The Centurion



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

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Centurion Staff Cleans Up at the 2018 Keystone Press Awards

NICK LAPALOMBARA Centurion Staff

The Centurion shines as one of the top junior and community college newspapers in the state at the 2018 Student Keystone Press Awards held in Hershey, Pa., nabbing first place in awards like Ongoing News Coverage, Feature Story, and Website just to name a few.

The contributing staff members of the Centurion that won awards this year are: Hal Conte, Jocelyn Pappas, Madison Helsen, Emma Kuliczkowski, Gabby Houck, Tyler Creighton, Brandon Cummings, Mike Vigilante, Elijah Pittman, Nicole Cisneros, and Shannon Harrar.

The awards signify and recognize excellence in the news reporting and writing field, something that bodes well for Bucks and all of the incredible students and faculty involved in making The Centurion a cornerstone for members of the college to be proud of.

It is also a testament to the students whose hard work, passion, and factual style of reporting and writing as staff writers does not go unnoticed and are gratified with something as simple as seeing their work show up in The Centurion for all of Bucks and beyond to see.

The Centurion is a student driven newspaper whose contributors consist of students tnemselves, ranging from all different kinds of backgrounds and demographics that only adds another element to this diverse student body. One of those students in particular is Editor-in-Chief Shannon Harrar, who started off as a staff writer for the Centurion and quickly became the paper's leading woman. Harrar, a journalism major from Churchville, Pa., became editor-in-chief of The Centurion at the start of the fall 2017 semester. She attended and graduated from Loch Raven High School in Baltimore, Md. Harrar was also a staff writer for her high school newspaper titled "The Revelation," where she was first exposed to the design program of the newspaper that resulted in her becoming an editor during her senior year. Now Harrar, 20, has returned home where most of her family and friends reside in efforts to further her growth and experiences as a well rounded editor for a collegiate newspaper.



Pictured above from right to left: Hal Conte, Elijah Pittman, Jocelyn Pappas and Gabby Houck.

"knowing what people want to hear, not fluffing the facts, and taking them for what they are, making sure to get straight to the point, and engaging readers on a level where it is easy for them to get information about what is going on around campus or around the world."

Harrar couldn't take full responsibility for the success of The Centurion without mentioning a couple mentors she's encountered along the way at Bucks, crediting the newspaper's other key contributors like Hal Conte, who won first place for his Feature Story concerning racial and homophobic outbursts at local public schools at this year's Keystone Press Awards.

its award-winning website to be the driving force that has also bolstered the paper's impressive reputation. It is a crucial aspect to The Centurion's success.

Despite all of the incredible accolades The Centurion has

received in years past, Harrar mentioned that there is one that stand out from

excuses as to why she wasn't capable of doing great things through intense determination and drive. With a smile on her face, Harrar wholeheartedly reiterates, "It is a constant reminder of how special this newspaper

is. When you immerse yourself in the position, you really get to see the potential in what you can become."



When asked what makes for good news reporting and writing, she responded simply by saying

Harrar referred to Conte as her "right hand man" and said she wouldn't be where she is today if it weren't for his incredible contributions.

Another individual she paid homage to is Professor Tony Rogers, who oversees the whole operation behind the scenes and serves as a knowledgeable mentor to teaching the framework of journalism.

Harrar went on to mention that she believed the overwhelming success of The Centurion is owed to the leadership of Professor Rogers. "He stays on top of students," said Harrar, to report at the highest level comparable to big name newspaper firms like the Courier Times.

As far as resources The Centurion has to offer, Harrar touched on the importance of the rest: her award-winning personality profile showcasing the fascinating life and career of Buck's verv own Professor and poet Ethel Rackin. Harrar went on to speak about how this award was so near and dear to her heart, explaining how she wasn't expecting to win because of all the other great writers around the state. Not only that, but how much this means to her family.

This symbolized the perseverance Shannon had endured her entire life, overcoming obstacles without ever making



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STAFF

Centurion

Editor-in-Chief Shannon Harrar

Managing Editor Hal Conte

Advisor Tony Rogers

Letters to the editor:

Email your letters to : Centurion@bucks.edu.

