

New advising program causes a stir

BY: KRISTOF PHILLIPS
Centurion Staff

To increase retention, Bucks has revamped its advising services and instituted an assigned advisor for every student, full- or part-time, receiving mixed reviews from both students and faculty.

In light of the 6 percent enrollment drop this semester, Bucks is looking for ways to bring in new students, and keep them coming back next semester.

One way the administration hopes to accomplish that is by streamlining the registration and advising process for new students.

The “New Student Orientation, Advising, and Plan-



PHOTO CREDIT: SARA SANDERSON

New Advising and Transfer Center located down the steps from Student Life.

ning Handbook” created by the Advising and Transfer Center has been instrumental in guiding new students.

Ronni November, director of the Advising and Transfer Center, explained the handbook, given out during

new student orientation, helps new students with everything from setting up their Bucks email to getting them thinking about transfer schools.

Each new student is given an educational planner, a

person assigned to help them with their first semester at Bucks.

The educational planner will follow up with the new student’s progress around the three-week mark and then mid-semester a faculty advisor will be assigned to the student based on his or her major.

“We want to foster a personal connection with students,” said November.

The goal of the assigned advisor is to provide students with a “go to” professor in their major that can help them with course selection and transfer questions.

“Evidence across the country shows that if stu-

dents are left on their own, the lack of guidance leads to students dropping out,” said Dr. Clayton Railey III, provost and dean of Academic Affairs at Bucks.

“We’re trying to provide a structure that allows [students] to meet their goals time wise, financially and academically,” said Railey.

Initially, each full-time professor was to be assigned 25 advisees by the dean of their department.

However, problems arose, as there are more students than full-time faculty can reasonably advise.

“We’ve invited part-time faculty to take on the overflow of students,” said Railey.

CONTINUED ON PG. 2

Heroin’s stranglehold on PA youth

BY: CHRISTINA KLOS AND DOMINIQUE STANGO
Centurion Staff

A recent string of heroin overdoses in Bucks County has prompted the District Attorney’s office to action, and to call on the community for support in battling against drug abuse.

This heroin epidemic is now being referred to as a “hometown crisis.” In late February, two men, ages 18 and 20, from the Central-Bucks area were charged with selling heroin from their Doylestown apartment.

Another major heroin bust occurred in late March.

Three people from Warrington Township were charged after police searched an apartment on the 500 block of Easton Road in Warrington Township, and found 250 bags of heroin.

The Warminster and Warrington townships police departments cooperated as a part of the Bucks County District Attorney’s “Heroin Initiative,” myfoxphilly.

com reported.

Pennsylvania’s number of drug-related deaths exceeds the national average, and it has the 14th highest drug overdose mortality rate in the US, according to Trust for America’s Health.

At an open house hosted by the Central Bucks Regional Police Department in late February, police Chief James Donnelly said despite crime rates being the lowest they’ve been in years for Doylestown and New Britain boroughs, tackling the area’s drug problem remains a top priority for the department.

Heroin, crack cocaine and marijuana are the most available illegal drugs in Pennsylvania, says the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

On March 23, as a part of the DA’s “Heroin Initiative” a community meeting was held at William Tennent High School to discuss what the DA’s office and law enforcement are doing to reign in drug abuse in the county, as well as, what



Heroin being cooked.

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/ PHOTOGRAPHER: HENDRIKE

the community can do, too.

Matt Weintraub, chief deputy district attorney of Bucks County; County Detective Tim Carol; and Steve Derner, from Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) hosted the meeting.

Anonymous tips can be reported by calling 215-345-3784, emailing drugtips@co.bucks.pa.us, or texting your tip to 847411 with the phrase: “BUCKSDRUGTIPS.”

From prescription pills to heroin

Teens who become addicted to heroin are often first introduced to opiates in the form of prescription painkillers, easily accessible via household medicine cabinets.

With similar effects on the body and mind, opiate painkillers are often the beginning steps to heroin usage.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse many heroin users have used prescription painkill-

ers prior to using heroin.

Due to their addictive-nature and high cost, prescription pills, like Oxytocin and Percocet, many teens and young adults quickly turn to heroin as a cheap alternative to get their fix.

Both are derived from opium, but heroin also contains many additives, increasing the drug’s deadliness.

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Bucks News

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Send your letters to The Centurion at Centurion@bucks.edu. Letters should be limited to 500 words. They will be edited for spelling, space and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer's full name and telephone number.

College Events

April 15
Centurion Men's baseball faces off against Luzerne 3:30 p.m. (away)

Performance class recital at 7:30 p.m. in Presser Room on Newtown campus

April 16
Centurions Men's tennis faces off against William-son trade 3:30 p.m. (home)

Careers in social work 12:30 p.m. -1:30 p.m. at the Lower Bucks campus Commons

Faculty lecture series: Chris Bursk 7:00 p.m. in Tyler 142 Newtown campus

April 21
Centurions Men's tennis vs Philadelphia 3:30 p.m. (home)

Centurions Men's baseball vs Montgomery 3:30 p.m. (home)

Centurions Men's golf at Northampton 11:00 a.m. at Green Pond

April 22
Newtown job fair 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Linkz Pavilion Newtown campus

Assigned advisor causes a stir

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1
But this has not been enough to manage the number of advisees. The administration has instituted "overload compensation" for full-time professors who take on more than 25 advisees, up to 70 students. During Bucks President Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt's open forum held on April 7, professor of language and literature, Chris Bursk, said many of the faculty in his department have 71 advisees. Pat Engle, associate professor of language and literature, and vice-president of the faculty union, spoke out during the meeting, as well, saying it was commendable that professors were taking time on the weekends to do advising, but was concerned the overflow of advisees was overwhelming the faculty.



Dr. Clayton Railey III, provost and dean of Academic Affairs at Bucks.

John Strauss, faculty union president, said "There are all kinds of issue depending on who you talk to." "It's a struggle to find a balance between teaching, improving as professionals, and advising," said Strauss. Railey shared Strauss's view, saying, "The most

challenging aspect has been balancing the advising needs of students with appropriate number of students for faculty." "We don't want faculty to have too many students and have it affect the quality of help they can give," continued Railey. "What's good for the students is what's most important to the faculty," said Engle. During her open forum Shanblatt asked faculty to think about how to fit advising into their schedules and what it means to be a full-time faculty member. "We need to take a step back and re-evaluate what it is to be a full-time faculty member," said Shanblatt during the open forum. The assigned advisor has been a welcomed change to the majority of students interviewed for this article.

Phil Stimmel, 21, an information technology major, and Kaylah Visnesky, 19, a culinary apprenticeship student, described the advising process and new student planning module as "easier and more convenient," than the old web advisor. "I think it's great to have a mandatory advisor," said



Bucks President Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt's open forum held on April 7.

