolved. People just love to antagonize things that are different. I want equality for all minorities and majorities. It is too easy to judge a person based on their inherited traits and social standing. I do not want a watered-down version of communism. I just want a world where people do not fear for their safety because of their religious beliefs, race, orientation, appearance, etc. In addition, I would like for the continuation of mental illness awareness programs. Mental illness affects millions of people, yet a good portion of the population does not consider them important enough to properly address.

Now on a more silly note, I wish with all my heart that Tony Stark and Loki did not die in Infinity Wars. They were precious gifts to the Marvel Cinematic Universe and were taken way too soon. Their deaths almost left me in tears. The MCU will never be the same without the genius, multi-billionaire, playboy, philanthropist, and the little, emo sorcerer.
## Remember to Make a February 2020

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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<td><strong>1st day of Black History Month Begins</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Groundhog Day</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mid-term Term I classes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Super Bowl Sunday</strong></td>
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<td>24-Hour Theatre sponsored by PTC @ 8:30 P.M. in the PAC</td>
<td>Hot Chocolate Bar sponsored by CAB @ 10:30 A.M. in the Dining Hall</td>
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<td><strong>Valentine's Day</strong></td>
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<td><strong>First day to withdraw from Term I classes with a “W”</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Reason I'm Here” @ AV Larson Art Gallery</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Graduate School Exploration @ 3:30 P.M. in CATS 201</strong></td>
<td>Free STD Testing @ 3:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M. in AWAC Health Center</td>
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<td><strong>Valentine's Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Last day to withdraw from Term I classes with a “W”</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Music Scholarship Auditions @ Peru State College Jindra Fine Arts Benford Recital Hall</strong></td>
<td>Open Mic Night sponsored by BSU @ 9 P.M. in the Dining Hall</td>
<td><strong>Bowling Night @8:00 P.M. in Neb. City</strong></td>
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<td><strong>History Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bobcats on the Road: Negro Baseball Museum &amp; Jazz Museum @ 12 P.M.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Registration for Summer Semester 2020 opens</strong></td>
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*Image courtesy of Wallpaper Cave*
Note of These Dates

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Image courtesy of Multiview

Upcoming PSC Basketball Games

- **February 04, 2020**
  7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
  Home JV WBB vs. Metropolitan CC (Onesie Night) AWAC

- **February 07, 2020**
  7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
  Home JV WBB vs. Graceland University (Outer Space/Alien Night) AWAC

- **February 08, 2020**
  2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
  Home V WBB vs. Evangel University Annual Chili Feed (Vintage PSC Gear Night) AWAC

- **February 08, 2020**
  4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
  Home V MBB vs. Evangel University Annual Chili Feed (Vintage PSC Gear Night) AWAC

- **February 12, 2020**
  5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.
  Home V WBB vs. Grand View University (Pink Out) AWAC

Image courtesy of PNGJOY
Student-Athletes Complete More Than 2000 Hours of Community Service

Last year, an all-time record of more than 3,800 hours of community service was set by the Peru State athletic department. If the fall service record is any indication, the Bobcats will top that mark during the 2019-20 year.

As members of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), Peru State is a strong believer in the NAIA’s Champions of Character (COC) program. One of the tenets of the COC is servant leadership which has as part of its definition of developing a sense of community and to serve the common good.

As of the start of the 2020 calendar year, the Bobcat student-athletes and staff have documented over 2,051 hours. It is believed more hours have been completed, but this total has been committed to paper.

Athletic director and head baseball coach Wayne Albury was pleased to learn of the fall numbers. Albury stated, “To think about topping the record number of community service hours from last year was almost unfathomable as the department completed almost 1,000 more than its previous best.” Continuing, Albury added, “I am very proud of all of our programs and their respective staff members for providing a balance of athletic work, academic work, and service for the common good.”

The football team leads the way in terms of total hours with 602.5 while the baseball team has averaged approximately ten hours per person with 572 total hours noted.


The largest amount of hours attributed to the football team come from their annual work of helping move in new students to the residence halls in August. Doing the biggest variety of different activities were members of the women’s basketball team. They had an active part in homecoming and later assisted with the Peru Trunk or Treat. Following one of their Sunday afternoon practices, the team assisted College staff members put up flags for the Veteran’s Day program.

