

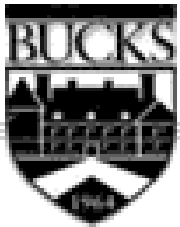
The Centurion

All the news--about Bucks--that's fit to print.

The week of May 5, 2008

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WEATHER

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78.

Wednesday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81.

Thursday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 79.

Friday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 69.

WEATHER COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

Can Bucks quit smoking?

If a ban meets final approval by the Board of Trustees, will anyone be able to stop smokers from lighting up?

BY LAURA IRWIN AND PHIL COLES
Editor-in-Chief, Sports Editor

On April 10, the Bucks Board of Trustees heard and approved a proposal for a campus-wide smoking ban to take effect, if it meets final approval, Jan. 1, 2009.

What does this mean to Bucks? It's not clear, because the idea of policing such a policy is overwhelming to campus security.

What was brought to the board was simply a proposal, a drafted policy that still needs a final vote by the board. But some say if approved, the measure could be problematic.

"This is a reckless measure put forward by a previous administration and if it's put into place, it will alienate a lot of students here at Bucks," said John Skudris, president-elect of the Student Government Association. "I know from talking to students that the majority do not want a smoking ban. If it does get passed, I wouldn't be surprised if attendance or enrollment dropped."

While the American Cancer Society does advocate banning smoking in campus buildings, they believe that smoking should

only be restricted to 20 feet away from building doorways. College students aged 18-24 are the only U.S. population group in which smoking is not decreasing. So is banning smoking on Bucks' campus feasible? Is it even possible when a national survey conducted in 2005 reported that 36 percent of all college students smoke?

Bucks is far from the only college that has considered a total ban. There has been a national trend by community colleges to curb smoker's rights. The trend started in Missouri in 2003 and gathered steam as the Surgeon General released a 2006 report that centered on the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

While California has been far and away the leading state concerning non-smoking in businesses, restaurants and college campuses, the trend has moved across the country. Bergen Community College in New Jersey has recently passed a ban on smoking at its campus. NJ counties, such as Morris, Burlington and Somerset have also passed such bans.

So how do colleges enforce their non-smoking policy? It's complicated.



MARK BENNETT LIGHTS UP ON CAMPUS
PHOTO BY JAY JONES

At Bergen, the policy is not always enforced. "We don't want to be a police state," said Bergen President G. Jeremiah Ryan. "We're not going to go after students in their cars."

At Morris County College, fines are in place. Morris President Edward Yaw said, "Some fines have been levied out, but most students just abide."

Under the proposal, Bucks smokers are to be warned upon the first offense, fined \$50 on the second offense, \$100 on the third offense with Code of Conduct sanctions to be taken against a

student if a fourth violation occurs.

The Bucks proposal states that the sale and distribution of tobacco products is prohibited, and there will be no designated smoking areas or ash cans anywhere on college property; all will be alerted to this fact by signs, brochures, web alerts, advertisements and media coverage.

The draft also states that, "Managers and supervisors are responsible for keeping employees informed...all employees are

Continued on page 2

INTG classes irk students

INTG courses aren't popular with many Bucks students, who complain that the classes are useless and worry that the credits won't transfer. Transfer officials say they usually do.

BY MARK BENNETT
News Editor

Virtually every student at Bucks must, at one time or another, take an Integration of Knowledge course. But many students aren't happy about it.

Many students interviewed by the Centurion say the courses are poorly organized and that the multiple-instructor format is confusing. They also complain that the classes have little to do with their majors, and worry that INTG credits won't transfer.

Almost every major that Bucks offers requires an INTG course in order to graduate, according to Barbara Ford, the director of transfer services. Some of the

majors that don't require an INTG course to graduate, such as nursing, combine the skills that are taught in the INTG classes into other required classes.

Many students believe that INTG classes don't transfer to four-year schools, but Ford says that is incorrect. "There are more colleges that accept the courses than ones that don't; typically they transfer over as electives to other schools," said Ford.

But Phil Coles, a 25-year-old journalism major from Quakertown who took the Culture and Affluence INTG class last semester, said that didn't happen in his case. "I'll have

Continued on page 2



A BUCKS STUDENT FILLS OUT FORMS IN THE TRANSFER CENTER
PHOTO BY JANINE LOGUE

Is a potential smoking ban feasible?

continued from page 1

authorized and encouraged to communicate and reinforce this policy with courtesy and diplomacy to any person whom they see violating the policy."

This leaves students, Bucks Safety and Security and Bucks President Dr. James Links wondering, is this actually a policy that can be enforced?

A source from within Safety and Security said the branch of Bucks designated to control the campus and enforce conduct are apathetic to the ban. "I just don't know how something like this could be controlled. I guess we'd try to do what we're supposed to, but more likely I'll just be as understanding as possible," said the source, who requested anonymity due to their employment with the college.

Already on Bucks campuses yellow tape lines some doorways



PHOTO BY KATE McDERMOTT

and other entrances in an effort to keep smokers away. But smokers ignore the rule and light up on their way out of the buildings. This "yellow tape rule" is not written into Bucks code, and therefore something that is not enforced.

Links said in a phone interview, "The problem with something like this is always, who's

going to enforce this?"

Slapping a fine on someone is not likely to get them to stop puffing on a cig if they want to continue.

The Safety and Security source said that if a real problem occurs, Newtown Police are usually called in to handle the situation, where "[Bucks security] is not equipped enough" to put them-

selves in a precarious situation.

Skudris does not agree with a smoking ban and finds that policing such a ban would be near impossible. "People who are for the smoking ban believe that the security guards will be able to catch those that smoke and fine them. They believe this will be a deterrent. These are the same people who say that a 25-foot rule around each entrance wouldn't work because security wouldn't be able to handle it."

In December 2007, the Student Government Association approached the Board with the idea of a campus ban on smoking. Bucks Human Resources conducted a survey "to assess the attitudes of employees toward smoking on campus," according to their committee report issued April 10 of this

year.

Its results show that out of 498 Bucks employees, 323 employees responded to the survey. Of this number, a 65 percent response rate, 50 percent support a campus-wide ban, 37 percent support designated smoking areas and 13 percent support no change in policy.

"Also, I have strong reservations about what this will do to students academically. Many students here at Bucks go to class for hours at a time," said Skudris. "If they aren't allowed to smoke in between classes, then they're going to get nicotine withdrawal and will either A, skip class to smoke or B, not be able to concentrate in class because they can't stop thinking about smoking."

Unfortunately for the majority of Bucks smokers, the students, they have yet to be included in any statistical analysis.

Bucks INTG courses get no respect

continued from page 1

60 credits at the end of this semester, 57 of them will transfer to Temple, but my Integration of Knowledge class won't transfer," said Coles. "That INTG class was a big waste of time and money."

According to Dr. Annette Conn, provost and dean of academic affairs, "The beginning of INTG courses at Bucks began in the late 80s when the academic head at the time put together a committee to look at the core curriculum. That committee evolved the idea of Integration to Knowledge."

Conn added, "This is a capstone course, a course to take place at end of a student's [term] to integrate what they have learned throughout their [study]... Topics like science, social science and critical thinking."

The INTG classes, according to the Bucks website, are a

writing-intensive, team-taught course that examines themes from perspectives of multiple scientific, cultural and societal disciplines.

This means there are many assignments due over the course of the semester that must be turned in to the multiple professors teaching the class. Also, there is a group project that must be completed by several students working together.

Some students, like Matt Fedor, 22 from Levittown, say the group project is the most difficult aspect of INTG classes, because Bucks students typically work outside jobs and live at home, making scheduling meetings outside of the classroom difficult.

Conn said she receives a wide range of student feedback about the course. "Lots of students love it, lots hate it and lots wish they don't have to take it. Some say it's the best course they've ever had." When asked if the negative feedback ever resulted in

revisiting the core curriculum, Conn said that it was "assessed a few years ago and it never came up."

Kaitlyn Spangenberg, a 21-year-old graphic design major from Quakertown, said she didn't have a problem with the multiple teachers; according to her, she only kept in contact with one of the three professors teaching the class and managed to pass without much input from the other professors leading the course.

But she added, "I never would have taken the class if it wasn't required... I was home-schooled, so the online portion of the class was easy for me but the class was pointless, it was a waste of time and money and had nothing to do with my major."

Lior Shulman, a 22-year-old journalism major from Ivyland, also seemed to run into difficulties with the multiple-teacher setup. "It's only one class but having three

teachers makes it like having three classes."

However, some students had good things to say about the classes. Shulman also said that his Art of Science and Nature class has made him aware of environmental problems and possible solutions.

Many have had to take several INTG classes because they found the first or second attempts at passing near impossible. "I had to get out of it," said Kevin Yorke, a 21-year-old journalism major from Newtown who took the Race and Racism INTG course. "I couldn't deal with it; the lack of communication between the teachers and students was the worst part about it."

Yorke added that having multiple teachers was a problem because "they didn't seem to know when one teacher's job started and another finished."

Brian Jacobs, a 34-year-old business major from Yardley who recently passed the cre-

ativity class, was one of the few students interviewed who knew that the school he planned to transfer to would accept the INTG credits. Even though the course would transfer as an elective to Rider University, he was still unsatisfied with the course. "It wasn't at all what I expected and it was completely useless to me."

A Bucks employee and fine arts major who requested anonymity took the INTG creativity class four years ago, and was displeased with what he had to go through.

"I tell people who are planning to transfer to other schools not to bother taking it," he said. "It wasn't what I thought it would be. They sucked the creativity right out of it."

According to Bucks' course catalog, 15 INTG courses are scheduled to be offered for the fall 2008 semester, ranging from The Art of Science and Nature to War and Peace.

THE CENTURION

Bucks County Community College's Student Newspaper

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Candidates battle over electoral votes

BY JOHN SKUDRIS
Centurion Staff

All we ever hear in the news is which Democratic presidential candidate does better in the polls against presumptive Republican nominee Sen. John McCain. But it isn't the popular vote that elects a president - just ask Al Gore. It's the Electoral College.

The Electoral College is a term used to describe the 538 presidential electors that meet after every presidential election to cast official votes for a candidate.

Each state has a certain number of Electoral College votes equal to the amount of congressional districts in the state, plus two for the two U.S. senators from each state. For example, Pennsylvania has 19 congressional districts and two U.S. Senators. Add the two numbers together and you get 21, which is how many Electoral College votes Pennsylvania has.

In order to be elected president, a candidate needs to receive 270 or more electoral votes.

In 2004, President George W. Bush received 286 to John Kerry's 252. In 2008, either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama will need to grab 18 more electoral votes than Kerry did in order to win the election.