Visnesky. Another student Michael Hinterlong, 19, a computer science major, said "I believe it's very effective to know your advisor personally." However, some students have already circumnavigated the assigned advising change. "I emailed the professor who helped me last semester to help with my classes, but she isn't my assigned advisor," said Reilly Egan, 18, a fine arts major. "I went to a teacher I was friendly with and I think it's a good idea for students to have that option," said Kayce Dygert, 19, a fine arts major. Others have found the change less than desirable, and have run into glitches, as the administration and faculty work out the kinks. "It's a lot more tedious now. Before you could get advising from anyone, now it's more time-consuming, especially for full-time students who work," said Joe Woll, 21, nursing major. Chris Saraullo, 21, described how he still receives emails from the engineering department about

advising, despite switching his major to computer networking technology last semester. "I get emails from an engineering professor saying he's my advisor, but I switched to a certificate program last semester." One liberal arts major, Missy Henry, 19, described how it took her weeks to finally meet with her advisor after sending many emails to setup an appointment. "Finally, she told me she would post times on Canvas for advising appointments, which took almost a week for her to do," said Henry. "My advisor's the one who's supposed to be able to help me and tell me what I need to do." Unlike other majors, liberal arts majors can be assigned a professor or faculty member from any department since the students in liberal arts are labeled "undecided." Students also have the option to change their advisor by contacting the dean of their major. "It's going to take a while to get used to it, it is a big change," said Railey.

Heroin's stranglehold on PA youth

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1
Weintraub shared that a popular additive, fentanyl is used to make heroin appear more potent. On occasion, drug dealers have been known to add large amounts of fentanyl with the intention of killing some users so that their brand name is believed to be strong, according to Weintraub. Once such large doses of fentanyl hit the bloodstream, users die in seconds before they even take the needle out of their arm. Weintraub listed off the names of a few heroin brands containing large amounts of fentanyl: Handicap, Wakeup, Budlight, Obama-care, Sugar House, Kiss of Death, and Call Me.



Prevention, support and education

The hope is, through the combined efforts of law enforcement, community support groups, and parents, Bucks County will be able to break this cycle of drug abuse. "I'm not a quitter, I feel empowered. I don't know if we can win, but we can never quit," said Weintraub. The Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) can help individuals and families struggling with heroin addiction. Help can be reached through their 24-hour helpline 1-800-221-6333. Derner advised the community to "empower kids, listen to instinct, be assertive, trust your gut, raise awareness, and teach kids the importance of intervention."

Local law enforcement benefits greatly from community feedback, especially in cases involving drugs. Anonymous tips can be reported by calling 215-345-3784, emailing drugtips@co.bucks.pa.us, or texting your tip to 847411 with the

phrase "BUCKSDRUG-TIPS." "Anonymous tips are a helpful way for us to help fight heroin," said Upper Southampton chief of police Ronald MacPherson. He asks that the community to reach out through anonymous tips or through NOVA's 24-hour helpline. "Drugs work in a cycle, right now its heroin's turn... I see a few over doses a month, most are teenagers and young adults recently out of high school," said MacPherson. To help keep prescription drugs out of the hands of teenagers, it is advised to drop off any old prescription pills at the drug take back boxes located at all police stations within Bucks County.

To help prevent heroin use, Weintraub says it's important for parents to talk with their children about drugs daily. It's dangerous to assume children and teenagers already know that all drugs are bad.

"If you child doesn't seem to be the child you know, something is wrong," Weintraub said. A few parents brought their children to the meeting held on March 23. Jameson Molloy, a fifth grader, found this community meeting to be informative and "scary, but in a good way... I literally felt ill and was about to cry..." Sixth grader, Katie Malloy, agreed with her brother saying, "It's very useful and I think more people should have came and brought their kids... I'm going to tell my friends what I learned." Another sixth grader, Marissa Koehnlein, said she wished her health class had taught them more about the dangers of their parent's medicine and what heroin really does. She said her and Molloy plan to tell their principal and discuss a change in their health class's discussion on illegal drug use.

Bucks News

Bucks continues to raise tuition

BY: MICHELE HADDON
Centurion Staff

Bucks’ Board of Trustees approved a 3.8 percent tuition increase effective this fall, meaning a typical full-time Bucks County student will pay \$4,178 for 24 credits and fees for the 2015-16 academic year.

The board voted unanimously April 9 to increase tuition by \$5 a credit hour for county residents, from \$130 to \$135 a credit hour.

The student activity fee will increase by \$1 to \$2 a credit. Technology and college services fees remain unchanged.

This most recent increase remains on trend with previous years during which tuition has increased on an average of \$4.50 each year.

It is, however, the lowest increase in the last five years.

Board Chairman Jim Dancy added that the measure was taken after careful consideration of all financial options.

“The Board of Trustees is always extremely reluctant to raise tuition,” Dancy said. “We have taken every



Tyler Hall

PHOTO CREDIT: SARA SANDERSON

action possible this year to reduce our operating costs while continuing to provide the top quality education that students have come to expect from Bucks. Our primary goal is to minimize tuition increases, and do so only as a last option.”

According to Bucks President Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, “All budget lines were carefully reviewed,

so there were many small cuts that across the college did add up. Additionally, we had several vacant positions—primarily from retirements—that we will not fill.

Although decreased enrollment is a factor, Shanblatt noted that a shortage of public funding continues to be the larger problem. “The primary factor,

larger than any enrollment decline, is that every year costs to operate the college increase and our state and local appropriations stay flat. This creates a revenue gap in our budget,” said Shanblatt.

While the cost of providing an education over the years has increased, the county has neglected to increase its contribution to the community college since 2008.

As funding continues to fall short, more of the financial burden falls on students.

In just ten years, the total cost of tuition and fees at Bucks has increased by over 54 percent.

According to Bucks’ 2006-07 Course Catalog, a Bucks County resident taking 12 credits paid about \$1350 in tuition and fees a semester.

Compared to \$2089 in tuition and fees a semester for 12 credits in 2015-16, that’s a difference of \$739 per semester or \$1478 a year.

Despite the increase in tuition, Bucks remains to be affordable as compared to four-year state colleges.

For example, Bloomsburg University, a state-system school, lists their 2015-16 tuition at \$284 per credit hour for state residents.

Shanblatt explained that despite significant budget cutting over the last fiscal year, the slight increase is needed to maintain academic quality and services.

“The college made some very difficult decisions in crafting this budget,” Shanblatt said. “Bucks continues to be a great value with strong academic programs.”

While the cost of higher education continues to increase, Shanblatt asserted that the value of obtaining a college degree remains very high.

According to Shanblatt, “The Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce says that almost 70 percent of all jobs in the United States require some higher education; perhaps not always a four-year degree, but at least a certificate or associate degree. In order to earn a family-sustaining wage in today’s job market, some higher education is necessary.”

“The value of a Bucks degree, whether as the first step towards a bachelor’s degree or to gain immediate employment, is significant,” said Shanblatt.