For several years, the volleyball team has provided different events for Good Sam and Long’s Creek residents in Auburn. This year, they did manicures at Good Sam and took Long’s Creek residents bowling.

Almost all members of the Bobcat softball team participated in the Peru Trunk-or-Treat and later assisted the College’s campus services department to decorate the campus for the winter holidays.

Every team was represented at the College’s annual Glow Walk which focuses on mental health awareness. It is held each October.

Staff members also do their fair share of servant leadership outside of their own team’s activities. The service ranges from helping build/rehab homes in Omaha for the Habitat for Humanity to coaching youth volleyball or serving as a member of Peru’s fire department and EMS squad. Others provide service through their churches or through serving on a volunteer basis on local, state, and/or national boards.

Peru Association of Student Athletes president Ally Hazen (North Platte) was also happy with the fall numbers. Hazen commented, “This documentation truly does show that our athletic programs are true participants in the Champions of Character program. Not only do we do our part of servant leadership, we do so through the core value of responsibility which is embracing the opportunities to contribute.”

Bobcat 2020 Baseball Schedule Announced

As they open series play in less than two weeks away, Peru State is announcing its 2020 baseball schedule.

With the November release of the Heart of America Athletic Conference (Heart) preseason rankings, Peru State finds themselves out of the top six. The top six teams predicted to finish first to sixth in the Heart in 2020 are 1st – Central Methodist (Mo.), 2nd – Baker (Kan.), 3rd – Clarke (Iowa), 4th – William Penn (Iowa), 5th – Benedictine (Kan.), and 6th – Mount Mercy (Iowa).

The Bobcats’ first games of the 2020 season will be on the road when they travel to Wichita, Kan., to take on Friends on Jan 31 at 2 p.m. and then on Feb. 1 they play Friends University in a double header at noon & 2 p.m.

The following week the Cats’ will head down to Kansas City, Mo. on Feb. 8 and 9 to play Avila in doubleheaders both days beginning at 1 p.m. The following weekend, the Bobcats head down to Plainview, Texas, to play a four-game series against Wayland Baptist on Feb. 14 and Feb. 15 (1 & 3 p.m.). The weekend after, Peru State will travel back down south to Batesville, Okla., for another four-game series against #13 Oklahoma Wesleyan University on Feb. 21 and 22 (1 & 3 p.m.).

On Feb. 29 the Bobcats’ will finally being playing in front of a home crowd when they take on Missouri Valley (1 & 3 p.m.) in a double header for the first conference game of the season.

Two days later the Cats’ are back on the road to Fayette, Mo., for a big road test against the preseason favorite in the conference #20 Central Methodist University (1 & 3 p.m.). Then, the Bobcats travel to Lamoni, Iowa, for a three-game series against conference foe Graceland.

The Bobcats will get to stay home for three straight home dates. The first two days are versus conference foe Grand View on Mar. 14 and 15. The ‘Cats will then host non-conference opponent Briar Cliff (Iowa) on Mar. 17.

Senior Day is planned for Saturday, April 18, at 1 p.m. when Clarke (Iowa) comes to town to play at the Centennial Complex. The Pride are projected to finish third in the conference this year.

That same day, the College’s Foundation will be hosting its annual baseball reunion. More details will come for the reunion later in the spring.

A new format is being used by the conference in terms of regular-season play. For the teams in their respective division, on the first day, the games will be 7 and 9 innings. On the second day, the teams will be playing nine innings. For cross division play, it will be a double header of seven innings each game.

The Heart post-season tournament will feature the top five teams from each division. The tournament will begin on April 30 with the bottom four seeds playing in the first round in a single elimination format. The top eight teams will play in a double elimination tournament at US Baseball Park in Ozark, Mo.
Wildcat Buzzer-Beater Downs Peru State MBB

After trailing almost the entire game, the Peru State men’s basketball team had put themselves in front by one point with 17 seconds to go. Then, with just five seconds to go the Bobcats blocked a shot which landed in the hands of a Culver-Stockton (C-SC) player who put it up and in as the time expired. After about a five-minute review by the officials, the home-standing Wildcats prevailed 69-68 as the basket was ruled good.

