National

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ISIS: A new terrorist threat and what America is doing about it

Feature Salvador's bloodiest civil war through the eyes of one of its child guerilla fighters



Sports

The **Eagles** coming back strong this season



The Centurion

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

Volume 52 Issue 2

Week of October 2, 2014

Bucks-News.com

@BCCCCenturion

Student Life steps up to the plate for Bucks Athletics

Student Life is now in charge of Bucks' Athletic teams, leaving many students questioning whether changes will occur in the program.

By: Diamond Schuler Centurion Staff

Some big game changers are coming to the athletics program at Bucks, starting with the program now being run by Student Life.

Matt Cipriano, the director of Student Life programs at Bucks says there are some great improvements and changes to take place this year with Bucks athletics. One of those changes is organizational and structural changes.

The student athletics are now going to be under the Student Affairs division instead of the Academic Affairs Division.

Due to these structural and organizational changes Cipriano says they were able to streamline some of the paperwork making things more organized and efficient.

Also Bucks has made moves toward hiring an assistant golf director as well as moving Assistant Athletic Director Justin Boroughs from part-time to full time, so that he will be



Matt Cipriano, head of Student Life Photo Credit: DIAMOND SCHULER

more accessible to serve our student athletic teams.

With the structural changes Cipriano is also encouraging teams to start fundraising for new equipment, "We are encouraging student-athletes to fundraise for things beyond the issued uniform."

Many of the teams have just the basics of what they need due to low funding, so with

the extra funding raised, they'll be able to get more for their teams.

Cipriano assures that the changes being made won't be hard for anyone to adjust to or cause any type of controversy.

"The changes we have been making thus far are small things. The current system isn't broken by any means so we want to learn how things are done and the processes that have been set in place."

Besides the changes of structure and the added encouragement for fundraising, there has been an influx of students wanting to participate in sports this semester, which shows the changes are bringing a positive reaction from students. Cipriano said, "We had a record number get physicals and process eligibility paperwork at our Fall Athletics Orientation program. We have 53 I believe."

The athletic program is also See 'Sports' on Page 2

College Events

- Voters Registration in Newtown Campus on Oct. 1 and Oct. 2. From 10:00a.m. to 7:00p.m. in front of the Cafeteria in Rollins

- The Artmobile in Newtown Campus will host their new exhibit called A Fine Line from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m, on Oct. 1 and Oct. 2

- Robert Channing, Mind reader and Motivational speaker, will be performing in the Gallagher room in Newtown at 11:00 a.m.

-September Modular: 25% Refunds end. Last day for drops.

Oct. 3

 A poetry reading featuring notable poets from Bucks County will be held in the Orangery at 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 4

-Social Science trip to the Philadelphia Zoo. Tickets start at \$25 for students.

- Lower Bucks Campus will be having a Public Safety Training Center Open House.

- A Suicide Awareness presentation will be held at the Upper Bucks Campus in room 253 at 1

Oct. 8

- Delhaas Woods & Cassalia Pond Clean-up will be held at the Lower Bucks Campus from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- A Suicide Awareness Presentation will be held at Newtown Campus in the Gallagher room from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

See 'College Events' on Pg 2

Weather

Thursday -Mostly sunny, with a high near 73.



Friday -Chance of showers, with a high near 74

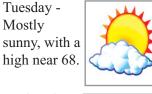
Saturday -Partly sunny, with a high near 68.



Sunday -Sunny, with a high near 66.



Monday -Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.



Wednesday -Sunny with a high near 69.



WEATHER COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

U.S. airstrikes against terrorist group ISIS escalate

By: Kristof Phillips

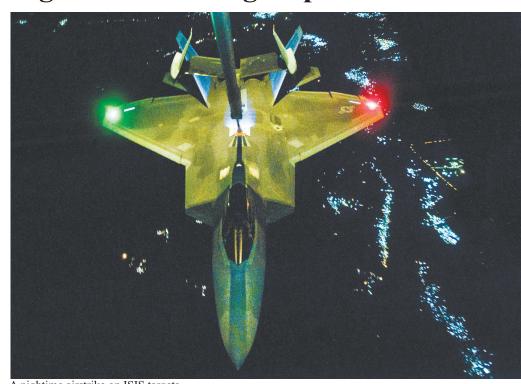
Centurion Staff

U.S. airstrikes against the Islamic State (IS) have intensified in recent weeks, as fighter jets and drones conduct targeted bombings of IS-controlled oil refineries in Syria.

U.S. Central Command released a report which said U.S. military forces, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates jointly "conducted 13 airstrikes against 12 ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) controlled modular oil refineries" on Sept. 24. The coalition targeted oil refineries and one ISIL vehicle located in eastern Syria, according to the report. The U.S. has begun to target

oil refineries under control of the IS, also known as ISIL, in an attempt to limit the group's resources. These refineries have been financing their terrorist organization, generating \$2 million a day in revenue, according to the Pentagon. According to BBC, IS con-

trols six of the 10 oil fields in Syria and produces roughly 50,000 barrels in Syria and 30,000 barrels in Iraq a day. The oil produced from these



A nightime airstrike on ISIS targets fields is then sold to local

merchants who smuggle it across the borders to Turkey, Iran and Jordan or it is sold back to the Syrian government, reported the BBC.