“The real question is not whether a college degree has value, but what is the cost of that degree. Bucks [will] continue to provide a quality learning environment with faculty dedicated to their students at a great value.”



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Bucks News

Financial aid do’s and don’ts

BY: DIAMOND SCHULER
Centurion Staff

With the rising cost of tuition for community colleges, it is increasingly important for students to understand how to apply for grants, work-study, scholarships, and student loans, in order to graduate with as little debt as possible.

According to College Board, tuition and fees for community colleges have increased over 3 percent in the last year. The current national average for full time tuition and fees at community colleges is \$3,347 per semester. Many students are unable to pay the price out of pocket; this is where financial aid comes into play.

Financial Aid is the office that makes it possible for many students to receive the money they need in order to attend school. The Financial Aid office works hard to help students, but there are many things students can do to help themselves.

First, Students should make sure that they fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. The FAFSA form is used to determine student’s eligibility for loans, grants, scholarships, and even work-study opportunity. The form is available on January 1 every year and the deadline is the following May 1.

“My mom and I started a routine this year, over Christmas break, I promised that I would fill out my FAFSA form before we had to go back to school,” said Sierra Thomas, 18, nursing major from Levittown.

Second, students must do their research and maintain a healthy GPA. There are many scholarships and grants out there to help students pay for school, and leave with minimal debt.

Community college students were awarded 33 percent of all Federal Pell Grants, and 16 percent of all Federal Work-Studies last year.

Maintaining a high GPA and participating in extra-curricular activities can be beneficial to earning scholarships and grant money. There are thousands of merit scholarships and honor society scholarships that students can earn by doing well academically.

“I spent hours online researching scholarships, and because I had a 3.8 GPA I became eligible for a lot of scholarships, pretty much covering the cost of all my college expenses. But I never would have found it if I didn’t go online and search; all those hours were worth it,” said Derek Adams, 20, business administration major from Richboro.

Third, Students should not wait until the last minute, and always read the fine



PHOTO CREDIT: SARA SANDERSON

print. In order to receive money for school there are many forms that students must fill out, and there are many terms and conditions as well.

“Because I filled [FAFSA] out early, I’ve qualified for a lot of grants and lower loan interest rates. Doing things early really does pay off,” said Thomas.

In order to protect yourself, make sure you read all the papers carefully, and understand what you are agreeing to. Loans, unlike grants and scholarships, require you to pay the money back and tack on an interest rate and fees. Student loans can be broken up into two groups, federal student loans and private student loans.

The subsidized Stafford Loan and the Perkins Loan are both federal loans, which students in need can qualify for through FAF-

SA. The interest on these student loans will not accrue while the student is in college. In the case of the subsidized Stafford Loan, the federal government will pay the accrued interest, hence “subsidized.”

The unsubsidized Stafford Loan is another federal loan but is available to all students, regardless of need. However, the interest on the student’s loan will accrue while he or she is in college.

Private student loans are loans from private institutions, like banks, credit unions, and other lenders. Interest rates and fees can vary greatly depending on where the student acquires his or her loan.

It is advised that students should consider a private loan only after they have used up all their federal aid, and loan money, according to finaid.org.

Financial Aid Director of Bucks, Donna M. Wilkoski, gives these tips to students seeking financial aid:

“Apply on time. Read all the information that is sent to you regarding financial aid and its requirements. Comply with our requests for documentation-if we ask for it we need it. Understand all of the student’s rights and responsibilities. Ask if you have a question. The Financial Aid Office and our processes are governed by the state and federal regulations that we must abide by, so we can distribute aid funds to all the students of Bucks.”

College is expensive but it’s not impossible, do well in school, do your research, don’t procrastinate, be financially accountable, and you’ll be on your way to the degree of your dreams, with little debt to follow.

Celebrate Community Day with Bucks

BY: COLLEEN HARLEY
Centurion Staff

In celebration of Bucks’ 50 years as an institution for higher education and service to the local community, Bucks will be hosting its first Community Day.

Planned for Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine, Community Day will be a chance for adults and children of all ages to join the college in festivities.

Across the 200-acre Newtown campus there will be live music, food, art displays, bingo games, a car show, and face painting, just to name a few.

“We want to give families the opportunity to experience the college’s wonderful, state-of-the-art facilities, meet students and faculty, and have fun,” said Steve Bacher, the digital marketing director at Bucks.

Inspired by a fun-filled day of Venus Fly Traps, bounce houses, and fire tornado demonstrations with his family at the University of Maryland’s Maryland Day, Bacher brought the idea of a Community Day


here to Bucks.

“I thought Bucks could do something like this. Bucks should do this. We have so much to offer. It’s a fun way to give back to the community, as a thanks for their support, while helping to introduce families to all that Bucks has to offer,” said Bacher.


Community Day will be a family-friendly event with lots of entertainment and Bucks is pulling out all the stops to make it a memorable day, according to Bacher.


“We hope that, while they’re having fun exploring campus, trying out the various activities, looking at the classic cars and enjoying various performances – including an Elvis impersonator – families will also learn something about the many credit and non-credit lifelong learning opportunities the college offers.”

For Bacher, seeing his ideas flourish and having a hand in planning and facilitating the event fulfills him with, not only a sense of accomplishment, but pride as well for him to be giving



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- Historic Preservation – History Underfoot, Archeology, Artifact Analysis
- Nursing – Adventures in Babysitting, A Heavy Heart (SimMan demo)
- Science – DNA from Strawberries

- Bounce House Activites
- Elvis Impersonator, courtesy Gene and Marlene Epstein Humanitarian Fund
- Face Painting & Balloon Artist
- Fingerprinting with Sheriff’s Office
- Fire & Safety – Car Fire Demo, Fire Trucks, Police Cars
- Helicopter Landing & Tour
- Yoga for Kids

More Information:

bucks.edu/communityday

back to the local community.

“It is wonderful that the 50th Anniversary Committee chose to support this event. It has been planned

by a committed group of volunteers who have been meeting regularly since September, and they are all wonderful people,” said Bacher.

Bucks News

Techgirlz teach robotics at Bucks

BY: JENNIFER BELL
Centurion Staff

Robots roamed the halls at Bucks, as middle school-aged girls learned robotics at the latest Techgirlz workshop.

The free workshop, held on March 28 under the direction of Professor Arta Szathmary of the college’s STEM department, hosted 35 sixth-eighth grade girls. Instructors and assistants, along with Szathmary and Christine Delahanty, associate professor of STEM, instructed the girls on how to use The Scribble and Finch Robots, the latest in robotics designed for education.

The group of enthusiastic young girls learned everything from downloading the software to activating the Finch to programming the Scribble to follow a straight line.

Through hands-on training, the girls had the opportunity to work together and use problem-solving skills to navigate the software. Instructors gave a brief history and step by step directions, but most of the girls were eager to figure it out on their own. The girls maneuvered the



From left to right: Kiley Young and Amelia Fisher with the Finch Robot.

