

Vice President Joe Biden Comes to Bucks

SHANNON HARRAR

Centurion Staff

Joe Biden, Vice President of the United States, paid a visit to Bucks County Community College’s Bristol campus on Oct. 7. The visit was intended as an attempt to shore up support for Hillary Clinton’s presidential run, with a primary focus on voter registration.

Classes were cancelled Friday at the Bristol campus, due to the expectation of a big crowd. And indeed, the crowds were huge – after all, this is the Vice President.

The event was open to the public, with the only requirement for attendance an RSVP on Hillary Clinton’s website.

Unfortunately, not all people who RSVP’d were able to attend the event. Over 600 RSVPs were submitted through the website, but there was only enough space in the main room for 250 people.

Doug Marland, a student at the Bucks Newtown campus, was among those turned away.

“They told me the building was filled and security was all inside,” Marland said of his experience. “They weren’t letting any more people come in. The old lady with me said that it was ridiculous.”

The event opened to the public at 9:30 am, but a line had already formed by 9:00. Alixandra Mood, a Bristol campus student, was one of the early attendants. Mood, a Quakertown native, saw the Biden visit as a great effort to boost voter confidence.

A Clinton fan herself, Mood noticed how in the days leading up to Biden’s visit, more people were openly expressing support for the former Secretary of State.

In order to harness this support, while attendants waited to be admitted into the campus, volunteers went up and down the lines handing out forms to fill out, saying that “we couldn’t get in without them.”

The forms asked for names, phone numbers and addresses, then encouraged holders to check off boxes for when they were available to canvas and phone bank for Hillary Clinton.

The volunteers then urged those who were waiting in line to make nine phone calls off a list printed on the back of the forms. These lists included the names and phone numbers of registered voters to see if they were supporting Clinton in the upcoming race.

Bridget Anzana, another attendee, said that only two people answered her calls, with one man even telling her, “don’t waste your time,” and the other simply hanging up.

Her friend, Michael Angeloni,



PHOTO CREDIT: SHANNON HARRAR

had better luck, saying most people he spoke with were supporters of Clinton.

Certain attendants of the event were on a VIP list. People on the list were filtered out of the main line and directed to a table where they were asked to put on wristbands, guaranteeing them first entrance and good seats.

After going through a metal detector and a thorough bag-check with the Secret Service, attendants were allowed inside. Crowds poured in until full capacity was reached.

The atmosphere of the Bristol campus was buzzing, and as the room filled up, the energy only grew. The main area was decked out in American flags as well as red and blue “USA” signs.

The event started off with the Pledge of Allegiance. Then, a field organizer for the Pennsylvania Democrats introduced the first speaker, John Cardisco, former member of the PA House of Representatives.

Cardisco, a Bucks graduate himself, enthusiastically told the crowd that “Biden can relate to people of Bucks County,” as he spoke of his excitement to lead off the vice president’s visit at the school.

Democratic candidates for various state and congressional campaigns also attended the event, with many of them giving speeches prior to Biden’s address.

Two of the most notable candidates present were Steve Santarsiero, running for the US House of Representatives, and Josh Shapiro, running for Pennsylvania Attorney General.

“They’re not there for perks,

they’re not there for pensions, they’re there for people,” Cardisco said of Santarsiero and Shapiro.

The next speaker was state Rep. of Bristol, Tina Davis. In her speech, Davis attempted to show how Clinton would be a voice for women across the world, describing her memories of watching Hillary in Beijing. At that moment, Davis knew she was “with her.”

Bucks County Commissioner Dianne Marseglia spoke next, reading off her “list of great leaders,” which included Biden, Santarsiero, and Clinton.

Moving down the line, the next Democrat to speak was Josh Shapiro. He thundered to the stage, immediately firing up the crowd with his booming voice.

“Bucks is ground zero for this election!” he exclaimed while emphasizing the dire need to register and vote.

Steve Santarsiero followed with a more soft-spoken speech, bringing his son, Billy, up to the stage with him.

There was a half hour break in between their speeches and the arrival of the vice president, while staff members handed out blue “stronger together” signs for Biden’s supporters to hold.

The wait got a little tedious, so at one point the crowd had a little competition to see which side was louder, dividing the room in two sections and shouting back and forth “stronger together.”

Then the moment was upon us.

A Bucks County Community College student walked to the

podium to tell a brief story about himself, then introduced Biden to the stage.

After much applause, the vice president began his speech. He started out with acknowledgement of our local Democratic candidates and declared his support for them. Moving on, he began discussing current events regarding Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, gaining laughs from the crowd with his quips regarding the billionaire.

Bucks student Aviva Nachman was in the crowd for Biden’s speech.

“Because he used talking points instead of reading a speech, the whole experience was much more personal. He bantered with the crowd and contrasted Trump and Clinton in ways which were clear and concise, making it easy to repeat his points when talking with other people about the current political situation,” she said regarding Biden’s speech.

Biden spent a great deal of time talking about how great America already is, and how we as a people cannot lose sight of that. He addressed this generation of college students and emphasized the value in investing in education.

Bucks communications professor Stacey Bennett was also in attendance at the event.

“Giving Bucks the opportunity to see such a high profile politician was exciting and historic, and a great thing for students, staff and faculty to experience. I felt important when I learned that he’d come to Bucks to present a message.”

“Politicians talk about com-

munity college all the time, but the finally proved their concern by coming here,” she stated proudly.

In his speech, Biden also emphasized the importance of protecting the environment, denouncing many of the different policies Trump has proposed.

“Here’s what we need: we need you to vote. We need you to register,” he said in summation to his time on stage. “Don’t wake up on November 9th and find out that we lost Pennsylvania by 2000 votes and say ‘if I’d only’...”

He went on to reinforce his support in Clinton, saying, “the reason I’m optimistic is A. I know her heart, B. everybody knows how smart she is, and C. we’ve never had a president whose won by merely appealing to the fears of the American people. That doesn’t happen.”

“Americans do not scare easily. We never bend, we never bow, we only and always rebound. We endure,” he said, raising his voice over the crowd before thanking them and receiving applause and cheers.

The crowd went wild for him as he descended the stage and started making his rounds, shaking hands and taking selfies with them.

Shortly after Biden left, security began shuffling people out, thus ending the thrilling event at the school.

One undeniable fact about the whole day is how positive and abundant the energy was on the Bristol campus that morning, and how Vice President Biden’s historic visit will not soon be forgotten.

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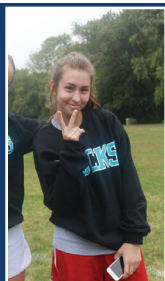
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JUSTIN BIFOLCO & SUMMER ROBERT
Centurion Staff

Your lack of enthusiasm is forgiven. Your cynicism is understood. Maybe feel like your beliefs are no longer being represented by the same system who has let you down, trampled your rights, and severely marred your pride in what it means to be an American citizen. Maybe you feel the principals upon which this very country once laid its liberty-spiked head have sunk far too low on the list of priorities. America's two-party political system has stalled. With both parties nominating candidate's worthy of receiving little praise from the citizenry they are fighting to represent, it's easy to lose faith in what seems to be a dying democratic process.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Jill Stein, and her running mate Ajamu Baraka, accepted their party's nomination in Toledo, Ohio on August 6. A little more than a week after her Democratic counterpart, Hillary Clinton accepted her nomination in Philadelphia. Stein wasn't heralded or praised by major news outlets. She wasn't the subject of every major paper in the country, and her face was not official emblem of any major television news networks. But what she did do, however, was continue to consistently push the same progressive platform that her and The Green Party have unwaveringly fought for decades.

Stein is a repeated Green Party candidate from 2012, and is their nominee for the 2016 election. Stein was also a candidate for Governor and Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Though she may be a popular name among the country's youthful and more left-leaning idealists, a great majority of those who have become fed up with the current two-party system's products still may find themselves quite ignorant on her and her party's stances.

Our specific policy proposals are nicely captured by the campaign slogan "peace, planet, & people over profit." Jenny Isaacs, a member of Bucks County Green Party, said.

