

# WORLD CHAMPIONS

**NICK LAPALOMBARA**  
*Centurion Staff*

EAGLES WIN, EAGLES WIN!  
For the first time in franchise history, the Philadelphia Eagles defeated Tom Brady and the New England Patriots by a score of 41-33 in an electrifying Super Bowl 52 victory played at U.S. Bank stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Eagles quarterback Nick Foles reigned as Super Bowl MVP throwing for 373 yards, three touchdowns, and becoming the first quarterback in Super Bowl history to have a receiving touchdown coming from a gutsy trick play called the “Philly Special” by head coach, Doug Pedersen on 4th and 2 in New England territory to close out the first half.

Coach Pedersen reiterated that it was a play they worked on for a few weeks leading up to Super Bowl 52, and that they would use it when the right time came, which just so happened to be in the biggest game of their lives.

Just before the magical trick play orchestrated by the Eagles, it was the Patriots who first ran almost the exact same play by pitching the ball back to wide receiver Danny Amendola and



*Eagles quarterback Nick Foles, one of Sunday’s game’s MVPs.*

flanking quarterback Tom Brady to the sidelines with zero defenders around him only to see a perfectly spiraled ball deflect off of his fingertips, resulting in a key opportunity missed for the Patriots to take advantage.

After the Eagles jumped out to an early 15-3 lead after scores by

wide receiver Alshon Jeffery and running back LeGarrett Blount, Tom Brady led the charge for the Patriots at the beginning of the second half, marching right down field and hitting tight end Rob Gronkowski for a five yard touchdown pass, cutting the Eagles lead to 22-19.

In a matter of minutes, the Eagles watched as their 12 point lead was erased by the Patriots as they took over for the first time in the game 33-32. The Eagles knew they had to step, and they did just that on what may go down as one of the most crucial, incredible, liberating drives in Eagles history.

On the ensuing possession after the Patriots scored to take the lead, it was Nick Foles who led his team down the Patriots side of the field with unaltered poise and swagger, slinging it to reliable receivers and pounding the run game. The Eagles, faced with

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*The Vince Lombardi trophy.*

# Newtown Campus Zlock First Amendment Forum Considering Arming Raises Questions Over Protests Security Guards

**DANNY SANDS**  
*Centurion Staff*

Bucks officials are considering the use of arms by security guards on the Newtown campus, in response to the growing number of mass shooting incidents on campuses nationwide.

On Jan. 26, head of Bucks’ Security, Dennis McCauley, and President Stephanie Shanblatt, held a joint seminar discussing the proposition of arming three of the security guards at the Newtown campus.

McCauley proposed a minimal approach to arming few people, with McCauley himself being armed.

The potential three administrative security guards on campus to be armed will go through extensive training both physically and mentally after Bucks adopts Act 235, a Pennsylvania state law that requires professional training and certification by the state police.

McCauley, a former police officer, explained it in terms of taking whatever actions in order to lower the severity of outcome in case of an emergency. McCauley stated, “It has to be done very professionally.”

President Shanblatt recited that safety of students and staff on campus is paramount, adding, “It will be a very structured process, with a lot of certification.”

When asked when this proposition may go into place, Shanblatt said, “The very earliest would be fall semester.”

When talking about the arming of select guards Shanblatt said, “It is not about the proliferation of arms on campus.” She added, “This is about trying to mitigate a serious event from happening.”

The discussion of arming guards at Bucks started to gain traction after the Virginia Tech tragedy in 2007, where 32 students were killed by a sole gunman.

Recent incidents such as the Marshall County High School shooting that left two dead and 16 others injured have further prompted the discussion.

Some students and staff at Bucks offered their opinion on the matter, with an overall positive response to arming the security guards.

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**JOHN FEY**  
*Centurion Staff*

A little cold didn’t stop Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, president of Bucks County Community College, and Bucks lawyer Jeffrey P. Garton from hosting an event on free speech in the Zlock Performing Arts Center on the Newtown campus on Thursday, Feb. 1.

