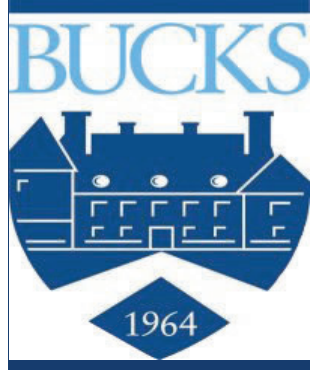


The Centurion



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

Volume 52 Issue 1

Feb. 9, 2017

Bucks-News.com

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Bucks President Unveils New STEM Building



HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

A \$17.5 million science center was opened at Bucks's Newtown campus just one week before the start of the spring semester, highlighting the college's commitment to promoting STEM fields and drawing a crowd of over 100 alumni and students.

"Today is a very special day for Bucks County," said Stephanie Shanblatt, College President, in remarks accompanying the opening. "While I am personally gratified, I am most excited for our students. By putting science on display, we demystify this discipline."

Students, teachers, and administrators who were present at the event had similar thoughts. "It looks fantastic, seeing the progress," said Matthew Timek, a business major who had watched the building's gradual construction while taking classes.

Robert Quinn, an electrical and computer engineering major, also praised the building's design. "I think it looks nice, it's refreshing," he remarked.

Interim provost Lisa Angelo, who is also a math professor, expressed her satisfaction with the building's completion. "I can't tell you how rewarding this is. Everyone who has a stake in this building has a hand in its progress," she said in a speech marking the building's opening.

In an interview, she explained how professors had a role in the design of the facility. "It was truly a collaborative effort. Faculty meeting and staff were in nearly every meeting."

Several rooms in the science center were expressly built with collaborative work and group projects in mind. "There is one room that has flexible movable furniture and six different screens. You could have the same thing on all six screens or different things on multiple screens," Angelo said. The 43,000 square foot building is devoted mostly to lab space, with almost no traditional lecture areas. However, the building does include several gathering areas for students on the upper floors.

The most striking feature of the main hall is a large, vertical garden of plants. Called the "living wall," this garden is irrigated

from behind, and is meant to draw student's interest to the sciences – the primary focus of the new building as a whole.

"Our labs were fifty years old, they were dark, they were uninviting. You were talking about biology, and you were in a room with no window," Angelo explained.

Razin Karu, the President of the BCCC Student Government Association, had a similar message. "It makes a statement about the important things we do here," he said, referring to the science center.

"They opened this to the outside so we get a sense of the greater whole, the nature there," he continued, describing the building's extensive use of glass both inside and out.

John Strauss, president of the Bucks County Community College Federation of Teachers, Thomas Skiffington, chairman of the college's board of trustees, and Charles Martin, a Bucks County Commissioner, also made speeches.

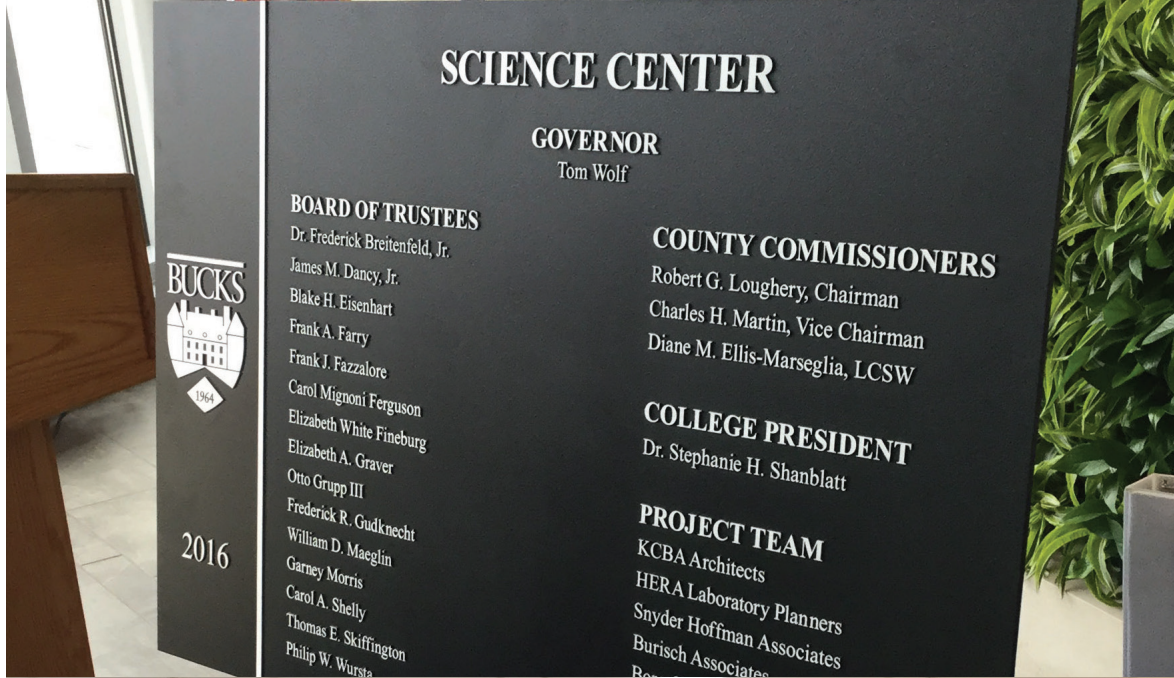
"My father cast on to me at a very young age the beauty and elegance of science. With this new building...we can inspire future generations of innovators and problem solvers," Shanblatt told the audience.

"With this building, as a centerpiece of the campus, we invite the whole of Bucks to share in the excitement of science."

Shanblatt later explained that the old building could not fit the ever-growing enrollment in science classes. This has been reflected in the use of portable classrooms to accommodate science courses.

"We did not have the capacity to meet the demand until now. It will allow us to meet the current demand, as well as expand our classes in the future."

The college's plan appears to already be working. "I come from a science background, so this is really inspiring me," said Sven Prichard, a former fine arts major. "I may have to go back to the lab."



From left to right: Ribbon cutting ceremony, the new science building, a new lab, students that are science majors at the ribbon cutting ceremony

PHOTO CREDIT: HAL CONTE

Bucks News

Protesters Return to Newtown Campus

STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Lauren Savana

Managing Editor
Shannon Harrar

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Tony Rogers

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JOCELYN PAPPAS
Centurion Staff

A group of Christian activists made yet another demonstration on Bucks’s Newtown Campus, after two previous appearances that rattled administrators and students alike

“I am here to give you the message, to give you the hope, to give you Jesus! Let’s make it as simple as possible: Obey Jesus or go to hell,” the lead protestor stated, among many other proclamations.

Asked to identify himself, the protestor answered, “My name is the Radical Reverend, and you can follow me on Instagram.”

Several other members of the Christian group were also present. The Reverend’s wife, who answered questions from women in the crowd, denounced the LGBTQ community, stating that she aimed to “save the lost, and get the LGBT community back in the closet.”

