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Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 65. North wind around 7 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 65. Northeast wind between 3 and 7 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 72.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75.

Saturday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 69. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

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Bucks’ journalism program hosts Media Day

Continued from Page 1

In honor of Women’s History Month, Bucks hosted its fifth annual Reading and Writing Women event on March 26 in the Gateway Auditorium. The open microphone event featured Bucks students speaking their minds through original poetry, song, short fiction, or essay. In addition to their own work, many students approached the podium to share the words of other women writers.

A broad range of topics were discussed, including environmental degradation, death, sexual identity, friendships, and inspiration. Though many of the speakers talked about hope, not all messages were joyful, with readings from Joni Mitchell’s “Bad Dreams Are Good.” A feature in the Sept. 17, 2007 issue of The New Yorker, the poem addresses the ignorance of contemporary society towards nature, writing “Everyone’s a victim here, nobody’s hands are clean, there’s so little left of wild Eden Earth.”

The event presented cultural issues specific to certain speakers at Bucks. Shannon Vaccaro, an English major from Trenton, N.J., read works by European poet Alfonsina Storni in both English and Spanish. As one of her favorite feminist writers, Vaccaro said, “I enjoy her work because she is not overly happy and she delves into the darker side of humanity by embracing death.”

Although the event was intended to project the voices of women through artistic expression, several male students also read their own original works. Bucks student, poet, and musician John Lennox presented an original poem and played acoustic guitar for the audience.

Lennox said he has been writing poetry, “on and off for all of his life.” Lennox also read the famous poem, “The Poison Tree,” by William Blake.

In addition to poetry and short fiction, snacks were available and prizes were given away in a raffle.

The event was organized by all the first-year professors in the Language and Literature department. Language and Literature department chair Susan Darrah said, “This fifth annual reading and writing women’s event and the best turnout yet.” Hopefully next year there will be an even larger turnout.

BY SARA CROUSE
Centurion Staff


O’Hearn began her broadcast career at Capital News 9 in her hometown of Albany, New York. Before getting into news, O’Hearn spent time producing episodes of an MTV documentary called “True Life.”

Mullane is a columnist for the Bucks County Courier Times and a blogger for Phillyburbs.com. He was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his crime series that occurred in certain neighbor- hoods and the readers.

Although it takes someone who can handle dealing with emotionally draining subject matter, there are two sides to the police beat. Some stories can be very inspirational and rewarding for the reporter and the readers.

All are welcome to encourage and attend about The forum will begin at 10 a.m. in the library auditorium on Wednesday, April 23 and it is free and open to the public.

To receive the Centurion’s email edition: Register at www.Bucks-News.com and a PDF version of the newspaper will be delivered directly to your email box.

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.

Send letters to: Centurion
275 Swamp Rd
Newtown, PA 18940
Centurion@bucks.edu
www.bucks-news.com/Letters to the Editor
215.968.8379
Hillary Clinton rallies local supporters

BY KRISTIN CALCIANO
Entertainment Editor

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton may be down in the count to Sen. Barack Obama, but she’s not giving up yet.

On the issue of ending the tax breaks given to major oil companies, Clinton said, “There is no justification under the sun for the oil companies to be given tax breaks. The oil companies don’t need your taxes to be making this astronomical amount of money.”

Clinton also aims to create 5 million new jobs within the clean energy industry in the next five years. She hopes to advance such technologies as bio-fuels, wind and solar energy, and increase gas mileage.

An ever-present platform for Clinton is healthcare. Clinton has always been a strong advocate for the idea of a universal healthcare system, and continues to stick to those values.

Clinton said, “I’ve met people who have no choice but to go to the emergency room because they can’t afford to see a doctor regularly.”

She also spoke about the rising interest rates that many college students face from loan companies. Clinton wishes to make college affordable for all students.

Hillary Clinton rallies local supporters

President Obama’s vice president is unknown. It may be someone who has political experience. If Obama doesn’t have much more political experience, then he may win the Democratic nomination.

However, if Obama does have much more political experience than she, and does he have even close to the economic knowledge that she does. However, a strength he does have is his military experience.

This could be neutralized by choosing former NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe Wesley Clark. Clark commanded Operation Allied Force in Kosovo in the 90s, ending the genocide in Kosovo that eventually led to the nation’s independence this year.

His strong military record, combined with his endorsement of Clinton in September, makes him a strong candidate for her vice presidential spot. He could potentially limit McCain’s ability to preach of better national security and military credentials.

However, as evidenced by his failure in the 2004 presidential primary, Clark is a weak campaigner with little political experience. If Clinton is willing to take the risk on his campaigning and go with him, she could reap big rewards.

Clinton still has a long way to go to garner the Democratic nomination. It would take a strong showing in the upcoming primaries and a gaffe or two by Obama to make the super delegates flock over to her.

If Clinton can pull it out, she would have a strong group of potential vice presidents.

Bayh, Obama, Rendell and Clark all have more strengths than weaknesses and could easily deliver for Clinton if called upon.

Her potential choices are strong, but could be too late for her to come back and win the nomination.

Only time will tell.
Gas prices are outrageous by the gallon

By Jay Jones
Op/Ed Editor

A full-time student at Bucks pays a pretty penny for classes, and it is nothing compared to a four-year school’s tuition.

Even with a decent paying job, many students can barely afford to pay for their classes, books and lab fees.

