**Tuition hike, a yearly trend**

The Board of Trustees unanimously approve a 'modest increase in tuition,' but the expense for students has been steadily rising for years.

BY JAY JONES  
Centurion Staff

A tuition increase may mean students are going to be feeling it in the pit of their wallet more than ever come fall 2008. On Feb. 14, 2008 the Bucks’ Board of Trustees unanimously voted to raise tuition $2 per credit and $3 per credit for technology support fees.

Why this time? According to the board, to deal with the rising costs of textbooks and students attending the college. This year Bucks educates more than 9,444 students, which is almost 100 individuals over budget. For the out-of-state students, who are already dishing out the $279 per-credit fee, the increase for per credit amount has not been discussed, however it is almost certain to follow suit with the rise for in-state.

Does hearing about another Bucks tuition hike sound familiar? It should; it has been on a steady increase since at least 2000.

According to University Police Chief Donald Grady, the gun-attack, which left another 17 students were fatally shot during the attack, which left another 17 students among the class of 160 students. Hall, before he appeared armed with three guns opened fire from a lecture hall stage, killing five students and wounding several others, before committing suicide. According to the Financial Aid website, approximately 2,287 students received some form of financial aid in the 2005-2006 academic year, exceeding nearly $7.8 million in all.

In the March 7, 2005 edition of the Centurion, Bucks President Dr. James Linksz was quoted as saying that he believes it is fairer to increase the tuition now rather than to have to suddenly cut programs, staff and services later. He would rather make small adjustments each year rather than a large increase every couple of years. “It makes better financial sense, and it’s better for students,” he said.

And Linksz has been keeping his promise of a slow and steady tuition increase. The hike is due to a state legislature funding agreement, Act 46, that altered the way Pennsylvania’s 14 community colleges receive funding; this put Bucks in major debt. Hopefully, the approximate $33 increase in five years has settled the debt, what with the increase in students attending Bucks.

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**Five dead after Valentine’s Day shooting**

Although the casualties are much lower, the shooting had a devastating effect on the 25,000- student campus 65 miles west of Chicago.

NIU officials have already cancelled classes and are urging their students to contact their parents “as soon as possible.” This is not the first time that NIU has had to cancel its classes. The school was closed during exam week in early December after campus police learned of threats, involving racial slurs and references to the shooting earlier in the year at Virginia Tech, etched into a bathroom wall.

Campus police concluded after a lengthy investigation that there was no imminent threat and classes resumed.

Grady released a statement saying he believed the incident in December had no connection to this attack. As for the weapons used in the shooting, Alcohol Tobacco Firearms agents, who were on scene assisting local police after the shooting, said they will immediately trace the history on all the guns. Some TV networks labeled the shooting the new “Valentine’s Day Massacre.”
Cones, spray paint warn drivers of road hazards

BY ASHLEY WUNDER
Centurion Staff

Cold temperatures and excess rain are making it difficult to fix the dozens of potholes, forcing Bucks drivers to run an unwanted gauntlet around campus roads and parking lots. Traffic cones and white spray paint are being used to help drivers avoid hitting the numerous potholes found throughout the parking lots.

There are over 20 craters on Linden Lane, the main road that leads to the parking lots on campus, and many are in need of immediate attention. Students worried about being on time for class or searching for a parking space forget the potholes are there.

“I noticed the pothole at the last minute; I had to veer toward the left lane to avoid it. I was afraid an oncoming car could have hit me,” said Janine Logue, 20, business major from Langhorne.

There are two large potholes in the middle of student parking lot A, with no cone or spray paint marking them. Bucks has received many complaints about the potholes and considers repairing them a top priority.

Physical Plant Director Mark Grisi is trying to get temporary gravel patches.

However, the cold weather makes repairing the potholes by applying these patches difficult. “When it wets beneath the surface it’s hard to make anything stick,” said Grisi.

Potholes are created when water freezes underneath the pavement; the water expands and applies pressure on the asphalt, causing cracks.

As cars drive over the cracks, pieces of gravel become loose and break apart forming the pothole.

The potholes were fixed last year, but preventing them is difficult. Hitting a pothole can cause damage to a vehicle’s alignment and even flattened tires.

