

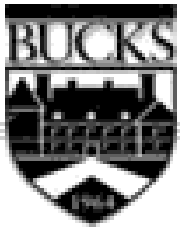
The Centurion

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

The week of November 3, 2008

www.bucks-news.com

Volume: 44 Issue: 6



INSIDE

Complete Election Coverage Inside!

Tyler overhaul

NEWS PAGE 3

Remembering Professor Weiss

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 6

Theft from cars

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 6

Community college enrollment increases

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 7

Quantum of Solace

INTERACTIVE MEDIA
PAGE 9

A Modern Hypocrisy: Obama

OP/ED PAGE 10

SPORTS

Bucks soccer champs Phillies win

SPORTS PAGE 12

WEATHER

Today: Rain or drizzle likely. Cloudy, with a high near 63.

Thursday: A chance of rain or drizzle. Cloudy, with a high near 64.

Friday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65.

Friday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51.

Saturday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 56.

WEATHER COURTESY OF THE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

Landslide Obama

The ballots were cast and an epic election closes with Barack Obama as the first African-American president of the United States.

BY JOHN SKUDRIS
Managing Editor

It all began in February 2007 with the words, "It's time to turn the page."

Now, 21 months later, a whole new story is being written. With victories in almost all the key swing states, Illinois Sen. Barack Obama captured the 2008 presidential election over Arizona Sen. John McCain.

A night that started slowly ended abruptly when California and Washington were called for Obama, effectively pushing him over the 270 electoral vote plateau and electing the first African-American president in U.S. history.

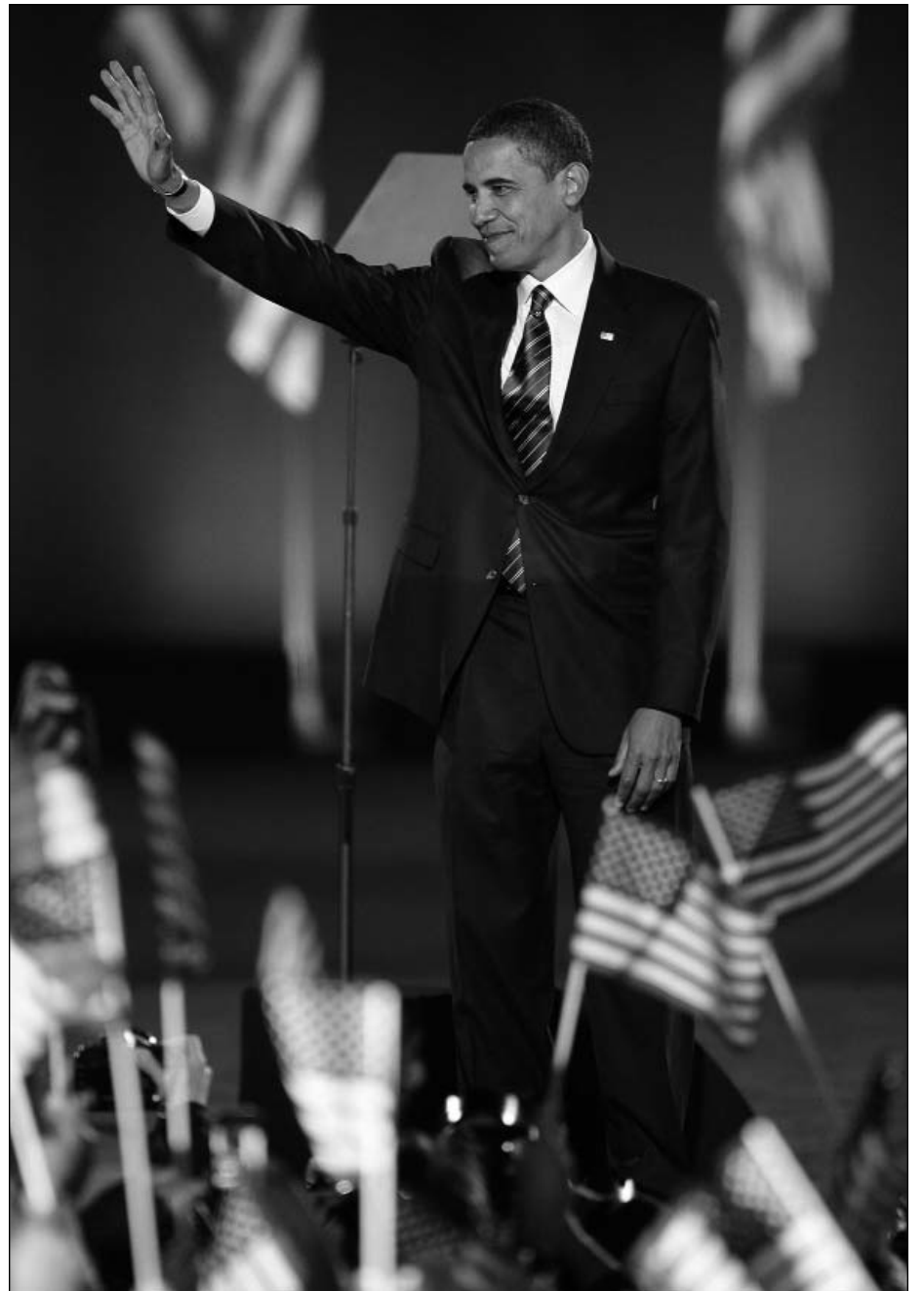
"The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even one term, but America — I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you — we as a people will get there." The always charismatic Obama uttered these words in his acceptance speech in front of billions of viewers all around the world, signaling that a change has come to America.

It's no doubt a victory for African-Americans everywhere who grew up never imagining that they'd get to see a black candidate, let alone the first black

president.

Celebrations erupted all throughout the world, most notably in Africa, where the sea of change proved to not be restrained by the walls of our continent.

Election night began with the closing of polls in five states at 7 p.m. and didn't end until well into the next morning, as states like Indiana and North Carolina went right down to the wire. However, the result became increasingly clear when Obama became the first Democrat to win Ohio's 20 electoral votes since former President Bill Clinton in 1996. By winning this key state, he did what Sen. John Kerry couldn't do four years ago, triumph in GOP terri-



PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA WAVES AFTER GIVING HIS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH AT GRANT PARK IN CHICAGO TUESDAY NIGHT, NOV. 4, 2008.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tory.

The president-elect would end up sweeping the swing states of Florida, Virginia, New Mexico,

Colorado and Nevada on his way to victory. Pennsylvania

Continued on page 4

Bucks reacts to election outcome

BY DAVID NONINI
AND ASHLEY PIZZI
Centurion Staff

The people of the United States elected Sen. Barack Obama the first African-American president in our nation's history, and on the Bucks campus, most students and staff shared a sense of awe at witnessing a historic first.

It has been 138 years since the passage of the 15th Amendment after the Civil War, which guaranteed every citizen the right to vote regardless of ethnicity and race.

"It was great to view history," said Marc Johnson, an African-American staffer of the Act-101 goals office who is adviser to the

Bucks Black Student Union.

When asked if he ever thought an African-American would be elected president in his lifetime, he said that anything is possible. "But I never thought that I would live to see it."

However, Johnson added that the election wasn't about ethnicity or race. "Obama couldn't have won without the Caucasian vote. People were fed up. I was watching the news and saw a 108-year-old person vote for the first time. It's pretty incredible.

"This is a turning point in American history," said Mitch Bunkin, a Bucks political science professor.

Tony Wolf, another political science professor, was equally

pleased. "I'm absolutely thrilled. It was my birthday yesterday, and it was the best birthday in decades," he said.

Wolf said he has received e-mails from friends in Sweden, France, Germany, India, Bangladesh and Cuba that have congratulated the U.S. "People throughout the world have followed the campaign and are happy and hopeful. It's a new day," he stated.

"I think that this election is a good thing for the country. We cleared a hurdle that goes way back," said Martin Sutton, chair emeritus of the social sciences department.

Sutton drew comparisons between this election and the

Kennedy-Nixon election of 1960. The 1960 election made history because Kennedy was the first Catholic elected to the Oval Office. "There are a lot of parallels. Both Kennedy and Obama have great oratory skills," he said. Wolf agreed with these comparisons. "I think Obama has the intellect, charm and vigor of Kennedy, and the progressive vision and humanity of FDR," he said.

Some students shared these positive sentiments. "I think the election results were great. I think Obama will do a good job," said Alex Naylor, a 22-year-old sports management major.

Continued on page 11

Murphy wins re-election easily

BY CHRISTIAN
PANNAPACKER
Centurion Staff

On Tues, U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy won a second term in the House of Representative. Murphy represents the 8th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, consisting of Bucks County and a small portion of Montgomery County and far Northeast Philadelphia.

Murphy, 34, the only Iraq war veteran in Congress, followed the nationwide trend of Democratic victories. Murphy received a solid victory of 56.8 percent or 197,168 votes.

Republican opponent Tom Manion came in a distant second with 41.7 percent, 144,732 votes. Independent perennial candidate Tom Lingenfelter came in last with 5,509 votes, 1.6 percent of the total.

During eight debates and his frequently-aired and positive TV ads, Murphy focused on his accomplishments and plans for the 8th District. His

talking points included bringing in green energy jobs, such as the windmill factory and solar panel field now in Bucks County, as well as improving veterans benefits and providing flood relief for Yardley.

To appeal to Republicans, Murphy also promoted himself as a fiscally conservative "blue dog Democrat" and as someone who "votes my conscience and not my party."

Murphy also campaigned on Obama's theme of change by saying, "If you want more of the same, if you want more of the status quo, than I'm not your guy. But if you want something different from what Bush has been doing for the past eight years, than I'd appreciate your vote."

