



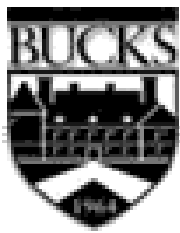
# THE CENTURION

The week of October 22, 2007

www.bucks-news.com

Volume: 43 Issue: 3

## Messages



## Events

**TUES.** - Social Sci. Club trip to Ellis Island

**WEDS.** - Social Sci. Club trip to NYC

**THURS.** - Social Sci. Club trip to Tyler Gardens and PA Coal Region

**SAT.** - Anime Club's Haunted House, Fireside Lounge



Happy Halloween  
-Centurion Staff

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Look for our local, national and international news by the Associated Press!

# Butts Out at Bucks

**JOANNA SCHLICHER**  
Centurion Staff

Smokers at Bucks could be in for a change regarding where they are allowed to light up, possibly as early as December.

The Student Government Association has teamed up with PA Students Working Against Tobacco, also known as PA SWAT, to come up with proposals for changes in the smoking policy.

The current policy is that smoking is not permitted in buildings or around doorways.

The most common complaints about smoking on campus involve smoking around doorways, because the smoke drifts inside, and also smoking on and around walkways, because students walking down the paths get blown with the cigarette smoke.

Secondhand smoke is a major concern on campus. There has been at least one reported incident of a student's asthma acting up because of close contact with secondhand smoke, and the administration wants to avoid that.

Although many students ignore the guidelines about where smoking is permitted, some do their best to comply with the rules.

Tia Mylinski, 30, an accounting major from Levittown said, "I'm a conscientious smoker. I put my cigarettes in the ashtrays, not on the ground, and I stay beyond the tape."

The tape, is the yellow tape around the doorways that let students know they are smoking too close to the entrances.

Matt Cipriano has been director of student life programs for six years, and he hears the complaints about smoking every year.



Students Smoke Freely at Bucks

Photo by: Janine Logue

Although he is responsible for hanging signs around the doorways and taping the floor to designate the no-smoking zone, Cipriano said the rule is difficult to enforce. "We need to get safety and security on board to help us with that. We can stand out there and tell one group of people to stand away from the door, but what happens when they leave and the next group comes?"

Cipriano hopes the new proposals will be on Dean Karen Dawkins' desk by December.

He believes one of two things will happen: either the campus will become entirely smoke free, or

smoking will only be allowed in parking lots.

If Bucks becomes smoke-free, it would not be the first college in the area to do so.

Montgomery County Community college is now smoke-free.

A lot of students would not be happy if the campus went smoke-free, but some welcome the idea.

Danielle Newnan, a 20-year-old psychology major from Feasterville, said, "I would be all for the college going completely smoke free. I don't stand outside that much, but when I walk by people smoking, sometimes the smoke blows in my face. Secondhand

smoke is really bad."

Jill Schieren, 21 from Yardley said, "I don't think it's possible for that to happen, people would just break the rules. And what are the security officers going to do about it? I think they have better things to be doing than making sure students aren't smoking. I don't think it could ever work."

On Nov. 15, Bucks will work with the Wellness Connection to bring the Great American Smoke Out to campus.

There will be information provided on quitting smoking and on the effects of tobacco use.

## Change to Word 2007 Confuses Bucks Students

**JEN KLIMOWICZ**  
Centurion Staff

With the recent switch to Microsoft Office 2007 on all campus computers, many Bucks students and faculty are finding it difficult to adapt to the new system, which was designed to be a much more simplified version of the outdated 2003 software.

One of the most obvious differences between Office '07 and previous versions is the use of ribbons instead of menus and tool bars.

This feature is basically a set of tabs at the top of the screen that when clicked on, reveal all of the actions and tools offered in that particular category. For instance, in the new version of Microsoft Word, the home tab contains tools like copy and paste, font styling, and paragraph formatting, while

the insert tab gives the user clipart, shapes, pictures, or hyperlinks which can be added to a document.

The ribbons were designed for users to get more done in a shorter amount of time. Since the ribbons stay open until another one is selected, the user will no longer need to open several toolbars just to use one application.

The ribbons give the program an entirely new look from older versions and students like James Serafino, 19, a historic preservation major from Fallsington, said, "I hate it. I used to know where everything was and I don't like the pictures for files. It changed way too much."

Pat Byrne, 22, from Morrisville, said, "They should have built more on the '03 version. When people see how much it has changed, no one is going to want to take the time

to figure it out."

The new software uses symbols in place of words for some tools.

For example, the cut and copy applications feature pictures of scissors and paper rather than actual words. Byrne said, "At first this was confusing, but it is actually quicker for the human brain to process symbols than words. If it doesn't scare people off, they will probably have an easier time using the symbols."

Juan Caceres, a 17-year-old performance major from Warminster, said that Word '07 reminded him of Apple's version of the program, which is organized in a similar way. "I just think it is overly simplified."

Other than oversimplification, one of the largest complaints from Bucks students is the "Microsoft Office" button, which appears as a symbol in the top left corner of the

screen. When clicked on, it displays icons for saving, printing and opening documents, which were previously found in the file menu.

Liz Sette, assistant director of the technology learning center, said, "Many students had trouble finding the office button. They saw it, but since it is not labeled, they did not know what it was used for."

Byrne said he spent 15-minutes trying to figure out how to print, but after he played around with the program, he was comfortable with it.

Dustin MacKenzy, a 20-year-old liberal arts major from Warminster, had a similar problem. "It took me 20-minutes just to save my document," he said.

Microsoft also added several new features to Office '07, like a built-in reference for quick research, and an auto-alphabetiz-

Continued on page 4

# Commissioner Candidates Debate at Bucks

KEVIN YORKE, JOHN SLACK  
AND LIOR SHULMAN  
Centurion Staff

County Commissioner candidates met for a debate organized by the League of Woman Voters at Bucks' auditorium Thursday.

Those who attended the debate were the incumbents, Republicans James Cawley and Charles Martin; Democratic challengers Diane Marseglia and Steve Santarsiero; and Constitution party candidate Jay Russell.

The majority of those in the audience appeared to be business people.

Few students, other than several student journalists scribbling

away on notepads, attended.

Among the many issues discussed were property taxes, land development, transportation and traffic, immigration, and flooding controls. The candidates, although relatively calm in their demeanor, were obviously combative at times.

Property taxes were the most contentious issue, as candidates time after time brought up the other party's history on tax increases.

Because this is a major issue among voters, the candidates kept reiterating the importance of keeping taxes low in the county.

The candidates cited increasing population as a reason for the

recent increase in property taxes, but the Democratic hopefuls argued that the incumbents did not do enough to keep them low.

