The Republicans take over

Despite Tom Wolf winning Pennsylvania’s governorship for the Democrats, Republican candidates swept the national elections, taking majority control of the House and Senate.

BY: MICHELLE HADDON
Centurion Staff

The midterm elections brought about a momentous win for Republicans across the U.S. in both the Senate and the House, while in Pennsylvania, Republican Tom Corbett became the first Governor in modern state history to lose reelection. Democrat Tom Wolf de- feated incumbent Tom Corbett for the Pennsylvania governor seat with nearly 55 percent of the vote, making Corbett the first governor in the state to lose the bid for reelection since 1854.

According to Greg Pezza, a political science professor at Bucks, the most interesting part about Wolf’s win is “he bucked the national trend winning a major governorship as a Democrat.” Corbett came under fire during his term for making Corbett the first governor in the state to lose the bid for reelection since 1854.

Despite Tom Wolf winning Pennsylvania’s governorship for the Democrats, Republican candidates swept the national elections, taking majority control of the House and Senate.

BY: GEORGE MEANS
Centurion Staff

Bucks has recently started promoting “Circle of 6,” a new “White House approved” app designed specifically to help people facing the threat of sexual violence or harassment by giving easy access to friends or emergency services. One in five women is sexually assaulted while in college, according to Greg Pezza, a political science professor at Bucks.

The “Circle of 6” app was developed by Tech 4 Good. The “Circle of 6” app is endorsed by the White House and is designed to prevent violence and help people find a way to get things done. With just a few touches on this app, you can send out a text message to your circle of friends saying, “Call me I need help.”

Just a few touches on this app, you can send out a text message to your circle of friends saying, “Call me I need help.”

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SEPTA

The “Circle of 6” app is developed by Tech 4 Good.
Ben Bradlee’s legacy

BY: JOHN FEY
Centurion Staff

Benjamin C. Bradlee, former executive editor of The Washington Post and renowned for overseeing the coverage of the Watergate scandal in the 1970s, died at the age of 93 on Oct. 21. On Oct. 29, a large memorial service for Bradlee was held at the Washington National Cathedral in D.C. Those in attendance included covered by the writer, politicians, friends, and family who wished to pay their last respects to a man they held in the highest esteem.

Bradlee, who served as the Post’s executive editor from 1968 to 1991, handled many popular and important stories, but none can be seen as more important than the Post’s investigation of the Watergate scandal. Bradlee oversaw Post writers Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, who were the first to investigate the break-in of the Demo- cratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate Hotel in D.C.

“I have been members, newspaper and magazine articles, endless interviews, books, in- cluding ours, documents, docu- mencies, movies about Ben’s leadership at the Post. What was the central part of his character, the part of him that was dif- ferent? It’s this he was known only as ‘Deep Throat’ during the inve- stigation. Felt was instru- mental to Woodward’s and Bernstein’s investi- gation, as he had access to FBI reports on the bur- glary investigation. Felt guided their investigation by telling them what to pursue and could confirm or deny what other sources were saying The Post re- porters.”

The Post’s initial find- ings led to the creation of the Senate Watergate Committee, a seven- member investigatory body. This Commit- tee’s investigation found Nixon knew of the five burglars arrested at the Hotel, and Nixon had been illegally tape recording conversations at the White House and using wire taps to black- mail people opposing him.

The Post’s initial inves- tigation led to Nixon re- signing as president on Aug. 9, 1974 to avoid impeachement. Many people involved in Bradlee’s contribution to the world of journal- ism will be remembered for his courage to fight for the truth.

“In almost every discus- sion or encounter with Ben, no matter how fleet- ing, he made you feel better about yourself,” Woodward said. “He made you want to be bet- ter.”

The Republicans take over

Continued from pg. 1

Governor Jim Cawley. Stack has considered running for State Senate at the same time, but said he will not accept both salaries.

In the U.S. Senate, Republi- cans gained the seats necessary to give them control, making it the first time since 2006 that they’ve had control of both the House and Senate. With one party in the majority, new compromises could be played to end years of gridlock in Washington.