The recent airstrikes were a part of President Obama's strategy to dismantle the IS, or as Obama calls it, the "network of death." The report

stated the strikes were be-

lieved to be a success, de-

ies" that produced 300-500 barrels of refined petroleum a day. The recent U.S. military

stroying "small-scale refiner-

bombing campaign in Syria to take out IS and the Khorasan group, a terrorist group from the region in league with al-Qaeda, is part of a larger campaign. At a press conference with Pentagon officials, Lt.

Gen. William Mayville said

that this campaign will mostly likely take place for the next couple of years.

What do you think of the recent airstrikes?

The Centurion wants your opinion! Send in your thoughts to: Centurion@student.bucks.edu

Bucks News

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Letter Policy

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

Get E-Mail Updates:

Register at www.Bucksnews.com and a .PDF version of the newspaper will be delivered directly to your email box.



College Events

- Newtown Campus will be hosting Careers in the FBI at 12:30 p.m. in the Gallagher Room.
- PACAC Regional College Fair will be held in Newtown Campuses' Gymnasium from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- The Bucks Book Group will be discussing "Mary Coin" by Marisa Silver in the glass room next to the (former) Fireside Lounge from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30
- -Social Science trip to Rittenhouse Square. Tickets start at \$20 for students.
- -Social Science trip to Girard Trolley. Tickets start at \$20 for students.
- -Social Science trip: Old City Walk. Tickets start at \$20 for stu-

Oct. 10

- Social Science Trip: Walking Tour of Central Park. Tickets start at \$25 for students.
- Social Science Trip: Museum of Modern Art/ New York. Tickets start at \$25 for students.

Oct. 11 - Premiere Music Performance

- and Art Unveiling in the Gateway Auditorium at Newtown Campus at 7:00 p.m.
- Social Science Trip: Constitution Center/Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello. Tickets start at \$20 for students.

- The Proud to be an American gallery will be held in the Lower Bucks Campus' Gallery from Sept. 8 to Nov. 20.

ISIS: A new threat in the Middle East

Centurion Staff

As U.S. military operations increase in Syria and other parts of the Middle East in response to the Islamic State's growing sphere of influence many students are left wondering how to handle the cri-

The Islamic State (IS) is also referred to as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) or the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). The terrorist group has recently emerged as the greatest threat to national security, according to Washington D.C.

The terrorist organization has committed murder, rape, and torture in every part of the Middle East it has arrived in. Every area under the control of the Islamic State is placed under Sharia law.

The group has taken over a large majority of Iraq by force, financing its operations with revenue from captured oil fields in Syria.

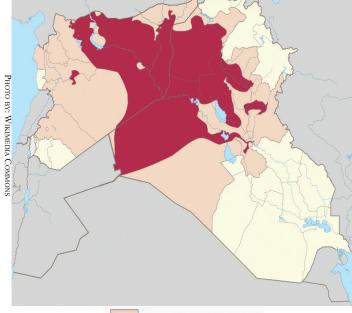
The IS has been seen as so ruthless reports say that even al-Oaeda has disassociated itself from them.

Ragga, one of the cities' most notably under the thumb of IS, is undercomplete control. Sharia law is in full effect, Is even so far as committing mass executions and crucifixions of Christians in the region and others who oppose their rule.

The IS has pronounced itself as a Caliphate, a Muslim empire that has sovereignty over all Muslims. The leader of the terrorist organization, Abu Bakir al-Baghdadi, now being referred to as Caliph Ibrahim.

Bucks students are torn over how to handle this threat to national security, desiring to

Territorial Control of ISIS



Area claimed by ISIS Area controlled by ISIS Rest of Syria and Iraq

see the brutal terrorist group stamped out but wary of another decade long war in the Middle East.

"I do believe that the United States needs to take action against ISIS and stop them before they gain any more military power," said Alex Chernicoff, 21, a physical education major from Newtown.

"I don't believe we should go into another war," said Stephanie Lutkins, 21, an early childhood education major from Newtown.

The conflict in Syria had not been a widely known issue until IS captured and executed American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff.

The infamous videos are of a British IS member, "Jihadi John", sending "a message" to Obama and the United States.

John then proceeds to behead Foley and Sotloff with a small knife in the middle of a Syrian desert. His most recent victim is David Haines, a British aid worker.

"It's ridiculous," said Tim McCuen, 19, a criminal justice major from Newtown. "They are a bunch of thugs hiding behind a flag to commit these atrocities."