With the win, Culver-Stockton improved to 4-14 on the year and 3-11 in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (Heart). The Bobcats dropped below .500 overall at 9-10, but more important, are still at 8-6 in conference action.

First Half Action
Isaac Simpson (Papillion) scored the first points of the game to give Peru State its only lead until the contest was almost over. C-SC would hit a trey to lead 3-2 before Kendrick Robinson (Chicago) tied it by hitting one of two free throws. The Wildcats would score seven straight before Robinson would stop the run with a bucket in the paint.

Culver-Stockton would eventually extend its lead to ten at 21-11 at the 10:23 mark. Later, the Wildcats had their largest lead of 12 at 29-17 with 6:15 left in the first 20 minutes.

It was at that point that Peru State started to make a small comeback. A bucket by Robinson was followed by one from Devon Colley (Las Vegas) to make it 29-21. Colley would hit another bucket, this time off an assist from Nick Brannon (Las Vegas) and the Bobcats had cut the deficit to six at 29-23 at the 3:20 mark.

Brannon would pull the Bobcats later to within four at 34-30 with a bucket with 49 ticks on the clock. C-SC responded with a trey before Brannon made a pair of free throws to end the first half. The Wildcats led 37-32 at the end of 20 minutes.

Second Half Action
C-SC hit a bucket to start the second half scoring. Henry Tanksley (Lincoln) would score the first points of the second half for the Bobcats and then Colley pulled Peru State within three with a fast-break bucket on an assist from Robinson. With 17:46 to go in the game, it was 39-36 Culver-Stockton.

Later, with 13:02 on the clock, Tanksley got the Bobcats within one at 44-43 with a bucket in the paint. An 11-2 run would put the Wildcats up 57-45 with 8:39 to go in the game.

Peru State would slowly chip away at the deficit and with 18 seconds left in the game, a trey by Colley made it 67-66 Wildcats. Deonte McReynolds (Chicago) would get a steal and then hit a two-pointer to put the Bobcats up 68-67 with 15 seconds left.

With seven seconds left on the clock, C-SC missed one from long range and were able to grab the offensive rebound. After a Peru State timeout, with just seconds left in the game, the Wildcats were able to get another offensive rebound and the put back was good right at the buzzer for their 69-68 win.

Team Statistics
Both teams shot the ball well from the floor. The Wildcats made 26 of 60 field goals for 43.3% and connected on 10 of 25 from long range for 40%. At the free throw line, C-SC made 7 of 8 for 87.5%. Peru State made 28 of 54 for 51.9% including hitting 7 of 18 from behind the arc of 38.9%. The Bobcats did struggle at the free throw line making just 5 of 11 for 45.5%.

The rebounding was nearly even as Culver-Stockton finished with 33 boards compared to 31 for the Bobcats. The Wildcats had one more assist than Peru State as they dished out 14.

Peru State committed one more turnover than C-SC as they had 16. The Bobcats blocked five shots while the Wildcats had three.

Both teams finished with six steals.

Peru Individual Statistics
Four Bobcats finished in double figures in the loss. Colley led the team with 19 while Robinson finished with 15. Brannon and McReynolds each added 12 points.

Robinson tied for game-high honors in rebounding as he grabbed 11 boards. Brannon added six rebounds.

Colley dished out six assists while Robinson and Brannon each dished out three.

Peru State NAA Alumni 11th Annual Chili Feed - February 8

Admission prices for the basketball games are: Adults - $8, Seniors (age 65 and older) - $7, and Students (Ages 7-17) - $5. NOTE: If alumni pre-register through the Foundation Office, they will receive an entrance pass. The Foundation Office phone number is 402-872-2304.

There will be several fundraisers taking place that afternoon. The Peru State Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) will be having a split-the-pot raffle which will help defray costs for its members to the upcoming state leadership conference. In addition, Peru State’s Women’s Basketball team with 19 while Robinson

Champions of Character efforts.

The Cat Cave will also be in the AWAC so alumni and fans can purchase some new Bobcat gear.