Finch Robot around the halls, testing its ability to sense obstacles and watching the LED light glow in its beak as it detected impediments. The girls nicknamed the robot “The Manta Ray” because of its shape.

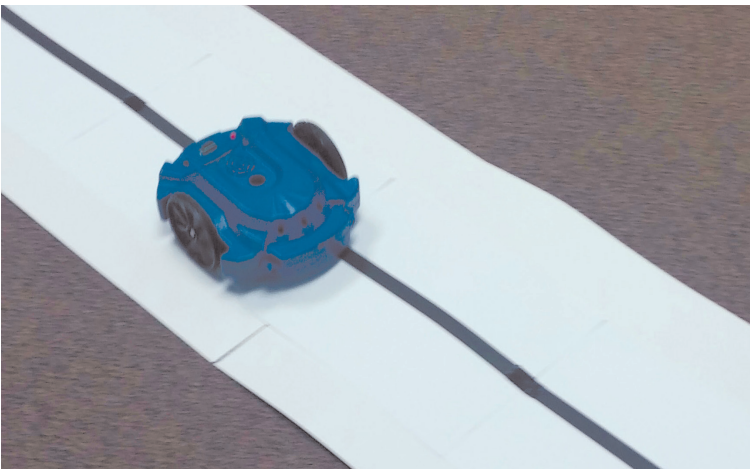
Szathmary explained that robots such as these have been used to have increase enrollment in computer science class and it has been

proven to help. Designed to target a younger demographic, the Scribbler has been used by the Institute for Personal Robots in Education, or IPRE, to aid in the education of computer science. Its design comes equipped with three photo resistor light sensors, infrared emitter, and infrared detector for input of sensory information.

“I love to see them figure it out,” said Szathmary. Her enthusiasm was shared as Delahanty praised Szathmary for her dedication to these workshops. Delahanty explained that she feels lucky to be a part of the whole thing and, “helps whenever she can.”

“This is a great introduction to programming and robotics,” said Delahanty. Workshops like this show young girls what technology is all about, while giving them an outlet to express their interest in things such as robotics with others who share their enthusiasm. Mothers in the group expressed their gratitude for giving the girls a place where they feel comfortable and have the ability to be themselves without judgment.

This was an important factor to one mother who asked to remain anonymous. “This is a safe place for them,” she said. The Techgirlz mission is to involve middle school age girls in the world of technology early on in hopes that they might consider a career in the field and close the gender gap. Volunteers who believe in the mission helped with the workshop, including some of the mothers. Techgirlz workshops will continue to be held Saturday afternoons at the Newtown campus. The next event, “Raspberry Pi” will be on April 25. Registration for the all the events can be found at www.sites.google.com/site/techgirlzbccc/.



The Scribble Robot programed to move in a straight line.

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Entertainment

New water media classes at Bucks

Local artist brings painting with watercolors to Bucks’ Continuing Education program

BY: JENNIFER BELL
Centurion Staff

Local artist and friend to Bucks, Rosie Marie Strippoli is bringing water media classes to the Continuing Education program in September 2015.

Strippoli has been a huge part of what The Gallery at the Lower Bucks campus is today.

The artist has been working with James Sell, director of the Lower Bucks Campus, on creating The Gallery for five years and continues to be involved in its success.

Sell explained that Strippoli “was instrumental in the implementation and



Artist Rose Marie Strippoli.

success of The Gallery.” “We wanted a way to bring the public in the facility... we, as artists, want to share what we do,” said Strippoli.

The idea of adding an educational component along with The Gallery has long been thought about amongst the director and the local artist who were a part of planning.

Sell is confident that it is the right time to introduce classes since the success of The Gallery is growing.

Students at Bucks will now be able to express their artistic abilities on a classroom level with the local artist.

Strippoli explained, “We are all creative at different levels.”

The upcoming class is designed to teach students techniques of water color and have them discover their own level of creativity.

The artist explained that the basics of the art of water media is about learning how colors interact with one another.

The application and tech-

niques of the art is the basis of the non-credit course that will be held at the Bristol campus in September 2015.

Sell explained that the class will appear in the Continuing Education brochure for fall/spring and on the website.

According to the director, Strippoli is looking to do three class over the span of the academic year.

They will appear under the heading, “A Passion for Painting” and the first section will be offered in the fall: Watercolor Technique Part I.

The second class will be Watercolor Techniques Part II, followed by Hodgepodge Collage that is designed to feature more unique techniques utilizing a variety of mediums.

Strippoli has been recognized by the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society for creativity two years in row and is a signature of both the Pennsylvania and Ohio Watercolor Societies.

“She and fellow artist Rodney Miller, member of Artsbridge, have a lot to do



PHOTO CREDIT: JENNIFER BELL

A painting by Rose Marie Strippoli.

with where the gallery is today... providing knowledge of hanging techniques, exhibitions, and more,” said Sell.

Currently, Strippoli teaches after school art class in Bristol Borough as well as

at the Middletown Senior Center on Wednesday nights.

Information on classes can be found in the Continuing Education Brochure for the fall and spring semesters and on the Bucks website.



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Entertainment

“Furious 7” bids farewell to Paul Walker

BY: MELANIE JOHNSON
Centurion Staff

The opening weekend for the movie “Fast and Furious 7” was a huge hit, mostly because of the late Paul Walker, and less because of the franchise’s typical approach.

“Furious 7” was released in theaters on April 3 after a long wait from fans, and a massive amount of speculation.

With the original release date of summer 2014 being pushed back almost a full year because of the tragic death of lead actor Walker, many people were itching to see how the film had turned out.

Walker was killed in a car accident in November 2013 before completing all of his scenes for the upcoming movie.

This left fans of the franchise very confused for the movie’s future.

According to “Tech Times,” CGI created by Weta Digital Studio, who also did special effects for “Lord of the Rings,” was used to recreate Walker’s face.

Walker’s brothers, Caleb and Cody, were used as body doubles for the remaining scenes.

Although most people heard there would be a CGI

version of Walker, people still wondered what would happen to the beloved Brian O’Conner character in the movie.

Many speculated that his character would be killed, so that there could be an explanation for his not being in possible upcoming movies.

What they really did for the O’Conner character, though, was probably the best part of the entire movie.

The last 10 or so minutes are a full tribute to Walker.

Tissues are definitely recommended.

It is clear that the franchise is losing a beloved character and real-life friend, even though it is not said explicitly in the movie.

Dani Shavirov, 19, a business major at Bucks thought that the way the franchise said goodbye was perfect.

“I went to the movie expecting Paul Walker to be killed off, but instead seeing him and Vin Diesel drive off separately was a better way to do it, I think. It was more peaceful, and classy,” Shavirov said.

The movie includes a short, and yes, tear-jerking montage of the interactions between the two lead actors, Vin Diesel and Walker,



over the last 15 years of the franchise, and an indication that Walker had been lost.