"[Killing] James Foley was an attack on the U.S. It could be justifiable means to get involved," McCuen continued. More recently, a video has surfaced of French hostage Herve Gourdel being beheaded by members of Jund al-Khilafa, an Algerian terrorist organization with allegiances to Caliph Ibrahim and the IS.

The messages in each of the videos makes it clear that the beheadings were in retaliation for Obama's involvement in attacking the IS and the coalition between the UK, France and the U.S.

Sports

set to launch a new website, hopefully by the end of next month. Cipriano said the website should bring more traffic due to its easier navigation, better interaction and attractive design.

Bucks is also working towards the rejuvenation of its intramural leagues. There has always been an intramural sports league, but it hasn't received much attention.

So for students looking to have a little fun and workout without the heavy commitment it's a great option. The first intramural offering will be indoor sports.

Bucks currently offers a men's and women's, basketball, soccer, and tennis team. In addition to a woman's volleyball team, men's baseball and golf team, and a co-ed equestrian

Cipriano encourages students to go and try out for the Bucks athletic program. Besides being able to pursue something you love and compete, "you get to provide a very important service to the college by being an ambassador to Bucks by playing on one of our teams."

Cipriano said that "about 90 percent of the work done for events activities and sports is behind the scenes."

With the many changes being done within the Bucks athletic program, there should be lots of good to come. We hope for many victories from the Bucks Centurions.

A painful glimpse at El Salvador's civil war

A special report looking into the past of Cariño Ramirez, a man who served as a child guerilla during the long and bloody Salvadoran Civil War

By Manuel Rodriguez

Centurion Staff

Cariño Ramirez is as peculiar as his first name - he hums a tune I haven't heard in ages, "Amigo" from Brazilian singer, Roberto Carlos, as he washes the dirt under his fingernails from working on a roof in Yardley and turtles his face into his shoulder to dry up the stray droplets that splashed their way onto his thick mustache. He pats his hands dry with the side of his Wrangler Jeans before he takes a seat and blows the dust off of an old photo album.

"You know, a very special nun once told me that everything happens for a reason and that no matter how bad you think you have it, it's happening to make you a better person," said Ramirez as he skimmed through the photo album, licking the tip of his middle finger before swinging one wide page to the next.

He didn't say much about the photographs, just silently gazed at them with worn out eyes that were itching for a nap.

On May 6, 1969, Cariño Ramirez was born in Barrio San Antonio in Nejapa, El Salvador, on the cusp of a revolution in which he would play a small part in just a few years' time. His parents, Leonel and Fernanda Ramirez, were well known in Barrio San Antonio for their stance against the militant government of El Salvador. They were active members of the Farabundo Martí

National Liberation Front

(FMLN) which is now one of two major political parties in El Salvador.

Since 1932, after the El Salvadorian military executed an estimated 30,000 people in a peasant uprising led by Farabundo Martí, the country was ruled by a militant dictatorship in which opponents were punished through violence.

Under this regime, education and property were reserved for the wealthy.

Archbishop Oscar Romero, of El Salvador, was one of the key figures who stood up for the poor of the country. He headed massive protests in the mid 1970's, pleading for the government to adopt more humane practices.

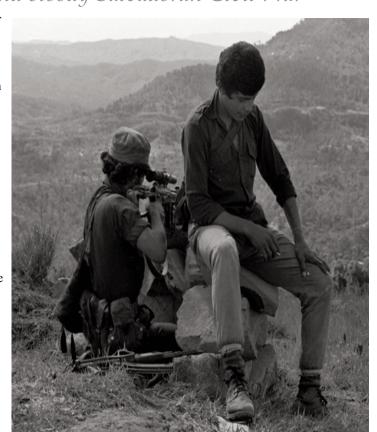
In October of 1979, a successful coup d'état on President General Carlos Humberto of El Salvador was carried out by a civil-military

In the months and years that followed, the U.S. government supplied and embraced the El Salvadorian government, funneling \$5.7 million to the regime as early as 1980.

In February of 1980, Archbishop Romero published a public letter to President Carter, pleading for the U.S. president to discontinue the military aid to the Salvadorian reign, reiterating the fact that political power in the country was being controlled by the military

and that U.S. support will only "sharpen the injustice and re-

pression against the organiza-



One of the many children forced into bloody combat.

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS tions of the people... struggling to gain respect for their fundamental human rights." After being ignored by President Carter for a month, Romero called upon Salvadorian soldiers to not follow orders to kill civilians. Romero was assassinated the next day, March 24, 1980, while he celebrated mass.

Shortly thereafter, the country became a chaotic war-zone between guerrillas and the Salvadorian army, which received continued support from the United States. The repression against civilians intensified. Ramirez said "they killed

my uncle, Pepe, a professor of

the university in the capital during one of his lectures the violence never stopped." Ramirez explained that his uncle, like his parents, were of the people "who said what needed to be said and did what had to be done – my mother slept with a gun under her pillow and she wasn't afraid to use it."

