Modular problem

Students and faculty at Bucks have recently questioned whether the aging portable buildings behind Penn and Founders Hall are still suitable for holding classes.

The portable classrooms consisting of seven trailers behind Penn and Founders Halls are not conducive to learning, according to students and at least one professor at Bucks.

“The portables are an outrage to the college community and most of all to the administration,” said Hendrik Booraem, professor of history, social and behavioral science at Bucks. They were erected as ‘temporary’ housing and since then “have been maintained at a minimal level,” he said.

The portables were erected about 25 to 28 years ago and were constructed due to a lack of funds for a more permanent structure, said Bucks’ Vice President for Continuing Education, Barbara Miller. The buildings were a suggestion by Bucks’ first president, Charles E. Rollins, as temporar y classrooms to meet the growing needs of students and the budget, Miller said.

“For the last 20 years they deteriorated in place under the presidency of a man who fancied himself a builder,” said Booraem, regarding former President James J. Linksz, who retired from the college presidency of a man who deteriorated in place under the administration,” said Hendrik Booraem, professor of history, social and behavioral science at Bucks.

Yet, Booraem argues that the buildings in their current state aren’t meeting the college’s high standards.

“(These buildings) are subject to the vagaries of weather. Their AV arrangements are inadequate, so that students with classes in them are deprived of an important dimension of learning. That they should continue year after year is a running gag at the expense of students and taxpayers,” he said.

Miller stressed the “importance to serve the needs of students” as the motivation behind the portables’ original construction.

But no dates are in place for the construction of such a project. Miller stressed the “importance to serve the needs of students” as the motivation behind the portables’ original construction.

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**Portable buildings**

An inside view of the classrooms with “inadequate AV arrangement,” according to Booraem.

Nearly three-decades old, the portable classrooms were never equipped with bathrooms.

**Financial aid cuts**

Some students may feel a heavier financial burden after Congress failed to come to a budgetary agreement.

Pennsylvania primary and secondary education will lose out on $26.4 million with 90 schools losing funding entirely. As many as 360 aid dollars are at risk, which may result in a decrease of up to 29,000 students being served, according to estimates released by the White House.

Unfortunately, House Republicans and Democrats are still miles apart on an agreement. Many Republicans have continued to call for no tax increases, no defense cuts and considerable domestic spending reductions. Democrats have sought a mix of taxes increases and spending cuts spread over a decade rather than have them occur entirely in 2013, according to a report in the Washington Post.

Students and faculty have complained of the noise and disturbances heard during classes.

Continued from page 1

Many students who have attended courses inside the buildings agreed with Booraem’s assessments. “Students don’t learn as easily when they are uncomfortable. Students demand more...” said Matt Hoffer, 19, a business administration major from Churchville. The portables are “kind of a backhand to students to be put in the trailers,” said Jordan Silver, 19, liberal arts major from Warrington. Both students felt tuition should be somewhat reduced for classes conducted inside the portable classrooms. Others were less bothered by the classroom setting, noting how the rooms were as dull as most learning environments. The fact that the portables are far away was also mentioned by Ray Harrison, a liberal arts major, 23, from Bensalem. One other student commented on the bathroom situation in the portables: “No bathrooms in them, which is especially a problem in the winter. Why don’t they just build one big building?” said Brandon Bruschin, 19, a meteorology major from Yardley. Booraem, who teaches in the portables, said there were some advantages to working in the portables. “As professional discipline, they are probably good for younger faculty. Every teacher needs to learn how to cope with isolation and limited facilities.”

Continued from page 1

Even after the delay of the original Dec. 23 deadline, congress and the administration were still unable to come to an agreement. Students most affected by these cuts will be ones applying for financial aid after March 1. The cuts will force students to find aid in the form of loans, further increasing the amount of student debt in the U.S.

As of 2011, “total outstanding (student) loans exceeded $1 trillion,” according to Forbes Magazine. Fortunately, Pell grants have been exempt from the cuts. However, the Federal Work Study program and the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant will be affected by the cuts, according to the Department of Education.

In the short-term, Bucks students will, however, face increased fees on direct subsidized and direct unsubsidized loans as well direct plus loans. Fees will increase from 1 percent to 1.05 percent and from 4 percent to 4.2 percent, respectively, according to Wilkoski. These increases took effect March 1.