Manion's message was quite different.

Without any prior experience in government at the age of 54, Manion promoted himself as a citizen legislator with prior ties to the GOP and as someone with two successful careers, one of which was serving 30 years in the U.S. Marines.



Manion's son Travis, 26, died fighting in Iraq last year and Manion said that was his inspiration to run for congress. He said because of his son's sacrifice, he personally understood the costs of war and would consider his personal loss in his decisions about war.

The rest of Manion's rhetoric was based on attacking Murphy, including negative TV ads about Murphy's opposition to offshore drilling and ads accusing

Murphy of a fundraising scandal.

During the debates, Manion said that Murphy was part of a "do-nothing congress" that failed to solve any of the major current issues such as health care, the economy or social security. Manion also said that Murphy exaggerated his role in the introduction of green energy jobs to the area.

Critics have complained that Manion has concentrated on national issues and missed

the key local issues.

Lingenfelter, 70, acknowledged his poor chances of winning and explained his reason for running, saying, "I do it because I am very concerned and no one else is doing anything. People are all talk and nothing gets done. People criticize me for running. People just want to sit back and complain."

Lingenfelter's message focused on distrust of the two-party system, claiming that both parties are controlled by special interests and are the cause of all our problems. "The Republicans will tell you the Democrats are at fault. The Democrats will tell you the Republicans are at fault," he said. "They're both right."

Murphy's solid 15-point victory is a significant shift from his first victory in 2006, against Republican incumbent Michael Fitzpatrick, in which Murphy won by only 1,521 votes — less than 1 percent.

Democrats expand lead in Congress

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Democrats broadened their control of Congress in Tuesday's elections, though in the Senate they fell short of the 60 votes needed for a filibuster-proof majority that would have given them almost unbridled power over legislation. Voters ousted Senate Republicans in North Carolina and New Hampshire and added three seats held by retiring GOP incumbents to the Democrats' fragile 51-49 majority. Four other Senate races involving Republican incumbents, including the contest in Minnesota, were too close to call early Wednesday. The

GOP retained some leverage in spite of Democratic gains. The Associated Press called the Senate race in Minnesota prematurely. Republican Sen. Norm Coleman finished ahead of Democrat Al Franken in the final vote count, but Coleman's 571-vote margin falls within the state's mandatory recount law. That law requires a recount any time the margin between the top two candidates is less than one-half of 1 percent. In the House, Democrats captured GOP-held seats in the Northeast, South and West, adding at least 17 seats to the 30 they took from Republicans in 2006. Fewer than 10 races remained undecided. Going

into Tuesday's election, Democrats controlled the House 235-199 with one vacancy. "Tonight, the American people have called for a new direction. They have called for change in America," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada credited the excitement and record turnout that helped propel president-elect Barack Obama to victory. "Obama ran a terrific campaign, he inspired millions of people," Reid said in a telephone interview. "It's been a really good night." Even as they celebrated Obama's election and their own victories, Democratic leaders pivoted to looming issues big and

small, from a lame-duck congressional session this month to whether to punish or tolerate a Senate ally who endorsed Republican John McCain. There were bigger questions down the road:

how to resolve deep differences in their own ranks over promised reforms like universal health care and energy independence — and just how much the public would punish Democrats if they fail.

Centurion Publication Schedule

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(dates may be subject to change)

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12/9

THE CENTURION 

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Laura Irwin

MANAGING EDITOR

John Skudris

ADVISING

Tony Rogers

SENIOR STAFF

News
Sports/ Webcast Anchor
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Arts

Op/Ed
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Photography
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Kevin Yorke
Chris Johnson
Jamie Melgoza
Elle Creedon
Sara Crouse
Elizabeth Messina
Eric Nocito
Kisha Lowenthal
Jen Golding

EDITORIAL STAFF

David Carter
Ashley Pizzi

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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.

Send letters to:

Centurion
275 Swamp Rd
Newtown, PA 18940
Centurion@bucks.edu
www.bucks-news.com/Letters to the Editor
215.968.8379

Official Member
2006-2007



Bucks fakes it with mock election

**BY JOHN SKUDRIS
AND DANIELLE EMERY**
Managing Editor, Centurion Staff

If there was any question as to whether or not Bucks would follow the same path as the rest of the country when it came to this election, the answer was given during last week's mock election.

The students of Bucks made their voices heard, and they resoundingly chose Barack Obama to be their next president.

By corralling more than 67 percent of the vote, Obama was declared the winner of the 2008 Bucks Mock Election.

It had been talked about for months that young voters would carry Obama to victory, and it was no different here.

As for John McCain, his persona as appealing to an older generation hurt him. He was only able to secure 21 percent of the vote of Bucks students.

"It was a blow out Obama wise," said Dave Colello in the Student Life Center.

Using slips of paper as ballots, and a regular old box, they completed the election

the old fashion way. More than a hundred students voted just on Monday.

As SGA President John Skudris counted the ballots of the hundredsome students that participated in the election on Monday, of the several day voting period, the findings were not surprising considering recent polls and statistics.

This election was so crucial that it even caused strife among couples.

One couple had a bit of a fight when talking about the election. The guy was voting for McCain and the girl was voting for Obama.

With so much at stake, people were willing to risk their love life in order to secure a victory for their candidate.

As for the third party candidates, Independent Ralph Nader was able to corral 10 percent of the vote thanks to many voters decisions that his experience combined with his liberal viewpoints on the issues were enough to warrant his election.

Libertarian candidate Bob Barr, who came into this election with much fanfare but ended it with few votes, was



SGA VICE PRESIDENT RAVI PATEL (LEFT) WITH COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE SETH GANSMAN SET UP CAMP AT BUCKS' MOCK VOTE
PHOTO BY KISHA LOWENTHAL

only able to receive 1 percent of the vote. Green party candidate Cynthia McKinnie also only received 1 percent of the vote.

Other students chose to add "Count Chocula" or "Fluffy"

as their educated choice for president.

Whether or not Bucks students actually made it out to the polls on Tuesday, they at least made their voices heard last week in our mock elec-

tion.

They stood up for their rights as American citizens cast their votes in our mock election; an election that correctly predicted the outcome of the real election.

Tyler mansion restoration continues

BY ELIZABETH MESSINA
Student Life Editor

Every June, a food and wine tasting fundraiser is held to raise money for the Tyler Restoration Committee. For the past 20 years, the fundraiser has raised more

than \$350,000.

Between the fundraiser and donations from the Tyler family, the committee raises about \$60,000 annually, all to pay for restorations in the Tyler mansion.

The 45-room Tyler Estate was designed by architects

Willing, Sims & Talbutt in the late 20s and the construction began in 1930. The mansion cost \$1 million to build, an estimated \$12.3 million today.

The Tylers were the largest landowners in Bucks County, owning 2,000 acres. Stella Elkins Tyler died in 1963. On Jan. 29, 1965, a settlement was made for the purchase of the estate, consisting of 200 acres for the price of \$700,000. The remaining 1,800 acres of the Tyler Estate is Tyler State Park.

The Tyler Restoration Committee members include college faculty, students, board members and community volunteers. Their mission is to "restore Tyler Hall to the extent it was when it was a private home, but still be able to function as an academic building," said Tobi Bruhn, executive director of the foundation.

Furniture styles popular in the Tyler's time are being reintroduced throughout the mansion, especially in the reception hall. Original paintings have been donated from the Tyler family. Recently, the octagonal room was repainted in its original colors by



stone work, leaving the stone crumbling. It needs to be replaced for safety reasons, said Bruhn.

The Pub, one of the most popular and talked about rooms in the mansion, is home to the restoration committee meetings. It was designed in Colonial-revival style, complete with fake doors and pine paneling. Designed as a "male domain," the pub was used for relaxation and entertaining after fox hunts. The bar area of the pub is located in

the back, behind a door—since the mansion was built during prohibition.

The lighting fixtures are similar but not original; the originals were much dimmer, said Lyle Rosenberger, director of the restoration committee. "If you're in a drinking situation, you don't want bright lights!"

Tyler is "not a museum, but we're trying to preserve as much of the original fabric," said Rosenberger.

There is no expected amount of time the restoration will take. The committee outlines projects for the next two to three years, but they address urgent issues as they show up.



INSIDE TYLER LIES DECADES OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY.
PHOTOS BY KISHA LOWENTHAL

PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA

‘Yes We Can’ changes history

continued from page 1

contested by McCain over the past couple weeks as perhaps his last-ditch effort to win a “blue” state. His efforts came short, however, when the state was called for Obama shortly after the polls closed at 8 p.m.

With the key victories, Obama had a landslide victory, a reported 349-173 in the Electoral College.

The potential outcome of this election became evident early on in the evening when exit polls revealed that the economy was the key issue in voter’s minds as opposed to Iraq and terrorism. In 2004, moral values and national security were the key issues, and this helped lead President George Bush to a victory.

Not only did Obama become the first African-American president, but he also became the first Democrat since Jimmy Carter in 1976 to receive more than 50 percent of the popular vote.

An election that saw record turnouts and enthusiasm eventually concluded with the election of a man who preached one theme the entire campaign, “Change is coming.”

Obama’s strong victory wasn’t the only good omen for Democrats on Tuesday night. They also picked up key senate seats in Colorado, New Mexico, North Carolina and Virginia to move their majority up to 56 seats. The House wasn’t immune to a

Democratic tidal wave either, as they expanded their lead in congress.

The candidates weren’t the only things on the ballot, as many states had measures to be voted on that could impact the lives of many citizens.