"Papa and mama were strong, good people – they never meant nobody any harm, they were just tired of seeing the military ruin the country," explained Ramirez. "They stood up for our people when nobody else did,

See 'El Salvador' on Page 3

Bucks-news.com @BCCCCenturion October 2, 2014 Centurion

El Salvador

President Carter, not President Reagan, the Mexican government, the Honduran government... no one."

He described a rough child-hood, one where it was normal to "walk around a dead body just to get half a bar of soap from the bodega. It was a war, literally a war in my back yard – a war that didn't end until '92."

Ramirez recalls when a death squad went into the city, looking for his father on April 29, 1980.

"I remember someone yelling papa's name and banging on the front door. Papa whispered to my mother to hide me and my sister in the hole he made on the floor under the couch. Whenever the military was in town, that's where we hid," explained Ramirez, reaching for his wallet. As he unfolded it, some small receipts stumbled onto the tabletop. Ramirez, paying them no mind, pointed at a tiny-withered photo of his parents. As he silently reminisced on his short-lived moments with his family, a single tear slowly made its way

down his face. "This is the only picture I have of papa and mama," he mumbled under bated breath right before balling his hands into two wrecking balls and crashing them down onto the table. "Papa yelled at mama to hide and then I heard the door crash, papa's shotgun go off, 'hijo de putas,' mama screaming and more and more gunshots -I was only 10. That's how I lost mama and papa," Ramirez said as he buried his face in his handkerchief.

"After that, Consuela, a nun

from church, took care of us until the guerrillas came and brought everyone hiding out in the church to Guazapa, one of the guerrilla settlements."

Unlike many other El Salvadorans, Ramirez wasn't forced into being a soldier, he chose to be one. His sister Lourdes, 12 at the time, stuck close to Consuela, eventually becoming a nun herself.

He remembered being particularly interested in the conversations the head guerrillas had right before their insurgent attacks against the militia.

Ramirez described his miltary role as one of the many child scouts who would venture into an area to identify any soldiers on the roofs. "All I had to do was make sure the roofs were clear of soldiers and help out with getting as much supplies as possible," said Ramirez nervously, head down as he raced his blistered fingers through his darker than black hair.

Being so close to the fireworks meant Ramirez's time to pull the trigger was just around the corner.

"You know, the hardest thing I ever did was shoot – no, not that; the hardest thing was swallowing the fact that I destroyed that man's family... like they did mine," Ramirez explained.

"Understand I was still a boy and I had to shoot a soldier who I saw make a signal with his hands – I think he saw one of us. From the position I was standing in, I had the best angle and our jefe told me to take a shot."

He continued, "It was my first time using a gun on someone so I fired like 3 or 4 times and he just dropped. I had to check if he was really



A young guerilla lays in the streets of El Salvador.

dead by checking his pulse on his neck and if his chest moved, I was supposed to shoot him in the head."

"I saw that man's face, eyes still open along with his mouth, I started to strip him of everything he had when I started thinking about what I really had done, I ended someone's life, that's it, no more."

Ramirez' tone became somber.

Ramirez said he "promised Consuela and Lourdes that he wouldn't kill again" over a meal on March 16, 1981. Ramirez's lips quivered as he looked up at the ceiling fan as its shadows gyred over us.

His struggle didn't end there. "The next day, we were crossing the Lempa River into Honduras with women, children and grandparents, somewhere away from all of this chaos when two helicopters flew over us and they killed everyone!"

Ramirez yelped as he buried his face into his palms, crying violently over his remembrance of the Rio Lempa Massacre of 1981. "They dropped bombs on us, they kept shooting well over an hour – so

many people died, Consuela died in my sister's arms...we all died on that river, including me!"

After the massacre violence intensified, forcing Ramirez to break his promise over a fight many others didn't truly understand.

In time, Ramirez explained that the Americans didn't know what was really going on in El Salvador when they aided the Salvadoran government. The U.S. government supplied the Salvadoran government with weapons and supplies to curb the spread of communism during the civil war.

Ramirez explained, "We had an American doctor with us that explained how Americans thought the guerrillas were the bad guys – the communists; it wasn't their fault." He became noticeably more relaxed. "We were fighting to end the 50 year military dictatorship over the country – since before my parents, everyone was being oppressed and something had to be done."

The war ended Jan. 16, 1992, a year before Ramirez immi-

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS grated to the United States

grated to the United States with his sister, more specifically to Brooklyn. "I lived in Brooklyn for maybe nine or 10 years and then I moved to Bensalem, PA," said Ramirez as his youngest son, Michael, 3, climbed into his arms, putting a smile on his face wider than Cheshire the Cat's.