The Peru State Admissions Office will be hosting a Winter Tailgate event in conjunction with the chili feed. The event will include a tour of campus and an overview of the College. A prospective student and three guests will gain admission to the basketball games. For more information, contact the Admissions Office at 402-872-2221.

So, mark February 8 on your calendar and head to the Campus of a Thousand Oaks for an enjoyable day!

This article is courtesy of Peru State Athletics
Selena Gomez has been in and out of the public eye for a long time now. She’s experienced heartbreak, love, joy, sadness, and many more emotions and life events in front of the world. It is no secret that Selena Gomez has been through a lot in her life, but to be able to share something so riveting and so raw with emotion is truly inspiring. Her new album, Rare, shows everything she has battled in the last few years and turned it into words. I feel compared to other albums or songs, this album has definitely shown her change as a person, singer, and songwriter. The album Rare has a unique set of songs. The songs on this album include, "Rare, Dance Again, Look At Her Now, Lose You to Love Me, Ring, Vulnerable, People You Know, Let Me Get Me, Crowded Room, Kinda Crazy, Fun, Cut You Off and A Sweeter Place." I would like to review a few songs on this album for the readers.

Starting with the song “Rare”, this song is about Selena moving on from a toxic seeming relationship. She sings that she bets there’s somebody else out there who will acknowledge her and her uniqueness. I think this is a song about moving on and gaining freedom or perspective of what she deserves and needs. The song, “Dance Again” is such an amazing song about confidence and body positivity. While listening to it, I couldn’t help but smile at the fact that it seemed she had gained confidence in herself and her abilities again. She sings that her trauma is in remission and she’s excited to dance again. This track is such a confidence-inspiring song. Moving on to “Look At Her Now”. This song is about herself post-breakup and how afterward, she is ready more than ever to bounce back. This song is a catchy track about how she doesn’t need a relationship to make her know her worth and that she is doing just fine without that man. The next song, “Lose You to Love Me” is on the complete opposite side of the spectrum than the last few tracks. It goes with the basic theme of her new album but it is a song that is full of emotion. This song is so raw and emotional about how she had to and did say goodbye to an EX. This song can speak to anybody needing to close or has already closed a very painful chapter in their life. I shed a few tears when I heard this song while streaming this album.

If I keep going on with descriptions of her new songs, I will spoil the entire album for you and I will also go over my word count for this article. In all seriousness, the songs I have explained and the other songs on her new album are about letting the pain go, learning to love yourself, regaining confidence and just plain being yourself despite the things that may have happened in your life. I highly recommend this album to anybody who is willing to listen to it. You will not regret it at all!

Album Review: Selena Gomez’s Rare

Stephanie Boden
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

1917: A Roller Coaster of Action and Drama

Steven Allgood
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The movie 1917 (2020) was a roller coaster of action and drama. Set during April, 1917 in France, two WWI soldiers are on a mission to stop a slaughter of 1600 men on the newly established German frontline in France. The story was told to the movie’s director, Sam Mendes, by family members that served during the war. The audience can feel the passion that he had put into the project. There is also the feel of filming the movie in one continuous take that makes the movie interesting.

Lance Corporal Blake played by Dean-Charles and Lance Corporal Schofield, played by George MacKay, have been tasked with stopping an allies attack on a new German line established miles behind the previous one. The Germans have established a line that the attack is not prepared for, slaughtering the ally forces. To add even more significance to the mission, Lance Corporal Blake’s brother is part of the upcoming attack.

The movie has some issues with the slow pacing of the introduction, but onward there are some moments of gut wrenching tragedy. There is also the problem that sometimes characters make avoidable mistakes that would have ended the movie if the characters were not so lucky. There are also some short moments of peace that are mainly used for exhibition and to explain some of the troop’s stance on the war.

The director’s choice of shooting the movie as one continuous take forces the audience to be immersed in what is happening, as if the audience is also crossing into no man’s land, passing through the trenches, and running through gunfire in the French city. It sets the tone of the movie that everything that happens has a direct consequence, and there are times they are lasting. The movie heavily depends on the two leads and they did an amazing job in their roles. The movie does have big named actors, such as Benedict Cumberbatch, but they are sparingly used. Without the two leads, the quality of the movie would be significantly different.