Letters should be limited to 500 words. They will be edited for spelling, space and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer's full name and telephone number.

HAL CONTE

Centurion Staff

Over 2 million people protested against gun violence and mass shootings across America in the second largest demonstration in the country's history, with many Bucks students as well as young people from local school districts attending protests in Washington DC, Doylestown, Philadelphia, and New York City.

Young people were in the vanguard of organizing the event, with many survivors of the Parkland and other school shootings rallying large crowds to place restrictions on assault weapons and stress non-violence. Every single speaker of the Washington, DC event was of high school age or younger.

Many Baby Boomers, including politicians like John Kerry, a member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, said that the marches reminded them of the protest movement against the Vietnam War in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Along with the feminist protests against sexual harassment and international

Bucks News "March For Our Lives" Protests Draw Huge Attendance From Students in Bucks County and Across America



strikes in recent months, students and young people appear to be harkening back to a period of similar social tension 50 years ago.

While a few Republican politicians and online conservative commentators denounced the protest as a "March of Lies," the protest received broad support from media organizations, businesses, and the general population.

A Gallup poll published on March 15 showed 92 percent in favor of universal background checks for gun owners, 68 percent in favor of raising the age of gun ownership from 18 to 21, and 56 percent in favor of a ban on semi-automatic weapons.

In this respect, the movement is significantly different with the anti-war activism of the 1960s. A November 1969 poll saw just 25 percent opposing the Nixon war policy. Among college students, however, that number was around 44 percent.

What is clear, however, is that this year's movements for social justice have inspired many Bucks students, many of whom attended the protests seen in these photos.











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JENN KOPSIE '14



5

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Bucks News

Bucks' Annual Journalism Forums Are Right Around the Corner



From left to right: Mike Sielski Annmarie Ely, Tim Carroll, and Charlotte Reese

BRIDGET NEIROTTI Centurion Staff

For those looking to pursue a career in or have a general interest in journalism, there will be three journalism forums held on the morning of Tuesday, April 17, in Rollins 127.

The first forum will begin at 8 a.m., the second at 9:30 a.m., and the third at 11 a.m. Each forum is roughly an hour and 15 minutes long. Within this time, various professional reporters and editors will share their experiences before holding an open floor for questions.

The third forum will have a more specified focus on digital video and online news, while the first two forums will be more general. All Bucks students are welcome to attend any of these forums, which not limited to journalism majors.

"We have some great speakers this year, including some former journalism students from Bucks who now have great careers working in journalism and related fields," said Bucks journalism professor Tony Rogers.

Some of the speakers this year include Mike Sielski, Charlotte Reese, Tim Carroll, Annmarie Ely, Richard Conte, and Scott Bomboy. More speakers were being added at press time.

Sielski is a sports columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer and has been a sports columnist for various organizations since 2013. He

has previously worked with The Wall Street Journal and was voted the top sports columnist in the country by The Associated Press Sports Editors in 2015.

Reese is a former Bucks and Temple University student who is now news director for WBCB 1490 AM radio, for which she has created a show called Millennial Takeover. She also works with the Sports Fan Base Network's TV show Varsity Voice. Between these two, Reese has extensive experience with radio and video stream sideline reporting.

Once a former Bucks student, Carroll has gone from being the former editor-in-chief of this newspaper to the communications director for the New Jersey Department of State.

Elv is the media relations and publications coordinator for Delaware Valley University. Since her time at Bucks, Ely has also become the managing editor of the Delaware Valley College alumni magazine. She has also served as a freelance writer and used to intern with The Intelligencer in Doylestown.

While responsible for hiring and training staff to index news stories for customer retrieval, Conte is also an editor for Dow Jones Newswires. He has previously worked for news publications in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and has a master's degree in journalism from Temple University.

Bomboy is currently the editor-in-chief for the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia,

and he previously worked for companies such as Fox 29 news, NBC10.com, and CNBC. He holds a master's degree in history from Arizona State University.

All speakers in these forums are well versed in their fields and offer interesting perspectives on what it's like to work in the news industry in the age of high speed information.

The Bucks journalism forum has been held every year for almost 20 years. "It's a really great way for our students to get a sense of what a career in journalism is really like, how to break into the news business, and so on," Rogers said with pride.