While this may sound more fitting of a T-shirt design or a bumper sticker to most folks who are conditioned, jaded even, by the merry-go-round of center-right rhetoric that has plagued both sides of the isle in American politics for the last several decades, The Green Party is truly pushing for real discernable change at all levels of government.

Her War: *Jill Stein & The Green Party*



"The Green Party stands for an immediate 50% reduction in the military budget, withdrawal from the Middle East, and abolition of nuclear weapons," said Isaacs.

With an overwhelming amount of people now growing weary of the foreign policy tactics of both Democratic and Republican leaders, Stein and The Green Party's approach is one that is refreshing to us all.

Many of the more environmentally conscious citizens have been pushing for real reform in the way we do business, to combat the adverse effects of man-made climate change. However, as these believes increase do to scientific endorsement, and natural disasters that are occurring at a much quicker rate and increasing in intensity, both major party's continue to tip-toe around the issue of climate change as to not rock the "financial-backing" boat of major corporations profiting off of the rape and exploitation committed to our planet.

"We would invest instead," said Isaacs, "in renewable energy; our plan to make the US fossil-fuel-free by 2030 would make a REAL contribution to reducing global emissions and stabilizing climate change for the planet."

Many of the ideas that gained traction among Sanders voters during the primary (many of which feel ostracized once again from the American political process) are part of Stein's platform and have been pushed for quite consistently by The Greens for years.

Amid the most prominent: Campaign finance and affordable education. These issues lay at the heart of the Sanders campaign, and have only increased in popularity among today's youth.

"Our emphasis on people over profit gives rise to the commitment to resolve the student debt crisis by forgiving all current student loans completely, and creating a system of free public higher education going forward -- as well as a commitment to democratic reforms that would restore the voice of the people and eliminate the influence of Big Money on politics," Isaacs said.

Some may be asking themselves, if there are candidates in America who are running on a platform which the majority of people can say resonates with them and their beliefs, why isn't anyone talking about them? Why do third party's constantly get the underhand?

"Third parties have always been relevant, but they have not been covered by mainstream media," Said Dr. Stuart Chen-Hayes, program Coordinator and Associate Professor of Counselor

Education/School Counseling in the Counseling, Leadership, Literacy, and Special Education Department at Lehman College of the City University of New York. "We now know from Wikileaks that mainstream media has been in collusion with the Democratic National Committee (ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, MSNBC) on a host of issues and Fox news for years has been close to Republican National Committee positions. Since mainstream media are funded by corporate advertising (especially the two major parties), it's easy to see why they are so threatened by us and our progressivism. It upends their business model.

This overt mainstream bias towards the two-party system and the policy position proposed by it has been taking a toll on the American people. Many of which feel their respective party's no longer represent their ideas.

"Most folks on the left are thoroughly disgusted with both major parties at this point. A vote for Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka for President/Vice President is a vote to get rid of the two party duopoly and end corporate money in politics. Only the Green Party refuses corporate contributions," said Chen-Hayes.

"Our specific policy proposals are nicely captured by the campaign slogan "peace, planet, & people over profit."

It is not an irrational fear, however, that casting a vote for a third party will ultimately contribute to the victory of your least liked candidate. Many older Americans may point to Ralph Nader's 2000 election bid as a Green Party candidate as pulling votes away from Al Gore, thus electing George Bush. Despite this belief, most Greens push that this wasn't the case at all.

"It is important to realize that the assertion that Nader voters in 2000 helped elect George Bush is completely unfounded. Ten

times more Democrats in Florida crossed party lines to vote for Bush than voted Green Party! Nationally, Nader got less than 3% of the vote that year and that remains our record high!" said Isaacs.

Chen-Hayes also spoke on the issue of Nader's effect on the 2000 election.

"Ralph Nader was never a spoiler. That's DNC talk blaming him for the lousy campaign Al Gore ran when tons of Florida democrats crossed over and voted republican. Voting Green helps bring a voice back to the people, peace, and the planet over profit. So vote for who you want, not for your fears. With the two most disliked corporate candidates in the history of US politics, Voting Green is helping move the country toward true democracy."

Voting for the Green Party may feel like casting your vote for a losing candidate, but not only is voting Green a vote for today- it is also an investment in the future of American progressivism.

"What is deeply threatening to the Democratic party in 2016 is the possibility that the Stein/Baraka campaign will earn more than 5% of the national vote and qualify the Green Party for federal matching funds in 2020. That would be a game-changer; it would mean millions of dollars (already donated, \$3 at a time, by taxpayers who support public financing of elections) and a truly legitimate chance for a progressive campaign. A vote for Jill Stein this year is a vote for multi-party democracy in the future," Isaacs said, pushing voters to see the long-term effects of a Green Party vote in 2016.

Many progressives who were forced to jump ship on Bernie's ideals have since faded into the Hillary campaign, some still unwilling to show their faces. It is no doubt that Sanders' primary run pushed Hillary Clinton further to the left on many issues, even adopting many of the issues she previously didn't represent. But can we be trusting her stances on these newly held positions or should we be weary of deceit in the wake of a Clinton inauguration.

"The Democratic administration over the last 8 years has paid lip service to many admirable liberal goals like the ones you name above, while actively pursuing policies that run counter to them. Democrats are supposed to be for immigration reform and against climate change; Obama promised voters in 2008 that he would end wars in Iraq & Afghanistan, US use of torture, and illegal domestic spying on ordinary Americans," Isaacs said.

The progressive candidate has also been a critic of President Barack Obama's Stimulus Package, expressing her disappointment in its lack of immensity and efficiency. "Obama's stimulus was ok, but only made slight dent in our current crisis," said Stein.

Stein's solution to the financial disparity is modeled after the infamous policy of her favorite president, Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. She suggests reinvestment in America's infrastructure, and calls for a focus on creating new jobs.

Stein has been reinforcing the Green New Deal, from her 2012 candidacy. The basic premise of the GND is to enforce policy that charges companies for exploitation of the environment, such as corporations that capitalize off carbon emissions, and to kick start to the economy by creating a large number of green initiative driven jobs.

"The sad facts are that over the last 8 years," Isaacs proclaimed, "the US has deported more undocumented immigrants than ever before; drilled more public lands and fast-tracked more pipelines; bombed more Muslim countries; secretly continued to support rendition of suspects to countries that do use torture; and vigorously prosecuted whistleblowers who tried to draw attention to mass government surveillance programs. The Obama White House has also consistently failed to enforce anti-trust regulations, resulting in increased monopolies in communications, airlines, and Big Pharma. As Obama prepares to leave office, he is actively backing the TPP, a global trade pact that would give multi-national corporations unprecedented legal powers at the expense of governments and their citizens."

With much to be skeptical about in this election, it is easy to be skeptical about the chances of a Stein/Baraka presidency in 2017. However, The Green Party has committed to its grass-roots approach to success. And they plan on taking it to every level of government.

"Over the next four years we anticipate running hundreds of candidates for local and state offices, so it will be important for your readers who want to support this seismic shift away from our 2 party system to stay involved post-presidential election! A Young Greens group is forming on campus precisely to keep the momentum going after November and explore how the Green Party can visibly engage in our Bucks County towns & communities."

PHOTO CREDIT: JILLSTEIN.COM

Decision 2016

Gary Johnson Provides a Third Option in a Two Party System

SHANNON HARRAR & TOM HARTIG
Centurion Staff

Former governor of New Mexico Gary Johnson is running as the libertarian presidential nominee during this 2016 election.

As the governor of New Mexico he was a republican and also ran as a republican for the presidential election in 2012. When he realized that a majority of his views did not match up to the tee with GOP ideology, he became a libertarian.

The libertarian party is a party of very limited government in most if not all facets, with a focus on the exercise of free will.

One of Johnson’s main, and possibly most popular beliefs, is that marijuana should be legalized. He also believes drug addiction should be looked at as a disease rather than a criminal activity, and says rehabilitation programs will lead to a more productive society.