The Reverend’s children also made an appearance, baring signs relating to their sect’s belief. One of the adult protestors also held a towering sign, with words describing various groups of people as hell-bound. Many students described this sign as a replica of the one torn down by activists

during the first protest.

According to Charlie Groth, a professor of anthropology at Bucks, the protest group has also shown up at other universities and colleges around the area. One onlooker recalled a similar protest that occurred at Temple University.

However, these visits have been a novelty for many students. “I’ve been here for two years and I’ve never seen this sort of thing before,” as said Ryan Fuller, a sophomore at Bucks.

Reactions varied from person to person, but the majority denounced the protestors or simply laughed at their message. Some feigned annoyance to the activists, theorizing that they would go away if students ignored them. Other students were disturbed as they heard the man shouting through his megaphone.

A group of students responded by taking up action against the demonstrators. For a short period of time, a number of counter-protestors emerged with their own sign. One student arrived with stereo speakers and played what seemed to be hip-hop music. Additionally, many professors and students chanted slogans, most likely in an attempt the drown out the man’s voice.

Among Christian students, the protestors’ message was met with



Protester with sign

PHOTO CREDIT: HAL CONTE

various criticisms. Some students felt that it was the opposite of what they were taught, and others complained that the Reverend’s method of delivering his speeches were divisive.

After preaching in the courtyard for about three hours, the Radical Reverend began accepting questions from the audience. When one student approached him, questioning his beliefs, the protestor replied, “I’ve always been fascinated with serial killers; what happens with a man’s mind. After studying, I came to find that most of these murderers were tied up with atheism.”

Asked what separates his group from the Westboro Baptist Church, a Christian sect that is regarded by organizations such as the Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group, the Reverend responded, “We support the military, and our signs are way cooler.”

The Reverend was also ques-

tioned about women and their role in society. While he claimed to be supportive of women, he also said that he did not consider himself a feminist. A few women in the crowd rolled their eyes in response, while other students hurled insults at the activists.

The groups targeted by the protestors as sinful included “mama’s boys, so-called Christians, witches, and gamers.” When asked about the inclusion of gamers on this list, the Reverend replied, “When you start playing video games, you start living through these video games, in fantasy. Your brains are being washed in a bunch of garbage.”

The Reverend’s children wrapped up the protest by singing a song related to the group’s faith. Before they left, the speaker for the group claimed that they would return every day for the rest of the week. However, they did not follow through on this promise.

Bucks Faculty, Administrators Respond to Protests

HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

A group of Bucks professors and administrators unveiled an unofficial policy on how to respond to a small cohort of religious protestors who have repeatedly appeared on Bucks’s Newtown campus and have been accused of disrupting the educational process.

The policy, which various professors read to their students during the past week, is based on non-engagement and counter-protests. Above all, students are encouraged not to react violently to the activists’ message.

Although many people have had a hand in its development, the policy is largely the work of Charlie Groth, who volunteered along with several other faculty members to write a statement regarding the protest group’s initial demonstration, which occurred in December.

Groth has taught cultural anthropology as well as other courses at Bucks for nearly a decade, and has participated in various community education programs, including the Bucks County Poet Laureate competition. She is an enthusiastic proponent of Bucks and its role in bringing the county together.



Faculty of the Future

“One of the things I love about Bucks is that it is a community college. One of the by-products about teaching close to where I live is that I see my students around town and in the grocery store.”

She was returning from her uncle’s funeral when the protestors, led by a man who calls himself “The Radical Reverend” made their first visit to the Newtown campus.

“He came in and then I overheard him tell one of our students that she looked like a harlot. That’s no way to talk to our students.”

She had recently attended a training on responding to bullying in the classroom. “I think it was helpful. A lot of what he is doing feels like bullying.”

Groth makes known her opposition to the message of the protestors. “It’s shocking, it’s appalling and it’s a little horrifying.” However, she emphasized the importance of reacting calmly and peacefully to their campus visits.

“We were all concerned that our students know that [The Radical Reverend] has this method that gets students to attack him, so that he will be the victim. You shouldn’t take this lightly -- you can get arrested, and then you have that arrest on your record.”

Groth explained how the protest leader and his followers use particular strategies and tactics, including the targeting of individuals based on their gender, sexual orientation and lifestyle choices, in order to enrage students and get them to respond physically.

“He is basically harassing people and intermixing it with free speech. He tries to get people to lash out at him so then they are the perpetrator.”

After the first protest, Groth joined together with other professors to produce a statement regarding the protest group.

“Right at the end of the semester, our president put out a call to see if faculty and staff wanted to craft a statement that we could share with our students to tell

them how to protect them from arrest.”

The statement, which is promoted by the administration but does not set out mandatory rules, focuses on the creation of an “Angel’s Shield” around the protestor to prevent him from spreading his doctrines. Students and professors are encouraged to stand with backs towards the protestor and chant slogans of acceptance and love.

“There are two basic ways to respond. One is to ignore him. The other is to give a counter message or disrupt him. They are both completely valid,” Groth explained.

“There are reasons why you may choose not just to ignore him. In the LGBT community, they have the idea that silence equals death. So there were various approaches to this, and they’re all valid.”

While she expressed the opinion that no strategy could be universal or perfect, Groth made sure to stress that students should refrain from engaging with, or even laughing at, the protestors.

“I really hope our students can keep themselves safe and not get hurt. It’s complex, as some students come out because it is entertaining. There is a challenge with that, because there will be

people who will want to argue with [the protestors] rationally, but the methods they are using aren’t rational.”

Shelli Bookler, a professor of theatre at Bucks who also helped formulate the college’s policy, expressed similar thoughts.

“Students need to feel safe and focus on what they are on campus for -- learning. We are a public institution, so we have to deal with it. We need to decrease the spectacle that he is creating so he will get tired and maybe he’ll go away.”

Both professors also believe that the protests could end up bringing students together. “One student said on Thursday that this was the moment that made her proud to be part of Bucks,” Groth smiled.

For now, however, the protestors present an ever-present challenge to students and faculty. “Obviously we want all of our rights to be protected but certainly there is a fine line.”

“It takes some persistence. Free speech and harassment are being linked. And both free speech and preventing harassment are important things in an educational environment. There is no simple answer. I will say that Bucks is doing the best we can.”