More information on the forums can be found at www.bucks.edu/ journalism.



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Bucks News Comfort Dogs on Campus a Success!

Byron Guzman

Centurion Staff

Bucks collaborated with Nor'Wester Therapy Dogs and hosted the first ever Comfort Dogs on Campus event. The event was held on March 6 and 8 in the Student Services Center, located in the lower level of the Rollins Center.

In this event, a group of handlers came and brought their dogs so that students could relax and relieve stress before midterm exams. Students could pet dogs, take pictures of them, and enjoy a friendly conversation with the handlers as they played with the dogs.

The event seemed to be a great success, as there was a great turnout of students coming to meet the dogs. Even students that seemed unsure of this event, or were afraid of dogs in general, turned out to enjoy the event, as the handlers did a great job with training the well-behaved dogs.

During the event, students could meet the two founders of the Nor'Wester Therapy Dogs organization: Wendi Huttner and Deborah Glessner. Glessner is a retired librarian from Council Rock as well as a district library-media coordinator, and Huttner is a Labrador Retriever breeder. The two have known each other for a long time and became friends through a shared interest in horses.

The organization was founded when Huttner expressed her interest in dog programs and Glessner took interest in Huttner's idea. For 11 years, the two have kept the organization alive with the aid of 55 volunteer therapy dog teams



From left to right: Wendi Huttner and Deborah Glessnerand have since then helped many
children in six school districtsexpressed her g
her co-founder.from elementary to high school,
and now, college.wery hard," she
"she really dese

When meeting Deborah Glessner, she introduced her dog, Heidi, a pup who, according to Glessner, "can't hold her licker," seeing as how Heidi was so very friendly, that she would lick people quite generously. Fortunately, Glessner, anticipating this situation, came prepared with some wet wipes.

Glessner was happy to talk about herself and the organization, even revealing that she had learned to read lips due to being born deaf, and that she had trained her dog herself.

When talking about the program, Glessner was very happy to be a part of the organization and expressed her gratitude towards her co-founder. "Wendi works very hard," she happily praised, "she really deserves all the credit."

With that in mind, the interview then veered towards Huttner, who introduced herself and her dog, Bode, a yellow lab.

When talking about her organization, she showed her love for dogs and how helpful they are for children. "Dogs are non-judgmental and they help open up students for learning. We've seen many breakthroughs because of these dogs." She also stated that on top of visiting schools, they have also attended candlelight vigils. She then expressed her passion toward the organization, saying that she was very serious about it. One way she expresses her seriousness is her priority for safety. "Safety is our number 1 concern," she said, "when we bring our dogs to the schools, we always ask parents if it is ok to bring our dogs near their children and we always check for any kids who might have allergies."

A great example of this was shown when one student was very nervous around her dog Bode. Huttner slowly eased the student into comfort by showing how well-behaved she was, obeying her commands to sit and stay and also comforted the student by having a nice conversation with her and her friends.

On top of Huttner's seriousness, she also talked about "keeping the quality of the organization," and also about the biggest problem her organization faces. "We hope to continue to grow," she said, "but our biggest problem right now, is finding more volunteers and therapy dogs." She welcomes anyone who is willing to help volunteer and share their love for not only dogs, but helping people and interacting with others.

If anyone is interested in learning more about how to volunteer, visit the organization's website at norwesterreaders.org, where you can also learn more about the organization itself. But if you are more interested in meeting other people's dogs then don't worry, because they're scheduled to visit again during finals week in early May. If the event was a hit during midterms, then it will be an even bigger hit come finals week.



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Bucks News Faith Not Just for a Season: An Exclusive Interview With Eagles Wide Receiver Marcus Johnson

JULIA PACIFICO Centurion Staff

As Super Bowl LII approached, the city of Philadelphia buzzed with anticipation. This was the game that had been the ambition of the entire season, holding the chance to bring home the Vince Lombardi trophy for the first time in Philadelphia Eagle history. And for 23 year-old Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Marcus Johnson, there was only one way to describe the success - "a blessing."

If you're not careful, the opportunities Marcus has received throughout his life can easily appear as mere coincidences, or even good luck, but Marcus counts all of the opportunities he has been given as doors opened only by God.

