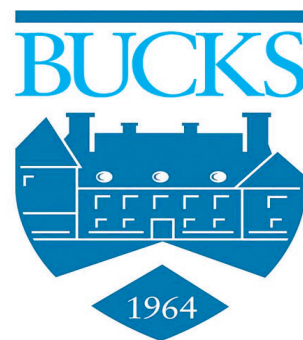


# The Centurion



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Free

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## Weather

Tuesday-High near 64. Chance snow 20 percent



Wednesday-High near 51. Chance of few snow showers 30 percent.



Thursday-High near 44.



Friday-High near 49.



Saturday-High near 43.



Sunday-High near 41.



Monday-High near 41. Chance of rain/snow 60 percent.



## Stephanie Shanblatt hailed as Bucks' fourth president

*Embraced as Bucks' first female president, Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt sits down to discuss her future plans for the college, her ties to the area and her work in Michigan.*

**BY: GREG PROBST**  
Centurion Staff

Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, Bucks' new president, invited the Centurion into her office in the Tyler building overlooking the Newtown campus for a one-on-one interview where she discussed accepting the presidency, her dreams for students, and her plans for the college.

Shanblatt started her five-year contract as president of Bucks, at a salary of \$180,000 a year, on Oct. 1, leaving behind her 13-year career at Lansing Community College in Michigan where she served as provost and senior vice president of academic affairs. This marks the first time she's moved states in 30 years.

"When my husband and I made this decision together to leave Michigan and start this new journey, we also made the decision to pick places we really wanted to live," Shanblatt said. "I didn't apply to many positions that were open because they weren't a good fit for us or the college wasn't the right fit for me."

Shanblatt agreed that the move from Michigan to her new home in Doylestown



Shanblatt stands by the window in her office overlooking the Oragnery

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST

was a major decision. "Your best friend isn't your next-door neighbor anymore, she's 615 miles away."

But Shanblatt and her husband Michael are no strangers to the area. They're both native Pennsylvanians, growing up and attending college in Pittsburgh. Shanblatt also spent many summers at the Jersey shore.

"I knew the area a little bit so it felt like coming back home," she said.

This major, life-altering career move came only after serious thought from Shanblatt and her husband, but with a mix of light-hearted humor.

"It felt like we had one

more adventure in us," Shanblatt said. "We were calling this 'Michael and Stephanie's excellent adventure,'" she laughed. "Just to keep it light because it is hard to move. So we thought if we keep it light and have a little fun with it, it'll make it an easier transition."

"Even at this stage in life you can surprise yourself."

For Shanblatt, being the college's first female president is nothing to make a fuss over.

"In some ways it's very humbling," she concedes. "But I'm someone who has fought that battle for so many years that I hope we can get

to the point where it's not news anymore. Am I thrilled? Absolutely. Would my mother be proud? You bet."

But will a female president signal a major change in Bucks' already strong female leadership structure? "I look around and several of the vice presidents are women," Shanblatt said. "So there are already several strong female roles here at the college."

Shanblatt is immediately likable. She's warm and open. During her second busy week as president, she welcomed the Centurion interview during her lunch break in the confines of her

**Continued on page 2**

## Faculty offers new pres praise, students show lack of interest

*While many staff members at Bucks were willing to welcome Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt into the fold, students interviewed seemed detached from the administration's role at the college*

**BY: CRAIG MILLER**  
Centurion Staff

As the new brick foundations are being completed outside the Bucks campus welcoming students, new Bucks President Stephanie Shanblatt has begun building the foundations for leading the college.

Shanblatt is the college's first female president in its 48-year history, succeeding James Linksz, who retired after 20 years in the job. Shanblatt's presidency was announced on July 25, after she was chosen by Bucks'

Board of Trustees.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to build on the strong foundation at Bucks County Community College. Together with the faculty, staff, and the Board of Trustees, I am committed to serving our students, local employers, and the community. I am honored to have been selected as the next president of Bucks and look forward to becoming a part of this wonderful community," Shanblatt said.

Shanblatt has worked as a provost and senior vice presi-

dent of academic affairs at Lansing Community College, where she also served on various Lansing boards and councils. Shanblatt received her PhD in biochemistry and a B.S. in chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine.

Shanblatt started an initiative at Lansing Community College known as "Achieving the Dream." It focused on institutional change that upgraded student success and graduation rates. She also expanded the campus University Center and added what



Shanblatt and staff chat at an October meet and greet

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST

was known as a "Middle College."

At the announcement of Shanblatt's presidency, Linksz weighed in: "Having been a person coming from another community college to this college to take a job

20 years ago, I pretty much understand the transition process,"

"I'm looking forward to helping the new president get started and be successful."

**Continued on page 4**

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# Shanblatt welcomed

## Continued from page 1

"Annette Conn, dean of academic affairs, said she met once with Shanblatt and found her immensely likable," wrote Naila Francis for an article on phillyburbs.com.

Shanblatt has been warmly welcomed and highly regarded by many Bucks administrators, vindicating her unanimous selection by the board of trustees.

"Stephanie has an impressive record of accomplishments, both as an academician and an administrator, and she is absolutely the right person to continue the good work of Jim Links, who leaves a powerful legacy," said trustee board Chairman Blake Eisenhart.

Former Bucks President James Links agrees, saying she is "well suited to help write the next chapters in the Bucks story."

In fact, Shanblatt has already consulted with Links, noting that they met at the end of her first week at Bucks for nearly four hours. "He was extremely generous with his time," said Shanblatt.

But Shanblatt faces the challenge of how to be visible to the student body, something Dr. Links had trouble with. His lack of visibility may be why there's a certain amount of apathy among students over the newly appointed president.

To stay engaged, Shanblatt mentioned looking into how the student body is structured and seeing what opportunities she has to visit with student groups. "But I'd also like to hold informal student forums periodically," she said. "Just so that students can tell me what's on their mind."

"I also believe that when we go forward with new college projects, having student focus groups can be very important. It's a way to get student input into decisions the administration is making."

When asked about her aspirations for Bucks, Shanblatt said, "There are two big things I have. One is obviously to manage the college well. The other thing I'd like to do is to continue to and ac-



Shanblatt now sits as the head of Bucks

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST

tually build upon what we're already doing in the area of student success. To really focus the college effort on not just saying we're doing a good job but being able to demonstrate that we are through data. That's our core mission."

She went on to explain that she would like to have comprehensive proof that students were successful not just at Bucks but once they leave the institution.

She wants to know if students in developmental classes go on to college-level courses, if they're transfer-

ring to four-year colleges, and if so whether they're transferring at 30 or 60 credits.

*"It's always easier to raise tuition than it is to make difficult decisions....I know difficult decisions have been made and more may be made but I'm not sure yet."*

Shanblatt understands business fundamentals when it comes to running Bucks, saying that

"the other half of serving the student is the customer service side." She cares whether there are long lines for students at registration, and whether, if they call the school, they're getting the answers they need.

"If you can marry the success and the service together then I think you have a great place where students want to come and they want to stay," she said.

In regards to Bucks' budget, Shanblatt admitted that in her first couple of weeks, she still had to get better acquainted with the figures but that she wants "to keep any tuition increases as

low as possible."

"It's always easier to raise tuition than it is to make difficult decisions," she continued. "I know difficult decisions have been made and more may be made but I'm not sure yet."

Shanblatt said some of those difficult decisions involve vacant positions within Bucks that have been left unfilled due to budget issues. She mentioned that the college must be more mindful of how it spends money.

"You do a lot of little things and it adds up to a lot of money," she said. "It's not necessarily one big thing that was done but a lot of little things."

When asked about the slight decline in enrollment over the past few years, Shanblatt was unaware of the exact figures and goals but offered some ideas.

"Community college enrollment, almost across the nation, tends to mirror what the economy is doing," she said. "When the economy is bad, community college enrollment goes up. When the economy improves, enrollment goes down."

She says this is due to the fact that working adults tend to go back to school when the economy is bad in hopes of advancing their careers.

But Shanblatt's main strategy for boosting enrollment is ensuring that Bucks is reaching its targeted high school students and to continue doing everything possible to prove that the college is a viable education choice.

She also wants to make sure Bucks keeps current students enrolled.

"There are two ways to look at enrollment; one is how many are coming in the door and the other is how many are staying," she said. "It's always easier, at least in the business world, to keep a customer than it is to go out and find a new one."

Dr. Shanblatt faces many challenges in her transition as the new president of Bucks. Fortunately for her and students, her reputation precedes her and administrators have placed great confidence in her ability to handle the task.



Shanblatt discussing her plans for the college with faculty members

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST



**THE CENTURION**

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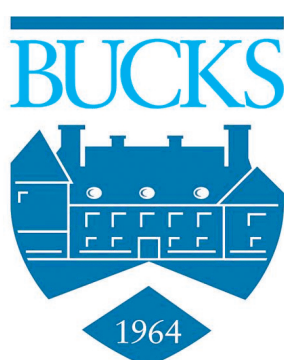
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# Obstacles lie ahead for Shanblatt

BY: ANTHONY DIMATTIA  
Centurion Staff

Bucks President Stephanie Shanblatt faces many challenges after replacing James Linkszt this

October, yet none may be greater than softening the burden students will face with mounting tuition costs.

"She'll have to earn her spurs in a time she's getting bludgeoned financially," said Jack Ready, associate economics profes-

sor at Bucks. Student tuition now makes up approximately 52 percent of the revenue collected for the college's operating costs, placing a heavy strain on young adults who usually work full or part-time jobs to keep afloat, he said.

Ready was quick to point out that many of his students, full and part-time, work between 30 to 40 hours weekly to keep up with tuition and other fees.

A tuition increase of 7.8 percent will also hit students this fall, bringing the total to \$3,648 for one year's full-time tuition and fees, according to phillyburbs.com. Full-time students are defined as those taking 24 credits per year, or 12 credits per semester.

Ready emphasized that seeking funding to help alleviate pressure on students should be the new president's biggest concern and that the college cannot continue to "keep dumping it all on students."

"She needs to come up with outside the box ideas (to help fund the college). What are the alternative ways to do more with less," he said.

