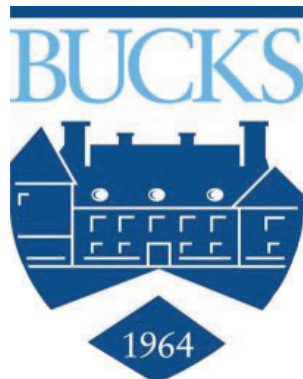


The Centurion



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

Volume 50 Issue 9 | Week of March 5, 2015 | Bucks-News.com | @Centurion_Bucks

New transfer agreement at Bucks

BY: JUSTIN LUCZEJKO

Centurion Staff

Rider University and Bucks crafted a new program-to-program transfer agreement that allows 13 different majors from the community college to seamlessly transfer into Rider University.

Now Bucks students, with the help of their advisor, will be able to take the credits from their associate degree (A.A.) into Rider University with junior level status and peace of mind.

“The program takes the student through each semester, suggesting what they take based on Bucks’ recommended curriculum and then it shows how it comes into Rider, course by course - the whole way through. So it’s really a road map how to navigate what courses to take,” explained Elizabeth Giardinelli, transfer articulation coordinator



James O'Hara (left), Rider University, and Dr. Clayton Railey signing the transfer agreement.

at Rider.

In a symbolic gesture Rider University’s James P. O’Hara, vice president of enrollment management at Rider, and Bucks’ Pro-

vost Dr. Clayton Railey III signed the agreement on Feb. 19 in the Linksz Pavilion.

“These agreements with Rider will provide Bucks

students with a broad range of opportunities to create a seamless transition across a wide variety of disciplines that our two schools support,” said Railey.

“The scope of these agreements leaves no discipline untouched, from the humanities to the sciences and much in between.”

For graduating students who took part in Honors @ Bucks the agreement is Bucks’ first-ever honors-to-honors transfer arrangement.

This will allow honors students who have graduated with an associate degree to be accepted directly into Rider’s Baccalaureate Honors program.

There are 13 majors that will transfer from Bucks to Rider, all of which can be found at Bucks.edu under transfer services.

“These specific programs we’ve chosen because a number of Bucks students are participating in them and they’re very strong academic programs at Rider. ...we offer scholarships in values up to \$19,000 per year,” said O’Hara.

CONTINUED ON PG. 2

Volunteer firefighters in decline

BY: JUSTIN BIFOLCO

Centurion Staff

For a few years now, Bucks County fire companies have been in the midst of a treacherous two-front war, as many fire departments are faced with the task of fighting fires and a steadily decreasing amount of volunteers.

“We have seen a lack of 18-30 year old members apply within the last five years,” said David Worthington, Perkasio fire chief and 40-year fire service veteran.

“The median age of our active firefighters is climbing, creating a shortage of volunteers as older members retire from active duty.”

As the amount of volunteers diminishes, the work-

load for current volunteers is increased. Often times, fire departments must turn to nearby departments for assistance.

“Fire departments with dire manning issues begin to rely on neighboring mutual aid departments for the additional manpower for, not only structure fires, but now automatic fire alarms. These automatic fire alarms, or AFA, responses create burn-out conditions among active fire fighters, as they leave workplace or family situations,” said Worthington.

Worthington explained the most difficult times are between 4 a.m. to 9 a.m. due to work obligations.

“During the daytime hours, we are able to respond 88 percent of the



Dublin Fire Company, Dublin PA.

PHOTO CREDIT: [HTTP://WWW.DUBLINFIRECO.ORG/](http://www.dublinfireco.org/)

time with a crew of six,” Worthington explained.

The dip in volunteer firefighters is more drastic than it might appear.

According to the United States Fire Administration, 71 percent of active fire departments run solely on volunteer service with an

additional 16 percent being “mostly volunteer.”

Out of all the fire departments in Pennsylvania, 90.1 percent are fully volunteer-operated. Undergoing the nationally-certified training to become a firefighter is free in Bucks County.

Worthington spoke about reasons why young people should get involved in their local fire departments. “In the current times of X-Games, Spartan races and extreme fitness, the same type of challenges can be overcome as a member of the fire service. Whether

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Bucks News



The Centurion wins eight Keystone Press Awards. Keep reading to see what makes The Centurion an award-winning student newspaper.

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Opinion



“The Playwickian” made national news for its refusal to use the “R” word. See where the paper is at now.

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What's inside

Technology



The Centurion examines why dating apps are becoming more prominent in our lives.

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Sports



Lou Pacchioli returns to Bucks after a 10 year absence as head coach of the baseball program.

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Bucks News

Centurion staff

Editor-in-Cheif

Kristof Phillips
Michael Girton

Managing Editor

Michele Haddon

Sports Editor

Carly Pendergast

Staff Photographer

Sarah Sanderson

Advisor

Tony Rogers

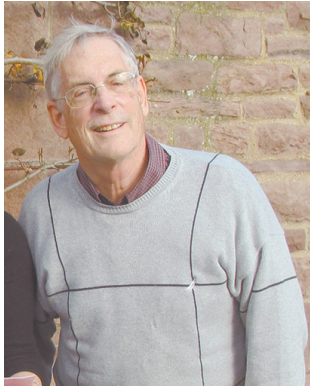
Letters to the editor:

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

March 5

-Faculty Lecture Series:



Chris Bursk presents ‘The Play of the Mind’ for the 50th Anniversary at 7:00 p.m. Newtown in Tyler room 142

-FAFSA Financial Aid Workshop at Lower Bucks Campus from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in room 107

-“Responding to the Islamic State and Stabilizing the Middle East” at Lower Bucks Campus from 12:30p.m. – 1:30p.m. in the Student Commons

March 9

-Gallery Exhibit Presents: “Paradise lost & Recycled” Jan. 21- Mar. 13, Hicks Art Center Gallery Newtown

March 10

-Lower Bucks Transfer Fair 5:00pm-7:00pm, LBC Commons

March 12

-Bucks Book Group Discussion: “Redeployment” from 7:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m. at Newtown in Rollins 114

Snow day fun or catch-up hell?

BY: JENNIFER BELL

by: Centurion Staff

School kids love snow days, but Bucks students are getting fed up with classes being canceled due to winter weather.

The spring semester has already had two two-hour delays, three early dismissals, and two campus closures due to the snow and ice this season.