"It's hard to put into words. It feels so surreal, because my whole life, my family would have a big Super Bowl party, everybody got together to watch the game, and now my team is playing in it," he marveled.

The Philadelphia Eagles finished the regular season with a 13-3 record. Later the team secured playoff wins against the Atlanta Falcons and Minnesota Vikings - sending them straight to the Super Bowl to face the Patriots.

Born and raised in Texas, football runs in Marcus's blood. His passion for the game started at the ripe age of six, continuing all the way through high school and college, to his dream of playing in the NFL.

He was a part of the very first varsity football team at Clear Springs High School, in his hometown of League City, Texas, and then went on to play as a Longhorn at the University of Texas.

Growing up in the late 90's, spending the days adventuring around the neighborhood on his bike together with his friends, Marcus knew he was destined to be a Texas Longhorn.

"Crazy story - It was the year that Texas played USC in one of the greatest national championships ever played," he remembered. "Me and my mom happened to be cleaning my room. In the middle of cleaning, the game was on and we just stopped everything, sat down and watched the entire game. And I remember I told my mom, 'that's where I want to go.'"

Marcus's childhood dream came to fruition, though the road was not smooth sailing.

He faced many challenges with injuries and stats in his junior and senior year at the University of Texas, that caused him to doubt his future as an NFL prospect.

Nevertheless, in spite of all the challenges in his college career, Marcus got the opportunity to try out for the Philadelphia Eagles in 2016. But unfortunately, after making the practice team, he got hurt during training camp of his rookie year, resulting in him being cut from the Eagles.

When Marcus got cut, he traveled from city to city practicing



with different teams, until finally after 2 months - he was offered a spot on an NFL team.

However, as soon as the Eagles got word that Marcus was offered a position on another team, they instantly wanted him back.

Marcus went from having no home in the NFL to two teams that desperately wanted him.

Without hesitation, Marcus accepted the offer from the Eagles.

And went on to contribute 5 pass receptions, for 45 yards in the 2017 season.

"It's amazing how God works and the doors he opens for you," he said looking back, "From the day that I signed that contract - my commitment and intentionality with God and football, along with the good group of teammates in my corner, all have worked together to strengthen my faith."

Although he grew up in a Christian family, Marcus didn't have a personal faith of his own until he was signed to the Eagles in 2016.

Jordan Matthews, a former Philadelphia Eagle, now a Buffalo Bill, shared a quote with Marcus when he first got signed to the Eagles that was influential in stirring Marcus's faith in Jesus.

The quote reads "maybe our journey isn't so much about becoming anything, maybe it is about unbecoming everything that isn't you, so that you can be who you were meant to be in the first

place."

With Matthews also being a receiver, he was one of the guys that Marcus spent time with the most outside of football.

"He was a really genuine person, he wasn't one of those guys who acted like he was too busy to ever talk to you, he was always there. And that quote that he told me was really something that changed my life," he said in admiration.

It took Matthews and his quote for Marcus to start being more conscious of his words, actions, and way of life.

"This is something I have caught myself doing as I've **Continued on Page 7**



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Bucks News Why You Should Do the Disney College Program

SHAUN GRACE Centurion Staff

Sometimes the hustle and bustle at Bucks can get really repetitive. The same campus, the same people etc. If you're feeling stuck, then the Disney College Program could be right for you, I know it was for me.

What is the Disney College Program? It is an internship that can last anywhere from four months to a year. During this internship you are placed into company sponsored housing. Roles can vary from custodial, to attractions, to working in entertainment.

You can apply for the Disney College Program by checking disneycareers.com. If you would like



Continued from Page 6

grown in my faith," he explained, "checking myself and making little changes on a consistent basis."

Watching how other players like Trey Burton, Carson Wentz, and Zach Ertz were living their life, had a lasting effect on him.

Marcus was baptized in October of 2017, in a hotel pool in Charlotte, North Carolina, surrounded by teammates and coaches.

It was then that he made the decision to commit everything he had in himself to the Christian faith.