“I think the Republicans know that if they are viewed as mere eviscer- tors, they will not win the presidency in 2016. For this reason and for the reason that the Presi- dent would like to be a bit more popular before the end of his presidency, I think they may find some common ground on some major issues,” said Pezza.

Republican incumbent Mike Fitzpatrick de- stated to the Post reporters.

news reporting consider this one of journalism’s greatest victories, a newspaper, with stories being looked over by three people, exposed government corruption and ran a President out of office when he couldn’t cover his tracks any longer.

Bradlee was characterized as a great leader dur- ing his memorial service for his courage in the face of opposition but also held in the highest esteem and his ability to inspire those around him.

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National News

November 13, 2014

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November 15 - The Chinese Golden Dragon Acrrobats: Two performances will take place at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. in the Gatewayadium. $15 admission for Bucks Students with ID at the door. For ages 14-63 admission is $24.50 and tickets can be purchased on- line at www.bucks.edu/tickets.

November 17 - Nursing and Allied Health Tamales Fair: From 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

November 18 - World Dances Day Walk: From 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Linke Pavilion.

- Empathy, Comparison and Peace Workshop: From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Location is TBD.
- A Lower Bucks Campus Thanksgiving: From 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Student Commons, Lower Bucks Campus.
- Faculty Lecture Series: Jerry Miller: At 7 p.m in Room 120-121 at the Lower Bucks Campus.

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“How am I going to get to school?” was the question that has been haunting the minds of Bucks commuters taking the SEPTA bus after hearing rumors about an imminent strike.

As there are many Bucks students who rely on SEPTA buses as their sole mode of transportation to and from the campus, Bucks commuters apprehensively waited for news updates on their mobile devices to confirm whether or not a strike was going to happen.

Over the Halloween weekend, the SEPTA strike took a turn that left many people sighing in relief. They came to an agreement with the union that, according to Philly News, stated, “the two sides came to terms on a two-year pact that will give workers a 5 percent raise over the life of the contract.”

With SEPTA services going back on schedule, as well as giving their workers what they asked for, thousands of people can rest easy knowing their public transportation can still be relied on, at least for the next two years.

SEPTA’s strike was a way for the union to protest against their low pay. According to sources, it happens every four to five years when the union’s contract is up.

“I have to agree with the strike because you cannot live without a high paycheck,” said a female SEPTA bus driver who wished to be kept anonymous. “I have a family to take care of.”

Another male driver added, “I want my benefits kept intact.”

Although the union supported their beliefs, there were still commuters who did not understand the reasons why a strike had been considered.

Jose Fabian, 20, a liberal arts major from Bensalem, said, “Why do they need a raise if they have long breaks in between their routes?”

The female SEPTA driver opposed his view, saying, “We are a union job. We have to negotiate and take a stance.”

Those left with no alternative transportation were the ones who most feared the strike. “If there is actually a strike, it would be terrible because that is the only way I get to school,” Arie Chriswell, 19, a psychology major from Bensalem, said.

Bucks student John Dayton, 19, a criminal justice major from Bensalem, said, “This is a community college where many students have to commute to get here. It is only fair that Bucks provides us with shuttle busses,” said Isabel Berrocal, 19, a business major from Langhorne.
Steve Bacher of the Bucks Sustainability Team laid out the global environmental problems facing Bucks students in his presentation of “The Climate Reality Project.”

The slideshow presentation was created by former Vice President Al Gore, and made popular in his 2006 movie “An Inconvenient Truth.” Gore created “The Climate Reality Project” in 2006. He has since trained many others to present his slideshow, including Bacher.

Bacher opened his presentation held on Nov. 6 by asking Bucks students, “What will be the Pearl Harbor of the climate crisis?”

Bacher continued by explaining how the Earth’s atmosphere is very thin, but greenhouse gases are thickening it to the point that the sun’s infrared rays are getting trapped causing average temperatures to climb. According to Bacher, daily heat records were set all across the globe in 2012. Additionally, 2012 became the hottest year in U.S. history.