Shanblatt must find ways to convince local and state officials to invest in the college's future, he said. "Can she assert enough political power to find these funds from the county?"

Currently the state contributes between 26 to 28 percent to the college, with the

county only able to kick in about 12 to 14 percent, according to Ready.

The basic funding model for Pennsylvania community colleges consists of one-third contributions from students, county and state governments. Yet, due to the national economic downturn both levels of government have tightened their belts due to a lack of tax revenue.

With less tax revenue collected by the county there is less money available to fund the college. The county just can't afford to contribute as much as it has in the past.

Enrollment numbers have also remained stagnant the last two fall semesters, with just over 10,700 registered students, in comparison to the nearly 11,300 students who registered for the fall semesters of 2009 and 2010, according to John Strauss, president of Bucks' Federation of Teachers, using statistics from the college's archives.

Ready credits some of the enrollment drop to modular classes, eight to 10 week courses which begin after the regular fall and spring semesters, which don't always account for full and part-time students.

One of

the more eye-popping statistics may be the drop in the number of full-time students and the corresponding increase in part-time students. Although varying between fall and spring semesters, Bucks has seen a significant drop with 1,200 fewer full-time students registered for the fall 2012 se-



Of all the challenges she'll face, tuition costs may prove to be Shanblatt's biggest hurdle

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST

mester compared to four years ago.

On the flip side the college has seen an increase of nearly 700 more part-time students registered this fall compared to fall 2009. With students in a financial bind, some have

*"She'll*

*have to earn her spurs in a time she's getting bludgeoned financially"*

been forced to cut back on education and put in more time at work, according to Ready

As recently as 2010, about 40 percent of full-time and 73 percent of part-time college students in the U.S. ages 16 to 24 were employed, ac-

cording to the Institute of Education Science's website. This growing trend may be attributed to the increase in tuition and fees, according to Ready.

An increasing problem facing colleges nationwide has been the steady decline in the number of high school

graduates, which in turn has had an adverse effect on colleges. High schools have turned out fewer college applicants the last four years, with predictions of further declines for the next three years, according to Ready.

Another issue affecting the students indirectly is the faculty's reaction to how Shanblatt will include them in decisions regarding the college's future. The faculty did not always see eye-to-eye with Linkszt and the college's board of trustees, according to Ready.

In the first two years of Linkszt's presidency at Bucks, the faculty voted no confidence in his competence due to his unwillingness to share the responsibility of governing the college.

A vote by faculty nearly four years later was rejected, essentially cementing the no confidence ruling throughout Linkszt's 20-year tenure at the college.

"How can she restore a working relationship with faculty that has been strained for years? She has to take initiative and be

receptive (to get faculty involved in decision making)," he said.

Shanblatt is also facing a change not only in demographics, but in what manner these students will be educated. As the number of traditional 18 to 24-year-old students continues to dwindle, the college must adapt to students in their late-20s and older students returning to further their education for re-employment.

This may lead to a larger emphasis on distance learning classes, which in the long run may help make the college not only more attractive but more cost efficient, according to Ready.

"I would imagine this is both an exciting and challenging time to be a community college president," said William Pezza, a social and behavioral science professor at Bucks, who listed two of Shanblatt's major challenges.

"(She must) continue to offer a quality and affordable program in one of the most respected community colleges in the state in the face of ever-tightening government subsidies, and to meet the expanding need of job skills programs that will train students to compete in the modern workforce," he said.

Unanimously selected in July by Bucks' board of trustees as the heir to Linkszt, Shanblatt becomes Bucks' first female president. She had previously worked as provost at Lansing Community College in Michigan for the past 13 years before becoming the fourth president in Bucks' 47-year history.

"Change is a healthy thing, and I'm sure Dr. Shanblatt is anxious to put her positive imprint on an already successful program," Pezza said.



Many wonder how Shanblatt will solve some of the problems facing the college

PHOTO BY GREG PROBST



# Research conference comes back to Bucks

**BY:STEPHEN GODWN JR**  
Centurion Staff

For those of you who are still working on those novel-sized research papers, there is help this Friday when students from different classes will come together to discuss their research at Student Research conference.

The conference is held at the Newtown campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will give nearly 200 students the chance to present their semester long research as graduate students and scholars.

The conference, sponsored by the Department of Language & Literature, includes students from four academic departments – Language & Literature, Social & Behavioral Science, Arts, and Business Studies.

“It’s a way for students to share their work beyond the classroom,” according to Dr. Charlie Groth, who is one of the conference coordinators.

“The students’ research is very interesting, and they often share it only with their professors, but at the conference, even students they don’t know get interested in their work,” said Groth, who

teaches composition and literature.

“Just like in scholarly conferences, the process of getting peer feedback when you present your research orally and answer questions helps students clarify their understandings and arguments.”

New this semester is a keynote presentation by student Diane Panepresso, a liberal-arts major from Langhorne who intends to graduate next semester. Panepresso will speak at noon in the Gallagher Room, located in the Rollins Center.

“Diane has really internalized the idea of using research skills to become a life-long learner and to make connections across disciplines,” Groth said. “For example, in a philosophy course she heard a professor’s aside about art history, which launched her own inquiry into how philosophical ideas are embedded in visual art and can be used to better understand and enjoy the art.”

The event is structured like a professional research conference. After checking in, participants break out into



The Student Research Conference is a way of taking some of the stress off Bucks students so they concentrate on finals panels, meeting in classrooms across campus. Presenters will each offer a five-minute overview of their findings, and then discuss those findings with one another and conference attendees.

In addition to Groth, Assistant Professor Sarahlyn Bruck is also coordinating the event. The conference, which is centered in the Gallagher Room of the Rollins Center on the campus at 275 Swamp Rd., Newtown, Pa.,

is free and open to the public. More than 180 students are expected to take part. For more information, contact the Department of Language & Literature at 215-968-8150 or visit [www.bucks.edu/SRC](http://www.bucks.edu/SRC).

## New president reactions

**Continued from page 1**

“We are delighted that Stephanie Shanblatt is joining Bucks County Community College,” said board chairman Blake Eisenhart.

“The board entered this process wanting to select a president for our great college who would continue to move the institution forward with a strong vision and a commitment to our students, faculty, alumni and staff, as well as deepen the relationship we have with the com-

munity.”

James Freeman, professor of Language and Literature, shared these sentiments: “I, and the faculty as a whole, look forward to a long and productive relationship working with her as our president. She is a highly intelligent, warm and engaging person who will be more than up to facing any educational issues at BCCC as we sail into the future. Clearly, President Shanblatt embraces the BCCC mission, which has as

its core student and learning centered-ness as well as honoring the importance of ongoing quality teaching.”

While most student reaction was apathetic, Erin Bray, 20, a psychology major from Fairless Hills offered her view: “I hear she [President Shanblatt] is incredibly nice. The Newtown campus is beautiful and full of life. My professors were all great and very helpful in their teaching methods and guided me through my classes with rela-

tive ease. This starts with the president, and I’m sure Shanblatt will embody that.”

Growth will be a huge factor for Shanblatt’s administration, including the Upper Bucks campus in Perkasi, which had a 26,000-foot expansion built in 2010, and the Lower Bucks campus in Bristol, which opened in 2007.

“I think BCCC will continue to grow its lower and upper Bucks campuses while maintaining and growing its vibrant main campus in New-

town, will keep up with and advance educational pedagogy and technology, and will continue to have its students prosper as learners and citizens,” said Freeman.

In her free time, Shanblatt is an avid fan of nature, enjoying canoeing, camping, traveling and of course, reading. She is married to Dr. Michael Shanblatt, and they have two daughters.





# Vets recognized by county

**BY: STEPHEN GODWIN JR.**  
Centurion Staff

Bucks County said a huge “Thank you” to veterans on Nov. 8.

Representatives from the recorder of deeds office came to Bucks to issue veteran discount cards for different merchant stores to the men and women who serve or served this great country.

Recorder of deeds representatives Crystal Dose and Jolene set up a table at the top of the stairs in the Rollins building and helped the service men and women from Bucks sign up.

According to Dose, the program started last November when Bucks County Commissioner Charlie Morton, in conjunction with the recorder of deeds, Joseph Szafran Jr. assembled a program for the veterans of Bucks County to give them discounts as a “thanks” for what they have done.

The program is funded by corporate sponsors Parx Casino and American Heritage so Bucks County residents will not see their taxes go up.

Morton got the idea for the program when he was in Atlantic County, NJ on vacation and read about it in the local paper. He decided to try to implement it in Bucks County.

“It is a win-win situation for both sides at very minimal cost because the businesses get good publicity for being veteran friendly and the vet-

erans get the discounts that help in a tough economic situation,” Morton said.

Szafran spoke about the program by saying, “I feel like it is well deserved and it is just a way for the county and its merchants to say ‘thank you’.”

The program has 400 partic-

time to reflect on contributions of current and former veterans.

Jonathon Carpenter, 28, from Tennessee was in the National Guard for 18 months and was in active duty for six years. Carpenter also spent one year in Korea and five years at Fort Camp-

Army for four years and then had two years in the National Guard was stationed in Fort Lewis in Washington State and did one tour in Afghanistan.

“I agree with what he (Carpenter) said because we are really benefiting from the hard work of the old veterans

The program helped Cipriano pay for college, but he also said that idea of serving his country was equally as appealing.

Cipriano found out about it last spring when a representative from Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick’s, R-8, office came and informed him about the discount cards and it started discussions that lead to Dose and Jolene coming to the college.

“We were not really expecting the representatives to come out for it, but I guess the recorder of deeds office decided to make it happen, which is nice and we appreciate that,” said Cipriano.

The people that showed to sign up for the program were not limited to students and faculty as Steve English from Levittown made the trip to Bucks after hearing about the opportunity from a family friend.

English is an electronics major from ITT technical institute that served 17 years with the U.S. Coast Guard and seven years with the Navy.

“I am all for the program,” English said. “We serve our country and we deserve something like this.”

If anybody did not make it out when the program was held they just have to show up to the Bucks County Courthouse with their identification, get their picture taken and then they get their card with the discounts.



