

The Centurion



The Award-Winning, Student-Run Newspaper of Bucks County Community College

Volume 48 Issue 13

April 2, 2012

www.bucks-news.com

Free

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Weather

Monday- Breezy

Hi - 58 °F
Lo - 34 °F

Tuesday- Sunny

Hi - 64 °F
Lo - 47 °F

Wednesday- Chance Show- ers (30%)

Hi - 66 °F
Lo - 39 °F

Thursday- Sunny

Hi - 57 °F
Lo - 35 °F

Friday- Sunny

Hi - 62 °F
Lo - 37 °F

Saturday- Sunny

Hi - 64 °F
Lo - 42 °F

Sunday- Sunny

Hi - 70 °F

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The Centurion wins 12 at Keystone Press Awards

*Bucks student news-
paper wins big at an-
nual Keystone Press
Awards in Hershy
Pennsylvania*

BY: DAN SULON
Centurion Staff

The Centurion has won 12 awards at the Keystone Press Awards. Bucks was up against schools from all over Pennsylvania and walked away from Hershey with the second most awards out of all the schools who participated.

Some of the schools Bucks was up against are The Community College of Philadelphia, Montgomery County Community College and Butler County Community College.

The students who write and edit for the paper are ecstatic about the victory, and for Professor Tony Rogers, the victory is extremely symbolic of the potential the students have to make a serious impact on media in the very near future.

"Even at a community college, the students and staff care enough about maintaining high standards." Rogers said, adding that the victories were "A testament to our work ethic" and that "students are clearly still interested in journalism."



The Centurion News Team holding up some of the awards they won this year.

PHOTO BY CENTURION STAFF

Co Editor-in-Chief of the Centurion, Michael T. Berchem, says that he is "Proud of all the awards."

One award among the others stands out, the Public Service/Enterprise Package. This award is for several specific articles on a single topic. According to Berchem, "the Centurion has won this award every year for the past several years."

This year the Centurion won the Public Service/Enterprise Package award for their Addiction package from the spring semester of last year. This focused on what this generation can be addicted

to. This ranges from workaholics to the addiction to sex and drugs.

The Centurion is entirely student run, and is open to everybody. Rogers compared it to "Students running a business." Anyone can write for the paper, and there is no obligation to continue week after week.

Maybe writing isn't your thing; maybe you would rather take pictures. Well good news for you then, aside from writers, Berchem has said that "the Centurion is always looking for photographers and editors as well."

As the awards clearly show,

working for the Centurion is something to be proud of, and everyone who contributed feels honored to be a part of such a respected school newspaper.

The Awards won show that the Centurion will continue to be a major school newspaper for years to come, and with the new layout, courtesy of the Bucks County Courier Times, even better things may lie ahead. Skills obtained from writing can't hurt either, as experience working on a deadline is never a bad thing. It is as Prof. Rogers said, "The experience stu-

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Centurion gets makeover

Due to a change in the printing process, the Bucks student newspaper The Centurion switches to a new size and layout.

BY: CRAIG MILLER
Centurion Staff

Throughout the years, the newspaper at Bucks, the Centurion, has gone through many changes, from the staff to the length of each issue. More recently, as avid readers will notice, the paper's layout has also recently changed as well.

Due to the paper's long time printer company falling victim to the rather fragile economy, the Centurion staff figured it best to find a new company to press the paper: The winning company being the Bucks County Courier Times facility in Bristol Pike.

Journalism Professor Tony Rogers offered some background on switching printers:

"We had been using the same printer for as long as I've been here, about 15 years. Rather abruptly, we found out they went out of business. So, I emailed Pat Walker, editor of the Bucks County Courier Times and she said 'Hey, why don't you use our printer?' The working relationship we have [with the Courier Times] is great."

As such, the paper is going to go from its original format of a tabloid format, 11 inches wide and 17 inches long, to the golden standard format

for papers, known as the broadsheet, which will be 11.625 inches wide and 20 inches long.

Other notable papers, such as The Wall Street Journal and the New York Times, use this format as well.

Co-Editor in Chief of the Centurion Michael T. Berchem offered some background.

"It took about two weeks of planning with [fellow Co-Editor in Chief] Dan Perez, and I wanted to put some pizzazz into the layout," Berchem said. "What we were going for was a retro look, like the older Centurion, but at the

same time, something new age as well."

Certainly, the "new age" that Berchem was speaking of is echoed in papers like the Bucks County Courier Times.

Professor Rogers called this "a challenge, but exiting choice."

"To me, the broadsheet has more of a prestige. An official newspaper look, if you will," Rogers said. "It'll give us more visibility around campus; people will see the paper and due to its larger size be more intrigued by it."

"Hopefully, when people see this paper, they will notice how far it has come. With a bigger design, more people will pick it up and want to join our staff,"

Berchem said.

Rogers also stated how this was strictly the "editor's choice," and was very impressed by the staff altogether.

"The staff has been putting in lots of hours, really making this new layout. This is strictly a student run newspaper, and they've been doing a great job."

One thing the staff found out is that there will be a plethora of space in the broadsheet format compared to the Centurion's old format.

To combat this, Rogers said that "While we've been doing 12 pages [in the tabloid format], we might try eight

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Piles of cash waiting to be taken

BY: BEN FULLER
Centurion Staff

Last year \$200,000 of scholarship money was given to Bucks students. This year the same amount of money (or possibly more) is waiting to be given away and you have until April 1 to turn in the applications.

Unfortunately like every year, many students will not take advantage of the numerous possibilities for them to have free money.

Jean Holmes, the scholarship specialist at Bucks spoke to a group of students at a recent scholarship seminar. To begin her presentation, she said "If they would let me bring all of the scholarship money available and lay it in front of you as a pile of cash, I would."