If the pothole is deep enough, the car can lose control and veer off the road or into oncoming traffic.

“Hitting a pothole can cause damage to a vehicle’s alignment and even flattened tires,” said Mark Bennett, 20, business major from Newtown. “The potholes don’t bother me. I like to count them while I drive on Linden Lane.”

No damages to vehicles from potholes have been reported to security. Staying alert and watching for cones and spray paint that indicate potholes are the best ways to avoid them.

Any incidents or damage to vehicles involving potholes on school grounds should be reported to the Safety and Security Department.

They can be reached by calling (215) 968-8394, or just stop by their offices located in Cottage no. 4.

Changes to student log-ins cause confusion

BY STEPHANIE THOLEY
Centurion Staff

A new semester at Bucks usually means new books, new teachers, new classes and, recently anyway, an additional change in the Bucks computer system’s log-in scheme, causing some students confusion and frustration.

“It just gets confusing sometimes,” said Caitlin McLaughlin, 18, education major from Holland, “because I don’t know which password to put for which [log-in].”

The information systems team, as well as the safety and security department, determined that the old log-in scheme, using student numbers as user names, was a security risk.

Katelyn Cipressi, 20, education major, from Newtown agreed. “It was stupid because everyone knew [everyone else’s] passwords,” said Cipressi. “Students should expect additional changes their log-ins next semester.

“We try to make really big changes in the fall,” said Marilyn Puchalski of Learning Resources.

According to Puchalski, the ultimate goal is to have a system that allows students to log-in to one web portal in order to access everything they need, including e-mail, WebAdvisor and CE6.

If you are experiencing problems with your log-in, you should contact the information systems department at (215) 968-8400.
Huckabee trailing, but not out yet

Huckabee can’t have ‘More Than a Feeling’

By The Associated Press

(AP). The chief songwriter and founder of the band Boston has more than a feeling that he’s being ripped off by Mike Huckabee.

In a letter to the Republican presidential hopeful, Tom Scholz complains that Huckabee is using his 1976 smash hit song "More Than a Feeling" without his permission.

"Boston has never endorsed a political candidate, and with all due respect, would not start by endorsing a candidate who is the polar opposite of just about everything Boston stands for," wrote Scholz, adding that he is supporting Democratic Sen. Barack Obama. "By using my song, and my band’s name Boston, you have taken something of mine and used it to promote ideas with which I am opposed." In other words, I think I’ve been ripped off, dude!

Fred Bramante, who was chairman of Huckabee’s New Hampshire campaign, called the allegations ridiculous. He said he attended dozens of Huckabee rallies in New Hampshire and other states and never heard Huckabee play "More Than a Feeling," other than when Goudreau campaigned with him in Iowa in October.

"Governor Huckabee plays ‘Sweet Home Alabama.’ Does that mean Lynyrd Skynyrd is endorsing him? He plays ‘Louie Louie.’ Does that mean The Kingsmen are endorsing him? No, I really mean it," he said. ‘Never once has he said, ‘The band Boston endorses me’ in a telephone interview Friday, said ‘Whenever a campaign publicly exploits a well-known song, there is some inference of support’ by the band or artist, he added.

He recommends that Huckabee "stick to music recorded by far-right Republicans."

Election, from start to finish

The presidential campaign is the focal point of American politics.

Candidates have been fighting and campaigning since the day they announced their decision to run. But as the caucuses and primaries come to a close with only a few remaining, the pressure is on. The primaries, which have been going on since early January, are the official start to the race for the White House. The candidates, campaigning against other members of the same party, must win enough state primaries to give them a majority of delegates at the party convention.

The party conventions are held by each party following the primaries. Each state arrives at the hall with its own delegates and banners declaring which presidential candidate it supports. Usually by this stage, the parties already know who they have won. This election, however, is very different.

The race is so close between Obama and McCain that a single vote in a big state, often to take into account the supporters of the candidates who have been eliminated. In the final weeks of the competition, the candidates typically concentrate their attention on the biggest states, called "swing states" as they battle it out for the critical Electoral College votes.

Electoral votes are won by the candidate with the majority of the popular vote from each state, but a state’s electoral votes differ. States with higher populations have more electoral votes than those with less-populous states. There is a lot of preparation and work to get to the White House. The 2008 election was one of epic proportions and on Nov. 4, the American people will speak.