Because of such a strenuous past, Ramirez suffers from sleep apnea and from time to time breaks into cold sweats in his sleep after reliving his past through recurring nightmares. "Thank God I don't suffer from any major injuries or other trauma but the nightmares have never gone away," said Ramirez. "They come once a month, sometimes twice, and when they do, I fear I won't ever wake up."

Today Ramirez works as a freelance carpenter and handyman, building a better future for his lovely wife and three children. He works with Habitat for Humanity building homes free of charge, and is an active member in his local church.



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Bucks News

Tree dedication ceremony held in memory of Jacob Simmers

By: Alyssa Belardo Centurion Staff

A tree-dedication ceremony was held on June 12 in memory of Jacob Simmers, a 19-year-old student at Bucks who was fatally stabbed in March, allegedly by one of his friends, Joseph Romano.

Simmers was known for being a source of everyone's happiness. Down to his last seconds, he still cared immensely about his friends. At the ceremony held in front of Penn Hall at Bucks, it was clear that his friends and professors cared for him greatly.

Although it was raining, a crowd of professors who taught—and even some who didn't—Simmers formed outside of Penn Hall in order to show their respects.

A group of Simmer's friends, including his girlfriend, Brittany Snyder, arrived at the service in formal attire. Some came equipped with umbrellas, but even those who didn't did not seem to mind the rain at all.

A plaque at the foot of the tree now reads: "In memory of Jacob R. Simmers, RIP 1994-2014." Those present gathered in a circle and offered their thoughts and comments about Simmers.

"I hardly knew him," Paige Bartheld admitted, "but whenever I came across him, I could always expect to see a smile. A friendly face. No one ever said anything negative about him to me, ever. It just goes



Simmer's memorial tree can be found in the courtyard between Penn Hall and Founders Hall Photo BY: Kelly Armstrong

to show that someone like that just didn't deserve to go this young."

"Their ceremony may not be large, but it's enough," Jeri Elizabeth said. "What's important isn't the size of the group that shows up, or how many words are said. What matters is that the people who did come understand the loss the world has just had. It seems like the weather fits the situation fairly well, with the rain and all."

Language and Literature Professor Keri Barber organized efforts to raise money for the plaque.

According to the Bensalem Police Department, on March 30 at approximately 2:30 a.m., police responded to a report of a stabbing at Romano's home on the 1100 block of Kasmir Avenue in Bensalem Township.

Police arrived to find Simmers dead from an apparent stab wound to the upper body. Romano, who was at the residence, was arrested without incident.

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National News

iPhone 6 opening bends under pressure

On September 17 Apple unveiled the new iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus. While some Apple fans are itching to upgrade their phones and start breaking them in, some aren't prepared for the expense

By: Gabriel Ortiz
Centurion Staff

The highly anticipated Apple conference on Wednesday, Sept 17 introduced the iPhone 6 Plus and several other upgraded products, possibly rivaling Android's dominance of the largescreen phone market and igniting debate between many students.

This year's products were perhaps Apple's most ambitious since it first unveiled the iPhone back in June of 2007. At this year's conference the company unleashed a plethora of new and improved electronics, ranging from the company's iWatch to of course the iPhone 6 and the iPhone 6 Plus.

The annual press release has become an event Apple users excitedly look forward to every year.

Most people who took interest in the press conference expected some slight improvements in regards to the regular sized Apple 6.

"I'm expecting Apple to have a slightly faster processor than usual, since that's usually one of the things they work on with each number im-



This is a photograph of the new iPhone 6, box, contents and all. While some are excited about the release of this new phone, others think that it's too early, and somewhat of a cash-in for Apple.

provement to the phone, but I don't think I plan on buying a new one, I just don't think it'd be worth the money to upgrade", says freshman Casey Cerenzia.

Despite the new improvements on Apple's old technology and their commitment to creating new gadgets, it seems that Apple isn't simply popular because of innovation and cutting edge technology; a lot of it has to do with their popular branding.

Extensive branding has led many to believe that Apple's name may have become "A little too big for its britches," as freshman Bobby Reiser states. He wonders if even the quality of the new product is actually worth any of the craze.

Reiser explains: "I think some people have iPhones just for the name and to just say they have one. For iPhones in general, I think they are very useful for many things and in many situations, but they can distract people a lot and they're usually not worth all of the extra money".

Reiser continues, "Most of my life I've used an iPod Touch, so I'm an Apple man, but I don't plan on buying a new one." He concludes "It just seems like everyone is looking to upgrade each year, and I think it's more to be cool than anything".

Many like Reisen he

Many like Reiser believe that there's no real need to constantly pay money to upgrade phones. This increasing opinion could drastically impact sales for Apple.

Still Apple has many supporters, and has gained a more with their first attempt at a large screen premium phone.

"I like the big screen, now if I want a larger phone I don't have to settle for an android" says 18 year old business major Mikhail Varshavskie

The iPhone 6 Plus is Apple's answer to Android's dominance in the large screen phone market. With this they hope to keep the momentum from swinging back over into Android phones.