For whatever reason, most people do not take advantage of the scholarships available for them at Bucks. Some believe that it is no use filling out applications, believing

that they are too complicated and the chances of winning the scholarship are slim to non. The reality is that the applications are easy to fill out and there is lots of money waiting to be given away.

Some of the scholarships are specific to certain majors, minorities, or students who have gone through certain life circumstances. Others are very general and are available for any student to apply for.

Holmes also gave us a few

tips on how to put together a great scholarship application. Most of the applications require short essays that ask questions such as, "What are your educational and career goals?"

When asked about how to write a good essay, Holmes said, "I am a crier. I cry when I see commercials with puppies and kittens. I cry when I see some applications because they are inspiring."

Holmes encouraged the students to dream big, to tell in-

spiring stories, and to stay away from sob stories. "Don't beg for money," said Holmes. Also, always type your essays on the computer and attach it to the back of the application. This is especially important for people with sloppy handwriting.

Once again, the deadline is April 1. If you have not visited the Bucks website to find all of the scholarships which are available to you, this is the first step.

Centurion wins big at Keystone Press Awards

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dents get on the paper translates well into real world skills."

Awards won by the Centurion include:

1st place- Ongoing news coverage for Construction at Bucks won by Michael Hunton, Melissa Fleishman, Breanne Hillis, Matt Jobs.

2nd place- Ongoing news coverage for Bucks Tution Rising won by Kimberly Kratz, Nicolette Kampf, Melissa Fleishman.

1st place- Public Service/Enterprise Package for the Addiction Package won by Centurion Staff.

2nd place- Feature Story for Profiling professor Caryn Babaia won by Dan Perez.

Honorable Mention- Feature Story for Bucks improv

group Deleted Scenes a hit won by Manuel Rodriguez.

1st place- Personality Story for The man behind the sunglasses won by Christopher Wirth.

2nd place- Review for 127 Hours Review won by Dan Perez.

2nd place- Feature Photo for Occupy Philly won by Christopher Wirth.

2nd place- News Photo for Protesters come face to face with police barricades won by Alhasan Ghazzawi.

Honorable Mention- News Photo for Obama comes to Bucks County won by Tom Sofield.

2nd place- Layout and Design for The man behind the sunglasses won by Christopher Wirth.

1st place- Website won by Centurion Staff.



Centurion's Managing Editor Christopher Wirth accepting an award.

PHOTO BY TONY ROGERS

Centurion makeover

-Continued from page 1

[in the new broadsheet style]."

While it might seem as if the paper will shrink in size, there is actually more potential for writers, and every Bucks student is encouraged to write for the Centurion.

Student stories should be emailed to centurion@bucks.edu by noon every Wednesday.

Centurion Staff member Stephen Godwin Jr., 23, a journalism major from

Warminster, said that he is "Looking forward to getting the paper up and running again. Mike Berchem did a majority of the work regarding the layout and I'm impressed. The front page looks great!"

"We're really excited to see how this will turn out," Rogers said.

The Centurion is curious to hear what you think about the new design. Send feedback to us via email:

centurion@bucks.edu



Our other Managing Editor Edmund Celiesius accepting an award.

PHOTO BY TONY ROGERS



THE CENTURION

Editor-in-Chief

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Dan Perez

Managing Editor

Christopher Wirth

Edmund Celiesius

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Joshua H. Nollie

Advisor

Tony Rogers

To receive the Centurion's Email Edition:

Register at www.Bucks-news.com and a .PDF version of the newspaper will be delivered directly to your email box.

Letter Policy

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

Send Letters to:

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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Bucks gets Middle States Accreditation Commission’s stamp of approval

BY: ANTHONY DIMATTIA
Centurion Staff

With much anticipation and relief to staff and faculty, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education unofficially accredited Bucks County Community College during a presentation this past Wednesday.

Although the official announcement from the commission isn’t due until June, the Bucks campus may now rest easy after a two-year internal review performed alongside Bucks’ staff and faculty members. Like every institution throughout the country, Bucks must reapply for accreditation every 10 years through their regional accreditation association.

This is not only great news to staff and faculty, but to students as well, as the college would stand to lose greatly if it failed to gain its accreditation. Without it, other colleges would fail to accept credits earned by Bucks students, as well as the loss of many financial aid options such as federal Pell grants.

The presentation highlighted the 14 standards that each institution judged by the commission must adhere to,

with Bucks meeting the requirements for each. Although the community college met every standard set by the commission, there were recommendations made, some of which originated from the self-study review.

“The goal is to improve,” said Bucks President James Links. “That’s more important than just how well the college performed overall.”

Overall President Links emphasized the administration’s interest in student general assessment as a key goal for the college, no matter how difficult that process may be for an institution like Bucks.

The committee specifically highlighted three areas which Bucks could improve before their five year review process begins. These recommendations included a study of Bucks’ planning process, improvement of communication of student assessments, as well as a study to help better organize certain aspects of governance including the Faculty Contract Governance Committees and Planning Advisory Committee.

“Simplify was the general theme,” said Links, who indicated that the uniqueness of the institution played a role

in the complexity of Bucks’ inner workings.

The seven individuals from Middle States, a group consisting of non-bias volunteer members of bordering community colleges from New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, D.C, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, conducted an eight week review of Bucks’ self-study as well as a two day peer campus review to determine Bucks’ status for accreditation with the Middle States Commission.

“Higher education is the big picture,” said Dr. Steven M. Rose, president of Passaic County Community College and chairman of the Middle States committee.

“In the view of our peers we have met or exceeded of all the recommendations of excellence,” said William Ford, a professor of psychology, social and behavioral science, as well as the co-chair of the self-study. Ford has also been a volunteer with the commission since 1998, traveling to other schools to review their accreditations.