On Election Day, all registered voters have an opportunity to vote for a candidate. From the time the first vote is cast until the last poll closes in Hawaii, the nation will hold its breath. Whether you’re an Obama, Clinton, McCain or Huckabee supporter, it is important to get your voice heard.

If you’re not registered to vote, there are many fast and easy ways to register. Officials come to Bucks and will register you. Or, go to your local center, visit www.vote.com and click "register to vote." It’s that easy!
Christianity and Judaism for three
stimulus of this class.”

He also added that, “9/11 was the
good chance to learn more about the three religions.”

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## February Calendar of Events

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-C.V. OSFQNY
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### CROSSWORD PUZZLES PROVIDED BY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM (HTTP://WWW.BESTCROSSWORDS.COM). USED WITH PERMISSION.

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### Across

1- Shifts; 6- Consecrate; 11- Sever; 14- Negatively charged particle; 15- Lofty nest; 16- Tree used to make baseball bats; 17- Rigid; 18- Growl angrily; 19- 17th letter of the Greek alphabet; 20- Prepares for publication or release; 22- Enthusiastic; 24- Pertaining to the shoulder; 28- Innate; 29- Mingling with; 30- Mum's mate; 31- Get in a hand; 32- Kind of cod; 33- Ages; 35- Snakes; 39- Ornamental fabric; 40- Frowny; 41- Arab sailing vessel; 42- Slant; 43- Shoelace tip; 45- River in central Switzerland; 46- Fool; 47- Discover; 48- Ingenuity; 50- Founder of the Mogul Empire; 51- Accustom; 52- Summed; 53- Jollity; 55- Sweetheart; 56- Ultimate; 59- John in England; 61- Male child; 62- Fur scarf; 63- Charge; 64- Driving peg;

### Down

1- Floor covering; 2- Washington bill; 3- Bordeaux, e.g.; 4- Greek goddess of the dawn; 5- Scoffs; 6- Aromatic herb; 7- Pre-Easter season; 8- Ages; 9- McCartney title; 10- Greek goddess of the moon; 11- Freight; 12- Doorkeeper; 13- Sharp-pointed plant outgrowth; 21- Group of individual facts; 23- Abrasive; 24- Assembly rooms; 25- Eskimo boat; 26- Chop into small pieces; 27- Sideways; 28- T.G.I.F. part; 30- Young fowl; 31- Get in a hand; 34- Therefore; 36- Willow provision; 37- Skin openings; 38- Celsius, for one; 43- Help, resource; 44- Word of comparison; 47- Discover; 49- Foreigners; 50- Founder of the Mogul Empire; 51- Accustom; 52- Summed; 53- Jollity; 55- Sweetheart; 56- Ultimate; 59- John in England; 61- Male child; 62- Fur scarf; 63- Charge; 64- Driving peg;
Dark, funny poetry wows Bucks students

BY JAY JONES
Centurion Staff

It’s Friday night and outside the library auditorium a modest crowd has started to gather, all moving inside to take their seats before the show begins.

Bucks hosted a night of poetry, a program presented by the Bucks Cultural Programming Committee. This event kicked-off Black History Month on campus with readings by famous poets Gerald Stern and Ross Gay.

The lights dimmed and the crowd hushed as they entered the crisp, halowed halls of the auditorium.

“This feels like a homecoming to me,” remarked Gay. “I used to skate-board here and get chased by what we liked to call the rent-a-cops.” The audience erupted in laughter as the atmosphere instantly becomes light—even the most serious face cracks a smile.

Gay is a graduate of Neshaminy High School and author of “Against Which,” a book of dark-humor and morbid poetry. For a happy young man with a bright green shirt and a big smile, his poems are girtly and dark.

“Taught you cursing…need to murder…hands strong for strangling or fighting, not poems,” Gay remarked.

“Gay’s poetry,” said Cassidy. “I do weird things with it.”

Gay is a native of Langhorne, has poems that have won awards both in “American Poetry Review,” “Atlanta Review,” “Harvard Review,” and “Columbia: A Journal of Poetry and Art.”