The talk comes in the wake of multiple visits to the college by Pastor Aden (who Shanblatt did not refer to by name), the infamous preacher that lets everyone in earshot know that, according to him and his congregation, they are probably going to Hell. His appearances on campuses have sparked outrage amongst students and faculty alike who take offense to



his call to repent for the alleged sin of a multitude of things like being a “gamer” or a “fornicator,” to being Catholic or Muslim.

His speeches are often mingled with harassment of students passing by, as he creates distractions from classes as he purposefully sets himself up in front of Grupp Hall, basically the middle of the campus, where most students have to walk through to go to class.

Thursday’s event focused primarily on Pastor Aden and the questions students and staff have about his presence on campus. The main question: why is the school permitting him on campus?

*Get to know more about the Bucks*


County and Pennsylvania Bar Associations, wanted the audience to know that he and Shanblatt were not there to lecture those present, but to educate everyone on the importance of the First Amendment and how it protects all speech, included the hate speech of “the unintended visitor,” as Garton referred to him.

“Just because speech is not popular doesn’t mean it is not protected,” he continued. Garton expounded on this, informing all present of the logistics of the freedom of speech that Aden and the students have. He also reminded the audience of the fact that the First Amendment and freedom of speech are very American things; most countries don’t have laws protecting speech like America does.


Pastor Aden poses a special issue to campus because his speech is so volatile and hateful that it has almost caused physical confrontations with Aden and students. Aden has shown up unannounced in the past, which gives security little to no time to prep for him, like setting up a barricade for his and students’ safety. Also, Aden doesn’t want to move to different parts of campus, preferring to set up in front of Grupp Hall. “That’s the challenge we’ve had,” said Shanblatt. He doesn’t want to play by the minimal rules

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The Right To Free Speech Protects Our Rights, Too

Bucks News

First Amendment Event

HAL CONTE  
Centurion Staff

Like many of my fellow students, I am appalled by the behavior and presence of Pastor Aden on campus. I have witnessed nearly all of his visits, and they only seem to escalate in vulgarity, inappropriateness and dangerousness. Most of us, I think, believe that his views are not legitimate and serve no useful academic purpose, in a community devoted to in inquiry and critical thought.

Yet, in a way, his right to speak on campus is what defends our own abilities to, as the constitution of Pennsylvania says, “freely speak, write and print on any subject.” This is, as the constitution says, “one of the inherent rights of mankind.”

Talk of universal rights that protect even the most vulgar hate speech may appear like an 18th century relic to many students here. In an era where racism, sexism, intersectional inequality, homophobia, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia are quite rightly recognized as serious threats to civilized values, some say that exceptions should be made to free speech in order to protect people from offence and harm.

Yet freedom of speech, thought and the press have been considered essential tools by progressives and forward-thinking people of all ages. Why? Simply put: those in power would be the ones to decide how hate speech, banned speech, or fake news, would be interpreted. As public power resides with elected officials, a Republican Congress could, if hate speech were enshrined as an exception to free speech, consider honest

discussion of racism and privilege to be “racist” towards whites. The Trump administration could suppress what they call “fake news,” in other words, the country’s major publishing organizations like the New York Times and CNN.

For all of its gaping flaws, the US Constitution gives us as students more freedom to speak our mind than our contemporaries in even the most progressive of countries: France’s Emmanuel Macron, for example, has used a well-meaning law against anti-Semitic hate speech to ban student campaigns to boycott Israel.

As John Petito, professor of history at Bucks, regularly says, “the First Amendment cases brought to the Supreme Court aren’t about letting a grandmother put up a bake sale sign, but about the most repugnant of people: Nazis, KKK, and the like. Yet the founders included it because it safeguards all speech.”

There were times in American history where birth control information, socialist magazines, LGBTQIA+ books, anti-slavery and anti-war literature were considered “obscene” and banned by the states or by colleges. About 50 years ago, these restrictions were largely outlawed by a progressive Supreme Court, and all of these formally banned publications can be found on campus. Today, some on the left, right, and center find free speech inconvenient once again.

I believe that the college has taken the correct approach in dealing with Pastor Aden. I personally wish he could disappear and never return to campus. However, my fellow students should understand that silencing him could silence all of us, too.



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the security sets for him. “We do as best we can to manage him,” Garton said.