The bickering between parties was highlighted when Democratic candidates brought up the incumbent's raising of property taxes by 46 percent during their tenure. Martin rebuked, "You need to look at the number rather than the percentage," explaining that although the percentage was high, the number itself remained low.

Land development was also hotly debated.

Martin stood firmly on his position that "preserving open space is probably the single most impor-

tant thing we can do."

He went on to say he firmly believes in maintaining open land for Bucks County and its residents.

On the issue of traffic, the candidates made it clear that the people of the county need a better source of transportation.

The Democratic candidates felt that pressure needed to be brought on SEPTA to provide the residents of Bucks a better way of getting from one place to another.

Marseglia thought that the people of Bucks "need more options for travel," and that to change the current system in place they would need a "loud voice on the SEPTA board."

Last on the agenda was the county's response to flooding and emergency situations.

Martin proudly stated that his reputation spoke for itself.

Marseglia said the people should stop being blamed, flood pans need to be expanded, and development needs to be controlled.

Bucks County's "best days lie ahead," Cawley said, adding, "either you were born and chose to stay, or moved here" and haven't left.

Russell made clear that "I've been doing this for 15 years, and never been elected." The audience chuckled at his inability to find office with the Constitution party.

## Police Mourn Loss 911 Moves to Ivyland

GEMMA SAWA  
Centurion Staff

Philadelphia police are mourning the murders of retired officers Joseph Alullo and William Widmaier.

Alullo, 55, and Widmaier, 65, were killed on Oct. 4 outside a Wachovia Bank while they were working as security guards for Loomis Armored Car Service.

"There's something personal about it, and it hits you closer to home," said police officer John Sweeney of the 15th police district, in Philadelphia. "It's always harder when you know someone, particularly in a situation where you understand the type of person they were and what they did."

Mustafa Ali, a convicted bank robber, has been arrested on murder charges in connection with the shootings.

On the charges, Sgt. Michael Faust said, "It takes someone to a higher level when they kill a person of authority, because it means that they are more brazen... A homicide is a homicide, but when it's closer to home, you'll make sure you spend an adequate amount of time covering all bases, to get to the end."

Family and friends of Alullo and Widmaier described them both as "beloved" and "respected."

Alullo and Widmaier didn't leave behind just family and friends, but their band of brothers.

Faust said, "It is events like this that have brought us back to reality and leveled us out. Anytime a police officer gets killed, it does impact you."

While Faust said he didn't know Alullo or Widmaier personally, they were part of a bowling league that many of his friends knew. He recalled Alullo and Widmaier being described as "loyal" and "hardworking."

Police officers are more wary after a shooting. Unfortunately, that mindset won't last forever. "As time goes by, we begin to put our guard down and forget what happened," said Faust.

Faust is taking the precautions necessary to assure his fellow officers are safe. "I feel like it's my responsibility to make sure we start wearing the proper equipment and that our guard is up at all times," he added.

Similarly, Officer Michael Murphy, of the Philadelphia Narcotics Unit empathized. The most alarming part, according to Murphy, was the irony of the situation.

"These two guys were cops for the longest time and now that they've been retired, they got killed at their second job," said Murphy.

While the loss of both Alullo and Widmaier remains tragic among the community, those directly affected will suffer the most.

"It's still a brotherhood, and even though I didn't know them personally, I'm still affected by this," said Murphy.

LIOR SHULMAN  
Centurion Staff

Bucks County's 911 call center will move to the borough of Ivyland from the seventh floor of Doylestown's courthouse by next summer.

The new 911 call center will have state-of-the-art equipment enabling dispatchers to pinpoint the location of emergencies instantly. Current technology relies on phone records which must be verified by the dispatcher because the phone records may be outdated.

Each dispatch station has several flat-screen televisions per dispatcher. More than 15 personnel stand by, and when a call comes in, emergency responders are notified within seconds of Bucks County residents calling 911.

Emergency stations are broken up into three sections; Fire Department, EMS, and Police. Fire and EMS each have three stations staffed by personnel to respond to calls. Police dispatchers monitor between three and five Bucks townships or boroughs.

On one day recently, John England, dispatcher 448 who covers Warminster, Ivyland, Warwick, and Northampton, answered a call about a 90-year-old man who passed out. "If that's the worst that's wrong with

him at 90, he's doing great," said England.

Dispatcher training is 10 weeks in a classroom followed by 10 weeks of on-site training. "The hardest part is getting the radio ear," said England. From learning the codes to the equipment, the 911 call center is a professional atmosphere where personnel work together around the clock in order to save lives.

The staff looks forward to moving to Ivyland from the hustle and bustle of Doylestown's courthouse. Many live within minutes of the new location off of Jacksonville Road.

Bucks County's forensic laboratory is nearly finished with the construction less than a mile from the emerging 911 call center.

The new 911 center will be better for the county; emergency vehicles will be notified quicker and help will come faster to those in need.

### Centurion Publication Schedule

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THE CENTURION 

Bucks County Community College's Student Newspaper

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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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2006-2007



# Bucks Offers Early Credits to HS Students

**CHASE GRIER**  
Centurion Staff

The start of the fall 2007 semester at Bucks welcomed more than the usual waves of incoming freshmen and returning students; accompanying them were several high school students getting a head start on their college credits.

Certain Bucks courses are available to high school students who meet academic standards. This provides them with credits that are transferable to colleges after graduation.

"I took all my classes here at Bucks during my senior year," said Robert McGuckin, a 18-year-old business major. "I'm a professional dancer and travel a lot for work. I'm taking online classes at Bucks this year, and adding to my record from last year."

"At Bucks... we welcome high school students into our classes; beginning college while still in high school," explained Elizabeth Kulick, assistant dean of special admissions. "The purpose is to allow advanced high school seniors who have completed the majority of their high school requirements the opportunity to challenge themselves and start college early. A student can graduate high school and complete their

freshman year of college at the same time."

For high school students to attend classes at Bucks, students must be in good standing both in their academic records and achievements and must have the approval from their school's administration. In addition, students must also complete certain academic requirements to graduate, including four years of physical education.

"Last year at the high school, I was forced to choose between three classes I just didn't enjoy," said Michele Lestochi, a 17-year-old Neshaminy student. "But this year at Bucks, I only have to choose one gym class per semester that I know I will enjoy."

Along with the physical education requirement, Neshaminy high school requires four years of English and social studies classes, and three years of math and science. If these have not been met already, they will have to be taken by the student at Bucks.

Neshaminy student Amy Clark, 17, said, "With this opportunity, I can take my major courses here at Bucks while going back to the high school to enjoy my other minor electives."

While this program may seem very appealing, few seniors take advantage of the opportunity; the



Bucks has opened its doors to High School Students along with its College Students

Photo by: Janine Logue

option of commuting between schools is not widely known among the student body.