Most students across the state will feel some type of pain because of the cuts.

Some students may feel a heavier financial burden after Congress failed to come to a budgetary agreement. Students say such aid is needed, as documented by the Department of Education. Projections from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators show the college has received no reductions in federal allocations for student aid in the coming 2014 fiscal year. This should come as a relief to Bucks students, since 25 percent of students who attended the two-year school in 2012 received some form of financial aid, according to the annual board report. Furthermore, the report for 2012 showed 52 percent of Bucks students who applied for financial aid received it. Students say such aid is necessary. “Even though it is little, it helps with my financial needs,” said Donald Lam, 19, a chemistry major at Bucks. Bucks students will, however, face increased fees on direct subsidized and direct unsubsidized loans as well direct plus loans. Fees will increase from 1 percent to 1.05 percent and from 4 percent to 4.2 percent, respectively, according to Wilkoski. These increases took effect March 1.

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

Send Letters to: The Centurion 275 Swamp Rd Newtown, PA 18940 Centurion@bucks.edu 215.968.8379

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Anthony DiMattia
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If you’ve ever wondered what a career in journalism would be like, now is the perfect time to find out. The annual journalism forum is on its way to Bucks and is set to be held on Thursday, April 11, with workshops from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. It will be held in the Centurion newsroom in Rollins 127 and anyone is welcome to attend.

The event, which has become a staple of the Bucks journalism program, gives both prospective students as well as current journalism students the opportunity to speak with journalists currently working in the field. Guest speakers discuss their experiences in the field and open the floor to allow attendees to ask them questions about the profession.

This year’s planned speakers include Mike Sielski, sports reporter for the Wall Street Journal, Naila Francis, feature writer for the Bucks County Courier Times and Mike Rushton, contributing editor for SportsNetwork.com. Past speakers at the forum include former NBC News President Steve Capus (a former Bucks student), New York Times reporter Charlie Leduff and Fox News senior producer Jerry Burke.

A former sports reporter for the Bucks County Courier Times, Sielski began working at the Wall Street Journal in March 2010 where he covers baseball, football and hockey. The Columbia University School of Journalism graduate is also an author of two books including “Fading Echoes: A True Story of Rivalry and Brothhood from the Football Field to the Fields of Honor.” He lives in Bucks County with his wife and son.

Francis is a feature writer for Calkins media, the publisher of three Philadelphia area newspapers, including the Courier Times. Francis covers entertainment, with a focus on music and theatre. In recent years, Francis has interviewed prominent figures such as James Earl Jones and the Lumineers.

Rushton worked at the Centurion and graduated from Bucks before transferring to Temple to receive his degree in journalism. He is responsible for providing daily previews of games from the NFL, NHL, NBA and MLB. Rushton covered the 2012 Summer Olympics in London for SportsNetwork.com.

Bucks students were quick to point the valuable information they received from attending the forum last year. “Going into it I was still pretty new to journalism and I was anxious to see how the pros handled things, entered the working world and if they were in fact happy,” said Stephen Godwin Jr., co-editor-in-chief of the Centurion. “I came away from it happy with the answers and they did make me think I had made the right decision,” he said.

“Students have told me that this event gets them really excited about journalism,” said Tony Rogers, professor of journalism at Bucks and forum organizer, said he believes past students have been influenced by the forum. “I would hope that it has inspired them. This is a chance for students to hear from professional journalists who are working in the news business right now. So they have a very fresh perspective to offer,” Rogers said.

“Students have told me that this event gets them really excited about journalism,” he said. “They say it’s a great opportunity to ask questions of people who are in the news business right now.” The forum is sponsored by The Centurion, Bucks’ student-run newspaper.
The chilly weather has forced baseball practices indoors and even delayed the beginning of the season for some teams. Luzerne Trailblazers (1-4) pitcher Matthew Zienel referred to com in to relieve him and throw five innings of one run ball with one strike out. "I think we did good in our first game out, the cold weather did not help, but I think overall we got a lot of positives. We got a lot of hits, but just didn’t get the fundamentals right and they just got hits when they needed them," Creevey said after the game.