After compiling the 100 page self-study review, Dr. Ford and his team highlighted specific goals the college hopes to set forth to help improve the learning experience for students at Bucks.

Among their goals was keeping the student body aware of the services available at the college, as well as identifying the keys to an ideal core curriculum.

“Their job is to validate our report and give a complete picture of what the college is up to,” said Ford, who was also aided by Vice President of Student Affairs Barbara Yetman and Associate Professor and online learning librarian William Hemmig.

The staff and faculty played a major role in shaping not only the self-study, but also helped in the peer review performed by Middle States. Students also played a role in shaping the commission’s short visit to the college.

Middle States held an open forum on March 26 that allowed students from all three campuses to express their views of Bucks. Although many agreed that Bucks had much to offer, such as the tutoring center and the “awesome” refurbished library, students were in agreement that the distance of parking, cost of books and cafeteria food were all drawbacks to their college experience.

“It’s almost regrettable to leave, I have loved my time at Bucks,” said Michael Blow, 25, a business adminis-

tration major from Newtown, who spoke at the student forum about his experiences at the college. “I’ve been here for a year and I’ve had no problems with logistics.”

The satellite campuses also received a chance to share their experiences at Bucks with a live stream feed that connected them to the forum in Newtown. Each campus shared their concerns, which ranged from a lack of full time staff for financial aid and tutoring to a dependence on the Newtown campuses library. Overall the satellites loved their campuses and found Bucks to be a great institution due to the presence of helpful advisors and vibrant student life programs.

The final review will be brought to the chairmen’s briefing by team chairmen Dr. Rose, after which it will head to the vice president of the Middle States Commission. Finally the report will then be decided upon by 20 to 25 elected members of Middle States Commission on higher education in June. Bucks will be given the opportunity to write a letter of appeal if they disagree with any of the decisions made by the commission.

THE STANDARDS AT A GLANCE

Standard 1: Mission and Goals

Standard 2: Planning, Resource Allocation, and Institutional Renewal

Standard 3: Institutional Resources

Standard 4: Leadership

Standard 5: Administration

Standard 6: Integrity

Standard 7: Institutional Assessment -Educational Effectiveness

Standard 8: Student Admissions and Retention

Standard 9: Student Support

Services

Standard 10: Faculty

Standard 11: Educational Offerings

Standard 12: General Education

Standard 13: Related Educational Activities

Standard 14: Student Learning

A new perspective on campus eats

The Bucks Cafeteria has many alternative culinary combinations at students' fingertips. Elizabeth Austin dishes up some healthful insight on the foods.

BY: ELIZABETH AUSTIN
Centurion Staff

Take your pick: vegetarian, vegan, raw, gluten-free, allergic to nuts. For people following an alternative diet plan, eating away from home can be difficult. The more limited one’s diet, the harder it is to grab something on the go. This can be especially challenging for busy students who often face restrictions on both time and money.

An informal poll of 100 students showed that 27 did not include meat in their diet. 22 students were gluten-free or gluten-sensitive, 13 were vegan, and six were allergic to nuts. Fortunately, the Bucks Café and Grille provides a wealth of options for every dietary lifestyle.

For the vegetarian student, there is a host of options from cheesy lasagnas to custom sandwiches featuring your choice of assorted fillings. Grilled vegetables abound, begging to be stuffed between two halves of a glossy-topped broche bun.

“The Bucks Grille makes really delicious sandwiches,” said Joy Waldinger, 19, a liberal arts major from Warminster. “I hear all the time from my vegan friends about how much they love them too. There are a lot of different options available.”

Try layering rich American cheese slices with your spread of choice (pesto, anyone?) and then add some grilled vegetables. Portabella mushrooms provide a meaty texture and pair well with the

lighter flavors of yellow squash and zucchini.

For vegan students, simply eliminate the cheese and substitute grilled red onions for a flavor boost. Gluten-free students can bring slices of their preferred bread and order just the veggies! There is often a vegan soup option as well, featuring fresh vegetables in a savory broth.

Allyson O'Rourke-Barrett, 25, an English major and visiting student from Smith College said that you can’t go wrong with the salad bar.

“Even though I’ve seen cafeterias that full-on cater to people with alternative eating habits, Bucks still has a good variety of options, especially if you’re vegetarian” O’Rourke-Barrett said.

There’s no doubt that, if

you’re torn between choices, the salad bar is a sure bet.

It provides a wonderful opportunity to get creative with your meals and move away from the more obvious greens-and-dressing routine. For example, start with a nice pile of fresh spinach. Top it with freshly grilled veggies from the sandwich station – these will amp up the flavor factor as well as deliciously wilt the spinach just so, transforming it from traditional salad into something savory and unexpected. Throw some cherry tomatoes on top to add a fresh pop and balsamic vinegar dressing to take it over the top.

When life calls for a sweet treat, the Grille delivers. There are a variety of fresh fruit cups available for pur-

chase that can easily be dressed up to suit one’s preferences. Cottage cheese and raisins from the salad bar are an obvious choice for fresh melon hunks. Sliced strawberries are transformed by a splash of balsamic, and carrots and grapes can be tossed with a creamy dressing to make an alternative slaw to please any palate.

The best part? Any of these would work for breakfast too!

The Bucks Café also features a coffee bar serving Starbucks coffee and true to the coffee giant’s inclusive nature, soymilk is available as a dairy alternative.

So take your pick. The Bucks Grille and Café provide a variety of options for virtually any lifestyle!