Electoral-Vote.com is a site designed to analyze the Electoral College statistics. The site, which is updated daily, compiles polls from every major pollster for each state and decides which candidate would win each state if the election were today. Based on the site's information, and recent polls from

around the airwaves, one can analyze which candidates would do better in what states.

In order to analyze what states will be won by which candidate, one must first recognize the states that are "safe." These states are the ones that will go for a certain party regardless of who the candidate is.

For the Republicans and McCain, the safe states include his home state of Arizona, Alaska, Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and Wyoming.

These states are likely to go Republican no matter what, and their electoral vote tally is 178. The only way one of these states could potentially swing the other way is if one of the Democrats chose an influential person from one of those states as their vice-presidential candidate.

For the Democrats, there are 13 states that are likely to go their way. These states include California, Delaware, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Washington. The District of Columbia and its three electoral votes are certainly going to go "blue" as well. The total of these states and DC are 200 electoral votes.

This leaves the count at 200-178 - advantage Democrats - with 15 states up for grabs. These states are denoted as "swing" or "battleground" states because they could go

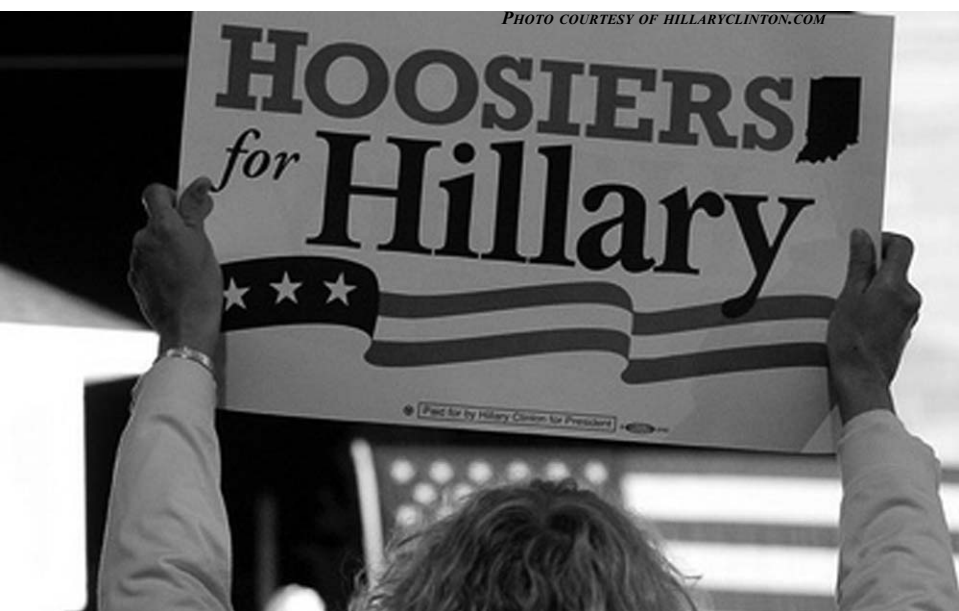
either way in the election. However, some states are in play for one of the Democratic candidates and not in play for the other.

If Obama is the nominee, the Democrats can probably count on better numbers from the southern "red" states that were listed in the safe Republican column. However, it is highly unlikely that he'd be able to poach any of those states from McCain. He'd likely only lose by 7 percent as opposed to 17 percent if Clinton were the nominee.

Swing states in which Obama does better than Clinton against McCain include Iowa, Virginia, Colorado and Nevada. If Obama is the nominee, the Democrats can expect wins in Iowa, Colorado and Nevada. However, it is unlikely at this point that Obama could win Virginia against McCain.

Obama does extremely poorly in the key states of Florida and Ohio, where polls show he is losing to McCain. If all the states were projected right now based on recent polls, both McCain and Obama would finish with 269 electoral votes.

Obama can be projected at this point to win Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado, New Mexico, and Iowa. McCain would likely win Arkansas,



Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Florida and New Hampshire. This would leave both candidates with the same amount of electoral votes.

In the event of an Electoral College tie, the House of Representatives would decide the next president. Since the house is dominated by the Democrats at this point, it would seem likely that they would choose Obama over McCain.

However, it's tough to tell what exactly will happen because the polls in many states are so close. It's possible that Obama could lose Colorado and New Mexico. It's also possible that he could win Nevada or New Hampshire.

If Clinton is the nominee, the Democrats are more likely to win the big swing states of Ohio and Florida, since she does better with elderly and white working-class voters. She also polls better in West Virginia - working class voters - and Arkansas - Bill Clinton's home state. However, she doesn't do as well in the western states of Nevada, New Mexico and

Colorado as Obama does.

She'd likely win in Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania. That along with victories in the traditionally Democratic states of Wisconsin and Michigan would put her at 295 electoral votes. McCain would win Missouri, Iowa and the western states, putting him at 243. Based on this scenario, Clinton would win the election.

Recently, Clinton has hailed herself as being more electable, and based on her strength in the high Electoral College vote states, she appears to be right. Obama does better in states the Republicans usually win easily, but it won't be enough for him to pull out victories in those states. Unless he can somehow broaden his strength in Ohio, Florida and Pennsylvania, he could be in trouble.

Either way, both Clinton and Obama have a tough road ahead against a strong opponent in McCain. But right now, it appears that Clinton has the slight edge in a general election matchup.

McCain:No earmarks

By The Associated Press

ALLENTOWN, Pa._ Sen. John McCain said that the bridge collapse in Minnesota that killed 13 people last year would not have happened if Congress had not wasted so much money on pork-barrel spending.

Federal investigators cite undersize steel plates as the "critical factor" in the collapse of the bridge.

McCain regularly rails against "earmarks," the pet projects that lawmakers tuck into spending bills, such as the proposed \$223 million "bridge to nowhere" in Alaska.

The Arizona senator says he would eliminate earmarks, estimated at \$18 billion last year, and would make each project compete in the regular congressional funding process.

McCain also criticized earmarks for projects in New Orleans that didn't help protect the city from Hurricane Katrina, saying a congressional earmark helped to dig a channel outside New Orleans that helped speed the hurricane into the city.


McCain said such projects "have everything to do with the power and influence of an individual congressman or senator and has nothing to do with the actual transportation needs of the United States."

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Hitting the streets for Obama in Bucks

BY ANDREW BROWN
Centurion Staff

It's 8:43 a.m. on Saturday, April 19 and Patty Fennell should be exhausted. She has just flown into Philadelphia from San Antonio the night before, and she has not had sufficient time to sit down and recuperate since her arrival.

But as she enters the Boilermaker's Union Hall in Newportville on this morning, she is as jubilant as can be. Sporting a smile that would make Tom Cruise stand up and take notice, Fennell greets every single person in her vicinity. Most of these folks display about half the energy she does.

But Fennell did not fly all the way to Philadelphia just to say "hi" to some people in a union hall. She still has to walk to the doors of 80 Levittown ranch homes and convince the people within these homes that Barack Obama is worthy of their vote in the Pennsylvania primary the following Tuesday.

Fennell and several others arrive in Pennsylvania on this particular weekend to lend all they can to Obama's cause. Here at the Boilermaker's Union Hall, dozens of Obama supporters convene to make calls and canvass the surrounding area. The targeted areas are Bensalem and Levittown, two municipalities brimming with the blue-collar voters that both Obama and Hillary Clinton covet.

Fennell has been teamed up with Brian Moore, a well dressed 29-year-old real estate agent from Princeton. The pair has been assigned 80 homes in the Cobalt Ridge section of Levittown. Moore grabs the keys to his girlfriend's white Honda Accord, and prepares to brave the 85-degree heat for the next several hours.

The car, while not very old, shows signs of heavy use in

the recent campaign. Obama lawn signs, buttons and pamphlets, along with a slew of empty Deer Park bottles, are strewn about the interior. Moore admits that he has practically been living out of the car in recent weeks. Moore chuckles as he navigates his way to the area Fennell and he must patrol.

"Yea, we just felt like we needed to pitch in," Moore explained with a bemused look as he turns left onto Route 413. "[My girlfriend] and I went to the campaign office, and we started out in Doylestown. Then they set up a Lower Bucks office, and we volunteered to be coordinators for that office. So it's been pretty crazy."

Surprisingly, this has been the University of Maryland graduate's first foray into politics. "My friends have been really surprised, because they all think of me as some kind of jokester or something. But I really believe in what Obama says."

Fennell, on the other hand, is no stranger to the political scene. She has been heavily involved in the public process for more than 20 years, cutting her teeth on Jesse Jackson's failed presidential bid. She currently acts as the Democratic precinct chairperson for her community. This is, however, the first time that Fennell has traveled such a great distance for the sole purpose of campaigning.

"After I saw so many people coming to help in San Antonio, I thought that I could surely do the same," she said. "I think the exchange of support is very important, especially this year."

As Moore pulled up to the curb of Candle Road, the first street of the day, he handed Fennell a clipboard with a list of homes to hit. The campaign has already zeroed in on potential supporters, so it was slightly easier than going



BRIAN MOORE AND PATTY FENNEL STOP ALONG THEIR CAMPAIGN FOR OBAMA ROUTE FOR A PICTURE
PHOTO BY ANDREW HESS

to each door. The two then split up.

Moore, with his caramel complexion and lime-green Burberry polo shirt, looks slightly uncomfortable approaching some of the homeowners on his list, who would only be caught in lime green if the Eagles incorporated the color into their next jersey. The Levittown residents, many of whom boasted large tattoos and Harley t-shirts, knew immediately the Burgdoff realtor was not one of them.

Fennell sticks out in her own way. Clad in a black t-shirt emblazoned with an image of Barack Obama in front of the White House, she has made no attempt to disguise her purpose in this neighborhood.

It came as a bit of a shock to both Moore and Fennell that the people on their lists were so willing to debate. The Cobalt Ridge residents did not shy away from speaking about politics in a very personal way. Moore claims that this is the first time people

have been so frank with him since he has been canvassing.

"Most of the people I spoke to in Newtown or Doylestown, the more affluent areas, just agreed with whatever I was saying," Moore claimed. "These people are willing to debate. It's a nice surprise."

Some issues that many of these homeowners find important are gun control, health care and, not surprisingly, the economy.

"I'm no policy genius, but this guy's promising a whole lot for the economy, and I don't know if I can believe it all," one homeowner said. "I'm a construction foreman. I know that I can say all I want to my guys, but if I don't get it done, I lose their respect. I worry about something like that with Obama."