Members of the Veterans Club gather with Director of Student Life Matt Cipriano

PHOTO BY VETERANS CLUB FACEBOOK

ipating businesses and has issued about 6,000 cards to veterans. The stores that offer the discounts are of wide variety and include pizza places, grocery stores, car dealerships and furniture stores.

“We still have 60,000 known veterans and active duty soldiers in Bucks County to reach, so we have a long road ahead of us,” said Szafran.

Members of the Veterans club seemed to appreciate this program, but also took

bell Kentucky.

“It’s nice that the community is honoring us (the veterans),” said Carpenter. “A lot of that has to do with the Vietnam vets who were just pushed under the rug and if it wasn’t for people like them then we would not be able to enjoy the privileges that we get today. They really paved the way for the veterans of this era, by speaking out against the ridicule and persecution that they got.”

Tyler Gall, a 25-year-old from Doylestown, was in the

who were abandoned by the military and I really appreciate that Bucks County is doing this for us and showing their appreciation,” said Gall.

A surprising entry in the program was director of student life Matt Cipriano, who served eight years in the army.

Cipriano joined a program in college called “Split option,” that sent him to basic training the summer after high school and then mixed his college years with military training.

# Fallen vet honored at feast

**BY KELLY ARMSTRONG**  
Centurion Staff

It was not only a time to celebrate the coming holiday but to honor a fallen hero on Nov. 13 during the 4th Annual Cultural Diversity Feast at Lower Bucks Campus.

The highlight of the afternoon was when the College’s own Veteran’s Club gave a \$2,000 check to the Epp family; a local family who lost their son, Naval Veteran Jason Epp, 23, in a motorcycle accident on Sept. 15 this year.

Jason Epp served four years in the Navy as an Aviation Ordinance 3rd Class. He served as 1st responder to the Haiti and Chili earthquakes and in South Korea to help train military.

“No, we (The Veteran’s Club) didn’t know Jason personally, but all of the students on campus got involved with helping raise money for this veteran who died in a motorcycle accident,” said Mike Gonzalez, 29, nursing major and president of the Bucks’ Veteran’s Club.

When the Veteran’s Club heard through the local news that Epp died in a motorcycle crash the club began to raise money to help the family.

The club went about raising money for this check by having an iPad 3 raffle that sprawled across all three campuses at Bucks. The Veterans Club raised \$2,000 in all with the raffle.

What made it even more special was that the iPad 3 that was being offered in the raffle was donated. The club was able to put all of the funds made in the raffle into the check for the Epp family.

The check was presented to Epp’s Father, Navy veteran Walter Epp, from Bristol Township, during the feast. Walter Epp served his time in the military as a Boatswain’s Mate 3rd class.

All of the money is intended to be put into an endowment fund for Jason Epp’s newborn daughter, Kali Rose Epp.

“It was a surprise,” the Naval Vet said. “We (The Epp family) had help of course, but we didn’t know

there was a veteran’s club on campus.”

But in the end, The Veteran’s Club and Gonzalez couldn’t have done such a wonderful deed without the campus’ participation. “We have to not only thank the Veteran’s Club members and the college, but all of the stu-

dents and faculty that participated in the raffle for giving us the funds to give to the Epp family,” said Gonzalez

The event was best summed up by the ample amounts of food, culture and most especially, the sense of giving back to the community as the holiday season rolls around

the corner.

“It is a nice atmosphere and a nice pre-holiday get-together,” said Dr. Pricilla Rice, assistant academic dean of health, physical education, and nursing at Bucks.



Official seal of the United States Navy

PHOTO BY U.S. GOVERNMENT



# Controversial deer hunt

**BY: CRAIG MILLER**  
Centurion Staff

It's a common sight on many Bucks County roads: The carcasses of deer, apparently killed by passing cars. But solutions to this problem - in particular an annual deer hunt - remain controversial.

As the [www.naturetourism.alleggheny.edu](http://www.naturetourism.alleggheny.edu) website states: "Deer populations in Pennsylvania have been increasing since the early 1900's. In suburban and urban areas, deer densities have reached 60 to 100 per square mile. Pennsylvania's population of whitetails has grown by 20 percent in the last five years, from 1.2 million to 1.6 million."

To put that into context, Bucks County is roughly 604 square miles, so the deer population is expected to be somewhere around 60,400. With roughly 34,000 car accidents caused by deer alone in the state of Pennsylvania, this is obviously a problem. But where are all these deer coming from?

According to [nature-tourism.alleggheny.edu](http://nature-tourism.alleggheny.edu), the suburbs have essentially taken over what was once the deer's territory, pushing the deer out. Very few places are left for deer to roam freely.

"I don't really think shooting something is necessarily the best answer to any problem," said Michael Plassa, 18, a liberal arts major from Yardley.

"For me, it's more the fact that the deer wouldn't be 'overpopulated' if society hadn't built buildings over all the land the deer live on," he said.

One of the "safe havens" for deer is right next to Bucks in Tyler State Park.

With over 1,000 acres of land, Tyler State Park not only offers a peaceful place for students, but also a home for various wildlife that origi-

nally inhabited the surrounding land that is now filled with suburban tract houses.

For the past couple of years, Tyler State Park has had a deer hunt in the late fall, which draws somewhat of a mixed reaction in the community. Some students can even hear the gunshots from the park all the way on campus.

Brian Flores, manager at Tyler State Park, explained how the hunt takes place: "We allow 125 hunters, or so, as well as 15 of what we call 'stand-by' hunters (essentially a waiting list)). Per hunt, we average about 100-140 deer killed."

"Obviously, hunting licenses are needed, and are free to use the deer for meat. If a deer is left unclaimed, the meat is donated to a local food bank. The deer-hunt is very costly, and while it does its intended job of maintaining the deer population, some people do see it as an inconvenience."

"I have no problem with the deer hunt, as long as they are putting the meat to good use, and it can help someone. As long as the deer isn't wasted, I'm fine with it," said Joseph Morrison, 20, a resident of Newtown.

Flores also stated there are a few archery hunts throughout the season, and made it clear that with these hunts, Tyler State Park's deer population is "maintained." The hunt starts Dec. 7.

According to Flores, the hunters do run into some resistance at Tyler State Park.

"We had about five protestors last year, very minimal resistance," said Flores. Honestly, I'd say we have more support than resistance. Multiple people look at it (the hunt) as a resource management. The protestors have gone down in recent years." Arthur Forgione, a member of Bucks County Fish and Game, supports the hunt by



Deer can be found all around the Newtown campus.

PHOTO BY NICKSHANKS

saying, "The hunt needs to be done."

"While I no longer hunt there, some members do," said Forgione. "The unfortunate thing is where the deer should be—upstate—the population numbers are low and ultimately this discourages the hunter. 'The problem down in Bucks is that there are not that many places people can hunt. 'It's mostly private land.'"

While this seems like hunting is more of a sport in certain circles, In Defense of Animals, an animal rights organization on a national stage, suggests that the population figures are often exaggerated simply for the sport of hunting, and that "The overpopulation of deer stems not only from the specific mismanagement of deer populations, but from the mismanagement of our forestlands and natural areas," says the organization's website.

When asked about how many deer are currently in the park, Flores said there was no definitive answer, and methods at Tyler State Park have varied over time.

"We used to do aerial surveys [observing the population from an aircraft], and

they would pull up hundreds, our first, in 1987, had listed 455. The last aerial survey we did—in 1997—pulled up 205," says Flores.

"Now, we do what is called a 'deer browse survey', where we place a 'transit line' [of 50 feet, almost like an enclosed area] in our three areas of the park, and based off droppings and food, we consider figures from there."

Flores said given recent trends, there were roughly 55 deer per square mile at Tyler, and with Tyler State Park at 2.6 square miles; it is believed there are roughly 143 deer in the park.

While deer pose a threat to the common driver and an annoyance to the average home-owner, they also are a hazard to other wildlife and foliage, especially at Tyler State Park.

"The deer have 'eaten themselves out of a home' in a sense," Flores explains. "It's affected our forest regeneration efforts, and the deer have slowed it down. There are also problems with farmers and crops nearby."

Outside of the park, however, Flores believes the deer deserves a place where they won't be bothered at all: "They're a part of 'quintes-

sential' Pennsylvania, a natural landscape."

Even so, the conflicting ideas on what to do with deer vary even from park to park: "At the previous park I worked at, the believed part of Pennsylvania culture is in fact, hunting deer as compared to how to manage the deer population," Flores said.

"If you're interested in getting a hunting license or have any questions, you can contact the park office at 215-968-2021," offered Flores. "For those interested in helping conserve wildlife, I'd get in touch with the Wildlife Conservation Society." The aforementioned society can be contacted at [membership@wcs.org](mailto:membership@wcs.org)

Tyler State Park offices can also be reached electronically at [tylersp@pa.gov](mailto:tylersp@pa.gov).

For more information on either side of deer hunting and wildlife in general, the Bucks County Fish and Game can be reached at [info@bcfg.org](mailto:info@bcfg.org), while In Defense of Animals can be contacted at [media@idausa.org](mailto:media@idausa.org).



The deer around Bucks Newtown campus can be seen out in the wooded area and even sometimes walk onto campus late at night.



PHOTO BY EXLIBRIS



# Many overestimate the power of the presidency

BY: KONSTANTIN SIEVAPLESOV  
Centurion Staff

Some Americans get worried after the election if their favored candidate doesn't win.

Don't sweat it.

Every election seems to be referred to, by some, as the most important election to date. The president sets the tone for our country's history for the next few years. Some say the wrong candidate can send our country into a downward spiral.

Yet, this notion is unfounded.

"People overestimate the presidency, he still has to work with Congress," explained Jason Totten, a history professor at Bucks.

It's true; the president does not have absolute power, far from it. They have to work with Congress and the House of Representatives to get anything done.

This is intentional.

Our government was made so that the Executive Branch's powers are checked by the Legislative and Judi-

cial branches to keep the president and everyone else from becoming too powerful. There is no single person who can greatly impact the government and the economy in a democracy. It's the very nature of a democratic republic system.