"If I had known about this option, there is no doubt I would have chosen to do that," said freshman and former Neshaminy student Scott Blaydon. "I hated high school so much. I was so unhappy there, and

being away from it now is such a relief. I really wish I had had this option... I can't see any negatives."

This option may interest students for many reasons. Some want to escape the restrictive requirements associated with the public school system, while others may seek a more rigorous curriculum.

Students in the program are not forced to abandon their high school privileges. They may still participate in high school sports, extra-curricular activities, attend the Senior Prom and walk at graduation if they choose.

For more information, contact Kulick at (215) 968-8123.

## Holy Family Reading Workshop



Top left to right: Courtney Lucas, Kathleen Lafferty, Diane Gormley, Dr. Lynn Orlando. Bottom left to right: Debbie Miller, Kristin Morris, Deidre Kells  
Photo By: Sallie Jo Reid

**SALLIE JO REID**  
Centurion Staff

Bucks hosted a reading workshop that focused on early education teaching techniques Oct. 6.

Lynn Orlando, PhD, professor of education, and seven graduate students from Holy Family University, focused on creative literacy centers to use poetry, pictures and art to more effectively teach reading, during the 19th annual Early Childhood Education Conference co-sponsored by Bucks and the Bucks County Association for the Education of Young Children.

Diane Gormley, a Holy Family graduate from Morrisville, used magnetic letters and children's games to teach the fundamentals of reading and writing.

"The centers are designed to meet the needs of every child from pre-kindergarten through third," said Gormley.

Gormley stressed the importance of constantly listening to

children and doing anything possible to help them with the learning process.

Kristin Morris, a graduate student from Holland, used the works of Shel Silverstein to teach poetry. Morris said she favors poems and illustrations to teach reading and her favorite part of the presentation is the creativity that comes from each child.

"Some poems have rules that need to be followed, but children learn to be creative within those rules. The end product of poetry is a product that can be shared or acted out in a much more relaxed atmosphere than formal writing," said Morris.

Deidre Kells, graduate student from Buckingham, read "Cinderella," "The Three Bears," "Billy Goats Gruff," and other well known fairy tales. Then children picked words from the story and alphabetized them to use in their own writing. The more advanced writers and readers were given the

task of writing their own fairy tale after they were given a character, plot and problem.

"There are many fairy tales out there. Some are variations of the ones we grew up with," said Kells. "It is fun to read them all and they can be used with any age child. The important thing to remember is that when a child is reading, he should also be writing. The two go hand-in-hand."

Over 600 people attended the workshop. They moved from station to station watching presentations that not only showed how to teach early readers but also provided the material list and bibliographies so educators could return to their schools and reproduce the centers at their home school.

Graduate Kathleen Lucas of Doylestown said, "I enjoyed the opportunity to present at the workshop. It is a great way for teachers to share ideas with other teachers."

## Fifth Anniversary of the Women's Center at Bucks

**JOANNA SCHLICHER**  
Centurion Staff

The Women's Center has made a big impact on women by bringing in various speakers, performers, and authors, and on Oct. 16 the center celebrated the five-year anniversary of these accomplishments.

"The Women's Center is a place where women can come to find out more about not only their past, but their present and future," said Natalie Kaye, programming coordinator for the center. "By offering programs dealing with women's history, health, relationships, and body image, women are touched, moved, and inspired to be their best."

Kaye is busy planning events for the future, and she said they will be doing something to celebrate the anniversary, though she isn't sure exactly what that will be yet.

One student the center has helped is 24-year-old Dawn Boothby of Levittown. Boothby, a federal work-study student and psychology major, came to the Women's Center after her grandmother was diagnosed with breast cancer. The Women's Center helped her become more aware of women's issues and improved her personal life.

"You can drown in the darkness of your past or you can pick yourself up and improve someone else's future and your own. What I get from being here is worth more than any words I could say," said Booth-

by. The Women's Center continues to bring well-known artists to campus.

In partnering with the music department, the center will be hosting a performance by Lauren Pelon in January. Pelon will play music written by and for women. She plays 25 ancient and modern instruments that were either played by women or forbidden to them.

In recognition of National Eating Disorders week in February, the center has invited back singer and motivational speaker Shannon Cutts, who suffered from an eating disorder earlier in her life.

The center has also attracted the attention of award-winning author Gail Sheehy, who came to Bucks last year to talk about her book, "Sex and the Seasoned Women: Pursuing the Passionate Life."

There are simple ways to get involved in the Women's Center's upcoming events. Students, including men, will soon be receiving an e-mail survey with a list of topic ideas for programs.

Dr. Lois Gilmore teaches a women's studies course at Bucks, and at the beginning of each semester she brings her students to the Women's Center.

"I see a very strong connection between the Women's Center and the students. It's a way to get more awareness and involvement. I would be thrilled if my students spent every day in the Women's Center," she said.

# Red Cross Wants Student Blood

JAY JONES  
Centurion Staff

The ratio of blood given versus people saved is 1-to-3; an amazing number considering that the one is equal to one pint of blood. Think about that next time you walk into the Gallagher Room only to find the floor covered in blue tarp, as if a new coat of paint is going to be applied to the walls, and there are rows of beds lined up in the center of the room, like nap time has finally come for sleep-deprived college students. But it's the setup of the Red Cross, who came to Bucks in order to take donations of blood.

"We have 29 people scheduled today to give blood," said Helen Martin, senior manager of operations, "but the beauty of it is that we've already had 15 walk-ins and it's only 9 o'clock!" Working at this event for the last year and a half and visiting Bucks on three occasions, Martin was more than pleased to say that they may not only reach the quota of blood they had hoped for, they may go over it.

Martin said the donation process is simple. "You answer several basic questions, if you've been vaccinated outside the country, if you've been to a high malaria risk region of the world, your weight, temperature and then a quick iron test to make sure you're healthy." A prick of the needle and a few minutes later a bag of blood is being cataloged and as Martin said, "You'll enjoy some of the

finest orange juice we can provide while you take a short rest."

After that, the blood is shipped to the National Testing Lab in Philadelphia, where red blood cells are tested for any foreign invaders.

If they find something wrong, a confidential letter is sent to you explaining why your blood cannot be used.

But most blood is acceptable and is sent out to local hospitals or held in reserve.

"If there ever is a tragedy we need to be ready to send what we can to help those areas that have started to run low," Martin said. "And we don't pay you for your donation because everything we do here is volunteering to save lives."

But some donors are rejects during the screening process. "Are you a homosexual male who has had sex with another man within the last year?" Answer yes and you will be banned from giving blood.