Students are finding the time off is increasing their work load.

“If there was no delays, my schoolwork would not be as backed up,” said Jesse Hines, a full-time exercise science major.

Hines explained time missed was not a chance for him to relax and even be “lazy.”

“What makes it even more difficult is missing one class and having to catch up on four chapters for an exam,” said Rachel Brown, a business administration



PHOTO CREDIT: JUSTIN LUCZEKO

A wintery scene from a Newtown cul-de-sac the night before Bucks’ closing on Feb. 17.

major.

Brown said that she puts her work off when she doesn’t have class.

There were students who considered themselves lucky to have class on the days that the weather didn’t interfere, but experienced travel delays nonetheless.

Radiology students Michelle Bradley and Chandler Defibbo travel from Montgomery County to Bucks to take a required

class for the Gwenedd Mercy radiography program.

Bradley explained that the weather conditions differed from county to county, causing her delays, while classes at Bucks were starting on time.

“One day there we had ice and there was only rain here [at Bucks],” said Bradley.

Defibbo said she could relate to the other students who were struggling with

their schedule due to her own wintery travel delays.

Students can be notified of delays and closings via the e2campus text message.

Many students found the text message option to be helpful and convenient.

Students can register for the text message alerts on the Bucks website under the security and safety page.

Bucks strikes transfer deal

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

As an added bonus for those who want to stay local after finishing Bucks, Rider University is only 13 miles from the Newtown campus.

While the Rider University deal is the first of its kind when it comes to honors degrees, Rider marks the newest school amongst the current program-to-program agreements and advising guides for specific majors with 35 schools.

In addition, Bucks currently has transfer agreements with 55 different schools.

Ronni November, director of the advising & transfer center at Bucks said that Bucks students can transfer to any other school without an agreement such as the one between Bucks and Rider.

“However, the agreements do facilitate the process and help to assure a more seamless transfer experience for the student. Many of these agreements also include perks like scholarships and waiving of application fees,” said November.

Some of the schools that Bucks students can transfer to include: Temple, Penn State Abington, West Chester, Gwynedd-Mercy, Drexel, Holy Family, Kutztown, La Salle, Delaware Valley, Bloomsburg, East Stroudsburg, and Arcadia.

Anyone interested in the Bucks / Rider University transfer agreement should contact the Bucks Advising & Transfer Center at 215-968-8031 or Rider University transfer admissions at 609-896-5042.



PHOTO CREDIT: SARAH SANDERSON

Bucks hosts Rider/Bucks transfer agreement ceremony in the Links Pavilion.

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*Prizes will be awarded on or before March 31.



Bucks News

Centurion wins eight Keystone Press Awards

BY: MELANIE JOHNSON
Centurion Staff

Bucks’ student-run newspaper, The Centurion, won eight awards in a state-wide journalism contest, including four first place awards ranging from general news stories to best website.

Winners of the 2015 Student Keystone Press Awards were released last week, and the journalism community at Bucks is ecstatic.

The college went up against other two-year schools from across the state, including the Community College of Philadelphia, Montgomery County Community College, and Harrisburg Area Community College.

The Centurion won a total of eight awards this year, taking home first place awards in the top three categories: general news, ongoing news, and public service/enterprise package.

Michele Haddon’s “Bucks student’s loving legacy is remembered” was awarded first place in the general news category.

Michele Haddon, Alys-sa Belardo, and Kristof Phillips were awarded first place in ongoing news for their articles that closely

followed a murder investigation and trial.

The Centurion staff took first place for their special report, “What makes the millennials tick?” in the public service/enterprise package category.

First place in best website category was also awarded to The Centurion.

The Centurion won two second place awards, Carly Pendergast’s “Great volleyball season ends” in sports and Diamond Shuler’s “Finding fall fashion on a budget” for the features category.

Both were new students to Bucks and the journalism program last semester.

The college had two more honorable mentions, one in the layout and design category, and the other for a review by Michael Girton of the movie “Big Hero 6.”

Tony Rogers, who is the journalism professor at Bucks, and the advisor for The Centurion, was proud to hear that the student newspaper won first place awards in the top three categories.

“It shows that our students can not only do really well at Bucks stories, but also real-world stories, that often tend to be sad or tragic,” Rogers said, in

reference to the ongoing coverage of the murder of a beloved Bucks student, and the trial of his assailant.

Rogers said the fact that they worked so hard on that and were recognized for it, “proves that these students are ready to go out in the world and cover anything.”

Rogers also mentioned that the students who work for the newspaper here at Bucks are able to get the full newsroom experience. “The classes work as closely as possible with the paper.”

“The students immediately get a sense that this isn’t just an assignment for a class. They’re writing for a real publication,” said Rogers.

The real newsroom experience of working on the paper gives students not only an opportunity to have their work published, but to learn how to edit and work with layout and design software as well.

Kristof Phillips, 24, a journalism major and editor-in-chief at The Centurion, said he was “happy to hear that we won so many first place prizes.”

He also mentioned that the real world experience at the paper was beneficial because it “opened doors in



From left to right, Kristof Phillips, Jahmeelah Wislon, and Michele Haddon, just a few of the award-winning staffers from The Centurion.

terms of what I want to do with my career,” and that the experience helped him realize that he really likes working with the layout aspect of the paper.

Michael Girton, 21, journalism major and the co-editor-in-chief of The Centurion, is also happy with his experience on the paper. Winning an honorable mention for his review of “Big Hero 6” this year was exciting for him, but he was more content with receiving real training for his future.

The Centurion is always looking for more writers and editors.

Anyone is welcome to contribute to the paper; you don’t have to be a journalism student to work on the paper.

The Centurion staff can be reached by email at centurion@bucks.edu or by stopping in the newsroom located in Rollins 127.