And once tuition is paid for, where does any extra cash then go?

When it comes down to it and the bills are totaled, it’s the last thing students could imagine. It’s not food, friends or significant others, it’s gas.

“Carpooling with my brother and neighbor helps,” said Morristown local Trent Russo. “But if prices keep going up we’ll have to choose between the car and school.”

According to www.ucee.org, the U.S. has 765 cars per 1,000 people, the highest in the world, making it necessary to drive in order to make a living.

Bucks students should consider themselves lucky they don’t live in Kodiak, Alaska, where gas prices are reported to be a chocking $4.33.

“I work 30 hours a week for $8 an hour,” said Shelly Bast of Yardley, chemistry major. “Half my paycheck goes into the gas I use to get to campus for 20 hours of classes.”

According to a report by the Energy Information Administration as of May 2007, at a retail price of $3.03 per gallon, 13 percent of what we pay for gas goes toward taxes, 10 percent to distribution and marketing, and 8 percent to refining and 69 percent to crude oil.

“When I go out I have to think what I can get all at one time,” said Sarah Rambo, from Bensalem. “I try not to drive too much.”

So, for those of us who are horrible at math, what does this mean?

Simple: supply and demand is the concept that is driving gas prices up.

The world’s crude oil prices are increasing because the demand is outweighing the production.

“I actually laughed when my grandparents tell me of when everything was cheap,” said Simon Peterson, chemistry major of Fairless Hills. “But it’s not funny when I’m at the pumps.”

In the U.S. job market, between 32 and 40 hours is considered full-time.

With a current minimum wage of $7.15 in PA, increasing to $7.25 in 2009, the average student can make less than $224 a week.

With Bucks tuition at $95 per credit and 12 credits needed to be considered a full-time student, full-time tuition starts at roughly $1,200 a semester, not including books.

“I hope the price of gas goes down,” said Sarah Douglas, business administration major from Buckingham, adding that it probably won’t because “summer is around the corner.”

In the end, even though most college students enjoy independence from their parents, they can’t afford to keep up with America’s continuous demand for driving.

“I work for a company that owns cars,” said Kevin McGinty, Trevose native majoring in finance, and “I have to put 75 bucks [of gas] into my car a week.”

As of April 10, the site reported the cheapest gas around Bucks $3.12 at gas stations in Penndel, with the most expensive of $3.39 in Lancaster.

But until the time comes when gas prices finally begin to drop, or the much talked about but rarely seen alternative fuel cars hit the mass market, Bucks students will have to continue finding ways to make do with the current drain on our bank accounts.

Sometimes cost-cutting can be for the best, but many times it’s for the worse.

‘Rock Band’ captures the musically inclined

By Tom Rowan
Features Editor

The hours on Travis Barker’s posed face as he guides his seasoned hands strategically from one heart-breaking beat to another, mesmerizing the awed crowd into a euphoric trance.

It’s not just the music resonating from his abused drum set that captures the audience’s undivided attention, it’s the manner in which the artist creates his magic.

Playing as if his unique hair style has been set on fire, Barker runs the barrels with such energy and enthusiasm, his individual effort alone is worth the price of admission.

It’s Barker’s talent that plays which inspires millions of Americans to take up the most difficult instrument on the stage.

But there is a reason not everyone plays the drums, so in lieu of learning a very complicated art form, teenagers and college students have settled on a computer simulation.

On Nov. 20, 2007, EA Games, in association with Harmonix Music Systems and MTV Games, released the much anticipated virtual reality simulation Rock Band.

This designed rival of the popular guitar imitation, Guitar Hero, Rock Band, released first for Playstation 3 and Xbox 360, includes realistic controllers that resemble a guitar, drum set and microphone with the capability to add a fourth controller, a bass guitar.

With the addition of three other instruments, Rock Band offers a musical variety which is intriguing to those who choose to play with family and friends, as well as those who enjoy other instruments than guitar.

The microphone and drum set alone have made this system one of the best selling video games of the year.

“When I play rock band I feel like the lead drummer for Led Zeppelin,” said LaSalle University Student Brandon Hargraves, 20.

Guitar Hero does have the ability to include a second guitar, but with the new instruments involved Rock Band offers a more group friendly atmosphere and lots of fun.

LaSalle University Student Matt Harner, 19, has fallen in love with this new system that he and his four roommates bought to distract them from their daily stress and aggravations as both students and athletes.

“More people can play and it’s got better songs [than Guitar Hero],” said Harner. “Plus, I can download songs on Rock Band and I don’t think you can do that for Guitar Hero.”

True, Rock Band does offer buyers the opportunity to purchase additional songs for the system on their official website.

At this time, the website only offers track-by-track buying, but the future may include entire albums as well as popular bands such as Metallica, debuting singles for upcoming albums for the game according to Rollingstone.com.