"Evidently the Red Cross supports the Center for Disease Control's policy not to accept the blood of homosexual men if they have had sex with men within one year," Professor Frank Levy stated in an e-mail to the Centurion. "Statistics show that African-American men make up a disproportionate number of HIV-positive cases in the United States and they are not banned from giving blood."

This information has led to the protest of the Blood Drive by



Students give Blood on Campus

Photo by: Janine Logue

Levy's group, the Open Door Club, a campus club that promotes awareness and education of Gay, Lesbian, Transgender and Bisexual issues.

"I can understand you have to wait six months after getting a tattoo or getting medicine outside of the country," said Tiffany Luszczak, an early childhood education major. "It's to protect the people that are getting your blood from becoming sick. But for being gay, that's just stupid!"

"We do it to defer people from the AIDS epidemic," Martin explained when questioned about the protest, "but that doesn't mean we don't want them here, we don't discriminate against any one group. We always welcome volunteers and regardless if you can't give blood that doesn't mean you can't help."

The Red Cross is a volunteer organization and encourages anyone who is interested in community service hours, helping a good

cause or just looking to do something helpful to feel free to contact any of their offices. Though the protest left several with mixed feelings about whether to help or stand back from giving blood, the majority of those coming in were eager donors.

"I'm encouraging my students to all come out and help," said Professor Kathy Webb. "It's a fine way to help the community and it gives you a sense of pride..."

## Word 2007 Gets Mixed Reaction

Continues from page 1  
ing tool.

In regards to the new features, Matthew Chang, 21-year-old criminal justice major from Levittown said, "A lot of the new features are unnecessary. How often am I going to use the translate tool?"

Despite complaints, some students said it is a better system than the old one.

"When something changes, you just have to go for it," said Bobby Rowland, 20-year-old computer science major.

Sette agreed, saying she preferred the new version. "It uses an OpenXML format when saving documents, which, creates documents that are up to 75 percent

smaller than those saved with previous formats, resulting in data compression." In addition to saving space, Sette said, "The XML format is much more compatible with the world wide web."

Not everyone agrees with the idea that Office '07 saves time. Chang said, "God forbid I have to click on my mouse a few more times. That is the dumbest thing I've ever heard!"

The software needed to install Office'07 ranges from \$499.95, for the full version, to \$149.95 for a very basic version that includes Word'07.

Students who do not wish to shell out the cash for the program can continue using the old version on their PC, but must remember to

save their documents in an '07 compatible format in order to open them at Bucks.

Likewise, if you are creating a document at Bucks under Word '07, be sure to save the file in a compatible program year, otherwise it is impossible to open.

"I did some work at Bucks using the new Word program and didn't save it as a Word 2003 document," said 25-year-old journalism major Laura Irwin. "When I got home, I couldn't open the file—it was saved under Word '07!"

If any student needs help using the system they can talk to someone who works in the technology learning center, located in the second floor of the library.

### Corrections to previous Centurion Editions:

#### From Volume 43 Issue 1, "Emergency Mass Communications"

Director of Safety and Security Christopher Lloyd stated that an autonomous tone used during mass communications is generated through the new clock system, but according to Executive Director Physical Plant Mark Grisi, the tone will be generated from a separate alarm system.

#### From Volume 43 Issue 2, "Campus Construction"

The Testing Center was already moved due to construction and will not be re-located from Rollins 100.

At the Centurion, we strive for accuracy, however if you note a mistake, please contact us at [centurion@bucks.edu](mailto:centurion@bucks.edu) or stop by Rollins 127.

## Online All The Time!

### Check Your BucksMail

College-related correspondence (including information on your permit to register, tuition deadline information, and details regarding your academic standing) will be emailed to your BCCC student email address. Please familiarize yourself with how to access your student email account...

- Go to [www.bucks.edu/bucksmail](http://www.bucks.edu/bucksmail)
- Click on **Student Email**
- Your username is a lowercase "s" followed by your BCCC student number
- For first time users, your password is a lowercase 'bd' followed by your six-digit birthdate in *mmddyy* format.
- Click on **Sign In**
- If you have any questions or run into any problems, email [webadvisor@bucks.edu](mailto:webadvisor@bucks.edu) or call 215-968-8472

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[www.bucks.edu](http://www.bucks.edu)

# Improv Legend Teaches Class

**ALEX BLAISE**  
Centurion Staff

Bucks arts and communications professor Bill McLaughlin has had a very successful professional career doing improvisation.

In his career, McLaughlin has worked for ESPN, performed with the improv group Chicago City Limits, and was named a New York improv legend by the New York Improv Jam.

Born in Philadelphia, McLaughlin moved to Bucks County at the age of 6. He attended Archbishop Ryan High School and is a former Bucks student.

"I was a communications major but didn't really get motivated until I took a class with Patricia Moore," McLaughlin said. "I auditioned for a play, got the lead, and then was in five more productions in a row. We did lots of theatre back then."

McLaughlin knew he wanted to be an improv comedian at a young age, being influenced by the popular comedy troupe Monty Python.

In 1977, McLaughlin moved to Chicago and attended an improv comedy show with his sister.

"Watching the show made me

feel like a kid in a candy shop; I wanted to jump on stage right then."

His time would come, and it did from 1977-1982, performing with Chicago City Limits. McLaughlin performed with Del Close in one of his long-running shows, "Del Close's Farewell Salute to Chicago."

"My classes are workshops in improvisational performance technique," said McLaughlin.

"We employ the basic principles along with my own approach to ensemble performance."

McLaughlin teaches his students the way he was taught, and enjoys every minute of it.

"The best part is watching my students discover how it works and getting excited about it. They also know that I enjoy their success and allow them to fail in order to succeed."

Though pursuing a career in improv comedy may be a long and taxing task, McLaughlin has some guidelines and tips.

"Study with a number of instructors to develop a strong, versatile understanding of improv. Study acting, movement, voice and



Picture of the Improv Student Class  
Photo courtesy of Bucks.edu

music. These are tools, and really handy ones. Join a group. Form a group. Be relentless."

These days, besides being a

teacher at Bucks, McLaughlin is the artistic director for a group called Sam Malone's Hairpiece.

His next performance will be at

McCoole's in Quakertown on Oct. 27. Be there if you want to learn about improv comedy from one of the best out there, McLaughlin.

## Student Update: Off Air, Needs New Members

**BRITTANY GORDON**  
Centurion Staff

Student Update, a variety show that ran on Comcast last year on Tuesday and Saturday nights, is produced by Bucks students. But the club needs students to join and help keep the show going.

Student Update covered weekly news about what was happening around campus, but the show is currently not running because all of the students who were involved no longer attend Bucks.