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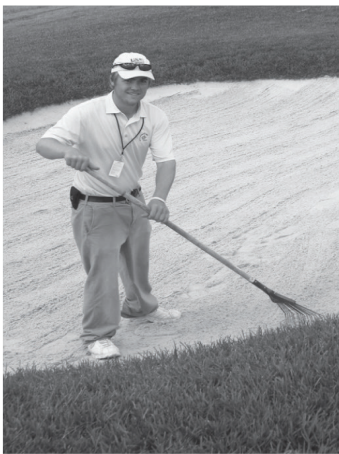
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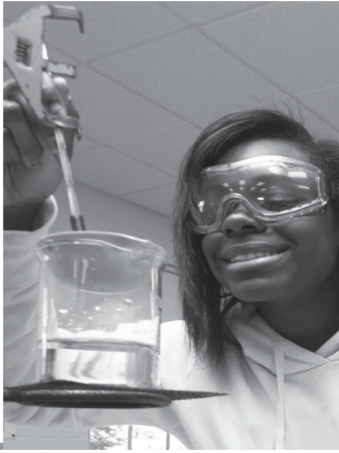
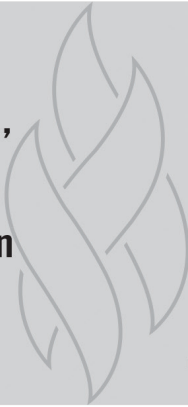


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Bucks News

College Plus Support Group Gives the Gift of Education

A new kind of support group giving mentally ill students the chance to attend college

EMILY PLEWES
Centurion Staff

College Plus, through Voice and Vision Inc. of Warminster, gives people with mental health diagnoses the option to go to college. College Plus is a support group managed by Caren Noonan of Jamison and Mindy Haas of Souderton.

Stigma is a big reason so many students are hesitant to go to college. A “stigma” is a negative term connected with something. For mental illnesses, stigmas can be debilitating. The students that join College Plus do some stigma busting as they beat the odds that were tossed at them.

Anyone who has a mental health diagnosis can join. It has to be their first semester for them to pay for their books and class, or their first time back to school. Haas spoke of the idea to opening the support group up to everyone.

Many of the students shock themselves at their accomplishment. College Plus is

the guiding hand that helps these students take their first step into or back into college life. One of the new programs that is now being used in College Plus is called “Hand.” Hand stands for Hope and New Directions. It was founded by Valarie Melroice, head of Voice and Vision Inc. This allows students to explore their strengths, barriers, dreams, goals, and discover how to reach them. At the end of the semester feedback is given in a survey. This lets College Plus see what works and what doesn’t work.

College Plus will pay for your first class and set of books. This helps students because it allows them to take one class only, and work their way up once they feel more comfortable. Some students may want to take more than one, and this is fine. It is not their job to tell the students what to do. It is their job to guide the students in the right direction.

When the students first join there is an orientation. They are informed about the placement test, office of accessibility, and what College Plus does. They are given a check list and introduced to Hand. College Plus works closely not only with the students but with the academic accessibility office at Bucks. Letting the students know they have a place to go while in the school helps make the transition easier.

The accessibility office provides assistance to students who have the proper documentation. They provide services to anyone who needs them.



PHOTO CREDIT: FREEIMAGES.COM

“It’s diversity through awareness and education,” says Debra Halper, assistant director of the accessibility office in BCCC. They make sure all students are treated equal and have the same opportunities.

“It’s a great place to get their feet wet,” Noonan noted. College Plus doesn’t only care for the students’ success, they’re a helping hand in them obtaining it. The students, however, have to do all the work. Haas really boiled it

down to one basic thing. They are there to encourage the students.

Students walk away feeling accomplished. They obtain something they didn’t think was possible. It shows that everyone can be a success. Haas noted that “success is defined differently for different people.” Some of the students find that college isn’t for them and go into a different route.

Both Noonan and Haas feel similar to the students they help. “I have a real heart for

people,” Haas said. It makes connecting with this students and watching them succeed worth the while. Noonan sees a bit of herself in each student that they help. Struggling with a diagnosis herself and going to college allows her to connect on a personal level. Both peers enjoy the work they do. They will keep inspiring the students even after their first semester through the support group that is College Plus.



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Bucks News

Bucks Staff Introduces New Cyber Security Jobs for Students



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Career Opportunities in the Cyber Security World are finally available for Bucks Students

MICHAEL VIGILANTE
Centurion Staff

The fastest growing and most highly recruited jobs in the country aren't coming from where you may think. No, it's not in the circus (you may have missed the boat on that), they are in the field of cybersecurity, a program that Bucks now offers as part of its IT Academy.

There is an alarming need in this country for people with skills and experience to do the jobs that keep us, our families, and our country safe. To meet this growing demand, Bucks has introduced a cybersecurity training program. Students who successfully complete five courses designed to focus on a specific skill set can earn a Certificate in Information Assurance.

"With anything in technology, it's changing every eighteen months, so if you're not keeping pace with what's changing, you will be left behind," said Owen Forrest, Director of the IT Academy, "it's all designed to be current, provide the latest training and the latest technologies, and meet the current needs of the marketplace."

Currently, the marketplace needs talent. Target was the victim of possibly the biggest retail hack in history, just days before Thanksgiving in 2013, when someone installed malware in their security and payment system that was designed to steal every credit card from every Target location. Sony Pictures was hacked in 2014 when a group calling themselves the "Guardians of Peace" demanded the film "The Interview" be pulled from theaters.

These are only the larger, more elaborate hacks that we hear about, but recent findings suggest that data breaches are occurring at an alarming rate. A study from the Ponemon Institute found that 43% of companies experienced some type of data breach in 2014, a number that was up 10% from the year before.

"35% of jobs in cybersecurity are going unfilled today," said Matt Frederickson, an instructor for the cybersecurity program at Bucks, "cybersecurity is just not something people think about, they don't think about protecting their data. If a hacker were able to get into the school's data base – they have full names and addresses – that information could get, for a person over 30, five dollars a name on the dark web, for someone under the age of 18, you could get 20-25 dollars."

The reality of the new age of information is that we are willing and eager to share both our most intimate and mundane moments in life on the internet, but we must also be aware of how this information can be used against us, and to that end, who exactly will be protecting us if there is such a wide talent gap?

According to Forbes, there are over 1 million cybersecurity jobs available right now with projections showing a rise to almost 1.5 million by the year 2020, and they exist in a wide range of areas from the private sector, like consulting firms and law firms, to the public sector, like the Department of Homeland Security, NSA, and FBI.

The need is clear and pressing for young, smart, and talented individuals to fill these jobs. "If someone wanted a degree in information technology, and they take the certification exams and left here with their associates degree, they would have no problem finding a job, in fact, people would probably be calling them before they finished their degree."

Students interested in the cybersecurity program should visit the IT Academy section of Bucks.edu or speak to Owen Forrest at Gateway room 118.

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Bucks News

A Guide to Buying your Textbooks

TYLER SCOTT
Centurion Staff

Starting off a new semester is not always the easiest thing, so when there is a way to make it a bit easier, students tend to veer toward it.

In this situation, different books and how students from all over campus with different majors obtain them.

Most of the time, they are reasonably priced and that tends to excite a lot of people. This is not to demean the bookstore on campus, but more so to alert students that there are more feasible ways in which to obtain their books.

These different ways include the online sites, Chegg as well as Amazon and sometimes even Barnes and Noble, depending on which book one may need.

These sites offer renting options at lower costs than the Bucks bookstore, and even have extensions for the renting due dates for certain books.