Of course, many of the homeowners had heard all about Obama's notorious "bitter" comment regarding the working class. Many were left feeling, well, bitter about this statement that seemed to be a shot aimed directly at their beloved community.

One elderly woman takes particular exception to his remarks. "Everyone makes choices with religion and other things for very personal reasons," she said in an exasperated tone. "I don't think anyone's holding on to their beliefs in vain, as he seems to think."

Moore and Fennell do an admirable job of fielding the questions, and while they are certainly pressed to clarify certain issues, the pair does not experience any real hostility all morning.

As the heat from the sun becomes unbearable, lunch time is a welcome notion.

As she chows down on a chicken sandwich, Fennell begins to describe her career. She began as a music teacher,

and in 1998, was able to open a charter school, aptly named the Fennell Center for Arts and Education. This was one of the first charter schools in all of Texas, and opening it was no easy task.

"The San Antonio city government makes it tough to open a charter school," she said in between sips of Dr. Pepper. "With all the taxes, it wasn't easy. Luckily, since I had worked in politics, I knew people that were able to pull strings for me. So my dream came true eventually."

Moore listens closely, and the topic then shifts between the current president and the FLDS, the Texas polygamist group garnering all the headlines. After a brief pause, Fennell said, "This is why I like being involved in politics. I love just getting to talk to different people and meeting people I'd never normally get to meet."

The pair soon climbed into the Accord and headed back to Cobalt Ridge. As it is a beautiful day by this point, few homeowners are present. An on-foot Postal Worker tells Moore, "Oh, they must all be down at the Oxford Valley Mall or something."

Wherever they may be, Moore and Fennell leave literature in many screen doors, and head back to the Boilermaker's Union.

The seemingly indefatigable Fennell offers to make phone calls for a few hours, but Boris Medzhibovsky, the 23-year-old site leader, laughs. He tells her she's done enough for today as he takes a drag off his Parliament. After all, she and Moore have been walking for nine hours.

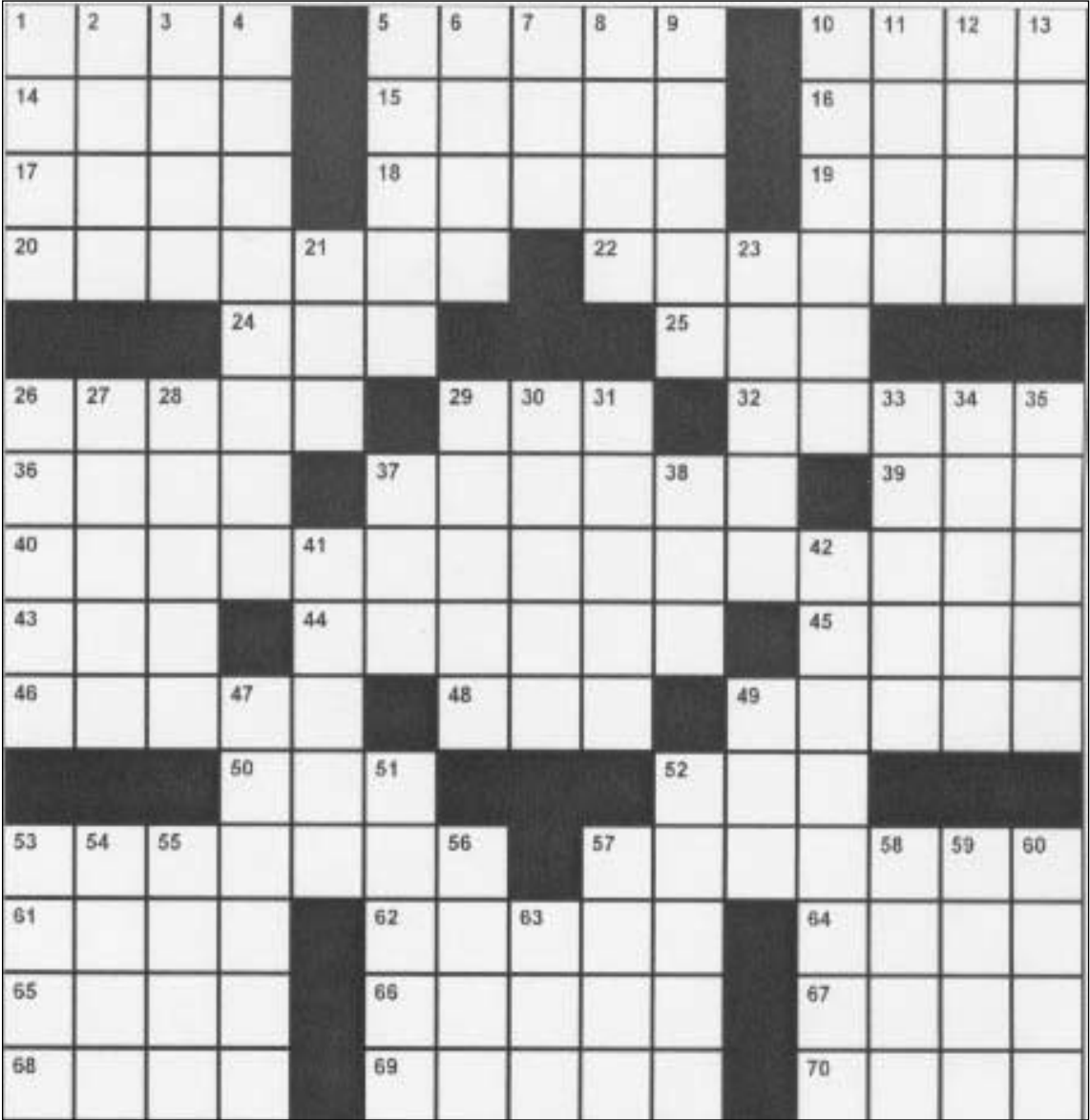
Moore reconvenes with his girlfriend, and for an odd moment, all is surprisingly serene.



A VIEW FROM INSIDE BOILERMAKER'S UNION HALL
PHOTO BY ANDREW HESS

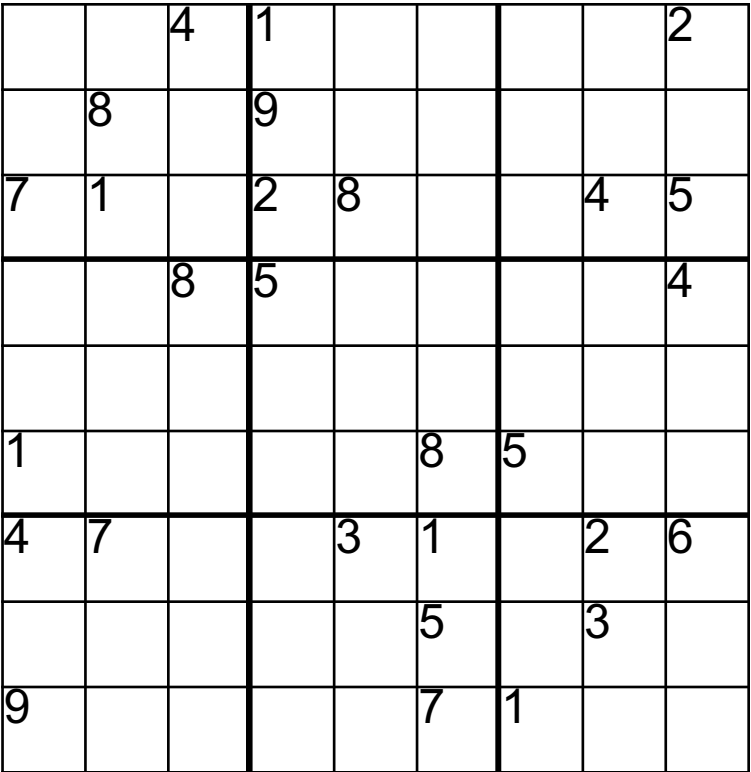
May Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1.43rd Annual Student Exhibition in Hicks Art Center Gallery	2. Go see “Iron Man” in theaters	3.Men’s Baseball EPCC Tournament
4.Phillies vs. S.F. Giants-1:35 pm (Home)	5. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo, taco’s for everyone!!	6. My Chemical Romance plays at the Electric Factory	7.National Constitution Center presents: Baseball As America	8. Counseling Workshop: Coping with Test Anxiety 11-12 and 1-2pm	9.Panic At the Disco plays at the Festival Pier	10 “Death By Disco” at Cock N’Bull Restaurant in Peddlers Village
11 Color: Ten African-American Artists at Fred Beans Gallery in Doylestown	12 Temple RN-BSN Info Session	13 Last Day for Day and Evening Classes	14. Phillies vs. Braves-7:05 pm (home)	15. Elliot Erwitt: Dog Dogs at Michener Museum	16 Go see “The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian” in Theaters	17 Go see David Copperfield at the Academy of Music
18 Pearl S. Buck House Special Exhibit	19 Final Exam Period for Spring Classes	20 Soles at Sellersville Theater	21 Lilli Gettinger: Memory Transformed at Michener Art Museum	22 Commencement (tentative)	23 Go see “Indiana Jones: The Kingdom of the Crystal Skull”	24Phillies vs. Astors 7:05 (away)
25 Robert Whitley: Beauty Function and Grace,at Della Penna Gallery	26 Memorial Day- No Classes	27 Classes begin for Summer 1 6-8 week classes	28 Take a Ghost Tour in New Hope, at Main and Ferry Streets.	29 Play miniature Golf	30 Go see “Sex and the City: The Movie”	31Go tubing on the Delaware River



Across
1- Duration; 5- Lost a lap; 10- When said three times, a 1970 war movie; 14- Tent stick; 15- Long for; 16- At any time; 17- Son of Isaac and Rebekah; 18- Loose fiber used for caulking; 19- Quantity of paper; 20- Demolish; 22- Stingy; 24- Agent; 25- Make lace; 26- Middle East rug; 29- High mountain, as found in central Europe; 32- Approaches; 36- Shark's offering; 37- Spain and Portugal; 39- Black bird; 40- Reticent; 43- Bind; 44- Upward trend; 45- Hollow grass; 46- Croatian coastal city; 48- Wind dir.; 49- Unit of energy; 50- Test area; 52- Doze; 53- Folium; 57- Confined within limits; 61- Holly; 62- Showy action; 64- Pigeon coop; 65- Start of something small?; 66- Tee, e.g.; 67- Asian sea; 68- Verdi opera; 69- Woman's one-piece undergarment; 70- Recline;

Down
1- Raced; 2- Attitude; 3- Winglike body part; 4- Massless neutral lepton; 5- Ladle; 6- Salver; 7- Cask wood; 8- Egg cell; 9- Relinquish; 10- Cylindrical; 11- Above, finished; 12- Actual; 13- Military force; 21- "Losing My Religion" band; 23- Capital of Yemen; 26- Awkward person; 27- Ancient region of Asia Minor; 28- Tied; 29- Misuse; 30- Russian revolutionary leader; 31- Self-respect; 33- Farewell; 34- Entangle; 35- Celsius, for one; 37- Mischievous child; 38- Vanilla ____, American rap star; 41- Wall painting; 42- Hot and humid; 47- Word blindness; 49- Cram; 51- Hallowed; 52- Gritty intro; 53- Capital of Peru; 54- Et ____ (and other men); 55- Set right; 56- Pine; 57- Hog fat; 58- Bull; 59- Catchall abbr.; 60- Big name in PCs; 63- Cover;



PSFTZBWRL WC BMP ZXWDWBV
BR DWCBPL BR ZDGRCB
ZLVBMWLY OWBMRFB DRCWLY VRFQ
BPGUPQ RQ VRFQ CPDA-TRLAWSPLTP.
-QRXPQB AQRCB

Is college to blame for illegal dump?