As of March 27, 2008, 70 songs were available for purchase with prices ranging from $1 to $5. Rock Band will be released for the Nintendo Wii system on June 22, 2008.
# April Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 Bucks County High School Art Exhibition, thru April 12</td>
<td>7 Art Exhibition</td>
<td>8 Social Science club trip: Ben Franklin Bridge: Up and Over</td>
<td>9 Men’s Baseball vs. Northampton 2pm (away)</td>
<td>10 Bucks’ book group discusses Finn: A novel by John Clinch</td>
<td>11 Jimmy Bruno Jazz concer 8pm/Professor Freeman reads from latest book</td>
<td>12 Bucks Tennis vs. Central Penn 1pm (home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 See the movie “Street Kings” starring Keanu Reeves and Forest Whitaker</td>
<td>14 Jobs: Getting Your Foot in the Door Workshop 11a.m.-12p.m.</td>
<td>15 Social Science club trip: Isaiah Zagar and the Magic Garden</td>
<td>16 Lower Bucks campus evening transfer fair 5-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>17 Counseling Workshops: How to be successful at Bucks 11a.m.-12p.m.</td>
<td>18 The Leane play Trocadero Main Stage</td>
<td>19 Men’s Baseball vs. Delaware 12 noon (away)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Random sobriety checkpoints scheduled all over Bucks County</td>
<td>21 Team Tennis Bucks vs. Central Penn 3 p.m. (away)</td>
<td>22 Foreign Film Cache” 7p.m. Library Auditorium</td>
<td>23 MLB: Phillies vs. Milwaukee Brewers 8:05 p.m. (away)</td>
<td>24 Men’s Baseball vs. Lackawanna 1:30 p.m. (home)</td>
<td>25 American Red Cross Lifeguard Training from 6-9 p.m.</td>
<td>26 The NFL holds its annual collegiate draft E-A-G-L-E-S!</td>
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<td>27 See the movie Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay</td>
<td>28 Watch 2 hours of Family Guy on TBS 8-10 p.m.</td>
<td>29 Men’s Baseball Bucks vs. Lehigh-Carbon 2 p.m. (home)</td>
<td>30 MLB Phillies vs. San Diego Padres 7:05 p.m. (home)</td>
<td>31 MLB Phillies vs. San Diego Padres 7:05 p.m. (home)</td>
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 Across
1- Easy stride; 5- Hydrogen, carbon, oxygen, e.g.; 10- Helper; 14- Egg-shaped; 15- First showing; 16- Donkey cry; 17- Oppressively heavy; 19- Religious ceremony or ritual; 20- Biblical high priest; 21- Spouse; 22- Mistreats; 24- Autocrat; 26- Radar screen element; 27- Act of sneezing; 33- Wrong; 36- Vows; 37- Owing; 39- Civil disturbance; 41- Name of a feudal Japanese clan; 42- Memento; 43- Break off; 44- French govenness; 47- Network of nerves; 48- Bother; 52- Discover; 55- Religious ceremony or ritual; 57- Graffiti; 58- Minor; 59- Competitor in a triathlon; 62- Demeanor; 63- Merits; 64- Singles; 65- Heating fuel; 66- Golfer Calvin; 67- Harbor;

 Down
1- Like ears; 2- Small egg; 3- Seine spot; 4- Antiquity, old-style; 5- Congenitally attached; 6- Trial; 7- Thin woodwind instrument; 8- Silent; 9- Furtive; 10- Sudden; 11- Pupil’s place; 12- Go out with; 13- Stares at; 18- Engage in histrionics; 23- Prejudice; 25- Attention-getter; 26- Colorless flammable gas; 28- Novice; 29- Nostrils; 30- Notion; 31- Belonging to us; 32- Branta sandvicensis; 33- Whence; 34- Verdi opera; 35- Burden; 36- Footfall; 40- Driving aids; 42- Pagel; 43- Conflict; 45- Off-course; 46- Fourth highest peak in the world; 49- Shorthand token; 50- “See ya!”; 51- Toos, as one’s cookies; 52- Aggregation; 53- Part of HOMES; 54- On the briny; 55- It may become bald; 56- Wish for; 60- Dawn Chong; 61- Cut (off);

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Reading is on the decline

BY PHIL COLES
Sports Editor

If you are reading this article, congratulations, you are among the very few 18-to-24-year-old college students who still read a newspaper. In fact, getting students to read anything other than their required textbooks seems like a challenge anymore.

So why is it that so few students read newspapers or books?

“I can answer that with one word,” said Bucks History Professor Warren Vincent. “Television. [Also] related stuff like video games. We are not the first generation who didn’t know we had television. That’s just reality.”

Many people agree that technology is to blame for the decline in college-age readers. It may be that it is just easier to turn on the TV, or surf the net, rather than open up a book and digest a couple hundred pages. Or could it be something else that is keeping students away from books?

“Students read books for school, not for leisure,” said Ananda Kodaliyan, 26, a nursing major and Philadelphia resident. “I don’t have time to read, and I don’t watch TV.”

In a study conducted by the National Endowment for the Arts, the conclusion was that literary reading is in dramatic decline, with fewer than half of American adults now reading literature. According to the SDSU, the steepest decline is among young adults aged 18-24. The rate of decline has nearly tripled in the past decade.

This report documents a national crisis, SDU chairman Dana Gioia. “Reading develops a capacity for focused attention and imaginative growth that enriches both private and public life.”

Not all college students have neglected the wonderful world of books. “Right now I’m out of books [to read],” said Caitlin Cummiskey, 18, a journalism major from Levittown. “When I go to Borders, I get six books.”

A virtual world has been in decline among 18-25 year olds, according to Bucks students. “I’m reading books for school, not for leisure,” said David Geldner, a 19-year-old education major, said there was a time when he played Nintendo’s Super Smash Bros. at least five hours a day.