With minimal dialogue, there was a greater emphasis on what the audience can actually see, which is why the amazing sets really set the atmosphere of the movie. There were horrible scenes of past battles, dead soldiers and horses, bomb torn landscapes, French buildings on fire, and many rats eating dead bodies. The costumes were also outstanding, including the English and German uniforms, and the few bystanders of the war. The movie is certainly not for the squeamish, as there was a scene of one of the leads cutting his hand on barbed wire and then accidentally touching a corpse that has been hollowed out for a rat net. There are also the wounds of disembodied soldiers that show the lasting consequences of the film. There is also the excellent score to drive the action sequences and the chaos of the battlefield.

From the minimal dialogue, slow pace, gruesome atmosphere of the sets and amazing acting of the leads, I would not recommend this movie to the average movie goer. The movie would be loved by war movie fans such as Dunkirk (2017). pr perhaps those who would appreciate the single shot third person perspective throughout the movie. Personally, I enjoyed it and look forward to Sam Mendes’ next movie in the future.
Netflix Review: Season Two of You

Stephanie Boden
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WARNING: SPOILER ALERT!

For those of you who have not seen You, this Netflix original is absolutely phenomenal. For those of you who have seen this show, I’m sure you’re all feeling exactly how I do. This Netflix series is one of the most thrilling and “have you on the edge of your seat every episode” kind of show. Every episode is just as jaw-dropping as the last and every ending keeps you wanting more.

The first season introduces and follows a bookstore manager, Joe Goldberg. One day a young girl, Guinevere Beck comes into the bookstore and changes Joe’s world. They bond over the fact that she is an aspiring writer and he is a book fanatic (hence, him being a bookstore manager.) Joe quickly becomes obsessed with Beck and starts following her every move. He obsessively checks her social media and follows her everywhere. He doesn’t want anything to stand in the way of their newfound romance, so he goes as far as murdering people in her life that he feels threatened by. Throughout season one, Beck leans on Joe as she loses everything and everyone around her. Joe is so good at covering his tracks over everything he does that Beck unknowingly falls in love with and dates him. The ending of series one is not at all what you would expect when you see how in love Joe is, or was with Beck.

The writers and producers of this Netflix original series are so good at making Joe look like the good guy while also being the bad guy. Penn Badgley performs so cleverly and masterfully that he can honestly make you believe that Joe is not a bad guy at all. In my opinion, the end of season one was very thought out and very well directed. But, it did not at all prepare me for what was to come in season two. Season two started out with Joe fleeing to Los Angeles from something (or someone) that appeared at the end of season one.

In Los Angeles, Joe is determined to keep under the radar, so he kidnaps someone and steals their identity. He is known for most of season two as Will Bettelheim. He is determined to get out of his old patterns of love and just focus on himself. That is until he meets a young chef named Love Quinn. He finds himself becoming obsessed and tries to stop himself in order to avoid the same fate as he had with Beck.

New information comes to light in every episode until you find the truth out about Love Quinn. Eventually, he finds out that she too, is a serial killer and the end of season two quickly turns into something that nobody expected. We all saw Love as a sweetheart who tried her hardest to love again after losing her husband. But, with the new information we learned about her, it is hard to wonder if she wasn’t the one who killed her husband in the first place. There are so many theories and ideas about her and about the new season that it will be almost impossible to wait for season three. I know Netflix will not disappoint with this series.

Movies Celebrating Their 20th Anniversary in 2020

Steven Allgood
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The start of the new millennium had a great start when it came to the year’s selection of movies. There were gripping action, hilarious comedies and terrifying horror movies. The movies of 2000 came out during the debatable shift between generation Y and Z most of these movies are looked fondly of by both generations. These are a few of the movies that will be turning 20 that has had the greatest impact and has aged well.

Considering the action movies of the year there is X-MEN, Shaft, Battle Royal, and Gladiator to name a few. X-MEN is not considered the greatest Marvel superhero movie, but it’s initial success allowed for future Marvel properties to be explored. Shaft is a continuation of the classic series from the 70’s with Samuel L. Jackson. There is also the foreign movie, Battle Royal, that puts the people with the lowest scores in the education system in a fight to the death and the last one standing gets to reintegrate back into society. Its use of violence was not common at this time, so I appreciate that the movie has aged remarkably well. Last is Gladiator, the highest grossing movie of that year and an Oscar winner for best picture. Critics and audiences loved the movie at release and many consider it to be Russell Crowe’s best performance.