BY DAVID CARTER
Centurion Staff

Hidden from the public eye, an illegal garbage dump fills the wooded space between Bucks' Newtown campus and Tyler State Park.

Photography Professor Craig Johnson was working on an Earth Day project a year ago, taking photos by the archery range at Porter's Creek, when he discovered a heap of rusted metal and cut branches.

Not a simple pile of junk, this behemoth spans more than 40 yards and rises 20-feet in the air. At first glance the mound is a simple brush pile when following the obvious trail of tire tracks, but from the opposite side, this pile contains at least five tires, various pieces of rusting metal and a 55-gallon drum of what used to be filled with

a strong industrial cleaning product.

"I have been doing Earth Day assignments for 20 years and never had something like this in my backyard," Johnson stated.

While taking pictures, Johnson allegedly witnessed two men dumping two truck-loads of trash into the dump area. He claims he followed them back to the Bucks Physical Plant and confronted one of them. He said he was told that the plant had been dumping there for years.

He feels the college should be a good example for the community, not a violator of dumping laws.

Bucks Physical Plant did not respond to calls or e-mails regarding the dump.

Bucks President Dr. James Links responded, however, and said, "There never was a

trash dump. There is a natural area where physical plant staff put some tree cuttings and other brush in the past to naturally decompose rather than burdening our landfills with such material. Why would anybody in Physical Plant drive out of their way into the woods to dump trash that is routinely collected on campus?"

From basic observation, many of the discarded items have been around for a while. Rust is caked onto almost every crevasse of metal and many objects are half buried from erosion.

An article in the Bucks County Courier Times on July 24, 2007 said campus officials blamed community members who trespass for leaving behind their trash, and said they could not confirm the allegations against any campus employees.



PHOTOS OF THE DUMP SHOW BUCKS-RELATED GARBAGE.
ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF CRAIG JOHNSON



Students take a 'W' over an 'F'

BY JAY JONES
Op/Ed Editor

Bucks students are starting to notice many of their classes are eerily empty now. The April 8 withdrawal deadline has passed, and course withdrawal forms have apparently inundated the Admissions office.

Many students are apparently deciding to take a 'W' on their transcripts instead of an 'F'

The withdrawal is considered one of the most critical times for many students as it can make or break an academic career. With numerous students dependent on getting good grades to keep their financial aid and many more riding on their marks in order to transfer into a good school, a withdrawal doesn't look as nearly as bad as a failure.

"When it comes down to it I can always redo the course," said Eric Haugh, 21 of Fairless Hills.

Many students seem to agree. Since a drop has no effect on your GPA it is far more alluring for a student to simply pull out of the class when it is becoming too much then to see it through to the end, and risk taking a failing grade.

It almost seems like Bucks, along with many other college campuses, are creating a golden safety net for the student body to fall back on.

If a course becomes too hard and you're not going to pass, drop it and save yourself the trouble. This system of withdrawal however could be breeding a generation of underachievers, giving way to this notion: Why work when you can quit instead?

The withdrawal form gives eight possible choices to pick

from when choosing your reason for drop/withdrawal. Ranging from academically unprepared, personal illness, dislike of the course or more surprisingly, dislike of the instructor, Bucks students have a variety of grounds to choose from.

"I have to work to pay for school," said Maria Duminski, 18, of Morrisville. "An 'F' drops my GPA and a 'W' does nothing."

“I think that the date should be longer to get your money back because one week is not long enough to get to really know your professor.”

There are, however, many students who are wondering, what is the difference between the full refund withdrawal available during the first week of the semester and the current no refund drop?

The drop/add period as it is called was instituted by the Admissions office as a means to allow students to adjust to their courses. If they do not think the class is for them, or another class has come to their attention that they would prefer to take, they may drop or add additional courses without losing any money.

"I have not withdrawn and

this is my third semester," said Elise Reifsnnyder, 19, from Fairless Hills. "I think that the date should be longer to get your money back because one week is not long enough to get to really know your professor."

According to a report by the Department of Education, dropout rates among 18-24-year-olds in 2002 to 2003 were a staggering 11.3 percent among males and 8.4 percent among females. The report also noted studies that had shown that dropouts are less likely to work in jobs that require a high school certificate or higher and were far more likely to be part of our prison and death row inmates.

"We all have a responsibility," said U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings in a 2007 address, "to make sure our higher education system continues to spur innovation."

She went onto report on numerous statistics about undergraduate students. Half of all undergraduates receive some form of federal financial aid, and 90 percent of the fastest growing jobs in the future will need some form of post secondary education, she said.

Many Bucks students must understand that while a withdrawal is academically better to have on your transcripts it still doesn't remove the fact that you choose to drop a course instead of seeing it through.

Students completely withdrawing from the college must secure a clearance from the Financial Aid office prior to submitting a withdrawal form. If you do not you could risk losing scholarship or

financial assistance, something that many cash-strapped students cannot afford to do in today's ever worsening economy.

No appeal for a change of a grade to 'W' will be considered after three years has elapsed since the end of the semester or session in which the grade was received.

Student-initiated withdrawals are those completed by students before the deadlines, with a simple 'W' on the transcripts and no refund. Withdrawal becomes official the day the Admissions office receives written notice of the drop, so the day you drop is the day the course becomes a 'W' on your transcript.

Instructor-initiated withdrawals however are strict. If a student has poor attendance until the midterm then the Office of Admissions will notify you of your drop from the course. If you want to contest that decision, however, the Committee on Academic Performance can be called in to schedule a review of the instructor's actions.

For those crafty few who think that not attending class will mean the professor will just drop you from the course, a rude awakening is in store for you. If official withdrawal papers are not filled out then you are not officially withdrawn. Instead of a safe removal of a course from your academic record, you instead will be faced with a failing grade due to lack of attendance.

"I don't understand why someone thinks dropping will help you," said Sara Mohn, 20, from New Hope. "Just work harder and take the grade you deserve."

Bucks summer session gets you caught up

BY MIKE FRAIOLI
Centurion Staff

As the spring semester winds to a close, Bucks will once again open its doors to summer sessions available to students wanting to catch up, get ahead, or transfer credits.

It is expected that students from more than 260 other institutions will attend Bucks this summer.

Students can take classes online, or in a hybrid format, which is a mix of on-campus learning and online classes.

If you are interested in attending summer sessions, there are many key dates to be noted and various methods of registering. Students can register online, mail-in or walk-in.

Walk-in registration is May 14-20 for the first summer session and June 25 to July 1 for the second session. Classes range from six-to-12 weeks long, depending on class format.

There are a variety of courses that are offered to summer students. The summer brochure of classes lists more than 200 courses.

This year the popularity of summer sessions has increased. Summer session enrollment has increased 4 percent from last year, and 63 percent of the students currently enrolled have already been taking classes during the spring session.

If you have questions or concerns regarding summer sessions, contact Admissions at (215) 968-8100.

Print circulation still on fast decline



BY SEAN MCGOVERN
Centurion Staff

Newspapers are waning in sales and general public interest. With all-news networks, the internet, and various radio sources, newspapers are no longer the vital source of information they used to be.

If you read that, then you are one of the few who will. The Centurion's readership is down, but so are the subscriptions to the Washington Post, New York Times and Wall Street Journal. According to a Post article in March 2005, the decline in newspaper reading began more than 20 years ago.

Now, the internet might kill the print edition of print news. While most newspapers publish daily, bloggers give instant coverage, analysis, and offer easier feedback to readers.

The Centurion keeps up with the new technology, using webcasts and an online archive of stories. But there is still the foundation of the print edition at its core, and the core of the journalism program.

Sam Katz, a 21-year-old communications major said, "The only time I read [The Centurion] is when someone either hands it to me or I'm in a location and see it sitting there." When asked about looking at the stories online, Katz said, "I didn't know there was a journalism homepage."

But the students who do actively seek out the weekly student newspaper are also having difficulties. Thomas Coates, 22, chemistry major, said he could never get a copy. "When I do look for copies, they're all gone."

"The problem is that blogs are now considered a news source," said Kimberly Piefiazek, 26, nursing major. She believes that blogs are less reputable than a newspaper because "[blogs] are based on opinion rather than fact, and hard journalism shouldn't be based on opinion."

The University of Southern California Annenberg's Online Journalism Review covered the blogger versus journalist question in April 2007, when it found that on average, bloggers used more sources than journalists, and those sources were of a wider variety than those found in newspapers.

USC also found that while bloggers use traditional Washington sources in their political stories, and cited newspapers as other sources, the print editions rarely cited blogs as sources.

Perhaps people have misjudged the blogosphere and what it might hold for the future of journalism and the media. However, the draw-

backs of blogs and questions about their legitimacy linger.

In March 2007, presidential hopeful John Edwards found out he would be dropping out of the political race when the Associated Press reported on what a blogger said he heard from a source—a high school chain of hearsay that was proven to be untrue.

Coates said, "If you really want to understand something, you must get all the facts. You can't just go with one source, you have to get many sources and then make up your own opinion."

If the print edition is to survive, it needs readers and feedback.

The Centurion, as well as a plethora of major and minor publications, has pdf archives and interactive news on their respective sites.

Visit The Centurion at www.bucks-news.com and see imbedded weekly webcasts and leave comments on the week's articles. The journalism homepage is www.bucks.edu/journalism

'Poor college students' lack social life

BY ALEXANDRA NEU
Centurion Staff

Adam D'Alonzo wakes up every morning in his Bensalem home at 6:45 a.m., then drives 20 minutes to the campus. After classes he goes home to do homework, and then returns to Bucks at 2:30 p.m. for tennis practice. In the evening he has night classes at the Lower Bucks campus.