You can follow the award-winning student newspaper at bucks-news.com, on twitter @Centuri-

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Stephanie Fazekas '15
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Bucks News

Experts debate impact of fracking

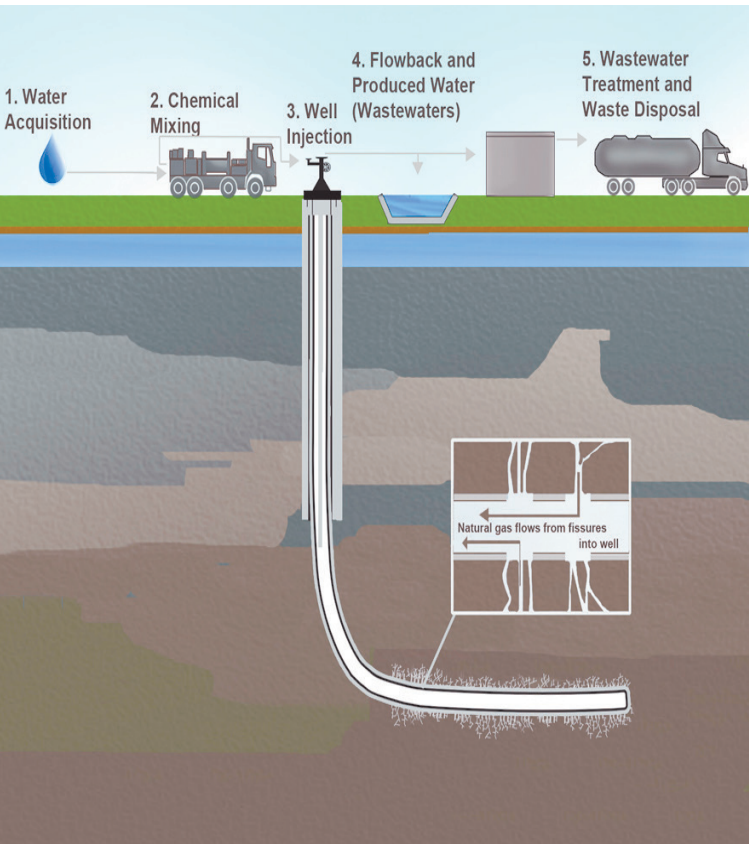
BY: HAYLEY KIEVMAN
Centurion Staff

In today’s world, traditional sources of energy are becoming increasingly scarce, as a result many are questioning how the US will obtain enough energy to sustain future generations.

Hydraulic fracturing, a technique in which deep-rock formations are fractured by drilling with pressurized water mixed with sand and chemicals to obtain natural gas and petroleum, is considered by many to be a solution.

James Diamond, a landowner in Nocomixon, advocates the economic benefits, more US jobs, and a reduce dependence on foreign oil.

“We have no choice,” Diamond said. “Natural gas is very important to the economic development of Pennsylvania and surrounding states.”



US Environmental Protection Agency’s illustration of hydraulic fracturing.

In addition, many see Europe as a prime market for natural gas. For example, The Eagle Ford study by the University of Texas at San Antonio found that in 2012 more than \$61 billion was made in total economic impact in the US from oil and natural gas development. Furthermore, the study shows that 116,000 jobs have been supported in 2012 due to the natural gas industry, as well as more than \$1 billion in revenue



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/ JOSHUA DOUBEK

Seen above is the process of mixing water with fracking fluids to be injected into the ground.

to local government and \$1.2 billion in state tax revenue.

However, the issue remains controversial for a variety of reasons.

Opponents of this process emphasize the risks associated with fracking: contamination of ground water, the depletion of fresh water and the degradation of air

quality.

In addition, risks of triggering earthquakes and surface pollution are serious concerns.

Sheila Bushkin-Bedient, a health researcher with the Institute for Health and Environment at the University at Albany, and member of Concerned Health Professionals of New York, said, “Many areas of serious concern to public health, water, the environment and economic vitality.”

“Science is still catching up to the rapid expansion of fracking, but what we know already is deeply disconcerting ... The alarming weight of evidence is strongly on the side of caution.”

Bushkin-Bedient believes that this has the potential to become a hazard that threatens the wellbeing of the overall public health, and create a huge negative economic impact.

Jim Engel, the director of the Tinicum Conservancy, emphasized the environmental issue of fracking, saying, “The challenge in Bucks County and Nocomixon is that there are hundreds obtaining gas leases for the purposes of fracking... these gas wells in Nocomixon flow downstream and contaminate our drinking water.”

“The problem in Pennsylvania is the lack of proper safe guards and enforcement. Without such safeguards the purity of surface and ground water throughout the rest of Pennsylvania cannot be properly ensured,” Engel continued.

There is concern over the possible adverse public health implications of hydraulic fracturing activity.

A 2013 review on shale gas production in the United States stated, “With increasing numbers of drilling sites, more people are at risk from accidents and exposure to harmful substances used at fractured wells.”

A 2011 hazard assessment recommended full disclosure of chemicals used for

hydraulic fracturing and drilling as many have immediate health effects, and many may have long-term health effects.

“The good thing is our work is nation wide, 40 million acres of conserved land. We can’t do it all though, the scale is much larger than that, and unfortunately the ground water contamination is a legacy that would be very long if not forever,” said Engel.

Dr. Carrie Manfrino, a geologist, oceanographer, and professor at Rutgers and Kean University, believes that “there are other ways to obtain energy from the land, without leaving a drastic carbon footprint. “

“Natural gas fracking is a bad idea, which should never be considered. As found by the EPA, it pollutes ground water and has also been blamed for earthquakes.”

This issue resonates with the youth as well as professionals in the field.

“Fracking should be discontinued for environmental purposes,” said Julia Barry, 22, psychology major at Rutgers University. However, she recognizes the obstacles inherent in society.

Dakota Kievman, also a Rutgers student, explained that she thinks fracking is not only a danger to the environment, but it also downgrades the quality of those living around the sites.

Kievman believes that instead of drilling for oil, we could be spending the money and effort on alter-

native energy.

For the millennial generation it is important to seriously consider the effects that fossil fuels have on the environment, and their future.

“We need people to hop on board. Fracking is affecting our environment, individual lifestyles, and should be banned all together,” said Richard Payne, a student at Syracuse University.

All of our waters, surface and ground, are connected. From the headwaters high on mountaintops, to the downriver systems of streams, ponds, and wetlands.

In this linked system, there is an uncompromising relationship between humans and the natural environment.

Documents reviewed by The Times in February indicate that the Johnstown, PA plant has accepted wastewater with levels of alpha radioactivity roughly 2,157 times higher than the drinking water standard.

In Pennsylvania, waste treatment plant operators have to test land and water for a range of contaminants before they can distribute it to be used for local fertilizer or water.

The list of contaminants does not include radium, according to a 1999 report by Pennsylvania State University.