“Quit a resume,” remarked Professor Jim Freeman as he introduced the two men. “I’ve been trying to crack that one for 15 years.”

The program, put together by Freeman and Ross Mann, is just another way Bucks is supporting cultural heritage on campus.

The next event, for Women’s History Month, is Friday, March 7 in the Orangery with a reading by Maria Mozeti and Lindsay Haywood. To find out more about John Cassidy visit his website at www.bucks.edu for more information.

‘Balloon freak’ breaks record

BY JIM WEBER
Centurion Staff

John Cassidy makes a living blowing things up.

On Nov. 14, 2007, Cassidy set a record on the Bucks campus for inflating up 747 balloons in one hour.

He is a man of many talents: magician, comedian, entertainer and, yes, balloon artist.

“Hi! My name is John Cassidy. I do weird things with balloons,” is the speedy and brief introduction he gave himself during a recorded performance at an MDA telethon last year.

His hands then became a blur as he produced a balloon from his pocket, inflated it and began to contort into the shape of a dog in a matter of seconds.

Cassidy holds the record for the fastest balloon sculpture as well, creating latex creatures in as little as 6.4 seconds.

To Cassidy, however, his deep passion for the art of balloon inflation is no laughing matter. Creating latex creatures at his pocket, inflated it and began as he produced a balloon from his hand. Cassidy makes a living as a balloon artist. To Cassidy, however, his deep passion for the art of balloon inflation is no laughing matter.

Cassidy is just another way Bucks is supporting cultural heritage on campus.

The next event, for Women’s History Month, is Friday, March 7 in the Orangery with a reading by Maria Mozeti and Lindsay Haywood. To find out more about John Cassidy visit his website at www.bucks.edu for more information.

Bucks book club meets again

BY GEORGE ROBINSON
Centurion Staff

English Professor Michael Hennessey is looking forward to a new semester of the college’s book discussion group.

He brings his love of novels – and the written word – to the group.

"Most books are not written in such a way that one can isolate a single voice in the same way we would in a conversation," he began. "In a novel, or in any text, you often have multiple varying voices that you can sort of dissect and discuss individually. That’s what we really try to aim for with the group."

Hennessey was quick to contradict even the vaguest suggestion that he is somehow the ‘leader’ of the discussions. The words ‘democratic’ and ‘consensus’ keep resurfacing as he explained his role.

The former head of Bucks’ Language and Literature Department, Dr. Annette Corin, founded the book discussion group in 1988. It has been going strong for 20 years, and is held at 7:30 p.m. once a month on Thursdays.

The group varies between about 20 and 25 members, who meet to give their interpretations of selected books.

The main agenda of each meeting is a book, which the members decide amongst themselves to read.

According to Hennessey, the book club takes about a month to digest the material and then they get together and consider the "different perspectives on the work."

Characters, their perspectives and different writing techniques are all common topics.

Novels being discussed over the course of this semester include "Run" by Aen Patchett and "Thirteen Moons" by Charles Frazier.

The group has already met twice this semester, but newcomers are always welcome.

Remaining meetings will be held on the following dates: March 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12. If you are interested in attending, contact Michael Hennessey at (215) 968-8164.
A Piece of my Mind

A weekly column by Centurion Editor Mark Bennett

The beginning of a new semester is usually met by mixed feelings from most students at Bucks. You’re happy because you get to see all those people that you don’t feel like keeping in contact with during the break. You’re sad because you know that some of your classes are going to be a serious headache. And you’re worried that the major you have selected might not be the thing you would like to do for the rest of your life. And just about all of us are worried about that, I’m no exception.

I hear about it all the time. People change their major half a dozen times before the semester is over, or they pick something that someone else would like them to pursue even though they know that they don’t really have an interest in the subject. It’s kind of sad, but I can’t talk down on them too much, that is all unsure about where their future might take them, because it’s scary, it honestly is.

We hit 18 and all of a sudden we’re supposed to know what we want our careers to be; we’re still kids! We don’t know what we want, most of us haven’t even hit that maturity level yet where we realize that we need to start taking actions now to secure our place in the future.

The college supposedly has a solution for this. It’s called liberal arts, which translates into a... well, pretty much nothing but a degree.