After they were finished talking, a Q&A took place with all present. Many of the students and staff asked normal questions about the First Amendment and the threat Aden poses on students and others. One student mentioned that he could show up when the school has young visitors from elementary schools present and his language will fall on their ears. “That is the ugly consequence of his speech,” said Garton. One staffer proposed that students sign a petition to have him banned from the school, to which Garton made it clear that it probably won’t work because not everyone will sign such a petition. Another student mentioned that his speech might pose a threat to students

with mental disabilities and those who suffer from PTSD.

While most of the audience understood what was said and that Aden had the right to be on campus, some felt otherwise. One of the first students to ask a question plainly asked why he is allowed to be here after it was just explained. One staffer said “I’m a little frustrated that we are not a little bolder with him,” to which a security team member told the audience that Aden now has to report to the Newtown police before arriving for safety reasons. There was also a baseless allegation that Aden has promoted self-harm and suicide amongst students, which would be going beyond his free speech rights.

During all these questions, Dr. Shanblatt made it clear that, while Pastor Aden is legally allowed to speak on campus, Bucks does not

agree with him at all and detests his presence on campus. “We do not want to become a beacon for Pastor Aden,” she said. When asked if there was any potential benefit from students being exposed to and questioning someone like Aden, Shanblatt said she does not feel that way because he is simply looking to get attention and nothing else.

To wrap things up, one student, in a “closing statement”, said that hate speech is not protected speech and that is the problem with his presence at Bucks, a statement that created many a confused face in the Zlock PAC. It was obvious that some people were not getting the message intended, but most present left with questioned answered and misconceptions dispelled thanks to Dr. Shanblatt and Mr. Garton.

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# Bucks News

## Cyber Ready? Bucks Law Enforcement, Schools & Local Governments Gear Up Against Online Threats



**HAL CONTE**

*Centurion Staff*

Across Bucks County, officials in positions ranging from local government administration to police departments and school districts are gearing up in a cyber-arms race with opponents ranging from hackers to high school cheaters.

“There’s always a demand, but in the last three years it’s increased [substantially]. The police departments are trying to keep up,” said Victor Vona, who conducts cybersecurity training for Bucks County law enforcement personnel.

Cybercrime has been on the rise throughout the United States. 2016 saw 19,465 phishing-type attacks, 2,673 ransomware incidents, 18,712 social media related crimes, and 27,573 personal data breaches, according to data published by the FBI on Dec. 13, 2017.

In Pennsylvania, there were 98 phishing-type attacks, 5 ransomware incidents, 180 social media related crimes, and 230 personal data breaches.

Three virtual currency-related crimes also occurred in the state in 2016. With the explosion of popularity for Bitcoin, Bitcoin Cash, and other cryptocurrencies since the spring of 2017, the numbers published in 2018 will likely be higher.

According to SecureList, a global security website, 2018 will see a rise in ransomware, attack services, and malware infections.

“We provide training, we do numerous courses on various types of cybersecurity and cyber investigations. They’re brought in by outside vendors or the Feds,” Vona explained.

There are 39 police department in Bucks County. According to Vona, his training center also teaches law enforcement in Lehigh, Northampton, and other nearby counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Vona says that Bucks County began its cybersecurity program in 1989, with his own work in the county starting in 2013. Over 900 officials currently working in the county have been trained, he added.

Individual townships are mak-

ing extensive use of the program, according to Jean Tanner, an executive assistant at Newtown’s Police Department.

“For cybercrimes, the detectives here have been schooled and have contacts with outside agencies,” Tanner said.

According to Tanner, this includes FBI training in addition to the courses taught in Doylestown. Tanner is unaware of any new or ongoing investigations of cybercrime in Newtown.

A review of materials on the police department’s right to know portal showed no reports of computer or cybercrime in the township before or since the arrest of two women for conspiring to hack Bucks computer systems to change grades reported in the Dec. 7 issue of the Centurion.

Along with training for police officers and other law enforcement, Bucks officials have sought to shore up cybersecurity for local government services, which security experts nationwide are concerned will become a top target for nefarious actors domestically as well as from foreign intelligence services.

Last February, the county commissioners approved a three-year information contract costing over \$1.2 million, giving Virginia technology firm Level 3 Communications the means to protect the county’s buildings, computer systems, and administration from cyber threats such as hackers as well as improve the speed and connectivity of local internet services.