Bucks hosts annual Media Day

Students will have the opportunity to talk with working journalists at its 13th annual Media Day Forum

BY: BRIAN MCGUIRE
Centurion Staff

On April 10, the journalism program at Bucks is offering students a chance to meet active and working journalists at its 13th annual Media Day Forum.

The event features three journalists who are currently in the field and is organized into two workshops. The first workshop is from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. and the second from 11:00 to 12:15 p.m. It is set to take place in Rollins room 127, otherwise known as the Centurion newsroom.

This year's journalists work for a plethora of different news forums. Scheduled are Tom Rowan, a reporter for the Express-Times, Mike Rushton, a contributing editor of SportsNetwork.com, and Kara Seymour, an editor of Newtown Patch.

Rowan, who is a local government beat reporter for the Express times, graduated from Temple in 2011 and his work has been featured in publications such as the Philadelphia Daily News, Philly.com, and the Buck

County Courier Times.

Rushton, also a Temple graduate, works for SportsNetwork.com, which is a wire service located in Hatboro, PA. He is responsible for writing season previews for the NBA, NFL, MLB, and the NHL. This summer he will be travelling to London to cover the 2012 summer Olympics.

Finally, Seymour, a James Madison graduate and former reporter for the Bucks County Courier Times, now works as an editor for Newtown Patch. Newtown Patch covers local news in Newtown Township, Newtown Borough, and the Council Rock school district.

Tony Rogers, who organized the event, said his motivation behind his selections for the speakers was to "[place] emphasis on the kinds of jobs people graduating college can expect to work at starting out."

An interesting fact about two of the scheduled speakers that Rogers pointed out, "Tom and Mike are of the journalism program here at Bucks and both went on to

pursue bachelor's degrees from Temple." He joked, "If nothing else it proves that students can get a job in the field after going on from here."

Another point of interest Rogers noted, "Mike and Kara work for exclusively online news sites." Which he said will provide a perspective on what it is like to work in that type of forum.

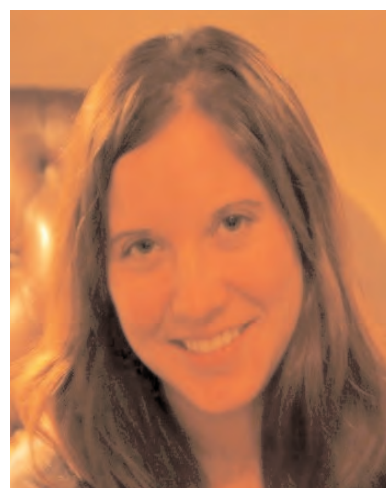
On the event itself Rogers said, "We bring in professional journalists working in the field right now to give students a chance to hear about what: the hours are like, what the pay is like, etc."

Rogers said, "It gives students a unique opportunity to ask working journalists what to expect as many of the students in the program are still trying to figure out if journalism is the field for them." Rogers attempts to bring this perspective into his classes but as he noted, "the classroom can only take you so far."

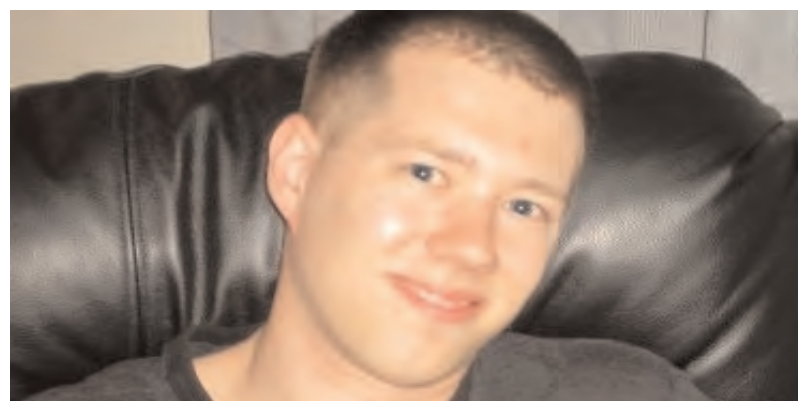
A tremendously important aspect of the forum is that while the reporters give their



Tom Rowan, reporter,
The Express-Times



Kara Seymour, Editor,
Newtown Patch



Mike Rushton, contributing editor, SportsNetwork.com

talks, there is an invaluable Q&A session set aside with each journalist after they speak. This gives students a chance to ask their questions, which is something that is obviously not always possible.

The event has housed some big names in the past, from Steve Kapas, the now president of NBS and former Bucks student to New York

Times reporter Charlie Leduff.

The event is free and open to the public, even high school students attend, and all students are encouraged to participate. For any further questions on the event, Rogers urges students to ask by e-mailing him at rogerst@bucks.edu or calling him at 215-968-8165.

Ready for your bachelor's degree? You can do this.

Start at our Open House.

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Registration: 5:30p.m.

Presentation: 6p.m.

Saturday, April 21, 2012

Registration: 10:30a.m.

Presentation: 11a.m.

Find out how many of your credits will transfer from Bucks County Community College and learn about financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

\$50 application fee waived for those who attend and apply

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Linksz fights for Bucks

Bucks president Dr. James Linksz joined two other community college presidents to try to increase state funding for the state's 14 public two-year institutions.

BY: CRYSTAL GOULDEY
Centurion Staff

Bucks President James Linksz joined two other community college presidents at the State Capitol to testify before the House Appropriations Committee for increased state funding to the state's 14 public two-year institutions.

Alex Johnson of the Community College of Allegheny College and president of the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges was the lead speaker for the group; Nick Neupauer of Butler County Community College and vice president of the Commission, joined Johnson and Linksz.

Governor Tom Corbett's proposed 2012-13 budget would reduce community colleges' budget by five percent. This would put the budget below 1995-96 levels, while enrollment has increased by 65,000 students. The 14 colleges have helped about 500,000 students in the 2010-11 year alone.