For this story students around campus were questioned to see how they obtain their books, even

former students who have since transferred from Bucks were asked, where they get their books and, of course, how much it cost them.

Surprisingly, many of the answers included Chegg and topping off the list was Amazon.

Ashley Rios, 19, undecided, from Morrisville said, "I bought my books off Amazon because I don't feel like spending an ungodly amount of money for books I may open maybe once or twice depending on the class."

She attends classes through the online campus and says the money she saved will be put towards gas for commuting to work each day.

With Chegg, the renting process is easy, and you are also shown how much money you saved compared to other online sites, and what the books retail for if they were to be bought online.

Naquan Snow, 20, a Bio-Chem major, from Levittown said, "I also rented my books from Amazon, as well as some from Chegg, and believe it or not, one from the bookstore as well. It pays to shop around when looking for your books. I was shocked too when I saw the bookstore had a better

deal for renting one of my math textbooks."

The stress and anxiety that can be had from seeing those hefty dollar signs adding up when adding books to your online shopping bag, or placing them on the counter to be scanned at campus can all be alleviated with shopping around and trying these online services first.

Keep in mind as well that Amazon Prime is offered and allows for next day free shipping permitting students to have their books for the next class in case they waited until the last minute to get them.

Returning books with Chegg and Amazon are easy. With Chegg a box is offered and can be returned at any UPS drop box, or site, including Staples and Office Max. Amazon does not offer the complimentary box, but does also allow for free returns when shipping them back.

Trying these sites will allow for a stress-free process in obtaining books, even if you already have yours this semester, you can certainly try them out for the next one!



Textbooks ordered off of Chegg

PHOTO CREDIT: LAUREN SAVANA



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Arts & Entertainment

The Resurrection of Vinyl Records



VINCENT BARRERAS
Centurion Staff

PHOTO CREDIT: VINCENT BARRERAS

With the advent of iTunes and digital music streaming sites such as Pandora, Spotify, and Band Camp, most physical forms

of music were seemingly about to become obsolete. We saw the cassette come and go, only to be replaced by CDs.

At the time this was a revolutionary concept, being able to easily select and jump between tracks and not having to rewind tapes made listening to albums and your favorite songs so much more convenient.

Today, according to Fortune.com, “CD sales are down 17%.” With digital downloads, the need to go out and buy an album was eliminated, as one could make a purchase at the click of a button from the comfort of their own home. When asked about this digital format, Shane McDaniels, a 23-year-old Bucks student said, “I can’t stress how thankful I am to have digital music in my life. When I was younger I had a CD player and I would only bring one CD to school.”

We seemed to be heading in this direction of online music streaming, that is, until recently. Over the last decade, an old form of music listening began to have a resurgence: vinyl records. For some, this form of music has never left, but for a new generation, is just starting to begin.

According to the Guardian.com, “more than 3.2 million LP’s were sold last year, a rise of 53% on last year and the highest number since 1991.”

Most people are scratching their heads as to why this trend is becoming more common. “Having a physical record is great. I first started collecting CD’s then moved onto vinyl. I like the cover art too,” said Jake Lewkowski, 25, of North Field, NJ.

As a society, we love listening to the hottest singles of new albums, only listening to a song or two, just to neglect the other

ones on the album. With vinyl, it’s more of an experience. Putting on a record and listening from start to finish feels more authentic than just playing a song off your phone.

So, the question is, why would this trend, which was popularized so long ago, start to become so contemporary?

“Music is more authentic on vinyl, right now it is a fad that is coming back,” said Sean Berry, 25, of Summerville, NJ.

In this instance, Sean is correct. Record stores are beginning to pop up and are being invaded by both young and old. Modern artists are starting to sell 12 inch LPs at their shows; classics are beginning to have new pressings for the first time in decades, and are being purchased by millennials every day.

It seems the majority of new users are millennials, people aged 18-34. But this does not mean the art is exclusive to this generation, there are many older collectors, who, unlike millennials, have never stopped their collections.

There has been a steady increase in sales over the last ten years, while it’s nothing groundbreaking, the arrows have been going up each year. According to RIAA News, “revenues from vinyl albums were \$416 million in 2015 – the last year they were that high was 1988.”

Albums that are dominating the vinyl charts consist of new releases, and repressings of classic albums. This past year, after the untimely death of music legend David Bowie, he had an explosion of record sales, in fact, he had five albums in the top 40.

According to Official Charts, “David Bowie’s last album, Blackstar sold 54,000 units making it the most sold vinyl

record of 2016.” Vinyl’s have an exclusive nature to them because most only go on sale for a limited amount of time.

A band from Doylestown PA, Circa Survive, just had their “On Letting Go” 10 year anniversary album tour with an exclusive repressing of the album with only 2500 copies pressed. Records have this collectability and exclusiveness that online digital format doesn’t offer.

So, to answer the question originally asked, why are vinyl records beginning to find themselves back into music culture? The answer is not as simple as the question. It could attribute to millennials never actually being able to have this platform and experience in their music journey’s.

“It’s a reaction of music getting smaller. We started with vinyl, cassette, CD, digital, and now back to vinyl. When you stream music, or buy it on iTunes, you don’t necessarily have it, it’s on your computer. It’s fun coming into record stores and looking around and seeing what you will find. When you are on the computer you can search anything and it will be there,” said Jake Lewkowski, 25, of North Field NJ.

This medium of listening definitely has an old school, authentic feel, which appeals to many. In fact, our popular culture has been having a sort of renaissance of revitalization in terms of older trends.

The revenue charts speak for themselves, if they continue on their upward path, which is more than likely, we will continue to see a growth in this industry. With April 22, 2017 marking the 10th anniversary of Record Store Day, what better time to than now to start your collection?

Grammy Award Winning Musician, John Scofield performs at Bucks

SUNSHINE KARNS
Centurion Staff

With over 22 shows, including a world renowned Grammy winning guitarist and an off- Broadway one-woman act, the Zlock Performing Arts Center is hosting something for everyone at Bucks this season.

Among the many shows coming to Bucks this season is musician John Scofield, coming to the Performing Arts stage on February 9th at 7:30 PM. Scofield won the Grammy award for best instrumental jazz album in 2016.

“This concert is a rare treat for BCCC to host a world renowned Grammy winning guitarist in concert,” notes Peter Chiovarou, director of community programming and college events as well as a fellow musician. “He has played with the best of the best in the music world, notably Trumpeter Mile Davis.”

Qurrat Ann Kadwani, the first South Asian woman to have a solo play produced off Broadway will perform in “They Call Me Q,” a one- woman show including 13 characters and an immigrant’s journey to self-identification. The show will make its appearance on March 23rd at 7:30 PM, marking the first time an off- Broadway act visits Bucks’.