"To be honest I wanted to get baptized for a long time," he acknowledged. "I just think that getting baptized is declaring 'Lord I'm committed to you, and not only am I committed, but I'm going to be detailed in my life so



that any ignorance I may have is gone and so that I can live a life that will please you.'"

There is a core group of guys in the Eagles locker room who are strong in their faith.

These players are some of the most talented athletes in the world, and rather than being consumed by an ego or isolated in the presence of rookies and other new teammates, they welcome everyone with open arms.

They are genuinely humble and dedicated to holding themselves accountable to everything they say and do.

And Marcus added, "Not only do they hold themselves accountable but they hold you accountable, like 'Hey man, we had bible study and you weren't there,' or 'Hey, we had church on Sunday and we didn't see you.' It's just little things like that which keep you on the right path."

Although many consider the NFL a glamorous and enticing

way of life, which it definitely can be, it also comes with its fair share of uncertainty.

Injury, opportunity, and recognition are factors that can be a heavy burden to bear.

Marcus added, "I constantly remind myself 'God has something no man can take, he strengthens me and brings me peace'."

This only being Marcus's second year in the NFL, and first year on the NFL roster, he gives the credit for his amazing opportunities to no one other than God.

On March 7, 2018, he was traded to the Seattle Seahawks, along with a 5th round draft pick, in exchange for defensive end Michael Bennett, as well as a 7th round draft pick.

And with absolute confidence Marcus said, "It's Gods plan. And I'm so comfortable with what he has for me. Because of him all is possible and that's a beautiful thing." to audition for a performing role you must attend one of the auditions posted on disneyaudtions. com. Following you application (depending on whether or not you move forward), there will be a web based interview. After that you will have a phone interview with a recruiter. It may sound like a lot but it's really not that scary.

From January of 2016 till 2017, I did my college program in the entertainment department. The best part about it? I was able to take my classes online while I did it. So that means in between doing parades and shows at Magic Kingdom, I was working towards my degree. Disney also offers unique classes that could potentially count towards college credit. Students doing the Disney College Program during the semester at Bucks may be more common that you think. Morgan Cox, 22, a 2016 graduate of Bucks did a college program in merchandise in spring of 2015. "It helped me by allowing me to meet people from all over the world and be in scenarios that were new to me," she stated. Although Morgan opted out of taking classes during her program, she claimed "the memories and experiences outweigh not graduating on time".

Centurion

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Marcus getting baptized in October 2017 in a Charlotte, NC hotel pool



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Sports Women's Basketball Team Finishes Season **Feeling Disappointed With Results, But Hopeful**

KEVIN KAUCHER Centurion Staff

The Bucks women's basketball team ultimately finished the season with a 2-17 record as the season came to an end but the team worked very hard to become

throughout the year. They won one of their first games against Luzerne County Community College, 26-23 which was a really good victory for them as they had lost to them twice last year and it was a great way to start the season but it unfortunately just didn't finish as they would have liked.

better, improve and grow together

Macy Moors, the team's leading scorer with 11.3 ppg and a team leading total 192 points said, "I knew it was going to be a tough season overall but I wanted to wins a few games and I also had a few personal goals for myself."

"My past two seasons here for the program definitely built a lot of character and humbled me as a student-athlete. As for someone who is extremely competitive, I learned it is truly not all about winning" said Moors.

"I thought we definitely could have won a few more games. We would have won a few more games but a lot of teams in our conference such as Harrisburg dropped to club and Cumberland and Delaware County did not have teams this year".

Even from the beginning Moors knew it was going to be a tough and hard fought season though. Moors said, "we struggled even having enough girls to field a team. Also, most of our girls never even played basketball before so we knew coming into the season it was going to be more about learning and having fun."

"I'd like to make notice, despite our overall record, the girls came out everyday and worked hard and never gave up. I think that's a big moral victory as we had a very tough season. A lot of teams in our conference folded or had forfeit games because they did not have enough players, whereas we would travel with just five girls." She says that her best skills as a player are her scoring and all of the passion and aggression that she plays with which helped her out a lot in many of the games this season because they were games that you had to fight for and earn. Community College of Philadelphia winded being a couple of their toughest and hardest fought games all year. The team fell to them the first time 49-46 in a neck

and neck game but the second go around went to the Bucks team in overtime by a score of 47-42. Moors said that game was "very competitive, aggressive and passionate. Both teams really wanted the win"

Macy Moors career high was reached in that overtime victory with 31 points. Her season high last year was 22. And another set goal for her was reaching 400 points in just two seasons, which she says was difficult considering the situation but she winded up reachin that as well so those were definitely two great accomplishments for her this season.