Professor Ron Feedback, the club's adviser, said the show is on hold for the moment until the club is reorganized and more students join.

Kelly Wilson, Anne Maxwell and Dan Magro used to be the hosts of Student Update but have all moved onto other colleges and their positions must be filled.

The club needs a president, vice president, and treasurer. Camera men, light, and sound technicians are also needed.

"I want to get this going again," said Feedback. "Anyone who's interested is more than welcome to join."

The show covered many topics, from Bucks daycare to the Women's Center to clubs and organizations.

Dante Feraco was a camera-



man and a light technician for almost two seasons of the show. He said that working on the set provided him with needed career experience.

"You should join the club if you were ever interested in working in the media or directing. It's a great place to learn hands-on and how things work in the real world," Feraco said.

Kelly Bauman, a cinema video major, wants to reorganize the club with a new name and make it a variety show.

When Bauman approached Professor Feedback about getting the show running again she dis-

covered that there was a lot of work for her to do on her own. "I need more enthusiastic people to get involved with the show to make it successful. If we can find people, the show will be really great and a lot of fun," Bauman said. "We have all the supplies and equipment needed to run the show. What we really need is people and their time."

For more information about Student Update or if you are interested in joining, contact Feedback or the student life office. You can also e-mail Bauman at kellybauman16@yahoo.com.

## Bucks Students Talk About Hillary Clinton

**JENNIFER KLIMOWICZ**  
Centurion Staff

Bucks students seem to think that America is ready for a female president and, according to a random survey, many believe Hillary Clinton would be a good president.

Clinton was born and raised in Park Ridge, Ill., and graduated from Yale Law School. She worked as a lawyer for children and families before becoming first lady of Arkansas, then first lady of the United States.

In 2000, Clinton was elected to the U.S. Senate from New York, then reelected in 2006. Currently leading the Democratic polls, she is the first major female presidential candidate in American history.

However, in this male-dominated world, would people have a problem with a female in such an important role?

"Are you kidding me!" exclaimed Jeff Moldevan, 22, communications major from Levittown. He found it difficult to believe a woman is a candidate in the 2008 elections; however the idea of a woman president received a much more favorable opinion from other students.

"She'll be an inspiration for woman everywhere," said Kate McDermott, 21, a journalism major from Holland.

Even though many Bucks students believe that Clinton will do a good job, some of students have their doubts about her ability to lead the country through difficult times.

Justin Lavinsky, 24, a business major from Yardley, said he would never rule out somebody based on gender alone, but said women tend to think differently than men when it comes to resolving conflict.

"A man would be more likely to send our country to war," said Lavinsky, "because, historically, they have always been the hunters."

Mike Honeycut, 22, a history major from Philadelphia, disagrees with the idea that a man would be more likely to send us to war, but did say that a woman president would improve our standing among nations.

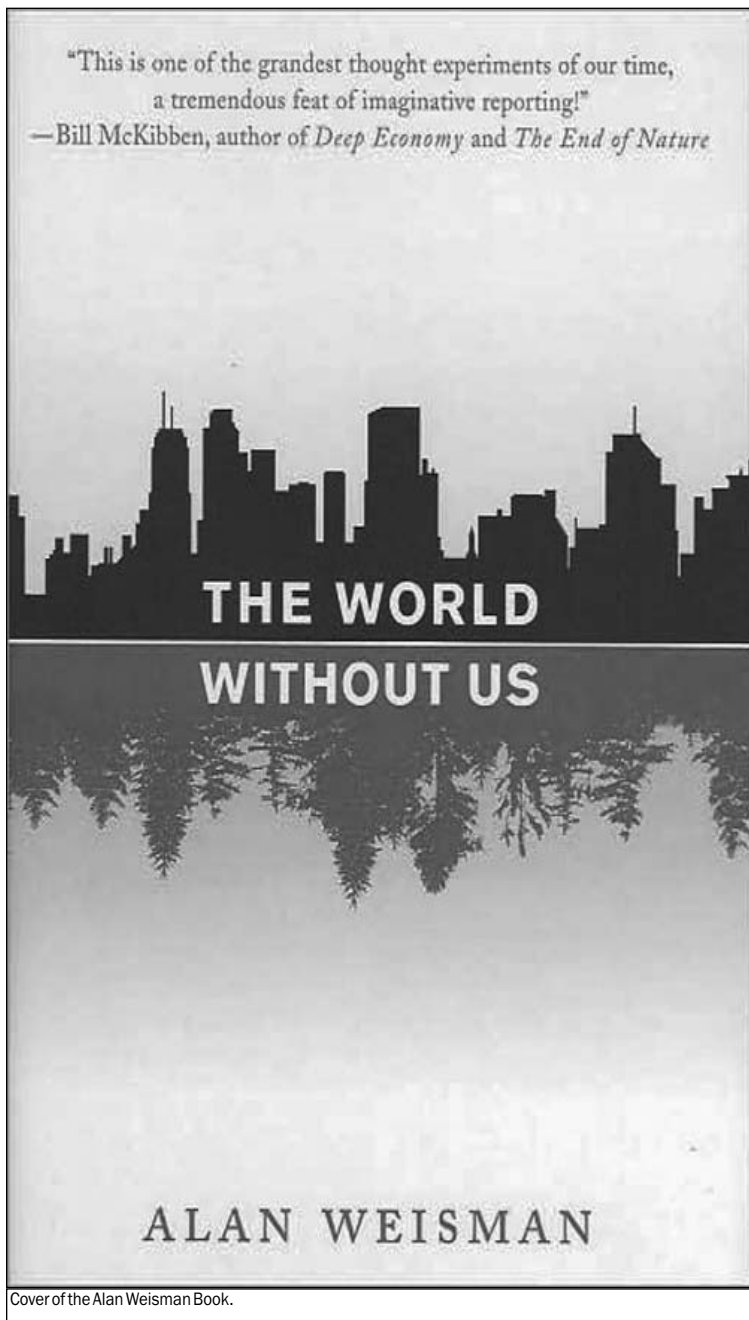
"Other nations would take us more seriously. We would gain respect for finally stepping into the 21st century."

Cody Young, 22, from Pennel, believes that many women are more hesitant in decision making, but said a woman "who isn't firm and decisive on issues, such as foreign policy, would never be elected in the first place."

Nicole, 25, from Doylestown, who declined to give her last name, thinks a woman takes in her emotions naturally, and will inevitably let them get in the way of clear decision making. But she said she was only a Clinton supporter because she was a woman.

Women may be unfairly judged sometimes, but many students believe Clinton may have the edge with female voters come Election Day.

# Inside Look: 'The World Without Us'



Cover of the Alan Weisman Book.

