

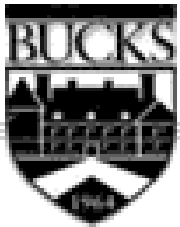
The Centurion

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

The week of October 27, 2008

www.bucks-news.com

Volume: 44 Issue: 5



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WEATHER

Tuesday: Showers likely, mainly before 2pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 48.

Wednesday: A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 48.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 61.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 57.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 51.

WEATHER COURTESY OF THE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

A picture perfect campus

Bucks is adjacent to Tyler State Park, and many students take advantage of its natural appeal.

BY JEN GOLDING
Webcast Anchor

It's primetime to be outside and enjoy Bucks County's beautiful fall foliage, and there's no better place for Bucks students to do this than at Tyler State Park.

"What is this park?" asked Jose Vazquez while hanging out with friends in the cafeteria.

Tyler Park's most popular entrance is at the intersection of

Swamp Road and the Newtown Bypass, only a minute from the Bucks Newtown campus.

Students can easily walk into the park from campus by following the path near Tyler.

According to its website, Tyler Park has four miles of hiking trails, 10 miles of biking trails, and even nine miles of bridle trails.

Many Bucks students can be seen walking on the trail that connects campus to the park.

Some of these students appreciate the conventional draws of the park.

"In the summer I like to go wading [in the creek]" said 18-year-old communications major Emily Stricko. "I like to hang out in Tyler Park because it's close to campus and it's so pretty in



JUST PAST TYLER HALL LIES AN EXQUISITE GARDEN AND TYLER PARK.
PHOTOS BY ERIC NOCITO

the fall," said 19-year-old Lauren Benton, a social work major from Buckingham.

As with any public place, Tyler Park has its "rules and regulations."

Bucks students should know that "failing to fully cover with opaque clothing one's genitals, pubic area, buttocks and female breast below the top of the nip-

ple" is prohibited without written permission of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

However, some Bucks students choose to ignore this rule and are drawn to the many "secluded" areas in the 1,711 acres of Tyler Park.

Continued on page 7

Breaking down a broken economy

Bailout? Subprime mortgages? What does all this actually mean? We use real words to describe the current economic crisis.

BY MICHAEL VESEL
News Editor

The current climate of the economic crisis is a scary one. A lot of pundits, experts and talking heads are slathered across the airways, trying to tell you what to do and how to think. So what's this financial bailout mean? Why should the economic crisis matter to students at Bucks?

Banks closed, Wall Street dropped and the fed went into a panicked frenzy over what to do. But what really happened? How did this all start?

The housing bubble broke, say the financial pundits. Just a few months back the U.S. was in a 10-year high for housing. Every year, the values of homes were increasing, going up higher and higher as each year passed.

The housing market became a wild west of business. Thousands of people were buying homes, renovating them and waiting for them to continue to increase in value before turning them over, selling them off to make a profit.

In order to buy these homes, banks issued a substantial number of home equity loans across

the nation.

The banks, wanting the continued good business of these "entrepreneurs," began issuing loans to people at an unprecedented rate, and even handed out loans to groups with poor credit, and in some cases, no credit at all.

This market of poor credit/low credit/no credit consumers is known by many in the financial sector as the sub-prime. The borrowers within the sub-prime market are those who have a higher risk of defaulting, many of whom have a previous history of loan defaults, bankruptcy or simply little to no debt history.

The banks proceeded to do what many critics considered a predatory lending tactic. They began to give out adjustable APR home equity loans with an outrageous amount of hidden fees and

conditions.

Banks were giving out loans with hard-to-pay clauses in them to a market of people who had a previous history of not paying back loans. The banks were getting greedy, lusting over the profit that could be taken from the increasingly profitable housing market.

When the loans in the sub-prime began to default, the banks foreclosed and sold off the homes. With the continued growth in the housing market, financial institutions were actually able to make more of a profit off of selling a home with increased value then from just the loans themselves. Seeing this, many lenders began to give out loans even more, specifically targeting the sub-prime market.

Continued on page 2

Please, do not feed the animals

BY KENNETH CHARLES
MCCAFFREY
Centurion Staff

There have been quite a few cats seen living on campus, and although no one knows the real source of this sudden influx of wild felines, they are starting to become a significant problem, whether people can see it or not.

Chris Lloyd, director of security and safety, said, "The problem is that the cats are encouraged to stick around the campus because various people have made a habit of feeding them. We don't know whether or not the cats carry diseases and they are making a habit out of using the sandbox at the Early Learning Center as a litter box, which poses serious potential health risks for the children."

Security has sent out notices to faculty to refrain from

feeding the cats and it's advisable that students do the same.

So far, there haven't been any complaints that students have been feeding the cats.

"What adds to the problem, is that the food that people put out for the cats also attracts other woodland animals, such as skunks, birds, raccoons and so forth," said Lloyd.

Bucks is currently trying to capture these feral cats and give them to veterinary care facilities so that they can receive proper care and treatment.

At least once a semester, security employs public services to help capture the cats through the use of bait as well as similar humane methods, but the underlying problem is that they have also been catching other woodland animals in the process by accident.



CATS HIDE OUTSIDE THE EARLY LEARNING CENTER
Photo By Eric Nocito

"As of right now, there is no absolute solution to the problem, as there is nothing we can really do to stop the people at the college from feeding them, and so there's no way to really stop the cats from coming here," said Lloyd. "What's worse, there's no real way to stop the cats

from multiplying as they are, so the only thing we can really do at this point is do everything we can to encourage students and employees to refrain from feeding the wild animals, and hope that everyone can come to understand why doing so would do more than they think it would to

contribute to the overlaying problem."

There have been no current records of any of the cats being hostile, but regardless, they should not be assumed to be friendly or passive, and students as well as faculty are discouraged from approaching them.

Stocks plummet and foreclosures continue

continued from page 1

Then, the inevitable happened. After a 10-year high, the housing market began to drop dramatically. The demand for homes simply wasn't there, and the marketplace adjusted the prices. The market dropped from \$20 trillion in value to merely \$12 trillion. Houses plummeted in value, month after month, becoming, in many scenarios, worth less than the original value of the loan.

The defaulting continued to occur during the housing market crash. Just as predicted, the subprime market was not able to pay off the unfair loans given to them by the lenders, and more and more banks received foreclosed homes, this time, worth less than their initial investments.

With thousands of homes in their possession that were relatively worthless compared to the

loans issued, and more loans continuing to default, banking institutions began to sink into debt, unable to make back the investments they lent just a few years prior.

The first sign of trouble was in March 2008, when Bear Stearns, one of the largest investment firms, collapsed. The Federal Reserve tried to save the brokerage firm by issuing an emergency loan. In the end, it did not matter; Bear Stearns stock dropped, and JP Morgan bought Bear Stearns for a measly \$10 a share.

In just a few short months, other financial institutions began to see the same effects. As debt began to build up, banks had begun to drop like proverbial flies. By September 2008, there were enough banks in financial distress that there was a risk of a loan freeze.

Worries about accumulating more debt forced firms to simply not give out as many new loans.

There was a slow crawl in loan issuing, to the point that it risked the financial stability of the entire country.

The bread and butter of the American economy is in loans. Bank-issued loans provide employers with the liquid assets to pay the salaries of their workers regularly, for local counties to pay for civil services, for homes to be bought, for leases to be upheld. This economic engine relies on the liquid flow of loans from our banking institutions.

The systematic destruction of established banking institutions caused Wall Street to crumble. With worries that loans were going to freeze, shareholders began to frantically sell their stocks from some of the largest companies.

The frenzy of selling forced the stock market to drop to its lowest levels in years.

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, better

known as the "Bailout plan," was designed to try to prevent a freezing of the lending industry. By providing \$700 billion to loan to the banks, it, in theory, would provide the banks with a safety net from bankruptcy. Without fear of bankruptcy, the firms would be able to continue to give out loans.

The success of the bailout is not yet apparent. Stocks continue

to plummet as investor confidence hits an all-time low. The world market has been shaken by the financial crisis, and shortly after the bailout was approved, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 700 points.

The question now remains, is this the end of the turbulent times for our economy, or is this just the eye of the storm?

Centurion Publication Schedule

The Centurion is published weekly on Mondays.

Deadline for advertising is **noon** on the **Wednesday** before publication.

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(dates may be subject to change)

| | |
|-------|-------|
| 11/5 | 11/18 |
| 11/11 | 12/9 |

THE CENTURION 

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LETTER POLICY

Letters should be limited to 300 words. They will be edited for spelling and malicious or libelous statements, and may be edited for space. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer's full name, address, and telephone number, although the address and telephone numbers will not be published.

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Murphy announces scholarship winners

BY ERIC NOCITO
Features Editor

The "Bridge to Higher Education" scholarships were awarded to six recipients for the fall 2008 semester by Congressman Patrick Murphy.

The awards ceremony took place on Oct. 21 at 1 p.m. in the library conference room. The six recipients of the scholarships were: Rachael Sadorf, Elizabeth Hernandez, Zachary Ostrow, Rachel Perch, Rachel Back, and David Windrim.