Ask him if he has time for a social life.

"Believe it or not they're my easy days," said D'Alonzo. "After my long week, Tuesday nights is really the only night I have to go out on. When the weekend comes, I work...I'm spending all my time dedicated to school, work, and tennis. And, [I am] spending a huge portion of my paycheck on

gas."

Between the time demands of school and work, and rising prices of everything from gas to food, Bucks students say it's getting harder and harder to have a social life.

Danielle Carr, 20, a nursing major from Bensalem said, "I put my social life ahead of my first semester at Bucks and slacked off, then I realized when my grades went down I had to start caring more about school. Most days I work at Frankford Hospital 8 and 9-hour shifts and school. I'm always preparing speeches, presenting them and am busy with psychology work all the time. The time I do have, I devote to spend with my boyfriend. I really don't go out as much or have enough time for my friends."

It's a vicious circle. College students spend money on gas

to get to and from school and work. They work to get money and then spend it on transportation. There's no time to spend money on anything else.

"I'm taking classes at Holy Family and summer classes at Bucks," said Lindsay Schafer, 20, a nursing major from Bensalem said.

A lot of students are overwhelmed with the amount of work and school they have and the lack of time to have a social life. The lucky ones shrug it off like it's nothing.

"I go to school fulltime and work 25-30 hours a week. I don't struggle with the two," said Mike Shinefeld, 19, a communication major from Bensalem. "I pay for my car insurance, cell phone bill, haircuts, clothes, you name it, and I still have money."

Centurion Editor-in-Chief

Laura Irwin, 25, from Newtown, agrees with Shinefeld. "I can afford my lifestyle. I work enough to pay for anything I need to do, and not just bills but play too. If I can't afford it, I don't do it. Rent and such is first priority. It's the only responsible thing to do."

Going out on the town can get expensive. The lowest prices for regular gas are currently around \$3.50 per gallon. To go to a night club costs \$7-\$8 on a weekday and up to \$15 on a weekend.

"There's nothing to do around here in Newtown," said Kyle Crawford, 19, journalism major from Newtown. "We go to the city to hang out. Gas alone I spend \$20 a week."

Jay Jones 20, a journalism major from Yardley said, "I don't go to the city without

\$100, including gas in my budget it gets expensive."

Going out on dates gets to be pricy for the gentlemen who pay, whether it's going to the city or just hanging out locally.

"My boyfriend and me take turns paying when we go out, it's too expensive to always make him pay," said Tiffany Luszczak, 20, from Bensalem who is an education major. "Movies are getting way too expensive, we just rent movies. It saves money."

Prices are creating sticker shock for many college students.

Dinner and a movie are nearly impossible for many because of the cost. And that doesn't include the price tag associated with getting to the restaurant and movie theater to begin with.

Student loan bill goes to president

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress gave final approval Thursday to legislation aimed at ensuring the problems in the credit markets don't prevent students from getting college loans.

The House passed the legislation in a 388-21 vote, one day after the Senate approved it. President Bush is expected to sign the measure.

"Today's vote will help ensure that students' dreams of going to college aren't side-

lined by the turmoil in the credit markets," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., chairman of the House Education Committee.

The legislation increases limits on how much borrowers can receive in federally subsidized student loans.

That should decrease student reliance on more expensive private loans. Some students have had trouble getting those nonfederal private loans because lenders have left the market in recent months due to the credit

crunch.

Dozens of lenders also have stopped making loans in the federal program. However, where that has happened, other lenders have stepped in or students have received support through a smaller program in which the Education Department lends money directly to students.

"Our legislation guarantees that low cost college loans will continue to be available with government help, no matter what happens in the private loan market," said

Massachusetts Democrat Edward Kennedy, chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

The legislation attempts to make it easier for parents to take out federal loans for their children's education by allowing parents to defer repayments until after their children leave school.

The legislation also nudges up grant aid to poor students and gives the Education Department the authority to buy up loans from student lenders to ensure they have

access to capital and can keep issuing loans.

Bush said he was pleased by Congress' swift action because millions of students around the country could potentially benefit from the legislation.

"By granting the Department of Education greater authority to purchase federal student loans, today's action should ease the anxiety many students may feel about their ability to finance their education this fall," the president said.

As expected, GTA IV sells millions

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Centurion Staff

The biggest videogame release of the year was Grand Theft Auto IV on April 30.

The most anticipated title in 2008, GTA IV is one of the most controversial games in the history of console games— with mafia bosses, prostitutes, drug dealers, illegitimate business men and people with very low moral centers. But in the game these people are your friends and whether you help them or not determines how the game will play out for you.

This formula is not new to GTA IV but it is the first game of its kind to be released on this scale.

Even after a few hours of play, the game will suck you in and make you want more.

Unlike previous games, whether Vice or San Andreas, this version of the game has you cast as Niko Bellic, a man of Eastern-European descent who comes to America with ideas of women, cars and expensive houses.

These ideas were planted

into his head by his cousin Roman Bellic, who claimed to have many women, four cars and an expensive house.

Unfortunately, “your” cousin actually has a low-rent apartment not far from his cab business. This is the start of the main string of missions that lead you to the five boroughs of Liberty City.

It should be noted that the original Liberty City of GTA I is vastly different from GTA IV. The city has been revamped into a more-recognizable, parody-city of NYC. Four of the five boroughs are represented in this game from Bohan, the Bronx, to Algonquin, or Manhattan.

A bunch of NYC landmarks can also be found all over the game, from the “Statue of Happiness” to “Rotterdam Tower.”

It almost feels like you are in NYC, but with the ability to get away with murder.

The game’s graphics and interactive gameplay have been stepped up from the previous games. Niko can interact with everything around him, a vast improve-

ment to previous GTAs.

In previous games characters would try to interact with some of the environment and it wouldn’t look realistic, in fact it was almost cartoony. Now, when Niko steps on to a curb, he steps up from the curb. He will actually have one foot up on the curb and his other foot in the street, just like real life.

One of the best elements of the new game is that there will be episodic content available for download for Playstation 3 and Xbox 360.

The other fantastic part of this game is that for the first time, multiplayer play is available online.

Now, players can team up with up to 16 other players and go on killing sprees, complete missions and, of course, steal some cars.

Overall, there is a lot of game to take in and it will take more than 30-hours of straight gameplay just to get through the main story.

The gameplay itself is worth the play time and this game will have huge replay value.

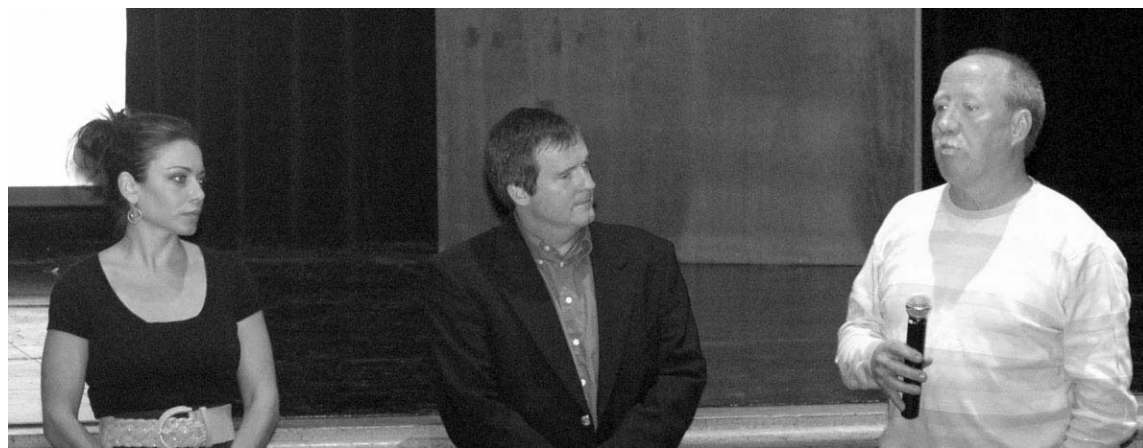


According to Yahoo! News, GTA IV will most likely generate \$400 million in revenue in its first week, wiping out Halo 3’s first-week record and breaking the all-time entertainment industry single day sales record.

For anyone who has played these games in the past, this is a must buy, if you haven’t purchased it already.

For newcomers to the dynamic of GTA, go pick it up now.

Forum focuses on coverage of crime



(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) ERIN O’HEARN, J.D. MULLANE AND BILL MOUSHEY
PHOTO COURTESY OF TONY ROGERS

BY LAURA IRWIN
Editor-in-Chief

Maybe it was because he escaped from a pointed gun to his head, has chatted with Mafiosos or was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for a 60-part series on the Ohio mafia, but Bill Moushey, one of three panelists at the ninth annual Media Day at Bucks, captivated an array of students on Wednesday, April 23.

Alongside him was J.D. Mullane, a columnist for the Bucks County Courier Times, and Erin O’Hearn, a reporter for Channel 6 Action News. They all spoke to their experiences for this year’s theme - covering the police beat.

“You know what’s great about journalism,” said Moushey, “is that you get to do what you want—and to me it’s dear to my heart—bad guys. You are covering the worst human beings on the face of the earth, and there certainly are plenty of

bad guys to go around.”

Moushey has been an investigative reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette since 1985. His stories have included a series revealing abuses within the federal witness protection program, uncovering corruption on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and revealing dreadful health care conditions in the state prison system.

His Post-Gazette reports have won numerous national and local awards. His 1996 series “Protected Witness” was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. He was awarded the National Press Club’s Freedom of Information Award. He also received honorable mention for The Newspaper Guild’s Heywood Broun Award for reporting about society’s underprivileged.

“Journalism doesn’t pay very well, but we certainly give each other a lot of awards,” reflected Moushey

of his near-achieved Pulitzer Prize.

Instead, the winner was a reporter who was dying of AIDS and chronicled the final stages of his life. “My editor said to me, ‘Now you know what to do to win,’” said Moushey.

Mullane agreed with Moushey—journalism wasn’t the highest paying job, but its rewards far outweighed any financial downsides.

Mullane, a columnist for the Bucks County Courier Times and a blogger for Phillyburbs.com, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his crime series that examined the 1962 rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl in a Bristol Borough church.

He is the only reporter to interview bank robber William Alston, who shot a Bristol Township sergeant and then escaped to Africa, where he lived for a decade as a clean-cut, soft-spoken university professor.

