Security Goes Hi-Tech

Bucks implements a mass communication system to instantly alert students, staff and faculty of an on-campus emergency.

BY TALIA OLMO
ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY LAURA IRWIN
Centurion Staff

The recent mass shooting at Virginia Tech inspired Bucks to institute measures for emergency mass communications.

If an emergency occurs at Bucks, a plan will be implemented by three air horn blasts and an autonomous siren through the new clock system, to alert students and faculty.

“We bought an addition to our clock system and it’s being installed this fall,” said Bucks President James Linksz.

Director of Safety and Security Christopher Lloyd said that “the new clock system is about 90 percent installed, but we don’t know when that will be up and running.” Until then, Bucks will rely on the air horn blasts.

These signals only notify students and faculty that there is an emergency. In order to receive more information about the problem, other measures must be taken by students and employees.

Text messages and emails are applications that operate to alert students to emergency situations.

“It is the fastest way to notify students and faculty of emergencies,” said Linksz.

Students can register two cell phones and two

Continued on page 2

Bristol Campus Grand Opening

MARY KATE GALLOWAY
Centurion Staff

After months of planning and despite continued construction, the new Lower Bucks campus opened this fall.

“We’ve got the great students, the great faculty, and now we have the great facility! We have it all,” said executive director of the Lower Bucks campus, James Sell.

The new campus was greatly needed, according to some students who have taken classes at the old Lower Bucks campus.

Tom Dilliplane, a 20-year-old communications major said the old campus “was less high-tech compared to Newtown, very primitive.”

Dilliplane took classes at Lower Bucks in fall 2005, and said it was very small and closed in.

Only 14 classrooms, the Bristol Business Center was the campus.

But the new facility offers a student commons room, more classrooms, faculty rooms, and modern technology.

This opening is phase one of the project. Phase two, which is still in construction, will include an advising office, a club organization office, a bookstore, two group instruction rooms, two additional

Continued on page 2
Officials Plan for Mass Communication

Continued from page 1

email addresses through a new notification alert system, e2campus. When there is an emergency, text messages and emails are automatically sent to those who registered online.

In order to register for this free notification system, students and faculty are urged to visit http://www.e2campus.com/mybuckssignup.htm and to have their cell phone on and available.

Vice president for administrative affairs, Dennis Matthews, distributed a letter that detailed step by step how to register with e2campus.

Other services in warning of emergencies is WEB Crawl, a scrolling marquee that runs across the Bucks homepage and an automatic voice message that is sent to the campus phone system.

“I think it is a great way to let students know what is going on,” said Joseph Kelly, a 21-year-old criminal justice major from Langhorne.

“I know I’d like to know if someone was running around with a gun on campus!”

Lloyd also said that there are two mobile electronic signs that, along with flashing general information about Bucks events, will aid in alerting people of an emergency.

“We’ve put together smart solutions for circumstances we may come to face,” said Linksz. “I can’t promise that everyone will be safe, but as the college’s president I can put in place mechanisms that will alert staff and students.”

Information is not yet available online about the new mass communications system Lloyd offered no comment about the missing description of the system. “It’s an administrative thing,” he said.

Until then, students and faculty have the new hi-tech system, aside from the clocks, and are referred to the Office of Security and Safety by telephone (215) 968-8395 for further questions.

Read more about college campus emergency communications on page 7.

Lower Bucks Campus Opens Doors in Bristol

Continued from page 1

computer labs, and seven more classrooms.

The expansion allows for more programs and courses.

Donna Galloway, a 20-year-old nursing major, is enrolled in at the new Lower Bucks campus. “It’s different than the Newtown campus. It’s newer, more comfortable, and open.” Galloway mentioned the seating in classrooms is one of her favorite things. “They’re like lounge chairs, with a little desk for writing attached.”

Lauren Wert, a Newtown campus student said, “I heard there were smart boards in every classroom.” She’s right. Each classroom offers top modern technologies to help students learn more efficiently.

“As an administrator and teacher, it’s a lot of fun,” said Sell who visited schools around the country to research the different atmospheres that worked the best for students.

Sell is now hoping for a new center for the arts that will also be open to the general community.

The new Lower Bucks campus is located at 1304 Veterans Highway in Bristol and more information can be found at www.bucks.edu/lbc.
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AMass Influx at Bucks

Students hunt for a parking spot, only to find one in the deep bowels of the lot. Then students stand in a seemingly endless line to spend money on books for the class of 20-plus students stuffed in a room that may be an oversized broom closet.

