

## Provost and dean of Academic Affairs discusses advising



Dr. Clayton Railey III

PHOTO CREDIT: BUCKS.EDU/NEWS

BY: PETERSON PRIME

Centurion Staff

In a wide-ranging interview, Dr. Clayton Railey III, provost and dean of Academic Affairs at Bucks, discussed the new tools that are being rolled out to make academic advising easier and more effective, as well as his relation-

ship with faculty and his work with President Stephanie Shanblatt.

Bucks, like many other colleges and universities, sought to provide an array of choices in terms of majors and classes to its students. Railey believes that when presented with so many choices, many students could easily get confused without proper guidance.

Railey said the guiding principle behind the implementation of the new advising system is to help steer students, particularly those who are the first in their family to attend college, in the right direction.

As a result of the new advising system, it has become mandatory for every Bucks student, either part-time or full-time, to have an adviser. Railey noted that the advisers would guide the students in two important ways: first, they would help students identify their goals; second, based on those goals they would assist their advisees in determining the “most effective path to reach those goals.”

Railey pointed out that the relationship between advisers and part-timers not only would better guide students in reaching their goals but would help with “maintaining the student population,” thereby addressing one of the most serious issues facing Bucks – an ongoing decline in enrollment.

Railey said Bucks is in the process of implementing several new programs that would lessen the burden of advising for professors.

First, setting up a time for advising is sometimes a challenge because many students

do not use their Bucks emails. Under a new system called GradesFirst, when it is time to do advising, the advisers would send a message to their advisees.

The students would receive the message through their Bucks emails and through a text message. They would get a link. The link would tell them when their advisers would be available. Once the students sign up for a meeting, their advisers would be alerted. GradesFirst is likely to be available this spring.

Navigate is another program that is in development. It would permit students who are undecided on a major to type in their interests. Based on those interests, the students would be given a list of suggested majors and a list of recommended courses for each proposed major. It is not yet determined when Navigate would be available.

The Student Planning Module is the software currently being used for advising and course selections. It allows students to choose classes before they meet with their advisers.

The advisers are able to check all the classes that their advisees intend to take before meeting with students. This allows the professors to determine whether the students are

taking the right courses in the correct order for their major.

In an interview with two part-time students, both welcomed the new advising requirement. James Sykes, an undeclared major from Chalfont, said “I think that it is a good idea because not everyone knows what he or she wants to do; so it is good to be able to talk to someone who can advise you.”

A Medical Assistant major, Nilufar Rikhsibaera, said, “With an adviser, I’ll avoid the headache of taking classes that I do not need for my major.”

Before the implementation of the new advising system, only full-time students were required to have an adviser. Part-timers made up 60 percent of the student population. Thus, requiring part-time students to have advisers would sharply increase the numbers of advisees that would be assigned to each faculty member. Some professors were not thrilled about this new development.

To address this major concern, the school administration has worked out an arrangement with the head of the faculty union, John Strauss.

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## The world stands with Paris during tragedy

BY: DIAMOND SCHULER AND LAUREN SAVANA

Centurion Staff

In the wake of the Paris terrorist attacks, lives have been lost, hearts have been broken, but countries all over the world have become unified and stand alongside Paris in the wake of their tragedy.

On Friday night, with the use of automatic weapons and explosives, 3 organized teams conducted 6 separate attacks in the city of Paris leaving 129 people dead and 400 injured.

The attacks took place at the national stadium, a concert hall, and several restaurants.

More would have been killed if the ISIS members were able to get into the soccer stadium, but fortunately they were stopped at security.

After the Islamic State took responsibility for these attacks, French President François Hollande tells Parliament that France is at war.

Hollande says, these attacks are “an aggression against our country, against our values,



Students showing support for Paris

PHOTO CREDIT: LAUREN SAVANA AND DIAMOND SCHULER

against its youth and its way of life.”

French authorities have zeroed in on two of the eight suicide bombers that are believed to have planned and instructed the attacks.

Officials say one of the men is Sailm Benghalem, a French man that joined ISIS years

ago. He gave orders for Abdelhamid Abaaoud to put the attacks on France in motion. NPR reported.

In recent investigation, NPR reported that the man leading the attack was from Belgium and acquired a fake passport from a Syrian refugee, this is how he made it into Europe.

However, Paris has taken steps to bring those responsible for the attacks to justice in a series of police raids. According to BBC News one of the people suspected to have coordinated the attacks was killed during said police raids.

After hearing about the

tragedy, people all over the world have reached out with encouraging words and prayers for Paris.

Kelly Barnes, 22, nursing major from South Hampton said, “When I heard about the Paris terrorist attacks. I felt terrible. I wish there was more I could personally do to help.”

Ebony Jamison, 20, undecided major from Trevoze shared similar feelings saying, “When I heard what happen it literally broke my heart. All those innocent lives, men, women, and children. I thought about how awful I would feel if I lost any of my family in that way. My heart really goes out to all those people and their families.”

Social media worldwide was a constant stream of updates, support, and photos. People from all different parts of the world shared their sympathies with Paris. From the rich, to the poor, celebrities, and every day people, everyone was standing in support.

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# Bucks News

## Dean of Academic Affairs discusses advising

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### EVENTS

#### November 24

-Men’s Basketball vs. Johnson- 7:00 PM Gymnasium  
-“Inside Your Mind” with mentalist Jesse Dameron 12:30 to 1:30pm-, UBC Commons - Upper Bucks Campus

#### November 25-29

-Thanksgiving Holiday- No Classes

#### December 1

-Men’s Basketball @ CC of Philadelphia- 8:00 pm @ CC of Philadelphia Gymnasium  
-Wilmington University Information Table- 10:00AM to 1:00PM, Rollins Center

#### December 2

-Delaware Valley University Information Table- 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Rollins Center  
-Delaware Valley University Information Table- 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Lower Bucks Campus  
-Delaware Valley University Information Table- 5:00 to 7:00 PM, Rollins Center

#### December 3

Holiday Celebration- 12:00 - 2:00 pm, Newtown Campus  
Delaware Valley University Information Table- 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Rollins Center  
-Wilmington University Information Table- 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Lower Bucks Campus  
-Men’s Basketball @ Atlantic Cape Community College- 7:00 PM @ Atlantic Cape Gymnasium

#### December 5

-Men’s Basketball vs. Luzerne- 1:00 PM, Bucks Gymnasium  
-Social Science Club Trip New York for the Holidays- Leaves 7:30 AM from Newtown Campus

#### December 8

-Men’s Basketball vs. Montgomery- 7:00 PM, Bucks Gymnasium

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This agreement set the number of advisees to 25. The negotiated plan also establishes an “overload compensation,” which incentivizes faculty members to take on more students.