Geldner reminisces on the Fall Festival at Council Rock South, where he bought a Nintendo Super Smash Bros. tournament.

“I was there!” chimed in Dean Serota, an 18-year-old liberal arts major and chronic gamer of Grand Theft Auto San Andreas. Feinman has been in love with the game since it came out three years ago and plays about two hours a day.

“STUDENT VOICE”

“I don’t do anything because I play my game,” Feinman said, agreeing that his schoolwork is affected. Feinman is hooked on World of Warcraft, and has been known to stay up till 3 a.m. playing.

Feinman and Geldner led me to The Hub, a room tucked in Founders, where you can expect to find people playing video games when no class is in session. “People get too into it,” said Rogers.

“It’s always a problem when you lose track of the real world,” said Feinman.

For Geldner, “There was nothing else that mattered. If I had a dream, it was in Asheron’s Call.”

Gamers galore

BY LIOR SHULMAN
Centurion Staff

There is no shortage of video game players at Bucks. Dave Geldner, a 19-year-old education major, said there was a time when he played Nintendo’s Super Smash Bros. at least five hours a day.

Geldner reminisces on the Fall Festival at Council Rock South, where he bought a Nintendo Super Smash Bros. tournament.

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Reading is on the decline

BY JAY JONES
Op/Ed Editor

Webster’s Dictionary defines fad as a temporary fashion trend, one followed enthusiastically by a group. In the 1930s stamp collecting, in the 1950s flag pole sitting, was sweeping the nation, and the 1960s was when every hippie had to have a tie-dye shirt and beret. In 1990s there were those mutant creatures called Furbies and Beanie Babies. In an age of computer technology and high-speed internet the media plays a critical role in the way we are informed of the latest trends. Indeed, it is a trend unto itself.

Fifty years ago, pokey skills at the library, if what every girl was wearing and every student would have loved nothing more for the ‘Red Menace’ to be gone. The Centurion staff wanted to get a handle on college culture by understanding the trends, fads and crazes that drive most students our age. Sending out a team of reporters we canvassed the campus to get a handle on the what’s hot in 2008 among Bucks students.

The millennium years are no different from earlier decades in having plenty of fads. Low-carb diets, reality television, Roller-shoes and “American Idol” are all examples of 0-something trends and fads.

The 90s were the times when Bucks students were enjoying the Spice Girls watching their parents battle over one of the most coveted items on the market at that time, the Furby.

For those who don’t know, Furbies were one of the first truly interactive toys. They were released in 1998 and sold over 27 million units, according to CNN.com.

The main focus of this craze in the media were the parents trying to purchase this item for their children, leading to numerous fights and riots between customers when supplies ran low. There are also fads in language. Not so long ago a common fas was the frequent use of the word “Not.” Used to mean “just kidding,” the phrase was used in many sarcastic statements or jokes.

Rewind even further and you find yourself in the 1980s, a time of highly advanced technology like the radio. “The Wizard of Oz” was the blockbuster movie, and the big fad was goldfish. This craze was started in 1939 by Harvard freshman Lothrop Withington, who, on a dare, swallowed a living goldfish with a mash potato chaser. This soon became a sensation among college men.

“I can’t believe someone would find swallowing fish cool!” exclaimed Jennifer Mintz, a liberal arts major from Yardley. “That’s just gross.”

Forward 10 years and people had moved on to one of the most inventive trends ever created, the Slinky. Invented in Philadelphia by Richard James, the Slinky was basically 87-foot flat wire coiled into a 2-foot spiral. With its ability to ‘walk’ down stairs it was one of the favorite toys of children during the 40s. However it would lose its hold on the top fax spot with the invention of the hula-hoop a few years later.

Trends are part of what our society and economy are based around and sometimes they work to change history in ways we could never imagine.

“We probably think it’s strange now,” said Dean Johnson, a biology major from New Hope. “But maybe in 50 years people will think shows like ‘American Idol’ are just as weird.”


BY LIOR SHULMAN
Centurion Staff

Danielle Serota, a liberal arts major who has also been playing World of Warcraft for a year and a half. She estimates she plays seven hours a week, and thinks most people, like her, play in moderation.

“WoW [World of Warcraft] is better than other video games because of the objective,” Serota said, adding that the game makes you think, and by doing so, is more stimulating than watching television.

Serota said the $15 a month for World of Warcraft is quality entertainment compared to other games like Halo 3, Time magazine’s top game of 2007.

A virtual world has been created, where players know each other by their character names, such as “Wiz,” from Super Smash Bros. Even when they do not know each other’s real name, players are familiar with each other’s game names.

But video gaming can become a problem “when you lose track of the real world,” said Feinman.

For Geldner, “There was nothing else that mattered. If I had a dream, it was in Asheron’s Call.”

In every era there are fads, crazes and trends
Student Life Special: trends

Txt msg phenomenon: r u in2 it?

BY ANDREW BROWN
Centurion Staff

Justin Derry doesn’t consider himself a much of a text friend. The 19-year-old Langhorne native said, “A lot of my friends don’t have text messaging. Plus, my fingers are big, so it takes me forever to send one. I’d say I only send about 50 a day.”

Derry’s daily output may still seem high to some, especially to the parents paying cell phone bills. But the truth is that to avid texters, 50 a day is at the low end of the spectrum. For better or worse, text messaging has become an integral part of many lives.