Shavirov also mentions that this “reflected not just how he died, but who he actually was, and you could really see Vin and Paul’s actual friendship.”

Jen Diaz, a former student at Bucks and “Furious” fan, said that she liked the way everything played out with Walker’s character, and thought that the CGI was done the right way, even though at the end the viewer could tell that it wasn’t actually Walker.

“They made him look lighter, like it seems like they played with the lighting so that you knew what

they were insinuating about his death in real life, but it worked perfectly with the story line of the movie,” Diaz said.

Some people have been comparing the CGI to the real Walker scenes, complaining that they are totally different looking, but a lot of people only use the ending scene as an example.

Diaz believes that it was meant to be this way, and, either way, it was a nice tribute to Walker.

Most people who have seen the movie will agree that this is what makes the entire movie worth watching.

There are definitely fast

cars and attractive women, because this is, in fact, a “Fast and Furious” film.

There are over-the-top cars and lots of destruction throughout a major city, as per usual. There is an evil character that “is always popping up in crazy places,” said Daulton Brady, 20, a criminal justice major.

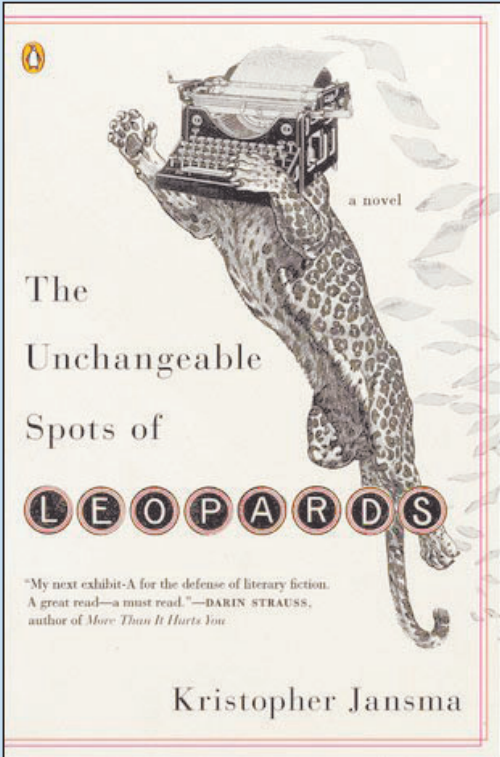
If you are a fan of the fast cars and completely impossible stunts, you might want to see this movie, because it of course follows the usual “Furious” protocol.

But if you are curious about Walker and want to see the perfect farewell tribute, you need to see this movie.

CENTURIONS’ CHOICE

Books

“The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards”



“The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards”
By: Kristopher Jansma

Described by many critics as a modern classic, “The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards” is a fun and energetic read. Not quite as challenging as a Dickens' novel or as dry as one of Fitzgerald’s works, this novel will have you grinning from ear to ear, as you follow its unreliable narrator deeper and deeper into the depths of his self-loathing. The novel has one disclaimer, “These stories are all true, but only somewhere else.”

Movies

“Get Hard”

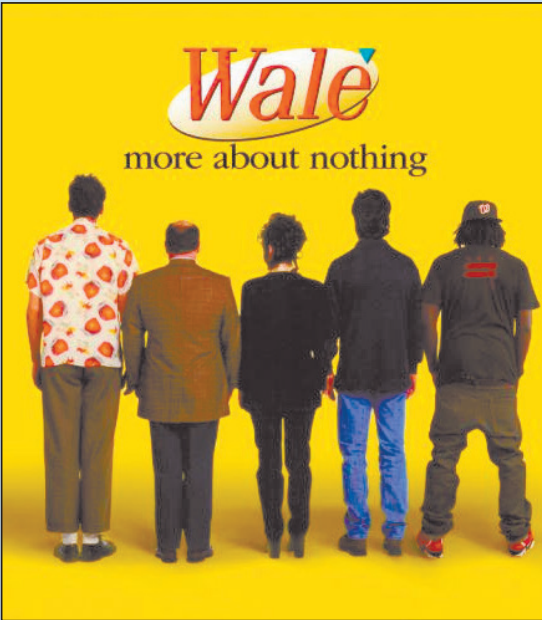


“Get Hard”
Comedy

Comedians, Kevin Hart and Will Ferrell team up to create this hilarious film centered around a wealthy CEO who is arrested for fraud and embezzlement. CEO James King (Ferrell) he is sentenced to 10 years in jail and has 30 days to get his things in order. Darnell (Hart) helps “train” King in order for him to “get hard” before prison. This film will have you falling off your seats laughing, and make for a great movie night.

Music

“Album about Nothing”



“Album about Nothing”
Wale

Wale’s “Album about Nothing,” debuted at No.1 on the Billboard Hot 200 charts and sold 88,000 copies its opening week. The rapper is known for controversial and raw content that speaks to the youth. He continues to stay at the top of the charts with little rivaling him besides the “Furious 7 Soundtrack.” If you enjoy rap/hip-hop and real lyrics, this album is a must listen.

Entertainment

Centurion’s summer movie guide

BY: CHAD SABOURIN
Centurion Staff

With the end of the semester just weeks away and summer coming upon us, it feels fitting to talk about upcoming films that will be hitting cinemas this summer.

In a two-part guide, The Centurion has gone ahead and broken down the summer movie premiers into two categories.

“Summer hits,” what we expect to be a huge success, and a great movie outing and “Summer flops,” the movies that will be belly-flopping their way into theaters this summer.



Summer Hits

To start off the summer, “Avengers: Age of Ultron” will be smashing its way into theaters on May 1.

The sequel to Marvel’s “The Avengers,” Age of Ultron looks to be this summer’s biggest hit.

Adapted from Marvel’s 2013 summer 10-part

Director George Miller’s Mad Max franchise will be returning to the big screen on May 15 without Mel Gibson.

“Mad Max: Fury Road” is the fourth film in the post-apocalyptic saga,

comic crossover, “Avengers: Age of Ultron” pits The Avengers against an artificial intelligence known as Ultron that has evolved to wipe out all organic life and take over the Earth.

It is anticipated to be the highest grossing film of the summer, if not the year.

which first debuted in 1979. Tom Hardy will be replacing Gibson as Mad Max.

This time around Max teams up with a mysterious woman, Furiosa, in a battle for survival.



“Jurassic World” is set to release June 12, making it the fourth film in the Jurassic Park franchise.

With Chris Pratt in the lead role it hopes to reignite the success of the franchise, which was stifled by the lackluster third film released in 2001.

The second week of May sees Arnold Schwarzenegger’s zombie horror film “Maggie” hit theaters and hopes to become a sleeper hit.

Abigail Breslin stars as a young girl who becomes infected with a virus, slowly turning her into a flesh-eating zombie.

Schwarzenegger plays the role of her father who struggles with his duty to save his daughter as she increasingly zombifies.