This reduces colleges' ability to create new programs and keep up with workplace demands. Programs such as welding, biotechnology and environmental technologies will especially suffer; all industries seeking skilled employees.

Linksz spoke about how capital funding is needed for new building, repairing old buildings and providing equipment.

“The state cannot be competitive and attract new industries while growing existing businesses and encouraging entrepreneurship with the current budget constraints,” Johnson said.

Perhaps the biggest blow is to the students themselves. A lower budget means higher tuition costs, something that these students may not be able to afford. The median family income of the students at these colleges is \$26,056 while the median family income in the state is \$49,288. This could make higher education become impossible for

lower income families. Over half the students at the community college also receive financial aid.

“The irony of this erosion of state support comes at a time when the commonwealth and its residents need community colleges to be providing more, not less, in terms of programs and access,” Johnson said.

The proposed budget also contradicts the Governor's call for increased career training and his belief that a skilled workforce is needed to improve the economy.

The presidents requested \$10 million in capital funding and to have their operations budgets restored. “The state appears to be reconsidering its commitment to higher education altogether – at every sector level. I do not see a rapid return to full funding for any sector given the combination of poor revenue collections and a philosophical position that seems to support funds following students rather than providing contin-



Bucks President Dr. James Linksz

uing support for institutions. The result will inevitably be higher tuition and reduced program choices over time,” Linksz said.

The new state budget will also affect elementary and secondary public schools, possibly cutting bus transportation for some districts.

The budget will also decrease aid to the poor, elderly and disabled, but at the same time reduces corporate taxes. The \$27.1 billion budget plan does mean no tax hikes, but citizens are concerned that it's low income families that will suffer.

Library renovations

BY: ELIZABETH AUSTIN
Centurion Staff

The renovation of the Bucks Library, plans for which have been in the works for almost 10 years, aims to provide more efficient services to students.

The Library’s entire upper level is being gutted and re-worked into a space which will centralize student services and cluster them together, making them more accessible. There will be one large help desk that will be staffed and equipped to handle students’ needs. “We are trying to make services easier to access. It can be scary for students to ask for help. We want to make it easier,” said Dr. Maureen McCreadie, Dean of Learning Resources, which includes the Library, Tutoring Center, MInDSpace, the Technology Learning Center (TLC), and Online Learning/Virtual Campus.

The upper level will still be home to the Library’s books and magazines, however it will also feature several spaces geared toward collaborative learning amongst students. The space has been artfully divided into different sections, all serving a different purpose. According to Dean McCreadie, the goal of the new floor plan is to “create different spaces for different functions while still maintaining the Library’s openness.” The new layout

creatively merges creativity with practicality, tucking offices behind walls of bookshelves, giving them the feeling of being “Harry Potter rooms.”

One of the most interesting features of the new Library is the “wave wall,” a floor-to-ceiling structure that provides a barrier between the main section of the Library and group work rooms. Shaped, like the name suggests, in the form of a repeating vertical wave, the wall is designed to deflect noise, ultimately providing a more conducive study space.

Behind the wall, students will find a group production area, where they might work on group projects, study together, or practice group presentations. In the open area of the Library, students will have access to about 50 desktop computers stationed on special tables in the shape of three-pronged propellers. The tables have been designed to hold a desktop computer on either side of each “propeller,” with space enough on the ends for other students to work with their laptops. In addition, students will continue to be able to check out laptop computers, which the Library has been lending to students for about six years. In recent years, students have been borrowing laptops approximately 20,000 times each year.



New updated look of the finished downstairs of the library

PHOTO BY MICHAEL T. BERCHEM

An additional area will provide room enough for an entire class of students. The desks, shaped much like individual sections of a pinwheel, are designed to wheel into a variety of different shapes, from a roundtable discussion formation to an open circle of students, and even a face-to-face interaction between two people. Explained Dean McCreadie, “The whole idea is that of a ‘flexible classroom,’ a single space that will provide a host of learning environments.”

The theme of flexibility in learning carries through to everything from the layout of the Library to the furniture. KI Furniture, which also provided the furniture for the new Penn Hall classrooms, will be furnishing the Library with their Learn2 chairs. These have fully adjustable attached work surfaces that swivel to accommodate both

left- and right-handed students comfortably, and the base doubles as an accessory rack for books and personal belongings- complete with cup holders.

The MInDSpace (Media and Instructional Design) is also located on the main level of the Library next to the new Tutoring Center, which is divided clearly into two sections- Math and English- making it easier for students to get the help they need. The Tutoring Center also includes a room for tutoring music. The old Tutoring Center (currently housing the TLC and open access computers) will be transformed into administrative offices and training centers.

As for the tables and chairs that currently occupy the Gateway Center, although they were originally set up as something of an informal extension of the Library, they

seem to be a popular place for students to get together. Dean McCreadie noted that a few of them may remain after the upper level of the Library reopens, saying “some of the best things happen by accident.”

The biggest challenge that the Library is experiencing in the current phase of the renovations is lack of space. There isn’t as much room for students to work, although the tables in the Gateway Center have provided more seating and work areas. Though Dean McCreadie was quick to point out, better the Library be overcrowded than vacant. “I am thrilled that the Library is a place where students want to hang out,” she said.

The Library’s upper level is expected to re-open in time for the Fall semester.

Students respond to another tuition hike

Students react to yet another tuition hike. This has been a continued trend, and county residents will see a \$6 increase per credit.

BY: ANTHONY DIMATTIA
Centurion Staff

Bucks’ Board of Trustees recently decided to raise tuition for the second year in a row, and students at Bucks weighed in on whether they believed the increase was appropriate.