A r i z o n a , California and Florida all voted to ban gay marriage in their respective states.

Meanwhile, a South Dakota amendment that would have banned abortion was voted down.

After eight years of the Bush administration, Obama made it a priority to prove his worth to the nation in his acceptance speech.

"There are many who won't agree with every decision or policy I make as president, and we know that government can't solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face," he said.

Within minutes of Obama capturing victory, McCain walked onstage to a crowded ballroom and congratulated his opponent on a well-fought campaign.

He didn’t admit any mis-

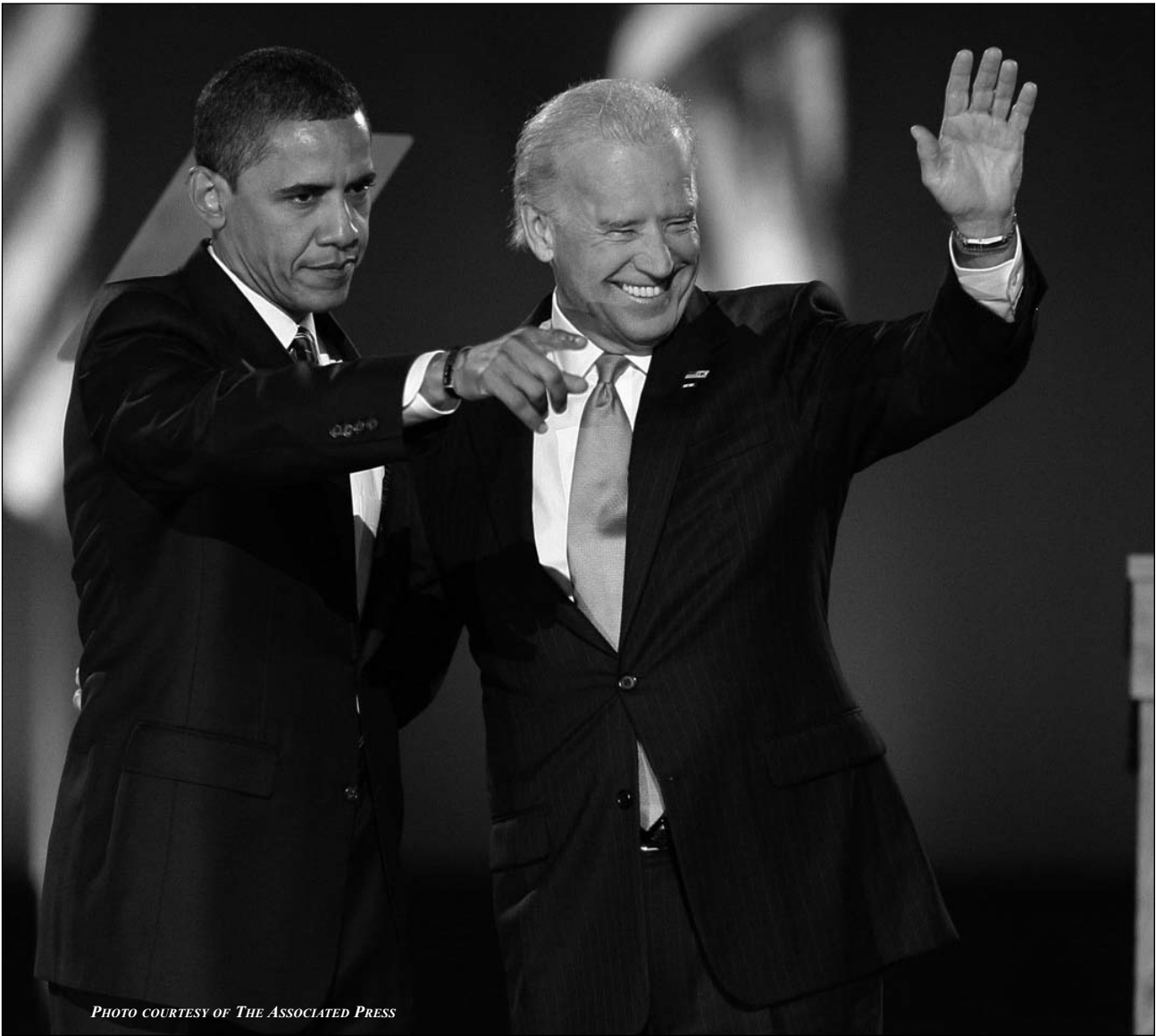


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

takes by name, but he acknowledged that the campaign was flush with too many flaws to win. "The American people have spoken," he said.

"In a contest as long and difficult as this campaign has been, his success alone commands my respect for his ability and perseverance," said McCain. "But that he managed to do so by inspiring the hopes of so many mil-

lions of Americans who had once wrongly believed that they had little at stake or little influence in the election of an American president is something I deeply admire and commend him for achieving." McCain will return to his Senate seat in Washington after his lifelong dream of becoming president was “his failure” and not the GOP voters’.

The U.S. spent hundreds of

years treating blacks like they were lesser beings. But now, after more than 200 years of white, male presidents, the most powerful and free nation on Earth will be led by an African-American.

Obama and his running mate, Sen. Joe Biden, of Delaware, will take the oath of office on Jan. 20, 2009, as the next president and vice president of the United States.

EDITORIAL

SGA President John Skudris says it’s Obama’s nation now

It only took a little more than 220 years.



finally, we have made history in America. By electing Barack Obama our first African-American president, the United States can finally stand up and say that we are among the civilized nations

that saw their dreams and helped to realize those dreams.

Americans all throughout the country cast their ballots on Tuesday. This election mattered to people. Not in 40 years have we seen this much excitement over a presidential choice.

Even young people became grippingly engaged. This election no doubt divided people, but the time for healing has begun. America voted with exuberance and passion, and that same passion should be used to bring our country back together.

If your candidate lost, it’s not time to live in spite. It was a hard fought election that was carried through by the winds of change. People were tired of the last eight years, and that’s what helped propel this election in the direction it went. Granted, John McCain did make some catastrophic mistakes.

He should never have admitted that he didn’t know much about economics, which was a strange decision. He also should not have chosen Sarah Palin as his running mate. She proved over and over again that she was not intellectual enough to even sniff the West Wing. Had he chosen an economics-minded VP like Mitt Romney, he might have had a better chance.

How different would this election have been like if Hillary Clinton had won the Democratic nomination? She likely would have lost the Western swing states, but she would have done better in states like West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. It would be an interesting race.

But it’s now Obama’s chance to rewrite the history books. The first African-American president in our history will have much to deal with in the form of two wars, an economic recession, an ever increasing culture war in our country, and a rising debt that only gets larger by the day. Can Obama really deliver on the change he promises if he has this much to deal with? One would

hope so, but pessimism has to be in the back of your head.

It seemed a long time coming, and for the many of us that watched 2000 and 2004 and were heartbroken after each long drawn out election night, it was nice to see our candidate win when it was still Tuesday. Granted, I started to feel good about his chances when Pennsylvania was called, and knew he was going to win when Ohio was called.

With such a strong mandate for change, Obama can now go into the White House on Jan. 20 with the knowledge that he is the chosen candidate by a vast majority of our country.

We want him, we’ll stick by him, and we’ll fight for him as he fights for us.

NOVEMBER

Bucks events and listings In the county, in the city

Study 5 New Kids on the Block with Natasha Bedingfield and Lady Gaga at the Wachovia Center 8 p.m.

FBI Information Session in from 12:15 to 2 p.m. 6 Hairspray at the Walnut Street Theater at 8 p.m.

Arts Faculty Exhibition from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 7 Decemberists play the Electric Factory at 8:30 p.m.

Do that project 8 Flyers vs. Tampa Bay Lightning at Wachovia Center 8 p.m.

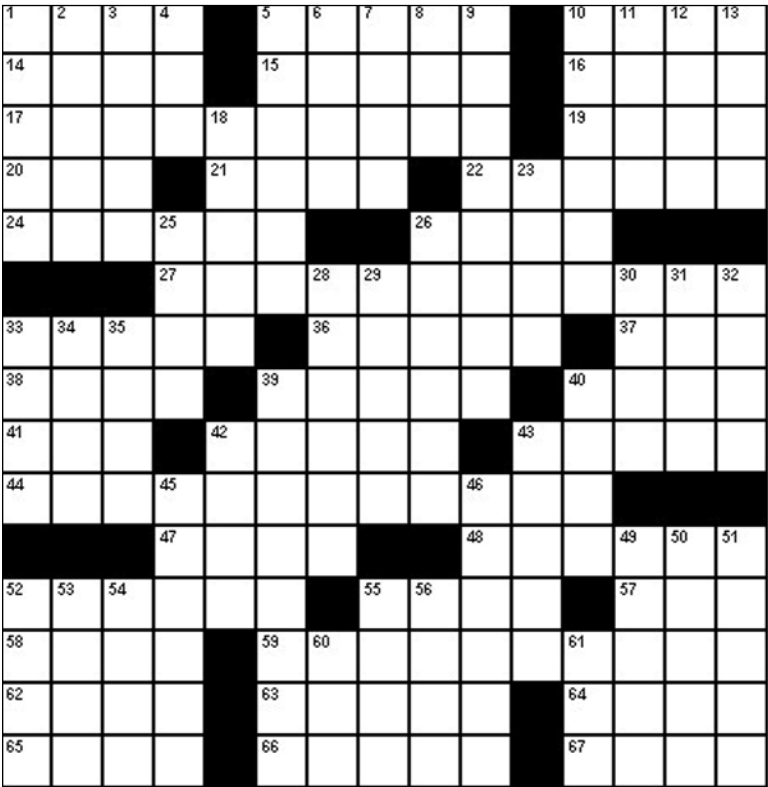
Write your paper 9 Eagles vs. New York Giants at Lincoln Financial Field 8:15 p.m.