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.

iPhone 6

The new iPhone 6 logo. Some feel it was released prematurely, but others are excited for it.

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Monday, December 8 / 6:00pm



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Entertainment

Television

Wednesday 10/1 NCIS - CBS - 8:00 New Girl - FOX - 9:00 Sons of Anarchy - FX -10:00

Thursday 10/2

Survivor - CBS - 8:00 Modern Family - ABC -

The League - FXX - 10:00

Friday 10/3

Bones - FOX - 8:00 Scandal - ABC - 9:00 Ridiculousness - MTV -10:00

Saturday 10/4

The Amazing Race - CBS -Shark Tank - ABC - 9:00 Real Time With Bill Maher - HBO - 10:00

Sunday 10/5

Cops - FOX - 8:00 Hell on Wheels - AMC -9:00 48 Hours Mystery - FX -10:00

Monday 10/6

The Simpsons - FOX -8:00 The Good Wife - CBS -The Strain - FX - 10:00

Movies



Left Behind (R)

"Left Behind" follows Rayford Steele (Nicolas Cage), who is piloting a commercial airliner just hours after the Rapture when millions of people around the globe simply vanish. Thirty thousand feet over the Atlantic, Rayford is faced with a damaged plane. terrified passengers, and a desperate desire to get back to his family.

Directed by: Vic Armstrong Starring: Nicolas Cage, Chad Michael Murray Release Date: Oct. 3

Music



Taylor Swift **New Album "1989"** 27 Oct.

Charli XCX New Album "Sucker" 21 Oct.

Tokio Hotel New Album "Kings of Suburbia 6 Oct.

"The Sims 4": Creating your world

By: Maria Mattozzi Centurion Staff

September 2 marked the release of "The Sims 4", a highly anticipated edition to the beloved video

game series, "The Sims".

"The Sims" is a sandbox video game series that expresses creation by simulating life. Players

are able to create any person or family imaginable, build the dream homes they desire and control almost anything that happens within the game.

The series was initially created by Maxis games and published by Electronic Arts in February 2000. By 2006, the game became so popular, Maxis had to create "The Sims Studio" in 2006,

which is an entire department dedicated to creating the game.

There has been much excitement with the release of "The Sims 4", but with excitement comes curiosity and doubt over specific changes that have been made.

There have been a

plethora of alterations and upgrades from the previous games, both good and bad.

Some changes include enhanced graphics, increased player abilities, more animations and even greater story possibilities.

Due to so many improvements, however, a few of the series' most important features have been removed in the base game. The biggest cut back in the new game being the exclusion of swimming pools and the toddler "life stage".



also lamented that removing the span be-

tween a baby and a child

"Sims" game.

the incomplete feeling that was often experienced in the very first

In addition, the player is now unable to add base-

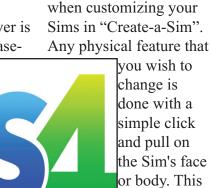


PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS and empha-

F2Y G07CH4

ments to houses, nor are they able to use custom colors and patterns to design objects or outfits.

Some may find these simple drawbacks to be insignificant, however, it may cause the gameplay to be extremely unsatisfying to others.

If you are one that has become disappointed by these facts, keep in mind that this is only the base game.

sizes diversity between each individual Sim.

advances cus-

tomization

the most interesting fea-

tures is that there are no

longer slide screens

The possibility to make truly unique Sims is greater than it ever was before, and that goes well beyond appearance.

Personality is a big factor in this new game. Advancements in your Sims' personalities create greater impacts on how they react to specific situations and they influence the relationships

that they obtain.

Along with the "Createa-Sim" advancements, there are extreme improvements within the build and buy mode where you build and decorate your house.

The player is now able to pick up and change the location PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS of an entire

room, building, or house on a specific lot. The size of rooms are also able to be changed without the old hassle of fixing the room's wallpaper or floor tiles. The Sims 4 also added room models which players can customize to save time. Lastly, the height of your house's foundation can now be adjusted to four different heights.

If you have some extra cash on your hands, go out and get a copy. Despite the setbacks, there are a plethora of new

things to enjoy in this gaming classic.

Books

6

"Rise of ISIS: A Threat We Can't Ignore"

Written By: Jay Sekulow, Robert Ash, and David French

Jay Sekulow, one of America's most influential attorneys, closely examines the rise of the terrorist groups ISIS and Hamas, explains their objectives and capabilities and how, if left undefeated, their existence could unleash a genocide of historic proportions.

Release Date: 13 Oct.

Harris

"Neil Patrick Harris: **Choose Your Own** Autobiography" Written by: Neil Patrick

In this revolutionary, Joycean experiment in light celebrity narrative.

actor/personality/carbonbased-life-form Neil Patrick Harris lets you, the reader, live his life

Release Date: 13 Oct.