As temperatures increase oceans are warming causing the Arctic ice to melt, evident by the rise of humidity levels of the atmosphere because a warmer atmosphere can hold more moisture. According to climate scientists there is 4 percent more water vapors over oceans than 30 years ago.

Climate scientists are attributing the destructive force of hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, the two costliest hurricanes in U.S. history, to the higher moisture content in the atmosphere and warmer ocean waters caused by global warming. In 2013, it was the 37th consecutive year above the 20th century’s average temperature. “I hope that people who see the slide show will become concerned, tell their elected officials know that they want action now,” said Bacher. Bacher and other environmentalists have proposed putting a tax on Carbon pollution. Bacher said, “It is a market based approach that would make renewable energy relatively affordable.” He compared the tax to the price people have to pay to dispose of their own trash.

Kelly Armstrong, 20, journalism major, “thought the presentation was fantastic and it really opened my eyes to the severity of the issues and despite the fact we are making changes with green technology they aren’t happening fast enough.”

Armstrong continued, “Realizing how it affects me wants me to participate more.”

Bacher enjoys presenting the “Climate Reality Project” to students because, “Many policies are starting to change, relatively quickly, as each generation gets educated and begins to realize how it affects me wants me to participate more.”

Bacher plans on continuing to offer this presentation for Bucks students each semester. “I can also offer it, for free, to any group that would like to see it, including a student club, at their convenience,” said Bacher.

Any clubs or organizations interested in a free presentation can contact Bacher at steve.bacher@bucks.edu.
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Open House:
Saturday, November 15 / 10:00 am
Students gathered at the Lower Bucks campus on Nov. 7 to participate in the first annual Zombie Run, a fun event that also helped the Wounded Warrior Project and collected canned goods for households in need.

The clouds created a dreary overcast setting a post-apocalyptic mood, as the zombies chased the runners through the Delhaas woods behind the Lower Bucks campus.

Two runners went through the course at a time, which created a challenge for the runners, as there was a large turnout of zombie participants. The runners began the course with two tags attached to them, and in order to survive the zombie apocalypse they had to run the zombies with at least one tag remaining upon completing the course. Throughout the course obstacles challenged runners, making it difficult to escape the deathly grasp of their zombie opponents with their tags intact.

Anna Candelaria, President of the Lower Bucks Programming Council, said nobody survived the run. However, this did not have a negative affect on the participants, “The day was great and everyone had a lot of fun,” Candelaria said.

After going through the course runners and zombies were able to reward themselves with a quick bite to eat from the food tables set up outside while watching other participants run.

“The only problem we faced was the windy weather,” Candelaria said. “Next year we’re going to have the tables inside with more decorations to avoid them blowing around.” The Zombie Run was an exciting and spooky occasion for those who came out, while also raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization that provides programs and services to assist local military veterans.

Each entry fee of $7 was donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. The entry cost was lowered to $5 for those who brought in a few canned goods, which were donated to Bristol Borough Community Action Group.

The Zombie Run will be held again next year and the Lower Bucks programming council plans to hold the Zombie Run annually with the help and support of Bucks students and the local community.
Criticism over President Obama’s handling of Ebola has reached a fever pitch in recent weeks. The latest uproar is over Obama’s appointment of Ron Klain to oversee handling of Ebola incidents in the U.S. Many critics are outraged that Klain has no medical expertise, while others are directing their anger towards the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for being caught flat-footed by this deadly, exotic disease. Yet, much of this criticism is shortsighted and misdirected. The real failure of the administration, our government and us lies in an unwillingness to act in a timely and meaningful way.