His stance on abortion differs between his personal and political views. Personally, he believes in the sanctity of life of the unborn, but politically he states that the decision to abort should only be in the hands of women and families, not the government.

Former Governor Johnson believes the Department of Education and the concept of common core curriculums should be totally eliminated, and local and state government should be the ones in control of schools, not Washington.

As president, Johnson plans to cut down on wasteful spending to stop the growth of the national debt. He plans on doing so by cutting military spending, bringing more troops home, and focusing

on repairing relationships with allies.

He also plans on aiding Americans through the deduction of taxes. He intends to do this by getting rid of double taxation on small businesses, destroying special interest tax loopholes, and creating a singular tax for consumers based on how much they spend.

His policy mentions that he will increase jobs by getting rid of the over-regulation in Washington that benefits big corporations. He believes that government does not create jobs, entrepreneurs, businesses and economic prosperity do.

He wishes to support veterans through health care and by helping their career paths, as well as providing family support and counseling to help veterans get back in the swing of everyday life.

He plans on creating a more efficient immigration system, one that has non-citizens pay a tax incentive. Johnson and Bill Weld, his running mate, want to focus more on performing background checks and providing work visas in order to put incoming immigrants on the fast track to citizenship.

Johnson wishes to protect religious freedoms by finding a balance between upholding traditional American values of religion as well as protecting religious freedom . He and Weld stress no government intervention in personal lives at all, with a very laissez-faire approach to major issues like LGBTQ rights.

Johnson believes that, as a nation, “we have too many unnecessary laws, which have produced a society with too many people in



Libertarian Candidate Gary Johnson (L) & VP Bill Weld (R)

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

our prisons and jails.” He plans on enacting “meaningful” criminal justice reform that reduces government influence in order to prevent unnecessary incarcerations. He also is a huge supporter of internet freedom and protecting user privacy by preventing the government from accessing or monitoring personal data.

Johnson also views the protection of the environment as a

very important issue, however, he doesn’t believe that government intervention is the way to fix it. Johnson believes that a healthy functioning society and economy “will do more to bring about environmental protection and restoration than will government regulations driven by special interests.”

Historically, third party candidates have had a very difficult

time mustering enough support to get themselves elected, but Gary Johnson hopes to be the man to change that this year. ““I hope that people will see that we don’t have to sit by the sidelines and watch as the two major parties limit their choices to slightly different flavors of the status quo. It is, in fact, possible to join the fray, stand up for principles and offer a real alternative.”



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Decision 2016

Hillary Rodham Clinton: The Lesser of Two Evils?

HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

Democratic Party Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is facing mixed opinions from the public, including Bucks students, some of whom approve of her domestic and foreign policy, and others who doubt her honesty and suitability for the position. Born in Chicago in 1947, Clinton has a long history of public service - and public scrutiny. She rocketed to prominence as First Lady of the United States alongside her husband President Bill Clinton, former Governor of Arkansas.

During her time as First Lady, she actively championed health care reform, acted as a diplomat for her husband, and took a more active role than her predecessor, Barbra Bush. In 2000, she was elected as a Senator for New York.

During her time in office, Clinton voted for the PATRIOT Act, the Iraq War, and the bailout of the U.S. financial system, while voting against then-President Bush's tax cuts and 2007 troop increases in Iraq.

In 2008, Clinton went in favor to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency, but lost to then-Senator Barack Obama. Obama appointed Clinton as Secretary of State when he assumed the presidency in 2009. She served in this capacity until 2013.

As Secretary of State, Clinton backed the United States-sponsored overthrow of Libyan revolutionary Muammar Gaddafi's regime, attempted to "reset" American relationships with Russia, and visited more countries than any previous Secretary.

Some students see Clinton's record as an asset. "She has much more experience, and that can be seen in her composure," says Patrick Galante, a freshman from Chalfont.

However, in an election fraught with denunciations of political elites, Clinton's experience can be seen as a drawback. "There's something about this election that's different," says John Petito, a Bucks political science professor. "Trump has captured something. Clinton represents the system."

"There are certain politicians that just inspire hatred among some members of the public. The Clintons have been persecuted ever since the Whitewater scandal, and as a result, Hillary doesn't really trust the people, or the press." This, he said, could make her appear off-putting to the public.

Clinton has many supporters on the College's Newtown Campus. "I'd choose Hillary based on delivery," Galante said. "Trump brings up unrelated issues when asked about national cybersecurity, and I find that concerning."

Meanwhile, other students are less keen on the former First Lady. "I don't want either of them. She is basically the same as Donald Trump," says Kristofer Elmarsson, a freshman student from Doylestown.

Some critics take a harsher line. "She should be in jail, unfortunately she isn't going to jail. She's physically not able to do it," claims Paul Denino, a Warminster sophomore.

Clinton has been facing an uphill battle matching the levels of support among young people that characterized Vermont Senator Bernie Sander's primary campaign. She has recently begun to use Sanders as well as liberal Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass) to try to shore up her appeal among millennials.

Petito believes that a lack of focus on the issues is to blame. "She's not done a good job telling the public what she stands for. I think Hillary represents the issues clearly for the people. I don't think the public recognizes that."

Nonetheless, Clinton is well ahead of Trump among younger voters and is overwhelmingly believed to have won the Sept. 26 presidential debate. She has since attacked Trump on his treatment of Alicia Machado, a former Miss Universe model. During the debate, "Clinton focused more on substance than Trump, but she did best when attacking him," according Daniel Orwat, a freshman from New Hope.

Hillary Clinton on the issues:
The Economy

Clinton supports extensive spending on infrastructure, including \$275 billion for roads, bridges, airports, broadband, and dams. She plans to set up a National Infrastructure Bank that will utilize both public and private funding, as well as impose a tax on high-frequency trading on the stock market.

Taxes
Clinton supports a personal income tax rate of 44 percent for the richest Americans, and an increase in the estate tax to 65 percent for the largest estates. She has also eyed corporate income tax reform as well as tax credits for small businesses. In addition, Clinton has pledged to introduce a child care tax credit.

Trade
Clinton has rejected the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a controversial trade deal being negotiated by the Obama administration with 12 other countries, in its current form. During her career as First Lady and Secretary of State, Clinton gave her support to various trade deals, including the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), while rejecting others.

Terrorism
Clinton has called for an "intelligence surge," and cooperation with Silicon Valley companies to tackle terrorism online. She says that her top priority for eliminating Islamic State is assassinating their leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Clinton has alleged that Russia is behind recent cyberattacks on American companies and organizations, including the Democratic National Committee.

Foreign Policy
Clinton supports the ouster of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and the establishment of a no-fly zone in Syria, as well as supporting the Iran nuclear deal. She has claimed that Donald Trump is a supporter of Russian President Vladimir Putin, who she criticizes as a dictator.

College
Hillary Clinton has vouched for tuition-free community college, as well as tuition-free enrollment in public, in-state colleges and universities for families of four making up to \$85,000. This plan will cost \$500 billion.

Registered voters from Bucks County will be able to help select the next president on Tuesday, Nov. 8. The votes of Bucks students are particularly influential, since Bucks is a swing county in a swing state.