Strauss said the administration and faculty “have a mutually-agreed standard advising load and compensation for overload, which we negotiated in a memorandum of agreement last spring.”

When she was asked whether the new advising system is a burden, Marianne Kepler, a psychology professor, said that the 25 advisees requirement is a “reasonable number.”

Kelly Jones, an assistant professor in the department of Kinesiology and Sport Studies, said it would be difficult for a general adviser to advise “students on every

program and career” because they would not have the necessary background to do so. Jones added that she has been advising more 25 students even before the new advising system has been adopted.

Professors who decide to add 35 more students on their list of advisees would be compensated as if they were teaching a one-credit class. Thus, each additional group of 35 is akin to a one-credit course in determining the adviser’s compensation. But if they decide to make some extra money by advising more than 25 students, faculty members must discuss that decision with the dean of their department. The 25 quota rule and the overload compensation are already in effect.

Strauss said the “long-term advising plan is in the hands of shared governance, where it belongs. It will receive collaborative input from faculty

and administration and, when completed, review by and input from the greater college community before it is finalized and put into action. We believe that this cooperative, democratic approach is the most productive and appropriate way to handle such things: the range of perspectives will produce the best result for students, faculty, and staff.”

When it comes to the adoption of the new advising tools, Strauss said “Faculty (as well as college staff) are involved in developing, piloting, and evaluating new advising and communications software to make sure that it works well for what we need it to do.”

Strauss added, “I’m satisfied with where things are going regarding the new advising system, while varying levels of glitches (particularly technological) continue, I am satisfied with the way that we are handling the process.”

When it comes to the

relationship between administration and professors, Railey said “for the most part, there is a good relationship with the faculty.” When asked if faculty members were consulted before the implementation of the new advising system, Railey said there were a few meetings with the school’s faculty. Railey also stressed that he had many discussions with Strauss, adding that he maintains an open-door policy as far as being available to the school’s faculty.

The interview also touched on the relationship between Railey and Stephanie Shanblatt, the president of Bucks. Asked to describe his partnership with Shanblatt, Railey said they “have shared goals and they are both committed to offer students an excellent education and to provide faculty members with all the tools that they would need to educate their students.”

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However students such as Brielle Donan, 19, psychology major from Yardley feel that not everyone was as concerned as they should have been. She said, “I was very shocked when I first heard the news. I couldn’t keep my eyes off of the TV and I was constantly checking the news and Twitter for updates. It was so unexpected. I was also really disappointed in the fact that a lot of the people I know and saw on my newsfeed were not that concerned because it didn’t happen in the U.S.”

She went on to say, “I think people need to realize that this stuff could happen to anyone, no matter how safe we think we are, unfortunately it happened to Paris this time.

Julie Evans, 20, social work major had a different opinion stressing that America needs to look out for themselves as well. She said, “I sadly wasn’t that surprised when I heard the news because we are living in a world where violence is becoming norm, it’s not to say that it didn’t hit home cause it did, but overall the attack that took place is something that we as citizens can hope and pray doesn’t happen to our country.”

Evans went on to say, “We as a nation can only do so much, but definitely preparing for the worst and hoping for the best is almost all that we can do. My heart goes out to Paris and all who are suffering from ISIS, but we also need to see that violence is happening in our country and not getting much awareness. In order to help others, we need to first help ourselves and get our affairs in order.”

This brings about a popular and very controversial topic on just how much we as country should be doing to aid other countries. Over the past couple months Syrian refugees have been actively making their way into the United States.

There have been mixed feelings on whether the refugees should be allowed to enter the country. Most of the reluctance however has come from the fearful thoughts that some of these refugees may have ties to ISIS. There are over 25 states in the U.S. currently not accepting refugees including Texas, Florida, and most of the southern states. Unfortunately a lot of these states are coastal, which means it will be even harder for refugees to reach a state where they are accepted.

John Gannon, 18, Journalism major from Richboro says, “I feel like no one should be denied the right to move and start a new life. These people are struggling and need help, we’re a country founded built on immigrants so who are we to be turning people away.

According to worldvision.org 12 million Syrians have fled there homes because of the conflict and turmoil happening in their homes. Sadly more than 3,200 refugees have died trying to travel to Europe and America and over 240,000 people have been killed by ISIS and the violence happening in Syria.

It is nearly impossible to provide aid for these people because the danger that the aid workers would be put in.

Dominique Stango 19, business administration major



Editors of the Centurion Newspaper show support for Paris  
PHOTO CREDIT: RASHEED DOUYON

from Morrisville agreed that we should reach out and help. She goes on to say, “I think our government should take action by sending aid to the places affected, not military aid but humanitarian type of aid. They clearly need people who care enough to help them

Many people feel like there’s not much you can do but the most important thing we as a county, and world can do is to just stand in support of Paris. Sending them kind words, support, and when the time comes aid.

DISCOVER YOUR

ROOTS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Turnip, Rutabaga and Celery Root Ratatouille · Lime Grilled Chicken

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Red Flannel Hash · Mustard-Herb Pork Loin · Sautéed Kale · Roasted Brussels Sprouts

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Charred Root Vegetables · Blackened Salmon · Orange-Sweet Potato Puree

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Sweet Carrot and Golden Beet Risotto · Ricotta Salata · Baby Spinach

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# Bucks News

## Student Government Association sponsored report: Getting to know President Stephanie Shanblatt



A college photo of Dr. Shanblatt

By: MATTHEW KELLY  
President of SGA

She was Born in Pittsburgh, Pa. The Eldest of 3, graduated: B.S., Chemistry with Honors, Biology minor, University of Pittsburgh; Ph.D., Biochemistry, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Married to Michael Shanblatt, a retired university professor.