The House is currently controlled by Republicans while the Senate is controlled by the Democrats. Historically a split Congress has made it especially difficult for the president to get much done simply because not they are not always in agreement.

This means the president can't simply do what they want. The president does have the power to do something called an executive order, giving them the right to order with the full backing of the law.

But the power isn't absolute. Presidents can't simply make their own laws.

This in turn allows the president to have a smaller impact on the economy than most would imagine.

"Normal Americans and

things like businesses are what run the economy," Totten said.

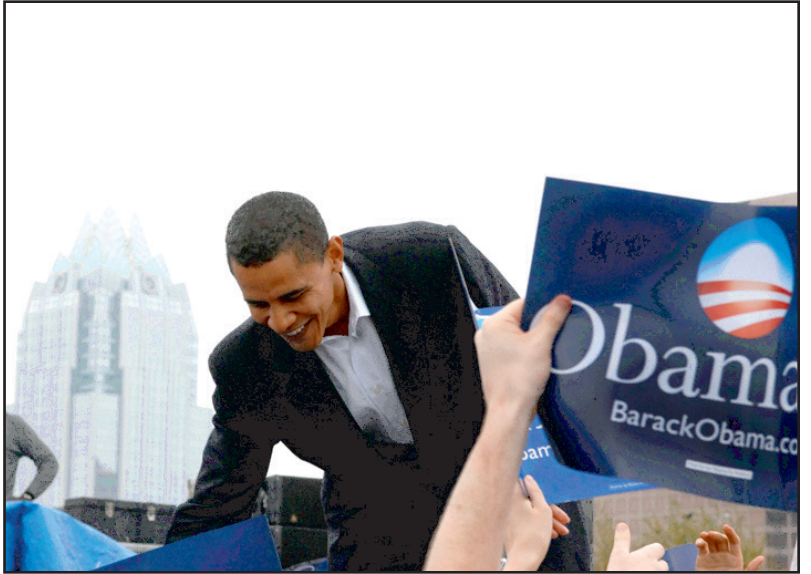
Even those inside Obama's cabinet echo these same sentiments.

"I think the world vests too much power -- certainly in the president, probably in Washington in general -- for its influence on the economy, because most all of the economy has nothing to do with the government," said Austan Goolsbee, former chairman of Obama's Council of Economic Advisers.

"Most economists will tell you that the president's role when it comes to the economy is much closer to, let's say a cheerleader than a CEO," said Stephen Dubner, journalist and co-author of the best-seller *Freakonomics*.

Even on an official level the president's influence simply isn't anywhere near as strong as the Federal Reserve.

The executive branch doesn't have the power to directly influence the economy. They can try and set an overall plan similar to Ronald Rea-



Obama during his first run for the presidency.

PHOTO BY ROXANNE JO MITCHELL

gan's Reaganomics.

But economic policies take years to show results and economists still argue over who and what leads to growth.

Why then are people so caught up on who the president is?

"Biased media has hurt our view. It's very easy to get your own universe and get wrapped up in partisanship. People can become trapped in an echo room," Totten said.

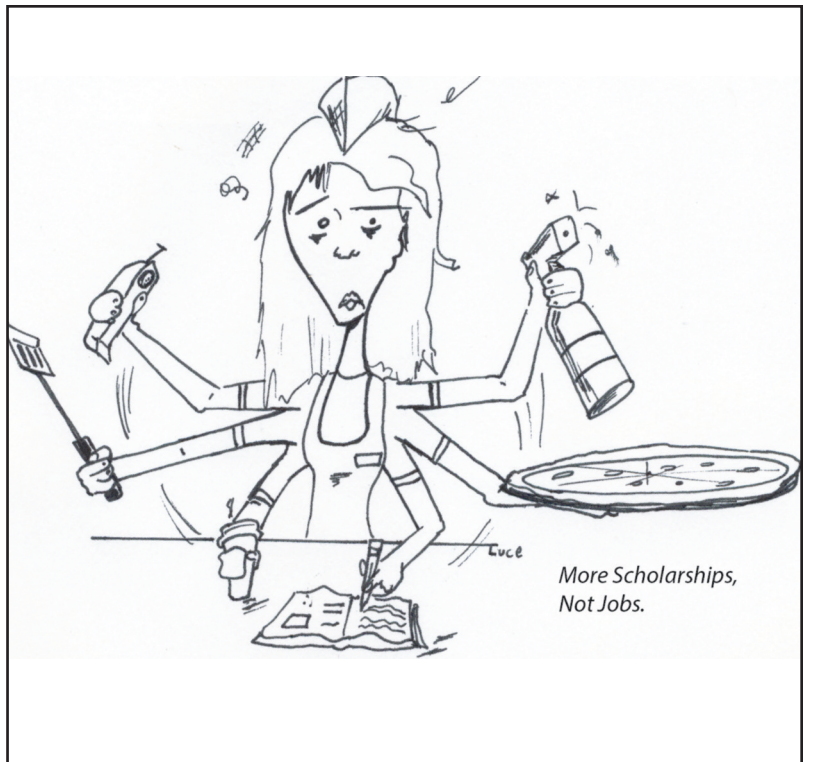
In the modern day the candidates, analysts and com-

mentators all have a bias, it's hard to understand the economy.

"The economy is already slowly improving, and probably will continue to do so, regardless of who's elected," economist Benjamin Liebman recently told Newsweek. Later he stated to "Keep in mind that commentators also have biases."

According to these experts, don't think it's the end of the world or a start of a new golden age just because we finished our election.

## Cartoons by Dallas Luce





Bucks County Community College presents

# Charles Simic

Friday, December 7 • 7:30 p.m.

**Orangery • Newtown Campus**  
**Bucks County Community College**



©Richard Drew

Charles Simic, the fifteenth Poet Laureate of the United States (2007-2008), was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in 1938, and immigrated to the United States in 1953 at the age of 15. He has lived in New York, Chicago, the San Francisco area, and for many years in New Hampshire where he was a professor of English at the University of New Hampshire. A poet, essayist and translator, he has been honored with the Frost Medal, the Wallace Stevens Award, a Pulitzer Prize, two PEN Awards for his work as a translator, and a MacArthur Fellowship. Since 1967 Simic has published numerous collections of poems, among them, *Master of Disguises* (2010); *That Little Something* (2008); *My Noiseless Entourage* (2005); *Selected Poems: 1963-2003* (2004), for which he received the 2005 International Griffin Poetry Prize; *The Voice at 3:00 AM: Selected Late and New Poems* (2003); and *The World Doesn't End: Prose Poems* (1990), for which he received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.

## **Carrying On Like a Crow (excerpt)**

Are you authorized to speak  
 For these trees without leaves?  
 Are you able to explain  
 What the wind intends to do  
 With a man's shirt and a woman's nightgown  
 Left on the laundry line?  
 What do you know about dark clouds?  
 Ponds full of fallen leaves?  
 Old-model cars rusting in a driveway?

– from *Master of Disguises*

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*Where to learn. Where to return.*





# Hilarity ensues at Bucks

BY: CAITLIN FEENEY  
Centurion Staff

The unusual and hilarious sketch comedy show Bucks Live will be debuting Dec. 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. in the Gateway auditorium.

The improv team has surely come up with an exciting show this year.

Bucks Live is an hour-long series of sketches that were developed by participants of the Improv Club. Students auditioned to join the cast by showing off their improvisational chops. Others were selected to be organizers and writers for the sketches.

Students that made the cut brainstormed ideas for sketches. Once the favorites were selected, members simply acted out the scenes the best they could- and then they wrote the scripts.

"We kept doing them over and over to figure out what did and did not work, and in the end everything has come together as a sort of... planned improve," said Bucks Live cast member Madeline Connor.

With nothing set in stone, the improvisers are given full reign to act the scene out in a more natural way. With struc-

tured lines and constricted creativity out the window, the most hilarious comedy takes shape.

The group worked together to decide which ideas and specific lines they liked and then they gave one another positive, but honest, feedback.

"The process behind it includes working out the scenes as they would appear on stage to practice, taking time as a group to critique and constructively criticize the acting of the actors or the scene itself, and repeat until everyone feels as though the scene is complete," said cast member Ty Williams-McRoy.

Every time the group reworks a scene, it inevitably ends up being different. Variety is the most interesting part of Bucks Live as the shows on Friday and Saturday will be completely diverse.

There are roughly 16 sketches prepared for the show, and about eight will be presented each night. If one night of comedy doesn't satisfy you, be sure to attend both for an entirely unique and fresh experience each night.



Cast members get ready to show off their talents on stage for their show in December

PHOTO BY BCCC IMPROV CLUB

Yvonne Bruno, another Bucks Live cast member, wants to remind students that attending the show is "a great chance to support fellow students and see what they have to offer."

The show was created by college students, mainly for college students - so it isn't exactly aimed toward a younger audience. That's not

to say kids aren't allowed to check it out (but bring your younger sibling at your own risk).

"Similar to a snowflake, each performance is unique and one of a kind. If you don't find the time to catch Bucks Live while it's out then you'll simply miss an amazing opportunity," said Williams-McRoy.

Students from Bill McLaughlin's Improv I class take suggestions from the audience to generate sidesplitting scenes and play clever and entertaining games.

Tickets include both shows and are sold at the door for \$7.

For more information, contact Caitlin Feeney at feeneyc27194@live.bucks.edu

## THE WEEK IN TV/MOVIES/MUSIC/BOOKS

### TV

#### Tuesday 12/4

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer - CBS - 8:00  
Raising Hope - FOX - 8:00  
The Voice - NBC - 8:00  
New Girl - FOX - 9:00

#### Wednesday 12/5

Survivor: Philippines - CBS - 8:00  
X-Factor - FOX - 8:00

#### Thursday 12/6

The Big Bang Theory - CBS - 8:00  
Two and a Half Men - CBS - 8:30  
Grey's Anatomy - ABC - 9:00  
Glee - FOX - 9:00

#### Friday 12/7

Last Man Standing - CBS - 8:00  
Kitchen Nightmares - FOX - 8:00

#### Saturday 12/8

Frosty the Snowman - CBS - 8:00  
UFC: Henderson vs. Diaz - FOX - 8:00

#### Sunday 12/9

Amazing Race 21 - CBS - 8:00  
Family Guy - FOX - 9:00  
SNF: Lions at Packers - NBC - 8:20

### MOVIES

## THEATER

#### Killing Them Softly (R)

Jackie Cogan is an enforcer hired to restore order after three dumb guys rob a Mob protected card game, causing the local criminal economy to collapse.