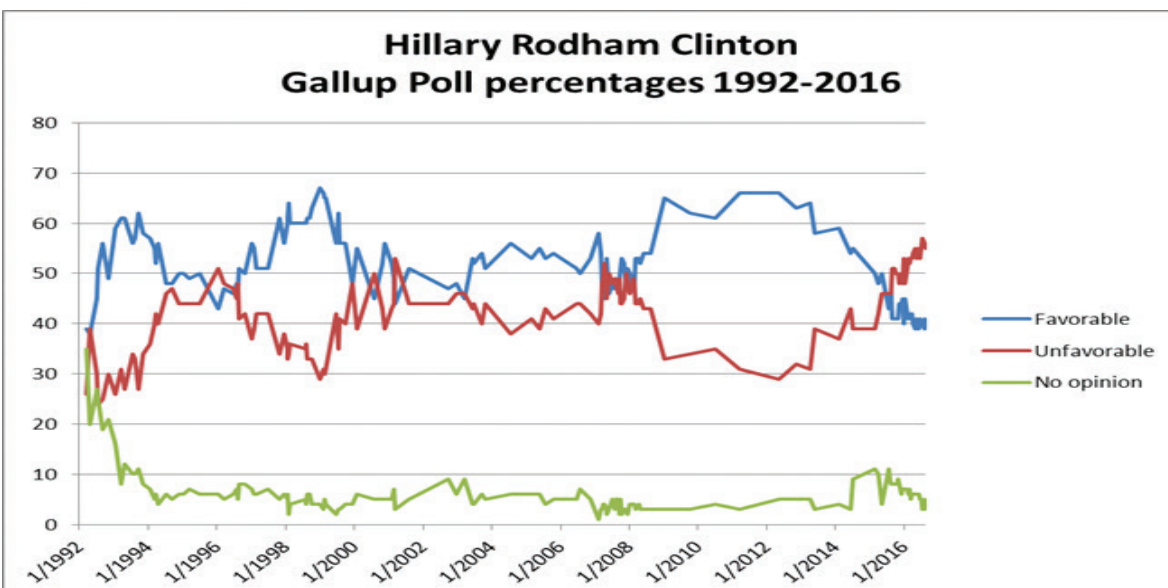


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Decision 2016

Donald Trump: Ushering in the Final Chapter of the American Republican Party

NASH ANDERSON
Centurion Staff

Republican Party Presidential candidate Donald Trump has amassed a surprising number of followers. He interrupts opponents, accuses moderators of being unfair, and once he might have used an old school “L” for loser sign during a debate. Yet his antics haven’t scared away many of his supporters.

Trump was born on June 14, 1946, and gained his fame as a businessperson. He opened a multitude of hotels, casinos, and golf courses. His fame catapulted further after hosting reality TV shows, “The Apprentice” and “The Celebrity Apprentice.”

Trump’s success during his years as a real estate mogul has not been without controversy. His businesses filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy four times in the past 25 years. His first business to file for bankruptcy was Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, which he referred to as the “eighth wonder of the world.” The casino accumulated an over \$3 billion debt and was filed for bankruptcy to stay open.

One of Trump’s biggest problems is his consistently brazen

lies. Politifact, a fact-checking website that takes statements made by politicians to see if they are true, analyzed Trump’s statements. Out of the 284 statements that Trump has made, 201 of them have been rated “mostly false,” “false,” or “pants on fire!”

The New York Times printed a controversial story calling Trump a liar, something journalists tend to avoid so they don’t influence how people think.

Trump’s political career was launched by “the birther movement.” He believed that President Obama was not born in the U.S. and led a movement demanding for the release his birth certificate.

He recently held a press conference outside of his newest hotel, on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington D.C., where he said he would denounce the birther movement. Trump said, “President Obama was born in the United States. Period.” He did not apologize for heading the movement. Instead, he shifted the blame to Hillary Clinton, claiming her campaign team in 2008 started the movement. This was one of the 201 claims proven to be false by Politifact.

A large criticism of Trump has been his refusal to release his



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.COM

tax records. He said that he has been audited by the IRS and will release the tax records as soon as they have finished. The IRS said there would be no problem with Trump releasing the forms while under audit, but Trump won’t release the records.

The New York Times recently released a few pages from his 1995 tax records. It showed Trump claimed \$916 million in losses, which would allow him to avoid paying Federal taxes for almost two decades. When he was asked if he used this loss to avoid paying taxes, Trump said, “Of course I do, of course I do.”

After talking to a handful of Bucks students, none seemed to be excited about the prospect of a Trump presidency. Joey Ginaldi, secondary ed. History major, said he won’t vote for Trump because, “Because I’m a compassionate human being that cares about other people and their right to be treated like human beings.”

Donald Trump on the issues:

The Economy

Trump said that for each 1 percent in added GDP growth, the economy adds 1.2 million jobs. He claims he will create a dynamic booming economy that will add 25 million new jobs in the next 10 years. He will also cut down regulations on business, which he believes will allow business to thrive.

Taxes

Trump said he will reduce taxes across the board, especially for working and middle class Americans. He also said he will ensure that the rich will pay their fair share. He claims he will remove special interest loopholes.

Trade

Trump has a seven-point plan to rebuild our economy by fighting for free trade. Big points include withdrawing from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, have China labeled as a currency manipulator and bring trade cases against the country, and to negotiate better

terms for our workers.

Terrorism

Trump plans to reduce terrorism by working with our Arab allies in the Middle East to fight ISIS, defeating ideology of radical Islamic terrorism just as we won the Cold War, and suspending immigration.

Immigration

Trump has a ten-point plan to “put America first” in terms of immigration and immigrants who are already here.

Foreign Policy

The center of Trump’s foreign policy is “peace through strength.” He hopes to rebuild our military and enhance our cyber capabilities. He also plans on ending the current strategy of nation-building and regime change.

On Nov. 8, the nation will vote for the next president. Bucks County is an important district in an important battleground state, and we highly encourage Bucks students to go out and cast their ballot.

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Decision 2016

Many Young People Still Feel the Bern for Sanders

SUMMER ROBERT
Centurion Staff

Bernie Sanders, the 75-year-old senator from Vermont, ran in the 2016 election cycle as a Democratic candidate, despite his long history as an independent with socialistic values. Of course, Hillary Clinton was named the Democratic nominee. Sanders's progressive values initially struck a chord with America's younger population who were "feeling the bern," a phrase that eventually became

Sanders' official campaign slogan. Sanders's call to increase the minimum wage, make health care affordable and available, clean up the environment and eliminate student debt (or tuition in general) appealed strongly to the rapidly growing number of millennial voters. Asked why she likes Sanders, Crystal Stout, 20, a journalism major at Bucks, said "he is looking out for future generations and the needs of the millennials as opposed to what will benefit his generation."

Despite his immense popularity early in the race, much like a candle's wick, Sanders' prominence began to fade. His name was lost in the noise of coverage of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. Clinton was named the Democratic party's candidate at the Democratic National Convention this past July, though there has been speculation into the fairness of how equally the candidates were represented by former DNC chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz. Sanders used his pull with

youthful voters to become an advisor to Clinton, reasoning, "we must defeat Donald Trump." The highly progressive senator has made his strongly critical opinion of the Republican nominee clear throughout the election cycle, and began encouraging his supporters to endorse Clinton. Sanders's candidacy may not have been as successful as many of his supporters had hoped, but his highly progressive agendas may be a continuing trend among millennials into the next election cycle. The response to his leftist

agenda may mean a third party candidate will be more likely to succeed in the years to come. The four-term mayor of Vermont's most densely populated city, Burlington, Sander's relatability to millennials may come from his time lecturing at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Hamilton College, N.Y., or his humble roots. Sanders and his older brother Larry were raised in a Brooklyn apartment by their Polish immigrant parents, Eli and Dorothy Sanders. Eli Sanders was a high school dropout and worked as a paint salesman. After attending James Madison High School and Brooklyn College, Sanders graduated from University of Chicago in 1964. Sanders's time as mayor of Burlington not only helped him secure his seat in the House of Representatives, where he would continue serve for 19 years and earn the title of longest serving Independent senator; but showed his ability to separate personal agenda from policy. A self-proclaimed socialist, Sanders advocated using the redistribution of wealth to address the country's declining prosperity, yet faced off with protesters when they threatened productivity. In a speech delivered two days after Clinton was named the Democratic presidential nominee, as well as in fairly recent interviews with Democracy Now, ABC News, and NBC News, Sanders has pledged to continue in politics and further devote himself to revolutionizing the Democratic Party.



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

A black and white photograph of a group of five diverse students sitting on the grass. They are all looking at a laptop that is open in front of them. The students are smiling and appear to be engaged in a collaborative activity. The background shows trees and a building.