They have two adult daughters, a grad student pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics and a middle school mathematics teacher/outdoor leadership educator.

### Question and Answer:

- Q.** What is your biggest success up until now?  
**A.** Raising two amazing daughters.  
**Q.** What has been your biggest challenge?  
**A.** Being financially independent at age 18 and putting

myself through college. I have first-hand knowledge of juggling school, work, and finances. My father died when I was 10 and while my mother provided for us, I had to learn to make it on my own while being a full time student.

**Q.** What advice do you have for a student from the perspective of both a former student and a mother?

**A.** Take full advantage of all the college’s resources. If you are unsure of what you want to do, go to career counseling. If you are struggling with your classes, utilize your professor’s office hours or our skilled tutors. Register for your classes on time. Go to every class; just because your professor allows a few absences doesn’t mean you have to use them all.

**Q.** Where do you see Bucks County Community College in three years?

**A.** I would like to see an in-

crease in enrollment, a higher completion rate, and I would like students to leave Bucks with the tools to succeed as well as a clear path to the next step. Foremost, I would like to see Bucks as a first choice for area students.

**Q.** What is the kindest thing anyone has ever done for you?

**A.** Too many to choose just one!

**Q.** Where do you most want to travel, but have never been?

**A.** The Pyramids of Egypt.

**Q.** What does your perfect day look like?

**A.** It starts with an event on campus where I get to truly engage with that group, be it faculty, staff, or students and by the end feel as though together we can make a difference. Then I like to hit the gym.

**Q.** What does your life say about you ?

**A.** I hope that it says I am someone who cares deeply about others. I feel fortunate to have carved out the life I have through hard work and persistence.

**Q.** What is your biggest pet peeve?

**A.** People who don’t take responsibility for their own actions.

**Q.** Who was your favorite childhood celebrity?

**A.** David McCallum from the original Man from U.N.C.L.E.; he was the cats meow!

**Q.** What word best describes you ?

**A.** Resilient

**Q.** What drives you each day?

**A.** A desire to make a difference for others, as people do for me!

**Q.** What is your favorite food?

**A.** You might need a whole book for this one...Stuffed Cabbage...my stuffed cabbage!

**Q.** What is your favorite holiday?

**A.** Thanksgiving; not for the food but for the fact that for a few days my family is all in the same place, talking, sharing, and cooking together.

**Q.** Where do you want to retire to?

**A.** The house where I live now.

**Q.** Where do you like to vacation?

**A.** I love camping in some remote place where it’s just me, my family, and nature. I also like visiting cities, especially museums.

**Q.** Who do you admire most?

**A.** Individuals who have overcome so much and who find strength in knowledge.

**Q.** What is your mission?

**A.** To help students make a better life.

**Q.** What trait in others most attracts you?

**A.** Strength

**Q.** How do you want to be remembered?

**A.** As someone who cared deeply about family, friends, colleagues and students in my personal life as well as at BCCC.

**Q.** You have a 10 minute speech to give at a high school, what is it about?

**A.** You hold your future in your hands. Make the most of it.

**Q.** What 3 things would you bring with you on a deserted island?

**A.** A kindle, a sharp knife..... that’s about all I need.

**Q.** What simple pleasure makes you happy ?

**A.** Cooking for my family and gardening.

**Q.** When you were a little girl, what did you dream of being ?

**A.** No occupation in particular, however, science has always fascinated me.

**Q.** What one thing would you change if you had to do it over?

**A.** Life is not perfect. You accept, learn, and grow from every decision and experience. You learn from your mistakes.

**Q.** Who is your favorite author?

**A.** Barbara Kingsolver is one of my favorites.

**Q.** What is your favorite book?

**A.** “Middlemarch”

**Q.** What is your favorite quote?

**A.** “I do the very best I know how, the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end.” - Abraham Lincoln

**Q.** If you had to sum your life up in a paragraph, what does it say?

**A.** I am very fortunate to have led the life I have. While many hurdles and obstacles have found their way onto my path, I have always tried to find a way around or over them. My father instilled in me a love of learning at an early age and it has enriched my life immeasurably.

## Bucks’ professor on Travel Channel’s “Bizarre Foods”



Delaware River Basin Commission



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. GROTH

By: COLLEEN GALL  
Centurion Staff

Dr. Charlie Groth, who teaches in the Language and Literature Department here at Bucks, was on the Travel Channel’s hit show, “Bizarre Foods”, at Lewis Fishery for their shad fishing and dishes.

Lewis Fishery, located on a small island off Lambertville, New Jersey, has been in operation since 1888 and is the only fishery left on the Delaware River. It is known for its shad festival, held every spring.

Dr. Groth started off volunteering for the fishery 20 years ago. She was working on cultural research for her grad studies. After a few years and a growing family,

Dr. Groth, her husband, and daughters became a huge element of the crew.

Earlier this year, the fishery got a phone call from the producers of “Bizarre Foods.” The show was making an episode about the Philadelphia area and wanted to show specifically the fishery because of its well-known status on the Delaware.

After months of talking on the phone, planning segments they were going to show, the host, Andrew Zimmern, and the crew made their way to the island to film on May 13 in the prime of shad season and the festival.

They first started off by showing Zimmern the island and how the fishing nets

worked in the water. After the crew brought in the fish they caught and sorted out, they showed him where the fish are sold and cleaned.

While they were showing Zimmern the house, Dr. Groth was cooking different meals of shad for Zimmern to eat. Dr. Groth, who isn’t a professional chef, was nervous to make her meals for him. “He kept telling me, ‘Don’t let anyone tell you that you don’t have the gift.’”

Dr. Groth added that Zimmern made her feel comfortable and had an easy vibe during the filming process. She made him a grilled shad filet and her own creation of fishcakes that have become a tradition to the crew.

Zimmern was speechless when he ate Dr. Groth’s creations. After Zimmern finished the dinner around 9:30, the Bizarre Foods crew packed up and left to go and edit the footage they had from the day.

Dr. Groth explained the day as unpredictable and fast. While one thing was happening, another thing was being filmed.