Now considering the comedies of the year Chicken Run, The Emperor’s New Groove, and Scary Movie are at the top of the list. The first two are targeted at a children’s audience, but are beloved as cult favorites. Chicken Run is the plot of The Great Escape if the prison was actually a chicken farm. It is one of the few movies to have Mel Gibson do any voice acting and be the only American actor in the movie. The Emperor’s New Groove is a movie of a selfish ruler gaining some humility after being turned into a llama who is later saved by a peasant named Pacha. It was not a commercial success but it is remembered fondly by older Disney fans of the time for its meta humor, well-paced plot, and excellent voice acting, particularly John Goodman, and Patrick Warburton. Scary Movie is the comedy that popularized the dirty R-rated parody comedies of the 2000s. While a commercial success, it has not aged well, but is looked back as one of the Wayan Brothers best movies.

The year has also produced some stellar horror titles as well, such as American Psycho and Final Destination. Both were commercial successes, but American Psycho was controversial for the time for is gruesome on screen violence and not being close enough to the original novel. It was the right choice in hindsight, as the original title depicts a scene of deep frying human organs and eating them. If included, that would have hurt it’s wide release. While also violent, the idea of cheating death and having the force of death creating these elaborate scenarios that kill those in the order of their supposed death made Final Destination a must-see horror movie that year. It started one of the most popular horror franchises, but is now looked back for how cartoonish some of the deaths can be.

The year 2000 was a great year for Hollywood and its action, comedy, and horror movies. It set the tone for the quality of movies to come through the decade and I look forward to the titles that will be released this decade.
My New Year's Resolutions

Maricela Magaña
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Come every January 1 of the new year, thousands of people attempt to commit themselves to resolutions (whether they actually follow those resolutions is up in the air). Many resolutions fail due to being created based off on what someone else (or society) is telling you to change. Your goals should be SMART; specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. You should want to base your resolution off of what YOU want to better about yourself.

One of my resolutions this year is to get better at managing my time. As a college student, it can be hard getting everything completed in the amount of time you have. Things always pop up or you just simply don’t feel like doing it. Let’s be honest, it’s probably the second reason. I recently started making To-Do lists this semester with all the assignments I have due that week and what upcoming assignments I have. I post them on my computer so whenever I am studying or have free time I am sure to see it. Here are some helpful time management tips:

1) Remove distractions. Put your phone away, shut your door, and turn off anything that makes noise.
2) Make sure to nourish yourself. It is a fact that being hungry impacts our resourcefulness.
3) Get enough sleep. Yes, this can be hard for college students but the difference between a productive day and a horrible disorganized day can be just an extra hour of sleep or two.
4) Reach out for help if it isn’t working! The staff at Peru State is more than happy to help you with anything you might need.

Another one of my New Year resolutions is just to make more time for myself. This is hard to do while in college because I seem to always have something to be doing. For me when I try to make time for myself I feel somewhat guilty, which can lead to me overthinking every little thing I need or could be doing. Having too much stuff on the inside and on the outside could make you feel overwhelmed, distracted, and or even anxious at times. Making yourself a priority could help make everything fall into place. Making sure I am mentally healthy also can help with this.

Being able to say “No” to others is also another one of my resolutions. I don’t know about you, but when I tell someone “No” I automatically get this guilty feeling in me. People who have a fear of saying no to others tend to have a fear of conflict and are afraid to disappoint others. When it comes down to it your friends and family should be able to understand that saying no to them doesn’t mean you don’t like them anymore, it simply means you just want some time to yourself. Never feel guilty to schedule yourself time because you feel guilty. You are just as important as everyone else. Even if it’s just for 20 minutes a day it could still go a long way.

Breaking New Year’s resolutions isn’t always a bad thing. It could help you accept imperfection. It can also help remind you of what you have accomplished. Stepping out of your comfort zone to get towards your goal is a positive in itself. Slipping up can give you a fresh start and you can start over with a clean slate.