“Will Austin was a bank

robber in 1972. He was cornered right in front of the police department, where he then pointed his gun at an officer, killed him, was apprehended and pled guilty,” recalled Mullane. “[Austin] escaped and vanished. Years later they found him, living in Tunisia. He had gone to college and carved out a new identity for himself as a highly educated college professor teaching French to the children of a British ambassador.”

O’Hearn got her start differently, but her insight to the criminal mind was more personalized.

She showed a short TV report she had done that documented the fear of Philadelphia children living among daily shootings, murders and drug wars.

According to her bio, O’Hearn joined the Action News Team as a general assignment reporter in January of 2006. She has a background covering politics, as she began her broadcasting career at Capital News 9 in her hometown of Albany, New York.

She discussed how it feels to walk up to a mourning family who just lost a family member. “They don’t owe me

anything. And there are some people that don’t talk, other people who embrace you. It is therapeutic, because there is a bad guy out there and they’ll talk because they don’t want their friends to lose a child,” said O’Hearn.

“Then,” she added, “you realize you are doing a service.”

Media Day, presented by Bucks’ journalism program and the Centurion, is an annual forum emceed by journalism Professor Tony Rogers and the Centurion editor-in-chief.

This year, several high school classes and a junior high school newspaper attended along with the Bucks journalism students.

Several films were shown that gave insight into the journalism and communications majors at Bucks.

And The Centurion presented a film that showed the production of the paper from start to finish.

Aside from the invaluable career advice from Moushey, Mullane and O’Hearn, Media Day encouraged potential reporters, according to Rogers, to pursue not just a cubicle but a career.

Student returns from year in Tokyo

BY ANNAS MIRZA
Tokyo Correspondent

I spent a good chunk of last year in Tokyo and I'm finally back at Bucks for vacation.

Coming back to the States has given me time to think about what I've done in my time in Tokyo.

Tokyo was one hell of a trip; I don't think that could be said enough.

I've done and grown so much in the past few months that it's even showing as I meet up with people I haven't seen in months.

To be honest, I really don't know what to talk about when I think back on Tokyo. There was so much, and there was a lot I never really did. I feel like I need to do a lot more when I get back in a few weeks.

Then I reflect on the small things that really leave a big impression on me. Things like—how easy it is to grasp the language if you're just willing to learn a little, or maybe how people walk up and down stairs.

In Japan, the left side is always used for a slow pace while the right side is only used for people who are in a hurry.

This is a bigger issue as I came back to the States. Already I told off a guy for not moving down the escalator in a quick manner from the right side of the stairs.

I quickly said I was sorry to the poor guy and told him I wasn't used to people staying still from the right side. I then later started to ask myself what other things were different from Tokyo. The list grows tenfold.

Another thing I noticed is just how much space I have to spread around my arms and whatnot.

I feel very uneasy as I walk into a mall and it's not packed shoulder to shoulder. It sounds strange, but I've gotten so used to always being pressed against someone, so it's odd to be able to run around like an idiot.

I also missed driving...a lot.

And that's not an overstatement.

I drove for the first time today in months, and it was like being able to fly over the ground. Being able to go around anytime I want, and wherever I want is a gift that people shouldn't take for granted.

This might be a strange one but I'm no longer used to



ANNAS MIRZA POSES FOR A PHOTO IN JAPAN

watching a lot of TV. Since I got back, I've been overwhelmed by all the TV channels and started to ask myself just why someone would need so many. So, I've cut off watching TV and just stuck with playing Grand Theft Auto IV.

Drinking alcohol with friends has been a very different experience as well. Let's not even bring up that I'm only 20, but 20 is the legal age in Japan. But some of the bars

here aren't at the same quality as the lower-end bars in Tokyo. Drinking with your friends is something everyone does, even if you don't drink alcohol.

These are just some of the things I'm noticing as I'm staying at home. If I look back, Tokyo feels way too far away and it feels like a world I can't physically connect with anymore, almost as if the only way I could really notice Tokyo was if I was still

there.

Being in Tokyo has been one of the greatest experiences of my life, and I'll be so excited once I get back. I've met a lot of friends, been to amazing festivals and have hung out with some of the most amazing women.

Yeah, I missed home while I was in Tokyo, but now that I'm back, I'm missing Tokyo more.

Oyasumi!

A letter to the editor

Mark Bennett, let me give you a piece of my mind. As I was reading your opinion piece in the April 23 edition of the Centurion, you hit a nerve.

I am Schizophrenic, the paranoid delusional type.

I take as many pills as a cancer patient; if I didn't have access to my medication, I wouldn't be able to function as a semi-well adjusted member of society, what most people refer to as being "normal."

I wouldn't be a proud student of Bucks, nor would I be working as a bartender at a job I absolutely love.

I agree with you on the points you made in reference to prescription drug abuse and dependency.

When a patient is prescribed a pill for what doctors now call "situational depression," it makes me sick to my stomach just to think that doctors are calling a mild case of the passing blues a disorder. Get over it!

Restless leg syndrome, take a pill, stress at work, take a pill. Nothing but what they call "mother's little helper," and I call that a disorder in and of itself.

Addiction is a terrible thing, I have been down that road as have many people; I remember it as the darkest point in my life.

But, without my pills, I would probably still be eating checkers with salt and ketchup in the mental institution doomed to be mentally handicapped for the rest of my life.

God bless good doctors and God bless medication!

-Jessamyn Fox

Got something to say? E-mail Editor-in-Chief Laura Irwin with your comments at centurion@bucks.edu!

Sea lions murdered at dam

By The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) For years, the sea lions lounging at the Bonneville Dam have had easy pickings from salmon waiting to go up fish ladders to upriver spawning grounds.

Over the weekend, the federally protected sea creatures were themselves easy prey for a gunman who shot and killed six of the sea lions as they lay in traps meant to humanely catch them.

The six salmon-gobbling animals appear to have been shot by somebody on the Washington side during the night, said Brian Gorman, a spokesman for the National

Marine Fisheries Service. Fishermen and American Indian tribes have pushed to protect the salmon and remove the sea lions, by lethal force if necessary.

The shootings came less than two weeks after an appeals court issued a temporary injunction against federal authorities killing the mammals.

Federal agents have been trapping them instead, but trapping will be suspended during the investigation, said Rick Hargrave, a spokesman for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

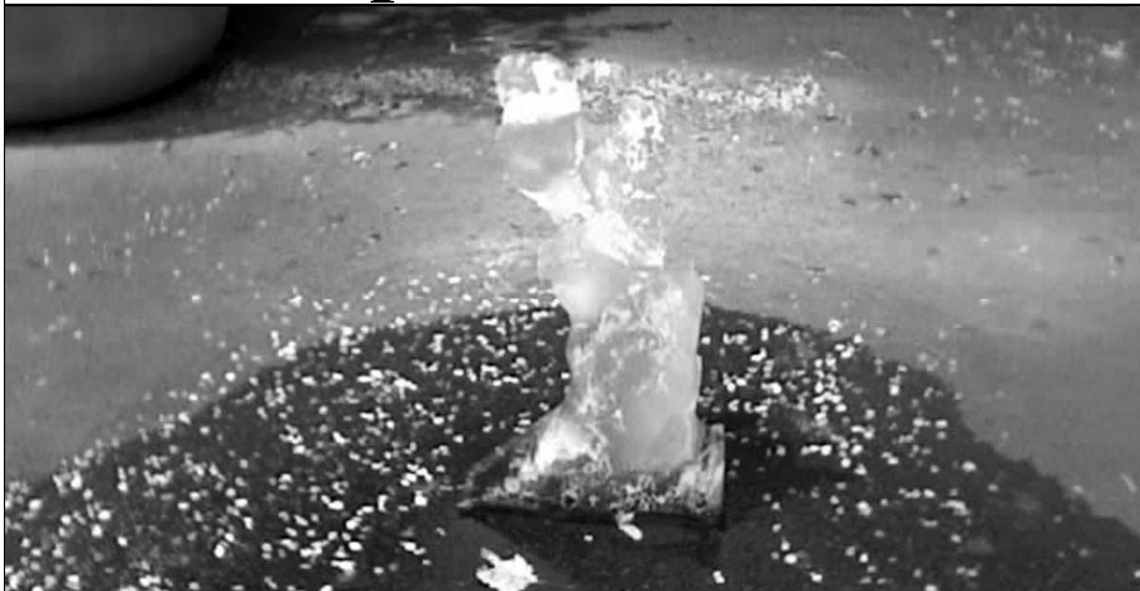
Gorman said when officers got to the traps below the dam's powerhouses, where

the water is rough enough to make getting to there difficult, they found them closed."It isn't clear how someone got access to the traps," Gorman said. "Nobody in an official capacity closed the traps."

The Humane Society of the United States has gone to court to challenge the authorization, with another hearing set for May 8. Until a judge rules, no animals may be legally killed.

Sharon Young, a Humane Society spokeswoman, who learned about the sea lion deaths from a reporter said, "We're a nation of laws, and we should expect people to abide by them."

Random photo of the month



AN ICE SCULPTURE MELTS AWAY OUTSIDE TYLER HALL

A Piece of my Mind

A weekly column by Centurion Editor Mark Bennett

Well, this will be my last editorial for Bucks. That's right, if all goes well I should graduate with an associate's degree in journalism in a couple of weeks, and then it's a little time off to reflect and then off to a four-year school.

As I sit here writing this, I remember back to when I first started this column, my first story was about how bad drivers push me near the brink of going on a shooting rampage. All the editors at the paper loved it, and told me that I should just write about things that push my buttons, that when I'm angry about something I should write about it because it makes for an interesting read. Well, if that's how they want it, that's how they're going to get it.

How come every single time the cops are about to let me and my friends go, one of those drunken idiots have to start arguing with them? Dude, just shut up, Shut up, shut up, shut up! They are about to let us go, screw your opinion on the matter and why do you have to try and get the last word in? Just shut up, take your verbal scolding and be glad they're not going to arrest us. But that's asking for too much isn't it?

How come the people that talk the most in class have absolutely nothing of importance to say? You know, this three-hour class would be over in an hour if you



crammed a Twinkie in your pie hole and sat there and listened to what the professor had to say without putting your 2 cents into the conversation.

How come every time a girl breaks up with me, "It's not you, it's me." No it isn't. Do I look stupid to you? I have no problem with you so obviously the problem resides in me, just be honest and say that you're not interested and save me the mental mind screw.

Why is it that the best looking girls always go with the guys that will treat them the worst?

How come the African-American College Fund isn't considered racist but if someone was to start a Caucasian College Fund it would be the most racist thing since the Rodney King beating?

How come a girl can quite literally beat the crap out of a guy, but if he so much as pushes her he's in jail for the night?