**JOHN JONES**  
Centurion Staff

Every time you turn on the television, open your newspaper or log onto the internet you hear from a thousand different sources of the new threat to the human race.

"Global warming is going to drown us," the environmentalists scream. "The terrorists are going to blow us up," a politician dictates, or "The next deadly super virus is coming around the corner," a doctor reports.

But what if that did happen?

Alan Weisman paints a very vivid picture of that grim yet astonishing future in his new book, "The World without Us."

Tomorrow the sun will rise, your alarm will ring and the coffee maker will commence its pre-programmed routine of brewing your morning pick-me-up.

The only difference—you're not there.

Some scoff at the idea. There are 6.5 billion people on this planet after all. It would be impossible for everyone to disappear, right?

When you're done reading this book, you're going to question that.

Stop lights still flash from red to green and green to red, but no cars move upon the road. Automatic doors slide open to what they think is a customer; instead just a wayward tree branch has fallen. Street lamps click on at night, though

there is no one to be guided home.

The world continues onward, but we don't.

Whether it was the super flu that knocked the human race into extinction in a single night or we simply disappeared in a rapture-like wave of mystical power, every man, woman and child on this planet are, for the lack of a better phrase, "poof and goodbye."

Who knows what would happen to the one and only thing we leave behind, that tiny leftover we sometimes enjoy calling civilization.

Weisman writes that everything bound by the world of electronic information would go the way of the dinosaurs the moment the power went or a rat decided to make a meal out a power cord.

The information highway would come to a screeching halt without a human behind the wheel. As long as the servers had power the cyber-world would exist, but the second that stops; well it's as simple as turning off a light.

The cockroaches and rats you revile would rejoice to have free run of our cities. No longer would they have to hide in the walls. The world is their oyster until, says Weisman, they would freeze without the heating we provide.

But nature would endure. Mother Earth would soon start to work her magic as Father Time erased our human achievements.

Weisman estimates it will take three centuries before the cables on the Brooklyn Bridge snap and more

than 500 years before Manhattan returns to forest and Central Park becomes the swamp it once was.

Weisman doesn't waste time theorizing about a Hollywood-worthy reason for why we're gone.

His book gives you the hard hitting facts with a story of what happens afterward. And the critics love it.

"This is a very important book for a species playing games with its own destiny," said James Howard Kunstler, author of "The Long Emergency."

The New York Times went deeper to say, "Weisman imagines what would happen if the Earth's most invasive species—ourselves—were suddenly and completely wiped out."

"The World without Us" doubles as both a mystery novel and a piece of informative literature, getting you to guess and imagine what is going to be the first piece of history to permanently be erased.

Muslim Sufi master Abdülhamit Cakmut was quoted in the final chapter as saying, "We take care of our bodies to live a longer life. We should do the same for the world. If we cherish it, make it last long as possible, we can postpone the judgment day."

The book to spark imaginations is this one. Weisman writes, "Without us, Earth will abide and endure; without her, however, we could never even be."

## A Modern Hypocrisy

### Carving Pumpkins Like a Pro

A weekly column written by Centurion senior editor Laura Irwin

Fall is in the air and I am looking forward to one of my favorite Halloween traditions, carving pumpkins.

Every year I prepare a new idea for a decked-out gourd to wow the neighbors who resort to simple triangle eyes or stenciled scenes.

To shame, when such a unique canvas for design is plump and ready for the literal picking.

Last year, my pumpkin had giant Dr. Suess-like eyes with a wide chester-cat smile and inside of the grin I carved the word "BOO."

While I was carefully sawing and scooping my pumpkin, my friends glared at me over their all-too-typical jack-o-lanterns.

The year before, I bought several ghost pumpkins. Ghost pumpkins are the tiny white pumpkins that fill the grab-and-go boxes wherever your local pumpkins are sold.

I carved my pumpkin and filled in the mouth by stuffing in three ghost pumpkins that made for a white toothy grin.

Clever, I know.

Three years ago I had a little more money to spend and made several Halloween decorations from random gourds.

Awkwardly shaped squash had added wings and fangs and hung from my porch as bats, while a pumpkin scarecrow tried to shoo them away.

Instead of carving a face I used pimpled, colorful squash to be the eyes and nose of my pumpkin-man.

While most people can express creativity in their Halloween garb, I sit humbly next to my extravagant creation in my cat or bunny costume.

This year I will be carving two pumpkins to make up my cannibal pumpkin feature.

I have a large pumpkin, slightly elongated and a small, more round pumpkin.

The small pumpkin will be carved the traditional way; slice open the top around the stem and scoop out its pumpkin guts. Then, it gets a delicately carved "scared" face.

This pumpkin will fit into the mouth of the large pumpkin, grimacing in cannibalistic hunger.

This decision came after I figured the "vomiting" pumpkin would be too messy and I wouldn't be able to bake any pumpkin seeds. The vomiting pumpkin features the innards of the pumpkin spewing from the mouth while the eyes are slanted slits. The pumpkin, without any stretch of the imagination, looks like it's sick.

All it takes is imagination and creativity to have a unique pumpkin and envious friends.

If you think this is over-the-top, you should see my Easter eggs and Christmas tree.



## A Letter to the Editor

It was one of those lovely warm, late fall days in October when the temperature was in the high sixties.

Russet & golden chrysanthemums were still blooming beside shrubs covered in bright purple berries, circled by enthusiastic bees gathering pollen late into the season. I made my way outside with a lunch tray to sit on a bench opposite the lily pond and enjoy those warm moments that are especially precious before winter sets in.

Sadly for me, I found that I was joined by a smoker, and another soon sat on a nearby bench. I wondered whether I might point out that the cigarette smoke intruded on the natural fragrances of flowers and autumn leaves that I had been enjoying.

But that also would have spoiled my lunch time serenity; there's no pleasure in spoiling someone else's peaceful moment.

And in any case, I noticed to my surprise that there were rather elegant ash cans right there beside the benches indicating that smoking was tolerated, even expected.

I felt that my rights as a nonsmoker to be protected from second hand smoke in my workplace were being violated.

The rights of the nonsmokers must be protected at Bucks. I have the greatest respect for my smoker friends and colleagues.

However, nonsmokers should not have to run the gauntlet of smokers clustered around building entrances in order to reach our classrooms and offices, or have beauty of the Bucks' grounds marred by smoke and stubs. Smoking should be restricted to consenting adults in limited areas, not encouraged liberally in public areas by the placement of ash cans.

Other colleges have moved to become non smoking zones, outside as well as in.

So should Bucks.

Sincerely,  
A Member of the Bucks Community

# Possible Syrian Nuclear Weapons Site Bombed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — U.N. experts have received satellite imagery of the site struck last month by Israeli warplanes and are analyzing it for signs that it might have been a secret nuclear facility, diplomats said Friday, Oct. 19.