**Directed by:** Andrew Dominik

**Starring:** Brad Pitt, Ray Liotta, Richard Jenkins and James Gandolfini

**Release Date:** 30 November

## DVD

#### Men in Black 3 (PG-13)

Agent J travels in time to MIB's early years in the 1960s, to stop an alien from assassinating his friend Agent K and changing history.

**Directed by:** Barry Sonnenfeld

**Starring:** Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones and Josh Brolin

**Release Date:** 30 November

### MUSIC



#### Ke\$ha

**New Album "Warrior"**  
4 December

#### Smashing Pumpkins

**New Album "Mellon Collie & the Infinite Sadness"**  
4 December

#### Bruno Mars

**New Album "Unorthodox Jukebox"**  
11 December

### BOOKS

#### "Dogfight: The 2012 Presidential Campaign in Verse"

**Written by:** Calvin Trillin

In his latest laugh-out-loud book of political verse, Calvin Trillin provides a riotous depiction of the 2012 presidential election campaign. Dogfight is a narrative poem interrupted regularly by other poems and occasionally by what the author calls a pause for prose. With the same barbed wit he displayed in the best-sellers Deciding the Next Decider, Obliviously On He Sails, and A Heckuva Job, America's deadline poet trains his sights on the Tea Party and the slapstick field of contenders for the Republican nomination.

**Release Date:** 11 November

#### "Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die: Musings from the Road"

**Written by:** Willie Nelson, Kinky Friedman

Nelson muses about his greatest influences and the things that are most important to him, and celebrates the family, friends, and colleagues who have blessed his remarkable journey. Willie riffs on everything: music, wives, Texas, politics, horses, religion, marijuana, children, the environment, poker, hogs, Nashville, karma, and more.

**Release Date:** 13 November

#### "Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power"

**Written by:** Jon Meacham

In this magnificent biography, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of American Lion and Franklin and Winston brings vividly to life an extraordinary man and his remarkable times. Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power gives us Jefferson the politician and president, a great and complex human being forever engaged in the wars of his era. Philosophers think; politicians maneuver. Jefferson's genius was that he was both and could do both, often simultaneously. Such is the art of power.

**Release Date:** 11 November



# New James Bond movie explodes into theatres

BY: SETH CANATA  
Centurion staff

Actor Daniel Craig returned for his third turn as British Secret Agent 007 in "Skyfall," which opened to a \$30.8 million top billing on Nov. 9 in the U.S.

Already eclipsing the \$350 million mark in foreign theaters, when dawn broke on "Skyfall's" first weekend, and twilight was over, the film put nearly another \$60 million in its coffins, er, coffers.

While those early numbers easily overshadowed nearly every film up against it – erm, except "Twilight," sigh – recent tallies place Skyfall as the highest grossing Bond film ever, earning nearly \$800 million worldwide.

Now, let's talk about the actual film.

Chances are you've heard those iconic words – Bond, James Bond – fall from the lips of one of the six roguishly dashing actors who've portrayed Bond.

Be they Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan, or Craig, what remains constant throughout the 50 years of Bond films is the cool disdain with which Bond utters those now-famous words.

Even more likely imprinted on your memory are the even cooler gadgets, diabolical villains, stunning femme fatales and Bond – of course – win-

ning the day against seemingly insurmountable odds.

Oh, and yes, getting the girl in the end...

Well, welcome to the "new" Bond.

Recently, Bond films have certainly gone the extra mile to make the genre more up-to-date and approachable to the general masses.

In "Casino Royale," Craig's first Bond film, 007 and the villain duel over a winner-take-all game of poker – Texas Hold 'em style.

In "Quantum of Solace," Bond battles an eco-terrorist hell bent on monopolizing the world's fresh water supply for his own gain.

And "Skyfall" keeps things relevant as well, pitting Bond against former MI-6 operative and cyber-terrorist, Raoul Silva.

Javier Bardem does supreme justice to his role of arch-typical villain battling wits and weapons with Craig's Bond.

(If you'd like to see more of Bardem as a villain, check him out in his Oscar-winning performance as a cold-blooded hit man in "No Country for Old Men").

Judi Dench, also an Academy Award winner, reprises her role as "M," the head of MI-6, and actor Ralph Fiennes has a memorable supporting role as well.

Ultimately, the action of "Skyfall" focuses on Silva, the criminal mastermind, as



Actor Daniel Craig continues to live up to the persona that is James Bond in his new movie "Skyfall"

he attempts to get revenge on MI-6 and discredit it as one of the world's best intelligence agencies.

And, right on cue, it's up to 007 to thwart him as only Bond can do... blow it up, shoot it up and crash it up... you get the picture!

The coy one-liners and overzealous love interests take a relative back seat in Bond's historic Aston Martin DB5 in this one, folks.

Instead, the action is intense throughout, right from go. Fairly common for a Bond film, you say? Well, admittedly, yes.

But get ready for additional plot twists and turns, as some key insight into how exactly Bond became Bond is more than just hinted at.

"Skyfall," the film's name, was actually the name of Bond's family home back in Scotland.

Orphaned as a young man, Bond became a jaded and sarcastic icon whose witticisms are often as deadly as his Walther PPK.

"M" divulges a bit of what makes him so, and reveals that MI-6 purposefully targeted orphans as recruits, saying that they made the

best agents.

More likely to accept and blindly adore "Queen and Country," Bond still has issues to resolve in this one, as he sees time and time again just how expendable he really is.

So, despite being 50, Bond still packs a solid punch, not just at the box office but in the plot category as well.

Buckle up, be careful you are not in the ejector seat and enjoy the ride... chances are you will be shaken, if not stirred, by this latest installment in the Bond legacy.

## 'Twilight' puts a bow on movie saga

BY: JULIE FLYNN  
Centurion Staff

The Twilight Saga's final movie made a mark in theaters and fans hearts all over the world.

The movie had a big opening weekend making \$141,067,634 with a total gross income of \$227,366,118 in profits according to Imbd.com.

In this final movie in the Twilight Saga, we meet two newborn characters: Bella Swan as a newly converted vampire and her daughter Renesmee.

"I've been obsessed with the Saga since the beginning, including the book series and I saw the last movie opening night. It's definitely bitter-sweet, but Breaking Dawn Part 2 was incredible and I couldn't have expected a better ending," said Brianna Brenker, radiology major at Bucks.

Bella Swan was a human infatuated and in love with a vampire, Edward Cullen. Bella desperately wanted to

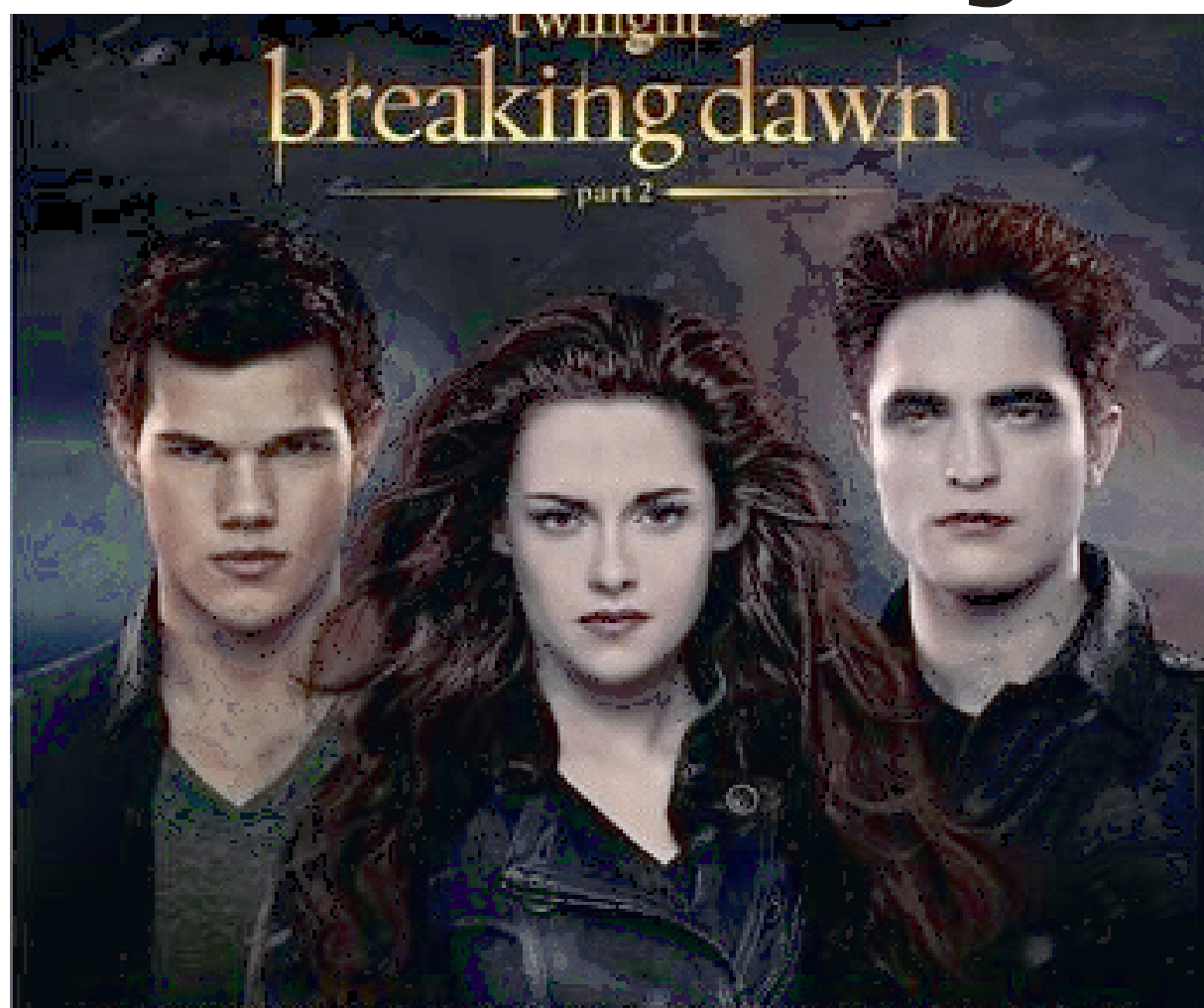
be a vampire and Edward wouldn't allow it. When they left us off in Breaking Dawn Part 1, Bella was dying while giving birth to a half human, half vampire baby.