Why do people waste more time concerned about American Idol, MySpace and celebrity worship then things that are actually important?

How come people have so many beliefs? Why not just have ideas? It's easy to change an idea, people kill and die for what they believe in. Thanks "Dogma."

Why is everyone I know a bloody moron? Have you ever taken a look around at your friends, co-workers and people you're forced to be in contact with on a daily basis? Has anyone else ever caught themselves thinking, "Christ, I'm surrounded by idiots?"

How come people that have good lives whine and complain about how hard they have it? Listen you little worm, at any given time there are millions of people in the world that have it worse then you, stop bringing me down and shut up.

How come Comedy Central can say the 'N' word but they censor the vulgar term for human fecal material? It might just be me but I always thought the 'N' word was worse than the 'S' word... it must just be me.

Well, I'm running out of space so that will end my rant for this issue. You know, I'm kind of sad that this will be my last editorial, and I'm going to miss this place when I'm gone. I only hope that like a Ryder "You're going to miss me when I'm gone."

A Modern Hypocrisy



A weekly column by Centurion Editor-in-Chief Laura Irwin

The year's columns in review

Another year at Bucks draws to a close and here's the last issue...until fall semester. In other words: end of the year wrap-up!

I started the semester with a column on my being a Republican. This year's Democratic primary angered me. Pennsylvanians were stupid for letting Hillary Clinton take our state. Really? Her?

Now as a registered member of the GOP, I couldn't vote for either candidate, but had I changed my political stance, I'd go Barack Obama any day. Go McCain in the fall, and I hope he's running against Obama. I'm ready for a qualified race between two substantial candidates.

Then there are my Heely's. I still think they are fun and I don't care what people think of my footwear, or anything pertaining to me. Besides, without the wheels, they make a nice pair of sneakers.

During Halloween I carved some pretty rad pumpkins and I look forward to more purposeless crafts in the future.

My fourth column was about dating past the age of 25. I'll be 26 in September and hopefully by then I'll be closer to a relationship than I am now. I'm not really desperately looking for a partner in crime however "the scene" is different once many of your friends have husbands. It's a kick to the gut at times because you're reminded of other's happiness; regardless of their utter joy and marital status, it gets so annoying to watch and who doesn't like tax breaks?

Christmas was around the corner when I wrote about the never-ending Yuletide tunes blaring from the stereo systems in stores. Seriously, what is the connection between buyer impulse and bad music and why is popular music "inappropriate" for many stores? I hear plenty of good tunes that avoid profanity and could easily have hidden Mickey's etched onto their tracks, "Buy me. Buy me."

Then, the day after Thanksgiving, I went vegan. I pledged 30 days to a completely vegan diet. I went 44 days before the embarrassment of restaurant dining was too much for me. I went 67 days until I bought my favorite food, yogurt, at the grocery store. I lasted way longer, it felt long anyway, than my original timeframe, I lost a few pounds and most of the dietary stipulations have stayed with me. But, as mentioned in the earlier article, I cannot resist the smoky heaven that is BBQ season.

My favorite article this semester was the one I wrote on slacker Bucks students. Not only have I heard the jeers from my targeted audience loud and clear, and thank you for reading, but I was told several professors have printed out this piece for their students to read. Way to go teachers of Bucks, don't let anyone get away with blatant disrespect. Welcome to the real world kids. But, if it makes anyone feel better, this semester will not continue my rein of perfect A's. With my hectic responsibilities that come with being editor-in-chief, my priorities have been newspaper over class. I can rationalize that this is my career, as history is not, but it still makes me feel bad. I wrote I was a multi-tasking pro, and I do a lot in my time, and as a very competitive person it pains me that I couldn't fit in everything. There's a certain pride in being able to "do it all."

I loved talking about the crazies I favor in books and TV. Get an imagination if you can't see why certain vampires and oddballs could be sexy. Don't deny it. I am talking about a hotness factor. I do not want to marry a psychopath nor do I go for "the bad boy."

Mark Bennett, mine's better.

Spring is a better time for reflecting on your life.

I have followed through with my go-green aspirations and have made significant leaps from a dismal environmental perspective. I have always cared. I was just not very proactive.

And this leaves me to a farewell for now. I'd like to thank the members of my staff who aren't returning next semester. I will really miss seeing you guys everyday. Bennett, you're the best. Phil, I'm sure I'll have you in my car soon. Rowan, dawg. Yorke...well that's it, for the, uh, thanks. Neany, for everything! I continue as The Centurion's editor-in-chief next year, so until then, happy summer and do keep reading.

Oh Baby!

A weekly column by Centurion Managing Editor Janine Logue

It is the end of the semester and, as I have done for the last three years, I have been trying to wrap up last minute assignments and prepare for finals.

The difference being that, this semester, I am seven months pregnant and I am feeling the effects of my condition.

Finals are always a hard and stressful time for a student, but with so much else on my mind lately I have found it doubly hard to concentrate on my studying.

Every time I sit down to type up a paper or prepare for a test, I find myself having to walk off a cramp or run to the bathroom.

Soon, I find myself in the nursery trying to straighten up or putting together some new baby item.

The next thing I know, it is 10 p.m. and I am ready for bed, never having gotten back to my studies.

Even as I write this column, my final piece for the

Centurion, I find myself wandering off to take care of other, more pressing issues.

I have to keep reminding myself that I am in the home stretch. I am about to finish my last classes here at Bucks.

I am finally graduating and will not having to work full-time while going to school full-time.

I wish it were true that, once classes are over, I'll have more time to get things done. But the truth is, once classes are over, I will only have a few weeks left before the baby arrives and then, of course, I will have zero free time.

As has been the ebb and flow of my life, as soon as one thing ends, another begins.

I will be moving on to bigger things and new experiences, just like the rest of the students in my graduating class.

For most of them, it will be transferring to a four-year college or entering the work force. For me, it will be enter-

ing in to motherhood, and taking on the next stage in my life.

It was never in the plans for me to get pregnant while I was in college.

When I started at Bucks I wasn't even that serious about dating the man who would become my husband.

I thought that, like many others at Bucks, I would head off to Temple after Bucks and get my bachelor's. I thought I would rent a small apartment near the campus and work part-time to make ends meet.

As it turns out, the cosmos had other plans for me. I may eventually make it to Temple, or another school to finish my degree, but for right now I will be focusing on my career and my family.

That is what needs my attention the most right now.

At least when my son grows to be a bit older I can talk to him about how he attended his mother's college graduation.

See each issue's webcast at www.bucks-news.com!

Manchester U, Chelsea going for title

BY ANDREW BROWN
Centurion Staff

Moscow hoteliers, restaurateurs and bar owners beware: the English are coming.

In a thrilling week of Champions League Soccer action, British clubs Manchester United and Chelsea FC secured passage to the final of the competition, set for May 21 in the Russian capital.

This will be only the third time in the history of the competition that two clubs from the same nation will face each other for the cup. It's also the first time that two clubs from the Barclay's Premier League have clashed in the final, which is essentially the European equivalent of the Super Bowl.

In the first semi-final of the week, United met FC

Barcelona at Old Trafford, their legendary home ground.

Barcelona came out and played their trademark brand of pass-and-move soccer for the first 10 minutes of the match. The Manchester outfit, playing without key men Wayne Rooney and Nemanja Vidic, seemed to have to answers for the questions the Spanish side were asking of them.

However, in minute 14 of play, Barca defender Gianluca Zambrotta made a careless pass on the edge of his own penalty area. United midfielder Paul Scholes intercepted the Italian's pass and punished him for his mistake, thrashing the ball past keeper Victor Valdes from 25 yards. A truly breathtaking strike and United were up 1-0.

The goal seemed to give

United a much needed boost of confidence, and for the remainder of the game, they looked the side more likely to score again.

Barca played some attractive passing soccer in the middle of the field, but never really seriously threatened United. At the end of 90 minutes, United prevailed, and waited anxiously to see which of their league rivals they'd be facing for the cup.

In Wednesday's all-English semi-final, Chelsea met Liverpool FC at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge, where the London side has not lost to English opposition in any competition for over four years. The first leg had ended 1-1 after Liverpool's John Arne Riise had scored a shocking own goal in minute 95, keeping Chelsea in the tie.

The game promised attack-

ing soccer, which is a departure from the historically dull, defensive nature of this fixture. Chelsea's Didier Drogba opened the scoring in minute 32 on a trademark rebound.

After the half time interval, Liverpool's Spanish goal machine Fernando Torres leveled the score. At the end of regulation, the match remained deadlocked.

In minute 98, Michael Ballack, Chelsea's German international, was brought down in the box, and Frank Lampard stepped up to take the penalty. Lampard had been grieving the death of his mother all week, and it was a surprise that he had even started this match. So when he coolly buried the ball past Liverpool keeper Pepe Reina, he was understandably overcome with emotion. It was a

touching moment for even the most ardent Chelsea hater. The Blues now had a 2-1 lead.

Didier Drogba doubled his tally in the 105, and put Chelsea up 3-1. Although Ryan Babel pulled one back for Liverpool, it was not enough. The match ended 3-2, and Chelsea advanced to their first ever Champions League final.

As United and Chelsea are also both vying for the league title, this game carries a great deal of importance for both sides. The English league will have concluded by this time, so one of these sides will have been crowned Premiership champions. The title race gives the cup final much more weight.

Chase Utley is the Phillies big hitter

BY TOM ROWAN
Centurion Staff

The nuanced thrill filters through the wave of excitement radiating from the Citizen's Bank Park faithful.

Chase Utley swings completely through the red stitches of the white baseball, sending it deep into right center field.

The All-Star second baseman's first long-ball all year at "The Banks" hallowed halls.

And the fun has just begun.

Had it not been for a broken wrist Utley suffered at the hands of Washington Nationals left-hander John Lannan on July 27 of last year, there may have been a Civil War between 2007 National League MVP Jimmy Rollins and Utley over the prestigious award.

Utley, prior to his injury, was either the leader or near

the top in most offensive categories.

He was batting .336 with 17 homers and 82 RBI's, on course to have the best overall offensive numbers in the National league.

Rollins, in comparison, ended the season batting .296 with 30 homers, 94 RBIs and 41 steals from the leadoff spot.

"There's just something about all the energy this guy emits, the tone he sets, the relentless pace he plays at," said ESPN Analyst Jayson Stark. "He's one of those rare players everybody in the sport admires -- guys on his team, guys on the other team, the GMs who wish they'd drafted him and the stat guys who love crunching his numbers."

Utley was the clear MVP favorite when he broke his hand."

Utley has begun the 2008

season with a content hand and fierce motivation.