What this does is allow you to take all of the basic classes that everyone must take to graduate first, which gives you a year or so to figure out what you really want your major to be.

I have a bunch of friends that choose a liberal arts major when they first get here. And what happened when it came time to pick a major? Yeah... they dropped out. When I hang out with them they sit there and say, "Dude, you’re so lucky you know what you want to do for the rest of your life."

Do I now. Do really?

When I first came to Bucks with my high school on a tour, do you think I knew I wanted to be a journalist? As I sit here writing this do you think I know if I want to be a journalist? Truth be told I don’t know if I want to do this for the rest of my natural born life; I’m just as unsure and scared as the rest of the student body. As a matter of fact, I’m more scared then most of you because I just picked something and went along for the ride and so far it’s been working out OK for me.

The sad thing is that this pressure makes a lot of people crack, they end up dropping out and wasting their time and money and end up with no education or direction. To say it’s sad that so many people won’t reach their potential is a lie; very few people reach their full potential. But it is sad that the system discourages so many people from doing what they desire because they don’t offer that major; or their advisor doesn’t recommend taking a class they’re genuinely interested in because it doesn’t count towards the major they’ve been forced into.

Do something you love, it’s a lot easier said than done.

The best advice I’ve ever gotten on career choosing was from my friend’s dad. I forget where he works but I asked him if he knew he would be doing that for the rest of his life because he had been working there for more than 20 years. He laughed at the question and said, “I had no idea I would be doing this, but it’s good money, not that hard to do and I don’t mind doing it.” And that’s the piece of advice I’m leaving all of you with. If you can’t find something you love, don’t sweat it, just try and find something you’re good at.

I’m good at writing and I don’t mind doing it, so I picked something that would let me write on a regular basis, if only the decent pay was there too.

When you’re considering a future career, try and pick something you don’t mind doing and that you’re good at. If you’re naturally good at something, anything, and you do it will make things easier for you and you probably won’t mind doing it because you’re already good at it. So, you shouldn’t mind doing it and if you’re good enough the pay will be good too.

So here are my 25-years of wisdom culminated specifically for the Bucks slacker. Moving forward do something constructive.
**Centurion Sports**

**Professor takes on a ‘Pro’**

**BY PHIL COLES**

Arturo “Thunder” Gatti is a household name in boxing circles. Professor Mark Bohling is a household name if you’re a Bucks physical education student.

Gatti has a career boxing record of 39-7, with 30 wins coming by knockout. As far as we know, Bohling’s 53 professional boxing record is 0-0.

Gatti has fought the likes of Oscar De La Hoya, Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Mickey Ward. Bohling has sparred with his brothers on a few occasions.

For one of the greatest mismatches in boxing history is set.

In one corner we have Gatti, one of boxing’s most celebrated bruisers of all-time, and in the other corner, Bohling, the head coach for Bucks baseball and women’s volleyball.

“Pro’s vs. Joe’s” is a television show that airs on Spike TV. In the show, regular guys, “Joes,” compete against world famous athletes who, at one time or another, were at the top of their respective games. On past episodes, Joes had a chance to cover NFL great Jerry Rice one-on-one, try and tackle former running back Bo Jackson, and return a Robbie Clemente first-hand tennis shot. It’s a chance for amateur athletes to see how they stack up against the professional, and often times, the results can be hilarious.

Not just anybody gets to appear on “Pro’s vs. Joe’s.”

**I think I got a mild concussion because when I watched the show later on, I commented to my wife that there were parts of the fight I didn’t remember.**

Then, reality sank in for Professor Bohling.

“One I got in the ring with him, I realized that this was for real,” said Bohling. “I got a little nervous. Gatti seemed larger than life, the guy was coming at me full throttle.”

“After the first knockdown, Bohling courageously got back to his corner. The second knockdown, however, left him down for the count. He struggled on his knees for a while and didn’t make it back up. Bohling had just experienced something only 30 other people in the world have ever felt, he got knocked out by Gatti.”

“After the fight I had that glazed look in my eyes,” recalled Bohling. “I think I got a mild concussion because when I watched the show later on, I commented to my wife that there were parts of the fight I didn’t remember.”