With all of these circumstances becoming routine, the question of overcrowding has been raised. But while students think enrollment is at all-time high, school officials consider this to be a quieter, less populated campus than previous years.

The biggest annoyance for students is the parking situation. With so many cars and few convenient spaces, the long walk through all kinds of weather wears on students.

"Parking is the worst. I am totally disgusted by it," said Bob Wodimeier, a liberal arts major at Bucks.

While students are often left wondering if one day there won't be any spots available, the safety and security department assures us that is not a concern. "While lots A, B, D, and E fill up the height of the day, lot C is usually still open, and there are some students that find it better than parking in the back of one of the other lots," said Chris Lloyd, director of the safety and security.

"Students wouldn't argue, but we have [parking space], it just might not be convenient."

Lot C is located behind the cottages, and while there may be decent parking spot for the music and arts students, it is a walk for those going to Penn or Founders.

"You just have to walk," said Lloyd.

Though it only happens at the beginning and end of the semester, the lines to buy and sell books at the bookstore have gotten on many students' nerves. The construction of a new bookstore helped alleviate the semester, the lines to buy and sell books at the cafeteria is full of students, leaving almost no empty seats for additional diners.

Small classrooms with large class sizes are another problem for students at Bucks. Many are victim to being jammed into classes where it is hard to move your own book bag on the floor.

"(The classroom sizes) are awful," said Joy McBride, a 22-year-old student at Bucks. "You can't move; it's hard to even go to the bathroom."

Bucks' student to faculty ratio of 19:1 is right on target with many of the colleges around the area such as Temple, Bloomsburg, and Millersville.

The difference lies within room size. With all the classrooms in Penn and Founder's Hall being the relatively identical, the inconvenience of overcrowding is likely to remain for the foreseeable future.

Karen Dawkins, dean of student affairs, assures students that this plight is just a figment of the imagination and that most colleges have the same predicaments.

"Do people actually think we are overcrowded?" asked Dawkins. She said the Newtown campus has 7,546 students while the Perkasie and Bristol campuses have between 800 and 900 students. This makes the grand total of students around 10,000 and she insisted that this is a down year for the college.

"We have had close to 11,000 students, and that was without two buildings that we have now. We would have to go well over 12,000, probably even 13,000 before we start to worry."

When asked about the probability of Bucks hitting such population limits, Dawkins responded, "We are expecting enrollments to level off and don't anticipate many fluctuations over the next five years."

Even though it might seem that there isn't much that can alleviate crowding, there are a few things that are done to try and help the cause.

"We go through every year and move classes around. We put the bigger classes in the biggest rooms and the smaller ones are left with the smaller rooms," Dawkins said. "Just give it a few weeks to shake out."

Dawkins, who has been through these sorts of problems before, insists patience is the key to making it through the continuous angst of overcrowding. And while it may not be possible to get everyone on the same page, there is one thing that everyone should be able to agree with. It could be worse.

Politics & Opinion

A Modern Hypocrisy

You know how scary they Republicans can be…

I always see the buttons or bumper stickers that joke about the scariness of Republicans.

"Mommy the evil Republican is scaring me."

"Well, happen to be a Republican and I don't think I'm all that scary. In fact I'm 5'6" with shoulder-length blonde hair, I think I am anything but. Is it my desire for fiscal responsibility that scares you?"

What makes Republicans so "evil" anyway? This week's Centurion highlights Bucks students' opinions on our president's administration, and it's all negative rambling from Bush-hating, outsourcing-righting people. I don't see the connection of outsourcing to the Bush administration at all; it's probably because there isn't one.

My definition for what political party is: groups of citizens and politicians divided by the belief of how to spend government money.

"I can't hear you, I don't speak Republican."

Just because someone votes for candidates who support tax cuts and minimal social benefits, doesn't mean they love everything the President does and it certainly doesn't mean that putting a Republican back in the White House will send our country into further international turmoil.

I plan on voting for former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the first Republican in a generation to be elected in that city, in the upcoming Republican primary and hopefully, for president.

All I know, I will move to another country if Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama are elected.

But, back to the point. Giuliani is a more liberal Republican. For example, he believes in a woman's right to choose.

More importantly, it's his views on military actions in Iraq that I find most attractive. His website says, "I believe setting an artificial timetable for withdrawal from Iraq now would be a terrible mistake, because it would only embolden our enemies."

My main concern with Democratic candidates is that they think our country needs immediate saving. I do feel that there is a mess on our hands that could have been avoided, but to abandon what we started is not only irresponsible but reprehensible. I am expecting a future president to withdraw from Iraq when the situation becomes static.