Starting this upcoming fall semester, county residents will see a \$6 increase per credit, while out of county residents will see a \$12 increase, as well as an \$18 increase for out of state students. Reactions from students of the news was understandably negative, but most were understanding that the necessity to raise tuition costs were inevitable.

“You know it’s coming, you just hope it’s not a giant increase,” said Bill Hunter, 34, a liberal arts major from Levittown. Hunter, who highlighted he pays for every dime of his tuition, thought the increase decided upon by

the trustees was reasonable. Even with higher tuition costs Hunter stated that it’s still much cheaper than four year universities who charge upwards of \$500 per credit. “They (Bucks) know they can raise tuition because they know people will come here because of the cost,” said Hunter.

“I’m not overly bothered by it,” stated Megan Fisher, 19, of Yardley, who does not plan to stay at Bucks after this semester. Unlike Hunter and Fisher, other students at Bucks voiced their displeasure over a continuing trend of escalating costs for higher education.

After an increase in tuition of 7.6 percent for the 2011-2012 academic year, Bucks students will be welcomed with an increase of 7.8 percent next year as well. According to the College Board, this increase was slight above the six percent average for

two-year colleges during the 2011-2012 academic year.

“The last thing I need is another bill,” emphasized Matt Colter, 19, a phycology major from Levittown. Colter stated that “coming to Bucks was huge” financially after transferring from Duquesne University, but was noticeably discouraged by the recent tuition increase.

Stacy Cabin, 24, a medical and coding major from Bensalem, echoed Colter’s sentiment by exclaiming that the rises in tuition costs were indeed “stupid.” Cabin indicated that although “not too drastic, people come to community college because it’s more affordable.

Cabin was also concerned with students who relied on financial aid to attend Bucks, whom she believes would have a harder time accessing the appropriate funds because of the rate increases.

Some students hearing of

the news for the first time were noticeably discouraged by the lack of communication from the school. Aside from a recent press release on the schools website students were not otherwise notified of the trustees’ decision regarding tuition.

“It would have been more appropriate if they sent something in the mail to students instead of just posting a press release,” stated Colter.

The tuition hike may be largely attributed to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett’s proposed budget which will cut spending for higher education for a second consecutive year and lower per-student state support for colleges below the 1995-1995 level. “Together with the state cut, salaries and benefits already negotiated, increases in fixed expenses such as insurance and utilities and contracted services, will require a further tuition in-

crease.”

President Linkszy noted that, “Careful cuts have been made by the college to protect students’ access to college and college quality,” with nearly \$2 million being cut during the 2011-2012 as well next year. Although appreciative of the continued support for higher education from the County Commissioners and Governor’s office, Linkszy also pointed for the need to preserve quality education at an affordable cost.

“Students are inevitably going to pay more at public colleges when sponsoring government entities do not share fully in the proportional increases in the cost of education,” said Linkszy.

With continual state budget cuts and less sponsorship in sight for colleges, students at Bucks will be faced with an extra burden during registration next fall.



abington.psu.edu

Penn State Abington

Transfer Open House

Wednesday, April 11

Campus Tours and Information Fair
with faculty, career, and financial aid representatives:
6:00–7:15 p.m. (Last tour: 6:30 p.m.)

Program: 7:15–8:15 p.m.

• Discuss your future with Penn State Abington faculty

• Find the major that is right for you

• Understand the admissions and financial aid process

• Explore opportunities for scholarships, study abroad, undergraduate research, and career development

• Meet former transfer students

• Bring your family and friends

Register online at www.abington.psu.edu/April_11

Questions? Call 215-881-7600 (option 2). Or call us to request an appointment for a personal transcript evaluation on a separate date.

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Letters, Arts and Sciences

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“The Hunger Games” is a huge success

BY: CRYSTAL GOULDEY
Centurion Staff

“The Hunger Games” opened several weeks ago, setting box office records with a domestic gross of \$155 million.

I've read all the “Harry Potter” and “Twilight” books, watched both series play out on the big screen and so of course I had to jump on “The Hunger Games” bandwagon.

I dragged my husband to the theater this past weekend to experience this new fan favorite and we were both pleasantly surprised.

The story is set in a dystopian future where the United States has fallen and the country “Panem” has risen from the ashes. Panem is divided up by the rich Capitol and the increasingly poorer Districts.

Every year, each of the 12 Districts much offer two children between the ages of 12 and 18 years old, one boy and one girl, as tribute to The Hunger Games. The children fight to the death in an arena designed by the “Gamemakers” and televised for all of Panem. The winner brings

back glory, food and money to their home district.

The heroine, Katniss Everdeen (an amazing performance by Jennifer Lawrence), is a tribute from District 12, the poorest district of all. Her kid sister, Primrose (Willow Shields), is selected and Katniss volunteers to take her place. Her male counterpart is Peeta (Josh Hutcherson), whom she is quite fond of, and Katniss struggles with the idea of having to kill him in the arena.

I won't divulge into what happens once the games begin, but if you liked the book you'll probably like the movie. Director Gary Ross was very careful to follow the book, taking very few liberties.

Solid performances were put in by Elizabeth Banks as Effie Trinket, Woody Harrelson as Haymitch and Amandla Stenberg as Rue.

The scenery was outstanding. District 12 was illustrated better than my imagination could produce; the suffering of these fictional citizens was actually

palpable. The rich Capitol citizens were dressed in flamboyant costumes that were both amusing and disgusting.

What I enjoyed most was how the narration was handled. The book is told from Katniss' perspective, and so the reader learns important details through her thoughts.

The movie tackles this by adding something new: commentary from the Capitol. Viewers are able to learn about what's happening and why, through comments by the games' host.