It’s not like Bohling isn’t athletic. The man played baseball until he was 23, trying to get a shot in the minor leagues. After that didn’t work out, he switched his attention to volleyball. He played competitively in the Air Force, earning military MVP honors and being selected to play on an Armed Forces squad that played in Europe. He stays in shape during the year by doing the training exercises he did in the Air Force, a mix of pull-ups, sit-ups and lots of running.

“Bohling is an accomplished athlete, no question, but even he could not stack up to the likes of Gatti.”

Gatti lives in Atlantic City where he is somewhat of a cult hero, known for his brutal fighting style that has endeared him to east coast boxing fans. His legendary trilogy of fights with Mickey Ward were some of the hardest fought bouts in history, and he has been included in boxing’s “fight of the year” three times.

One bout against Ward, Gatti broke his hand in the fourth round yet continued to fight, eventually winning. Considering all of this, it took amazing courage for Bohling to enter into the ring with such an accomplished fighter.

“Bohling had nothing but good things to say about the experience, despite the pounding he took.”

“It was a once in a lifetime experience. People say, ‘Oh you’re nuts,’ but I tell my students to try out for this show, you’ll never regret it. It was my five minutes of fame.”

**Visit**

[http://www.spike.com](http://www.spike.com) and search ‘Arturo Gatti Boxing’ to see Bohling’s fight!

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**Helms fails Phillies**

**By The Associated Press**

(AP) “Given the chance to be an everyday player, Wes Helms struggled so much his first season that the Philadelphia Phillies wouldn’t stick around for another year. Until this spring a new home for their former starting third baseman, though, Helms says he won’t seek or demand a trade.

“I’m out there to do what I can do,” Helms said Monday. “If it comes down to being on the team and not in the backup or if it means going to another team, that’s what I’ll do.”

Helms’ future with the Phillies became uncertain last spring after the team signed third baseman Pedro Feliz.

The Phillies pursued World Series MVP Matt Stairs early in free agency off the offseason, but he re-signed with Boston. So, they went after Feliz instead of sticking with a platoon of Helms and Greg Dobbs.

“They called me. They were real professional about it,” Helms said. “They told me they were going to sign him and that it would affect my playing time, but they wanted me to be a part of the team unless something came down that they can move me.”

Helms got a two-year, $5.45 million contract from the Phillies after he hit .329 in 240 at-bats with Florida in 2006. But he slumped early in Philly, lost his starting spot and finished with a 246 average, five homers and 39 RBIs in 312 games.

Helms had a long homeless drought to start the season, going 151 at-bats until he finally connected in the 66th game.

“When I didn’t hit the home run right away, I started to hear about it,” Helms said. “I started thinking to hit less and that cost me my whole season. I got long with my swing and I have to shorten it. I’ve always had a short compact swing. I’ve got to get back to that.”

If Helms finds his stroke, there’s a good chance it will be back with a new team. The Phillies have Doobbis and Eric Brunett as insurance behind Feliz, making Helms an expensive pinch-hitter.

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**Wing Bowl, destruction a norm**

**BY TOM ROWAN**

Centurion Staff

As the rest of Philadelphia turned the wee hours of a wet and ominous Thursday morning, a congregation gathered in an empty parking lot on the corner of Pattison and Lawrence.

Entering the lot of tractor trailers and abandoned shipping boxes, women were dancing on top of cars, linking chains of “E-A-G-L-E-S” could be heard and small bonfires dotted the scene.

Sports Radio 610 WIP, the venerable radio station in Philadelphia, has hosted the annual Wing Bowl before 1 a.m. Since 1992, driving his friends to and from the parking lots and watching the ridiculous activities of grown men acting like adolescents.

With these acts of vandalism corrupting the streets of Philly just before the actual day begins, serious concerns about the future of Wing Bowl has surfaced.

There are those who see this event as a time to be with friends and enjoy the pandemonium that Wing Bowl has brought to the Wachovia Center. But the majority seems to side with the negatives rather than the positives.

“Wing Bowl has gotten bad rap in recent years, Philadelphia Water Ice factory employee Nick Forler said,” “Stupid people throwing bottles at cars.”

Leaving it to the Philadelphia fans to come up with a reason so simple, yet so stupid.

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**Centurion Staff**

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