State officials did not respond to questions about whether these standards had been updated.

Volunteer firefighters in decline

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

“Whether fighting fire, technical rope rescues, water emergencies or vehicular extrications; members need to be physically fit and ready for any mental challenge to overcome a problem,” said Worthington.

“It’s rewarding to be able to handle what the public considers a stressful situa-

tion, with the calm demeanor of having trained for a challenge and using those skills to resolve the problem,” he continued.

“We are lucky to have a couple members that work in the area that can leave and come to fire calls, but the amount of guys coming out is tough,” said Trevor Dalton, 19, a Delaware Valley University student and

Dublin Fire Department volunteer.

Dalton continued, “It’s not uncommon for us and other local fire departments to only have trucks with three or four guys on it including the driver during the day time because most of our members are either working or at school.”

Dalton explained it is not just a local issue, but also a

countrywide epidemic.

“There have been stories not only in Bucks County, but around the nation where volunteer departments have had late response times or not being able to get to calls at all,” said Dalton.

“People in the community need to realize how important it really is to have dedicated volunteer departments.”

“It’s awesome being able to help out your community and make friends that will last for a lifetime from the fire department. You go through a lot of things with this group of men and women that a lot of people will never understand and it brings you even closer together,” said Dalton.

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Opinion

“The Playwickian,” one year later

BY: COLLEEN HARLEY

Centurion Staff

In September 2013 of my senior year, I joined the editorial board of Neshaminy High School’s award winning newspaper, “The Playwickian.”

A month later, the path that the paper would go on that year, would be a rocky one, and forever change not only the Playwickian itself, but members of the editorial board as well.

On Oct. 23 2013, in a 2-3 vote published in an unsigned editorial, “The Playwickian” editors reported the decision to ban the word “Redskin” from publication.

My fellow editors decided on this ban because the word is, by definition, a racial slur. It has been compared to things like the “N” word and other racial slurs.

Many Native Americans, who continue to celebrate their culture, are outraged by the term.

This decision came with an immense amount of backlash from, not only Neshaminy’s administration, but students and community members as well.

Neshaminy football is a program rich in tradition, and is a well-respected

“power house” team. So, when members of what is commonly known as “Skins Nation,” went up against their own beloved school’s mascot, things didn’t go over well.

Members of the school board fought for months in an effort to force the editors to publish what has come to be known as the “R” word, saying the editors could not decide what was and was not to be published.

That didn’t stop the editors from standing up for what they felt was right. They even hired a lawyer to defend their case.

Their first amendment rights as journalists were being threatened, which threw the whole Redskin controversy into something much bigger. This was now a legal matter.

For months, administration and members of the editorial board fought back and forth to try and come to an agreement, but every time they met, it ended in a stalemate.

In May 2014, an op-ed piece was submitted by a student, which contained the word “Redskin.” Principal Rob McGee told the editorial staff that they would have to run the piece, or

the final issue of the paper would not be distributed.

But, without administration’s permission, the editorial staff omitted the entire article, and went underground to publish the final issue of The Playwickian anyway.

As a result, all access to social media accounts were blocked, as was the online version of “The Playwickian,” and all of the final issues of the paper were confiscated.

So the question remains, where are they now?

I caught up with my former adviser Tara Huber and discussed the matter.

“Policy 600 was created in reaction to the editor’s decision last year. Editors are free not to use the word ‘Redskin’ in news and sports articles, but they are not allowed to edit the word out of any editorials or letters to the editor,” said Huber.

“Student editors are also not allowed to choose the advertisements that are published.”

But that’s not the only thing that has changed since the new policy has been enacted.

“As per Policy 600, there is now a 10 day prior



Neshaminy High School’s controversial insignia

review. Comment sections were removed from the website. All of these restrictions have changed the way we operate the newspaper,” said Huber.

Talks of this controversy were not limited to the confines of Bucks County. The Playwickian made national news and headlines all across the country.

“On a national level the students still receive letters of support and encouragement for both their stance on the word Redskin and

the willingness to fight for students press rights. The students are subject to harsh criticism from their peers and a few local community members via social media,” said Huber.

Despite negative feedback, the student editors continue to thrive.

“The students have received awards at the state and national level, bringing much pride to the program and to the school as well,” said Huber.

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Entertainment

“Kingsman” is like Bond, with a twist

BY: ANNA MEREZHKO

Centurion Staff

“Kingsman: The Secret Service” handles the James Bond spy genre with glee-ful abandon and takes the suave spy-violence to an all-new extreme.

“Kingsman: The Secret Service” is based on the ac-claimed comic book “The Secret Service” created by Dave Gibbons and Mark Millar.

Director Matthew Vaughn (writer/director of “Kick-Ass”) creates a successful, yet somewhat traumatizing, action movie about the British Secret Service.

The amount of head explosions and dismem-berment is staggering but appears more animated than realistic.

This movie is definitely not family-friendly as it includes sexual content as well as religious, racial and



homosexual slurs.

The R-rating exists for a reason.

Although the movie con-tains many stereotypical Hollywood roles like the

troubled underdog with hidden potential, the in-debted mentor, and elitist cliques that antagonize the protagonist, Vaughn adds a refreshing twist to

each, which makes the film exciting and fairly unre-dictable.

Many of the fight scenes within the movie resemble those in “X-Men: Days of

Future Past,” which Vaughn also co-wrote.

They are similarly shot at two times the average speed.

In these scenes it is hard to keep up with all the mutilation and headshots, which for those with weak constitutions may be a good thing.

Also the comedic aspect and suave, gentleman-like nature of the British spies eases viewers into these scenes.

On the downside, special effects are repetitious and show obvious usage of green screens and dum-mies.

Altogether, the movie is entertaining if you are com-fortable with fake blood and enjoy espionage.

Vaughn has stated that a sequel may be possible if box office earnings are high.

Hip Hop Hype



BY: JEFF GADZINSKI

Centurion Staff

With Lil Wayne’s much anticipated album “The Carter 5” being pushed back time and time again, the hip hop world is up in arms and fed up.

So too is Lil Wayne, who did the unthinkable; calling out the man he once called his father, and waging war with the Cash Money re-cord label and his long time mentor Birdman.

He is suing the label for an astounding \$58 million and his argument includes keeping Drake and Nicki Minaj under his Young Money umbrella if he does leave.