My husband has not read the books, but he easily followed the plot of the movie and enjoyed it. I only had to whisper a few explanations to him, but that's mostly because I can't help doing that.

Missing were the tumultuous feelings Katniss constantly had to deal with in the novel. Lawrence did as best she could with communicating the feelings of the character, but that can only go so far.

Katniss has a difficult time deciphering her feelings for Peeta and how much she can trust him, something that is



evident in the movie but lacks the depth and impact of the novel.

Overall, I highly recommend seeing this movie. It's entertaining and full of action while also connecting the characters with the audience.

Show times for “The Hunger Games” for Thursday, April 5 at the UA Oxford Valley Stadium 14,
403 Middletown Boulevard, Langhorne, PA
11:50am; 12:20; 12:50; 1:30; 3:10; 3:40; 4:50; 5:30; 6:30; 7:10; 8:10; 8:40; 9:10; 9:50; 10:30pm

THE WEEK IN TV/MOVIES/MUSIC/BOOKS

TV

- Monday 4/2**
How I Met Your Mother - CBS - 8:00
The Voice - NBC - 8:00
Castle - ABC - 10:00
- Tuesday 4/3**
NCIS - CBS - 8:00
New Girl - FOX - 9:00
Body of Proof - ABC - 10:00
- Wednesday 4/4**
American Idol - FOX - 8:00
Are You There, Chelsea? - NBC - 8:30
Auction Hunters - Spike - 9:00
- Thursday 4/5**
The Big Bang Theory - CBS - 8:00
30 Rock - NBC - 8:30
- Friday 4/6**
Kitchen Nightmares - FOX - 8:00
Grimm - NBC - 9:00
The Ultimate Fighter - FX - 10:00
- Sunday 4/7**
Once Upon A Time - ABC - 8:00
Family Guy - FOX - 9:00
Breakout Kings - A&E - 10:00

MOVIES

THEATER

Hunger Games (PG-13)
The Hunger Games tells the dark tale of a 16-year-old girl named Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence), who is selected to compete in a vicious televised tournament in which 24 teenagers from a post-apocalyptic society fight to the death for the entertainment of the masses.
Directed by: Gary Ross
Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth
Release Date: 23 March

DVD

A Dangerous Method (R)
Seduced by the challenge of an impossible case, the driven Dr. Carl Jung takes the unbalanced yet beautiful Sabina Spielrein as his patient in A Dangerous Method.
Directed by: David Cronenberg
Starring: Keira Knightley, Michael Fassbender, Viggo Mortensen
Release Date: 27 March

MUSIC

A portrait of Clay Aiken in a suit and tie, looking directly at the camera. The background is dark with some light effects. The text 'CLAY AIKEN' and 'STEADFAST' is visible in the bottom right corner.

Clay Aiken
New Album “Steadfast”
27 March

The All-American Rejects
New Album “Kids In The Street”
27 March

Nicki Minaj
New Album “Pink Friday: Roman re-loaded
3 April

BOOKS

<p>“Catching Fire” Written By: Suzanne Collins Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has won the annual Hunger Games with fellow district tribute Peeta Mellark. But it was a victory won by defiance of the Capitol and their harsh rules. Katniss and Peeta should be happy. After all, they have just won for themselves and their families a life of safety and plenty. But there are rumors of rebellion among the subjects, and Katniss and Peeta, to their horror, are the faces of that rebellion. The Capitol is angry. The Capitol wants revenge. Release Date: 2 April</p>	<p>“The Lost Years” Written by: Mary Higgins Clark Dr. Jonathan Lyons, a seventy-year-old biblical scholar, believes he has found the rarest of parchments—a letter that may have been written by Jesus Christ. Stolen from the Vatican library in the fifteenth century, it was assumed to be lost forever. Release Date: 2 April</p>	<p>“Calico Joe” Written by: John Grisham It began quietly enough with a pulled hamstring. The first baseman for the Cubs AAA affiliate in Wichita went down as he rounded third and headed for home. The next day, Jim Hickman, the first baseman for the Cubs, injured his back. The team suddenly needed someone to play first, so they reached down to their AA club in Midland, Texas, and called up a twenty-one-year-old named Joe Castle. He was the hottest player in AA and creating a buzz. Release Date: 9 April</p>
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Bucks baseball nightmare

The Bucks Centurions began their season in a terrible fashion, suffering an astonishing loss of 30-2 against the Gloucester County team.

BY: STEPHEN GODWIN JR.
Centurion Staff

Opening day finally came for the Men’s Centurion baseball team (0-1) as they hit the road to face the Gloucester County Roadrunners (1-0) with bats and play-off aspirations in hand. The Roadrunners are the 2nd ranked team in the nation and showed the Centurions why as they put on a dominant 30-2 performance led by their first basemen Kevin Neeham. Needham hit two home runs and drove in 7 runs on March 7. Centurion coach Donald Perry had tabbed Blake Cohen as his starter for the game, but control issues haunted Cohen early and

often. Cohen only lasted two innings and gave up 9 runs on 8 hits, but did strike out one. Gloucester’s starter Bill Mendek had the Centurions swinging and missing for most of the afternoon as he struck out nine over four innings and only allowed one run. Call it a case of opening day jitters, but the Centurion bullpen of Jon Unangst, Matt Creevey, and Ryan Calabro also struggled with their control for most of the afternoon. Together they combined to allowed 19 runs, 14 walks, and hit four batters with a pitch. The Centurion infield did not give their pitchers too much help either as they had

four errors between them. The lone bright for the Centurions came in the fourth inning when they were able to score two runs. Outfielder Andrew Torres reached on a Roadrunner error to start the inning and first basemen Dustin Singer followed with a double. Torres than scored on a wild pitch by Mendek and second basemen Zach Stuebling followed that up by driving in Singer on a single. That would be it for the Centurion offense, but their outfield players of Andrew Torres, Erik Mazurkiewicz and Kris Bires played very well defensively. After Roadrunner pitcher Chris Coneys got the last of the game, Coach Perry gave his thoughts on the game.