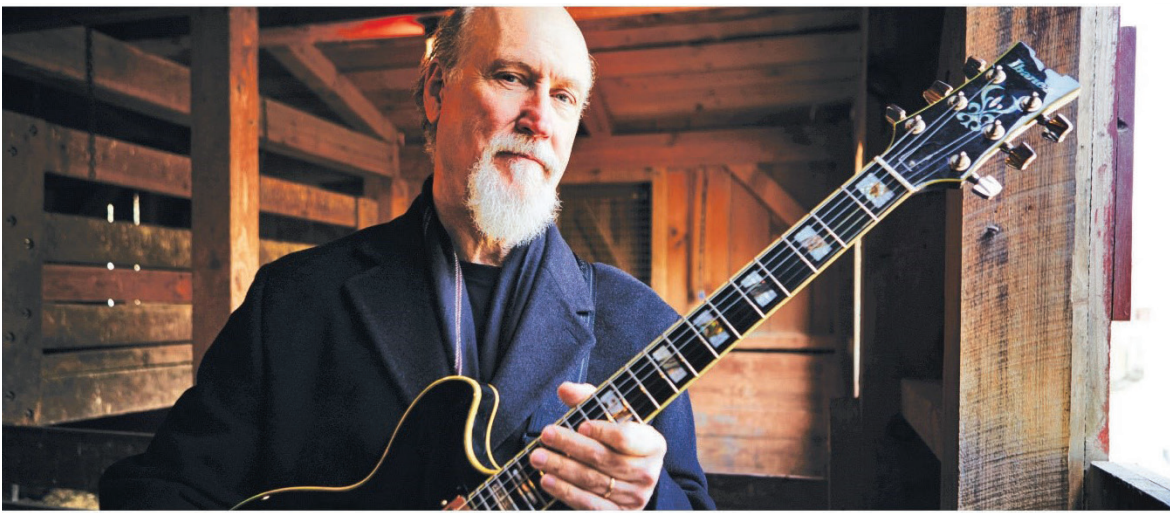
Students and community members have access to a wide variety of shows including The Music Series held on the first Thursday of each month, Movie Mondays on the last Monday of the month; the Speaker Series on the third Thursday of every month; Radio Bux concerts; the Bucks jazz orchestra and Spring Awakening; and a play performance by the drama club

in May. All shows, excluding the John Scofield concert, are FREE of charge to Bucks students.

Every show coming this season is new to Bucks and “All the shows here are thoughtfully planned to reach out and connect with all students and community members,” stated Chiovarou, “Live entertainment brings educational, enriching and entertaining experiences into a person’s life.” Chiovarou maintains a continuously refreshed stage with no single act returning this year, making each act a brand new experience for Bucks’.

Students are welcome and encouraged to get involved further with the Performing Arts Center as it offers jobs to volunteers and work-study eligible students, as well as spaces for clubs to host refreshment tables at shows to raise money for their group. Students who want to get on the stage can look into joining the Drama Club, Bux Radio; The Music Society; The National Society of Leadership and Success; and Student government; all of which use the Performing Arts Stage at Bucks’.

For a full schedule of performances and more information students and community members can visit the Performing Arts Website at www.bucks.edu/live where they will find a full calendar of upcoming events with detailed descriptions. You may also contact Chiovarou, the director of programming and college events at peter.chiovarou@bucks.edu. Be sure to sign up for email notifications about events coming up so you don’t miss out!



John Scofield

Legendary Guitarist

Thurs., Feb. 9

3 p.m. Workshop/Master Class
7:30 p.m. Concert
(Country for Old Men)

*Zlock Performing Arts Center
Newtown Campus
275 Swamp Rd., Newtown, PA*

For more info: bucks.edu/live or 215.968.8087

**Zlock** | Bucks County Community College
Performing Arts Center



**Bucks** | SMART.
County Community College

John Scofield. The improvisationally wily but sociably funky jazz guitarist John Scofield presents a tribute to the country songs of American icons including Hank Williams, Merle Haggard and Dolly Parton, featuring Sullivan Foster, Vicente Archer, and Bill Stewart.

For tickets: bucks.edu/live

Master Class:
\$10 – GA
FREE – BCCC Students

Concert:
\$60 – VIP* w/ Artist Meet & Greet, and Master Class
\$40 – General Admission
\$25 – Seniors, Alumni, Military, Students, Children, BCCC Employees
\$10 – BCCC Students
\$5 – Add Master Class to ticket

*VIP Ticketing is limited to 30 tickets per show, must be 21 and over (ID checked at door) All VIP Guests receive entry to VIP reception (6pm- 7:15pm) in private area with light hors d’oeuvres and 2 wine or beer drinks per person, reserved best seating in the house. Artist Meet & Greet included.

Arts & Entertainment

Honoring Black History Month, Bucks Displays Art Exhibit

Recherche Revisited: a New Form of Artistic Expression

ALI GISH
Centurion Staff

The spirit of creativity is very much alive as 18 skilled artists come together to form a Recherche experience, otherwise known as rare and enticing forms of artistic expression. Through January 18th to March 10, 2017, The Hicks Art Center at the Newtown Campus of Bucks County Community College is displaying the works of 18 painters, sculptors, printmakers, and photographers, 7 of whom are African-American and were selected by David Pease

from the Tyler School of Art. In 1969, these works were displayed in a gallery on Locust Street in Center City, Philadelphia opened by Sarie Robinson, Merle Aberman and Sande Webster and because of their originality have been exhibited in shows from Philadelphia to New York, Hampton, Dallas and Atlanta to Copenhagen, Denmark, Bahia and Brazil. At the time, it was believed that displaying works by African-Americans would drive away white people. The opening of the gallery proved this assumption to be false, as the appreciation for these artworks has allowed for their display in museums such as the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Whitney and the Boston Museum of Art.



These exhibitions have provided prizes, awards, fellowships, and museum and collection inclusions as expressions of gratitude for the undeniable skill of these artists. These renowned artists gradually formed the Recherche group, now joined by 11 additional artists, which represents unique and rare forms of art. Webster is an advocate for the connectedness which these works create as they are an expression of a raw and exposed form of creativity that is appealing to all people regardless of skin color. The pieces symbolize the struggle for acceptance which binds us together as we strive to spread awareness of others interpretations of unique experiences. They are intended to represent the freedom of creativity and the idea that art is defined by the abilities of the artist and not by the color of their skin. The works define the struggle African-Americans faced as they fought to reshape their identities through forms of art which embrace open-mindedness and convey movement behind meaningful expressions of beauty. The group has proved to be extraordinarily successful as the Philadelphia Community expanded its realm of creativity by allowing these artists to have a voice expressed in the depth of their creations. An artists panel will take place on Wednesday, February 1st from 3-4:30 PM in room 257 of Grupp Hall in which three of the artists, James Brantley, Donald E. Camp and Syd Carpenter will discuss their works and answer questions. A gallery reception will follow from 5-7 PM in the Hicks Art



BOTH PHOTOS FROM THE EXHIBIT

Photo Credit: Ali Gish

Center Gallery which will feature a curator talk by Webster-Brantley. At the artists panel, Syd Carpenter, Donald Camp, and James Brantley discussed their artwork and their individual experiences with the Recherche group. Donald Camp, who is a photographer, uses earth and casein to create headshots which resemble the torn and rugged feel of blues and jazz. Interested in newspapers since he was a young boy, Camp intended to expose the face of the African-American male during a time when so many were convinced that African-American men were becoming extinct. Camp quotes

“my work always intended to make a global community”, a statement which represents his desire to convey acceptance. Another African-American male artist, James Brantley, takes a different approach in his artwork as he uses acrylic paint to create what he refers to as “conceptual landscapes” which centers around the sky and the emptiness of urban life. Brantley stresses the importance of valuing collections and documentation over money, expressing that “money is like the frosting, I like the cake.” Much like Camp, Brantley refers to “universality” as the glue that holds the world together.