"Republican's are for war. Vote Democrat in '08."

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"Republican's are for war. Vote Democrat in ‘08."

Any politician now saying that they will withdraw troops quickly is lying. It's an impossible task, and if somehow negated, the nightmare will only resurface later.

Sending troops into another country to overthrow their form of government, initiating a new one and leaving before it's off the ground is like having Penn State change all Bucks procedures to its own, and then leaving before the start of term.

"Vote NO on Republicans."

What annoys me the most is the assumption that anyone who votes to the right must think like a reactionary. I just want the government to engage in fewer socialistic practices.

I am not a hypocrite for being a community college student who is against social programs; I don't want the more-than-necessary social programs that drain the dollars from my paychecks.

Read up on the issues that affect you instead of riding the hype, and you may take that bumper sticker off your car.
Negative Vibes for Bush at Bucks

BY THOMAS FENNING
Centurion Staff

Many Bucks students say they’re fed up with the Bush administration.

Many of those interviewed on campus said the country is headed in the wrong direction, a view echoed in national polls showing Bush’s popularity at a low ebb.

A widespread complaint was how the administration is handling the war in Iraq. Bobby Rowland, 19, from Jamison, is a computer information science major. Rowland said, “Foreign relations were going down hill because of the war in Iraq. Our national policies are hurting because faith has been lost in the present administration.”

But, the war was not the only issue driving dissatisfaction.

Business major Urszula Zak, 25, from Newtown, said the administration was on the wrong track. By outsourcing, “they have allowed many companies to move to third world countries, so that they could hire cheaper labor,” she said, adding that cheap labor can be dangerous. “What happens when a company wants cheap labor is they get products that are harmful. China uses lead paint on toys and other products that the manufacturers here in the states do not use.”

The administration’s use of taxpayer money was also a hot topic. Marie Banford, a Bucks administrative assistant, believes America is in need of leaders who are more in touch with Americans. “Our leaders are self-serving and live in an ivory tower. They are out of touch with the common folk.”

When asked what made leaders out of touch Banford replied, “All the money being spent in Iraq is needed here at home. Our leaders lack compassion for those they were elected to serve.”

Mainly, criticism fell on the shoulders of President Bush. Bill McLaughlin teaches improvisational performance and has some interesting insights on the matter.

McLaughlin said, “President Bush didn’t win the 2000 election, he was appointed. Hitler and Mussolini were also appointees. Mr. Bush represents an aberration in our system, and he needs to be removed.”

McLaughlin feels that Bush is only a figure head, and not the man who is running this country.

The Bush debate will end in 2008 when our nation elects a new president; whether or not a newly elected president will solve our country’s problems is unclear.

Students Know Little About 9/11

BY LIOR SHULMAN
Centurion Staff

Six years after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, many Bucks students seem to know little about what actually happened that fateful day.

In a random, unscientific survey, more than 100 Bucks students were asked basic factual questions about what happened on 9/11.

Students were also asked what they attacked the U.S. on 9/11? Only 16 percent knew that the Taliban were the international terrorist organization headed by Osama Bin Laden. The survey also asked, “What is the Taliban?” Only 16 percent knew that the Taliban were the Islamic regime in Afghanistan that gave safe haven to al-Qaeda training camps.

Students could not believe that Sept. 11 occurred six years ago. Tomost, it felt like it happened yesterday. However, Bucks will keep remembering Sept. 11 and all who lost their lives.

Memories of a National Tragedy

BY BRITTANY GORDON
Centurion Staff

It’s been six years since Sept. 11, but the drama remains vivid to students at Bucks who can recall where they were when the first plane hit.

Bucks student Jackie Braskell remembers being in gym class when her teacher told her class about the devastation. She said it’s a faded memory because she tries not to think about it, because it’s too depressing.

Sam Lipinski, a cinema film major, was having her 8th grade picture taken when she was informed about the news. To this day she can even remember what she was wearing that day.

Networking technology major, Adam Gieseke, was driving on I-95 with his boss headed for Maryland when he heard the news on the radio. A usual commuter, Gieseke went to New York and rode on the New Jersey path train. After the attacks, “It was empty and creepy,” he said.

After 9/11, where the national tragedy, do students worry about it happening again? Braskell said she doesn’t worry about terrorist attacks, but knows it could happen. “We’re not cautious enough and not looking at the right people,” she said.

Gieseke’s opinion was that, “The media flashes too much on terrorist attacks so people will believe the president. No matter what the people want, the government has the final say in what is going to happen.”

Mark Hughes, a paralegal major, believes 9/11 could have been prevented; it was all because of miscommunication.