According to Acision, the messaging and charging company of choice for over 300 network operators and service providers worldwide, the number of text messages sent during New Year’s 2008 increased 30 percent from the previous year. People sent a staggering 45 billion texts to wish their loved ones a happy New Year. It appears that college-aged students are among the most fervent texters. By simply performing a Google search for “college text messaging,” it becomes apparent that this is a means of communications that is ubiquitous on college campuses. Articles pop up regarding the numerous ways institutions are using texting. Colleges are using SMS for emergency alerts, athletic recruitment—albeit illegally so—and in a multitude of other ways. However, while this means of communication can be a great tool, many college students do not recognize it as such.

Journalism major Jay Jones provides an excellent example of how young people often use text messaging. Jones, who bought a Blackberry specifically for its text messaging capabilities, says he and his 16-year-old brother often exchange texts during the course of the day. “I was at the beginning of my class today,” he sent me a text that just said ‘Yo.’”

Jones’ interaction with his younger brother provides a window into the text habits of most college students. A majority of the texts that students exchange seem to be largely superficial. It usually just seems to be a way for students to have constant inter-action with one another, no matter how unnes-sary this interaction may be. Essentially, it seems that SMS has become a modern way for students to pass notes. Often, it takes place during class, which has created a major conflict between teachers and students.

CaitlinCumminskey, an 18-year-old journalism major, says this firsthand. “One time I was texting my friend in the back of the class while I was sitting in the front. The teacher said, ‘At the beginning of my class today’ he sent me a text that just said ‘Yo.’”

Cumminskey’s teacher isn’t the only one who has been bothered by in-class text mes-saging. Jennifer Erb Caramenico, a professor of psychology at both Bucks and Temple, has noticed countless students texting during her classes. This is not something that Caramenico particularly enjoys.

“When you’ve got your phone out while someone is talking, it’s a blatant disregard for what that person is saying,” she fumed. “At least if you’re daydreaming you can at least pretend like you’re paying attention. But when you’re visibly playing with your phone, it’s insulting. I really can’t stand it.”

Some professors have been so bothered by it that they have decided to take a stand. Syracuse University Philosophy Professor Laurence Thomas has begun leaving class If he notices a student texting while he is speaking. It doesn’t matter if it’s only one student in a lecture hall of hundreds. He has stated that he will no longer stand for “such brazen disrespect.” He has even gone so far as to threaten to resign from Syracuse altogether if things do not improve.

Social networking websites such as ehar-mony.com, match.com and chemistry.com let people of all ages create an online profile of themselves, including the proper search criteria in which you want to be presented. These dating sites pull your attention to them with their catchy phrases and lovey-dovey TV commercials. Unfortunately, these sites are not free. To apply you must register and pay a monthly or annual fee. Chemistry.com and ehar-mony.com are $49.95 per month while match.com is $19.95 per month. The question is, do busy students have time or the money to pay these fees? Sustainability major Maureen Quinlan, 20, an environ-ment major, said, “E-harmony and those websites I feel are a big hit with the older genera-tion, they’re expensive and weird. Teenagers don’t need to be spending their money on that we have more impor-tant stuff to pay for.”

Social networking websites Facebook and Myspace are also places where college stu-dents can meet other college students, but it pays to be cautious about who you meet there. Desiree Sanders, 20, psy-chology major from Langhorne said, “Facebook and Myspace are great ways to meet and talk to people and they’re free, but I would never date anyone off there. It pays to be cautious when so many people on these web-sites could be either lying or giving false information. There are so many creeps anymore, you never know.”

Unlike online dating servic-es, Facebook and Myspace are free. You can make your information private so people such as “creepers” or “stalk- ers” are more easily avoided. Many people use them to find long-lost classmates or friends. Justin Biacono, 19, a busi-ness major from Warrington said, “I think if you can’t find a guy and you’ve got a problem, On the internet I can say my name is Mike and I’m 54-years-old, race: none. None. None. I’m more, and lie, it can be some creepy stuff.”

If you don’t want to resort to the internet and are afraid that people you meet online

Online dating is a convenient but pricey option

BY ALEXANDRA NEU
Centurion Staff

Bucks Student Cory Walser expresses his disappoint-ment major, says it’s not easy to find dates at Bucks. “I’ve tried to get to know people on campus, but it’s being a commuter school, schedules are different and nothing ever matches up. Students just go home after classes and it would be much easier to date someone if away from school.”

It may be difficult to time your schedule around dating when you’re too busy with classes, homework and work. Now, from the luxury of your very own home, you can search for love on the inter-net. The Internet has become an option more col-lege students are looking at.

Mike Spatola, the commuter student management major from Warrington said, “I think it’s only as long as you’re not pre-venting yourself from being busy else. It’s not like you’re dating just online, you eventually meet in person if you’re ok with that, not if you’d be forcing yourself into an awkward situ-a-tion.”