Throughout the history of modern day hip hop, the Cash Money record label owned by Bryan Williams, better known as “Birdman” has been a dominating force.

From their start in the 90s, the group “Hot Boys” made up by future superstar Lil Wayne, to the present day, churning out superstars such as Tyga, Nicki Minaj and Drake, they always deliver.

Throughout it all, Bird-man and Lil Wayne have established a very close bond; Wayne even referring to Williams as his ‘Dad.’

With a bond so close and so much success under Cash Money, what pushed Lil Wayne over the edge?

Very possibly, the fact his last two albums have been criticized for releasing prior

to the original date leaving fans angered with Wayne; and frustration for Weezy.

However, this time Wayne is done being quiet.

Wayne dropped a sequel to his mixtape last year that received huge buzz, as the always do, naming it “Sorry 4 the Wait 2,” a wily apology to his fans.

In his Coco Remix fea-tured on the new mixtape, he lashes out at birdman, saying that he no longer needs Cash Money.

Wayne refers to himself as a one man army, and even twists a long time nickname of his ‘Birdman Jr.’, calling himself an “ugly duckling”.

Birdman says Lil Wayne is not taking into the ac-count the business aspect of the situation, and he is disappointed in Lil Wayne’s public rants on Twitter and other media outlets.

Talk continues and the gossip will surely not be silenced, as people are be-ginning to speak out.

Manny Fresh, a longtime artist and partner of Bird-man, suggests that perhaps Wayne has “outgrown” the Cash Money label he falls under.

It seems apparent that Wayne is done being held down and restricted by Birdman and wants to con-tinue to grow bigger and bigger. Drama continues as Birdman was not invited to a pre-Grammy party host-ed by Nicki Minaj, who is signed under Lil Wayne’s sub-label of Young Money Entertainment.

One thing is for sure, Lil Wayne will not go down without a fight and will not be leaving alone; “I’m not trippin’ I got Barbie (Nic-ki)... I got Drake too”; he says with assurance in his CoCo Remix.

“Fifty Shades of Grey” comes up, well, short

BY: DOMINIQUE STANGO

Centurion Staff

Adapted from E.L. James’s romantic eroti-ca trilogy, the film “Fifty Shades of Grey” lacked all the elements that made the book a best seller.

The movie follows the protagonist, Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson), as she finds herself in a predicament as her morals, innocence and all around lifestyle are called into question upon entering an unexpected relationship with young, successful businessman, Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan).

While the book was a best seller with over 35 mil-

lion copies sold in the US, ultimately the film was a disappointment.

Stale acting, non-existent chemistry, and an inconsis-tent timeline are just some of the many, many prob-lems with the film.

The film poorly estab-lished Grey and Steele’s personal backgrounds and current lives, jumping right into their physical relation-ship.

Grey and Steele’s rela-tionship lacked a realistic quality and chemistry, mak-ing it difficult to empathize with the under developed characters in the film who came off as melodramatic and uninteresting.

Dornan’s performance fell short, unable to portray the emotionless, stolid and uptight Grey readers come to know within the trilogy.

Altogether, the movie is uneventful, drawn out and has a surprisingly poor ending.

On a positive note, the film has an acceptable soundtrack featuring new music from Beyoncé, Ellie Gouldling, Sia and The Weeknd, in addition to mu-sic from classic artists, such as, Frank Sinatra and Annie Lenox.

The film has made over \$400 million worldwide since its Feb. 14 release date.

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Entertainment

“Birdman” upsets “Boyhood” at Oscars

BY: CHAD SABOURIN

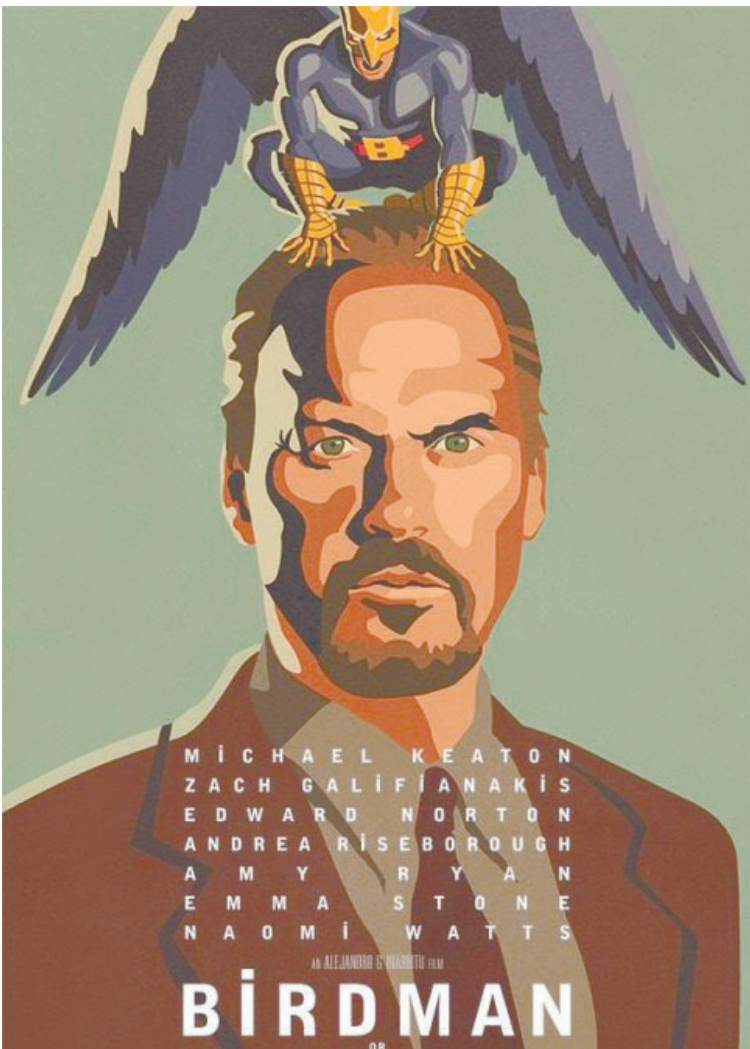
Centurion Staff

There were a few surprises at the 87th Academy Awards, including the unexpected recipient of the best picture of the year award.