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Decision 2016

The Real Meaning of “Hillary for America”

*Hillary Clinton
inspires baby
boomer women,
but what does her
candidacy mean
for millennials?*

SHANNON HARRAR
Centurion Staff

From when the United States elected George Washington as the first president in 1789 to today, a woman has never taken the seat in the Oval Office.

Since the beginning of this great nation, our government has been in the hands of men. However, in this 2016 election, America is on the cusp of achieving a tremendous feat in history.

This unprecedented race has the potential of giving the first woman the position of President of the United States of America, and that woman is Hillary Clinton. All opinions, arguments and biases aside, if Clinton is elected this November, it will be nothing less than a groundbreaking event for America.

Just as Barack Obama made history in 2008 as the first African American president, a Hillary Clinton presidency could possibly be the ultimate breaker of the gender barrier in the United States.

As previously mentioned, the first president was elected in 1789. From that year till 1870, when the 15th Amendment was ratified, only white, proper-



Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama at the World Woman’s Conference in 2012

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

ty-owning males could cast a vote in elections.

The 15th Amendment stated that the “right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

It wasn’t until 50 years later in 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, that women were given the right to vote. Since the great achievement of women’s suffrage, strong ladies have been doing all they can to be involved and gain positions of power in the United States government.

12 years after women gained the right to vote, Hattie Wyatt Caraway became the first woman to be elected into the U.S. Senate in 1932. In 1964, Margaret Chase Smith became the first woman to

seek the presidential nomination for the Republican Party.

In 1997, Madeleine Albright was sworn in as Secretary of State, thus becoming the highest-ranking woman in the U.S. government. Hillary Clinton is not the first woman to ever dream of becoming president, but she is the only woman who has come this close.

Vice President Joe Biden recently came to Bucks to speak, gathering great crowds at Bucks’ Bristol campus. It was there that I spoke with Barbara Abbott of Southampton and Susan Wolpin of Feasterville, two ladies who had a lot to say about Hillary Clinton’s potential of becoming our nation’s first female president.

“No one has had as much experience as she has. From governor’s wife to First Lady,” said Abbott. “Don’t forget attorney

and mommy,” added Wolpin.

Both ladies gushed over Clinton’s experience and her qualifications to become the leader of the country. “After 9/11 as a Senator... she’s had such a myriad of a career,” said Abbott. “But it’s all public service,” she added.

However, it’s no secret that a large majority of Americans are not happy with Clinton’s past which is still being talked about day after day, most notably her email scandal. When Clinton’s controversial past was brought up, Wolpin proudly quoted a meme she found on Facebook, saying, “there’s no such thing as perfect, and normal is only a setting on the dryer.”

Aside from just being enthusiastic about Clinton, Wolpin excitedly told me about an organization that is paving a path for all women to get involved in government.

It’s called Emerge America, and it focuses on inspiring democratic women to run for public office. Since its launch in 2002, Emerge America has helped train over 2,000 women to run for office, the website boasts.

Efforts like this one, plus the prospect of Hillary Clinton winning this presidency are gigantic leaps in the fight for gender equality. Maybe Clinton isn’t a favorite for all Americans, but unfortunately, this problem occurs on both sides of the ballot.

Regardless of political stances and views, this period in America is no doubt a catalyst that will continue opening doors for people of all walks of life, and America electing its first female president is a triumph that cannot be ignored.

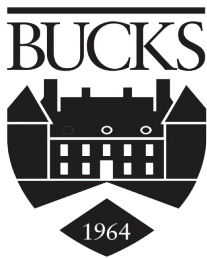


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Decision 2016

Civility Has Gone Out the Window in This Year’s Election

Violence and polarization mark historic election

HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

Political violence is gaining ground this election season as both major party candidates continue to face record unpopularity ratings, and a public disillusioned

with American political institutions. “I think the more polarized the public gets, the more likely we are to get violence,” says John Petito, a professor of history and political science at Bucks. Both Republican Presidential nominee Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton have denounced each other as unfit for the presidency, and many of their supporters seem to agree. In a recent Gallup poll, the most popular response was 28 percent of American voters claiming that the reason they supported their respective candidates is “a negative assessment of their opponent.” Support for policy was only cited by 17 percent of voters.

During the primaries, violence broke out at many of Trump’s rallies, with Slate.com compiling a list of incidents. Trump supporters have been pelted with eggs, pepper-sprayed, and attacked during the rallies, where those protesting the Republican candidate have been sucker-punched, forcibly ejected, and choked by his supporters as well as by security personnel. “The violence demonstrates the passions and the anger,” Petito says. “I went to the Value Voters Summit and everyone says that politicians are crooked.” Columnists for many national newspapers have claimed that Trump deliberately incites violence at his rallies. While talking

to his supporters, Trump has claimed that protesters “should be roughed up” and “punched in the face,” and has compared protesters to Islamic State militants. “I think he goes out of his way to inflame passions,” Petito says. “I’ve seen loads of his speeches. He has controlled the media cycle.” Donald Trump unleashed a firestorm a few weeks ago when he said that “the Second Amendment people” may be the only ones able to stop Hillary if she becomes president, while Clinton has provoked outrage by calling Trump supporters “a basket of deplorables,” a comment swiftly capitalized on by the billionaire and his followers.

Supporters of both Trump and Clinton, as well as supporters of Senator Bernie Sanders, have also claimed that the American electoral system is “rigged,” a claim also promoted by Trump, who has called the debates, the primaries, and even the general election “a rigged deal.” Clinton, for her part, has claimed that Trump represents “a rigged system.” “This is not healthy political discourse,” Petito says. “Trump’s comments can only mean one thing: he believes, or at least he says he believes, that the election will be stolen from him.” Trump has claimed, “The only way we can lose, in my opinion, I really mean this, Pennsylvania, is if cheating goes on,” posing serious implications.

“I’m worried that Trump supporters will feel cheated out of their vote if he loses,” says Petito. “I’m worried about violence after the election.” Petito says, “We’ve had these characters before. I think this election is like the election of 1896. The people were outraged and had a chance to change the United States, and they thought it was stolen from them.” The winner of that election was William McKinley, who was later assassinated by an anarchist after winning a second term. Recent discussions about removing Trump from the Republican ticket, after the revelation of an indecent videotape, may also lead the billionaire’s supporters to claim that the Republican Party itself is rigged against their nominee.

Dog. *Miss Piggy*. Miss Housekeeping. Fat pig. Slob. Crazy. Neurotic. Goofy. Hard to be a 10. No longer a 10. She’s a solid nine. Dumb like a fox. Planned Parenthood should absolutely be defunded. You can do anything. *She’s gotten a little bit large*. I don’t think you should dress like you weigh 120 pounds. You wouldn’t have your job if you weren’t beautiful. You’re going to make the same if you do as good a job. *Piece of a***. Not pretty enough. 35...is called check-out time. Always griping and bitching. Blood coming out of her wherever. I’m the owner...and therefore I’m inspecting it. *Has to be some form of punishment*. An inconvenience for a business. Putting a wife to work is a very dangerous thing. *When you’re a star, they let you do it*. She’ll take care of the kids. Disgusting. Find another career. Be quiet. What did these geniuses expect when they put men and women together? *You have to treat ‘em like sh*t*. I just don’t think she has a presidential look. I can’t say that [I treat women with respect] either. We have a good time. *We’re all having fun together*.
–All words spoken by Donald Trump

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* National Public Radio, September 2015

Decision 2016

'The Book Thief's' Connection to the Election

VERONICA DIAMOND
Centurion Staff

The film “The Book Thief,” directed by Brian Percival, portrays the life of Liesel Meminger, a girl living in Nazi Germany with her adoptive parents, and emphasizes the themes of knowledge and education.

The film takes place during World War II. The main character, Liesel Meminger, is an orphan when she arrives at the home of her adoptive parents, Hans and Rosa. She doesn’t know how to write or read, and the family’s situation becomes harder when they hide a Jewish boy, whose father saved Hans’s life.