Dr. Groth and the fishery crew hope that the show will bring more exposure to the fishery. Since it is on a small island, many people do not even realize it is there.

The shad festival is held every spring and is where they get more customers and business. Talking about the shad

festival, Dr. Groth said, “It is tradition that helps preserve the environment, helps the shad and river, and preserves other cultures’ traditions.”

Dr. Groth expressed, “I want people to understand that the shad fishery is more than just the shad festival.” Even though that is what they are most known for, she wants people to realize they are there at other times. “As long as the gate is unlocked, we are open,” she added.

The first airing of the episode was on Oct. 19 on the Travel Channel but will air again on Nov. 29. The episode is also on On Demand and can be watched on the Travel Channel’s website.



# Bucks News

## Entrepreneurs offer Bucks students advice for success

By:ANGELA GRABOSKY  
Centurion Staff

Four successful entrepreneurs gave Bucks students advice for success at the “Entrepreneurship Panel Hollywood Style” event at the Newtown campus on Nov. 12.

The panel featured local entrepreneurs Rebecca Rescate, Andrew Abruzzese, John Cawley, and Angelo Greco. Rescate presented CitiKitty, a product that toilet trains cats, on the show “Shark Tank.”

Andrew Abruzzese runs two restaurants, Big Q Barbeque and Pineville Tavern, and his snapper soup was featured on Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives. John Cawley of Inspyr Socks is “selling inspiration” with motivational messages on socks. Angelo Greco is a pharmacist turned nutrition expert who runs Doc Bakers, an organic juice bar.

“If you want things go for corporate, if you want passion go from the ground up,” Greco declared. The speakers commented that they invest most of the money back into their businesses and leave a small sum for themselves. The consensus was that



Panel members PHOTO CREDIT: ANGELA GRABOVSKY

running a business is difficult and time consuming, but ultimately fulfilling. Cawley cautioned, “Don’t think you’re gonna’ start a business and not do it every day.”

“Take advantage of the things you’re naturally good at, focus on them. Sometimes they can even make up for the things you’re weak at,” said Rescate.

Rescate suggested testing markets, launching prototypes, and testing them out. The speakers agreed that the first run of a factory product is usually bad. Make sure to keep eye on the factory to ensure items aren’t defective.

Starting out will be difficult. “The younger your business is the more expensive it will be. It’s like a baby,” said Abruzzese. To stay relevant Greco said to, “Always be nimble and change with the market.”

An aspiring entrepreneur should look for opportunity in everything. Greco advised to “follow your passion and don’t pass opportunities by. There’s always opportunities...even if you don’t like what you’re doing you might find an opportunity in it.” Good entrepreneurs look for voids in the market, connections, and any other opportunity to climb the ladder.

Networking is the key. Cawley announced, “It’s all about networking. Networking is important. The more networking you do the more people you will know and you will find the answer (to obstacles).” Cawley learned how to run his business on the go and used social media “right out of the gate”.

Rescate “used the press as an outlet”. “Shark Tank” producers contacted her because of the media exposure she had gotten. She said the most beneficial part about her appearance on “Shark Tank” was not the money she re-

ceived from the investors, but the exposure. Her appearance on “Shark Tank” established connections and exposed her product to national television.

Be aware of who you work with and how. According to Greco, “Employees are one of your best investments. Surround yourself by good people.” Abruzzese suggested hiring people to build your brand but, “Sometimes they will be wrong, sometimes they will be right. You have to believe in yourself.”

Cawley warned that it’s easy to trust someone who offers you help but those people can let you down. “Do your research on a person you want to trust, get references” he said. Rescate relayed a bad experience with a business partner and suggested learning things on your own before starting a partnership.

Abruzzese announced that you’re going to have failures, but you have to believe in yourself. “There are a lot of highs and lows. If your stomach isn’t ready for it take baby steps. Get down on one knee, but never fall, get back up,” said Cawley.

## Community College: From the Community College Student’s Perspective



BCCC Campus PHOTO CREDIT: SARA SANDERSON

By: MEGAN HOLMES  
Centurion Staff

Community College can be seen as less acceptable than other universities, but Bucks students themselves chimed in this week to reveal their opinion on Bucks County Community College.

It is widely known that opinions about community college vary due to how you were brought up, how wealthy you are, where your family went to college, and the type of people you are surrounded by.

Some people think going to community college is the best and smartest decision you can make. Getting your associate degree for a cheaper price than other universities may seem to only have benefits.

Others look down upon it viewing it as a place where only people who couldn’t get into actual universities go. Bucks students had their own opinions about community colleges.

Gabe Cortez, 19, a fine arts major transferred to Bucks from Cairn University. Although Cairn has good opportunities for other degrees, Gabe said, “Cairn didn’t have my major... Bucks had the way that I could pursue my major, even though it didn’t have it. I could take similar classes to it.” About Bucks, he said “Well, one, it’s cheaper and two, it was close to my

house. Also, it has a good reputation.”

Toni Valentini, 19, never planned on coming to Bucks. However, now she intends to get her “associate’s in Business in order to better my... skills for my photography business.”

When asked why she chose Bucks, she said, “It was cheap: an inexpensive way to get the knowledge I need as fast as possible. I have money to go to a university but I’d rather save that.”

However, Valentini wasn’t particularly thrilled with community college. “Part of me is happy that next year I’ll have a degree, but another part of me feels like it’s hindering me. Coming from a semester where I was away, the atmosphere and environment of Bucks is not what you feel when you think of college.”

She goes on to say it “was not the most thrilling decision, but at the end of the day, to get the education I need, it’s a good cheap choice... (and that is) the best benefit they have going for them.”

Meanwhile, Cortez kept some benefits in mind: “Coming to Bucks was a smart decision... you get a little more variety in the way you’re taught. You get different people’s styles and meet new people... but the main reason was just to save money.”

In an interview with early education major Jess Hendrix, 20, and psychology major Marissa Faia, 19, Hendrix said she “chose to go to Bucks because it saves so much for my family and I wasn’t ready to go away...I wanted to work.” Faia agreed, “I didn’t want to leave, and I could also keep my full time job.”