"Clariel: The Lost Abhorsen"

Written by: Garth Nix

Garth Nix returns to the Old Kingdom with a thrilling prequel complete with dark magic, royalty, dangerous action, a strong heroine, and flawless worldbuilding.

Release Date: 13 Oct.

Local

New Hope

-Oct. 1 to Oct. 31Every Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve see flowers and fruits in season and discover fun facts about their use.

Newtown

Sept. 27 to Nov. 2 Presented with Sleepy Hollow Hayride, the House in the Hollow is a nationally acclaimed haunted attraction that has been in operation and entertaining guests for over 22 years.

Yardley

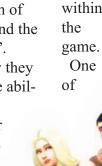
Sept. 29 to Oct. 31 Take a wagon ride to the patch to pick the perfect pumpkin, enjoy inflatable attractions, giant jumping pillows, corn maze and much more.

Southampton

Sept. 27 to Nov. 2 Ride through the deepest, darkest woods in Bucks County. New spooks, new scares and even more thrilling.

Doylestown

Sept. 6 to Oct. 31 The Tubby Olive has announced four new area artists who will be showcasing their works at the Doylestown store for the months of September and October.



'Sims 4" Convention draws thousands

"The Sims" is well

expansion packs and

known for having many

there is a possibility that

these features as well as

new ones will be added

cially if the players make

back eventually, espe-

it known that they are

Aside from that, there

already happen to be

many improve-

unhappy with these

changes.

ments and

new fea-

tures



time

 $brings\ back\ \ \hbox{Create families of you own or draw from your favorite TV show}\ \ {}^{\text{Photo Credit: EA Games}}$

Sports

Early victories for the Eagles brings cautious hope

A 3-0 record has Eagle fans in high spirits, but it may be too soon to think about a Super Bowl ring.

The Eagles struggled

throughout the first half,

but eventually found a way

to contain the Colts' ground

By: Carly Pendergast
Centurion Staff

With a 3-0 record to date and the willingness to throw a few punches along the way, there's no doubt the Philadelphia Eagles have embraced the fighting spirit as they face a relatively tough schedule this season.

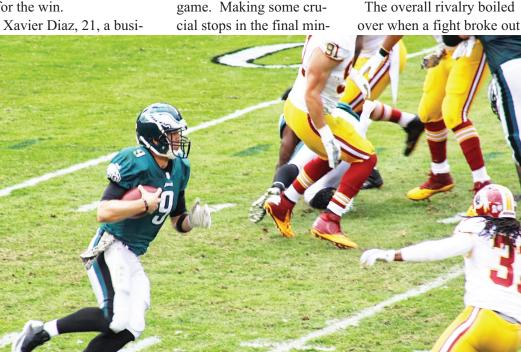
The Eagles defeated the Jacksonville Jaguars 34-17 on home turf during their season opener. The oh-so-anticipated first game after last year's gut wrenching playoff elimination did not disappoint.

Diamond Schuler, 19 year old communications Major from Yardley said that she sees improvement in Nick Foles, "He seems to have that drive back, that motivation."

Brian Kelly, a 20 year old communications major from Fairless Hills said he was happy with Eagles' wide receiver LeSean McCoy's 27 touches and "If he had better blocking, he could have done something more with those touches."

"Lack of blockage" added Kelly, is what caused the Eagles' awful start on Sunday. "Once the offensive line steps up and gives more protection to Nick Foles, it will open up the play and we'll see them connect more."

Despite some offensive shortcomings, they did well on Lincoln Financial Field in the second half as the team pulled off big plays for the win.



In this photo, Nick Foles is seen facing the Redskins under some pressure from their defense.

ness major from Morrisville said that "Darren Sproles was Fantastic!" The veteran running back shined with 150 rushing yards, including a 49-yard touchdown.

As the Eagles faced the Indianapolis Colts in their second game of the season, many analysts believed this would be the true test. Matched up against Andrew Luck, one of the NFL's top rushing quarterbacks, the Eagles' defense really had to tighten things

utes of play, the defensive line stepped up their performance, leading to an Eagles' win against the Colts, 30-27.

Schuler believed this was their statement game, "An unbelievable comeback against a great team."

For game three, the Eagles returned home to face division rival, the Washington Redskins.

In most of the preview chatter, much of the hype surrounded DeSean Jackson's return to Philadelphia following a late hit on Eagles' quarterback Nick Foles.

since being cut last March.

He finished the game with

including an 81-yard touch-

11 catches for 140 yards,

down pass.

Redskins' defensive lineman Chris Baker leveled Foles with a brutal hit to the ribs after an interception was thrown.

Gabriel Ortiz, 18, a Journalism major from Langhorne thinks it should have resulted in a fine or suspension, "It was way off!"

In response to the hit, Eagles' offensive tackle Jason Peters, rushed to Foles' defense, throwing a punch towards Baker's head. The fight resulted in both Peters and Baker being ejected from the game.