Bucks baseball team in deep reflection after a significant loss to the Glouster County Roadrunners.

“We played very poorly. Gloucester was much quicker and more energetic than us in all phases of the game. We clearly have a lot of work ahead of us in order to get up to their level of play. But I'm confident and hopeful that

we'll get there.” This is a game that the Centurions will want to forget, but hopefully they learned something about that day too.

Bucks baseball suffers second loss

The Centurions suffered a 3-2 loss against Middlesex Community College on March 8, but the team showed improvement from their previous defeat.

BY: STEPHEN GODWIN JR.
Centurion Staff

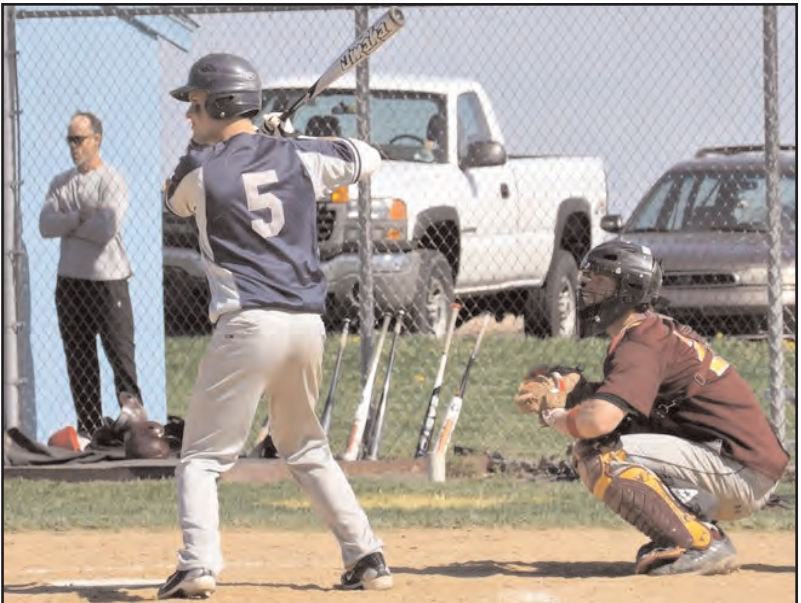
The great thing about baseball is you get a chance to redeem yourself almost every day. Community college baseball games do not happen as frequently as the major leagues, but in this instance the Centurions literally did get to try again the next day. The Centurions knew they were not that bad. On March 8, the Centurions showed Middlesex Community College a different team. That different team came up with the same result as Middlesex center fielder Joe Alva drove in two runs to rally his team over the Centurions. The Centurions actually jumped out to a 2-0 lead in

the first inning when second basemen Jon Unangst and shortstop Ken Searle reached base to the inning. Outfielder Andrew Torres doubled to bring both runners home, but Searle was thrown out at the plate. Right fielder Erik Mazurkiewicz then slapped a single to the outfield to bring home Torres. Centurion starting pitcher Zach Stuebling started his day slow by walking three batters and Middlesex first basemen Matt Cesare hit a sacrifice fly to score their first run. The Centurions nearly got out of the inning when shortstop Ken Searle fielded a ground ball, but had to move in order to avoid hitting an umpire with his throw to first. The throw pulled first basemen Dustin Singer off the bag and the two runs came across the plate and Middlesex took a 3-2 lead. Pitching took over the game from there as both pitchers pitched lights out in their final 5 five innings. Stuebling pitched six total innings striking out five and only had one earned run. Stuebling’s counterpart Joe Lunger of Middlesex also went six innings and struck out four and allowed earned run. The weather condition of the games was nice, but very windy and that caused the outfield plays to be an adven-

ture. Middlesex tried to use the elements to their advantage by stealing bases any chance they got. That was because the wind was affecting balls thrown from home to 2nd or 3rd base, but Bucks players countered with good pickoff defense. The pitchers and infield players worked well together and managed to pick two runners off. Centurion relief pitcher Matt Creevey had got lit up the day before, but pitched two scoreless innings on this day. Unfortunately the Middlesex bullpen shutdown the Centurions as well and the game ended 3-2. Centurion coach Donald Perry was in much better spirits after this game by saying, “1) Our overall play was excellent. In all areas, pitching, fielding, hitting and team energy level - excellent. I am extremely happy, proud and relieved to see that we can play as well as we did. It's tough to say there is happiness in a loss, but we were 1000 percent better than we showed on our opening game. Middlesex CC is one of the top teams in our region. Middlesex coach Mike Lepore said, “Bucks played very well. We underestimated them. They played well against us. Our pitcher was a freshman who pitched well



Bucks thirdbasemen of last years team trying to tag out the sliding player.



Bucks player of last year at bat against Lehigh Carbon. 2011.

BUCKS SCORES

March 7

Bucks 2-30 Gloucester

March 8

Bucks 2-3 Middlesex

March 27

Bucks 11-5 Lehigh

March 27

Bucks 18-5 Lehigh

PRO SCORES

April 1

Phillies 7-7 Atlanta

April 1

Flyers 6-4 Penguins

March 31

Union 0-0 Whitecaps

March 31

76’ers 95-90 Hawks

but your pitcher pitched equally as well. Both teams scored in the first inning. Since it was a nine inning game, I told them to play good defense and try to score each inning. The result was still a loss, but the team looked a lot more like a team that contend.