Right from the beginning, Liesel steals a book from her brother’s gravesite to bring to Germany with her. Later, when Meminger is asked to write her name on the chalkboard, she writes three X’s, which forces her and her father to have to learn how to read and write. While walking out of school with her neighbor, Rudy Steiner, he asks if she remembers how to get home. Her response is “just because I can’t read, doesn’t mean I’m stupid,” insinuating that she is educated.

Book burnings, as seen in the film, were not uncommon in the Nazi’s twisted tyranny. According to PBS, “university students in 34 university towns across Germany burned over 25,000 books,” including all works that didn’t conform to Hitler and the Nazi party’s way of thinking.

The Nazi party encouraged the public to burn books in order to eliminate any potentially subversive thought, thus making sure that the people would not question the views and beliefs of Hitler. As is seen in the film’s book burning scene, civilians were forced to burn books at a bonfire. The more knowledgeable you are, the more



you will start to question society and possibly go against the ideologies of the people in power. By contrast, uneducated individuals will ultimately follow people who are in power without question.

Meminger and Steiner eventually begin to scream out “I hate Hitler” over and over again. This is the big turning point in the movie, because it signals that they are starting to question the dictator’s authority. Percival, best known for movies such as “About a Girl” and “Pleasureland,” has made a

film that perfectly captures the Nazi’s nightmarish society. Depicting a sensitive subject such as the Holocaust can be difficult, but showing it through the eyes of a child lightens the mood slightly.

Ultimately, “The Book Thief” shows that having knowledge and being educated is still relevant in 2016. It is still important for society to gain knowledge, through experiences or through education. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, knowledge is simply information, understanding, or

skill that you get from experience or education.

With the 2016 presidential election quickly approaching, it is thus vital for Americans to have knowledge about candidates, their principles, and what their plans are for America.

Not knowing what policies each candidate will pursue in office is negligence on the part of the American people. Having knowledge will allow us to form our own opinions on this upcoming presidential election, making

it easier to vote on Nov. 8.

On CNN.com, you can test your knowledge on the upcoming election with the “How much do you know about presidential elections?” quiz. I suggest that you do so. After all, the candidate who ends up taking power will occupy the world’s most powerful office for four years – and the policies, and ideas, they impose will likely last even longer.

Millennials Losing Their Enthusiasm for Politics

Have young voters grown disillusioned with politics amid the mudslinging of the 2016 election?

ERIN MCVAN
Centurion Staff

Millennials, unimpressed by the major presidential candidates, can make a difference this election, but it is unclear how many will plug their votes into the polls.

Hilary Clinton and Donald Trump are the two most major candidates in this election. Both candidates are surrounded by controversy and speculation while their parties’ political preferences differ greatly. This has caused a divide between voters. Research shows that young voters are basing much of their choices on issues of character.

Lucas Deisangro, communications major, expressed his “extreme disappointment” towards this election. “It’s a joke, because both candidates are extremely flawed,” he said. He disliked the heaping insults in the debates because it made it feel more like a “school yard fight” than an election.

Communications major James Pirth expressed similar views.

He agreed that the election feels like a “school yard fight.” “Both parties don’t know what they’re talking about,” he said. This seems to be common theme in the voter attitude this year.

Pew Research Center ran a poll in May that said supporters of Trump and Clinton will feel little relief if their preferred candidate wins. 57 percent of voters said they were optimistic, 55 percent disgusted, 31 percent interested, 15 percent optimistic, and just 10 percent excited.

Bill Pezza, a political science teacher at Bucks, was concerned for young voters in this election. He said that it is the most tumultuous election in his lifetime. “One goal as teachers of government is to convince students that they should have a sense of political efficacy, belief that their participation in the political process matters, that regardless of political persuasion they should be active participants and voters. And I hope that what they’re experiencing right now doesn’t discourage them from voting,” Pezza said.

Another Pew Research Center poll from May stated that millennials, who “have already surpassed Baby Boomers as the United States’ largest living generation, now have caught up to the Boomers when it comes to their share of the American electorate.” The millennial generation is generally defined as people born between the early 1980s and early 2000s, or adults up to age 35. In this poll, they questioned if the millennials will vote?

The lingering question is not only will millennials vote, but who will they chose? Will they



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.COM

think that their choice is right for our country, or, will many young voters continue to believe that neither candidate will be the better in the long run?

Will this election be the major disappointment that many voters are already believing it to be? There is no question that this year’s election is drastically

different than those of the past. However, exercising your right to vote can ensure that you did your part in choosing who we elect.

Arts and Entertainment

‘Hamilton:’ Hip Hop Hooray

BY: NASH ANDERSON
Centurion Staff

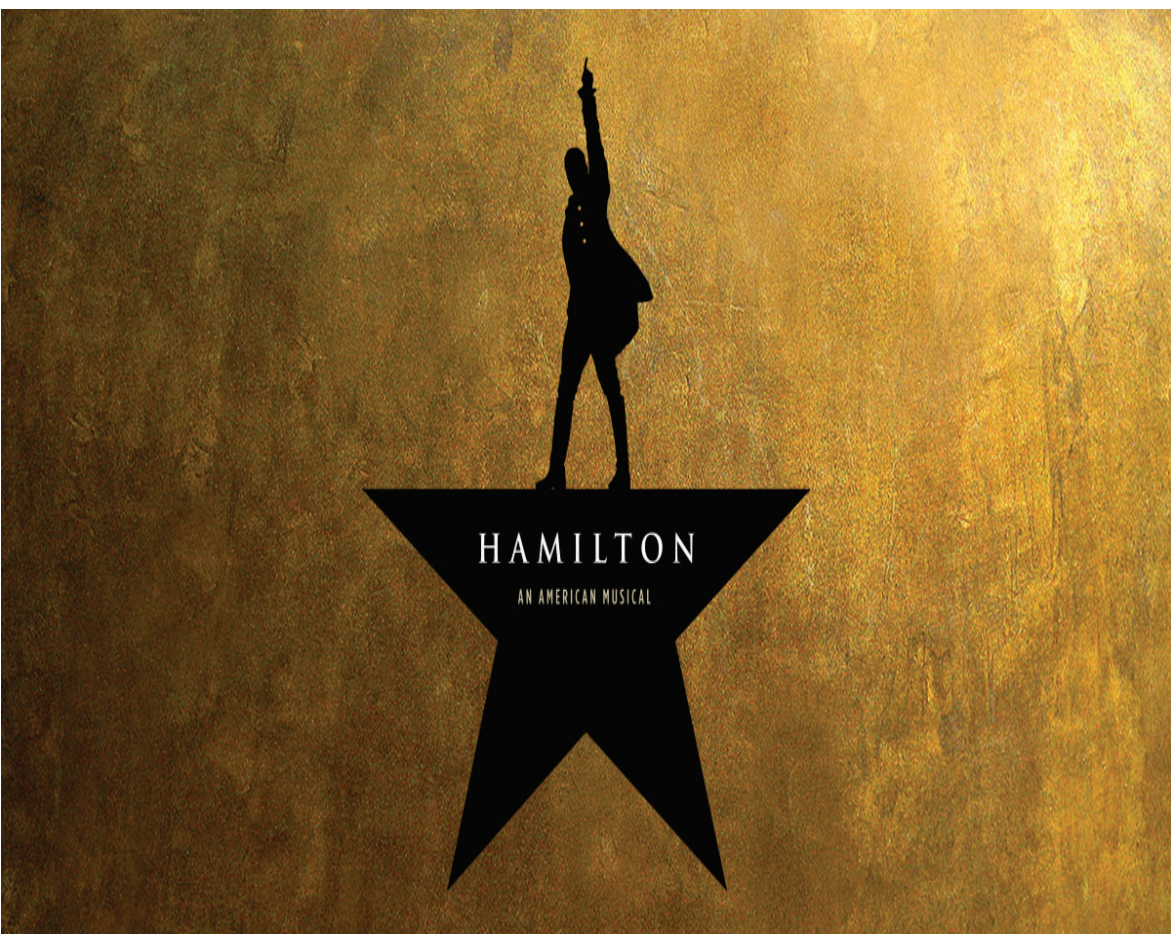
“Hamilton” is a musical by Lin-Manuel Miranda that tells the life story of Alexander Hamilton through hip-hop music.