The scholarships are sponsored by the Gene and Marlene Epstein Humanitarian Fund, McCafferty Auto Group, and Delaware Valley Scrap. Eligibility was determined solely on the financial situation of the applicants.

"Over a year ago, this scholarship was started," said Tobi Bruhn, executive director of the Bucks Foundation. "The program was designed with the purpose for students to have a higher education that might not be able to otherwise."

The awards were designed for low-income students from the Lower Bucks County area to have an opportunity to have a chance to succeed in higher education.



(LEFT) SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS LISTEN TO PATRICK MURPHY (RIGHT) PATRICK MURPHY WITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

Gene Epstein, a sponsor of the scholarships, decided to be a part of such a program based on his own life experiences.

"I attended Temple University, but decided not to continue until graduation and I pursued business," said Epstein. "As successful as I was in business, I had the inner-feeling that I had missed something. You kids are here getting this scholarship because of what I did."

"Gene was able to live the 'American Dream,'" said Murphy. "I was here 17 years ago and I would study in this library. The 'Bridge to Higher Education' helps you have an education and live

the 'American Dream.' Change the world you live in for the better. Only 25 percent of people in this country are blessed to go to college and one-third of people don't graduate from high school."

As each award was given out by Murphy, Epstein, and Bruhn, the six recipients were congratulated by each and a group photograph was taken to commemorate the event.

"The faculty and staff told me that you can do anything you set your mind to," said Murphy. "The faculty and staff really care about you here. You won't find a better college in the country than Bucks County Community College."

After the scholarships were awarded to each recipient, Bruhn said that because so many applications were received, there will be many more opportunities for awards in the future.

"We are asking businesses to put up \$1,500 to sponsor a student and when we have 10 more sponsors, we will have 10 more scholarships to award," said Epstein.

After everyone had spoken and the awards handed out, Epstein offered sentiments to the recipients.

"You are the inaugural group for this scholarship, so you need to do the best you can and succeed."

For more information on eligibility requirements or to obtain an application, visit the Bucks Foundation's website at bucks.edu/foundation.

In addition, assistance in completing the application can be obtained by scheduling an appointment with Financial Aid at (215) 968-8200.



McCain pushes 'change' ideal at local rally

BY ERIC NOCITO
Features Editor

John and Cindy McCain toured the Philadelphia area over a two-day period recently in hopes of jump-starting McCain's campaign at a time when he lags behind in the polls.

With Pennsylvania being one of the battleground states needed to win the election, Cindy McCain, along with Rudy Giuliani, visited Shady Brook Farm in Lower Makefield on Oct. 20. Also there were Tom Manion, candidate for U.S. Congress, Supriya Jindal, wife of Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Kitty Martinez, wife of Sen. Mel Martinez of Florida, and Greta Van Susteren, host of the Fox News show, "On the Record."

The next morning, at T.C. Millwork in Bensalem, John McCain made an appearance along with his wife. The packed crowd was enthusiastic from the very beginning, even hours before McCain took the stage.

Once the music was done playing and the crowd was ready to listen, Manion took the stage to introduce himself and the McCains.

"The McCain-Palin-Manion ticket shows a clear difference

from that of our opponents," said Manion. "We will keep our promises and change America in the best way. Because of all the courage and hope the McCains exhibit, John and Cindy McCain are the poster family for America."

Soon after, Cindy McCain took the podium as her husband stood to her side.

"We need a president with the character to lead and John has the character to lead," she said, which followed

with an uproar of cheers and applause. "We don't need any more empty hopes and promises! We teach our children the values we stand for. Between Gov. Palin, John and I, we have three sons serving and protecting our country in Iraq."

After Cindy McCain, Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, took the podium. He discussed the controversial comments Sen. Joseph



JOHN MCCAIN SPEAKS TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT WHY THEY SHOULD VOTE FOR HIM
PHOTO BY ERIC NOCITO

Biden made in recent days about the experience of Sen. Barack Obama.

"Joe Biden said this past weekend that Obama will be tested with an international crisis within six months of taking office," said Graham. "We shouldn't have to test the next president. We should know for sure that they will be able to lead!"

"Barack Obama said recently, if there would be a crisis,

he would need the backing of his supporters. We need a man to be president who can lead alone," said Graham, which was again met with enthusiasm by the audience.

John McCain then took the stage.

After a long period of cheers and applause, McCain stated his plan for America.

"We can't wait around another eight years for Washington to clean itself

up," he said. "We need to take action! I will return America to be first place in the world."

Next, McCain criticized his opponent on multiple issues.

"Senator Obama's plan to raise taxes on some in order to give checks to others isn't a tax cut, it's just another government giveaway," said McCain. "We don't want a president who invites testing from the world, in a time when our economy is in crisis and Americans are already fighting in two wars."

In addition he said, "Sen. Obama is more interested in controlling who gets your piece of pie, than he is in growing the pie."

Critics have charged that McCain's attacks on Obama have become increasingly negative as McCain has fallen behind Obama in most polls.

McCain went on to discuss the need for alternative fuels for America. "We need to stop sending \$700 billion a year to countries that don't like us that much," said McCain. "We need to find a solution, and we need to find it now! Clean coal is the answer we are looking for!"

McCain pointed to people in the crowd wearing "Clean Coal" t-shirts and hats, shouting, "Clean coal!"

Race to the White House: The Issues

TAXES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BY JOHN SKUDRIS
Managing Editor

Two of the most outspoken and crucial issues in this election are the environment and taxes. Almost every vicious attack ad is about one of these two issues. Whether it's Sen. John McCain's offshore drilling plan or Sen. Barack Obama's tax plan, both candidates are hitting each other hard on their opponents stance on these two topics.

The environment and how we affect it has been an extremely hot issue ever since Al Gore's award-winning documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth."

McCain supports offshore drilling for oil. This is a controversial stance because many people don't believe this will provide the U.S. with enough oil to offset the damage it will do to our environment.

McCain does, however, believe that global warming

is an issue. In 2007, he helped to introduce the Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act. This bill is designed to significantly reduce the nation's greenhouse gases. He also is a strong proponent of alternative energy resources, including the controversial nuclear energy.

Obama is against offshore drilling as he believes its cost to the environment is too drastic. He would implement an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the level recommended by top scientists. He also hopes to create a new international global warming partnership to curb the dangers of climate change.

Both of the candidates differ significantly on this issue. Obama believes that the environment is too precious for us to tinker with when it comes

to drilling. McCain, on the other hand, thinks that the people's

In the past weeks, The Centurion dissected the key issues, showing where John McCain and Barack Obama stand. Now it's your turn to go out and vote for the candidate that's right for you.

need for cheaper fuel and affordable energy comes before environmental needs.

Most elections are won thank to taxes. The candidate that's going to lower the taxes of the most people will usual-

ly win. Republicans always preach tax cuts, tax cuts, tax cuts. Who gets those tax cuts, however, is never specified. Democrats believe in lower taxes for the poor and higher taxes for the rich.

This election is no different than other ones. McCain, despite voting against them in 2001 and 2003, believes that we should extend the Bush tax cuts. Under Bush's plan, the rich got large cuts in their taxes and the middle class got smaller ones. Many people believe that this plan isn't fair to those in the lower tax brackets.

Obama has always opposed the Bush tax cuts. Under his tax plan, Obama would eliminate income taxes for most seniors and give homeowners universal credit. His proposal also lowers taxes \$500-\$1,000 for 150 million Americans. A

married couple making \$75,000 with two children, one of whom is in college would save \$3,700 under this plan. A single parent making \$41,000 with two children would save \$2,100.

If this election is an ultimatum on change versus more of the same, then taxes is the ultimate judge of it. McCain's plan would extend the tax cuts of the past 5 years, while Obama would introduce a new tax plan designed to balance the wealth among the classes.

There's less than one week until the election, and there's no doubt that the intensity is rising the closer it gets to Election Day.

Vote Nov. 4; and don't vote for or against someone for superficial reasons. Vote for the person that shares your ideals, your hopes, and your dreams. Only then will you know in your heart that you voted for the right man to lead this country.

EDITORIAL

SGA President John Skudris lists the top 10 reasons not to vote Republican

It's been more than 20 months since Sen. Barack Obama announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for president. Twenty long months of trials and tribulation lead up to one last dash. Obama's opponent, Republican nominee Sen. John McCain, is trailing by a substantive margin in the key swing states he needs to win the election.

You may be an undecided voter asking yourself; who should I vote for? Well, without further ado, here are 10 reasons why you should not vote for McCain:

His age - Now I must confess that I don't think it's appropriate to stereotype all elderly people. However, this is the presidency of the United States we're talking about. McCain will be the oldest person ever elected president should he win. The toughest job in the world would be held by a 72-year-old with a history of physical illness. Can we really go into a new era unsure whether or not our president will be able to keep up?