Summer Flops



“Spy” looks to be Melissa McCarthy’s latest film flop. Working for the CIA yet never advancing onto fieldwork, McCarthy gets her chance to shine when Jude Law misfires on the job.

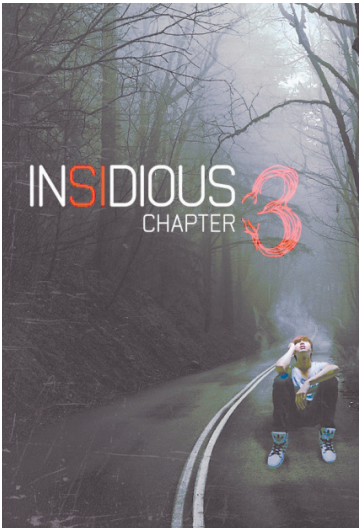
The music and awful jokes in the trailer say it all.

Why waste your precious time on the same foul humor as all the previous McCarthy movies, which is precisely why “Spy” has flop stamped all over it.

“Insidious: Chapter 3” is most likely to be the lowest grossing film in the Insidious franchise.

‘Chapter 3’ is a prequel to the previous Insidious films, which follow the haunting of a family that must use a psychic to contact a spiteful ghost.

Considering the trailer and previous chapters “Insidious 3” will do nothing to scare today’s audiences.



Part two continued in issue 13

Hip Hop Hype

BY: JEFF GADZINSKI
Centurion Staff



Meek Mill dispels the rumored release date for his long-anticipated album, “Dreams Worth More Than Money,” which was originally set to release September 9, 2014.

According to hotnewhiphop.com, the album would be releasing sooner than fans could have dreamed - April 14.

When I stumbled across this news I was shocked and my excitement could hardly be contained.

Alas, it was all for nothing.

The outspoken star took Twitter on April 9 to clear up the rumor of his album dropping in just a few days, saying, “My album (is) coming when I say,” continuing to dispel the rumors he insisted, “that ain’t true stay down its coming!”

Late last summer Meek Mill was sentenced to six months in prison for violating his parole, and consequently the album’s release date has remained a mystery to his fans.

From the streets of North Philadelphia Meek Mill’s mixtapes had catapulted him from obscurity and into the limelight, but his run-in with the law has muffled the hype surrounding his second full length album.

In 2011 leader of label “Maybach Music Group” Rick Ross came across the young aspiring artist and opened the door for Meek Mill to make his mark in the hip-hop world.

Since he has released

a trio of mixtapes titled “Dream Chasers,” and an internationally renowned album, “Dreams and Nightmares” that released in October 2012.

With summer party jams such as “House Party” and huge radio hits like “I’m a Boss” and “Tupac Back” featuring Rick Ross all releasing around the same time, all eyes were on Meek Mill and he received huge support from Philly.

The city finally had someone to represent it after a long drought of Philly artists in the limelight.

Perhaps even bigger than his first album itself was the album’s introductory song known to most as “Intro” but officially named “Dreams and Nightmares.”

Many influential hip-hop artists consider it an instant classic.

Fellow artist Drake deemed it one of the best hip-hop songs of this generation.

After a massively successful first album, it was a no-brainer that fans were eager to know when Meek Mill’s sophomore album “Dreams Worth More Than Money” would release.

As the buzz continued to grow, the hype was silenced on July 7, 2014 when Mill took to Twitter posting “9.9.14” the official release date of the album.

Soon after this post, the hip-hop world was shocked to hear that Meek Mill had been sentenced to six months in prison for violating his parole, but it still seemed, for a short while, that the album was still releasing on schedule.

Now nine months later, Meek Mill has stirred up fans by dropping two singles from the album, “Monster” and “B-Boy,” leaving them with more questions than answers.

Art at Bucks

Wednesday April 15
7:30 p.m.

Performance Class Recital in Presser Music Room, Music & Multimedia Center

This program showcases current recipients of Bucks Music Scholarships. The Spring Concert series is presented by the Department of the Arts of Bucks and all concerts are free and open to the public.

“The Picture That Remains” library second floor, Newtown Campus

11 photographs from Brown’s book, “The Picture that Remains,” “will be on display through May 6.

Saturday April 18
7:30 p.m.

The Jim Cullum Jazz Band Concert in the Zlock Performing Arts Center, Newtown Campus

The Jim Cullum Jazz Band plays jazz in the classic manner, that is, in the style of small, hot ensembles prior to WWII.

They have appeared in Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap and major worldwide jazz festivals, and star in their own public radio series, “Riverwalk Jazz,” heard on over 150 public radio stations, including WRTI. \$20 general public, \$10 students & seniors.

Thursday April 23
11:00 a.m.

Poetry reading & artist talk in the Newtown campus Library Learning Studio, Room 220

Will Brown will discuss his photographs, and Thomas Devaney will read poetry inspired by them.

This program is presented in conjunction with an exhibition of Brown’s photographs on display in the library.

7:30 p.m.
Jazz guitarist Pat Martino in the Zlock Performing Arts Center, Newtown Campus

Recognized as one of the most exciting and virtuosic guitarists in the post-bop and soul jazz traditions, Pat Martino performs in the Hammond B-3 organ-based jazz trio that first garnered him attention five decades ago.

Tickets are \$24 general admission and \$10 for students and seniors.

Monday April 27
7:30 p.m.

Jazz Chamber Ensemble in the Presser Music Room, Music & Multimedia Center

The BCCC Chamber Jazz Ensemble presents the talents of our music students in the unique dynamic of a small group performance.

The Spring Concert series is presented by the Department of the Arts of Bucks and all concerts are free and open to the public.

Wednesday April 29
10:00 a.m.

“A Fine Line: Observation, Discovery & Expression in Drawing” in the Artmobile (across from 3-D Arts)

Enjoy an interactive exhibition for all ages in the college’s traveling art museum. “A Fine Line” features more than 63 drawings by 22 accomplished artists ranging from quick sketches to large finished works.

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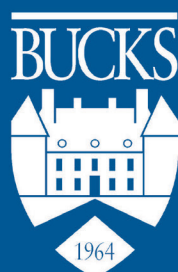
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Bucks News

Nursing Aides in high demand

BY: ANNA MEREZHKO
Centurion Staff

Bucks Nurse Aide Training program provides students with the opportunity to work in high-demand jobs by taking a 12-week course that is available year-round.

The program is a 130-hour, three month program that is designed to prepare students for employment in long-term care agencies by combining classroom and clinical work.

The clinical work will take place at one of the approved long-term care facilities located in Bucks County.

Upon completion of the program, students can take the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) exam and can be enrolled in the Pennsylvania Nurse Aide Registry, if they receive a passing grade.



PHOTO CREDIT: IMAGE COURTESY OF STOCKIMAGES AT FREEDIGITALPHOTOS.NET

“The Nurse Aide program is a non-credit program that we offer here at the college,” said Denise McCardle-Ladden, assis-

tant director of the Allied Health Nurse Aide Training Program.