The current Ebola outbreak in West Africa began back in March 2014, yet the media storm surrounding the outbreak began to rage here at home only after a Liberian man, Thomas Eric Duncan, landed in Dallas infected with Ebola. Our concern about containing and eliminating Ebola only became genuine after it landed on our doorstep unannounced. The Ebola outbreak in West Africa shows no signs of slowing, as the death toll continues to rise. The World Health Organization (WHO) believes it will take several more months to stop the epidemic. This outbreak alone has killed more people, over 4,800 and growing, than the last four major outbreaks combined, making it the worst outbreak since 1976 when Ebola was first discovered. The lack of understanding about the virus and how to respond to it has caused panic among the affected region’s citizens and only fueled the spread of Ebola in West Africa. This can largely be attributed to the region’s poverty and inadequate healthcare. In fact, the access to proper healthcare is so poor in countries struggling with the infection, like Guinea, many have never even been to a doctor. As a result they are distrustful of the physicians, who have gone to help quell the epidemic, like those from Doctors Without Borders. There are accounts of armed locals restricting access to the sick, believing that the health workers who have traveled there are, in fact, the cause of the epidemic.

To make matters worse, many health workers in West Africa rely heavily on scarce supplies, like makeshift tents, to quarantine and treat the infected due to the lack of hospitals and treatment facilities.

For many years, the developed nations have ignored the extreme poverty in developing nations like Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone sooner, Ebola may not have reached U.S. soil. As Americans, we must come to understand that in today’s interconnected world we can no longer afford to turn a blind eye to the suffering of the peoples in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone sooner, Ebola may not have reached U.S. soil. Viral outbreaks, civil wars and insurrections are merely symptoms of the underlying fundamental issues facing developing nations—like the lack of clean water, medical facilities and food supply.

Opinion
Developed nations fail West Africa

BY: KRISTOF PHILLIPS
Centurion Staff

In Sierra Leone the Kenema tent helps to prevent the spread of Ebola.
PHOTO CREDIT: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

In Sierra Leone the Kenema tent helps to prevent the spread of Ebola in West Africa. This can largely be attributed to the region’s poverty and inadequate healthcare. In fact, the access to proper healthcare is so poor in countries struggling with the infection, like Guinea, many have never even been to a doctor. As a result they are distrustful of the physicians, who have gone to help quell the epidemic, like those from Doctors Without Borders. There are accounts of armed locals restricting access to the sick, believing that the health workers who have traveled there are, in fact, the cause of the epidemic.

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We got our wish on Christmas, and within minutes, I was playing “Pokemon Blue Version” on the Gameboy Color. I was hooked. I still remember the first pokémon I caught. It was a level 2 Pidgey. The lowest level pokémon you could have in-game. I felt sorry for it, so I caught it and vowed to raise it to level 100 (which I did). I also remember getting completely lost in Mt. Moon and developing my hatred for Zubats. As to what this actually taught me about myself, it taught me several things.

For one, it taught me you are never too young to go out and chase your dreams. The main characters in Pokemon are around ten years old according to the developers. It really reinforced the fact that if I wanted to do something, I shouldn’t let the idea of me being “too young” or “too old” or “too inexperienced” get to me. I knew I wanted to go and learn martial arts. I could. If I wanted to go to college and figure out my future, why not start as soon as I can and go figure it out. If I wanted to train pokémon, I’m gonna grab a copy of my game and train some pokémon. It also taught me that things will get in your way, and you may have to stand up for yourself. In-game, there were other trainers, gangs and even mob bosses that would try and stop you from being a master trainer. In most situations, you would have to fight them with your pokémon in a battle. But to me, I felt powerful in standing up for myself in that game, and in some ways, I carried that self-confidence with me into the real world.

It taught me to be passionate. To do things for others, even if you know you will get nothing in return. There were a lot of situations in the game where you had to save the town or even the world. Yeah, a lot could translate that into just getting through the game, but to me it was a lot deeper than that. In real-life, it’s easy to choose the easy way out—it’s easy to just be ignorant. But in Pokemon, you can’t be, you as the player wanted to be a part of this world, and therefore, you had to care about it to some extent. A good example of compassion in the game is the Pokémon tower sequence. You may have just traveled to Lavender Town and walked through the pokemón graveyard just to get the pokéflute from Mr. Fuji, but if you were paying attention would have also met the dead mother Marowak along the way. You know that this pokémon was killed by Team Rocket and that she had a little Cubone who is all alone now because of it. In a way, that’s all you needed to know, that certainly made me want to defeat the nefarious gang at that point.