The Tweet of the day: The Phillies were 7-0 after three innings, but the Nationals rallied for 18 runs, including a record-tying 10-run ninth. The Phillies fell 18-2. #Phillies #Nationals

The turning point of the game came in the second inning when third baseman Anthony Iannotti would double in two runs that would extend their lead from one run to three runs. The Phillies traded for Rangers right fielder Darin Ruf for left field, and he won’t be ready for the start of the season due to off-season ankle injury. The 2011 leader in hits, the 37-year-old Young, who has played all over the infield in his career, was resigned to DH duties last year, and he won’t be ready for the start of the season due to off-season ankle injury. The Phillies have the speed to factor in to the offfense in the bottom half of the inning when first baseman Dustin Mayers would single home a run.

The Centurions would get 14 hits, but their main trouble was not hitting with men in scoring position as Zienel would repeatedly get out of jams. They were also a little too aggressive on the base paths that led to players getting thrown out multiple times. This is something Centurion Head Coach Jeff Cochran would admit to later. The anxieties to start the season would finally be re- solved for the Centurions, but the Trailblazers had already lost the first three games of the season and were desper ate for a win. The Trailblazers would add another run in the fourth to make it 4-0 off of a fielder’s choice hit by Zienel that made the Centurions seem a little frazzled as they would go quietly in the bottom half of the inning. The Centurion defense would spark the offense an inning later when outfielder Michael Klamowicz would pull off a great double play and Creevey would get the last out with the bases loaded. The Centurions would then get on the board in the bottom half of the inning when first baseman Dustin Mayers would single home a run. Creevey would credit the defensive play as for his success saying, “I don’t strike many people out so I need to rely on my defense and they really stepped up and made the big plays. Cireevey might have been ridbn a little bit too long. Finally broke down in the 8th inning when he would surrender a run on a wild pitch for his team to fall behind 5-1. He would limit the damage though, but he wouldn’t get out of the inning a batter later. The Centurions got some unconventional help in the bottom of the inning when Crevey would take to the offfensive by getting a leadoff double and got batted in by outfielder Zachary Stuebing. They would not get any closer than that though as they would end the inning with back-to-back strikeouts.

The bottom of the ninth inning offered a little more drama after the Centurions would make it 5-3 off of a single by their catcher Drew Sica. They would not get any closer as Iannotti would get his first save.

Creeven was satisfied with his team’s play, despite the loss saying, “They did extremly well for their first game out. We have been in side for a month and a half and working outside once and these guys have four games under their belt. I am extremely proud of these guys, they got behind, but they battled and did great.”

The Phillies season will depend on Roy Halladay’s health. In early December, the Phillies acquired outfielder Ben Revere from the Minnesota Twins for pitcher Vance Worley and top prospect Trevor May to reac†ch the speed element lost when Victorino was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers in late July.

Despite getting “Younger” in a physical sense, the Phillies also signed outfielder Ryan Howard, once fourth in the then-Tampa Bay Devil Rays system back in 2007. Despite being a DH for the last four years, the Phillies signed him to play right field, and he won’t be ready for the start of the season due to off-season ankle injury. The year also figure to be a put-up-on-shut-up year for 25-year-old outfielder Domonic Brown, who bested outfielder Darin Ruf for left field, hitting eight homers in Spring Training compared to Ruf—a first baseman by trade—who struck out in 19 times in 19 games. While the Phillies strength since 2010—pitching—has remained mostly intact, Vance Worely was replaced by Nationals RHP John Lannan This is especially well- coming to Lannan since he

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Coming into a new place you that's what I am going to do. 

The coaching but everything the fans, not for me. I’ll do 

Riley signed on to lead the when hall-of-Famer Pat 

The Bucks men’s basketball 

Centurion Staff

By: Matt FrustaCi

The portable classrooms at Bucks were already under high scrutiny, but since the recent virus has infected students the FBI could be getting involved

BY: ERIC MARTIN

Centurion Staff

Bucks’ portable class-

rooms were found to be in-

fected with live strands of the 

Ebola virus last week after claiming 182 lives and infecting over 400. The strands were thought to have originated in the day care room by means of a bat that found its way into the portable overnight. The majority of those in-

fected were students, said Dr. Lauren Cau-

lone of St. Mary’s Medical Center. “The virus seems to have come out of nowhere. The entire (health) faculty on cam-

pus was floored when we real-

ized that such a dangerous virus could exist in such a safe learning environ-

ment,” said Hillary Bernstein, a health official from Bucks.