Hendrix went on to say, “I’m glad I chose Bucks. I think it was a smart decision.” Agreeing with Hendrix, Faia stated “Yea.. I’m glad, it’s kinda sad going to visit your friends at college... at the end of the day it saves a lot of money. I’m glad I did (go to Bucks) anyway because


I ended up changing my major.”

Then there are also the people who seem to love Bucks and have no second thoughts about it. “I would say that like high school... senior year everyone is excited to go

away but no one looks at the costs and it’s still the great education as another college,” business major Zan Bires, 20, said about Bucks.

He went on, “As much as people complain and say Bucks isn’t a good stepping


stone, I think it’s a good way for people to get their feet wet and see what college is like so when you go out you know... it’s not as strenuous as a four-year college but it’s preparing you for it.”



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December 8 | 1 pm | Academy Hall

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# Bucks News

## Black Friday stress- ful for employees



*Shoppers fighting to get into a store.*  
PHOTO CREDIT:WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

**By: JOHNNY COHEN  
AND JUSTIN BIFOLCO**  
*Centurion Staff*

As Thanksgiving approaches, retailers around the country prepare for the busiest shopping day of the year: Black Friday.

As shoppers formulate their lists of cheap treasures, the widening eyes of retail workers countrywide have begun envisioning the potentially catastrophic series of events that all American retail workers have come to oh-so-closely associate with the holiday season.

Long lines, belligerent shoppers, and a seemingly endless brigade of highly caffeinated customers await the retail workers and their employers who work so fervently to keep up with the growing demand for low-cost goods.

Food Service Management major Kristina Mandelaro, 19, of Yardley discussed her experience working at Kohl's. "It can be a living hell, even though I do the graveyard shifts. I go in at midnight and after 2:00 a.m. it gets really busy."

Kristina went on to say, "I do multiple things. I'm a cashier, I work in the home department, I work in the kids department, I just got moved to the shoe department.

9:00 a.m to when I left, there were people everywhere - so I was cleaning up the kids department for like 4 hours."

According to the National Retail Federation's Preliminary Thanksgiving Weekend Survey, an estimated 135.8 Million shoppers are expected to turnout Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and the succeeding weekend. This figure includes both in-store and online shopping.

Business Administration major, Rowan Evans, 19, of Bensalem works at Staples. He states, "I love my job, I love my co-workers, but on Black Friday; sometimes you're just pushed to the point where you want to just 'clock out' ... The tech department always gets hit hard on Black Friday. Ink is always a really sought after item because it's typically really expensive - so the lines are always backed up".

Nursing Major Pat Thorton, 19, of Holland works at Toys R' Us. He says, "Basically my Black Friday experience

is mostly focused on Thursday. This is because we open at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday and we are open all night... On Thursday before we open there is always a huge mob of people that swarm inside as soon as we open."

Pat went on to say, "On Friday it's much more calm and people shop normally, there are just a lot of customers... As far as my experiences with it - It's not that bad, people say it's worse than it is."

Thorton states, "Thursday is so much worse than Friday. I never really have had a bad experience with those two days except one time there was a lady that yelled at me."

According to the NRF, since 2012, Thanksgiving spending has outpaced Black Friday by a growing margin in online sales.

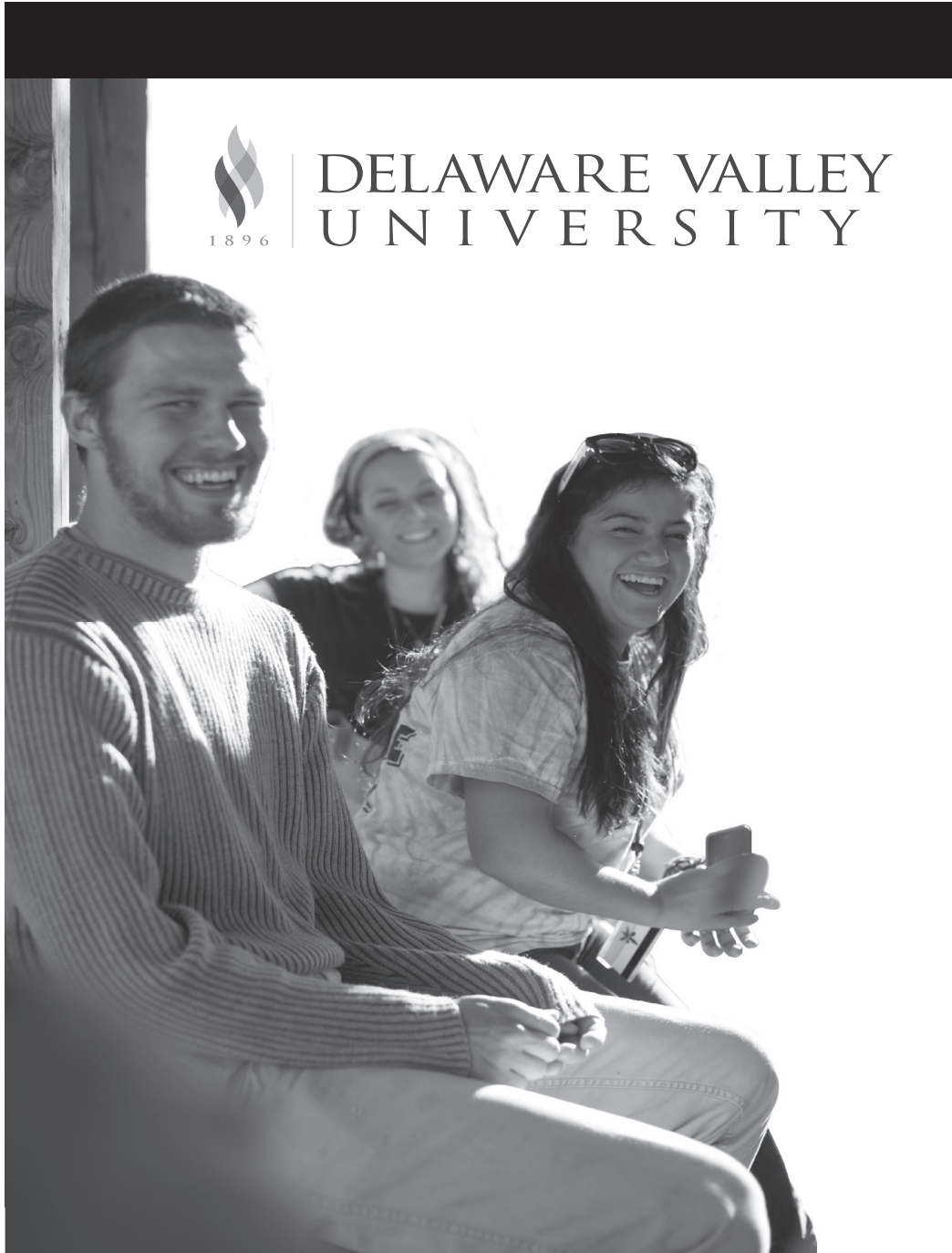
The holidays require some extra help, causing many companies to hire seasonal workers. This can make it difficult sometimes for the more tenured employees.