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Beyond Bucks

Donald Trump’s First 18 Days in Office

After being sworn into office here are the bullet points of what Trump has done so far in his first 18 days in office...

- “Withdrawed the United States from the Trans Pacific Partnership, a 12-nation trade deal he had heavily criticized as a candidate as not protecting American

- workers enough.”
- Greenlit beginning construction on a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico.
- Reinstated “Mexico City policy,” which bars federal money from going to foreign nonprofits which promote or perform abortions.
- “Ordered a freeze on federal hiring other than for military, public safety and public health jobs.”
- Reversed a planned cut on mortgage insurance for many first-time homebuyers.
- Ordered executive branch agencies to start the

- process of repealing the Affordable Care Act
- Moved forward on the Dakota Access and Keystone XL oil pipelines.
- Ended the “catch and release” policy that allowed some immigrants to be released from detention while they await a hearing with an immigration judge.
- “Ended federal funding to sanctuary cities and states, which opt out of reporting undocumented immigrants.”
- Kept FBI Director James Comey, (The FBI Director that handled Hillary Clin-

- ton’s private email server)
- Spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by phone, signaling that a promise to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem won’t be fulfilled immediately.”
- “Visited the CIA to mend fences after weeks of acrimony, and faced criticism after he talked about the media reporting on the size of his inauguration crowds.”
- Enacted an executive order that Trump calls, “Extreme Vetting” but also known as a “Muslim Ban” bars citizens of seven

Muslim-majority countries from entering the US for a period of 90 days. It also suspends the United States’ refugee system for a period of 120 days.

- Instated Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education and Darren Woods (CEO of Exxon) as Secretary of State.

*CNN News, The Telegraph and Time Magazine were quoted in these bullet points.

Two Women Tell a Tale of Two Cities with One Purpose



SHANNON HARRAR
Centurion Staff

Same city, different crowds. Just 24 hours after the inauguration of the United States 45 president, some of the largest demonstrations of the decade, perhaps even the century, were held nationwide. From Los Angeles to New York, and even across the pond to London, men and women came out to show their colors and march. At the epicenter of it all was our nation’s capital, Washington D.C. An estimated half a million people gathered Jan 21 for what became known as the Women’s March on Washington. I was there, I marched, and I became a part of history. “Let’s just follow the pink hats,” my friend Lauren said as we piled onto the metro. It was 6 am and me and my two best friends, Alyssa and Lauren were headed into D.C.

Apparently we didn’t get the “pussy hat” memo, because just about every person on the train was donning a variant of the now notorious design. From baby pink to bright fuchsia, men and women on the train sported their pussy hats proudly as they chattered excitedly.

A short metro ride dropped us off in D.C. from which a short walk took us right to the heart of the national mall

The Capitol stood before us in the distance, the Washington Monument behind us, one third shrouded by the morning’s fog. Despite waking up at the ungodly hour of 4:30 am, I’d never felt more wired. The day had yet to really begin but it seemed that everyone we saw already knew how big of a day this would turn out to be. Quite literally history in

the making. The march events weren’t set to start for a few more hours, so we parked ourselves on a bench halfway between the Capitol and the Washington Monument and settled in for some intense people watching.

The stream of pussy hats was endless, every one of them slightly different from the next.

Then came the signs. This is where the real purpose of the march really became clear to me.

This demonstration was not fueled by angry bra-burning feminists in hopes to impeach the newly sworn in president. Far from that actually. This was an opportunity for people of all walks of life to come together and march for what they believed in. “Respetar mi existencia o espera resistencia” one sign read. Respect my existence or expect resistance. Groups marched for the rights of immigrants, something that, as we now have seen, have been stripped away.

“Get your filthy laws off my silky drawers,” read one sign decorated with white and pink paint. Women wielded signs to protest against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act, something Trump has already made moves to eliminate.

Men and women marching with little ones held signs expressing concerns about the world their sons and daughters are being forced to grow up in. “History has its eyes on you,” read many signs we encountered throughout the day.

“We the resilient have been here before,” another sign read, picturing a Native American woman with a raised fist. Environmental activists found their place, protesting against the recent controversy over the Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipeline. Trump has since fast tracked construction on both pipelines.

This day in history will not be remembered as an angry hate-fueled protest like ones from years past. This was a day of coming together and putting on a display of strength and unity for the world, and more specifically, Donald Trump, to see.



LAUREN SAVANA
Centurion Staff

It was the 21st. I woke up in my bed in South Philly with tears in my eyes. Was this all just one big nightmare? As I open up Facebook, I confirm that it’s not. This is real life. Donald Trump is the President of the U.S. All I kept thinking was, “he’s not my President.” As I dragged my body out of bed on the one day I could sleep in, I threw on whatever clothes were on the ground and made my way to the living room where my sister and her boyfriend were. As my sister made the coffee, we talked about the plan for the day. Initially I wanted to go to D.C but found myself deciding to stay in Philadelphia so I could be with my mother and sister, because if this day was about anything, it was about uniting with the ones we love.

I live on 13th and Passyunk and as soon as we walked out the door, I could feel the air was different. It wasn’t something I could explain, but something hung heavy. The three of us walked to the subway, seeing others walking

in the same direction holding cardboard signs and crocheted pussycat hats.

We waited for the subway for about five minutes and in those five minutes I saw a collection of people all uniquely different (as it usually is in the city of Philadelphia) but all sharing a similar purpose. A black woman next to us with her child strapped in her Baby Bjorn was holding a sign by her feet, I caught a glimpse, “I can’t believe I’m still protesting this sh*t!” I laughed. I overheard so much distress but for the first time since this man won the election, I heard excitement. People were coming together peacefully and fighting for something that we all felt was worthwhile. It was the first time I was ever in a subway car and felt like I shared something in common with every single person riding with me.

We got off at City Hall and made are way upstairs to the LOVE sign, where we thought the meeting point was. No one was there. We thought we missed it. My sister called her friend that had been there since 9 A.M. she said they were down the Ben Franklin Parkway, blocking the entire street all the way up to the Art Museum. The closer we got to the Parkway, the more I could feel the energy changing, that calm before the storm, that moment before a rainstorm hits.