One of the diplomats indicated that the photos came from U.S. intelligence. Two others said the images, which have been studied by experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency since being received on Thursday, Oct. 18, do not at first examination appear to substantiate reports that the target was a nuclear installation, but emphasized that the images were still under examination.

The diplomats, who were briefed on the agency's receipt of the images, spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because their information was confidential. Officials of the Vienna-based nuclear watchdog had no comment.

Since the Sept. 6 bombing, news media have quoted unidentified U.S. officials as saying that the airstrike hit some sort of nuclear facility linked to North Korea, which is now in the process of dis-

mantling its nuclear weapons program.

On Oct. 19, The Washington Post cited American officials as saying the site in Syria's eastern desert near the Euphrates River had characteristics of a small but substantial nuclear reactor similar to North Korea's facility.

The investigation by the IAEA—the U.N. nuclear watchdog—is crucial because it is the first instance of an independent and respected organization looking at the evidence and trying to reach a conclusion as to what was hit.

Syria denies that it has an undeclared nuclear program—it has said that the Israelis targeted an empty building—and the agency has said it has no evidence to the contrary.

The diplomats said that Vienna-based Syrian diplomats have met with senior IAEA representatives since the bombing but have provided no substantive information that would indicate their country has nuclear secrets.

Syria has signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and has allowed agency experts to inspect its only known nuclear facility—a small, 27-kilowatt reactor, according to diplomats linked to the IAEA.

# Vet Acquitted of 'Aiding Enemy'

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMPLIBERTY, Iraq (AP) — A former U.S. commander at the jail that held Saddam Hussein was acquitted Friday of aiding the enemy by loaning an unmonitored cell phone to an inmate, but a military judge convicted him of unauthorized possession of thousands of pages of classified documents and two other charges. Lt. Col. William H. Steele, 52, of Prince George, Va., had faced a life sentence if convicted of accusations he allowed prisoners use

of his cell phone for unmonitored calls.

The judge, Lt. Col. Timothy Grammel, found Steele not guilty of that charge but convicted him of unauthorized possession of classified documents, behavior unbecoming an officer for an inappropriate relationship with an interpreter, and failing to obey an order.

Steele got credit for 254 days already served, so he will only have to spend about 15 months in jail, the judge ruled. He also will be reprimanded and dismissed

from the service, and will forfeit all pay and allowances.

It was a relatively lenient sentence, considering Steele could have received a maximum of 10 years in jail on the classified documents charge.

Steele initially faced a possible death sentence on the charge of aiding the enemy, a capital offense under U.S. military law.

But a former acting commanding general of U.S. forces in Iraq, Maj. Gen. James Simmons, decided against a death sentence.

# DeGeneres Fights to get Puppy Back

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ellen DeGeneres' talk show was put on hold for a day because of her emotionally wrenching dog-adoption drama.

DeGeneres was scheduled Thursday to tape shows to air Friday and Monday. Instead, the tapings were canceled and reruns featuring Jessica Alba and Queen Latifah will air on those days. A new show is planned Tuesday.

The battle over Iggy, a Brussels Griffon terrier mix, pitted DeGeneres against an animal res-

cue agency and, at one point, had her in tears on her show. The agency's owners complained of receiving death threats over the dispute.

DeGeneres adopted the dog, then gave it to her hairstylist's family after the dog, despite training, couldn't get along with the comedian's cats, her publicist has said.

Marina Batkis and Vanessa Chekroun, owners of the nonprofit Mutts and Moms agency, claimed that DeGeneres violated the adoption agreement by not informing them that she was giving the dog away and removed Iggy from the

hairstylist's home Sunday.

DeGeneres pleaded for Iggy's return to the hairstylist on Tuesday's show. She said her hairdresser's daughters, ages 11 and 12, were heartbroken when the dog was taken away.

But Mutts and Moms' owners were adamant about their decision, and a spokesman for Batkis said she wouldn't be "bullied around by the Ellen DeGeneres of the world."

At a taping of the show Wednesday, DeGeneres told the audience she wouldn't talk about the matter again unless Iggy was returned to her hairdresser.

Advising Options

Check your *BucksMail* student email account for information regarding advising and registration.

Departmental Advising Opens on Thursday, November 1, in faculty offices.

See an Advisor prior to registering – find your Advisor contact information on *Web Advisor* under *Communications, My Advisor*.

Sign-up for an appointment with an Advisor in your major.

Or, go to an Advising Centers--open for walk-in from Nov 5-Dec 6, 2007 according to chart below:

	Newtown (Rollins)	UBC (Perkasie)	LBC (Bristol)
Mon, 11/5		2-Oct	
Tues, 11/6		2-Oct	
Wed, 11/7			2-Oct
Thurs, 11/8			2-Oct
Thurs, 11/15	9-2; 5-6:30*		
Fri, 11/16	2-Sep		
Mon 11/19	9-2; 5-6:30		
Tues 11/20	9-2; 5-6:30		
Mon, 11/26	9-2; 5-6:30		
Tues, 11/27	9-2; 5-6:30		
Wed 11/28	9-2; 5-6:30		
Thurs 11/29	9-2; 5-6:30		
Fri 11/30	2-Sep		
Mon 12/3	9-2; 5-6:30	10-2; 5-7	10-2; 5-7
Tues 12/4	9-2; 5-6:30	10-2; 5-7:30	10-2; 5-7
Wed 12/5	9-2; 5-6:30	10-2; 5-7	10-2; 5-7:30
Thurs 12/6		10-2; 5-7	10-2; 5-7

\*For this evening, located in Transfer & Career Center

For further information on Advising and Counseling call 215-968-8182 or e-mail [advising@bucks.edu](mailto:advising@bucks.edu)

**Registration for Spring 2008 begins on Monday, November 19th**

## Advice from a Friend...

My name is Mary Kate Galloway. I am a journalism major here at Bucks. Away from Bucks though, I am a good friend who's always there to listen and talk. When any of my friends need advice, they come to me.

I decided to do an advice column for the Centurion. It combines my two passions; writing and helping people.

I'm good at giving advice on many different topics. Ask me about relationships, parents, jobs, or school. Anything in your life that you're having trouble with, you can come to me.

If you do decide to ask me for advice, and it shows up in the Centurion, your name will stay confidential (unless you specify that you don't mind).

Just send an email to [mkg0520@comcast.net](mailto:mkg0520@comcast.net) with a short paragraph explaining your specific problem, and look for the answer in the new advice column of the Centurion!