Mandelaro states, "the worst part about it is that I don't get as many hours as I normally do, because they hire all of their new 'seasonals' as the holidays roll around. On the bright side; there are some extra hands!"

In order to stay competitive, companies are opening much earlier and staying open later. This comes at the expense of the store associates who formerly spent their holidays with family and friends but now must spend their Thanksgiving evening in a checkout line.

22-year-old Fine Arts Illustration major, A.J. Keller of Quakertown works at the Bonton department store, but doesn't like working holidays. She states, "We're apparently opening on Thanksgiving night, and we'll be open all through Black Friday. I don't like working on Thanksgiving, because it's is a family day; I'm spending time with family that I don't normally get to spend time with."

For retail workers, Thanksgiving weekend has increasingly become a holiday weekend feared instead of loved. Fortunately, Black Friday is only one day out of the whole year. But if you're out shopping on Black Friday, try to maintain some composure in the chaos.



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# Arts & Entertainment

## 22-year-old Tyler Kline becomes youngest Poet Laureate



Poet Laureate, Tyler Kline

BY: ANGELA GRABOSKY

Centurion Staff

Tyler Kline, 22, became the youngest Bucks County Poet Laureate to date this year. He has been writing poetry for less than four years and became serious about writing and submitting his poems after two.

He described his title as 2015 Poet Laureate an honor and a privilege. “To be the youngest Poet Laureate to date is both a tremendous and slightly overwhelming title. There are legacies of incredible Laureates that I now have a connection to and even this fact is wild to consider,” said Kline.

Kline hopes he can dutiful-

ly fulfill his role as the Poet Laureate and wishes to make the contest judges and Bucks County community proud.

“I first learned about poetry in this County and I subsequently wrote my first poem here. It is an unbelievable feeling to see community members connecting to my poetry that is so rooted in home.”

He credits his mother, Janice Kline, for encouraging him to enter the contest. Janice Kline has worked in education since Kline’s childhood. “She instilled a love for writing and the arts in me,” Kline wrote.

Kline’s mother encouraged him to enter the Poet Laureate

contest for the first time in his freshman year of college. “Back then, I had barely started writing and had little to no idea what I was doing. However, my mom kept encouraging me to enter the Laureate contest,” Kline recalled, “Her, along with my father’s inspiration, have never run quiet,” said Kline.

Multiple mentors helped Kline shape himself as a poet. Rob Tractenberg, an English teacher at C.B. West, made poetry accessible and was “able to translate his enthusiasm and passion to his students, making a difference to even the most reluctant and hesitant writers,” according to Kline.

Katherine Semisch, another C.B. West English teacher, introduced him to many English concepts, “but most importantly how to live and learn mindfully.”

Professor Devon Miller-Duggan of the University of Delaware pushed Kline to take his writing to the next level. They regularly meet and workshop together.

Contemporary poets like Matthew Dickman inspired Kline to “sit down with a pen and paper and try writing in this strange galaxy called a ‘poem’”.

Kline describes his writing as Americana with a similar tone to the art of Andrew Wyeth. It is heavily influenced by his Bucks County upbringing. Much of

it focuses on suburbia/rural life, boyhood, and communal interaction. “I find comfort and meaning in writing about what I know: what it’s like to grow up as a boy or what it’s like to be so close to nature,” said Kline.

Kline estimates that the words that appear most frequently in his poems are deer, moon, town, home, bird, boy, and girl. Lately he has been particularly interested in deer. In one of his favorite images from a recent poem, he described “a group of teenage boys as deer and an older boy is handing out cigarettes from behind his antlers.” Kline explained that this image fit well with the tendency for adolescents to congregate and not say much, but instead just welcoming the communal presence of others.”

Metaphor is Kline’s favorite part about writing. He sees metaphors as important form of expression that people use daily, “to make sense of the world in which they live.” He believes his metaphors make his poetry stand out.

“Much of what I write is an attempt to make sense of my surroundings through metaphors that oftentimes are bizarre, but just rounded enough to hopefully make that connection with the reader.”

Kline advises aspiring poets to read poems every day, “Go to your local library and take a book of poems off the shelf

that you’ve never heard of. See what that poet is doing, whether you connect with their writing or not. Discover your favorite poets and poems. Hang those poems on your walls, by your desk, above your sink so when you brush your teeth you are able to read them everyday.” He believes that in order to improve reading poetry is equally, if not more, important than writing it.