Finally, Pokemon helped me realize that I’m a bit of a perfectionist. With the catchphrase of “gotta catch ‘em all”, they really gave the player a sense of urgency to be a master, you had to catch them all. I never actually did that until much later—it took me buying several versions of the game to actually complete that mission. But in real life I guess that translated into me always wanting to do the best for myself, even if it meant doing something that seemed really hard to do at the time. Because deep down inside, I know I want to be the very best. Like no one ever was.
The women’s basketball team is eager to bounce back this season, after nearly missing the playoffs last season as they fell to the Community College of Pennsylvania, 63-85.

The Centurions are in it to win it this season with the help of Lori Sullivan, head coach of the women’s basketball team, focusing on their main strategy, working together as one.

Entering her fourth year as head coach, Sullivan stated, these women have been preparing for this season all summer long. With three new players to add to the four returning players Coach Sullivan said, “It’s like they’re not new. Chemistry is looking good, I can see those new players being a big part of the team this year.” When asked who Sullivan thought would be a standout star this season she didn’t give any names instead she said, “I think everyone is going to have their own special part to bring to the team...whether it’s rebounding, a tenacious defense, or getting the ball up the court.” She added, “I expect my veterans to step it up and be there to get the younger ones ready to go.”

Team work seems to be the motto this year for the Centurions. When Alexa Wintersteen, 19, sophomore from Central Bucks South and Jacqueline Walsh, 20, sophomore from William Tennent spoke, their interpretation of the season seemed to be the same as their coach. Wintersteen said to expect, “hard work and team work,” and Walsh added this year’s team really “works together as one on the court.” After just missing the post season last year Sullivan said their goal is to make the playoffs this year but her focus is, “one game at a time, and in all honesty, one half at a time.” It won’t be easy for the team going up against powerhouse teams—Northampton, Harrisburg, and Luzerne—but after speaking with the coaches, Sullivan said the women’s basketball team are “right in the thick of things.”

As for the rest of the season Coach Sullivan said, “We are taking baby steps and working with what we have.”

“Think everyone is going to have their own special part to bring to the team...whether it’s rebounding, a tenacious defense, or getting the ball up the court.”
Men’s Basketball has high hopes

BY: GABRIEL ORTIZ

Despite the first round exit from the playoffs last season, this year’s expectations are at a high point for the Buck’s men’s basketball team. Last season the team successfully rebounded from one of their worst years in recent memory, a 1-15 record in the 2012-13 season, to reach the playoffs with a record of 10-12.

The men’s basketball coach Don Perry has high expectations for this season and believes that a proper ceiling cannot be placed on his team yet. “If we could change anything, it’d definitely be the way we performed down the stretch, we didn’t finish nearly as strong as we would have liked to.” He said.

Perry believes the key to the team’s success this season will be keeping his team together. “That’s always a key, keep the team together so we can have all our guys out there,” He explained. “If we can do that, if we can keep the team together, we’ll be a very good and strong inside team, with some shooters on the outside.”

Perry cited the loss of key players as the reason for the team’s inability to make it further into the post season. “Last season we got off to a pretty strong start in the first semester, but in the second semester, we lost a couple of players for academic reasons,” the coach lamented.

Students attending the upcoming games can expect to see new faces as freshman players make their debuts. Chemistry isn’t an issue for the men’s basketball team this season, according to Perry. “Chemistry’s not an issue for the men’s basketball team this season, accord- ing to Perry. “Chem- istry’s not a problem at this point, we do have some new guys but the other players are helping them out a lot right now,” He said. “We have some pretty talented players, if we play more of our game we’ll definitely be successful” Perry expects a lot from his second year players, especially when it comes to leadership. “We al- ways have a few guys that step up, and I defi- nitely think we have that so far this year, with a lot of our second year guys coming back this sea- son”. He explained.

As for the moral of the locker room, Perry is satisfied with the positive vibe his team is giving off. “The energy is much more positive around here than before last year,” He assured. “Confidence has definitely improved.”

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