“After just 12 weeks of training, two days a week,

our graduates are eligible to sit for an exam given through the American Red Cross. When they successfully complete that, then they are on the statewide registry, which they have to be in order to work in long term care or in nursing homes as a nursing assistant,” said McCardle-Ladden.

The program is offered in the spring, summer and fall semesters and is available at all three campuses. It has been in the college now for at least ten years.

“The job opportunities for nursing assistants are really wide open. I get calls every week from clinical agencies asking if we have anyone who’s looking for a job. They need nurse aides, so it is in high demand,” said McCardle-Ladden.

Students will have an opportunity to talk to employers hiring nurse aides

at the Job Fair on April 22, in the Links Pavilion at the Newtown Campus from 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.

The cost for the 12-week course is \$959. Students that wish to take the American Red Cross exam will have to pay an additional \$102.

However, these charges can be reimbursed if, within 12 months of completing the program, graduates become employed by a Medicare/Medicaid approved nursing care facility.

“This is another benefit for the student . . . It is a way for students to supplement their income while working towards their college degree,” said McCardle-Ladden.

To schedule a registration appointment, contact the Nurse Aide Training Program at 215-968-8025 (press option #3) or email nurseaide@bucks.edu.

Photography Club returns to Bucks

BY: JUSTIN BIFOLCO
Centurion Staff

It’s been over five years since Bucks has had a photography club, but finally photography lovers have a place to call home.

The newly formed Photography Club gives student photographers a chance to gain feedback on their portfolios, speak about what types of photography inspires them, and even do some photo jobs for the school on occasion.

Thanks to Becky Jones, 25, a childcare major, this spring marks the start of the new club.

Jones said she came across the idea of bringing a new photography club to Bucks when she realized students didn’t have a place to go for photography.

“A lot of my friends had a camera, but didn’t have a club,” said Jones.

“It’s fun to see other people’s photos, and be like I’m going to go try that.”

Jones explained that they often take pictures of events at the school.

Some work the photography club has already been able to do includes taking photographs of the Student Government Association (SGA) at their dress rehearsal.

Members of the photog-



PHOTO CREDIT: BECKY JONES

“Arival” by Becky Jones.

raphy club are expected to attend the Bucks Spring Fling, held on April 28.

This will give students the opportunity to have photos taken of them with photo props.

Jones explained that the majority of students who come to the meetings are not necessarily photography majors, but simply students who have an interest in the art of photography.

The purpose of the club is to share techniques and ideas that one would not have normally thought of before, and gain new perspectives about the art of photography.

Jones pushed the fact that all majors are welcome to come out and express their interests.

All students are welcome to show up and bring their work and talk about the art of photography itself.

Bridging Historias through Latino History and Culture

BY: TYLER GOLDBERG
Centurion Staff

For many years now in the US, the Latino population has been increasing and will continue to as the years go by.

Because of this, as a country it is imperative that we try and learn about their history; this is what the Bridging Historias conference aims to do.

In 2013, faculty from 11 colleges received a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities, NEH, to look at the importance of adding Latino studies into community colleges. The NEH awards grants for top-rated proposals that are examined by independent and external reviews.

The grants allow professors and others to participate in these events and show how they went about implementing these studies into community colleges.

Bucks has received one of the grants for the upcoming panels and will be participating in the events that go along with grant.

The participants from Bucks are John Petito, dean of the social and behavioral science department, Samantha Gross a professor of sociology and history professor, Jerry Millevoi, history professor and Sarah Jakub a professor of sociology and history.

There will be several presentations and panels at the conference on May 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, and 365 Fifth Avenue,



PHOTO CREDIT: BUCKS.EDU

From left to right: John Petito, dean of the social and behavioral science department, and Sarah Jakub, professor of sociology and history. Both are participating in “Bridgin Historias through Lation History and Culture.”



Elebash Recital Hall, New York.

The main questions and issues that participants will be responding to at the conference include: what does Latino Studies look like on the community college campus, where should its content be located in the institution’s curriculum, and in what ways is the development of Latino studies driven by student demographics.

“Here’s why this topic is enormously important. The Latino population has been one of its fastest growing in recent decades. According to the Pew Research Center, since 1970, the Latino population has grown 592 percent, largely because of the arrival of new immigrants from Latin America — especially Mexico. By comparison, the U.S. population overall has grown 56 percent over the same period. Between 2000 and 2010 alone, Latinos made up more than half of U.S. population growth,” said Millevoi.

Jakub and Petitto will

co-present “Out of the Classroom and into the Communities.”

Jakub said that they collaborated with a Bronx community college professor and together they took a field trip with some Caucasian Bucks students and Dominican students.

The students went to a Dominican restaurant and tried to learn about the other person’s culture.

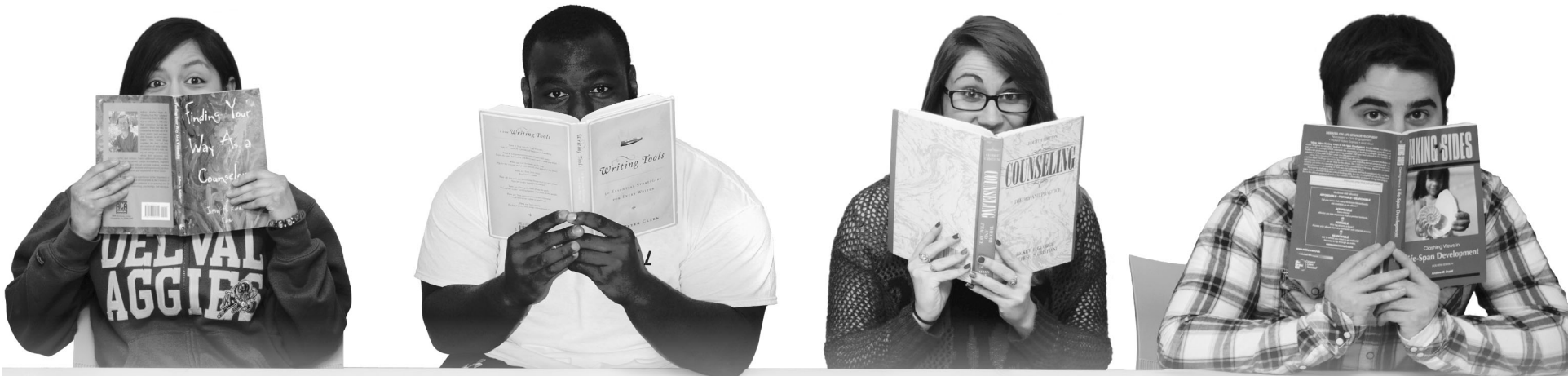
“We had the Caucasian and Dominican students interview each other and learn about each other’s cultures,” Jakub said.

Bucks currently does not have any Latino studies courses but through the work of these Bucks professors hopefully the administration will be convinced to add Latino studies courses in the future.