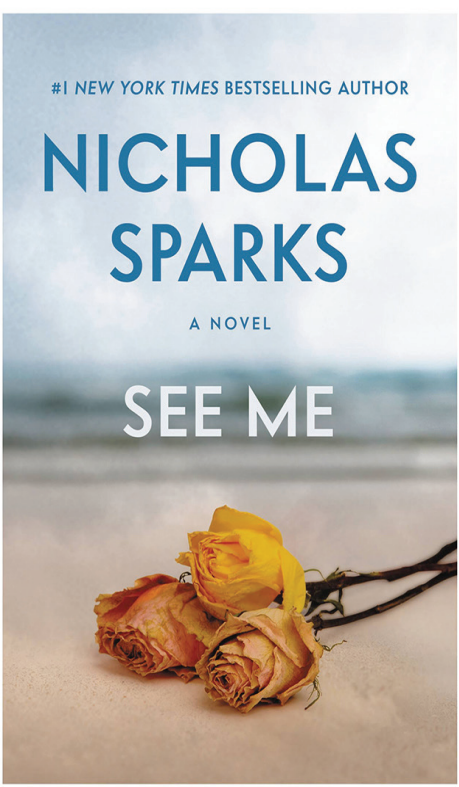
Kline describes his writing ritual as fluid and inconsistent, but makes sure to devote an hour to writing every day. He suggests devoting time even if you don’t think you have anything to write about. “Follow your thoughts, jot down words or phrases that come to mind. Collect daily experiences and images and go back to them every couple days in order to make sense of them and eventually write something about them if you feel inclined,” said Kline.

BCCC welcomed Kline to a poetry reading and reception held at the Newtown campus on Nov. 15. Kline has future plans involving his chapbook “As Men Do Around Knives” which will be released by ELJ Publications in May 2016. It will be a compilation of 12 to 15 poems with an Americana, hometown feel. It will include many of the poems he submitted to the Bucks County Poet Laureate contest.

## CENTURIONS’ CHOICE

### Books

“See Me” by Nicholas Sparks



“See Me” by Nicholas Sparks

Colin Hancock and Maria Sanchez’s dark and troubled pasts shows readers that love can be found amidst life-threatening crises. When Colin and Maria start envisioning a future together, Maria’s past surfaces and their love is tested.

Yet again, Nicholas Sparks captures readers with the promise of love, mystery, and suspense as millions of fans rave about this romance thriller.

### Movies

“Mockingjay Part 2”



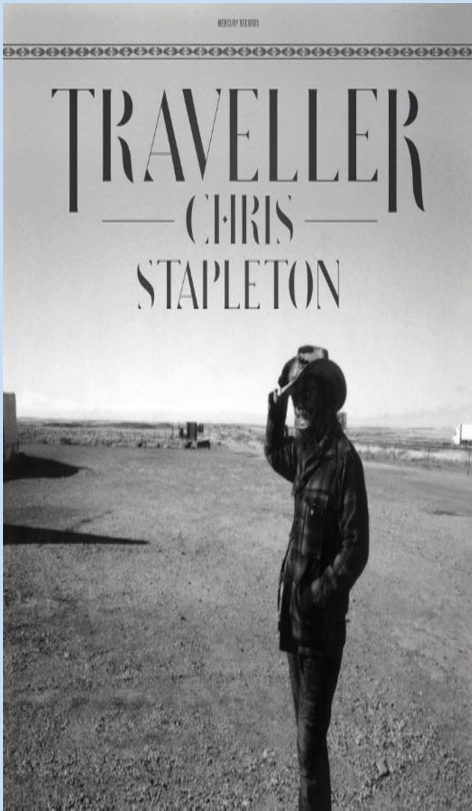
“Mockingjay Part 2”

The “Hunger Games” is coming out with its last sequel on Nov. 20 and is a must-see over the Thanksgiving break.

In “Mockingjay Part 2,” Katniss Everdeen and her friends Peeta, Gale, and Finnick leave District 13 to assassinate President Snow. It is the epic conclusion to the “Hunger Games” movies as Katniss leads a long-awaited revolution against the Capital.

### Music

“Traveller” by Chris Stapleton



“Traveller” by Chris Stapleton

Chris Stapleton emerges as the CMA’s New Artist of the Year, and Male Vocalist of the year. His first album, Traveller hit number one this year, and also came out on top as Album of the Year at the 2015 Country Music Awards. A singer-songwriter, Stapleton has written hit songs for artists such as Luke Bryan, George Strait, Darius Rucker, Thomas Rhett, Kenny Chesney, and many more. Traveller hit stores in May, and hit number 1 on Billboard’s Hot 200.



# Arts and Entertainment

## An American in Paris: a classic beauty

By: MELISSA COHEN  
*Centurion Staff*

With its classic musical scores, bright and colorful scenic designs and sensational dancing, the Broadway production of *An American in Paris* is wonderful and marvelously entertaining!

The show is currently playing at New York City’s Palace Theatre, and tells a story of romance and life after war.

Set in 1945, the musical follows the arrival of WWII veteran and artist, Jerry Mulligan, in Paris, France. Jerry falls for Lise, a French ballet dancer with a troubled past.

When Jerry and Lise become acquainted with each other, they begin to spend more time together during ballet rehearsals and outside of ballet rehearsals. Trouble looms over when the two begin to fall in love, despite Lise being engaged to another man.

In this performance, the role of Jerry Mulligan was played by actor and San Francisco Ballet dancer, Garen Scribner. As Jerry, Scribner was attractive, lovable, graceful and immediately swept the audience off of their feet. His biggest strength, aside from his remarkable dancing, was that he was able to display a very powerful set of emotions in every action that he took onstage.

As Jerry (Scribner) continued to captivate Lise onstage, the audience continued to fall in love with his charm and overwhelming innocence, hoping that he would receive his fairytale ending and win the heart of the girl he was madly in love with.

Jerry’s love interest, Lise, was played by actress and Miami Ballet Dancer, Sara Esty. Like Scribner, Esty’s dancing was beautiful and flawless. In her role as Lise, Esty presented a perfect and strong performance as an innocent, mysterious and sweet French ingénue, caught in the middle of a love triangle.

A sense of guilt overcame me as I watched Lise struggle to choose which man she should be with, without breaking anyone’s heart.

Therefore, when Max Von Essen took the stage as Lise’s wealthy fiancé, the audience had to decide if it was Jerry or Henri Baurel (Essen) who deserved to be with Lise.

Falling in love with Henri was not a difficult process, as Henri made it clear that he desired nothing more than to protect Lise.

Essen portrayed Henri as being a very well-polished and refined middle aged man, especially when he was singing operatically and when he was in the presence of his parents. His struggle to remain refined and well-mannered was interrupted, however, by his secret desire to become a singer. Essen’s character was one of the comedic roles in the show, and he also kept the audience greatly entertained.