“Our training has changed with society’s needs,” Vona said, adding that the increased pace of technological development has required ongoing training for officers.

One area of cybercrime gaining particular attention from Bucks County politicians is online stalking, particularly of children. Republican Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick of Newtown has introduced a bill onto the House floor that will increase penalties for those who stalk minors online.

The bill, called the Combat Online Predators Act (H.R. 4203), was recently the subject of an editorial in the Courier Times, where Fitzpatrick noted that the rise of the internet has “digitized crimes from robbery to stalking, forcing lawmakers and law enforcement to open a new front against criminals untethered to geographic locations and hidden behind virtual screens.”

Cyber wrongdoings are not limited to dangerous crime. In high schools throughout Bucks County, online cheating is gaining ground among students.

In a December meeting of the Pennsbury School Board, Isaac Stephens, a high school junior, gave a detailed presentation on cheating in local school districts, including Pennsbury and Council Rock high schools.

He described how teachers’ use of worksheets copied off the internet makes it easy for enterprising cheaters to rip answers to multiple choice questions.

“Almost 60 percent of students

say they look up the answer key for at least half of their assignments...only 25 percent never copied from other students’ work,” Stephens explained, using data he compiled via SurveyMonkey. “The system is benefitting the dishonest, rather than the honest.”

Stephens recommended that teachers should consider using GoGuardian software to crack down on cheating by monitoring students’ online behavior on laptops they receive as part of their 1:1 program.

William Gretzula, superintendent of Pennsbury school district, appeared warm to the idea. “As you said, cheating is inevitable, but it can be reduced,” he said.

Software created by GoGuardian is already being used in-classroom by teachers in this manner, according to a presentation posted on the district’s 1:1 webpage. In addition to giving teachers the ability to check up on students, the software also filters YouTube videos based on their grade level.

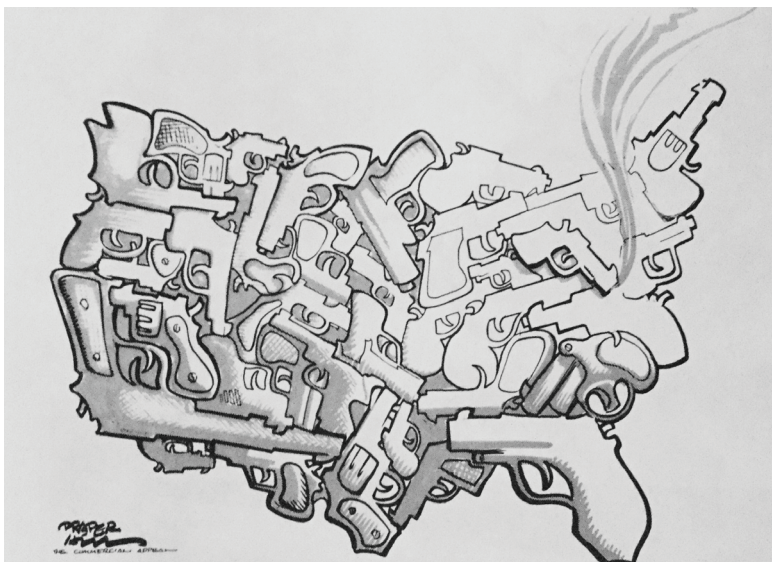
Stephens is frustrated by the way some people use the internet to get around the rules. “I worked 20 hours over the weekend on my outline... When I heard some people were copying their outlines directly, it made me very frustrated,” he noted.

The message put forward by school board officials in response was clear. “Those who cut corners have short-gain success, but in the long term these efforts don’t pay off,” Gretzula said.

In the end, neither does cybercrime. The Combat Fraud and Abuse Act makes trespassing in a government computer, accessing a computer for the purpose to defraud, trafficking in passwords, and exhortation crimes worth up to 10 years in federal prison.

This article is the final part in a series of reports on digital and cyber issues in Bucks County

## Armed Security Guards



*Continued from Page 1*

Sean Gentile, 19, a music major at Bucks, was somewhat cautious to the idea, but thinks overall it is good for the safety of the school “... if the correct measures are made so they [the guns] can be used effectively without causing further harm or damage.”