Bernstein of-

ered advice on what symptoms the virus causes. “Students should watch for a sud-

den onset of strong flu-like symptoms. This includes fever, chills, shakes, shivering and chest pain. Many patients also note mucus membranes hemorrhaging to be problems with infection,” Bernstein said. Yet, Bernstein couldn’t confirm reports that the virus was spread by a bat. “We aren’t sure how the virus originated. All we know is that the strands originated in portable number seven, the daycare room. As of right now we believe the virus could have grown out of a child’s sandwich for lunch,” she said. Officials were able to confirm that a bat was

Continued on page #2

Bucks gets new coach

BY: MATT FRUSTACI

Centurion Staff

The Bucks men’s basketball team got a boost to their team when Hall-of-Famer Pat Riley signed on to lead the Centurions next season.

“I came here to win and that’s what I am going to do. Coming into a new place you have to have a positive out-

look even if the task seems impossible. I want this team to do well for themselves and the fans, not for me. I’ll do the coaching but everything they achieve on the court next season will be from the players’ hard work and dedi-

cation.” Riley recently signed a four-year contract with Bucks for $10 million per year. After a disappointing 1-13 season officials at the college believed the men’s team needed a jolt and felt Riley was a perfect choice as he joins the Bucks staff to help rebuild the men’s struggling basketball team

Continued on page 2

What’s Inside

Bucks News

Erich Martin reports on the strain of the Ebola virus which spread through Bucks’ portable class-

rooms, taking the lives of 182 students and faculty.

Continued on pg. 2

Bucks News

Matt Frustaci details the hiring of hall-of-fame coach Pat Riley as he joins the Bucks staff to help rebuild the men’s struggling basketball team

Continued on pg. 2

Bucks News

Joshua Smith details the cookie craze that has hit the campus ever since the Centurion bake sale.

Pg. 7

Weather


Tuesday: High 150. Watch out for fire and brim-

stone.

Wednesday: Low of 23. 50 percent chance of acid rain.

Thursday: High of 110. Extreme heat with 80 mile hour sand-

storms.

Friday: High of 75 with beautiful sunny day.

Saturday: Low of -20. Snow re-

turns in force.

Sunday: High of 120 during the day and low of -120 night.

Continued on page 2

Riley has led two different NBA teams to championships. Photo by Karen Anderson
Virus kills 182

Continued from page 1

found inside the daycare room.

"A bat was found in the portable classroom that is believed to have been the cause of the virus’ entrance into the college community,” maintenance official Carl Gromes said.

Many professionals who study the virus believe that bats are the most likely candidates for the status of natural carrier of the Ebola virus. It is thought that the virus spread to subsequent portable classrooms through their interconnected ventilation system by means of travelling rodents or insects.

The prognosis for Ebola carries a survival rate of less than 70 percent, however, one survivor, Charles Luengston, 20, nursing major from Seattle, spoke out on the incident “I can’t believe such a thing happened here. It’s crazy to think about. One day we were fine in class, studying and learning as normal. The next day though, nearly my entire class was in the hospital. Only 1 and two other guys were lucky enough to survive.”

“It was so bizarre that this happened. It seemed like we were studying dangerous viruses one week, then the next, BAM, our entire class was in the hospital, being treated for Ebola.” Bucks professor Bioi Ogy said.

“There is no currently FDA acceptable treatment for the kinds of virus these people are facing,” said Dr. Frundenburg from St. Mary’s Medical Center. “All we can really do is try making them comfortable, attempt to balance their hydration levels and keep them happy until they shake the virus, or die trying.”

The first victim of the virus was Charlotte Crunby, 19, history major from Bensalem. The most recently deceased was Professor Fragburckle. The thoughts of all those at the Centurion go out to those suffering at the hands of the virus.

Riley invigorates Bucks

Continued from page 1

ful season and run into the playoffs,” said Dr. P. Rice, Bucks’ athletic director.