We turned the corner, I stopped in my tracks, seeing a sea of bobbing heads with pink hats. It was unlike anything I’ve ever witnessed. A man struts past us in a fake Russian military uniform,

holding an inflatable Trump doll with a sign reading, “Trump is my B*tch.” People were asking him to stop so they could photograph him. I laughed which is something I didn’t except, I anticipated this whole event to be very serious. Of course we were protesting something bleak, we were standing up against a man that is determined to take away our basic human rights away, but despite that, this massive group of people all had a sense of humor. We shared light hearted spirits. We all saw this as a tragic comedy, but we knew something had to be done. Someone had to get up and say something.

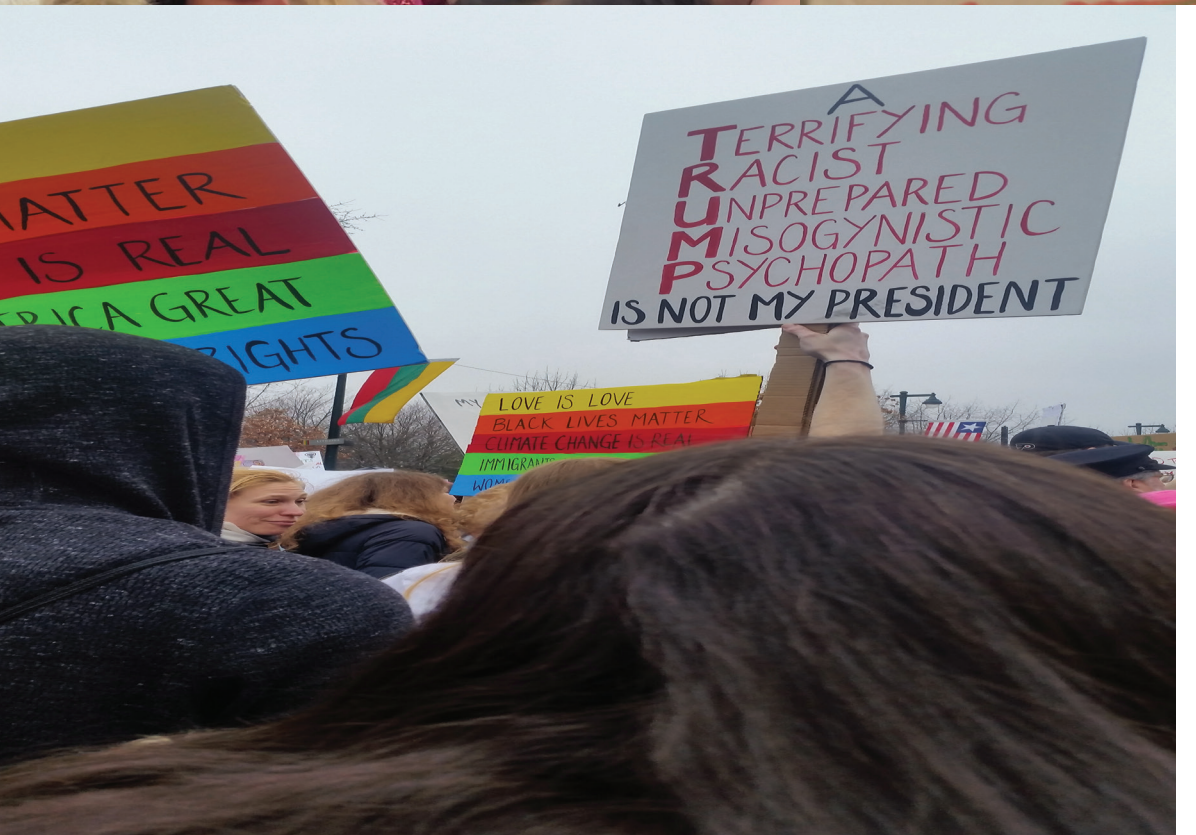
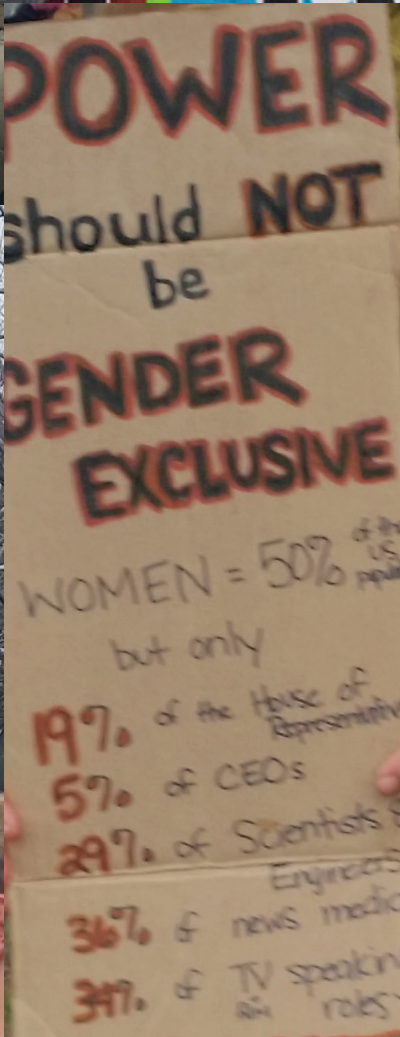
We inched closer to the Philadelphia Art Museum, I had to stop every few seconds to snap a photo of the limitless amounts of commendable signs. We chanted and interacted with one another without knowing each other, without knowing each other’s names, or where each of us came from, but we knew one thing; we all have rights and we have a voice when we come together. I knew I was witnessing history. I knew I was participating in something bigger then myself. I knew that this was something that was going to be written about, documented, passed down and told to future generations. I knew it was something I needed to be a part of. It was a historical day having two generations of Savana women fight for a cause that my Mother taught me to believe it, to fight for love.



The Women's March Washington D.C.