Study 10 All American Rejects play the Theatre of the Living Arts at 8 p.m.

Veterans Day Reception 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. 11 76ers vs. Utah Jazz at the Wachovia Center at 7 p.m.

Lower Bucks Day Transfer Fair 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 12 Puddle of Mudd plays the Electric Factory at 7:30 p.m.

Study 13 The Academy Is...plays the Electric Factory at 7 p.m.



SUDOKU

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CROSSWORD CLUES

Across

- 1- Ruin
5- Oracular
10- Mgr.'s helper
14- Chemical used on tree
15- Muse of poetry in Greek mythology
16- Commotion
17- Enormous
19- Ump's call
20- Hot time in Paris
21- Nuisance
22- Obdurate
24- Person with a flat, say
26- Takes to court
27- Not resistible
33- Investigate closely
36- Hired parker
37- Part of many e-mail addresses
38- Come up short
39- Titled
40- Other, in Oaxaca
41- Downed
42- Wore
43- Fresh
44- Story for children
47- Goes out with
48- Develop a fixation

- 52- Straight downhill ski run
55- Lofty; 57- Fastener
58- Early late-night host
59- Prophetic revelation
62- Cross inscription
63- Purity unit
64- Building wings
65- Knocks lightly
66- Wear down
67- Show to a table;

Down

- 1- Breakfast food
2- Winged
3- Nostrils
4- Unit of energy
5- Thin layer of wood
6- Collective word for intellectual pursuits
7- Lacking slack
8- Give ___ rest
9- Confounded
10- Birthplace of St. Francis
11- Ollie's partner
12- Separate by a sieve
13- Low card
18- Mimicry
23- Riga resident

- 25- Team
26- Soundless
28- Dodges
29- Aegean island
30- Subside
31- Traditional passed-down knowledge
32- North Carolina college
33- Thick slice
34- Carry
35- Pre-owned
39- Person named after another
40- Large African antelope
42- Hastens
43- Gridiron
45- Trouble, slangily
46- Recently
49- Pomme or manzana
50- Unit of magnetic induction
51- Discharge
52- Roasting rod
53- Injectable diazepam, in military lingo
54- Heavenly strings
55- Mower brand
56- Mil. school
60- Hole goal
61- Affirmative reply

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CRYPTOGRAM

APCT	NT	KAO	PXOSBVPZ	QONQCO					
ZOUOS	SOPL	P	ZOMYQPQOS.	APCT	ZOUOS				
UNKOL	TNS	QSOYBLOZK.	NZO	ANQOY	BK	BY			
KAO	YPXO	APCT.	-DNSO	UBLPC					

Professor Joan Weiss remembered

BY CHRISTIAN
PANNAPACKER
Centurion Staff

Bucks business professor and advisor for the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), Joan R. Weiss passed away on Friday, Sept. 26, from cancer.

Professor Weiss began her teaching career at Bucks in 1983, and she became a Sam Walton Free Enterprise Fellow when she started the Bucks chapter of SIFE in 1990. With Weiss as the faculty adviser, SIFE won several awards, including international championships in 1997 and 1998. In 1997, Weiss earned the Jack Kahl Award as the Sam Walton Free Enterprise Fellow of the Year, and in 2000-01, she won the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award.

Her numerous awards, as well as the recognitions that SIFE won under her leadership, are on display in a large trophy case in Penn Hall, located across the hallway from room 407.

Weiss received her bache-



lor's degree from Penn State University, and master's degree from The College of New Jersey. Before starting her career at Bucks, Weiss was a buyer for Lit Brothers department store in Philadelphia. During her teaching career, Weiss held a real estate license for Pennsylvania, and she was

active with the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce, and Hadassah.

On the Monday morning after Weiss's passing, Business Studies Department Secretary Mary Kuna wrote a note that she placed on Weiss's office door, to inform the students who tried to find her there.

Kuna wrote in her note, "...If you had Mrs. Weiss as an instructor, you received a wonderful education in Marketing/Management and how to be a professional individual. She gave herself to the world of education in and out of the classroom. If you were a colleague, you knew her as someone who would bring new ideas to the college, someone who pulled her weight, someone who made a difference at Bucks and the community." In a deliberately separated paragraph, Kuna concluded the note by writing, "If you knew her as a friend, you were the most fortunate of all."

Kuna also spoke of how Weiss, despite being ill for a long time before succumbing to cancer, was able to keep a positive attitude until the day she passed away.

"She meant a lot to us," Kuna said in conclusion.

Business Professor Blaine Greenfield, a longtime friend and colleague of Weiss, said, "There will not be a day that

goes by when I won't think of Joan when I walk into Penn Hall. Her enthusiasm and dedication were a constant inspiration to me, as well as to her many students."

Another business professor and 30-year friend and colleague of Weiss, Debbie Grant, said Weiss possessed many qualities that made her a great teacher. Grant said that Weiss was a skilled networker, was personally invested in and involved with the success of her students and was always able to inspire students to feel confident enough to take on their most difficult academic challenges.

Grant talked about Weiss's generous nature. "She was always doing things for other people and never expected anything in return."

Like Kuna, Grant mentioned that Weiss was a very positive person, even to the end.

Grant said, "She was just a wonderful person. She'll be missed."

Voters turnout in record numbers

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—America voted in record numbers, standing in lines that snaked around blocks and in some places in pouring rain. Voters who queued up Tuesday and the millions who balloted early propelled 2008 to what one expert said was the highest turnout in a century.

It looks like 136.6 million Americans will have voted for president this election, based on 88 percent of the country's precincts tallied and projections for absentee ballots, said Michael McDonald of George Mason University. Using his methods, that would give 2008 a 64.1 percent turnout rate.

"That would be the highest turnout rate that we've seen since 1908," which was 65.7 percent, McDonald said early Wednesday. It also would beat the old post World War II high of 63.8 percent in the famed 1960 John F. Kennedy-Richard Nixon squeaker. The 1908 race elected William Howard Taft over William Jennings Bryan.

The total voting in 2008 easily outdistanced 2004's 122.3 million, which had been the highest grand total of voters before.

But another expert disagrees with McDonald's calculations and only puts 2008 as the best in 40 years. Different experts calculate turnout rates in different ways based on whom they consider eligible voters.

Curtis Gans, director of the nonpartisan Committee for the Study of the American Electorate at American University and dean of turnout experts, said his early numbers show 2008 to be about equal to or better than 1964, but not higher than 1960. He said it looks like total votes, once absentees are tallied (which could take a day or so), will be "somewhere between 134

and 135 million."

What's most interesting about early results is not just how many people voted but the shifting demographic of American voters, said Stephen Ansolabehere, a political science professor at Harvard and MIT.

Using exit polling data, Ansolabehere determined that whites made up 74 percent of the 2008 electorate. That's down considerably from

“

"The Millennial generation is making their mark on politics and shaping our future."

-Heather Smith, executive director of Rock the Vote

”

81 percent in 2000 because of increase in black and Hispanic voting, he said.

"That's a big shift in terms of demographic composition of the electorate," Ansolabehere said early Wednesday.

Breakdown by party voting also shows that Republican turnout rates are down quite a bit, while Democratic turnout rates are up, Gans said.

Republican states, such as Wyoming and South Dakota, saw turnout drop. "I think they were discouraged," Gans said.

Experts pointed to a weak economy and a lively campaign that promised a history-making result for the high turnout.

North Carolina set a record for its highest turnout rate of eligible voters,

because of close presidential, Senate and gubernatorial races, Gans said. Other states where turnout increased were Indiana, Delaware, Virginia and Alabama. The District of Columbia also set a record, he said.

Ansolabehere said young voters didn't show up in the advertised wave, but others disagreed.

"Young voters have dispelled the notion of an apathetic generation and proved the pundits, reporters and political parties wrong by voting in record numbers today," said Heather Smith, the executive director of Rock the Vote. "The Millennial generation is making their mark on politics and shaping our future."

Wayne State University nursing student Audrey Glenn, 19, spent four hours waiting to cast her vote in Michigan, in part because Southfield election officials couldn't find her name on their lists.

"But it was all worth it," she said.

Ann Canales, a 47-year-old single mother, emerged from her Texas polling place with a wide grin, accompanied by her 16-year-old son.

"I've just been waiting for this day," said Canales, who voted for Barack Obama.

Norma Storms, a 78-year-old resident of Raytown, Mo., said her driveway was filled with cars left by voters who couldn't get into nearby parking lots.

"I have never seen anything like this in all my born days," she said. "I am just astounded."

In some places the wait lasted hours, and lines stretched for half a mile.

"Well, I think I feel somehow strong and energized to stand here even without food and water," said Alexandria, Va., resident Ahmed Bowling, facing a very long line. "What matters is to cast my vote."

Student caught stealing

BY MICHAEL VESEL
News Editor

On Sept. 30, a female student at Bucks was caught sneaking around campus, allegedly feeling for unlocked car doors and, when finding them, stealing everything inside.

The unnamed woman was caught by a fellow Bucks student, who promptly contacted Safety and Security.

The Newtown Police Department was called to campus and the woman was arrested shortly after the notification to Safety and Security.

Much of the goods that were stolen were various electronic devices, clothing and makeup.

"We've had cars broken into before, but it's very rare and it's usually for books," said Chris Lloyd, director of safety and security. "Something like this has only happened maybe once or twice in five years or so."