Marital Infidelity - Not many people know of the various scandals that McCain has been involved with during his long senate career. However, one of the worst in my opinion is what happened before he became a U.S. Senator from Arizona. Much fuss was made when former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards' affair became pub-

lic, but nothing has been said about McCain's own marital infidelity. Upon returning from Vietnam after being imprisoned for five and a half years, McCain came home to find that his wife Carol had been seriously crippled in an automobile accident. However, this didn't stop McCain from carousing around with various women, as documented in the books he has written. In April 1979, while still married to his first wife, McCain began dating Cindy Hensley. Their affair carried on for awhile until McCain urged his wife to grant him a divorce, which she did in February 1980. McCain and Hensley would then marry just a few months later. If Bill Clinton can be impeached for having an affair, than why is McCain's career still flourishing despite his?

His temper - It's well known in the senate that McCain has a very hot temper. When discussing an amnesty bill with fellow Republican Sen. John Cornyn, McCain lashed out with expletives. He also repeatedly called Sen. Pete Domenici (R-NM) an "a**hole," causing a fellow GOP senator to say, "I don't want this guy anywhere near a trigger." If McCain can't even keep his cool around his fellow Republican colleagues, how can we rely on him to keep his cool when running our country?

The Keating Five - McCain, along with four other U.S. senators, became enmeshed in a scandal revolving around Charles Keating, chairman of the Lincoln Savings and Loan Association. In 1987, McCain was contacted by Keating in order to prevent the government's seizure of Lincoln, and McCain met twice with federal regulators to discuss the government's investigation of the company. In 1999, McCain made a statement about his involvement in the scandal. "The appearance of it was wrong. It's a wrong appearance when a group of senators appear in a meeting with a group of regulators, because it conveys the impression of undue and improper influence. And it was the wrong thing to do." He was cleared of charges, but the fact remains that McCain was influenced by Keating's financial support for his campaigns and made an effort to talk to investigators about the seizure of Keating's company.

Sarah Palin - Is there anything scarier than the thought that this inexperienced governor of a state with fewer people than Bucks County could be president? Let's face it, McCain is no spring chicken and has battled cancer in recent years. Can we really trust a person with such a lack of intellect as Palin? I think we learned over the past eight years that hav-

ing a fool leading our country isn't exactly the best idea.

Health Care - Everyone knows that our health care system is a joke. Millions of Americans don't have health insurance and it hurts those of us that do. As for those that do have the privilege of adequate insurance, the rising costs in a fledgling economy have crippled middle-class families. According to Healthcare for America Now, McCain's health care plan could cost 20 million people their insurance. McCain will also tax your health care benefits for the first time in history. We can't afford greater failure when it comes to health care.

George W. Bush - How does McCain hope to change America after eight failed years if he continues to vote with Bush over 90 percent of the time? McCain loves to label himself a maverick. But what's so independent about voting with one of the worst presidents in history almost every single time? If you don't support Bush, it's hard to believe that you could be in support of someone who thinks the same way he does.

Iran - Speaking at South Carolina's VFW Hall in 2007, McCain responded to a question asking when he thought the U.S. military might send an air mail message to Tehran" by singing, "Bomb, bomb, bomb, bomb, bomb Iran" to the tune of the Beach Boy's "Barbara Ann." It's

pretty scary to think that a man that could joke about killing thousands of people could become our next president and it's no doubt that if he is elected, McCain would not hesitate to start further military conflicts with nations much like his predecessor did with Iraq.

Iraq - Speaking of our controversial war in Iraq, McCain has always supported the war and will always support the war. In fact, he has stated that he believes that we could have troops in the country for at least 100 years. Do you really want to be worrying about whether or not you or your children could be sent to the Middle East to fight a war for oil for decades to come?

The Economy - On Dec. 17, 2007, McCain was quoted in the Boston Globe as saying, "The issue of economics is not something I've understood as well as I should." In a time of severe economic crisis, do you want a president who admits that he doesn't know anything about economics? With Wall Street in a state of turmoil, we cannot afford to have a president that has no knowledge of how to fix it.

America needs a president who knows how to repair the broken bridges between the people and government. We need real change, not the status quo with an illusion of change. That's why we cannot afford to have John McCain be the next president.

Bucks events and listings In the county, in the city

Fall 2008 course withdrawal period ends. No withdrawals after this date 4 Take a trip to South Street or New Hope

-HCKKCLU JCZBBSN

Google phone gives Apple competition

BY KELLY DETWEILER
Centurion Staff

T-Mobile has unveiled the first phone powered by Google Inc.'s Android software. It was introduced Sept. 23 at a news conference and hit shelves Oct. 22.

The T-Mobile G1, nicknamed the Google phone, is manufactured by the Taiwanese company HTC. It's capturing many peoples' attention because of the much-anticipated Android software, which is supposed to make internet surfing on a handset easier and more thrilling. Google is so sure the internet service will be better than that on any other phone, that a spokesman for Google told Forbes, "the new phone would beat any other

phone in a speed test [online]."

The spokesman also reassured everyone, saying there would be no Google banners when you surf the Internet, and no pop-up ads when you make a call.

The new Android software has a few neat programs such as "Compare Everywhere," which uses the digital camera on the phone to scan barcodes of products in stores.

There's the "Cooking Capsules" application that lets you watch a cooking videos, shows you the location of the nearest



grocery store, tells you the items to buy, then gives you step-by-step instructions on how to cook the meal once you're back home.

Another application of interest is "Werto," which uses Google maps to show what's happening in town, the hottest locations, directions to get there, and provides the means to coordi-

nate with friends.

The G1 is available in black, brown and white. It comes with a lot of programs like a digital compass and the ability to download MP3's from the Amazon store. The QWERTY keyboard will come in handy for those people who thrive off text messaging and it has a track ball for fast navigation.

One of the main setbacks of the G1 is that it doesn't have a headphone socket. The only way to connect headphones to the phone is by using a USB adapter.

The T-Mobile G1 is said to have a few advantages and a few disadvantages to Apple's iPhone, and it's going to give Apple a run for its money. Most people are paying attention to the price of the G1

because of the huge price tag on the iPhone.

The G1 costs \$179 with a 2-year voice and data agreement. Downloading a song is 89 cents, and a whole album can be priced anywhere from \$5.99 to \$9.99.

The Google phone's competition, the iPhone, recently took \$200 off its price tag, lowering the price to \$199 with a 2-year agreement. Don't be fooled by this price drop. Apple customers are not happy because they say the cost of their plans went up, so no money is actually being saved.

Will the T-Mobile G1 give Apple a run for its money? If this phone turns out to be the best yet, maybe all phones will turn to the Android system.

Shelter in Place

In 2003 the college implemented a new safety protocol designed to give students, faculty and staff another option when responding to emergency situations.

This protocol, Shelter-in-Place (SIP) is primarily designed to give campus personnel the ability to seek safe shelter in the event the county or local area experiences a significant Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear disaster or emergency.

Bucks designated a number of areas on campus as SIP locations. These locations include: Tyler first floor hallway outside Room133A, the Library Auditorium and Library third floor, Rollins Quiet Study and café vending area, Gymnasium, Hicks Art Gallery and Photo Lab, Founders rooms 140, 141 and 239, Penn rooms 232, 253, 255, 257 and 259, Physical Plant Barn second floor break room. At Lower Bucks SIP is in rooms 104/105 and 204/205 and at Upper Bucks SIP are within the computer classrooms.

Each location is marked by a "Shelter-in-Place Location" sign and each location will be staffed by one to two trained SIP team leaders with a SIP kit. SIP leaders will signal a SIP event via the use of air horns, whistles and/or loud speakers in and around campus buildings. Leaders will then begin directing students, faculty and staff to the nearest SIP location. Once on location, leaders will provide occupants with directions, information and updates as available. SIP is voluntary and campus members cannot be forced to shelter in place; however, should you choose not to shelter in place, the only other option available to you is to evacuate campus. No other options are available to you.

The SIP kits include various items which may be needed by the leader(s), to include: first aid kit, water, paper towels, absorbent "socks," duct tape, plastic bags, radios (two-way and AM/FM), glucose, pencils/paper, etc. The kits are designed to provide elementary supplies to SIP leader(s), until the emergency event is cleared. All community members are required to follow the directions of the SIP leader(s), remembering that a quick, calm response will provide maximum safety for all.

Should you have any questions regarding Shelter-in-Place, you can call the Director of Security and Safety Chris Lloyd at (215) 968-8394.

Business honors society offers students scholarships

BY JASON QUIER
Centurion Staff

Kappa Beta Delta (KBD), Bucks' business society, is searching for business students looking to improve their professional and personal lives.

For the last 200 years, Kappa Beta Delta has encouraged students working toward an associate's degree in business, management and administration to excel in their majors and possibly receive a scholarship.

Last spring, 22 students were inducted and as of Oct. 1, 15 students have since applied to the organization with the hopes of being this year's newest members.

In order to be eligible, students must be maintain a GPA that places them in the upper 20 percent of their class.

Those within the society are able to interact with different national and international chapters around the world, creating a vast network of job opportunities not available to the public.