The main surprise of the evening was the film, “Birdman (Or the Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance),” taking home best picture of the year. Experts, critics and film buffs alike adored the film. For many though, it wasn’t the most deserving among the nominees for best picture.

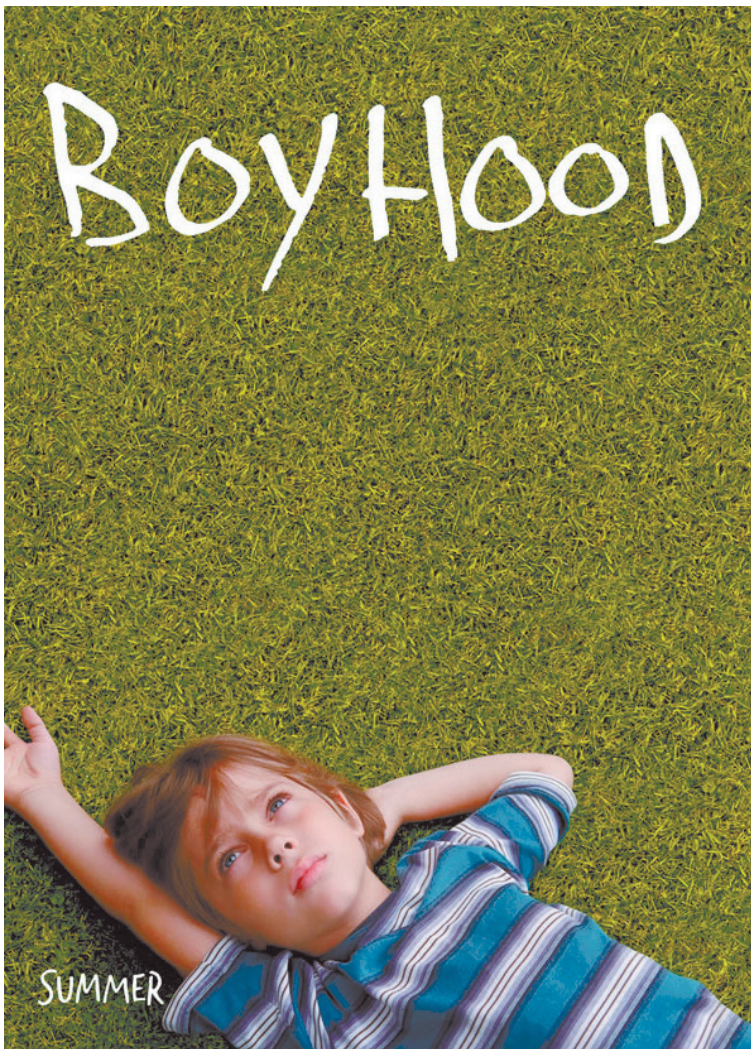
The film, “Boyhood,” was predicted to win best picture because of the 12 years it took to film and director Richard Linklater’s ability to maintain the film’s vision throughout its entire filming. This a testament to Linklater who had a clear cut vision as to what he wanted to create and how it was supposed to evolve as time went by.

This was why many people were both perplexed and dumbfounded that “Boyhood” only took home one Oscar—for Patricia Arquette’s stunning supporting actress performance as Olivia Evans, the mother of



Mason Evans Jr. played by Ellar Coltrane. So, why did the academy choose “Birdman” as the best picture of 2014? For one, the academy loves films that are about the art of acting. This can clearly be seen through past Academy Award best picture winners such as “Shakespeare in Love,” about stage acting, and “The

Artist,” which focused on the era of silent acting. Next, the academy simply adores films that have deep or meaningful messages. One of the messages of “Birdman” is that most audiences aren’t interested in philosophical dialogue and messages. Instead, “Birdman” asserts that audiences want action and explosions, which is a



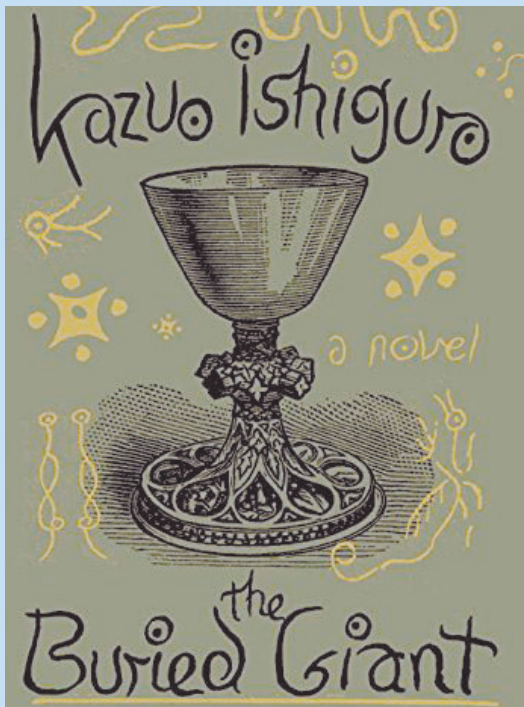
critique on the superhero genre particularly. It goes on to express that critics of today are critiquing the entertainment industry the wrong way. According to “Birdman,” they’re critiquing a piece of entertainment through big words and not actually explaining what it is about the film’s content or structure they didn’t like. In the end, Birdman is

a great film, yet will be looked back on years from now as an undeserving best picture winner. It is, after all, what happened with “Shakespeare in Love,” which won over “Saving Private Ryan,” and “The Artist,” which won over “The Help.”

CENTURIONS’ CHOICE

Books

“The Buried Giant”

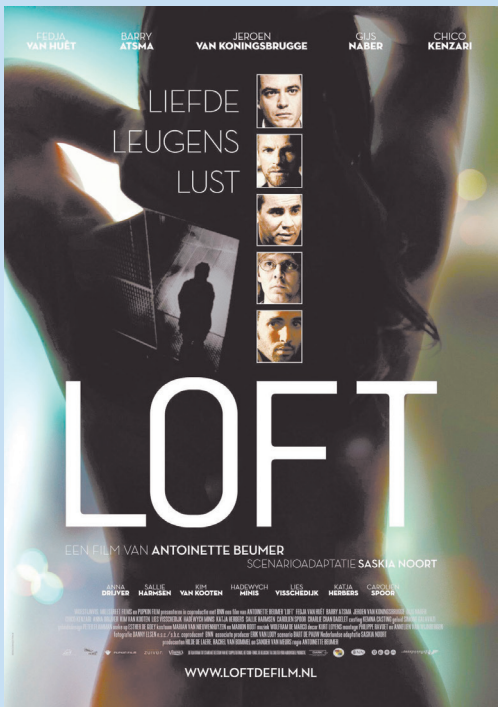


“The Buried Giant” - Kazuo Ishiguro

Kazuo Ishiguro’s first novel in a decade tells a luminous story about the act of forgetting and the power of memory, a resonant tale of love, vengeance, and war. Set in post-Arthurian Britain, an elderly couple, Axl and Beatrice, set off to find their long-lost son. Joined on their journey by a Saxon warrior, his orphan charge, and a knight, each who are lost in some way to their past.