After the arrest, safety and security contacted the students whose cars were broken into.

"We were able to contact most of the students, and return much of the stolen items," said Lloyd.

When asked for advice for the students at Bucks to help prevent something like this from occurring again, Lloyd stated, "You have to keep your car locked; otherwise you learn this lesson the hard way."

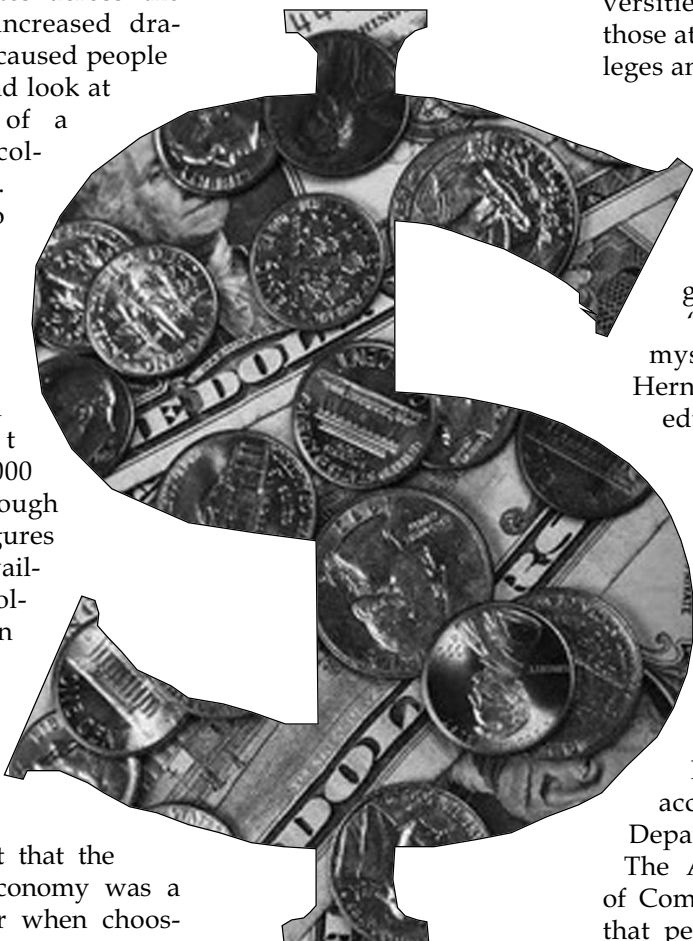
Comm college enrollments are up

BY JEN GOLDING
Webcast Anchor

With the tumultuous economy causing a strain on many wallets, community college enrollment rates across the nation have increased dramatically and caused people to take a second look at the benefits of a community college education.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, there was a 10 percent increase in enrollment between 2000 and 2006. Although the 2007-08 figures are not yet available, many colleges have been predicting similar increases since last fall.

Many Bucks students admit that the state of the economy was a deciding factor when choos-



ing a college.

"Why would I spend money elsewhere when I could go here?" asked Rachel Morrell, a 20-year-old nursing major.

The U.S. Department of Education reported that average annual community college tuition and fees are less than half of those at public four-year colleges and universities and one-tenth of those at private four-year colleges and universities.

"If the economy wasn't so bad I might be at a four-year school," said Nicole Guth, a 19-year-old psychology major.

"I have to pay for this myself," said Nick Hernandez, a 19-year-old education major.

In the 2006-07 school year, community colleges in the U.S. enrolled 6.2 million students, which was 35 percent of all postsecondary students enrolled in an institution of higher learning that year, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The American Association of Community Colleges said that percentage has risen to

46 percent as of January 2008.

"I came to Bucks to save money and because it's more of a transition [between high school and four-year college.] Plus, everyone's doing it," said Jacob Bachman, a 20-year-old business major.

The American Association of Community Colleges states on its website, "Globalization is driving changes in our economy and the need for an educated workforce has never been greater. Community colleges often are the access point for education in a town and a real catalyst for economic development."

"I was at a four-year school, but I came home because it was too far—Bucks was the only place I could get in right away," said Ashley Mitchell, a 21-year-old education major.

What are the advantages that Bucks offers as a community college?

The Bucks website says things like "Earn your college degree or certificate," "Discover which field of study is right for you," "Find out how Bucks can help

jump-start your career," or "Learn something new for pleasure."

"I was supposed to go to West Chester but I got in trouble, so my parents wouldn't let me," said 18-year-old Mike McCann.

The Bucks mission "is to provide to the county's diverse population of learners accessible, affordable, convenient and comprehensive educational, training and cultural opportunities that will equip them to be competent and effective in their work and as citizens of the world."

Many Bucks students are taking advantage of these community college learning opportunities.

"It's a really nice place to begin when you need to decide on a major," said Matthew Chang, a 22-year-old criminal justice major.

Bucks and other community colleges across the nation seem like attractive options with the unstable economy.

Enrollment rates continue to rise as people take a closer look at their educational options.

Bucks alum donates \$\$ to library

BY JEN GOLDING
Webcast Anchor

Frank Eckert, a Bucks alumnus, recently donated \$7,500 to the college library for books, electronic resources and periodicals that can be accessed by the community for up-to-date information.

Eckert, a 1973 Bucks graduate, came back to the library two years ago and was not happy with what he saw. "He was frustrated because he came across outdated books," said Maureen McCreadie, the dean of learning resources.

"He wanted to update them, especially in areas such as business and accounting where things change frequently."

Eckert's donation will be used to enhance online

resources where students and members of the community can access current information.

"Books can take a long time to get into the library's system," said McCreadie. "When you need something current, electronic materials are better."

Eckert began attending Bucks after moving to the area from Long Island, New York. He currently resides in Levittown with his wife Barbara, who also attended Bucks and graduated in 1983.

Eckert originally hesitated to help fund e-learning because he believed students benefit more from in-class discussions. However, he soon came to realize that e-learning can be better for discussions because students

who are typically shy in the classroom setting can participate comfortably online.

Eckert's donation will also be used to upgrade the technology area. "An extra user will be added to the college's current database, Safaritech Books Online, to enable more people to access it," said Linda McCann, the director of library services.

"Because Bucks is a community college, the library is open to the public, so the donation benefits not only our school's population, but the entire community," said Tobi Bruhn, the executive director of the Bucks Foundation. The Foundation is a non-profit, educational trust to provide expanded resources for the college's growth and development.

Last year, Eckert donated \$2,000 to the library. This year he increased the amount of his donation with the intent to help expand the electronic resources. Eckert hoped to get others interested in his cause, and he was pleased with the results. The Friends of the Library group came close to matching Eckert's donation last year by sponsoring numerous fundraisers. "He provided seed money to encourage others to make donations," said McCann.

This year, the group is again attempting to match Eckert's donation. On Oct. 26,

the group hosted a concert in the Gateway Auditorium. Richard Hodges played the saxophone with John Forconi on piano and John Enz playing cello.

Last year, a historic walking tour of Newtown was held to help match Eckert's donation. Because of its success, the Friends of the Library are holding a reception and historic walking tour of Wycombe on Nov. 8 from 4-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person. For more information, or to make a donation, contact Linda McCann at (215) 968-8003 or mccannl@bucks.edu.



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Bond game may exceed expectations

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Interactive media Editor

In traditional movie-marketing fashion, the studio behind the new James Bond movie, “Quantum of Solace,” is preparing to release a game based on “Casino Royale” and “Quantum of Solace.” Normally this would make any hardcore gamer cringe at the thought of the release of yet another Bond game. Past games have been filled with subpar elements compared to the still reigning king of Bond games, “GoldenEye.”

However, developer Treyarch plans to release a Bond game that should exceed expectations.

Early images of the game show the developers going back to first-person perspective, changing the long standing formula of third-person perspective that has proven to fail other developers. Now the game returns to the first-



person mayhem and excitement reminiscent of the “GoldenEye” days.

An interesting twist in the new Bond game—when first-person perspective is intact, players can hide behind objects. This is similar to “Tom Clancy’s Rainbow Six

Vegas” series.

This new feature will undoubtedly change the way players interact with the game because the perspective that emphasizes the player is James Bond.

Also, the point-of-view introduces new elements,

such as the cover system and quick-time events. Quick-time events are sections of the game that require a sharp eye and quick button pressing in order to proceed through the story.

The scene from “Casino Royale” where Bond chases a bomb-maker through a construction site in Morocco will be one of the confirmed quick-time events.

Another quick-time event is hand-to-hand combat. Players who are in close proximity to an enemy will be able to engage in a hand-to-hand combat scenario where they will be required to push a series of buttons to neutralize an opponent.

However, one section of game play that could concern players is the multiplayer game. While no stages have been confirmed, rumors are that up to 12 players can play per match, either offline or

online; this includes several modes of play for the multi-player.

A match type that survived the “GoldenEye” days is “Golden Gun.” Those familiar with the match know that the Golden Gun can kill opponents with one shot, regardless of health or body armor.

The player with the gun appears as a dot on the players’ maps who try to ambush the player with the Golden Gun and take it for themselves.

So far the early trailers of the game show it will be fast-paced and filled with excitement.

The voice acting and likenesses to the actors in the movie will add to the experience of game play and create an in depth type of game play. It can be expected that “Quantum of Solace” will be a financial success both in the theaters and in the video game format.

Red alert: Coldwar returns

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Interactive Media Editor

Hello and greetings from the Soviet Union. What is this crazy place where the Soviet Union is still relevant? Well according to Electronic Arts, it’s always relevant. Say hello to “Command and Conquer: Red Alert 3,” the follow-up to the highly successful Red Alert franchise and its several expansions.