"One of our members went on to finish his degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania," said Professor Charles Beem, adviser for the Bucks chapter. "After he had

graduated from IUP, he found an internship with Campbell's soup in Camden."

KBD prides itself as being an honor society that believes in giving back to the surrounding community.

The organization offers free seminars that are open to the public that, "allow the students the opportunity to share their learning expertise with other college students and the community abroad," said Beem. "Last year we held an open workshop on personal finance and invited a spokesman from Commerce Bank to work with members and explain the dangers of identity theft."

KBD will have new seminars. On Oct. 21, Eric Weiner, foreign correspondent for

National Public Radio, hosted a seminar, "The Geography of Bliss."

Weiner answered questions about how Americans suffer from "the unhappiness of not being happy" and how America stacks up against the rest of the world in regards to being happy.

On Nov. 18, Dr. Michael Galaty will present "Archaeological Evidence for the Origins of Affluence," investigating the transitions from human beings hunting and gathering for food to settled agriculture.

Galaty will also cover how individuals managed to turn the agriculture system to their own advantage.

For more information contact Beem at (215) 968-8237.

Featured photo: 'The disturbing truth about Barack O'Bunny'



By Ashley Pizzi, Centurion staff

contribute your photos by e-mailing a jpeg to centurion@bucks.edu

Park offers students diversions

continued from page 1

"It's a good place to 'get busy,'" said Carlos Sarmiento, a 20-year-old business major.

Some Bucks students take advantage of these secluded areas in other ways. "I know some kids go over there and smoke weed," said 18-year-old psychology major Molly Kaiser. "I get high in the park almost every day," said one Bucks student who preferred to remain anonymous. For those Bucks students who aren't particularly interested in making use of the "secluded areas,"

there are plenty

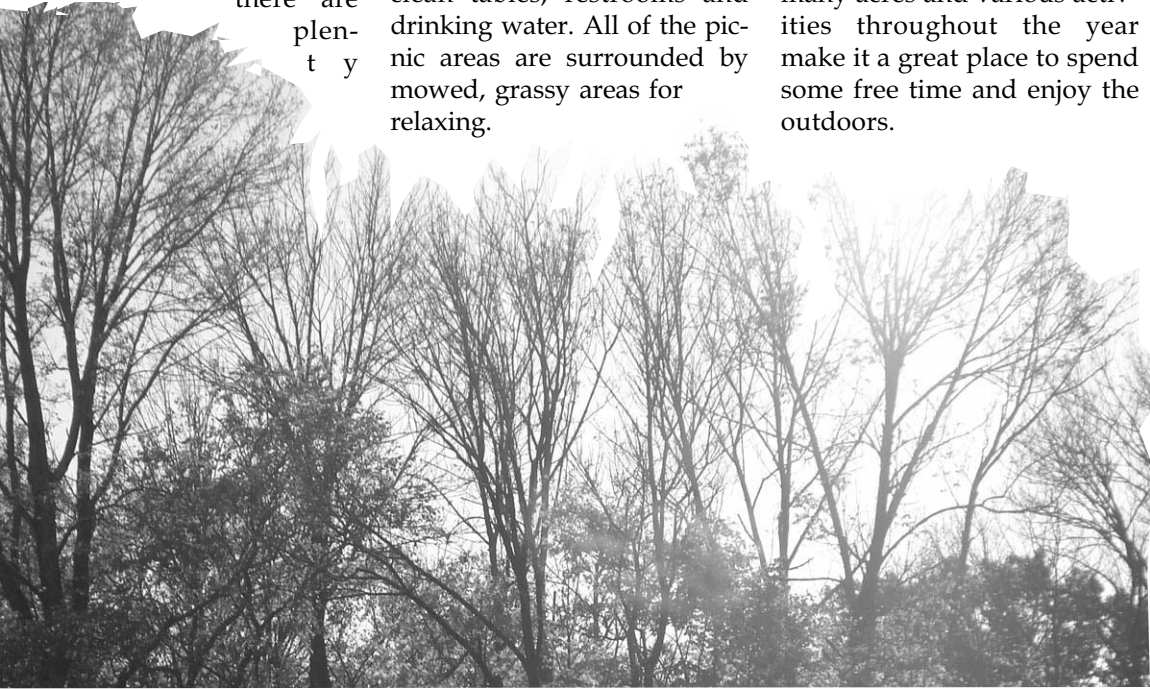
of other winter activities to look forward to. When the creek freezes, ice skating is permitted near the boathouse warming area.

The park also has great places for sledding and tobogganing. Check out the slopes below the upper plantation picnic area parking lot and slopes west of the covered bridge. Additionally, the hiking, biking and equestrian trails are not plowed after snowfall and are great for cross-country skiing. Before winter strikes, students can enjoy the park's multiple picnic areas, all of which have clean tables, restrooms and drinking water. All of the picnic areas are surrounded by mowed, grassy areas for relaxing.

The Neshaminy Creek meanders throughout the park and provides good fishing opportunities. In warmer weather, anglers can expect to catch sunfish, black crappie, carp, smallmouth bass and other panfish. In the winter, ice fishing is permitted when the creek freezes.

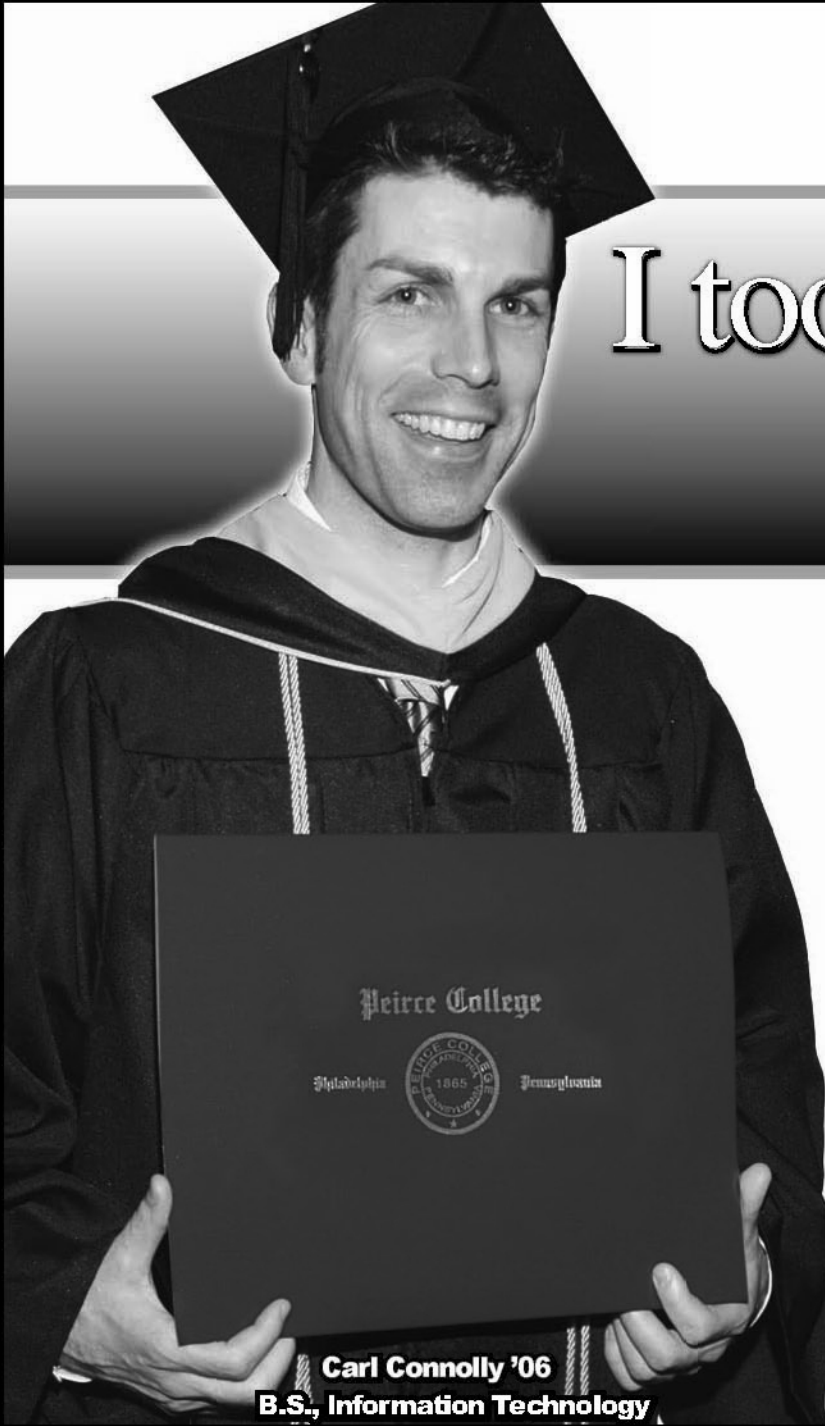
Anyone who enjoys Frisbee may want to check out the park's 27-hole disc golf course by the upper plantation picnic area. Course maps with rules and scorecards can be picked up at the park office.