So is online dating the new trend of 2008? Websites such as ehar-mony.com, match.com and chemistry.com let people of all ages create an online profile of themselves, including the proper search criteria in which you want to be presented. These dating sites pull your attention to them with their catchy phrases and lovey-dovey TV commercials. Unfortunately, these sites are not free. To apply you must register and pay a monthly or annual fee. Chemistry.com and ehar-mony.com are $49.95 per month while match.com is $19.95 per month. The question is, do busy students have time or the money to pay these fees? Sustainability major Maureen Quinlan, 20, an environ-ment major, said, “E-harmony and those websites I feel are a big hit with the older genera-tion, they’re expensive and weird. Teenagers don’t need to be spending their money on that we have more impor-tant stuff to pay for.”

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If you don’t want to resort to the internet and are afraid that people you meet online

There are places to hangout on campus such as the Fireside Lounge, cafeteria, and Solarium, which students put to good use.

But Cortney Pitcher, 23, an education major from Levittown, said it’s still tough to find dates at Bucks. “There are three different Bucks campuses, the students go to classes, get their stuff done and leave to do other activities such as work,” she said. “It’s difficult to hold con-versation with anyone let alone have a connection being held.

If Bucks wasn’t a commuter school I would find it easier to make friends. When you’re away, it’s not an option to make new friends. If it’s inevitable,” she added.

So is online dating the hot trend of 2008? Perhaps it is. For some, it has proved to be a somewhat effective way of meeting new people, depend-ing on the time and interest the have in giving it a go. But for many college stu-dents, online dating may be just too expensive to be a real-istic option.

Did you get caught up with catchphrases like ‘...not!’ and ‘Where’s the beef?’
**Hannah Montana** is the tween craze

BY KEVIN YORKE
Student Life Editor

When you were younger, what was your favorite show? Might it have been the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or possibly the Power Rangers? Look out - young people in America are going crazy over a girl whose father was famous for having an *Achy Breaky Heart*.

Miley Cyrus, daughter of country singer Billy Ray Cyrus, has made a huge impression on the younger age group compared to her father, who was known for his hit songs as well as his ‘mullet.’ Kids in grade school have taken to the 16-year-old pop star.

The girl has her own show, her own clothing line, her own movie, multiple hit albums and presumably earns around $3.5 million a year. She has had performances on Good Morning America, The Today Show, with Jay Leno and The Oprah Winfrey Show. Not bad for a girl who doesn’t even have her driver’s license yet.

While millions of ‘teens’ are flocking to the Hannah Montana craze, it’s different for teenagers and college students. Back in the day, millions of 18-24 year olds were unified in their love for The Beatles or bell-bottomed jeans. But Cyrus, otherwise known as Hannah Montana, has really caught on with young adults for many reasons. Today’s 18-24 age group seeks out its own brand of individualism. “Everyone looks exactly the same, well, then I’ll find my own niche,” might be a typical response.

But Cyrus, otherwise known as Miley, has a new fan base. She is able to live her normal life as a teenager but also live her ultra-celebrity life when she turns into her alter-ego, the blonde-haired Hannah Montana. There are so many people who know of this transformation are her friends in the show - and millions of viewers at home.

As she can be seen playing the guitar, dancing and the ‘tween’ comedy. But what are the parents to think of this? There are many never-ever, immature, inappropriate and impolite dialog and positive influence the show has, if anything else. Better to have the the ubiquitous Hannah Montana than playing Grand Theft Auto, if you ask parents, who are happy to allow their kids to watch a girl who says goofy things and is a relatively good role model. That is why the Hannah Montana and Cyrus name are so marketable. The show has turned into a huge cash cow for Disney and Cyrus. Disney has apparently picked a winner.

What’s even scarier is the public scrutiny that Cyrus now faces. Of course, the life of a pop culture icon can get dissected and criticized for even the smallest things. For instance, during a scene in her movie, “Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert,” she and her father forgot to buck-up their safety belts when driving.

This prompted a public backlash from parents who didn’t like the disregard for safety. Cyrus’ father made a public apology.

What’s new with kids who have made special appearances on Hannah Montana, due, in part, to the fact that they are on the show they know their own kids will be watching.

Big name guests include Larry David from “Seinfeld” and “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” former WWE wrestler and movie star Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson, and Heather Locklear.

The show has begun to seep into the public consciousness. With constant airplay and a plethora of products to fill stores, ‘Cyrus’ standards look limitless.

Kids are fine with this. It’s the parents who hope that she stays as innocent as she looks, and doesn’t morph into another Britney Spears. Maybe older teens will jump on the bandwagon in the process.
Metal is an undeniable part of today’s music scene. You can hear everything from the sounds of Metallica’s “Black Album” to the strains of Killswitch Engage’s cover of “Holy Diver.” Metal is an important genre of music and In Flames new album “A Sense of Purpose” is no exception. With its hard-driving guitar riffs and explosive drums, it’s an album any metal head should have.

The album was released April 1, and the special edition of the album flew off the shelves the first day. On top of the regular edition of the album, only 1,500 limited edition copies were made, which contained a 160-minute DVD showing the making of the album and scenes of the band members’ personal lives.

The album artwork was done by Alex Pardee, whose work may be familiar to fans of the Used as he also did the artwork for their albums. Lead singer Anders Friden’s dreadlocked performance on this album is no different than previous albums, using his unique vocal stylings to capture the attention of the listener. His high-pitched, almost “scream-o,” vocal style makes you hold on to every word. However, it should be noted that the entire album is not just him screaming, and he does use softer tones in the band’s longest song “The Chosen Pessimist,” which is actually a metal ballad of sorts.