This newest C&C title takes place in an alternate reality where World War II never happened and the Soviet Union goes back in time and eliminates Albert Einstein and the machines and weapons that followed his breakthroughs in science and technology. This allowed the Soviet Union to have an advantage over the Allies. However, a new threat rises to the east of the Motherland and the Empire of the Rising Sun has been allowed to build its military and industrial power unchecked.

So now the Soviet Union faces two threats, what is a world superpower to do?

Executive Producer Chris Corry said in an interview with gamespot.com, “Can you think of any science fiction story where going back in time didn’t have some sort of unintended consequence? This is the crux of the Red Alert universe and the central theme of the Red Alert 3 fiction. By going back in time, the Soviet leadership hopes to erase Einstein from the timeline, and in fact they actually pull it off.”



It appears that these time travelling shenanigans created more problems for the Soviet Union. With the loss of Einstein, the Allies seem to be on the verge of destruction, causing much celebration in Moscow.

This inadvertently has allowed a mysterious new power to grow unchecked. Corry also said in the interview, “Their (Soviet Union) elation lasts all of 90 seconds before they come under attack by a mysterious new superpower, a mighty army spawned by their own unnatural tampering with the space/time continuum: The Empire of the Rising Sun.”

With this new power rising to Russia’s east, it appears the story will be a three-way battle to control the globe.

An important addition to campaign mode is the all new co-op campaign, allowing you and a friend to play the campaign side-by-side—but only online. With this co-op

play the game is already starting to ensure its longevity. To further cement its replayability, online play is an important part of the series.

The impressive number of maps in multiplayer, 28, allows for a great mix of land, sea and air combat that ensures hours of internet fun. Another important part of the multiplayer experience is the slowing down of the gathering of resources, which allows for fewer full-out blitz attacks on an ill-prepared opponent’s base. This places great emphasis on scouting and gathering resources early rather than building up a massive force and attempting to destroy your opponents.

The game will feature the same amount of silliness and strategic combat that’s been seen in past games of the series along with a sprinkling of new units, abilities and battlegrounds to throw the games story and multiplayer fun in new directions.

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

Films:

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

TV on DVD:

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

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

- **bored.com**
Looking for a place to burn your boredom? Well visit this site for all sorts of fun games, puzzles and weird things if yo have some free time to kill.

- **howstuffworks.com**
Are you trying to learn how something works in your house and your pretty much stuck? Check out this site for helpful info on a number of different things.

- **apprater.com**
Get good wallpaper for your iPhone. And pimp out you phone.

- **nutsie.com**
If you have an internet-capable phone, take your iTunes playlist with you everywhere you go with nutsie. Make your own playlist or look for your favorite artist on the site for free music.

- **ibypass.net**
Bypass blocked sites with this handy website.

‘W’ is a tame look at George Bush

BY DAVID NONINI
Centurion Staff

Never in the history of cinema has there been a biopic made about a sitting president.

While other movies may have featured portrayals of presidents, this is the first time that the subject matter has been devoted to the man. That is just one of the unique things about Director Oliver Stone's new movie, "W," his take on the life and times of the 43rd president, George W. Bush.

The plot of the movie should not be a mystery to anyone who has lived through the past eight years, so there are no spoilers here. The story chronicles the life of our president (Josh Brolin) in the same style of Stone's own "Nixon" (1995), by following Bush's presidency while showing flashbacks that detail his journey from a Yale freshman to the Oval Office.

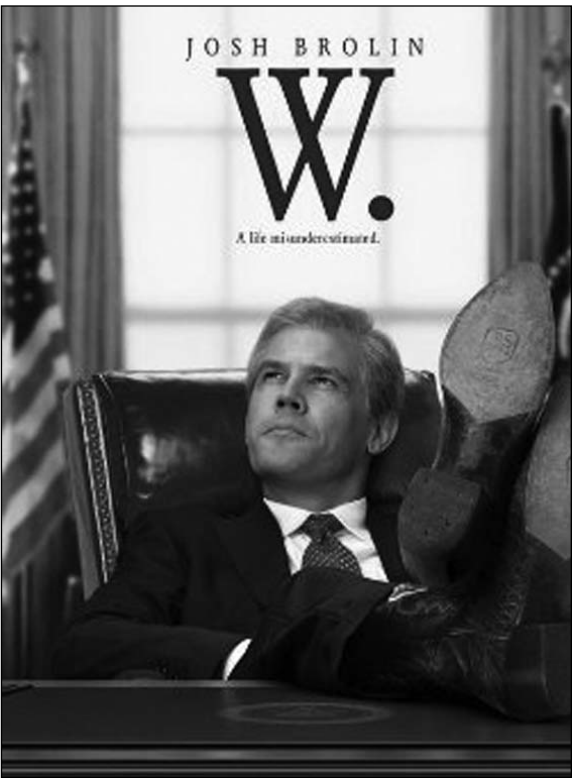
The film does a good job following his career in politics, from his congressional bid to the governorship of Texas to the White House.

The focus on the White House years is devoted to the run-up to the Iraq War, and

the conflicts in Bush's Cabinet and the intelligence agencies over whether or not they should go through with the fight. Bush's men are portrayed as having a cavalier attitude toward the war, being determined to go whether or not the intelligence is correct. The conflict, mainly between Dick Cheney (Richard Dreyfuss) and Colin Powell (Jeffery Wright) makes for some of the most compelling moments of the film.

There is one thing that should be noted in seeing this film: do not go thinking that this movie is a comedy. While the trailer makes it seem like a comedy, "W." is not a laughfest nor a parody. While there are comedic moments throughout the movie, this is a dramatic portrayal of Bush's life in the same vein as "Nixon." Though, this is not as heavy, nor as complex, of a fare as "Nixon," the film has a more straightforward approach in telling the story.

In casting, Stone's pick for



Bush was along the same lines as his choice of Anthony Hopkins as Richard Nixon in that film. Brolin does a remarkable job in embodying all of the characteristics of Bush, capturing the little nuances — Bush's easy-going style, his animated gestures, his speech, facial expressions — with accuracy.

In watching, it is remarkable how close his performance is to the real person.

Dreyfuss's spectacular portrayal of Cheney shows someone who has great influence on the president, and therefore a lot of pull on the policies of the administration.

Toby Jones's Karl Rove is also well done, portraying him as a cold, calculating political tactician, able to turn any situation into a political issue and guiding Bush along with a firm hand.

There are other roles that could have been stronger. While Elizabeth Banks gave a solid performance as Laura Bush, the role seemed to be sidelined and not given the attention that it should have in the film.

In addition, the role of Condoleezza Rice (Thandie Newton) was not as rounded of a character as the other Cabinet members. Rice comes off basically as a "yes-woman," someone who completely agrees with the president at every turn.

While Stone directs this film in much the same style as

"Nixon," the scenes do not have the same dramatic effect. The film is tame.

This may have to do with the fact that the subject matter is still in the news and is current in all of our minds, while "Nixon" was made two decades after the fact, which allowed for more information to be revealed over time. Because of how recently these events occurred, there is not much in the movie that we don't already know, and therefore is not surprising to moviegoers.

Like "Nixon," the movie attempts to give as much sympathy to Bush as possible. This is not a complete Bush-bashing movie. However, it's hard to muster much sympathy because Bush appears to be easily led, and taking no initiative to find things out for himself.

"W" is an interesting movie in this election year, much like Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" several years ago. Even those who aren't very political might find this movie entertaining. However, if you are looking for a more in-depth look into the power structure of Washington, I would also check out "Nixon."

Phoenix says no more films

By The Associated press

LOS ANGELES — The writing on Joaquin Phoenix's fists said it all.

The words "Good Bye" were penned on the actor's knuckles at a premiere Saturday night for his latest film, "Two Lovers," and Phoenix confirmed a surprise announcement he made last week: He's giving up movies.

"I think it's just moving on. It's rediscovering something else," said Phoenix, 34, said in an interview with Associated Press Television News before Saturday's American Film Institute festival, which also premiered "Che," starring Benicio Del Toro. "Two Lovers" is his last film, he said.

His publicist had disclosed Friday that the actor intended to focus on music.

Phoenix first mentioned his decision to "Extra" early last week at a fundraiser in San Francisco.

He abruptly ended that interview after the reporter wondered whether he was joking about giving up acting for music.

Phoenix learned to play guitar and did his own singing to play country legend Johnny Cash in "Walk the Line," which earned him an Academy Award nomination.

His publicist also said Phoenix has been directing music videos in recent years. "It's like greener pastures, you know what I mean?" Phoenix said Saturday. "And so, I'm just going to try and like, I'll just be doing the other thing. ... Hopefully, I will emotionally impact you with that, as well."

"Two Lovers" stars Phoenix as a heartbroken man torn between a needy, neurotic neighbor (Gwyneth Paltrow) and the sensible woman (Vinessa Shaw) his parents want him to marry.

The film, due in theaters early next year, was directed by James Gray, with whom Phoenix also worked on "We Own the Night" and "The Yards."

The dish on ‘Gossip Girl’

BY BRITTANY KENVIN
Centurion Staff

Imagine this: teenage prep school socialites sipping martinis in a hotel bar, carrying Chanel clutches and wearing Jimmy Choos to English class, and smoking pot during a leisurely public walk in Central Park—is there a world where these glamorous and unusual things are a complete social norm?

Welcome to the fabulous world of "Gossip Girl," where nothing is as it seems.

More than a year ago, the CW aired its pilot episode of "Gossip Girl," a drama based on the best-selling novels by Cecily von Ziegesar.



The show is about mega-rich kids on Manhattan's posh Upper East Side.