No matter what you're interested in, Tyler Park's many acres and various activities throughout the year make it a great place to spend some free time and enjoy the outdoors.



TYLER PARK OFFERS GREAT ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS DURING ALL SEASONS

PHOTOS BY ERIC NOCITO (TOP PHOTO BY LAURA IRWIN)



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B.S., Information Technology



‘Star Wars’ game is in development

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Interactive Media Editor

It’s been confirmed, “Star Wars” fans: “Star Wars: The Old Republic,” a new MMORPG (massively multi-player online role playing game) is being developed in a joint effort by BioWare and Lucas Arts.

Early expectations for the game are going to be huge. It was suspected that such a game would be in development when BioWare opened a satellite studio for a then-unknown MMORPG development. While fans weren’t surprised at the announcement of a new “Star Wars” game, the fact that the game will try to take on the MMO giant Blizzard Entertainment is impressive. Many fans had long expected a sequel to the hugely popular “Knights of the Old Republic” (KOTOR) series, and a MMORPG is exhilarating. The game will be developed akin to that of the KOTOR series that so many “Star Wars” fans enjoyed.

James Ohlen, lead designer of the original KOTOR, said in an interview with gamespot.com, "Our fans ask, 'Why aren't you doing Knights of the Old Republic 3?' What we're really doing is Knights of the Old Republic 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12-plus. We have that much content and that many stories.



We really get to do a lot of things we really wouldn't get to do in KOTOR 3."

So far, some early details about the game’s setting and characters have been released. The game is set about 300 years after the KOTOR games and about 3,500 years before the events depicted in the films. The story sets the game up with the Sith Empire regaining its power and control of many Republic planets. After the Republic signs a surrender agreement with the Sith, the Jedi are forced to relocate their council to their homeworld of Tython and deal with the problem of the Republic’s loss in the faith of the Jedi Order.

Early screenshots of the

game show several kinds of creatures and worlds that you will be able to explore. It also shows some of the content that will be in the game, like lightsaber duels and the NPC “companions” that you can acquire on the way, some of which will help you or betray you depending on how you treat them.

As with the original KOTOR games, the player will be faced with a moral choice as far as their character goes. The player can either become a champion for good as a Jedi or join the Dark Side and fight for greed and power. Depending on the path you will choose, the game will branch out in that way.

The 12 staff writers that

have been hired to write the game’s content have confirmed that updates or expansion packs will come out after the game’s release. When asked about the size and content the game will have Ohlen said, "This is a huge game. Just to give you an idea of how huge this game is, we were taking a look at it, and it has more

story content than every single other BioWare game that's come before put together. That would mean Baldur's Gate, Baldur's Gate II, Neverwinter Nights, Neverwinter Nights II,

Knights of the Old Republic, Knights of the Old Republic II, Jade Empire, Mass Effect – and all the expansions."

It seems like that with all of the content that will be in the game itself, along with the updates, expansions, quests, moral decisions and characters inside the “Star Wars” universe, this game will be massive on a scale unlike that has ever been seen before. While the game is still in development, executive producer for Lucas Arts Tom Nichols stated, "When the content and the quality is there, that's the sign we'll be ready to go. We're gonna make sure we take the right amount of time to make sure it's awesome."

The game’s release date is in question, but if the hype that all of the developers are preaching is true, perhaps Blizzard will have to step up its own content as well.

Indie game earns honors

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Interactive Media Editor

When the game industry is dominated by huge companies like Electronic Arts, Activision and other companies, it seems that there is just no market for independent game makers to make any headway.

Or is there? No surprise that a few crafty college students have developed a game that is getting a lot of attention at most of the major gaming conventions.

The team at University of Southern California’s Interactive Media program is really impressed with all of the press and awards they have been receiving.

They won awards from the Independent Game Festival’s Student Showcase to IGN and Gamespot.com recommendations.

What is this special little game created by a handful of students from USC?

Well, come along and learn about “The Misadventures of P.B. Winterbottom.”

Who is P.B. Winterbottom

you ask? He’s a villainous gentleman with an insatiable taste for pies.

Producer Paul Bellezza stated on a G4 interview, “P.B. Winterbottom from birth has always loved pies.

And one day he steals pie from a baker who hates him, so this baker poisoned his pie and it made him unstuck in time.”

How much more original can you get as far as an idea for a game goes? So far we just know that the game is about a man who loves pies and stealing pies but what is the purpose of the game?

Lead Designer Matt Korba said, “This is a game about two things, stealing pie and breaking the space-time continuum to steal pie.”

What’s a better idea for a puzzle game?

Well it turns out the only thing better than stealing pie is how Winterbottom breaks the space time continuum to steal the pies.

He, soon after being unstuck in time, “learns that he can make clones of himself that exist several places in one time allowing him to

steal pie simultaneously with lots of himself,” added Bellezza.

Because of the amount of pies that will be dispersed on each level of the game, it will require a vast amount of strategy even from veteran gamers of the puzzle genre.

This gives a vast amount of different ways to get the pies and creates an interesting setting to keep people enthralled for hours.

Obstacles, which will prevent you from reaching the pies, range from multiple pies on different level tiers to being on top of several teeter-totters.

There are countless ways in order to get the pies; you can even knock clones of yourself across the stage in order to get to hard-to-reach places.

Later in the game, the clones that you create will inevitably start repeating all of the actions you do, like following your steps and trying to trail you to get the pie first.

The game’s quirky setting, interesting gameplay and unique styling makes it one of the most interesting games that have come out this year.

Here’s a recap of major DVDs and Blu-ray Discs coming out in October and November...

Films:

- National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets
- What Happens in Vegas
- Zombie Strippers
- Journey to the Center of the Earth
- The Polar Express
- Animal House Gift Set

TV on DVD:

- 4400: The Complete Series
- Reaper: Season 1
- The Flintstones: the Complete Series
- Family Guy: Volume Six
- Spin City: Season 1
- Firefly: The Complete Series on Blu-Ray
- M*A*S*H: Martinis & Medicine Collection

Here’s a list of some cool websites to visit...

- **moca.virtual.museum**
This is an online gallery of all things computer art, perfect for the artist and graphic designer to get ideas
- **collphyphil.org**
The College of Physicians of Philadelphia’s Mutter Museum is filled with all sorts of strange and weird things in the field of medicine. Weird, eerie stuff to check out in the dark.
- **podlinez.com**
Find and listen to any number of podcasts directly from your phone.
- **bugmenot.com**
Are you tired of websites that force you to register your info and all you need is one thing? Well turn to this site for a number of disposable passwords and usernames. Save the good passwords for facebook.
- **makesueof.com**
Are you just looking for somethign to do on the internet and don’t know where to look? Go here for a number of useful and interesting websites.

BETTER JUDGMENT

Jamie and Elle know fashion, and they are ready to tear your closet to pieces

BY JAMIE MELGOZA
AND ELLE CREEDON
Arts Editor, Centurion Staff

The fall season is finally here. With temperatures as low as 40 degrees, we need to start dressing warmer. Ladies, start pulling out your boots, sweaters and winter accessories. Men, let's see chunky, cable knit sweaters and warmer hats.

Both men and women should be layering their outfits to keep warm and look cool. Layering works well for anyone, especially for college students with the economy in such turmoil. Anyone looking to layer their ensemble can begin with a couple of tank tops from Target, which are cheap and go with everything. Just look at H&M as well; they have all the hip stuff for extremely reasonable prices. All of their pieces can be layered quite easily and worn comfortably.

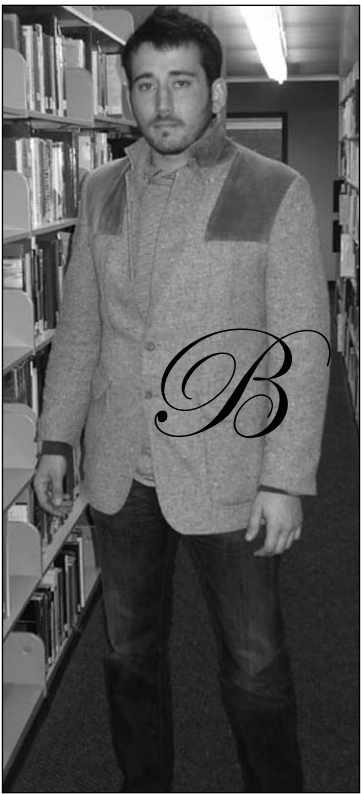
The woman shown in picture A is wearing a great heather-grey turtleneck with a chic, varsity-inspired, cropped and fitted blazer. Here you can see she paired it with a funky black wool mini with tiers, black tights and black suede, knee-high boots. Her accessories include a silver chain bracelet, and simple but fun silver hoops. This outfit can be broken down,



and paired with anything in her closet.

The blazer and top can be worn with anything from leggings to denim. This is a great staple piece for any woman to own this season.