It’s a two-and-a-half-hour show told entirely through song. It was nominated for 16 Tony Awards and won 11. Since it’s been on Broadway it has grossed more than \$75 million.

A partial tribute to the play’s wild success is the racial diversity among the cast. Those familiar with the humble beginnings of our country know that minorities weren’t afforded freedom in the new world. The roles of all the founding fathers were played by African Americans, giving the historical tale a unique and fresh take.

From the moment King George III opened the show, it was a rollercoaster of hilarious explanations of history through hip-hop to sweet and thoughtful more classic musical numbers depicting love, longing, King Georges disdain for American independence.

As a huge fan of east coast hip hop since childhood (Wu-Tang is for the children, after all) I could



immediately see the influences that New York hip hop had on the music in the play. The most obvious would be Notorious B.I.G.’s “The 10 Crack Commandments” which triggered the song “The 10

Duel Commandments.” The hip-hop inspired songs have heavy pronounced beats with clear, biting, and witty lyrics.

Most of the songs that the female leads sang heavily resem-

bled Beyoncé (Queen Beyoncé, apologies Beyhive). Her song “Countdown”, with the orchestral beats and her rich voice, was a big influence on the music for “Hamilton”. The first time I heard

“Helpless” from ‘Hamilton’ was while I was doing my homework before seeing the show. I was positive it was the unreleased track from Beyoncé’s “4” that I’ve been waiting for my whole life.

The best parts of the show were when King George III would grace the audience with his presence. He would complain about Americans breaking their arrangement when they left. Rory O’ Malley’s performance as King George was brilliant. His most recent role before King George was Elder McKinley in “The Book of Mormon.” His numbers were so catchy I still can’t get them out of my head. If you hear loud, off-key whistling on campus it’s probably me whistling along with the King.

Anyone aware of the show would understand how incredibly lucky I was to be able to go and see Hamilton, so I won’t end by saying “go see it if you can!” because unfortunately it’s not as simple as that. But if you are a hip-hop head like myself I would highly recommend listening to the soundtrack, specifically “Right Hand Man.”



Creepy Clowns Are Lurking and Stalking Citizens

NICOLE WAJDA
Centurion Staff

Eerie clown sightings in the U.S. and U.K. have left some people terrified, but others unimpressed.

The first of many clown sightings was in Greenville, South Carolina during August. People dressed in clown costumes spook the public by watching them from a distance. Most of these situations have occurred during the nighttime hours. Tons of citizens have reported sightings to their local police.

There has been much speculation for the reasons behind these clown sightings. There have been a few notorious clown killers dating back to 1972. These murders include the Killer Clown, Smiling Shooter, and Kingpin’s Assassin.

The Killer Clown’s real name was John Wayne Gacy and he was sentenced to death row when he was convicted of murdering and raping at least 33 teenage boys and young men from 1972-1978. All other clowns were convicted on similar basis’ as Gacy.

1980, in Boston and Kansas, clowns were reported to be bothering children in schools. Teachers, and Parents especially, were warned to keep an eye out for children and to know where they were at all times. These clown sittings were as frequent as they are today. All reports of clowns at

this time were similarly reported, with clowns trying to get children into vans. Only children ages 5-7 had seen the clowns, no adult figures. They called them “Phantom Clowns,” because they were never found.

Of course, it could always have been one big hoax. But the presence of these recent creepy clowns cannot be disputed.

Students at University of Massachusetts had started a “Clown Watch” Twitter page to alert others nearby of sightings. Some of the sightings on the page are reported to be fake. Students at UMass were apparently taking staged videos of clowns.

#IfISeeAClown hashtags have also gone viral, in which people turn the clowns into internet humor. People of Twitter describe what they will do if they come in contact with clowns. The reactions vary from beating the clown up, to running away, and many other humorous antidotes.

Students at Bucks have varying perspectives of the clowns. Some are truly scared and worried about their wellbeing, while others believe it is all one big joke. A few people even believe that it is an advertising stunt.

While everyone has their theories of what inspired the clowns, there is no actual evidence to support any of these claims. All we can do is hope that there won’t be an upcoming performance near us.

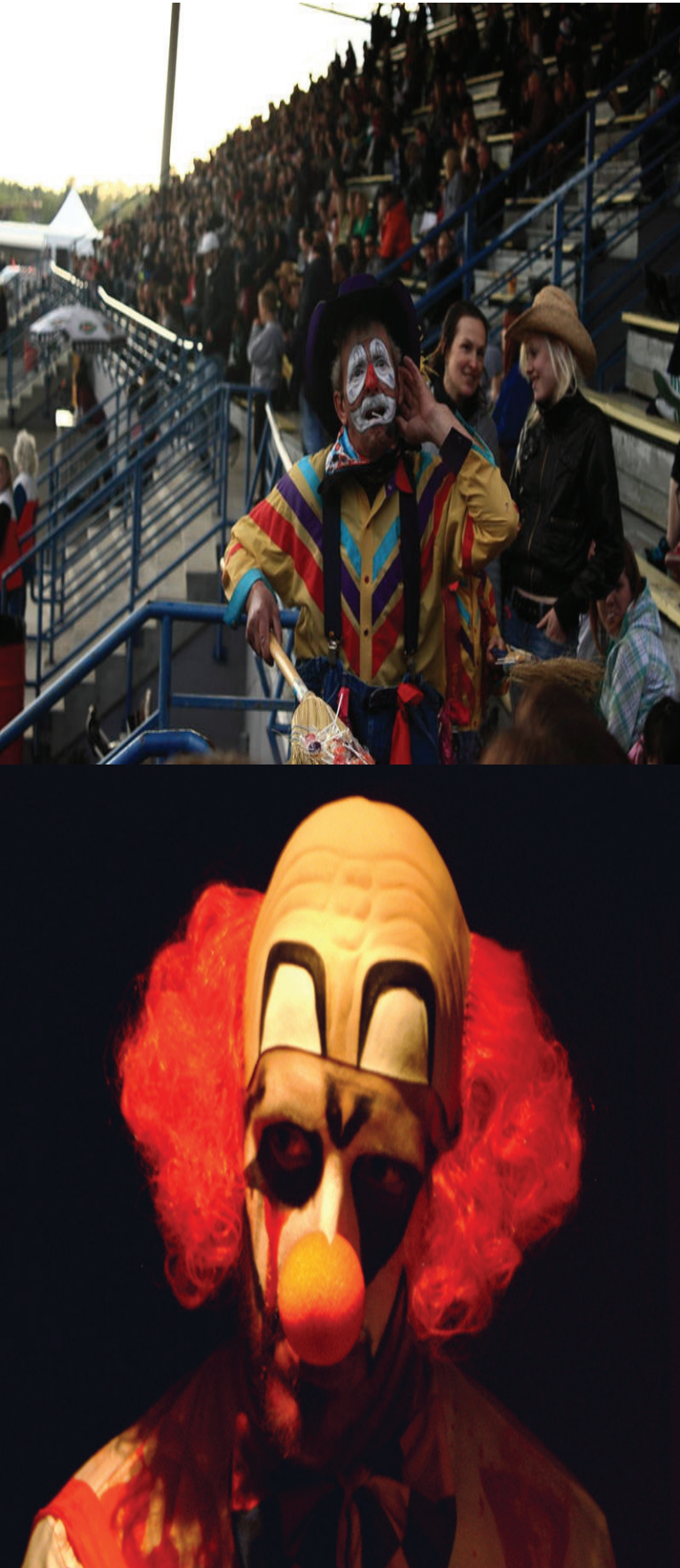


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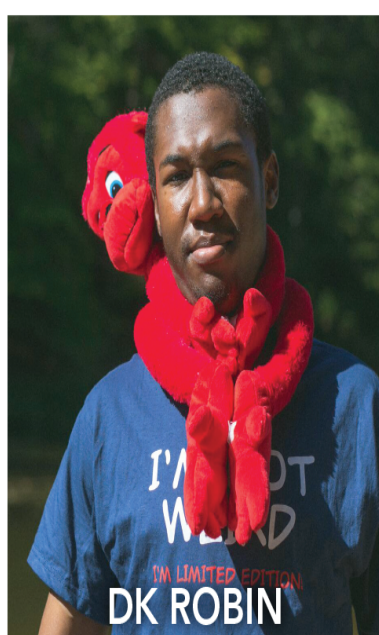
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Dominic Liples is a 8 year old boy who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in March of 2016.