The only way to save her was to turn her into a vampire. In Part 2 we meet her and her daughter.

"My guy friends make fun of me for enjoying the movies but the action, mystery and suspense makes the series remarkable. I can't wait to see the fight and how Renesmee is," said Drew Schwieker, psychology major at Bucks.

"I'm not one to like fake movies such as vampires or werewolves, but this series has put together every bit of emotion you could imagine into one series with just a couple vampires, werewolves, villains, and humans," said Devon MacNamara, nursing major at Bucks. "It always had me on my feet."

Some movies that are the last of a series sometimes



The Twilight series made its last appearance in theatres on Nov. 16, but it had a lasting impact for many fans have a bitter ending, not really giving the audience that comfort and telling them "okay, this is it so we'll let you know it" type of feeling. "The ending was almost like licking and folding the enve-

lope of a card. The ending provided some sort of reassurance that even though this is the end, the series will live on forever and to never forget anything it taught you," said Sean Adams, nursing major

at Bucks "This isn't the end, it's only the beginning!"

This final Twilight movie definitely helped readers and viewers understand it's officially over. There is no missing piece to the puzzle.



# Bucks gamers rate Halo 4 high on their wanted list

BY: ROBERT KNUCKLES  
Centurion Staff

The biggest shooter game on the Xbox 360 has returned once again for another mayhem-filled multiplayer shooter experience.

However, this time it's not in the hands of Bungie, but rather in the hands of 343 Industries, which brings up an intriguing question. Will this Halo do well with a different company?

Halo fans know the story of where Halo 3 left off. The story in Halo is very deep and plays like a movie. Master Chief has been awakened by his AI companion Cortana, aboard a ship that is being destroyed by the Covenant.

There are two problems that occur in the story. Cortana is dying due to a disease called rampancy which causes AI's to think themselves to death. Not only does Master Chief have to save her, but an ancient evil has awakened to threatening humanity.

Alas, Master Chief must save Cortana and while also saving Humanity.

"The campaign felt like a

movie that makes you think 343 put in some work with this story," said Tom Davis, 20, music major from Doylestown.

The visual aspects of this game are beautiful, leading to a major upgrade from the past Halo games. Morning, sunset and night are all designed beautiful in this game. 343 have done a great job with this design.

"This has to be one of the best designs I've seen in a video game," said Dillon Yeager, 20, Bucks students from Morrisville. "It's just really amazing and honestly these graphics are breathtaking," he said.

Halo 4 plays like other Halo games, but the difference is that it has a lot of different weapons for the various classes and armor upgrades.

Halo is also a very challenging game to play, especially on the higher difficulty settings. It's not a simple shooting game as there's plenty of strategizing in this game.

"Playing this game on Heroic was definitely a challenge for me," said Ryan Werner, 20, elementary edu-



The new version of Halo has whole new set of challenges for anxious video game fans to uncover in 2012

just the Xbox console. Spartan Ops is similar to "Firefight," a game where players will have five objectives that happen alongside the story. These objectives will also be updated weekly, so players will have something new to do every week.

The multiplayer option is now called "Infinity," where players can create their own Spartan and battle it out in

death match, team death match, capture the flag and many other modes. "Halo 4 is probably not only the best Halo, but this game could possibly be the best game on the Xbox 360," Jabari Pinnock, 20, arts major from Warrington. This game is a must buy. Call of Duty: Black Ops 2 will have some competition," Pinnock said.

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Arrival of Black Ops II thrills Bucks students

BY: ROBERT KNUCKLES  
Centurion Staff

Another November means another "Call of Duty" game and local electronics stores are being flooded by video game enthusiasts.

For \$60 people can purchase one of the most anticipated games of the year made for one of the highest grossing franchises in entertainment history.

Every year the new "Call of Duty" game is either developed by Treyarch or Infinity Ward. This year it's Treyarch taking the spotlight.

Treyarch's "Call of Duty" games are "World at War," "Black Ops" and now we have "Black Ops 2." Treyarch has been the fan-favored developer of the "Call of Duty" games.

"Call of Duty" is loved by hundreds of millions around the world. Its staple feature is the intense online competitive multiplayer.

Many new features in the multiplayer involve the incorporation of social media and the ability to post video recordings of live video game matches online to show off one's in-game skills.

Another feature is the trade-



The new Black Ops II game hit stores on November 13 and has received great reviews from fans in the U.S.

marked "CoDcasting," a parody of podcasting. This allows players to not only record and share their videos, but it also provides live streaming on the internet as well as live color commentary to make any game more interesting to any possible viewers.

Last year's "Call of Duty" game "Modern Warfare 3" was not that well received by fans. A lot of players complained that it was a game designed for "noobs," players who are new and unskilled at

the game. A lot of "CoD" veterans were upset that while they try to develop skills some new person playing the game could beat them on their first try.

"Black Ops 2" stands out being a very different "Call of Duty" game. The story line of the game is far more in depth than most other "Call of Duty" games, and is the first game in the series to take place in the future.

It started in "World at War" then kept on going to "Black

Ops" and "Black Ops 2." A fan-favorite staple in the "Call of Duty" franchise, zombies are a cooperative survival mode where four players team up to fight off increasingly difficult waves of undead in a fortified location.

"It's a bit more intense in this one," said Ryan Werner, 20, elementary education major from Doylestown. "There's a new mode called 'grief' where for the first time zombies go up to eight players with four players

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

pipped against four other players to see which team can last the longest against the zombies.

"Teams can't hurt each other but can stun them or throw meat at them to make them more attractive to the zombies," Werner said.

Treyarch has pleased its fans once again with the "Call of Duty" franchise. "This is by far the best 'Call of Duty. There is legit nothing not to like," said Grato Paneque, 20, criminal justice major from Hatboro.









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# Concussions raise questions for parents

BY: JACKSON FAGAN  
Centurion Staff

Due to the recent rash of NFL concussions that are affecting players later in life, parents are may want to start rethinking letting their kids play football.

What got the ball rolling was California state court filing the first concussion lawsuit by 75 former NFL players and 51 spouses on July 19, 2011. Things got more serious a month later on August 11th when the case got taken to federal court according sporting news.com

These lawsuits are also against the makers of the NFL helmet "Riddell," because the players view it as not being safe enough to protect against concussions.

Since then over 3,000 former players have joined the fight to receive compensation from the NFL because they believed that they hid valuable information on the harmful effects of concussions from them.

"The NFL must open its eyes to the consequences of its actions," said Kevin Turner, a former running back with the Patriots and Eagles who has been diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis according to ESPN.com.

According to Philly.com the board award nearly \$2 million in November to three former players who claimed they suffered brain damage from playing in the NFL. The board's conclusion on these former players could be critical evidence in the expanding lawsuit against the league filed in the Philadelphia

court.

The question that comes from that ruling though is that why did only three players receive reparations? For most of the players they will not receive they will not be getting their day in court till sometime in 2018 said many experts with knowledge of the case according to sporting news.com.

Concussions effects on former players have been well documented on former players over the years as many have resorted to suicide.

Former Eagle and 12 year veteran defensive back Andre Waters committed suicide in 2006 when he shot himself in the head in his Tampa Bay home according to Espn.

Former Falcon safety Ray Easterling also committed suicide in his home back in April. Easterling suffered from brain related injuries that are commonly after receiving blows to the head according to voxixi.com

Modern day players are committing suicide too as former San Diego Charger Junior Seau shot himself on May second after playing 20 seasons in the NFL.

Does the recent attention on concussion related problems affect whether or not parents will let their kids play football?

Galen Snyder, a Levittown resident and the head football coach at Pennsbury High School has a son who is a freshman at the school.

"My son Luke plays varsity here at Pennsbury. If football is coached the right way, the positives heavily outweigh the negatives of injury risk."

Snyder continued by saying



PHOTO BY MAURICIO PASTOR

High school football can only wait and see how parent will react when it comes to the topic of concussions "The discipline, teamwork, self-esteem and the leadership that is taught and learned in this game, in my opinion is greater than in any other sport or club."

Snyder was a very successful football player himself and he turned his talents into an Ivy League education and successful teaching and coaching careers.

When asked why he wanted to play football, Luke Snyder answered simply, "Because my Dad played and I wanted to play for Pennsbury just like he did."

For every person that would either allow or in some cases encourage their child to play

football, some former football players and some never played the game, there was the same amount of people who would love for their children to play sports but just not football.

Victor Iturbides, a former Pennsbury football star quarterback and a former captain of the West Chester University football team is now studying medicine at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and he has a different take on the situation.

"I do agree that football has the capacity to greatly effect young men in a very positive way but when and if I have

children I don't think I will allow him to play."

"Football has done great things for me but it has also left me with injuries that I will deal with for the rest of my life."

"I have been fortunate enough to avoid any diagnosed concussions but the rest of my body has not been so lucky."

"There is no way to predict when and how injuries will or will not happen but I know from experience that football is a sport that is a very physical game and injuries are a huge part of the game."

"I'm not sure that's something that I will want to expose my child to."

D'Andre Webb, a former star running back at Harry S. Truman High School and West Chester University has another perspective on the topic.

When Webb was a senior at West Chester his girlfriend at the time, now wife, gave birth to his first child, D'Andre Jr.