Movies

“The Loft”



“The Loft” - Thriller/Suspense

A remake of the 2008 Belgian film, the American version of “The Loft” sees five married friends decide to go all in on a penthouse loft where they can rendezvous with their mistresses without their wives finding out. The story quickly unravels through flashbacks after the body of a murdered woman is found in the loft and only the five friends have keys to the loft.

Music

“Similarities”



“Similarities” - Biffy Clyro

Touring in support of their 2013 full-length “Opposites,” the Scottish boys “Mon the Bif,” as they are dubbed by loving fans, rocked their sixth full-length album so hard that 20 songs in a double vinyl just wasn’t even enough. Que up “Similarities,” an additional 16 songs to create a cleverly named b-sides record.

Technology

Free mobile apps change the way people date

BY: MARYANA ZAKHARKIV
Centurion Staff

Free dating apps like Tinder, Plenty of Fish, and OkCupid, make connecting with new people as quick and as easy as swiping left or right on a mobile device.

More and more people are choosing to scroll through a feed of seemingly endless users, selected based on the user’s preferences, instead of going out to a coffee shop or a library to meet new people.

And many Bucks students have experienced this digital social realm and find it suits their modern lifestyle.

“I feel like young adults find it more convenient; they don’t have to go out looking for people they can go online and eventually go on dates. It’s open to all appropriate ages,” said Kim Delarosa, 20, business administration from Levittown.

“People use the apps for different reasons; you can use it to find someone else who wants to hook up: a friend, boyfriend, and husbands. It’s all about the user, that’s the beauty of it,” said Dean Diaswara, 21, tourism hospitality from Hatboro.

However, some students believe such dating apps do not lead to meaningful connections, characterizing

them as superficial.

“When it comes to Tinder, you’re not looking for a relationship, you’re looking for physical interaction, as opposed to any emotional attachments,” said Carlos Rivera, 20, engineering major from Warminster.

Zach Stratton, 19, English major from Holland, believes that these apps are suited for entertainment purposes, but they are, “... not a traditional way of dating someone and what they put on their fake bio is not who they really are. What they put online is an idea of who they are.”

Other students around campus had a negative opinion of online dating sites as well, concerned that these sites are eroding our ability to communicate, our ability to spark real feelings of romance and intimacy.

“Personally I think there is no hope for our generation if the only way we know how to meet people is through an app that takes away normal human interaction,” said Michaela Rodgers, 19, psychology major from Northampton.

“Dating app are ruining what humans have been building for generations which is a sincere way of communication,” said Valerie Kartashova, 22, physical therapy from Jamison.

“Being a female, it is definitely flattering to receive messages from men commenting on your beauty but at the end of the day . . . I would not promote these ways of communication because I can barely call it communication.”

Many of the arguments against these dating sites mirror similar arguments leveled at social media sites like Facebook and Twitter.

Yet, it cannot be denied Social media is changing the way we communicate. Apps like Snapchat and Instagram have caught fire in recent years, eliminating the need for the “you had to be there” expression.

Some see social dating apps as the natural progression.

“Since everything is connected now it’s more of a natural thing, easier way to speak to someone that we wouldn’t get a chance to,” Abby Riley, 19, Bucks student from Newtown.

“I think people should try it out, it’s a different experience and it actually works some people; you just never know,” said Taylor Streep-er, 20, nursing major from Chalfont.

For Delarosa, putting herself out there on Plenty of Fish has influenced her life positively and opened it up to a relationship she



Free mobile dating apps, like Plenty of Fish, Tinder and OkCupid make connecting with new people quick and easy with the swipe of a finger.

wouldn’t have found here in Bucks.

“I don’t regret joining because now I have a boyfriend; we’re happy, six months going strong. He lives in New Jersey and

occasionally the distance makes it hard. It’s awesome because it wasn’t supposed to be a relationship, it turned into one,” said Delarosa.

Is texting an effective way to communicate?

Bucks students weigh in on texting and how they use it in their daily lives

BY: MELANIE JOHNSON
Centurion Staff

Today’s generation of young people are probably the most tech-savvy generation yet. Every day, young adults are communicating through text messages to efficiently reach one another.

People aged 18 to 24 sent on average 2,022 texts per month, and received 1,831 in March 2013, according to Business Insider.

That’s a lot of texts, especially for young adults who are always on the go. People attending Bucks are seen texting throughout the hall-

ways, while eating lunch, and sometimes even during class, too.

But why do we seem to be so addicted to this form of communication, and less interested in face-to-face interactions?

For students who are constantly moving and working to get through the day, it is much easier to send a quick text, rather than stopping to complete a long phone call.

“Phone calls are like, so lengthy. Sometimes you just want to check in with someone to see if they’re OK,” said Dani Shavirov,

19, business major.

Shavirov also mentions that texting is a good form of interaction because it helps her think things through before sending her messages.

“Sometimes, you know, when I open my mouth, I say mean things because I have no filter. With texting, I can filter. Like, if I think what you’re saying is wrong, I’ll tell you face-to-face. Through texting I can control myself.”

“I love texting. I think it’s really useful. It’s easier for me to talk through texting,

because it relieves anxiety,” said Ashley Fotrell, 20, fine arts major.

Although texting makes it much more efficient to communicate with others, and easier to get points across without being nervous, or filtering, some students believe it to be a hindrance on our ability to talk to each other in real life.

Students are replacing talking to each other with text conversations, causing communication issues, especially with emotional interpretation.

“Nobody gets my sarcasm through texts. You have to put asterisks around the word ‘sarcasm.’ Some people just don’t get it,” Amber Horton, 19, pre allied health major said while rolling her eyes, with obvious frustration.