The man in picture B is wearing a chord and tweed blazer, a grey striped long sleeve tee underneath, and dark denim, with a sporty dress shoe to complete his look. Once again, the sport coat is an essential piece for men this season and can be worn with virtually anything. The vintage look started off



with the college students because it's a money saver, and he does a great job of pulling this off. He is also sporting another fall trend with his horizontal striped tee. Also found inexpensively at any store.

Picture C's girl shows more color in her ensemble.

This understated fashionista, looking quite colorful in her full zip, red mock neck sweatshirt, is showing the layering aspect with her black shirt and her grey jeans tucked into her UGGs. The crocheted beanie loosely



hangs on top of her head with big sunglasses blocking the fall sunshine.

As far as the sweaters go this season, the student in picture D pulls off the graphic sweater perfectly.

He pulls this outfit together with an awesome pair of low rise-dark denim, and great white canvas lace ups, which add character to the shoes by being different color laces.

With the months getting colder these outfits are great ideas for something simple for college students to wear. We have seen great flannel,



and plaid walking around the campus, layered with toggle coats and warm boots. Do not be afraid to go chunky when it comes to your winter accessories.

Looking at places such as Target, H&M, Old Navy and The Gap can offer some great ideas. Like we mentioned before, the vintage look is always in. Stopping into thrift stores can be rewarding, especially when it come to accessories.

Let's all welcome this season warmly and looking good.

Rock girls get reformed

BY BRITTANY KENVIN
Centurion Staff

It seems like ages ago when the first "Rock of Love" girls began the exceedingly competitive struggle to win rocker Brett Michaels' heart. We all watched as, one by one, the girls clawed their way to get his attention, all the while scheming and manipulating and basically tearing each other apart.

When Michaels' final choice did not work out, another season of nasty and devious girls joined the fight. Again, we tuned in eagerly to witness every dumb comment and ditzy line until he chose his second "Rock of Love."

Now, to fans' joyous surprise, the "Rock of Love" girls are back, but this time they're here to reform their bad-girl ways by entering "Charm School."

Just like their Season 1 "Flavor of Love" predecessors, the girls will go through a series of challenges and competitions all centered on taming their wild antics. The last lady standing will win \$100,000 toward fulfill-

ing their life's dream.

The classy, yet edgy, Sharon Osbourne, wife of heavy metal

aside their differences and malicious ways in the hopes of gaining some respect and transforming into, dare we say it, ladies? The show has only aired twice so far, but the girls are already as rowdy as ever. They have even begun mapping out and executing vicious plans of attack on the other contestants.

So, why should we watch this show about seemingly air-headed reality stars on the verge of ripping each others' hair out in pursuit of a monetary prize?

For one, the show's major cat fights and trash-talking girls should prove for some entertaining television. It's also a great pick-me-up if you're ever feeling down about your life. Watching the crazy tirade of rebellious girls makes you feel much better about your own life and saner.

Aside from these reasons, there is one that stands out from the rest. America has tons of celebrity bad girls to obsess over, but how many chances do we get to witness the conversion of one of these idolized bad girls into a classy, reformed version? Few.

legend Ozzy Osbourne, has signed on for the ambitious task of subduing these crazy vixens. This will be no easy mission, but if anyone is able to conquer it, she can.

All of the fan favorites are back for more excitement. Lacey "The Master Manipulator," Heather "The Stripper," Angelique "The French Exhibitionist," Jessica "The Baby," Inna "The Ukrainian Love Gun," Courtney "The Drunk One," Daisy "The Emotional One," Brandi C. "The Ditz," Peyton "The Southern Rocker" and several others are back for more fun and fierce altercations.

Will the girls be able to put



Poehler gives birth to boy

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK—"Saturday Night Live" just won't be the same without Amy Poehler — who delivered a baby boy hours before she was to appear on the NBC show.

The live show's parody news anchor was missing from her spot alongside Seth Myers on "Weekend Update" because she gave birth earlier Saturday.

On behalf of Poehler and her husband, Will Arnett, "I can confirm that Amy gave birth to Archie Arnett on Saturday," read a statement from Poehler's spokesman, Lewis Kay.

The baby was born early Saturday evening in New York, weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce.

Mother and child were "healthy and resting comfortably," according to the statement.

Poehler, who performed on Thursday night's special edition of "SNL" and is known for playing Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, was rehearsing the show until Friday.

Have you checked out the
Centurion's weekly webcast?

Visit bucks-news.com,
bucks.edu/journalism or check us
out on youtube,
youtube.com/user/BucksCenturion

Good and bad

Op/Ed Editor Sara Crouse gives her approval or criticism

Good.

October is Vegetarian Awareness Month, so take at least one day a week to eat veggie for your heart and your spirit. If you're a guy and you're just not motivated to put down the chicken wings for a day, just check out Pam Anderson's new video exposing the disgustingly cruel world of factory farms at kentuckyfriedcruelty.com

SNL's hilarious Sarah Palin rap they aired last Saturday, which Miss Palin declined to perform due to her campaign and Amy Poehler humorously enacted. Jam packed with Eskimos, snow mobile riders, a moose and some gun shots.

The Phillies making it to the World Series for the first time in 15 years, proving that a Philadelphia team can still advance past the playoffs to the finals. Go get 'em Phillies!

Bad.

Going to Target with your mom and walking through the children's Halloween section to find tons of assorted Hannah Montana gear.

The economic status of the country remaining in the dumps with corporations, and now publications feeling the pinch. Advertising revenue is down at The New York Times by 16 percent, resulting in expected cutbacks. Vogue magazine is also suffering in the economic standing, cutting back 100 pages in their November issue.

Heather Mills, Paul McCartney's latest divorcee reportedly having already spent \$12 million of the \$30 million she gained in their split in just seven months! Wow, the former nude model is doing quite well for herself I'd say.

Dear John, Dear Jane

*An open letter to those people who bother
Editor-in-Chief Laura Irwin somehow*

Dear man and his wife next to me at the movie theater,

I went to see "W" on Saturday with my former roommate. It's not every day she gets to go out; her munchkin was on vacation with her parents, so for the first time in a long time she was able to do what she called "her favorite thing."

She wanted to see "W," so off we went to the movies. The prices were raised again! It cost \$10 to see the movie!

So when you and your wife were talking at a normal speaking voice for the first 10 minutes of the movie, I thought it was obnoxious.

I finally leaned over and whispered, "Can you please stop talking?" I was very polite about it, so I was surprised when you retorted with a curt, "What?"

I repeated myself, "Can you please stop talking, I'm trying to focus on the movie," ...and not your lack of knowledge about political figures and events.

But this only led to you whispering throughout the movie, and I find the lisping hisses leaking from your mouth to be as equally annoying.

But, unlike some, I kept my

mouth shut. Then you, dear sir, lean over a vacant chair to tap my arm and say, "Are you going to tell them to stop talking too, or just pick on my wife?"

This was, from what I could tell, a reference to the people talking behind you.

I replied, "I was asking both you and your wife to stop talking."

My adviser, Tony Rogers, said that people have lost the ability to distinguish between watching TV at home - where they can yak all they want - and the movie theater.

I agree. Some guy even answered his cell phone during the movie!

You cannot be that important of a person to sit next to a date in a movie theater and chat, whether it's with the person next to you or on the phone.

Doing this is rude. You may not know that because you think the world revolves around you, but it does not.

When you are in public, it is best to be respectful of those around you.

Don't go around tapping women in their mid-20s on the arm to make a snide remark to make you feel bet-

ter. You were the one talking at an inappropriate time, in an inappropriate place, and your pissy little attitude in regards to my asking you to mind others only shows you felt guilty. However, being the "big man" you are only makes you transfer your aggression onto someone else...because you're weak inside.

I offer you this advice: seek therapy. Have your wife read a newspaper. Shut up in movie theaters. It cost you \$10 as well to see the film, so it should be worth your attention.

Please mind other people. There is a clip at the beginning of every movie, several even, telling you to silence your phone (you don't even have to turn it completely off) and keep your children as quiet as possible and to not text and to not talk.

Why these points need to be made at the start of every movie is ridiculous. You people should know a movie theater is not your living room. But, obviously such a profound concept eludes you.

Next time, just shut up and mind your manners.

Thank you.

Laura

A Modern Hypocrisy

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



Pumpkins, gourds and the World Series

I haven't had television in almost three years.

It's not something I mention as a braggart, I'm not proud of not having cable, I just don't.

I always need to clarify this: I own a TV and a DVD player, but if you turn the TV on without having the DVD player on, you will see I receive nothing but white noise. No basic channels, no scrambled channels. Nothing. I call this television and not just cable because I don't get a thing and I associate cable with a minimum of one station.

I wish I could watch the World Series without getting boozed at the bar or have friends text me scores. I have no excuse to not watch on a night I'm not working, but Sunday night has never been a big drinking night for me.

I'm dying. I love baseball. I love keeping score.

Some people have rather strong opinions on baseball—it's boring or minimally physical—but I think it's awesome.