John Sheridan, professor of music at Bucks said, “With the world the way it is today, you can’t be too careful.” As a professor, Sheridan says he supports the idea

because it is another barrier of safety for students.

Gavin Fisher, 18, from Feasterville, currently studying at Bucks stated, “If there were ever an emergency on campus we should have the safety necessary.”

Other students disagreed. “I don’t think that’s a good idea. If there’s no prerogative then there’s no reason,” said Aaron Haber.

In a study done by the Secret Service from 1974 to 2000, there is no “useful profile” of a school

shooter.

According to the same report, 98 percent of all attackers experienced or perceived a major loss before the attack, 78 percent had suicidal thoughts or attempted suicide prior to an attack, and 95 percent of attackers attended the school where the event took place.



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# Clubs

## Welcoming the Bucks Lemon Club



**BRIDGET NEIROTTI**  
*Centurion Staff*

Officially starting this semester at the Newtown campus is the Bucks Lemon Club, which works with the nationally known Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation to raise money that will help families battling childhood cancer through fundraising events on campus.

The club holds meetings every other Wednesday, led by the club president Nico Albertson, an 18-year-old nursing major from Morrisville in his second semester at Bucks. The meetings are to be held in Grupp 442 every other Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., starting on Feb. 7, and are open to all students.

Those interested in joining the club can attend the meetings at any point in the semester, or contact Nico at albertsonn@live.bucks.edu.

The club has a Facebook page which can be searched for as “BCCC Lemon Club.” Upcoming events, club updates, and pictures will be posted to this page.

The main event being planned is a dance marathon that will take place in the Gallagher room on April 7 from 2 to 8 p.m. The details regarding registration are still being developed, but flyers will be posted around campus with more information upon finalization. The club hopes to be able to provide free food, beverages, and T-shirts at the dance for attendees by including a small fee upon registration. They are also looking for a DJ to help keep morale high throughout the six-hour duration of the event.

Those looking to donate directly to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation in the name of the club can do so by going to alexslemon-

ade.org, clicking the Donate tab, and searching for Bucks County Community College.

Nico Albertson began planning the formation of this club in July 2017 after he participated in a MiniTHON event at Pennsbury High School that encouraged him to become more involved in making a change.

“MiniTHON is a real inspiration to me,” he said, adding that he loved “being able to do something fun and doing it for a great cause.” Deciding to leave the THON brand and organization up to Penn State University, Nico turned to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, another well-known organization helping to raise money to support children with cancer.

He has loved working with a foundation that provides so much support and free range, stating that “you can be as creative as you want to be when thinking of fundraising events.” As the weather starts to warm up again this spring, Nico plans to hold the organization’s signature lemonade stands on campus throughout the semester.

Another executive board member of the club is Alyssa Adams, a 19-year-old psychology major from Fairless Hills, who says she’s in the club because it’s all about the kids. “The impact of this foundation makes such a huge difference for so many children and their families battling this awful disease,” the Lemon Club treasurer states.

She stresses that it is “incredibly important to raise awareness and funds for childhood cancer research,” and encourages her fellow students to get involved with a cause as pure as this one.

The executive board hopes that the club’s official debut at ClubPalooza will bring in more members that are ready to make a change in the world. “It’s like they always say,” Nico joked, “the more the merrier.”

## Spring Clubpalooza 2018

**COURTNEY KRIER**  
*Centurion Staff*

Curious students gathered in the Newtown campus dining area on Wednesday, Jan. 31 for the ClubPalooza event, where a variety of Bucks based organizations set up booths in the hopes of bringing new members into their ranks.

Around two dozen clubs had set up shop in the event area, each having a table with a sign-up sheet for interested students to put down their contact information to receive news from the clubs. Many of the clubs also offered pamphlets and papers with addi-

tional resources.

According to the Bucks Events Page, there are up to 50 clubs and organizations across all 3 of Bucks’ campuses, and even though not all clubs had a booth at the event, it gave the students attending the event plenty of variety to choose from and opportunities to make a connection with a group or cause.