The noticeable difference, however, is the use of different reverbs and sound effects on the guitars to create an eerie sense of amusement and a strange sense of being lost.

One of the most noticeably different tracks on the album is “Alias,” which has a unique sound to it in that the opening riff sounds distinctly like an orchestra.

The rest of the album uses the guitars to their fullest extent whether it’s the hard driving sound of “The Mirror’s Truth” to the soft ballad sounds of “The Chosen Pessimist.”

On top of this new album and having the single “The Mirror’s Truth” playing on the radio, as well as having the video on Headbangers Ball on MTV2, In Flames is also on Gigatour, an alternative tour to Ozzfest. They are currently headlining with metal great Megadeth, along with fellow Scandinavian band Children of Bodom, who also released a new album, “Blooddrunk” on April 7.

Both In Flames and Children of Bodom are coming to the Electric Factory on April 24.

While infinitely different than previous albums, “A Sense of Purpose” should be added to any Scandinavian metal fan’s collection. Its sound and style should make any true metal fan want to headbang.
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Oh Baby!

It is pretty funny but when you become visibly pregnant, people, in absolute strangers start to sort of randomly approach you.

They touch your belly and tell you long personal stories about when they had their kids or the time that their sister's husband's cousin had a terrible breech labor.

I was at a large public event over the weekend and many people did just that.

Everyone seems to have a theory about my pregnancy.

Again, these are absolute strangers whomever they have never met before in my life.

They know nothing of my life, my husband or our medical histories.

Most people think my belly is too small, others are sure that I have gained way too much weight. A lot of people declared that I am having a boy because of my “I swallowed a basketball” look.

Those people are right, I am having a boy, but the scientist in me says that my shape has most likely grown with my genetic diet and activity level than the days only a few weeks away. Bonfires and barbecues at night, you’re not getting hot for summer or hiking during the day. The hill is probably the best. Nothing beats going to Tyler or Five Mile Woods with a few of my buddies and just walking around being out there without having to worry that someone you’re trying to impress is watching you act like an idiot.

Wandering around, someone would spot a deer, and then another one, and another, and another.

Sometimes it would seem like we stumbled right into the middle of a herd.

Shrinking stones on the creek, knocking over a dead tree, changing the signs around so people get lost. I’ve had some great times.

A place called Quaker Penn Park near Tullytown is good for this.

Shrinking stones on the creek, knocking over a dead tree, changing the signs around so people get lost. I’ve had some great times.

The thing about pets is that they really don’t care about social taboos the way we do. I call his pestering moments, “Now’s a good time to play with the cat.”

It also helps that cats do really weird things. And as someone who has grown up around dogs, I find their behavior amazing and entertaining to watch.

The other day I was getting dressed for class, before I give up and finish getting dressed. Once I get back to my room, I hear a long, very happy, “Meeeoowwww”.

This makes me worried and I go into my living room to see the cat on the floor, sprawled out and stuck half-way at his abdomen in a paper bag handle.

I debated whether or not to film his predicament, but I decided against it because he was super peeved about his situation. Instead, I scooped him up, carried him into my room and took a pair of scissors to that mean-old-paper-bag-handle.

I did catch on film many of his freak-out moments of running with near super-hero strength around my apartment.

I figure writing it as “Kirra” battle of how to spell his name. She always writes “Kyra” which I think is girly and stupid. I figure writing it as “Kirra” at least gives him the benefit of being named after a skate-boarding company, something slightly more emasculating.

Whatever, poor guy.

Kirra is cuddly and soft. He always likes you to hold him or pet him and is a major attention-seeker, especially from men.

When a man in nice cologne stops by, he forgets I’m his best pal and takes no time jumping up into their laps and curling into a ball to fall asleep.

If you refuse to sit and let him do this, you’ll still know he wants to sit on you because he’ll reach up with those tiny little cat paws and stare at your face until you pet his furry little head.

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It also helps that cats do really weird things. And as someone who has grown up around dogs, I find their behavior amazing and entertaining to watch.

The other day I was getting dressed for class, when I heard a huge crash followed by an “uh-oh” sounding meow.

I went to investigate, but not only could I not find a disturb- ance, but my cat was MIA too.

Fifteen-minutes pass with me hunting for him, worried and shaking a bag of kitty treats, before I give up and finish getting dressed. Once I get back to my room, I hear a long, very happy, “Meeeoooooowwwwwwww.”

So despite the fact that I hate cats and am an avid “dog per-

A Modern Hypocrisy

When my roommate was given Kirra as a gift, we were told, “she is an awesome, cute female kitten. Here you go.”

So little and petite and dainty.

So despite the fact that I hate cats and am an avid “dog per-

Monday, April 14, 2008

PHOTO BY LAURA IRWIN

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

A Piece of my Mind

A weekly column by Centurion Editor Mark Bennett

Last Thursday I thought to myself, “has spring finally sprung?”

For those of you that somehow don’t know, last Thursday was absolutely beautiful. It was warm, there was a slight breeze, and there wasn’t a cloud in the sky.

I love days like that, just being outside in weather like that feels great, even though I was at the Centurion for most of the day doing this. And after the dark, cold and gloomy winter we’ve had, the sun on your skin feels like a sweet tasting medicine for your soul.

I hope it stays like this for a while and even though I try to think positively I can’t help but have the feeling that winter is too small, others are sure

When the ultrasound first started the baby stuck out his tongue at us. My mother said, in a joking fashion, that he is just like me.