My family is a big baseball family. I would be disowned if I didn't know the basic stats, and my dad can ramble off details on any team, 1920 to current.

I've always said there are three categories of men: the fix-it guy, the sports guy and the arty guy.

Give me the sports guy.

So I take up multiple hobbies and indulge in Blockbuster rentals.

I joined that Blockbuster online thing for the minimal package; \$4.99 a month for one movie at a time, and returning that movie for one free exchange a month. For those unfamiliar with the program, instead of mailing the movie back you can take it to the store and exchange it for another movie. Depending on the package, your exchange is either free or discounted.

As well, their new free store card allows you buy one, get one for non-new releases on Monday through Wednesday. This has allowed me to rip through "House," "30 Rock," and currently, "Six Feet Under."

Aside from music and occasional "meows," TV noise is something I can have on in the background to keep me company.

As far as hobbies go, it's my favorite time of year. I am a crazy pumpkin cutter. My jack-o-lanterns are fabulous. Last year's pumpkin is on the bottom of page 11. It's a cannibal pumpkin.

This year, I plan on doing a zombie pumpkin.

"Boo pumpkins" are the white ones. I plan on taking two, a head and torso, and spilling some pumpkin guts from the head and stomach and bruising some areas of the "face."

I will use full-cutting techniques to cut out the important features, like the eyes and mouth and cracked "skull."

I will peel the rind to have hanging flaps of "skin" and minor imperfections.

I don't have a lot of time on my hands. I'm fretting about when I am going to do this. I haven't bought the pumpkins as of yet, but carving a pumpkin sooner than a day or two before Halloween will leave your pumpkin looking wrinkly and moldy by the time Halloween night arrives.

As well, I will be taking black, bumpy gourds and sliding bat wings and fangs into them, finally hanging them from the roof of my porch.

I have an annual porch party on Halloween. People come over, dressed up or not, with alcohol and we give out candy to kids. This may sound odd, but in Newtown Borough, kids travel in wagons from house to house straddling cases of beer. It's social and towny and I take advantage of the casualness, throw in some space heaters and try not to have everyone get so drunk they eat the kids' candy..

But, I go nuts when it comes to crafty things. I've never been an amazing artist. I paint on glass windows and I enjoy letter writing in Old English Script. I write, which I consider an art.

But, my vast nerdiness has never enabled me to produce excellent sketches. I am an adequate piano player, but for someone who wishes they were more right-brained, my tendencies are left-brained.

So, being a creative pumpkin carver is my outlet for the lack of fine art skills, but I would have loved to see the Phils knock-out 10 homers.



Letters
To
The
Editor

Got an opinion?
Agree or disagree?

Tell us in a letter to the editor.

E-mail Editor-in-Chief Laura Irwin at
centurion@bucks.edu.

Halloween history in the making

BY ELIZABETH MESSINA
Centurion Staff

Halloween began 2,000 years ago as the Celtic festival called Samhain or "summer's end."

The Celtic New Year was on Nov. 1, marking the end of the harvest and the beginning of the winter.

The Celts believed that on the eve of the new year, the boundary between the living world and the afterworld became blurred and ghosts returned to earth, causing trouble by damaging crops.

Celts also believed the presence of ghosts made it easier for Celtic priests, called Druids, to predict the future about whether the villages would survive the winter.

The Druids made bonfires, where people gathered and burnt crops and sacrificed animals to the Celtic deities.

Demonic costumes made of animal skins were also worn to repel and confuse the ghosts.

By 43 A.D., most Celtic territory was conquered by the Roman Empire and two of their festivals were combined with Samhain.

The first festival, Feralia, was celebrated in late October to commemorate the passing of the dead. The second was in honor of Pomona, the goddess of fruit and trees. Pomona's symbol is the apple. This is believed to be where the tradition of bobbing for apples came from.

In the eighth century, when Christianity had spread into



Celtic territory, Pope Gregory III designated Nov. 1 as 'All Hallows' Day,' to honor saints and martyrs. It is believed he did this to distract the Celts from their "pagan practices."

The Celts accepted the new holiday, but still celebrated their traditional ritual as well, and Samhain became known as "All Hallows' Eve."

All Hallows' Day is also known as All Saints' Day. The word Halloween is shortened from All Hallows' Even, as "eve" and "even" are abbreviations of "evening," since it's the eve of All Hallows' Day.

Halloween was brought to the United States when 1 million Irish people immigrated during the Potato Famine in 1846. In the melting pot of culture, the tradition began to change. The large bonfires were shrunk down to jack-o-lanterns and the Celt's demonic costumes became the modern mass-produced ones of today.

In the early 1900s, Halloween was a night of vandalism. Property was destroyed and cruelty to animals and people was common. Finally, in 1912 the Boy Scouts and other neighbor-

hood organizations encouraged a safe celebration. Posters were hung in schools reminding children to have a "Sane Halloween."

In lieu of tricking neighbors and vandalizing, students went door-to-door to collect treats. Trick-or-treating became widespread by the end of the 1930s. The term "trick-or-treat" is a threat to trick the neighbor if they do not give a treat.

Halloween was not commercialized until the 1910s and the mass-production of costumes appeared in stores in the '30s. Trick-or-treating became a holiday staple in the '50s.

Today, it is estimated that Americans spend \$6.9 billion on Halloween annually, making it the second largest commercial holiday next to Christmas.

Ghosts aplenty here

BY JAMIE MELGOZA
Arts Editor

We have all experienced the feeling of fear—the kind that starts at the base of your stomach, slowly creeping its way up to your throat, leaving a trail of goose bumps along its path until finally jumping out of your throat in the form of a scream.

From unexplainable sounds of crying babies to dancing witches, it appears that Pennsylvania's past is very much alive and is willing to share if you are.

Bucks' very own Tyler Hall is haunted by its old administrator Stella Tyler. She is said to be roaming the halls keeping an eye on her building, and is mostly seen in 'The Dungeon.'

A more famous haunting is the one of George School. It is said that this private school harbors an extremely dark presence; so dark is its presence that it is reported no light can pass through it.

This spot is located in the middle of the basement of Tate House and all candles as well as flashlights extinguish themselves and leave the visitor in complete darkness. The reason for these strange events is the grave of a Hessian soldier is under the floor boards of this house.

Dr. James Tate inherited this house in 1781 from his father. He found out that the soldier was captured by Tate to be experimented on, dissected and studied.

However, in a last-ditch effort to escape, the soldier played possum as Tate neared with a lit candle to investigate. Then, Tate finished him off as the soldier grabbed his arm, extinguish-



ing the candle. When Tate was finished with the autopsy, he buried the body in his cellar. Now, when the lights are off, you hear the rush of heavy footsteps toward the door, as if someone was trying to escape.

If you are willing to travel a little further for a scare, there are some ghastly tales that linger right in Philadelphia. Amongst the hustle and bustle of the city life, hides the birth place of the paranormal.

Just go to the Baleroy Mansion on 111 West Mermaid Lane in the Chestnut Hill area.

This mansion is said to hold a number of different ghosts; a little boy and an angry old lady who threatens guests as they walk by the second floor. But the most famous ghoulish would have to be Amelia.

Amelia has a chair located in the Blue Room of the Baleroy. Amelia's chair is a 200-year-old blue upholstered wing chair, and if you sit in it she will attempt to take your life. So far, she has taken four.

It is said that the Church of St. Luke in Philadelphia had an extremely strange phenomenon back in 1975.

There is a 28-inch statue of

Jesus Christ that sits 12 feet above the altar. Reports say that this statue actually bled from the hands for nearly a year. The statue was x-rayed and its arms were broken off for inspection, but no tubes or any other sign of fakery was uncovered. The fluid was analyzed and the reports came back saying that it was actual human blood.

The dark red blood came from the plaster wounds in the hands of the statue. The owner of this statue is Ann Poore and she said that she developed bleeding stigmata in her own palms.

Then there is Hexenkopf, or Witches Head, located in Berks County.

Crop Circles, or "Hexen Danz" to the Pennsylvania Dutch, are just flattened circles of wheat. But to the Dutch, the crop circles are blamed on the "Dancing Witches" who gathered upon a hill every May 1, with their phantoms. The witches, phantoms and strange balls of light are seen today dancing upon the hill.

So there you have it—some local hauntings and legends that should get your Halloween off to a spooky start.

Bucks celebrates a spooky holiday

BY ERIC NOCITO
Features Editor

With only a few days before Halloween, plans are already in motion for Bucks students to celebrate the holiday.

When students on campus were asked what they were doing or wearing for Halloween, most seemed to know the answer already.

"I'm being Batman in a 12-year-old costume with a cup, so you can get man bulge," said Nick Bernardo, a 20-year-old political science major. Another student, Mitch O'Connor, a 19-year-old liberal arts major, said, "I'm being Christopher Reeve, Superman in a wheelchair."

While it seems that the superhero theme is the popular choice for a costume, many others have decided to be something to do with celebrities. Audrey Hepburn, Taylor Swift and Heath Ledger were all mentioned as possible costumes for students.