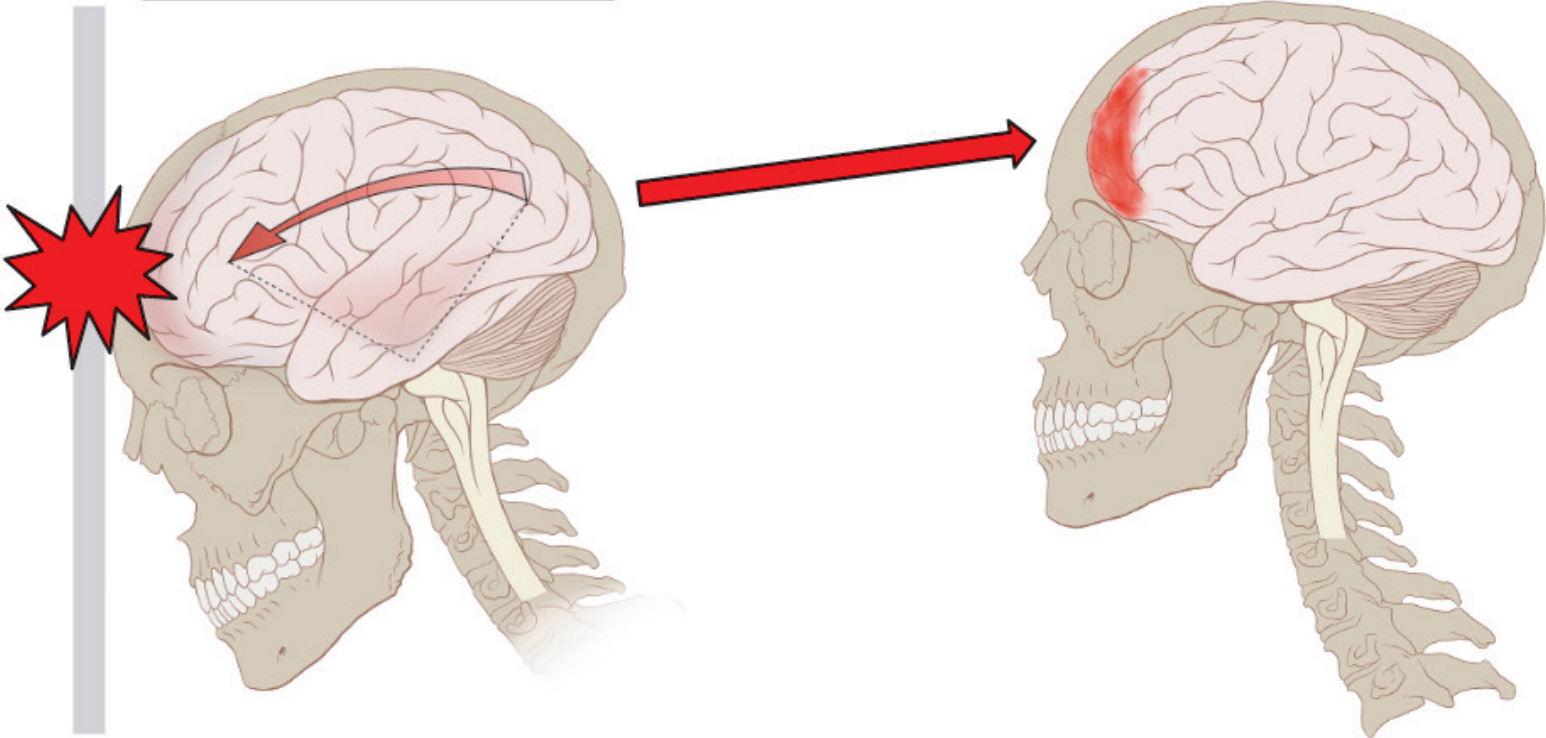
When asked if he would allow or encourage his son to play football he said "Hell yeah!"

"I can't wait for him to put the pads on. He's 2 years old and I already got him throwing and catching the ball."

This is another topic in sports that will be a forever debated and will only become more discussed as more medical evaluation information is released to the public.

Concussion: A traumatic brain injury that changes the way your brain functions.

This can lead to bruising and swelling of the brain, tearing of blood vessels and injury to nerves, causing the concussion.



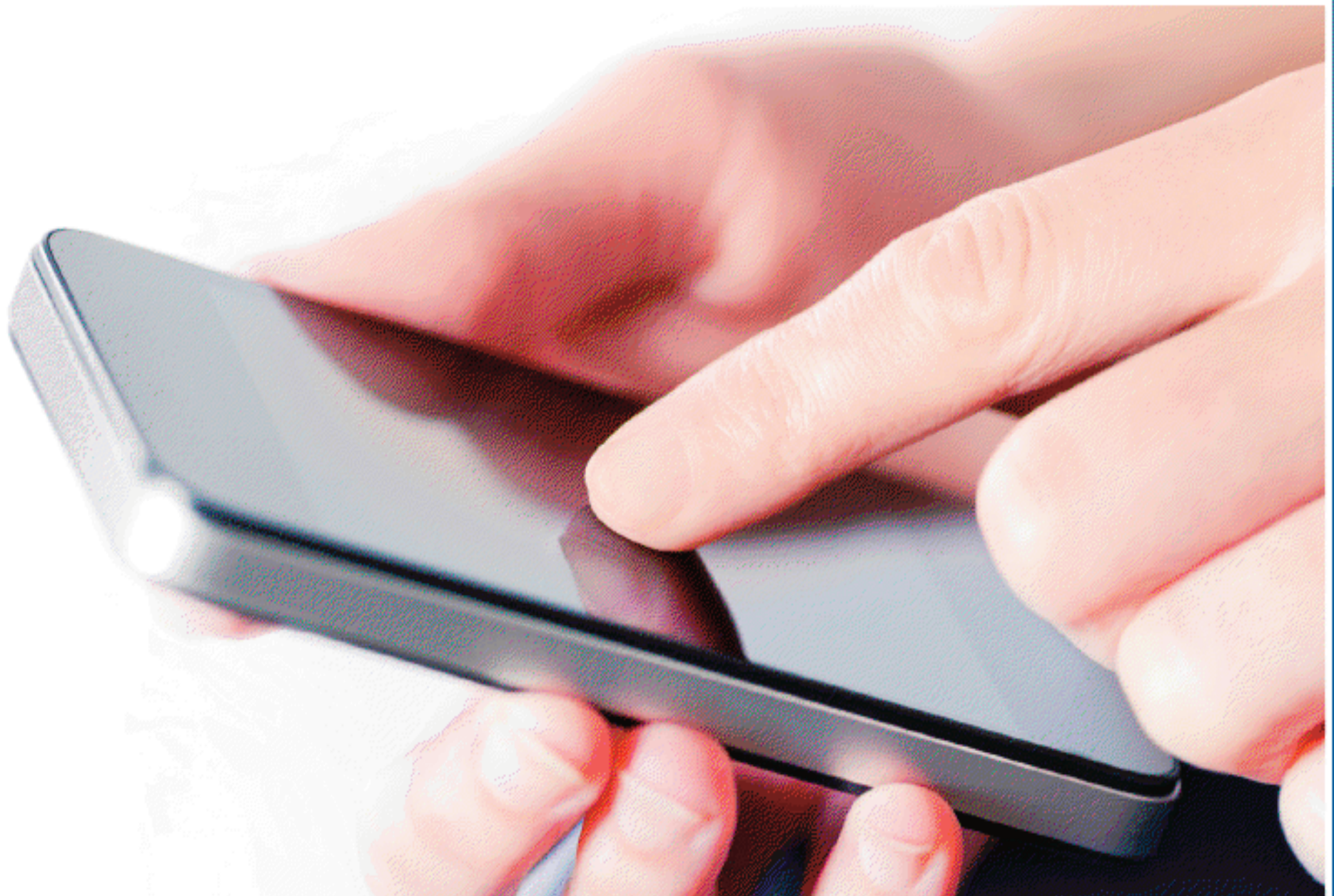
The brain is made up of soft tissue and is protected by blood and spinal fluid. When the skull is jolted too fast or is impacted by something, the brain shifts and hits against the skull.

Most concussions are mild and can be treated with appropriate care. But left untreated, It can be deadly.

PHOTO BY MAX ANDREWS



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# Men's basketball team takes on new challenges

**BY: STEPHEN GODWIN JR.**  
Centurion Staff

The 2012-13 Men's basketball season promises to intrigue fans.

The team features a new head coach, a young team, and is starting their first year in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJACC).

Last season the Centurions went to the Final Four of the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference Finals (EPCC) under Coach Steve Coyne, but this season his assistant coach Donald Perry will take the reins as Coyne has stepped down.

"I just decided to pursue other things, Coyne said. My time was up."

The change in coaches should not be too dramatic though as last year's scheme was a combination of Coyne and Perry's ideas, but Perry will probably add a few wrinkles.

"I'll be using a lot of things which I have developed over my years in basketball," said Perry.

Perry started coaching his sons in recreational leagues in New Jersey and Delaware for nine years. He was also the assistant coach for four years between Brandywine high school and Brandywine College respectively.

He spent 18 years at Delaware Technical Community College as an assistant coach before coming to Bucks as an assistant coach last season. Perry's past success has yielded him three NJACC titles, and one district championship.

"I feel very good since being named the head basketball coach," said Perry. In one way it's almost surreal, then reality strikes and I see that there is a lot of work to be done."

Switching conferences from the EPCC to the NJACC will be a challenge for Perry as they will have a tougher path to the playoffs, but it could also boost recruiting.

"The eligibility differences have a big impact on developing a good team. I'm hopeful that we'll do well with this," said Perry.

The team is made up of mostly rookies after most of the players from last year have moved on to the greener pastures of four years schools or have used up their eligibility.

"We have some very athletic guards and small forwards, but no one has emerged in a superstar role", said Perry. We do have some very good players with excellent potential."

Forward Tyler Nichol will



PHOTO CREDIT: BUCKS ATHLETICS PAGE

The 2012 Men's basketball team has had a complete makeover from last year's team, but looks to keep winning hopefully provide some leadership for his teammates.