Philadelphia

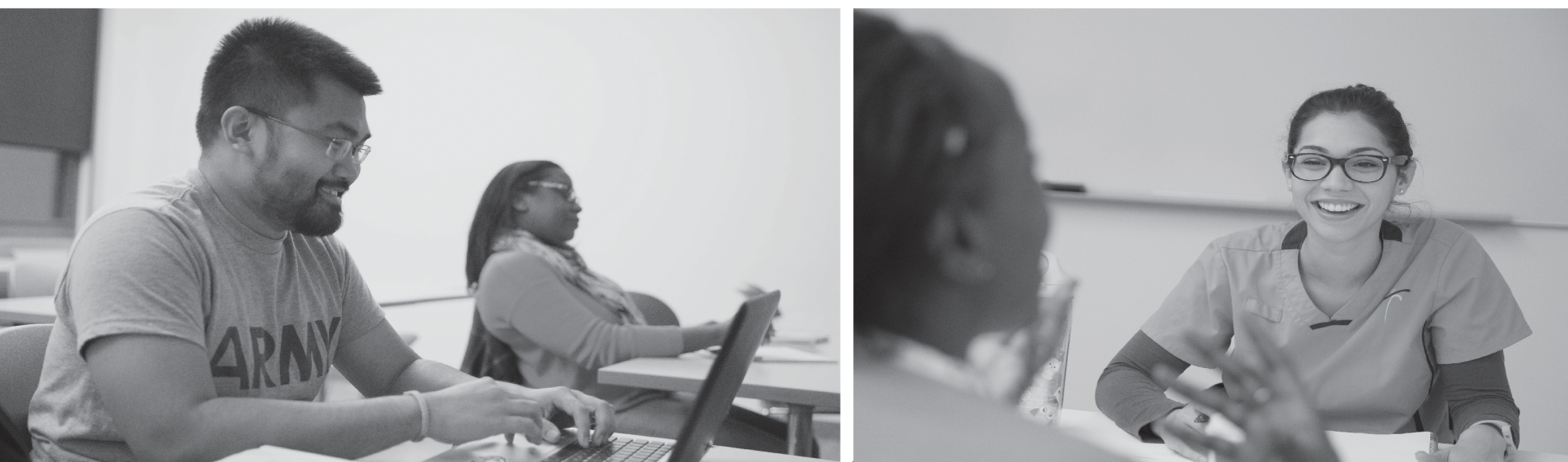


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JENN KOPSIE '14

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Sports

Bucks' Men's Basketball Team Finishes Season

JOE ROATCHE

Centurion Staff

Men's Basketball at Bucks has been a rocky road for players and staff. Over the course of the season, the team has stumbled to a 5-12 record and looking to bounce back in the last seven games to finish 12-12.

Head basketball coach Dominic Farrello when asked about the record said, "We just need to execute and continue playing our game." Coach Farrello continued on to explain that the Centurions are still in every game that they play.

Coach again says, "We have won games where we have scored 40 points but also have lost games where we score 90."

Contributing to the struggle of the Centurions record, another point of emphasis is the free throw game where the Centurions are shooting about 65 percent as well as assists where the team averages around nine per game. When asked about free throws Coach Farrello explained, "I believe that our free throws will even out." Improving on free throw percentage is not as easy as it sounds. Coach says, "All we can do is continue to practice and work on them."

Regarding assists, coach believes that he has two starting guards who can get into the lane at will and dish it to his teammates around the three-point line.

Surprisingly, the three ball has been a bright spot for this Centurions team. During this season, the Centurions are averaging nine three-pointers made per game and shooting them at 40 percent. When asked about the success from long range Coach explained, "We practice the three ball a lot, the three-pointer keeps us in games a lot of times because we're a smaller team with less emphasis on rebounding."

Another place where the Centurions struggle is on the road. Currently, the team holds a 1-7 record on the road with five out of their next seven being on the road.

Coach Farrello explained the added toughness to road games by saying, "Believe it or not, traveling takes a toll." He contin-

ued on to say, "Traveling hurts because of the fact that we are on our feet all day instead of being at home and resting." Coach Farrello explained that even the games that are only an hour away still have an impact on the fatigue of his team.

Getting deeper into the team, many teams at the high school to college level as well as the NBA has a particular brand of basketball that they like to play.

When asked about the brand of basketball that Bucks plays, coach Farrello said, "From game to game it changes, each team is going to create a different challenge." But, however he also stated, "game by game our approach changes but doesn't change the fact that we can compete and win every game."

Even with the challenge of basketball and classes, Coach Farrello and his staff still make an effort to not just create a culture of winning but one of professionalism as well.

When talking about the idea of the responsibility other than basketball, coach said, "We treat the players like they are professionals and this is part of their job." He goes on to say, "Right now, our attendance is up, our GPA's are up, so what we are doing here seems to be working."

Although there are still seven games remaining, there are many takeaways that the Centurions could take and learn from during this season.

When asked about what he learned or took away from the season, Coach Farrello said, "I already kind of knew this, but you need to treat players as an individual and coach them according to their own personality." He goes on to say, "Every guy on this team is important and each have an important role to fill. All in all, I want these guys to have a good experience, because that's what it is really all about."

Bucks Centurions will look to improve on their 5-12 record and finish the season with some wins to put a good taste in the mouth of the coaches and players for next season.



PHOTO CREDIT: JOE ROATCHE

76ers Have Historic Month to Start Off the New Year

SIXERS

JARED SAIAS

Centurion Staff

Over the month of January, the Philadelphia 76ers only lost five games, which is a great achievement considering how bad the 76ers have been in the past few years. The 10 wins in the month of January is the most they have had in over five years in a single month. The progress this team is making in such little time is shocking.

The 76ers had 10 wins in the past 31 days, with the team's comeback win over the Sacramento Kings earlier last week being the most recent.

"It's an exciting time for our team," said Bucks student, Max

Cascerceri, 18, a business major from Doylestown, "the team is finally hitting their stride and winning games."

Over the entirety of last season, the 76ers had just 10 wins. Looking to double the win count before All-Star break seems like a possibility all thanks to the progression of the players under staff.

Joel Embiid, the rookie that this city has embraced with open arms, has been a monster this season, averaging numbers almost nobody has ever seen before.

Although he continues to have a minute restriction, Embiid's impact is significant both offensively and defensively. In just 25.3 minutes per game, he is averaging 19.8 points per game, a per36 number that's only been seen by Wilt Chamberlin as a rookie.

Even when Embiid sits out of a

game, whether it is his sore knees or rest, the young team has been able to hold its own out there. The veteran presence of Jerryd Bayless and Gerald Henderson has been so beneficial to the development of these younger players.

The evolution of TJ McConnell being molded into a real NBA point guard has been an example of that.

The undrafted point guard out of Arizona has started 17 games this season and in the past six games, he has averaged 10.8 assists per game. Players like Nik Stauskas and Nerlens Noel have benefitted from playing extra minutes and because of that, they have also made a tremendous impact on the 76ers.

The real question on everyone's mind at this point in the season

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.ORG

is; can this team make a playoff push?

The answer is yes.

Ever since the start of 2017, the Sixers have looked like a totally different team. They are one of the hottest teams in the NBA right now and are creeping up on the 8th seed in the conference ever so slightly.

The Eastern Conference is weak this year. Nine teams are under .500 out of the 15. This leaves any team in the running for a spot in the post season so don't rule out the fighters in Philly.

Let's not forget the 1st overall pick from this past draft hasn't even suited up for the team yet.

Ben Simmons is a franchise changer with his ability to do what most people can't do at his

size. His court vision and passing ability are of someone 10 inches shorter and that can only be good for the team that lacks guard play.

"I can't wait to see Ben (Simmons) play," Justin Longo, 18, a student at Bucks said, "I went to the NBA draft and the atmosphere around him was electric."

Therefore, add him to the mix with the other young players on the 76ers and the sky is the limit for this team.

The Sixers start February on the road with high hopes and a revved engine looking to continue their hot streak and playoff push. With their new-found ability to finish games and the top 10 defense they possess, there isn't a bar too high for them to get to.