At the shooting guard position Riley played his college ball at the University of Kentucky, then went on to play nine seasons in the NBA. During his professional career he averaged 7.4 points, 1.7 assists and 1.6 rebounds per game. When his playing career ended Riley turned to coaching.

As a coach he won a total of five NBA Championships with the Los Angeles Lakers and the Miami Heat. A three time coach of the year, Riley has had a way with players and creating super competitive teams. His career winning percentage as a coach is .636 in 27 seasons. Riley is set to have his first meeting with the players next week. The team has been keeping up with their workouts despite not currently being under the guidance of a coach. They are eager for next season and showing how they can really play.

“We are pumped for Coach Riley to get here. He is a legend and we can only get better from listening to him and learning from him. Look out for us to be hot out of the gate next season,” Centurion point guard Mark Brown said.

Riley has a lot of work to do this offseason but seems confident in his abilities as a coach to lead this team to a championship. With Riley at the helm the team should have some definite improvement next season.
Centurion rollin’ in the dough

Newspaper’s bake sale breaks fundraising record at Bucks.

BY: COURTNEY FLACH
Centurion Staff

Famous celebrity chef and restaurateur Wolfgang Puck has taken on an exciting new role as Bucks’ new head chef. Puck, known for being an award-winning chef, celebrated restaurant philanthropist and Emmy award winner, is coming from the world stage right to Bucks.

Taking on the permanent role of head chef at the Newtown campus of Bucks, Puck is adding one more thing to his plate and to his ever-impressive résumé.

With his signature catch phrase: “Live, love, cut” for the more than two decades, Puck has been experiencing the sweet taste of success by doing just that.

He is most famously known for Spago, his pizzeria to the stars, which opened on Sun set Boulevard in 1982. But that was just the beginning. A one man empire of over 100 restaurants, there is no chef with more celebrity than Puck, from fine dining to airport fast casual, dozens of ex quisite catering facilities in top cultural and sports venues, cookbooks, supermarket foods, wines, cookware and frequent TV appearances. In fact, every year at the Academy Awards in Los Angeles, Puck eats the governors ball.

When asked how he would describe his cooking style for the college, Wolfgang Puck replied, “Quick, convenient, delicious and affordable. All it takes is fresh ingredients of the highest quality and careful preparation. All the students need to do is relax and savor the inspired casual dining,” he said.

Not only has Puck decided to redo the menu for the college, he offered an extensive menu featuring delicious pastas, salads, even roasted dishes and of course, the master chef’s famed signature pizzas. Puck has also decided to open “Wolf gang Puck Express,” small stands throughout the college which will offer students contemporary, fast-casual meals for on the go.

“Hopefully he will bring some value to the menu, and I will finally get my money’s worth of food,” said Martin Ech, 19, journalism major at Bucks. “From what I hear so far, he seems to have some pretty exciting ideas for the culinary agenda here.”

According to Mr. Puck, from this point on, every meal you eat at the college will be a celebration of his Eat, Love, and Live (WELL) philosophy. This stands for passion for eating and dining well, which stands for a commitment to provide food made with only the freshest and most natural ingredients available.

“I think for my first time I might actually stop and grab something to eat in between classes here,” said Alex Medaglia, 20, a biology major. “I am excited for these changes and to have someone so well-known and recognizable here! His food should be nothing but the best.”

“To be honest I didn’t even know about this. I heard about Puck but not a lot about him. From what I’m hearing about Puck I’m excited for him to be at Bucks. It’s going to bring a huge edition to the Bucks Grill. More students might actually buy something eat now,” said Ryan Werner, 21, elementary education major.

To show students his passion for the culinary arts, Puck will also have his newspaper column, “Wolfgang Puck’s Kitchen,” published in the school’s student run newspaper, the Centurion. Puck’s column, which normally appears in 30 newspapers throughout the U.S. and Canada reaching more than 5.3 million people each week, will primarily focus on the health of students and good eating.

“I cook from the heart with love,” said Puck when talking about his cuisine. “I use classic techniques, contemporary aesthetics and the finest, freshest local ingredients. I invite you to come and taste the Wolfgang Puck difference.”

Eat, love and live well with Puck

Wolfgang Puck brings his famous cuisine to Bucks Grill.

PHOTO BY GREG HERNANDO

PHOTO TO COURTESY OF WOLFGANG PUCK
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