These students couldn’t believe that Sept. 11 occurred six years ago. Mostom, it felt like it happened yesterday. However, Bucks will keep remembering Sept. 11 and all who lost their lives.

However, nearly 50 percent of students surveyed knew that about 3,000 people were killed during the attacks.

And 68 percent knew that in addition to the hijacked jets that crashed into the world trade towers, a third hijacked jet crashed in Pennsylvania.

United Flight 93 crashed in an empty field just outside Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The 9/11 Commission determined that crew and passengers, alerted through phone calls to loved ones, had attempted to overpower the hijackers.

Jeremy Balkam, an 18-year-old communications major, was in school when the towers went down. Recalling being scared and shocked, Balkam said, “Where’s the military when you need them?”

Students were also asked roughly how many U.S. troops had been killed in Iraq. Only 34 percent of those surveyed had the correct answer—about 3,500.

History Professor Dirk Dunlap was not surprised Bucks students lack knowledge in current affairs. “[Students] need to read more, watch less television, and most of what they do on the computer is crap,” he said.
Equal Rights for Men’s Fall Fashion

BY JAMIE MELGOZA
Centurion Staff

The fall brings many changes; leaves turn, the weather gets colder, and the fall fashions are brought to us by the most respected designers.

For many years now, the fashion industry has geared its eyes towards the women, but now the light of fashion is expanding its eyes on the men. The pop stars were once famous for sporting this look. Notably, Kelly Clarkson on many fashionable occasions, and in the fall of 2007, the pop stars are once again famous for being on the runway, a victory has come for the everyday woman. Curves are in.

The “it” thing that is sure to raise eyebrows of jealous are the must-haves for the working woman; high waist pants with wide belts. The hottest selling item thus far are brought to us by the most respected designers. The fall fashion season this year is best.

The pop stars were once famous for sporting this look. Notably, Kelly Clarkson on many fashionable occasions, but the average Jane Doe on the street is bringing this dandy style back to life with a new flare. The pop stars were once famous for sporting this look. Notably, Kelly Clarkson on many fashionable occasions, but the average Jane Doe on the street is bringing this dandy style back to life with a new flare.

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Emergency Texting

Colleges across the country are turning to text messaging as a fast way to send emergency alerts to students and faculty.

BRYERENADONIKINANDRANYAN.J.FOLEY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP) — When a masked freshman came to campus at St. John’s University with what police said was a loaded rifle sticking out of a bag, the school alerted students via cell-phone text messages within 18 minutes.

And when a suicidal gunman was reported to be on the loose at the University of Wisconsin, the school sent out mass e-mails and took out an ad on Facebook to warn students.

As the school year starts, colleges across the country are applying the lessons of Virginia Tech and using high-technology to get the word out fast in a crisis.

“This was certainly a surprise. No one thought that we would be testing this latest technology this quickly for an emergency,” said James Pellow, executive vice president of St. John’s.

The 20,000-student Roman Catholic school in Queens activated its new text-messaging system after the Virginia Tech rampage. Its new system supplying more than 250 colleges and universities around the country with instant-messaging capability — is a so-called “gimmick” in the legislation, said Daniel Carter, senior vice president of Security on Campus, a nonprofit organization based in King of Prussia, Pa., that push for student safety on college campuses.

Colleges have not completely given up more traditional ways of communicating with students.

First week accidents, according to a study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, have 50 percent of the students who use cell phones, the study found.

“This is a great way to get the word out fast,” said an executive vice president of St. John’s.

The system sends a message not only to cell phones, but also to digital signs in public places like student unions or dorms, as well as to computers, PDAs and beepers.

“Nearly every major college and university in the country is either in the process of implementing a text-messaging warning system or seriously considering it,” said Daniel Carter, senior vice president of Security on Campus, a nonprofit organization based in King of Prussia, Pa., that push for student safety on college campuses.

School officials have not completely given up more traditional ways of communicating with students.

Last week, after two students were shot and wounded at Delaware State University, campus police and residence hall advisers knocked on doors and told students to stay in their rooms, and warnings were posted on the school’s Web site and at dorms.

But is it clear that schools are taking advantage of every innovation they can.

In Wisconsin, officials paid the popular social networking site Facebook $100,000 to post a link on the UW-Madison social network. The ad asked students to click on a link for an update on the campus emergency. That took them to the university’s home page, which carried the latest information on the search for a suicidal gunman. Authorities still had not located the man as of Thursday.

In St. John’s, incident, text messages were sent so quickly that a student who helped subdue the suspect felt his cellphone vibrate with the information while he was restraining the gunman.