Other games that gave the Bucks team a tough time this season was "playing Northampton, Camden and other schools with long-built basketball programs because they are always tough to compete with" said Moors.

"Both Coach Surovec and Coach Bright were humorous, hard-working and taught us to never give up" said Moors.

She added that both coaches were very humble, supportive and passionate and even though the season was not easy and was frustrating at times, they never gave up on them and taught them to never give up either.

"I give a lot of thanks to both coaches, as they have taught me a lot on and off the court. They developed my skill and invested a lot of time into our team. Basketball is not even my main sport and I received a few offers from colleges to play for when I transfer next year, and I think that says a lot about how well-done their coaching styles are."

Both the men's and women's programs are going to become D2 next year, so recruiting should be more in their favor and they should have a better-skilled team and bench.

Moors said, "I am excited to see where this program takes off. Coach Surovec and Coach Bright are very hard-working, determined and experienced coaches that I believe are really going to build the women's program." "We do not really have a "best player". All the girls contributed different skills to our team and worked very hard" Even though the season might have not went as expected, the team fought hard, played to the best of their ability and had fun this year. It will most certainly be exciting to see how the program grows altogether and best of luck in the future to the coaches and players.



Bucks Men's Basketball Team Defeated 80-93 in Playoffs

KEVIN KAUCHER

Centurion Staff

The Bucks men's basketball team capped off a strong finish to the season with a postseason run, although a battle with Union County College ended their dream season.

Unfortunately for the team they were defeated by Union County College by a score of 80-93 and could not get the job done. That puts an end to a great finish to the season and eliminates the Centurions from the playoffs.

Bucks finished very strong, ending their season winning six of their last eight games, crafting a successful year after all the adversity that hit in the beginning of the season.

ishing off the season as strongly as the team did, they finished at the threshold of what he was aiming for.

Before the season started, Farrello was expecting to make the playoffs saying, "I thought with our roster we had a chance to make playoffs."

A key this season as Farrello states, is the ability for the team to balance discipline and fun. That is something that he feels Bucks excels at every year.

Even though it is only his second season coaching, Farrello feels he has won the players over with this style of coaching. Farrello believes it brings a winning mentality, but also keeps it fun at who was the key driving force of the team throughout the whole year.

Farrello said they he expected Slewion to step up and be a key part to this team and he delivered, just that like coach thought he would.

Slewion averaged a spectacular 22 points per game, five rebounds, and four assists per game.

Passaic, Mercer, Northampton, CCP, and Camden winded up being some of the hardest fought games for this Bucks men's team this year.

The toughest game this season was against CCP, which was a score of 100-76.

Farrello talked about the game by saying, "We got outplayed from the jump." He added, "They were a much better team from start to finish." The Centurions game against Del Tech Stanton had a rough start, down 23 at half. But, ultimately the team fought hard and came back to win the game by three, in what was arguably their best win of the season. Farrello remained unsure with what he expects the team to be like for next season. The Centurions are moving up to a higher division, but are also expecting to have more experience as a roster.

Centurion

The Centurions winded up finishing with a 12-12 overall record.

The team started off with a 2-7 record that winded up being a solid finish, the team began rolling with a three game win streak heading into the winter break.

"It started off not as planned, I thought we would be better early on." Head Coach Dominic Farrello said. "But we exceeded expectations in the second half of the season."

Farrello was expecting to finish .500 or better this season, by finthe same time.

Farrello feels he has applied all of these skills by saying, "By keeping practice, games, travel, and team functions enjoyable and educational for players." He added, "We make sure to get as good at basketball as possible within the allotted time frame, but we make sure it is enjoyable all season."

Of course this all could not have been done by just the coach, the players are just as important and probably the biggest part to this team.

Farrello describes the best player on the team, Somah Slewion,

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