I told her that, if he were really just like me, he would have given us the finger. Sure enough, about 15-minutes later, he gave us the finger.

That’s my boy, and I even have it on DVD.

The whole stranger dynam-
Bucks baseball is back in full swing

BY TOM ROWAN
Centurion Staff

The names Utley, Rollins and Howard have become synonymous with the Philadelphia Phillies. Their trials and tribulations have been broadcast across the world. If the team fails, these players failed.

Unfortunately, that’s the burden superstar athletes carry. They are identified by the red pinstripes and vice-versa. The pressure is almost a requirement for a professional athlete; but what about the amateurs? Are players at the collegiate level asked to carry their team through thick and thin? Here at Bucks, a two-year institution attracting star athletes warranting that amount of attention is not commonplace. However, under the supervision of new assistant coach Gregg Wilson, Bucks baseball has given rise to a band of backyard brawlers that have identified themselves as the next big thing. “I don’t see us doing worse than first or second [in the EPC Conference]” said Wilson, “as long as the team sticks together.”

Wilson, a former player for Bucks and transfer student from Holy Family Universisty, has tailored his lineup to extract the talents from his versatile players and use them cohesively to build a winner on the green-ridden Bucks diamond. His lineup features Mark Hughes, center fielder and lead-off hitter who, just recently against the Community College of Philadelphia, went 2-4 with two doubles. Second baseman Sean Bizzle, 3-4 with a walk and 3 doubles and third baseman Ryan Herrmann who, according to Wilson, “holds down third base both figuratively and literally.”

It is a season of new beginnings. A new head coach and a young team with very little experience make up a team that is trying to put a winning product onto the court. “I am very optimistic. We are a very young team including several players with no real experience to speak of,” said Head Coach-Steve Coyne, who is in his first season replacing Dr. Barry Sysler.”

Coyne is also very excited about this team’s upcoming season and also looking forward to being the head coach. “I am extremely excited about this season (being my first) and would like to be able to be as successful as former coach, Dr. Barry Sysler.”

Coyne is very excited to see how his young inexperienced tennis players grow and hopefully succeed. With inexperience comes a learning curve that sometimes may take some time to get over, but the team is hopeful that they can establish themselves into formidable opponents in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. “The team has two players who Coyne believes are vital to their success this year. ‘I have high expectations for Adam D’Alonzo and Mark Krum. Both of these young men played high school tennis and they are the cornerstone of this team.’

The team will need these players’ leadership to succeed this season en route to the PCAA State Championships at the Hershey Racquet Club in Harrisburg, PA on April 26.

Other team members are Keshia Liverpool, Megan Bradshaw, Jen Owens, Diana Altobelli, Steve Herold, Greg Allebach and Alex Konig. These players are practicing hard and are all excited about their season and the chance to compete for the titles in their various match types, whether it is singles or doubles.

The student body should all get out and support your Bucks tennis men and women. Every cheer from the crowd can help a player immensely. Anyone can join the tennis team; maybe keep this in mind for next year if you are a student looking for a club that you can call home. Information about the team, including a schedule, can be found at bucks.edu/athletics/tennis.

The team’s next match is at 3 p.m. this Tuesday, April 15 on the Bucks campus, when they face Northampton. On Saturday, April 19, they play at Harrisburg.

Par for the course at Masters

By The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) Trevor Immelman gave Tiger Woods an impressive number to shoot at. Showing that 4-under 68 in the opening round was no fluke, Immelman put up the same score Friday with birdies on the final two holes to break a logjam atop the leaderboard at Augusta National.

The South African was at 8-under 136 heading to the weekend and one stroke ahead of unheralded Brandt Snedeker, though Woods and Justin Rose had just tied off in the second round and several other top contenders were still on the course.

Immelman bounced back from his only mistake, a bogey at the par-3 sixth, and finished strong with birdies at Nos. 17 and 18. He rolled in a 15-footer on the final hole, appearing fully recovered from some scary health issues over the past year.

Immelman lost 20 pounds because of a stomach parasite after last year’s Masters, and late in the year a benign tumor was removed from his diaphragm. Still on the mend, he missed the cut in half his events this season, and his best showing in a stroke-play event is a tie for 40th.

“I realized that I can be taken away from you real fast,” said Immelman, who shared the first-round lead with Rose. “I feel like I’ve been loaned a talent. I’m trying to do as well as I can.”

He took advantage of another warm, sunny day – a striking contrast to the frigid temperatures and biting wind that plagued the tournament a year ago. With the threat of rain in the forecast, Immelman knew it was important to put up low numbers while they could be had.

“The course is going to show its teeth,” he said. “You’ve got to make some good scores while you can.”

Coca-Cola Two-Year Colleges Scholarship

One $1,000 scholarship will be awarded for the Fall 2008 semester. Criteria for this scholarship is as follows:

1. U.S. Citizen or permanent resident
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3. Must have engaged in community service in the 12 months prior to nomination and be able to provide documentation or be employed full-time or part-time for the semester
4. Must plan to enroll in at least two (2) courses during the Fall 2008 semester at a two-year degree granting institution
5. May not be children or grandchildren of Coca-Cola employees

Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. The application deadline is May 9, 2008. Please pass the word about this opportunity!