Meanwhile, Adam Hochberg, the musical composer for the ballet that Lise was performing in, was also easily relatable to. Portrayed by actor Brandon Uranowitz, Adam melted your heart in an instant, especially when you realized that he was also falling in love with Lise.

Adam was portrayed as being

a “victim” who found himself caught in the same love triangle as his two friends, Jerry and Henri.

However, he was able to change the mood of the show from bittersweet to upbeat and lively when he would nervously try to tell Lise how he felt about her.

The strong performances in this production would not have been complete without other characters such as Milo Davenport (portrayed actress Jill Paice), a wealthy socialite who took “interest” in both Jerry and his artwork. Veanne Cox, who played Henri Baurel’s overbearing mother, Madame Baurel, was another comedic role in the show. She expected her son to carry on the “family traditions” and family name.

The ensemble was very entertaining, lively, energetic and witty. Each cast member, if either illustrating modern lower class citizens of Paris or guests of parties that were held by the Baurel family, looked like they were enjoying themselves. They also portrayed each character’s persona very realistically.

But not only were the performances strong, the scenic designs were also incredible. The scenic designs sparked a creative and genuine story setting and ranged from outside views of where the lower class lived, the park where Lise and Jerry danced together, and a ballet hall where Lise rehearsed for her ballet performance.

Using pastel colors, mainly yellow, light blue, white and pink in the scenes with Lise and Jerry helped to set a romantic, innocent and sunny mood for the story. The colors in Lise’s costumes in Act One captured her purity, specifically in lightly shaded sundresses that she wore.

For Jerry, who was dressed in light blue, white and tan in Act One, he stood out from the rest of the performers who were dressed in dark brown, red and dark blue. His costumes matched his personality beautifully, presenting him as a foreigner in a distant country where he had to adjust to a different way of life.

Even Adam wore costumes that fit his personality and his character. Costume designer Bob Crowley dressed him in simple brown sweaters to make him look like he was a working class man. And Henri, who was dressed in black but wore a white suit jacket in most of his scenes, looked like he belonged to the wealthy upper class of Paris.

The lighting techniques also matched the sunny, romantic and charming mood in Act One and Act Two, but they also matched the dark and depressing scenes in the very beginning of the show as well. In Act One’s music number, “I’ve Got Rhythm,” the scene was supposed to look like the power went out in Paris. Every light was off onstage, until Adam lit a candle so the guests at his bar could see and continue celebrating.

This was a very realistic lighting approach, and so was the lighting approach when Lise and Jerry met in the park and Jerry sang, “I’ve Got Beginner’s Luck” and “Liza.” The light and scenic designers used very soft lights in this scene to portray daylight



which captured the pleasant essence of the story.

All aside from the elegant and sophisticated scene designs came highly seductive passion in Lise and Jerry’s dancing. From the opening dance scene in Act One to Lise’s ballet performance in Act Two, Lise and Jerry were stunning to look at onstage. Their chemistry and desire for one another was intense, romantic and agile when they danced in each others’ arms. It was evident that they were in love with each other in the story, and they told their love story through their dancing instead of through their words in such a beautiful, fitting and adoring manner.

With a presentational text, and a great number of props, this production was full of compassion, delight and excitement. Using props such as Jerry’s paintings that he hung meticulously on the wall in many of his Act One scenes, Lise’s ballet shoes, the flag of France and Adam’s piano, a realistic story was created that was very similar to the 1951 film starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron.

If you have not yet seen director and choreographer Christopher Wheeldon’s *An American in Paris*, I highly recommend you buy your tickets now. This production was everything a musical should be. By far, this was the most creative and highly captivating musical I have ever seen. This is definitely a musical I could see again and again, and never get tired of seeing it.

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## CEDAR CREST COLLEGE



# Sports

## Despite awful start, Sixers are expecting a bright future

By: JOHN GANNON  
*Centurion Staff*

Despite the 0-12 start for Sixers this season, the future is bright for Philly fans with the big Jahlil Okafor having a tremendous start.

Big Jah, as many fans call him, is averaging 19 points per game thus far, while shooting nearly 50 percent from the field. Also being the first rookie in 13 years to score 26 points on his rookie debut.

Zack Bergman, 19, Richboro states, “We suck, but Okafor is solid”. Hard to find positives with the team this year, but it’s hard not to be excited about a guy like Jahlil.

Again averaging 19 points, nearly 8 rebounds, and 1.7 blocks per game, Okafor is on pace to win the rookie of the year award with his incredible start. Therefore there are some upsides to the season.

Alongside of Okafor, Nerlens Noel is having a great season as well, averaging 10 points, 9 rebounds, 1 block and 1.6 steals.

Aside from our recent poor play in the previous seasons, we are starting to really get the ball rolling with the rebuilding process. With the



*Nerlens Noel*

PHOTOCREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

potential of our core guys like Okafor, Noel and Covington we have a bright future ahead of us.

The issue at hand is the transition from rebuilding to becoming a league powerhouse, we need to start filling in the missing pieces to the

puzzle.

When asked about what the Sixers are missing from the team, Bryan Kaelin, 19, Warminster, says “They need a superstar, a big name point guard, someone to use all this cap space on.” This is a popular belief, many fans seem

to think the answer to our problems is in the off-season free agent signings.

It seems to be a Philadelphia trend to have the “there’s always next season” mentality. fans always appear to be excited for the upcoming season, but things don’t pan


out and we do the same thing and look at the next season again.

Despite all this, next season looks to be on the up-and-up. Dario Saric and Joel Embiid are said to be playing for the team by next season. Along with the big upcoming free agency this could be a promising off-season for Philly.

Additionally to a lack of a point guard, this upcoming free agency may not be the best year for the Seventy-Sixers. Especially being that there are few available guards for us next year. Nevertheless, the amount of cap space we have definitely makes Philly an appealing market.

Joel Embiid has become a controversial topic in the recent past; his diet has been a big issue lately. Sixers fans are all too familiar with injured big men not being dedicated (Andrew Bynum). Hence why fans are quick to think the worst here in Philadelphia, but of course they have good reason for doing so.


If there are any out there, keep your heads up Sixers fans. We’ll get through these tough times, the future is bright.



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