Nicknamed the East Coast counterpart of Fox's hit show "The OC," "Gossip Girl," it may come as no surprise, is produced and co-written by Josh Schwartz, the creator of "The OC."

Because of the large following from the book series, the show was already set to have a huge fan base right out of the gate, and although the plot isn't identical to that of the books, the basic principles are still in sync.

The ambiguous "Gossip Girl" (Kristen Bell) is an anonymous blogger who writes the daily dish about the scandals that run the lives of these trust fund kids, namely the show's leading "frenemies," Blair Waldorf (Leighton Meester) and Serena van der Woodson (Blake Lively.)

While the show's main draw is the glitz and glamour of its characters' lifestyles, it is brought back down to Earth with the addition of the Humphreys, a middle-class family living in Brooklyn with Rufus (Matthew Settle), a washed-up '90s rocker for a father, and two children, Dan (Penn Badgley) and Jenny (Taylor Momsen).

They serve as the stereotypical blue-collar out-

casts at their Manhattan prep school filled with powerful elitists and heiresses.

After the show's successful first season, what's next for the CW's cult hit?

The second season, which premiered on Sept. 1, has taken off.

The show is tentatively set in the Hamptons, with even more scandal and captivating storylines that keep fans tuning in week after week.

So far this season, we've watched as Nate began sleeping with an older married woman, Blair unexpectedly began and later ended a relationship with a British royal, Serena and Dan get back together just to break up yet again, and Chuck comes to the rescue of the Archibald family, whose bank accounts have been frozen due to the charges of embezzlement and fraud against Nate's father, "The Captain," who fled the country.

Whew!

That's only a brief summary of the drama thus far, but don't worry - if you haven't been keeping up on this year's juicy season, some of the episodes can be viewed for free on the CW's website, or purchased on iTunes.

Knowing the show's history, it can only get better from here. You're sure to love it.

Good and bad

Op/Ed Editor Sara Crouse gives her approval or criticism

Good.

Barack Obama is elected the 44th President of the United States! What an epic and historic election, the first black president!

The remaining living members of the Grateful Dead, Bob Weir, Phil Lesh, Bill Kreutzmann and Micky Hart joining forces with some of the Allman Bros. which I don't care to name, at PSU on Oct. 13 in support of Obama. This is the first time the survived members of The Dead have played together in four years, and they've come together for a good cause and a good man. They played such appropriate songs as U.S. Blues, and Not Fade Away to a sold out crowd of 15,000 and showed videotaped messages from Obama between sets. We miss you Jerry.

The grace and poise of Sen. John McCain during his concession speech Election night. He made me want to cry for him. Despite all our differences, and the differences between parties, the final speeches were from the heart.

Bad.

More and more gas stations are installing TV screens at their pumps. I find this to be a complete waste of energy and a joke. Why do we need to have our eyes magnetically attached to the TV while we pump gas for 3 minutes? This just furthers the gap between people's friendliness in public, how our ideals and opinions are tweaked by TV, and is creating a nation full of droids. Count me out; pumps with screens won't get my business.

To further discuss an issue relating to cars: The new Cadillac Escalade Hybrid getting 20 mpg on the highway! Why do people continue to buy huge environmentally degrading SUVs? Why do we need to have so much power in a vehicle so that we can drive fast and endanger others on the road? We need to follow in the lead of our European neighbors for standards in fuel efficiency, emissions, and size for the sake of environment, which is choking under the fumes of conspicuous consumption.

Dear John, Dear Jane

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

Dear Tyler Park pedestrians,

Fall is a wonderful time of year for a walk through the park. Seasonal foliage and brisk, invigorating walks can really save you from seasonal depression.

But, when you walk haphazardly across trails, take up the entire trail chatting with your friends or chase after your unleashed poodle, you are setting yourself up for disaster.

I could break you while I am riding my bike at 20-odd miles an hour.

Are you really shuffling your child in a stroller in figure eights, chasing after your other toddlers?

More importantly, you could injure me. Not cool when I know how to pass and follow a trail.

Unless you live in one of those countries that drive on the opposite side of the road, you know things like roads, sidewalks and pathways are traveled on the right.

Not across the entire path. Not on the left. Not in the center.

As well, you pass on the right.

Freezing up or darting in the wrong direction is only going to get you hit. Annoyingly, on hills this lack of direction is my burden.

I am pumping my legs up a steep grade and you are wig-

gling in front of me in my way. Or you stop and watch. Well, I really don't want to hit you, so what do I have to do? Stop.

How easy is it to start biking again mid-hill?

Not easy.

Here's what you need to do: keep to the right. Be conscious of those that are in the park everyday and just wanna get their workout on.

If you are ever confused as to what is right and what is left, I recommend holding up your hands in front of you. The index and thumb of your left hand makes an "L" shape. L for left. The other hand would then be your right.

Thank you.



streets paved and my ride was not permitted to drive up the hill to pick me up. So this forced me to walk down an unshoveled path of snow and slush, ruined my shoes, and almost fell three times going down the hill. I am sorely disappointed with the colleges' handling of the snow removal and notification of whether we have classes or not. I've spoken to numerous students and they all expressed the same frustration. Is this what we are to expect all season?

Bradley Longosky

Laura,

What happened last Tuesday, Oct. 28 was a complete fiasco! I was extremely disappointed in the way the college handled the unexpected snowfall. No notice of class cancellations was published. Many students did not know if they had class. Some came to classes late. And some students I heard were in an accident due to the weather. To top it all off, I had to give a speech that day and was dressed nicely. Nice dress shoes, slacks, the works. I come out of class to find no walkways shoveled, no

A Modern Hypocrisy

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



The votes are in:
Yes We Can!

I have never felt so relieved, overjoyed and excited over an election outcome in my 26 years. Even after Clinton took the ticket in 1992, when I also didn't vote Republican, I was not nearly as pumped for change as I am now.

I sat watching the polls with friends. We talked about how what we were seeing on TV was one of those moments that will remain forever etched in memory and history.

Where were you when Kennedy was shot? When Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. Where were you on 9/11? And finally, when President-elect Barack Obama gave his "Yes We Can" speech.

His words rang as loud and clear as Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream."

I am beside myself with happiness. I have never liked socialistic policies, I thought that trickle-down and capitalism would keep the nation strong. But, for the past eight years, I saw it wasn't working. This country needed the change Obama believes in. His influence will change the country's outlook and perspective, nationally and across the seas. His beliefs will repair the failed policies of small government. It's time to take care of a bruised America and rebuild us to Revolutionary glory.

That said, I also peered into the future of my chosen career. Maybe it was because I was sipping on Sam Adams, maybe it's because my hyper-tendencies had me peering into the background of the news stations; I saw through all the backdrops into a never-ending sea of cubicles filled with reporters gathering the facts that would be read by the likes of Diane Sawyer and Charlie Gibson and Katie Couric and Brian Williams.

I could see the typing on keyboards, following the wire and googling facts. I could see the myriad of phone calls.

I could see the webcasts and blogs and vlogs and commentaries and editorials being pounded out by the second.

I noticed the graphic work on NBC, MSNBC, CNN, Fox News and what I thought was most comprehensible, ABC News.

Every fact and detail was littered about the screen to follow the latest polls and I imagined a 70s-style, smoke-filled newsroom, with reporters filling in the blanks as fast, and accurately as possible.

It was here where certain news stations lost me. The complicated screen shots and graphics and flashes of logos and slogans were over-complicated, and often lacked the listings of the number of Electoral Votes per state.

The epic election and landslide victory was all the rage across cable channels, but regular programming, without news scrolls, filled the majority of channels. Episodes of "House" and "Family Guy" probably received as many viewers as usual.

Wednesday morning I came into the newsroom with bagels and coffee and the Courier Times, Philadelphia Inquirer and New York Times. I waited for my designated election reporters to come in and gather stories and quotes from, what I assumed, citizens as enthusiastic as myself.

I don't understand how a young, vibrant new president with a message of hope and change couldn't capture the young voters, the apathetic, the lethargic, the stupid masses that believe they don't mean anything in the world.

This election meant that everyone and anyone who has a vote, has a voice.

Yet, incoming complaint after incoming complaint from reporters put me into a stupor; no one cared, no one knew anything but hype and propaganda, no one had been listening.

I told them to go out and not lose momentum. I told the reporters to gather the news and the applause and the anger of the Bucks community.

I waited and grew as edgy as I had been at 10 p.m. on Election Night. Where were the people who cared? I have expressed before my distaste for the slackers, the tardy and the apathetic. I get dozens of e-mails from readers who harp that "We're not all hicks and idiots," but where are you among the masses?

Obama's message was "Yes We Can." It takes a nation to rebuild, and America elected a leader of change. But "we" - meaning you and me - are part of the process.

Got an opinion?

Agree or disagree?

Tell us in a letter to the editor.

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

EDITORIAL

‘A house divided cannot stand’

BY ASHLEY RAE PIZZI
Centurion Staff

I was an emotional wreck on election night. Exhibiting the frenzied fervor of a drug addict searching through his dirty laundry for a missing hit, I clicked from news website to news website attempting to find early election results. I was sweating through my pink "McCain-Palin '08" shirt, if you will and hugging my stuffed moose with its "Vote Republican" pin tight. You see, I don't like losing, and I had the feeling that my candidate was going down to defeat.

Then, at 11:18 p.m., the Republican candidate for president, Sen. John McCain, conceded the race to Sen. Barack Obama.