Q

"I told the guy I have a crush on that I liked him as more than a friend. Well, one thing led to another and we hooked up. Now he says he did it to relieve the sexual tension between us, and that he still respects me as a friend and a person. Should I take what he's saying as a kind way of letting me down or just the excuse of a guy who sleeps around?"

A

That's a hard situation to be in, but you should never let it get the best of you. Either way you take it, you know that you two are not going to end up together. So if he's giving you the respect you deserve as a friend, you should also give him some respect.

Don't jump to conclusions and think that this guy was using you and he's a jerk. Since you don't know if he was letting you down nicely or just using an everyday excuse to sleep around, give him the benefit of the doubt.

Everyone is innocent until proven guilty, right? So unless you find out that this guy really was using you as just another victim, give him the same respect he's giving you.

My advice would be to just take it as a nice way of letting you down, and move on. Give yourself the opportunity to make a new friend whom you already know that you enjoy hanging out with.

\*\*Editor's Note: Look for Mary Kate Galloway's column in the Op/Ed section weekly.



Monday, October 22, 2007

## Centurion Golf Team Puts Away Their Putters

**NICK TAMBURINI**  
*Centurion Staff*

With the crunch of fall leaves underfoot, the Centurion golf team is starting to pack up its clubs, and wait for winter to pass. While the season has come to an end, the team's accomplishments did not go unnoticed.

Coached by Scott Bradshaw, the Centurions won first place in their league this year.

Bradshaw's team also qualified first and finished third at the Golden Oakes tournament.

Early in the season, Bucks shot a 319 to win the Delaware Invitational, beating out the competition by seven strokes.

Freshman Sean Flaherty placed first overall at the Penn National tournament and was a key player in Bucks' 12-stroke win in the

tournament.

The team then traveled to Lehigh Carbon Community College where they took third place. Once again the team finished among the top tier, missing out on second place by only two strokes.

The Centurions took on Harrisburg Area Community College and shot a 328. Unfortunately for Bucks, it was just short of beating them.

"Sophomores Anthony Mortillaro, Andrew Ward, and freshman Ryan Wahal, Ryan Kelly, and Andrew Van Nostrand played a big part in this year's victories," said Bradshaw.

The coach's team was hopeful, and had their eyes aimed on first place, but they had to settle for a third place in the state tournament.

"We did well but were hoping for a first-place finish. In hind-

sight that might have been a little too lofty," said Wahal. He was the only medalist in the competition, with his top 10 finish.

The team is young and has a lot of potential for next year. Hearing how they want to improve for next season, and how the coach talks about his players, it sounds like the whole team is confident and hopeful for next season.

"I'm very confident in my players," Bradshaw said. "And [I] feel as though we will do well in the spring."

The golf team is looking forward to making another run at the no. 1 spot next season. As spring rolls around, be assured that the Centurions will be the first ones at the driving range and anxious to achieve even more than this season.

## New Trainer Invites Students to Get Fit



The Wellness Center at Bucks is open to all students and faculty.

Photo by Janine Logue

**NICK TAMBURINI**  
*Centurion Staff*

Want to lose those love handles but cannot find the time because of your class schedule?

The Wellness Center, located in Bucks' gymnasium building, is open five days a week.

The center is open to all Bucks students and faculty.

To start using the wellness center, students should present their Bucks identification card to the Wellness Center staff.

They will need to sign a waiver form and fill out a health and fitness questionnaire to begin working out.

All participants must receive instruction from a trainer prior to beginning their exercise regimens.

The Wellness Center offers multiple fitness machines, including free weights, treadmills, exercise bikes and elliptical trainers that are easily accessible.

New trainer Rob Barrese has experience with working in strength and conditioning. Barrese has worked with athletes at previous colleges such as Penn State, Lockhaven and most recently, Michigan State.

Barrese hopes to accomplish core training at Bucks, training that helps prevent injury and promotes flexibility.

"I want the gym to really be a people-helping-people environment," Barrese said. "To help students be more self-sufficient."

With students' hectic schedules, Barrese hopes they will make time for the center.

"Most people don't come here often because they have jobs or they're too far away, but you need to plan," Barrese said. "Bring your work clothes with you to the gym."

Barrese encourages students to stop in as often as possible. "There is no charge and my door is always open," Barrese said. "More students need to join."

For hours of operation and additional information about the Wellness Center, visit [www.bucks.edu/wellness](http://www.bucks.edu/wellness).

## 2007 NBA Season Preview

**PHIL COLES**  
*Centurion Staff*

Welcome to the first full season without Allen Iverson as a Philadelphia 76er. In his place there is a new A.I., set to lead the team into the 2007-2008 season, Andre Iguodala. The expectations are high for Iguodala, but the same cannot be said for his team.

This year's Sixers sport a young and talented look coached by fan-favorite and former player Maurice Cheeks. The team is led by the 6-foot-6 Iguodala, who inherited the role of team leader with last year's midseason trade of Iverson and Ivan McFarlin to the Denver Nuggets in exchange for Andre Miller, Joe Smith and two first-round draft picks. After the deal, the Sixers went on to play solid basketball, resulting in a 21-20 record.

After last season's surprising finish, the Sixers expect to contend for a playoff spot in the weak East-

ern Conference. That may be a tall order as many of the teams in the Atlantic Division come greatly improved, while Philly did little to bolster its roster. The Boston Celtics acquired all-stars Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen.

The Knicks traded for former Portland Trailblazer Zach Randolph, but sent Steve Francis to Portland in return.

And the Sixers? They drafted Thaddeus Young, Jason Smith and traded for veteran forward Reggie Evans. The Sixers traded for Evans before training-camp. It's these types of off season deals that have Sixers fans scratching their heads at GM Billy King's decisions.

Miller gives the Sixers solid, veteran leadership at the point guard position. The shooting guard position is full of competition with Willie Green and Rodney Carney vying for starting roles. Small forward is locked down for years to come with Iguodala. With

the loss of Stephen Hunter, the center position will again be manned by Samuel Dalembert, the talented, but enigmatic big-man from Seton Hall.

The bench will be led by three-point shooter Kyle Korver. Korver has become one of the NBA's best perimeter shooters in recent years. Also coming off the bench is third-year guard Louis Williams.

Williams has led the team in points per game in both the summer league and preseason this year, and many believe he is ready to take the next step and become a major contributor to the team.

Although many experts pick the Sixers to finish near the bottom of the Eastern Conference, there is hope.

It starts with Iguodala, who is an unselfish playmaker, something the team has lacked in recent years. If the young players step up, this year could end up with the Sixers making a surprising playoff run.

## Random Picture of the Week

Halloween decorations outside the SGA office advertise the upcoming Halloween dance on Wednesday, Oct. 31 from noon until 1:30 p.m.

Photo by Laura Irwin