Utley is leading the majors with 11 home runs, ranks 2nd in RBI's with 23, and his .357 batting average is also second best in all of baseball.

Utley also leads the league in slugging percentage and total bases, is tied for the most runs, and has the 2nd most hits in MLB.

If Utley can keep his composure, and stay away from inside fastballs, he may very well accomplish a feat matched only by the New York Yankees with three straight MVPs.

If the Phillies are lucky, they may see back-to-back NL Division Titles for the first time since the 76 and 77 seasons; maybe even win their first playoff game since 1993.

The Phillies have already had their first winning record (15-13) in April since 2003.



Centurion baseball champs

By Centurion Staff

They came in as underdogs, they emerged as champions.

Rookie Coach Mark Bohling led Bucks baseball in double wins over the weekend to claim the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference Baseball Championship.

The Centurions were seeded third in the tournament, however they beat second-seed Delaware County Community College 13-5 on Saturday May 3, then dismantled top seed Luzerne County Community College 9-5 at the tournament that wrapped up on May 4 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Bohling said the team was

confident going into the tournament, despite having a regular season conference record of 3-5 and an 0-2 record against Luzerne.

"Surprisingly we had a pretty good attitude going in," said Bohling in a Bucks press release. "The last two games of the season, everybody started hitting. Good pitching is vital, but really hot bats will carry you through. We gave the team a run for its money."

Bohling credited the pitching of Pat Boyle, 19, of Yardley and 18-year-old Craig Kieffer of Perkasio with pulling the team through the tournament.

Boyle pitched all nine innings Saturday, then

stepped in to relieve Keiffer in the ninth inning Sunday to earn the save.

"Both pitched incredibly," said Bohling, "better than they had all season. It was a great finish."

According to Bohling, other standout players included third baseman Ryan Herrmann, 19, of Silverdale, and utility player David Mullen, 18, of Philadelphia, who played left field during the tournament.

Contact Mark Bohling at (215)968-8443 or at his e-mail, bohlingm@bucks.edu.

Baseball is one of seven intercollegiate sports offered at Bucks. To learn more, visit www.bucks.edu/athletics.



In and out with a championship?

BY PHIL COLES
Sports Editor

I have this sick feeling. I was born on Oct. 5, 1982, and if you recall, that was the last year a Philadelphia team won a championship; sorry, the Philadelphia Wings or Phantoms don't count. That year the 76ers won the NBA title. My feeling, however, is that there won't be another championship in Philly until the year I die.

So unless I meet a tragic death sports fans, prepare for 60-some years of painfully close-but-no-cigar, short-end-of-the-stick finishes.

Let's examine our four major sports teams' chances.

The Flyers. They are surprising everyone with their run in this year's playoffs. If any team has a chance to win a title, it's these guys, because Ed Snider considers them his favorite, as he also owns the Sixers. The Flyers seem to routinely go after play-

ers to make their teams better. They have a fan base that is one of the most loyal in the league, prompting Sports Illustrated to call Philadelphia the NHL's new "hockeytown" replacing Detroit.

So what's the problem? This year's club is too slow defensively, and while they will probably get past Montreal, they won't get past the Penguins. And as for their future title hopes, they need to change their image as the tough guys of the NHL. League officials want to see a crisp, clean, fast brand of hockey. The Flyers will continue to cater to their roughneck fans by playing their beat-em-up style. Unless they change their mentality, it will be tough for the officials to "let" the Flyers win a Stanley Cup. Conspiracy...maybe, I wouldn't rule it out.

The Sixers. Not this year, forget about it. The future does look bright though. New Sixers GM Ed Stefanski is a Philadelphia native and will do

everything he can to make the Sixers champs. The team has some talented young players, and the experience they are gaining in this year's playoffs is invaluable.

They also are a team filled with huge holes. Good teams usually have two low-post scoring options, the Sixers have none. Championship teams also usually have a superstar player, and the Sixers don't have one. And perhaps most importantly, the Sixers, owned by Ed Snider, are not his favorite team. Therefore it is only natural to assume most of his energy - and more importantly money - will go toward the Flyers.

The Phillies. Well, for starters their pitching stinks. And well... that's pretty much it. They have one of the most potent lineups in all of baseball and yet for the third consecutive year, they have failed to get enough quality pitching to be taken seriously in October. Can you imagine if this lineup was in Boston or New York? They would beg, borrow and steal to get some arms to match. If Chase Utley wins the MVP this year, and he has to be the early favorite leading the NL in home runs, the Phils could have three different MVP's in three seasons. To waste this kind of talent should be a crime punishable under the law. This is an easy one: until they get a new owner to replace the clueless David Montgomery, they won't win a championship.

The Eagles. This one hurts the most, since Philly at its core is a football town. We appreciate seeing men throwing themselves into one another with the force of an Ivan Drago right-hand. Let me resurrect some bad memories for you. I'll fast forward to the early 90s since most of us weren't



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

around to see the first Eagles Super Bowl team fold to the Raiders in 1980. The "Mean Green Machine" defense had climbed into the pantheon of great defenses, earning itself a nickname that is only given out to legendary units like Pittsburgh's "Steel Curtain" and Minnesota's "Purple People Eaters." Randall Cunningham is revolutionizing the quarterback position. Then tragedy strikes as star defensive tackle Jerome Brown is killed in an auto accident. Cunningham goes down with a severe leg injury and title hopes go up in smoke.

As for this year's Eagles' team, there are just too many holes to look past. The quarterback is coming off a major injury, and has played inconsistently throughout his entire career. The offensive line is aging and the receiving corps lacks a top-flight receiver. Defensively, their line is undersized and wears down as the season progresses, their line-

backers are young and untested and the safety position is a question mark. But that is not the biggest hurdle stopping the Eagles from winning the Super Bowl.

Eagles owner Jeffery Lurie is a lucky man. He owns one of the most successful franchises in all of sports. The Eagles are a cash-cow with a die-hard fan base; just try getting a ticket under \$100. All Lurie cares about is keeping the franchise successful. He wants those extra playoff dollars, but could care less about seeing the team win it all. How else would you explain the absence of a top flight receiver?

It just doesn't seem fair. I believe Philadelphia has the most knowledgeable fans in sports. Why do we deserve such scorn? Whatever the reason, I have a feeling I'm going out like Mark Twain did; in and out with Haley's Comet, 82 years in between. Only in my case, the comet is a Philly championship.

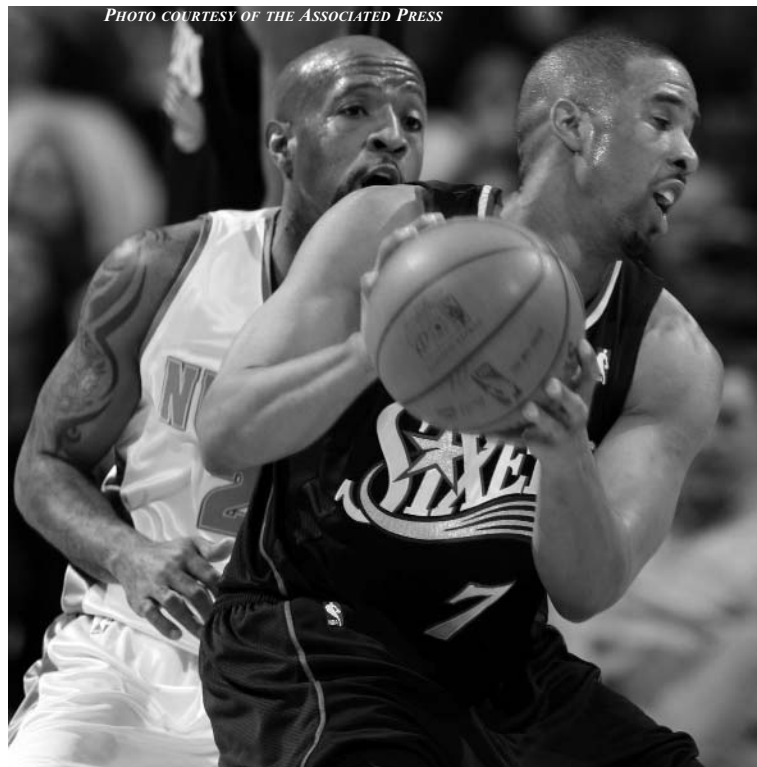


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flyers' key players

BY KEVIN YORKE
Student Life Editor

Things looked pretty bleak for the Flyers when the team lost 10 in a row in what looked like a squad that was uninspired and lacked enough focus to play consistent hockey. In the playoffs, however, the Flyers have showed impressive depth from its forwards, improved defense, and for once in a long time, quality goaltending. It has been a number of players that have carried the Flyers this far, and certainly these specific players have really made the difference.

Daniel Briere Center #48 - This is why he was brought in by General Manager Paul Holmgren: to provide clutch scoring and leadership. As of May 1st, Briere has led the Flyers with 14 points. His clutch goal scoring has really carried the Flyers and led the way when they really needed it most.

R.J. Umberger Center #20 - The man who was "demoted" to the fourth line has come up huge for the Flyers in the Washington and Montreal series. He has scored 7 goals in the playoffs and consistently makes life nearly impossible for opposing teams to match up because the Flyers now role out 4 lines that, from top to bottom, can all put pressure on the goaltender. In the Montreal series specifically, Umberger has scored in the first 4 games, amassing an impressive total of 6 goals in the series.

Martin Biron Goalie #43 - What can you say that hasn't been said about the Flyers travelled, French Canadian goaltender? He has carried the team on his back in the playoffs. Patrick Roy, Martin Brodeur, and Dominik Hasek were goalies that took over for their teams in the playoffs. Could Marty Biron be in the same league with those guys when these playoffs are said and done? Time will tell.

Kimmo Timonen Defenseman #44 - The Flyers' premier defenseman did a number on the Caps phenom, superstar Alexander Ovechkin. The usually unstoppable Russian superstar had an unusually plain playoff series, and you can probably attribute that to the Flyers' Finnish defenseman.

Mike Richards Center #18 - Richards has been the Flyers' best defensive forward, killing penalties and creating havoc. He is the heart and soul of the team, and has lead by example, checking, breaking up passes, and has provided scoring to go along with all the defense he displays. Ultimately, like Danny Briere, he has shown why the Flyers signed him to a huge 12 year, \$69 Million contract last summer.

John Stevens Head Coach - The Head coach has to be given credit for the team's resurgence during the season. He adjusted and configured the team in such a way that set them up to win every game. His switch for R.J. Umberger to the fourth line, although met with frustration by Umberger, has turned into instant gold in the playoffs.