"The American people have spoken, and they have spoken clearly. A little while ago, I had the honor of calling Senator Barack Obama to congratulate him on being elected the next president of the country that we both love," McCain told hometown

supporters in Biltmore, Ariz. "Senator Obama and I have had and argued our differences, and he has prevailed. No doubt, many of those differences remain. These are difficult times for our country, and I pledge to him tonight that I will do all in my power to help him lead us through the many challenges we face," McCain said.

"I urge all Americans who supported me to join not only in congratulating him, but offering our next president our good will and honest effort to find the necessary compromises to bridge our differences."

McCain's loss came as a disappointment to me and to the many others who voted for him.

But I have taken McCain's advice and am putting my faith and hope in the president-elect. Regardless of the results, our great country and world can only continue if we put bipartisan differences aside and come together for what feels like the first time in many years. Bipartisan

election antics have consumed the media and devoured our attentions and tainted our minds.

One-hundred fifty years ago, Abraham Lincoln stood before 1,000 Republicans at the party's state convention in Springfield, Illinois. There, he gave a speech in which he paraphrased the words of Jesus Christ in the New Testament. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," said Lincoln.

Lincoln continued to express these sentiments throughout his presidency. During his 2nd inaugural address, he told supporters that the country needed to persevere. "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all

which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

As the nation moves into the post-election and inaugural phases of Obama's upcoming presidency, it is imperative for everyone to remember Lincoln's message.

The Democratic and Republican parties are going to have to find a way to work together. Without unity, the United States of America will

cease to exist.

Whether your candidate won or lost, you should take heart in the realization that this past election demonstrated our nation's ability to see past racial, ethnic, gender, and age barriers. As a collection of states— as Democrats, Republicans, independents and undecided individuals, Americans have arrived at a point where we can say that we stand as one nation under God and indivisible.



Bucks weighs in on election outcome

continued from page 1

"This is my third time voting, and finally someone I voted for won," stated Greg Evorik, 26.

He had previously voted for Al Gore in 2000 and John Kerry in 2004. "I think that he'll do a good job. He's got a good plan." Jake Wasserman, 18, had similar feelings. "I'm very happy. It's a different change from the same old thing."

Joe Dunley, 19, didn't think that Obama would win and was shocked. "I think things will be the same in the beginning, for the first few months. We'll see where it takes us from there."

In a change from the focus on the economy, the Iraq war motivated some to vote for Obama. "I liked both candidates equally, but I want to bring the troops home. That's why I voted for Obama," said Russell Hackius, 18.

Opinion of Sen. John McCain's concession speech was positive overall. "McCain was a gracious loser, not a sore loser," Naylor said.

"Both speeches were extremely thoughtful. Both candidates were sincere and put their country before their career. If most Americans take the candidates seriously, they will understand this," Bunkin stated. "McCain gave a diplomatic, tactful speech, one of the best in the campaign," Sutton said. He added that it was more positive than some of the

recent campaign advertisement.

Of course, in any election, there are people who are going to be upset with the outcome.

"I definitely don't think things are going to get better. We're going to become a socialist country," said Sara Toro, 18. "I'm disappointed with our society, to elect a person like that," stated Ryan Ritter, 19. "There's proof that he's not qualified. And we let people who are not educated enough vote."

There are some that are concerned for Obama's safety.

"The quality of our candidates was poor, but I feel that Obama was the best choice. Although, I fear his death," said David Sciolla, 22. "Already there have been three assassination attempts before he was even president." Naylor said, "I hope no one shoots him."

A surprising number of people questioned replied that they didn't vote, weren't registered or didn't have an opinion. However, some who didn't vote did express an opinion. "I was undecided, but I would have said Obama. I believe that things will change in the next four years," Christine Welhaf, 19, a childhood education major.

Some couldn't vote because they were ineligible. Juan Pineda, 21, sports management major, was unable to vote because he was not a citizen. "No, I can't vote yet. It didn't really frustrate me though because I had an idea Obama

would win. I thought this election was fairer— not like 2000 and 2004." When asked if he will vote in the future, Pineda said, "I will vote. I have seven more years to go!"

Anna Becker, 22, is a German citizen studying business administration abroad. "I would have voted for Obama.... America needs a change." Becker then added, "Go Obama! Go Obama!"

It is the opinion that with the election's conclusion, partisan differences need to be put aside. "The only way [things will be accomplished] is if there is enough support for Obama in the House and the Senate," said Bunkin. He believes that Obama will set a precedent by working hard to accommodate the Republicans.

Sutton believes that the public will be quick to demonstrate good will towards the president-elect. "It remains to be seen. He's off to a good

start. His victory was so convincing that he will have public support ahead," he said in regards to Obama's foreign and domestic

policies. "I'm optimistic that in four years, a lot of important hurdles will be cleared. It will be an interesting four years."

Featured photo: 'Zombie Pumpkin'



By Laura Irwin, editor-in-chief

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



Soccer Centurions win championship

BY KEVIN YORKE
Sports Editor

After Pat Burrell got the Phillies started to eventually win the World Series, another Pat came through for Bucks soccer in an equally emphatic way.

Pat DiLiegro scored the game winning goal with 21:11 left in regulation, and the Centurions had enough to defeat the Northampton Community College Spartans in the Conference Championship game, winning the EPCC and PCAA championships.

The Bucks Men's Soccer team are now champions.

The Centurions came into the game having lost in two meetings this year, 4 -3 and 5-3, respectively. The team decided this game would be different. The game was scoreless until Warminster's Patrick Dilegrio, a freshman who played high school soccer at Conwell Egan, scored the only goal with 21:11 remaining in the game, threading a ball on a breakaway right below the crossbar.

In goal for the Centurions was sophomore Chris Shaffer of Chalfont, from Lansdale Catholic, playing his first season for the team.

Coach Justin Burroughs said, "After we scored, we played a lot of defense from there." Those techniques and great dedication from the team are what led them



to victory. Dilegrio "also defended their top scorer," Burroughs said. The Centurions capped off an amazing and improbable 10-2 regular season. With both post-season game wins their final record was 12-2, with their semifinal 4-1 defeat of Harrisburg.

The team had not won the PCAA title since 2003, while the Spartans brought home the PCAA title in 2006. Burroughs pointed out the teams' unity during the season.

"They were dedicated the entire season, showing up at each practice and playing to the end," Burroughs said. "Even the injured players still came to practice and hung out with the team."

Langhorne's Frebole Kamara, a Liberian native who played high school soccer at Neshaminy, was the team's top scorer of the season with 26 goals. Kenneth Wilson, team captain, and Sam Fahnbotto anchored the defense, helping the team accumulate a staggering 9 shutouts during the

season. Chris Shaffer helped out the defense too, commanding the net and playing fundamentally sound keeper during the entire season.

The team received large contributions from Leo Mosquera, Erhan Aydin, Sean Monagle, Joe Nyuma and Alex Naylor, Burroughs said. Also solidifying the squad were George Doenlen, Kevin Lambrecht, Airidas Baltrusitis, Joseph Rawling, Neil Brocious, Kevin Gill, James Fierro, and Paul

Bako, a later in the season edition for the squad. Throughout the season, starters were rotated, which truly made this an overall team win.

Burroughs is expecting at least half the team to return next year.

Many of the graduating players have caught the eyes of several four-year colleges.

The championship the team obtained has brought a lot of positive attention to the team and the program.

Bucks celebrates Phillies' big win

BY MICHAEL VESEL
News Editor

With a throw of a ball an entire city erupted into a roar of ecstatic jubilee—the Phillies won the World Series for the first time since they last held the title in 1980, more than 28 years ago.

With celebratory riots in the streets, it is apparent how the denizens of Philadelphia feel about the win, but what about the students at Bucks?

"It's about time," said Jonathon Moore, an 18-year-old liberal arts major from Levittown. Moore was heading toward the five-points intersection in Levittown when the Phillies won the World Series.

"There were [rioters] covering the street, cops were everywhere, it was crazy."

Arielle Whitehurst, a 19-year-old fine art major from Levittown, was at every game last week. "It was awesome, everybody was cheering. I was screaming so loud I have no voice."

With the anticipation of a potential Phillies win so thick in

the air it was palpable, ticket prices skyrocketed on the open market.

"I was lucky enough to get the tickets for free, but the lady next to me spent \$1,600 for her tickets. We could have just sold our tickets and paid off our house," said Whitehurst.

Ultimately, Whitehurst was thankful she didn't. "It was the best experience of my life, it was awesome!"

The morale of the fans shot up instantly in and around the city, with a mass impromptu parade taking place on the city streets.

"It's been a long time since we've had a sports championship," said Ray Harrison, an 18-year-old environmental science major from Bensalem. "Everybody's happier now, but people are going crazy out there—riots, cars being turned over and lit on fire."

To some students, the win came unexpectedly, "I thought we had a good team, but not good enough to go all the way," said Robert Quinty, a 31-year-old education major from

Langhorne. "I am very excited about it. I think it's great for the city. It's been a long time coming."

Those with a deeper understanding of the game, like Mike Kelly, a 19-year-old sports management major from Philadelphia, shared their insights on why they felt the Phillies won. "They had a strong bullpen and the right guys for the job, and they finally stepped up as a team."

"They should be able to keep up the momentum," said Kelly. "Hopefully they will win next year, they're natural champions."

Still, some students at Bucks were less than enthusiastic about the win. "'Eff' the Phillies with a 'ph,'" said Frank McDevitt, a 22-year-old nanofabrication major from Richboro. "I just never really liked watching sports, who really cares?"

Overall, the feeling on the campus has been exuberant. Students all over have been wearing Phillies gear and colors



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

with pride, and the general demeanor is a happy one.

"Now if only the Eagles will win," said Moore.