Centurion

"You have to back your teammate up, especially your quarterback," said Ortiz. "If we lost the game then I could see people saying he shouldn't have done that, but we didn't."

Despite losing Peters, Eagles pulled off a nail-biting 37-34 win.

At the time of printing this story, the Eagles are preparing for their upcoming away-game against the San Francisco 49ers.

Some fans worry this will be the 49ers chance to redeem their season. "It's going to be a struggle, the 49ers are 1-2, a team like that doesn't want to be 1-3," said Ortiz.

As for the rest of the season, Bucks students seem to collectively agree: the 49ers, Packers and Seahawks pose a threat to the Eagles schedule.

Andrew Oliver, 20 year old criminal justice major from Newtown said, "Yes, we are the team to beat in our division." Andrew believes we should look out for the Giants and Cowboys

"Anything can happen when you have a deep rivalry with a team." he said.

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October 2, 2014 Bucks-news.com @BCCCCenturion Centurion

Sports

HBO boxing KOs Showtime

Showtime boxing is in danger of losing the remainder of its watchers to HBO as the premium channel signs star fighter Saul Alvarez for a 3 year contract.

By: Gabriel Ortiz Centurion Staff

Large changes in the boxing world are coming for all fans as HBO seemingly delivered a knockout blow to Showtime boxing on Tuesday Sept. 23, announcing it's signing of pay-per-view mega-star Saul "Canelo" Alvarez

When talks began that Alvarez was about to be signed for an extension with rival network Showtime, HBO swooped in to grab the young redheaded star for a multifight 3 year deal.

Stephen Espinoza, the man running Showtime boxing, claimed that Alvarez's promoter Oscar De La Hoya's action in making the switch was deceitful, as they had apparently already made a deal with Showtime. Espinoza wasn't too surprised by the change of mind, but didn't appreciate the way in which it proceeded.

The blow is a big one, mainly due to the fact that Alvarez's appearance with Floyd Mayweather last year was the highest grossing fight in boxing's history according to BadLeftHook.com. Alvarez was already a major name with Showtime at the time.

The deal marks the end of the network's continued "honeymoon phase" with De La Hoya and Golden Boy Promotions.

However, signs that the perfect union could end came months ago.

Bernard Hopkins, another fighter in the Golden Boy stables, signed a deal for a mega fight with light heavyweight champion Sergey Kovalev to take place in November.

HBO is now making

Mexican holidays of the year as fight dates.

"Canelo believes that he'll be able to do better numbers than Floyd, primarily because he's actually Mexican, and maybe the biggest star in Mexico right now, and so

The fighter's signing also makes one wonder what Showtime will do in the wake of Mayweather's upcoming retirement. Boxing's pound for pound kingpin is only scheduled for two more fights before he's

defeated".

Alvarez was considered Showtime's young payper-view star. There are only two other fighters that consistently pull in viewers at such a high level as Mayweather: Manny Pacquiao, and Canelo Alvarez.

HBO now has both. Showtime is left only with manager Al Haymon, "the poison of boring" as promoter Bob Arum described him, and his less than interesting fighters.

Haymon has largely been known for creating low quality fights in order to protect the records and names of his fighters. Most recently he put the lowest grossing world championship bout this year by placing rising star Danny Garcia with low-ranking opponent Rod Salka.

"The Garcia-Salka fight wasn't even sanctioned by any championship organizations, as Salka was never ranked by any of the sanctioning bodies. That fight is a disgrace to the sport, and it shows that Haymon doesn't care about the quality of boxing cards anymore..." said Arum.

Since Showtime's numbers with Haymon have been historically bad, the network is at serious risk of losing the majority of boxing fans. HBO on the other hand is poised to completely take over with all of Golden Boy's best fighters in tow.



A photo of star boxer Saul "Canelo" Alvarez

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

marketing Showtime's lone remaining star Mayweather difficult as Alvarez has decided to rival the dates for the veteran boxer's bouts in 2015, requesting the two major

fighting on a Mexican holiday would obviously really pull in his fan base..." said De La Hoya in regards to Alvarez's demands on the date of his fight.

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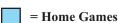
finished. As he told reporters at the end of his bout with Marcos Maidana, "I'm out after this. The plan for me has always been to get out after 2015 and retire un-

SUPER BOWLS

WEDNESDAY October 1 WEDNESDAY October 15 Pulled Pork and Seared Cajun Shrimp Sweet Potato Mash Bowl Mac n' Cheese Bowl WEDNESDAY October 22 WEDNESDAY October 8 Masala Chicken Black Pepper Basmati Rice Bowl Beef Rice Bowl WEDNESDAY October 29 Ricotta Pesto Gnocchi Bowl

Rucks Snorts

/4 10/5 10/6 10/7 10 ham p.m. vs. Camden 3:30p.m.
vs. Camden
Camden
Camden



Delawar e County 3:30p.m.