The NEH is trying to better blend Latino studies into community college curriculum and these conferences will be a great way of showing how these teachers have started to do just that.

The Photography Club meets on Mondays from 12:30-1:30 in the Student Life Conference Room

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Sports

Eagles hoping to fill holes with draft

BY: RYAN ERNEY

Centurion Staff

With the 2015 NFL Draft fast approaching, all eyes are turned to the hometown Philadelphia Eagles to see what players they will select in order to improve the team.

Coming off a second straight 10-6 season under head coach Chip Kelly, Philadelphia is looking to acquire the pieces that will give them that extra push from a pretty good team to one that is contending for a Super Bowl.

The Eagles have already addressed some very crucial needs through free agency.

Cornerbacks Byron Maxwell and Walter Thurmond have been acquired from Seattle and New York respectively to bolster up a secondary that desperately needed it.

After the departure of LeSean McCoy in a trade that brought in stud linebacker Kiko Alonso to beef up the defense, star halfback Demarco Murray was picked up through free agency from Dallas.

Philadelphia also made a change at the quarterback position, sending Nick



Foles to the Rams for Sam Bradford.

However, free agency alone is not enough to fill all of the holes that this Philadelphia Eagles team has.

The NFL Draft begins on April 30, and the Eagles look to do some damage in it if they want their squad looking sharp come minicamps in May.

“I believe they need to focus on the cornerbacks and quarterbacks in the draft,” said Tyler Gillen, 19, a liberal arts major from Langhorne.

“Don’t risk on (Marcus) Mariota but try and see if

you can find a good mobile quarterback to back up Sam Bradford.”

Bucks students have different opinions on the Philadelphia Eagles’ biggest needs for a successful season.

“First of all, I think they need to get a true number one wide receiver,” said Tyler Jardine, 21, a business major from Perkasio.

“Josh Huff and Jordan Matthews are still young, and no team should be going into a season with Riley Cooper as their number one wide receiver.”

“Getting a fast wideout like DeSean Jackson in the draft will really stretch the

field and open the running game for Demarco Murray,” continued Jardine.

Although the Eagles did sign two free agent cornerbacks already, it will take more than that to sure up what was the weakest secondary in the NFL last year.

“Grabbing the best safety available in the first round will be a great way to make sure that our secondary is vastly improved from 2014,” Jardine said.

There are seven rounds in the draft, so it allows Philadelphia the opportunity to address more than one position.

“Getting some offensive line help can’t hurt with the

departure of some of our key guys,” Jardine said.

The Eagles currently have the 20th overall pick in the draft, but with how Chip Kelly has been wheeling and dealing, who knows what picks they will have once it is time to begin.

With a strong front seven on defense, a strong running game on offense, and strong special teams across the board, all of the Eagles positions could be filled if they play their cards right.

The only thing left now for the fans to do is sit back, buckle up, and enjoy what they can of the wild ride that is sure to come.

A black and white photograph of a young woman with long dark hair, smiling and looking at a tablet computer she is holding. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a laptop screen.

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Sports

Phillies’ season forecast dismal



Philadelphia Phillies Opening Day on April 6, 2015.

BY: DILLON COONEY
Centurion Staff

From the span of 2007 to 2011, the Philadelphia Phil-
lies dominated the National
League East division, even
bringing home the World
Series trophy in 2008. But,
ever since an 81-81 season
in 2012, the Phillies have
never looked promising.
With yet another down
year predicted ahead, Phila-
delphia fans are prepared.
“Maybe it’s going to come
down to our general man-
ager Ruben Amaro,” said
Bucks student Nicholas
Mackell, 18, from South-
ampton.

“I think by the trade
deadline he will blow the
team up and build for the
future,” said Mackell.
After all that Amaro
helped build after the 2008
season, it may be time for
him to change the look of
the Phillies for the better.
But, that isn’t the case here
according to Mackell, “He
blew up our farm system
just to get Roy Halladay
and Cliff Lee ... he has
done nothing but blow op-
portunities and really hasn’t
helped our future.”
Jimmy Haslett, 20, from
Southampton, said he
“respects what Ruben did

years ago with the big sign-
ings like Halladay and Lee
to try and get another ring
but looking back on it, we
got none from them and as
Phillies fans that isn’t what
we wanted to happen.”
Some others believe that
Philadelphia is for sure
going to have a down year,
with Bucks student Mike
Kane, 19, from Warminster
saying that this upcoming
season is going to be “aw-
ful.”
Also, Haslett predicted a
70 to 75 win season that
is in the same range as the
Phillies past two seasons,
finishing in fourth and fifth

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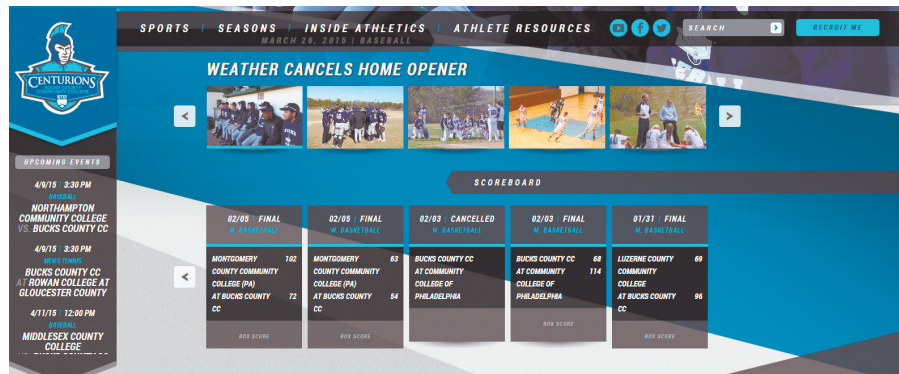
place in the division.
Kane believes it has a
lot to do with the younger
players on the team, saying,
“they’re getting used to
playing in the MLB so they
need some time to figure it
out.”
Haslett and Kane both
said they dislike the work
of Amaro as general man-
ager, and look forward to
the future of this organiza-
tion.
Or maybe some moves
at the deadline will bolster
our team and prepare us
better for a possible playoff
push.
“If the starters can get

us to the 6th or 7th inning
without too much damage
consistently, we should do
pretty well,” said Mackell.
That of course would come
with offensive help as well.
“Howard playing to his
potential would be spec-
tacular and with the help
of Chase Utley, I see no
reason why we couldn’t
have a chance of sneaking
in the playoffs,” Mackell
continued.
With Philadelphia being a
huge sports town, hopefully
the Phillies can pull off a
winning season.

Bucks Athletics

website launches

After a semester and a half wait the new Bucks Athletics
website is up and running. The new URL is <http://athletics.bucks.edu/>
The website will replace the old athletics page on bucks.
edu, but can still be accessed by visiting the home page of
bucks.edu.
Below are a few screenshots of the new site.



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