Some, on the other hand, have decided to dress up as something a little more out of the ordinary. Rachael Adams, a 22-year-old English major, said, "I am being a wall socket and my one friend is being the plug part that goes in the socket."

While some Bucks students still plan on trick or treat-

ing, most are partying somewhere Halloween night. Many themes were mentioned, such as cocktail party and a set-costume party, but most said they were simply just having a freestyle costume party.

"I'm having a birthday party for my friend," said Mike Tenaglia, an 18-year-old biology major. "His birthday is Halloween, so we just decided to combine it into one big crazy party."

Many students said, to be safe on Halloween, they will collect the car keys of anyone who drinks, with the notion of 'If you drink, you won't drive.'

On Friday, Oct. 31, the Newtown campus will host a costumed Halloween party. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge.

There will be various competitions and opportunities to win prizes at the event.

It is sponsored by the Union Program Board at Bucks.

Previously, there was an event planned at the Bristol campus on Halloween, but because of an incident at Lower Bucks, the event was cancelled.

With all individual parties and the Bucks-sponsored events, Halloween is sure to be a fun night for many, as long as they have fun safely.

BY LAURA IRWIN





Eagles need to be more consistent

BY MIKE TINGLE
Centurion Staff

Let's hear it for the Philadelphia Phillies. They have taken Philadelphia by storm. They have given this city something to be proud of. They have been nothing short of spectacular. But their most amazing accomplishment has got to be taking our attention away from the lackluster, uninspiring, faceless Philadelphia Eagles.

The Eagles entered Sunday's game against the Atlanta Falcons a very modest 3-3. Really, where is this team going? Have they given any inclination that they are a team worthy of Super Bowl aspirations? Will the Phillies be a distant memory when the Eagles are in the Super Bowl come February?

Okay, the Super Bowl talk is a little far-fetched at this point in the season— given that if the season ended today they'd be out of

the playoffs.

However, looking at this team they have at times looked great. They've moved the ball and scored at will, in some games. Their defense has at times looked spectacular, at times horrid. One thing is for sure, this team suffers from a lack of identity and is highly inconsistent.

Consistency is hard to establish when a team suffers as many injuries as the Eagles have had so far this season, and in the past. This is not letting Head Coach Andy Reid off the hook for the awful goal-line offense that cost them a win over the Chicago Bears; the same short yardage offense that cost them a win against the Washington Redskins. This is not letting him off the hook for failing to adjust in the second half of the Cowboys game, ultimately costing them another victory.

Reid has not been good, but the injuries they've had to over-

come have been plenty.

Receivers Reggie Brown and Kevin Curtis have collectively been out most of the season. They have been fortunate to have found a bona fide gem in rookie DeSean Jackson. He has been everything they could have hoped he would be, but going into a season down both of your starting receivers is a tough thing to overcome.

Losing All-Pro guard Shawn Andrews has been arguably the biggest loss. He takes their offensive line and transforms it into something great. They count on him to open up the running game, and he does. The fourth down play in Chicago was designed to go to Andrews' side; did you happen to notice how well that went with Andrews out of the game?

One other injury of note is running back Brian Westbrook. When he has played, he's been amazing. The Redskins loss was

not a matter of Westbrook being out, but their offense was shut down after the first quarter and having him available may have changed that. He really makes their offensive attack a lethal force.

Another key factor to their subpar start has been the foot of kicker David Akers. The once reliable Akers has become a liability with long-range field goals. Sadly, after a great career in Philadelphia, his time here appears to be coming to an end.

Defensively, for the most part, they've been solid. Their front seven is young, talented and fast. Their play has allowed one of football's best secondary units to play at a high level.

So what now for the Eagles? They play in arguably the toughest division in football. They've already let vital victories slip away. Can they rebound and get back to the playoffs?

I believe they can. What

they're going to need to do is continue to play stout defense. They got Westbrook and Curtis back for the Falcons game Sunday, and the result was a win. Although Andrews will be sidelined for the next two months, this team is getting healthier. On paper, there is talent to spare - especially on defense.

The rest of the division is good but have begun to struggle. The three other teams have all lost games of late to teams with losing records. It's impossible to look at this Eagles team and say they're going to make the playoffs for certain. It is also too early to write them off.

If they avoid the coaching errors that have hurt them so far, if they formulate some consistency, there are few teams in the league that can play with them. The biggest obstacle the Eagles will face the rest of the season will be themselves.

Phillies take the lead in World Series

If the Phillies win Monday, it would mark the first time the series has gone five straight years without reaching a Game 6.

By The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ryan Howard could imagine the mayhem.

"It will be absolute bedlam," he said. "It will be one of the craziest places on Earth. It's kind of scary to imagine."

First, though, the Phillies need one more win.

Their 10-2 romp over the Tampa Bay Rays gave Philadelphia a 3-1 World Series lead. Howard drove in five runs with two homers and Joe Blanton shut his eyes, swung and became the first pitcher in 34 years to homer in the Series.

Come Monday night, the team of 10,000 losses could give title-starved Philadelphia its first champion in any of the four big sports since the NBA's 76ers in 1983. The Phillies' only Series victory came in 1980.

"A championship is the only way to fully reverse that thought of how the Phillies are portrayed," said Jimmy Rollins, who sparked them with three hits and three runs. "If we get that game, I believe we will be happy, the city will be happy, there will be a big parade."

Blanton and four relievers combined on a five-hitter, and Jason Werth also homered.

In this campaign season, the Rays resemble a team from a swing — and miss — state. No. 3 hitter Carlos Pena and cleanup man Evan Longoria have combined to go an A-Rod-like 0-for-29 with 15 strikeouts in the Series. Longoria has gone hitless in four straight games for the first time in his big league career.

"What bothers me is we lose a couple of games, and people talk like we've got the worst team ever," Cliff Floyd said. "This team is just going through a tough period. ... But we've been down before. We know we can come back."

Cole Hamels will try to close out the Series title on Monday night against Scott Kazmir in a rematch of Game 1 starters. Hamels (4-0) is trying to become the first pitcher to win five post-season starts in one year.

Of the 42 teams to take 3-1 World Series leads, 36 have gone on to win the crown. After splitting the first two games in Florida, the Phillies improved to 6-0 at Citizens Bank Park this postseason. That includes a wacky, rain-delayed 5-4 win in Game 3 that ended at 1:47 a.m. Sunday.

"Cole looks for these moments. I call him Hollywood, because when the lights are on, that's

when he's at his best," Rollins said. "And tomorrow night, the lights will definitely be on."

A day after hitting his first homer of the Series, Howard connected twice. The major league leader in home runs and RBIs hit a three-run drive off Andy Sonnanstine that made it 5-1 in the fourth and sent screams through a whooped-up crowd of 45,903. Howard added a long, two-run shot against Dan Wheeler in the eighth.

Blanton, with a Greg Luzinski body type that's a throwback to an era of pudgy pitchers, gave up four hits — including solo homers to Carl Crawford and pinch-hitter Eric Hinske — struck out seven and walked two in six-plus innings.

Just 2-for-33 (.061) with one RBI in his career to that point, Blanton homered in the fifth off Edwin Jackson.

It was just the 15th home run by a pitcher in the Series, and the first since Oakland's Ken Holtzman in 1974. No NL pitcher had homered since the Cardinals' Bob Gibson in 1968.

"I just close my eyes and swing hard in case I make contact," said Blanton, who thought he hadn't homered since high school. "Better to be lucky than good, I guess."

Rays manager Joe Maddon came out in midgame to complain to plate umpire Tom Hallion about a spot on Blanton's cap. "It was rather dark," Maddon said. "I was concerned about that early on."

Blanton pleaded not guilty.

"They rub the balls up with whatever they rub them up with, and you rub it up and get it on your hand," he said. "It's nothing sticky. Anybody can go touch it. It's just basically just dirt from the ball."

Rollins made a great escape from a run-down in the first inning — perhaps with the help of an umpire's blown call — energizing the Phillies and rattling the Rays.

Second baseman Akinori Iwamura made two errors that led to unearned runs, and a frustrated Longoria — again taunted by chants of "E-va! E-va!" in reference to the actress of the same last name — struck out three times and swiped a hand through the air when a call went against him at third base.

"We know what's going on, we're just not reacting very well yet, but there is time," Maddon said. "We have to not give them four outs in an inning. We have to have better at-bats."

Had the Phillies come up with



MATT STAIRS, LEFT, CONGRATULATES ERIC BRUNTLETT AS TAMPA BAY RAYS' EVAN LONGORIA LAYS ON THE GROUND DURING THE NINTH INNING OF GAME 3

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

more timely hits — a familiar story — Philadelphia could have blown open the game earlier.

The Phillies were 4-for-14 with runners in scoring position and are 6-for-47 in the Series.

Sonnanstine struggled with his offspeed stuff and needed 89 pitches to get through four innings. He allowed five runs — three earned — six hits and three walks.

"It's win or go home. It's simple, and no one in here wants to go home and wonder what if," Floyd said.