Many people have problems conveying exactly how they feel through texting, as people are using improper grammar, and making less effort in their daily lives because of texting.

“If we start using texting lingo too often, eventually we won’t know how to spell at all, and we could get bad grades. Once, I said ‘LOL’ in a paper,” Daniel Jimenez, 18, a Quakertown High School and future Bucks student said.

Texting can be really distracting, especially in class. A simple text message can unhinge students’ concentration.

“If someone gets a message during class, the whole room checks their phones just in case. And then its downhill from there, because now I have my phone out and I’m all distracted. And the teacher also gets mad,” Jimenez said.



Students unwind in the Linkz Pavillion with their mobile devices.

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Sports

Flyers’ playoff chances looking up



Wells Fargo Center, home of the Philadelphia Flyers

BY: RYAN ERNEY
Centurion Staff

The Philadelphia Flyers got off to an extremely rocky start this season, but their recent win streak has renewed the orange and black faithful’s hope for a possible playoff spot for this post season.

As the Flyers head down the stretch, many questions still remain to be answered and many holes are still apparent in their play, yet the fact remains that a seventh or eighth seed in the playoffs is well within reach, and that is enough to give hope to the fans that support them through thick and thin.

Coming off of a seven game first round playoff exit last year, Philadelphia needed to address their defense in the offseason.

In what many thought to be a head-scratcher, Philly resigned 39 year-old defenseman Kimmo Timonen to a one-year extension worth \$2 million.

Timonen hinted at retirement

during the season last year, but his decision to stay, coupled with the Flyers decision to extend his contract kept the aging defense intact, and failed to provide the significant boost that they desperately needed.

With the defense as the biggest weakness, Philadelphia started the 2014-15 NHL season out at a paltry 18-22-7 as of Jan. 19. The fan base was growing impatient, and the odds at making the playoffs at that time were incredibly dim.

However, an 8-1-4 run since has energized not only the team itself but also the fans as well, as the “Fly-Guys” find themselves only four points behind the Boston Bruins for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Although still on the outside looking in, it is nice for the greater Philadelphia area to be able to enjoy a light at the end of the tunnel.

“Well, I believe that the Flyers playoff chances are not out of reach,” said Tyler Gillen, 19, liberal

arts major from Langhorne.

“As long as they stay healthy and win a consistent amount of games from now until the end of the season, I believe they have a good chance of making it to the playoffs.”

Gillen is not alone in his optimism, but the majority of fans do seem to share what is known around the sports world as a “cautious optimism.”

“I think that while it’s not going to be easy, the Flyers do still have a shot at making the playoffs,” said Ryan Jacobs, 20, communications major from Levittown.

“For the Flyers to make the playoffs, they need to play better defense, and unite together as a team these last few games if they want any chance at making the playoffs.”

While Craig Berube has been the scapegoat at times for the team’s underachieving play this season, other variables seem to point to different factors for the cause of the problem.

“I believe Craig Berube should

keep his job” said Jacobs.

“While I was never a fan of firing Peter Laviolette, I feel that Berube has done well with the lack of defensive talent and a non reliant penalty kill unit this season. He’s made changes to lines and started different players to shake things up, but can’t seem to find exactly the right combination because of a lack of talent.”

The bottom line is that if Philadelphia ends up missing the playoffs this season, the team needs to take a long, hard look in the mirror and make some serious adjustments.

However, making the playoffs this season doesn’t automatically erase the flaws in their game right now.

With the All-Star Break behind them, Philadelphia can only hope that captain Claude Giroux, alternate captain Wayne Simmonds, and star player Jakub Voracek can put the team on their back and not only carry them to the playoffs, but to the Stanley Cup finals.

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Flyers defenseman Kimmo Timonen

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Sports

Lou Pacchioli returns to Bucks

Returning after 10 years, Pacchioli seeks to revitalize Bucks baseball

BY: CARLY PENDERGAST
Centurion Staff

Former professional baseball player Lou Pacchioli, has returned to his head coaching position at Bucks, after a 10 year absence, to revive a struggling program.

With no returning players from last year’s disappointing 1-14 season, there is no better time than now for a revival. And who better to kick start the baseball program’s rebirth then

Pacchioli.
“There are no returning players so it’ll be good to start new,” Pacchioli said.
Pacchioli oozes experience—having played high school baseball, division two baseball at East Stroudsburg University, two years of professional baseball with the New York Mets, and countless seasons coaching.
He has already had major success at Bucks, which brought 15 championship

titles to the college during his 29 years coaching.
Pacchioli looks to bring that success and experience to this upcoming season.
“If things go right for the team, I think we’ll score a lot of runs. We might give up some because we don’t have pitching,” said Pacchioli.

Devin McDermott, 20-year-old catcher for the Centurions agreed saying, “There are kids on the team that can absolutely mash.”
Both Pacchioli and his players seem to agree that the team is a great group, “We all get along really well,” said Luke Hendricks, 19-year-old centerfielder for the Centurions.

When Daulton Brady, 20-year-old pitcher and outfielder for the Centurions, was asked if he could see Pacchioli’s experience shine through in his coaching, he said, “Oh yeah, he just throws all his knowledge at you. He’s always telling us stories.”
Something both Pacchioli and the players mentioned was the lack of players, which seems to be a prob-



Lou Pacchioli during his time with the New York Mets.



Photos supplied by Lou Pacchioli.



lem for all of our teams here at Bucks.
“I took the job in November and I had like 70 kids come out, now not one of them is back here,” said Pacchioli.
He also added, “We have really good kids, we just don’t have the numbers. The good kids are here all the time working hard, but the kids that are border line...I have to pull teeth to

get them here.”
The baseball team is still willing to take players. They practice every day from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the gym. Any interested students are welcome to stop in.
The men’s baseball season starts March 11, and as always students are encouraged to come out and show their support.

Sudoku puzzles

1	3	7			8		6
				1			2
		8	4	9		3	
		4	1	3	6	8	
			5	8			
	1				9		5
3		1				9	
7	6	9			4		
							3

4		8			9	6	
	3	1		4	7		5
	5	6	8			4	9
					5	6	
						8	9
	6					1	3
			4			7	6
	7	5		8	1		
3		2		7			

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