"He's a very good player and a team leader and I'm very happy to have him back. Most of the players from last year's team have moved on to four-year colleges," said Perry.

The final element is the 16 game schedule that will stretch into next semester. The aftermath of Hurricane Sandy postponed the season opener against Delaware and the makeup date has yet to be announced. When it does happen though it will be highly anticipated since it is the team that the Centurions lost to in the final four last season.

The season opener was in-

stead Nov. 10 at bitter rival the Community College of Philadelphia. The Centurions lost this game.

The following games will be a home opener against Harrisburg on Nov. 17 followed by two road games on against Montgomery and Stevens on Nov. 20 and 27 respectively.

December will feature a two game home-stand against Lehigh Carbon on the 1 and then against Northampton on the 8. The final game before the Christmas Break will be away at Luzerne the 15.

The second half of the season gets going with a five game home-stand that could be critical as the Centurions get closer to playoff time.

The first one is against Luzerne on Jan. 19th followed by Delaware County on the 22nd and Montgomery on the 24th all during the same week. They host Stevens on the 29th and get a rematch with Philadelphia on the 31st.

The final three games are on the road against Lehigh Carbon on the 2nd, against Montgomery on the 5th, and finish up their regular season against Northampton on the 9th.

When asked about if there are any big games this season Perry said, "All of our EPAC conference games will be big this season. We have to win at least 7 of them. Each game will be an experience."

## A new era of Eagles football might come to Philadelphia

**BY: JACKSON FAGAN**  
Centurion Staff

Andy Reid had a fantastic start to his career in Philadelphia. What went wrong? 2012 has been hugely disappointing for the Philadelphia Eagles. Taking all things into consideration, head coach Andy Reid has had a fantastic career in Philadelphia.

Since 1999, Reid has a record of 129-86-1 with a win percentage of .597. He has taken the team to five NFC Championship games, four straight from 2001-2004 and in 2004 reached the Super Bowl.

In 2001, Reid also took over as the executive vice president of football operations, giving him final say over all football decisions. Some of his decisions were genius; taking Brian Westbrook in the third round of the draft was brilliant, but then drafting washout Freddie Mitchell in the first round may go down as the worst move in his tenure.

Reid's play calling and his

time management have been called into question. Many of the Andy Reid's critics claim those two things were the main reason why the Eagles lost to the Patriots in Super Bowl XXXIX in 2004. The quarterback play and the defense are two specific pieces to a football team that have led to the Eagles sudden demise.

In 1999 Andy Reid named Jimmy Johnson to be his defensive coordinator. The defense under Johnson was not only one of the best in the league but was also one of the most feared. From 2000-2007, Johnson's units ranked tied for first in the NFL with 342 sacks, second in the league in 3rd down efficiency at 34.3% and red zone touchdown percentage at 43.0%, and fourth in fewest points allowed per game 17.6.

Since Johnson's death in 2009 the Eagles are on their third defensive coordinator and are still searching for someone to fill the enormous

shoes of Johnson.

In 1999 Reid drafted a quarterback out of Syracuse with the second overall pick who was booed on draft night. That quarterback went on to team up with Andy Reid to be the best coach-quarterback duo in Philadelphia Eagles history. His name? Donovan McNabb.

As the quarterback of the Eagles McNabb holds 14 team records including, most career passing yards (32,873), most career passing touchdowns (216), most career game winning drives (23), and most career wins (92). Since McNabb's final season in Philadelphia the quarterback play for the Eagles has been extremely inconsistent. Michael Vick had a great season in 2010, a good season in 2011 and a bad season in 2012.

There are already rumored replacements in place should Coach Reid be let go at the end of season.

The names that are being put out their most frequently



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Andy Reid is the best coach in Eagles history, but his time may be up have been Jon Gruden, a

Super Bowl winning coach with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Brian Billick, a Super Bowl Winning coach with the Baltimore Ravens, Bill Cowher, a Super Bowl Winning coach with the Pittsburgh Steelers and the new up and coming offensive genius coaching at the Univer-

sity of Oregon, Chip Kelly. In 1999 Lurie hired a little known quarterback's coach from a winning franchise who had never even been a coordinator at the NFL level and he ended up being the most successful coach in Eagles history.

Don't be surprised if Lurie goes that same route again.



# Women's basketball team is young, but hungry for a title in new season this year

BY: SETH CANATA  
Centurion Staff

Hurricane Sandy's effects are still being felt weeks later, even beyond the wake of destruction that affected not just Bucks County, but the East Coast as a whole.

The women's basketball program at Bucks knows there are things more important than basketball, such as having power, heat, water, shelter and food.

But trying to refocus attention to the season, now underway after a Nov. 10 loss to the CC of Philadelphia, will certainly be challenging.

Not only did the Lady Centurions lose valuable practice time, but their first game of the season versus Delaware was postponed due to Sandy.

In her second year coaching the girls' squad, Lori Sullivan had this to say about the upcoming season:

"Obviously, we lost out on valuable time that would be spent with our players learning how to come together as a team. This is the first time [versus CC of Philadelphia]



that they have all played together."

Coach Sullivan only has one returning player, Nicole Nasta, with which to build a more solid foundation than last year.

Last year's 2-8 record perhaps isn't one for the record books, but Sullivan looks to improve upon that this year. For keys to a successful 2012-2013 campaign, Sullivan stresses "hard work,

Coach Lori Sullivan (far left) looks to see team growth in a year of rebuilding with mostly freshmen in 2012 playing the game to have fun, and learning to improve performances every time out."

On a team that has only two girls over 5 feet 8 inches tall, the Lady Centurions may well depend on their quickness and outside shooting to win games.

Sabrina Ballendorf may step up as a good outside shooter, with Shannon Swift and Liz Lyman providing a bigger presence in the low post area.

Sullivan said "We need to depend on our speed up front, and get good defense from girls like Morgan [Gottel] to stay in games."

The Lady Centurions look to gel more as a team, and to correct any early-season mistakes they made in their first game at CC of Philadelphia.

"We are definitely a talented team, we have a group of girls with a lot of basketball experience," Sullivan said.

"I think we'll be looking to get us some second-chance points out there. She's an amazing jumper, so we'll look to her to grab rebounds and get better "hands" out there for more put-backs."

Looking forward, the Lady Centurions will have a week between games, time likely spent in practice on fundamentals.

## Do Sixers have what it takes to make a playoff run in the NBA?

BY: TIM REINBOTH  
Centurion Staff

About a month into the 2012 Philadelphia Sixers look as if they still do not have what it takes to run with the big dogs.

Known to be a run-of-the-mill team ever since their championship run in 2001, the Sixers appear to have added the players necessary to make another run deep in the playoffs. A team which was one four minute sprint away from advancing to the Eastern Conference Finals a year ago hopes to outdo those efforts.

The team of new owners led by Apollo Global Management co-founder Josh Harris thinks that they know what it takes to bring a winner to Philadelphia.

This became apparent on August 9 when the Sixers agreed to a four team trade that brought Jason Richardson and Andrew Bynum to Philadelphia, while sending

long time Sixer Andre Iguodala to Denver. For a team who had been without a legitimate big man since perhaps Moses Malone, this move meant a lot.

The team also added Royal Ivey, Jason Richardson, Kwame Brown, Dorell Wright and Nick Young; a very talented and accomplished group.

Despite Bynum's prior knee injuries in the past, it was dreamed that the 24 year-old Bynum would carry the Sixers to the promise land.

So far the outlook is not good, as it was recently announced that Bynum will be out indefinitely, with no time table on his return.

As it stands at press time, sixteen games into the season, the team stands at nine wins and six losses. There are many good and bad things the Sixers have done this year. Despite winning a few worthy games thus far, the team has also dropped some games in which victory was expected.

The emergence of possibly one of the best young players in the game, Jrue Holiday, is one of the things that this team has riding for them. The 22 year-old has averaged eighteen points and nine assists per game in this young season.

Defending and being able to score consistently are problems that have plagued this team thus far. Although they have given up the fifth least points per game, they have been unable to get stops



Head coach Doug Collins (right) has Jrue Holiday (left) and the rest of his team off to a good start for the season when they need them.

Their bigger problems come on the offensive end. This team has only been able to come up with eighty-eight points per game, which makes it evident that the team is missing something. Many believe that that "something" is the player in which they traded for over the summer, Andrew Bynum. Many fans and experts still have faith in the team mostly because of their coach Doug Collins. Each year he has been the head coach, the team has gone up in win percentage from the prior year (.329, .500, and .530 up until their .600 start this year).

Collins also seems to be the guy that can make all of these players' skill sets blend together well and he may know what it takes for this team to succeed.

It looks like the competition for the Sixers has gotten stronger since a year ago, especially in their own division. The New York Knicks are off to a hot start by winning eight of their first nine games including two against the Sixers.

A much improved Brooklyn Nets team also has the Sixers worried. They currently stand at 10-4.

The Boston Celtics have been the Sixers main rival since the teams were brought into the league. They are also in the thick of things at 8-7 after losing to the Miami Heat last year in the conference finals.

This Sixers season means much more than it has other years due to upsetting Phillies and Eagles seasons, and a non-existent flyers season. People need something

positive to cheer about, and many believe that the Sixers are a team on the rise and will give Philadelphia something to cheer about.

### BUCKS SCORES

#### Men's Basketball

Nov. 10  
Bucks 59 Philadelphia 73  
Nov. 17  
Harrisburg 81 Bucks 71  
Nov. 20  
Bucks 80 Montgomery 102  
Nov. 27  
Stevens 86 Bucks 64

#### Women's Basketball

Nov. 10  
Bucks 26 Philadelphia 85  
Nov. 17  
Harrisburg 86 Bucks 30  
Nov. 20  
Bucks 28 Montgomery 62

### PRO SCORES

#### NFL

Dec. 2  
Eagles 33 - 38 Cowboys  
Dec. 2  
Ravens 20 - 23 Steelers  
Dec. 2  
Panthers 21 - 27 Chiefs  
Dec. 2  
Bears 17 - 23 Seahawks

#### MLS

Dec. 1  
MLS Cup  
Dynamo 1 - 3 Galaxy