He underwent surgery to remove as much of the mass as possible. He recently completed a round of radiation and chemotherapy treatments to combat the remaining tumor.

DK Robin and a group of local musicians will be collaborating for a fundraising concert to benefit Dominic. Pray for Dominic is known in the Bucks County area and local businesses are supporting the cause. DK's mom met Dominic in a CVS pharmacy and the fundraiser was born.

Hosted by Dave Nonini – *Floyd and the Barbers*

Performers:

DK Robin – *Rap Artist*

Marisa Salamone – *Pop Artist*

Floyd and the Barbers – *Rock Band*

Duece – *Rap Artist*

Face the Tide – *Classic Rock Band*

View Dominic's story at prayfordominic.com



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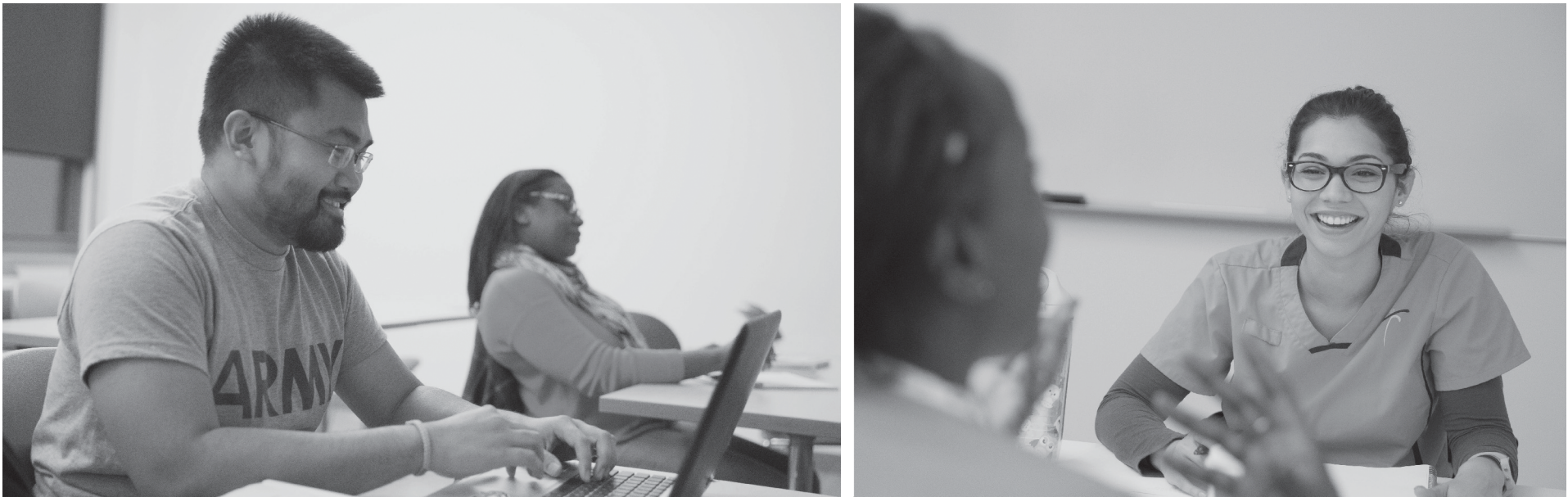
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JENN KOPSIE '14

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Sports

Yowser, it's Holly Bowser, Centurions Soccer Sensation



PHOTO CREDIT: HOLLY BOWSER

GEORGE MEANS

Centurion Staff

On the first day of yoga class, she didn't want to take off her socks, because she has "soccer feet." So she went out to Target and bought special pair of yoga socks. Yes -- they actually make special socks for aspiring yogis. And yes, "soccer feet" is an accurate term to describe the accumulation of blisters on a player's foot.

In class, she is quiet and soft-spoken. You might even think that she's shy. She is unquestionably modest, too. But, on the field, she's aggressive, unrestrained, and outgoing.

home with her mother, father, and brother, as well as two cats. She started playing soccer after she watched her older brother play the sport when she was four years old. By the time she was in fourth grade, her dad had her training with the high school players at Council Rock South.

Around 2007, Bowser found out that she had severe asthma due to abnormally small bronchial tubes. "One time, at CHOP (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia), I had to run on a treadmill with tubes down my throat," she recalls. This discovery influenced her positioning on the field. "I knew that I definitely had a disadvantage to the field players," says Bowser.

Her health condition isn't her only disadvantage. Bowser is weighing in at approximately 120 pounds, only measuring 5 feet, 2 inches in height. "People think that I have a handicap because I'm short so I want to prove them wrong," Bowser continues, "It makes me want to work harder."

Bowser says that she actually performed her best in this current season, and wasn't always a star player. In 2013, the Neshaminy Redskins won the State Championship and finished undefeated with a record of 25-0, but she wasn't always the starter. "Granted I didn't play when we won [States], it was an overwhelming feeling," Bowser says. "That was probably the best moment in high school soccer that I had."

This season, she has started every game that the Lady Centurions have played. She credits her success to the dynamic of this year's team. "It's just a better environment," says Bowser. "It's a psychological thing," she continues, "when you're happy you

do better."

Bowser feels extremely comfortable this year, even though she was nervous coming into this season. She remembers thinking, "This is a new team. I don't know if they're gonna like me." She now knows that her fears were irrational, since she practically spends all of her free time on campus with "the girls." "No one thinks less of anyone else," she explains.

Thus far, this feeling of comfort has expanded into her overall experience at Bucks. Even though Bowser says, "it does feel like high school 2.0," she has expertly balanced her 15 credits, soccer, and work for nearly 2 months. With the soccer season coming to an end, Bowser plans to pick up extra hours at her job.

Bowser will be returning to the soccer field at Bucks next season, but that may be her last season as an active player in the sport. "I don't think I want to play soccer at a competitive level after this," she says. "I chose Bucks because I want to be more focused on my major than soccer."

Bowser is an environmental science major, unlike many of the exercise science majors involved in team sports on campus. After earning her Associate's degree at Bucks, she plans on transferring to Temple to work on obtaining her Master's. Ever since she was little, she has enjoyed being outside and involved with nature, and hopes to work for the Environmental Protection Agency one day.

Her fondest memories are of soccer games and science experiments. Bowser talked of a little microscope she received as a child, and her memories of

travelling to Virginia for soccer at the age of 10. She has always had a passion for both the field and the lab, and knows where her focus needs to be.

Bowser's idol isn't a famous athlete or a well-known scientist. It is her mother that gives her inspiration. "She gets me through everything," Bowser adds, "She just raised me really well."

Bowser's father has also been a source of strength for her. When she was in middle school, her father was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, a type of cancer that affects the blood and bone marrow. "He really pushed through it," says Bowser. "He still got me to every practice," she continues, "got me to every game."

After successful chemotherapy, Bowser's father is now in remission. "I'm a lucky kid," Bowser adds. "I take that for granted sometimes."

Bowser's parents must be happy knowing that they raised such an exceptional specimen. She's intelligent and focused, with a drive that seems to have been parentally instilled. "I'm very lucky to have supportive parents," says Bowser.

Even with the vigor of a 5-foot mule, Bowser appears to be relaxed and laid back in many ways. Constantly using terms such as "dude" and "like," wearing gender-neutral clothing, and watching cartoons from the late 90s, Bowser appears to be a physically active, modern-day hippie.

If she were granted one wish, it would be for world peace. When asked what the premise of a movie about her life would be, Bowser simply says, "Don't take life too serious."



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