The message to student read: “From Public Safety: Male was found on campus with rifle. Please stay in your buildings until further notice. He is in custody, but please wait until the all clear.”

The text-messaging “worked like a charm,” New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said a day later at a ceremony to honor the student, a police cadet, who helped restraint the suspect. “Young people today are incredibly wired, and administrators have the technology at their fingertips,” he said.

Amanda Lenhart, a researcher for the Pew Internet and American Life Project, a Washington-based non-profit organization.

More than 70 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds own a cell phone, and 92 percent of them message, according to a 2006 Pew survey.

“What better way is there to get in contact with people who always carry technology, or are within shouting distance of it?” Lenhart said. “This is a huge development in terms of school safety.”
Soccer is Still Kicking at Bucks

KEVIN YORKE
Centurion Staff

In sports there is an old cliché, defense beats a good offense. What is meant by this cliché is while the amount of scoring can fluctuate depending on many factors, there is always that ability to make the opposing team work hard for every opportunity. That saying holds true for Bucks men’s soccer.

The Centurions men’s soccer team looks to complete another successful season this year, and while the outlook is promising, Coach Justin Burroughs knows the team can play better than they have during the beginning of the season.

“Finishing is our biggest problem,” Burroughs said.

“Right now we’re in the middle of the pack as far as the standings go. We’re in every game and our defense is the strength of our team, but when we have a chance to put away teams, we just can’t find the net. Sometimes, the frustration of the team is apparent,” Burroughs added. The team has dominated the opposition in many games this season but has just not been able to score the go-ahead goal. Trouble with scoring aside, Coach Burroughs knows the team is still one of the best in the area. “The way we’re playing right now I know will help us down the road. The team’s determination has really shone through this trying period,” he said.

An example of this frustration can be identified with a Sept. 15 loss to Manor Junior College, when the Centurions lost 1-0 in a hard-fought match. The team will deploy an offensive scheme that will hopefully combat this lack of scoring. With two strikers on the offensive side, Coach Burroughs seeks to take as many shots as possible from where ever possible.

“We want to overwhelm the other team,” said Burroughs.

To take as much pressure off the players as possible, no spot on the offensive side of the field is off limits. The players have been instructed to shoot early, and often.

Fresh Start: Flyers can Only Improve

ED MILLER
Centurion Editor

New players, new jerseys, and new coaches are just three reasons to check out the new look Flyers who begin their season this week against the Calgary Flames. Flyers fans have to be optimistic about this season after posting the worst record in the NHL and in team history last year.

With late acquisitions such as Martin Biron, Scottie Upshall, and Braydon Coburn, the Flyers gained young talent that would have an impact on the team in the upcoming years. Following that trend, the Flyers were one of the busiest teams this summer, making some big moves to get highly touted NHL stars.

First they signed veteran Daniel Briere, aka The Cookie Monster, a center and former captain for the Buffalo Sabres. The Flyers gave him the longest contract in team history, eight years with an average $6.5 million a season. Along with Briere came Jason Smyth, Kimmo Timonen, and Scott Hartnell, two of whom were also captains for their former teams. Timonen with the Nashville Predators and Smyth with Edmonton Oilers.

Although going out and picking up these players will in no way ensure a victory parade on Broad Street in Philadelphia, many fans seem very optimistic about the team this year, and why not—it would be tough for them to play much worse.

In addition to the new players the Flyers have gotten new jerseys, which were released just two weeks ago. In fact every team has new jerseys this year, making the NHL the first league to mandate new uniforms for the entire league in one season. Though many of the uniforms look different, the Flyers are one of about a dozen teams who went along with the classic style.

The jerseys, which are made by Reebok, are made to help the players perform better and have been engineered to create less sweat, and make a player more wind resistant. Injuries, which have plagued the Flyers in years past, have already become a problem this season. Upshall, a second year Flyer, is already out up to six weeks with a broken wrist, and first year Flyer Jeffrey Lupul is battling a sprained wrist, which could leave him out of the lineup two weeks. This could leave a hole in the lineup, which could be a blessing in disguise, considering the young players the Flyers have who are chomping at the bit to play on the team.

Barring injuries the Flyers should have a successful season and could make a run if they make the playoffs. However, only time will be able to tell. The Flyers’ first home game is Oct. 13 against division rivals, the New York Islanders.

The Bucks “Random Picture of the Week” returns with a three picture series taken at the recent clubs and organizations fair. In the above pictures you can see members of the up-start Cheerleading Club as they execute a synchronized back flip.

Photos by Kate McDermott