There are a wide breadth of benefits to joining clubs while at college, especially at a commuter school like Bucks, much of which goes beyond just creating social connections with your peers who share similar interests. It trickles

into professional connections and networking.

Gabby Morgan, 19, a Communications major from Yardley, and Gia Folino, 19, a Speech/Language and Hearing Sciences major from Bensalem treasurer and president, respectively, of the Bucks Drama Club were among the attendees of the event. When asked about the benefits of the ClubPalooza, they were eager to give it praise.

“It’s a good starting point,” said Morgan in regards to the club fair format.

Folino added onto that idea. “It makes people more comfy coming to meetings, to be able to meet us ahead of time. It’s an easy transition.”

However, despite the large amount of sign-ups each club tends to receive on these days, not all students commit to joining.

Anthony Consoli, 26, a Psychology major from Bristol, is a very active member in multiple Bucks Clubs. From being the president of Psychology Club, to the secretary of the Student Government, he has experienced a view of ClubPalooza unlike others.

“It really depends on the club,” Consoli mused when asked about the amount of students who commit to the clubs from this event. With his input and that from a few different club representatives, the ratio for committing to club from sign-up sheet seems to be around a 10-20 percent.

The event saw a lot of traffic



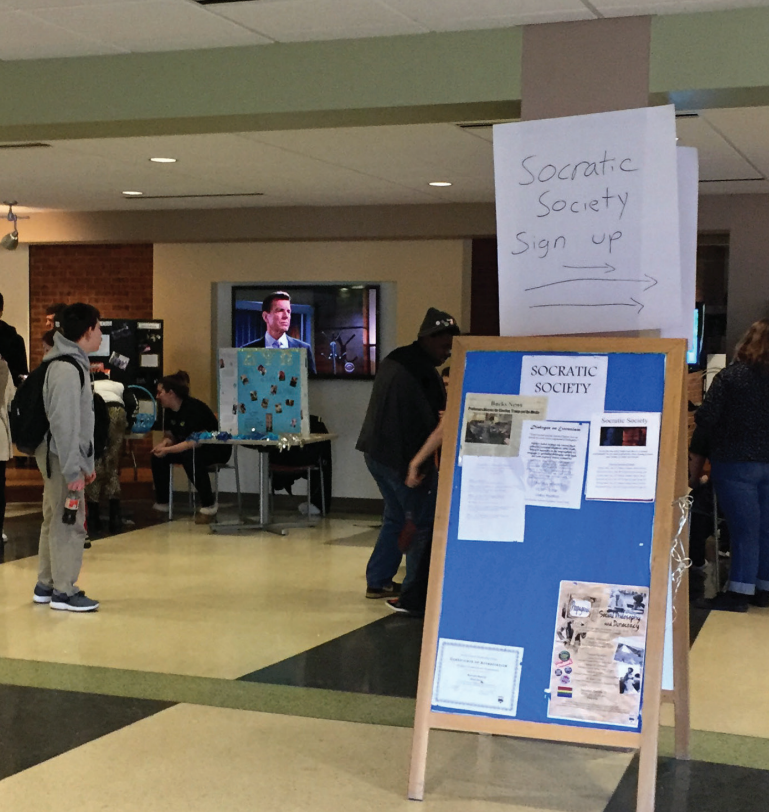
Display set up by the Bucks Drama Club.

throughout the day. Jan Wyatt was there for personal enrichment with the Bucks Ceramics Club, a newer organization on campus, as the club president. She said the “high traffic hours were around 10 and 12 [...] but people came in all through the morning.”

One of those students walking through the event was Tatiana Gordon, 24, a Journalism major from Doylestown. This was her third ClubPalooza event, and as always, she said that everyone at the club booths were “very helpful”.

“I try to join one or two clubs,” she said, but continued with a realistic, “but it can be hard to find the time, while also getting an associate’s degree.”

If you missed the first ClubPalooza events on the Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, no need to worry. The Bucks Student Portal has a plethora of information available about the clubs and organizations on campus, even providing a complete list of clubs with contact information for representatives at [www.bucks.edu/studentlife/clubs/list/](http://www.bucks.edu/studentlife/clubs/list/).



Bucks’ Socratic Society sign up board.

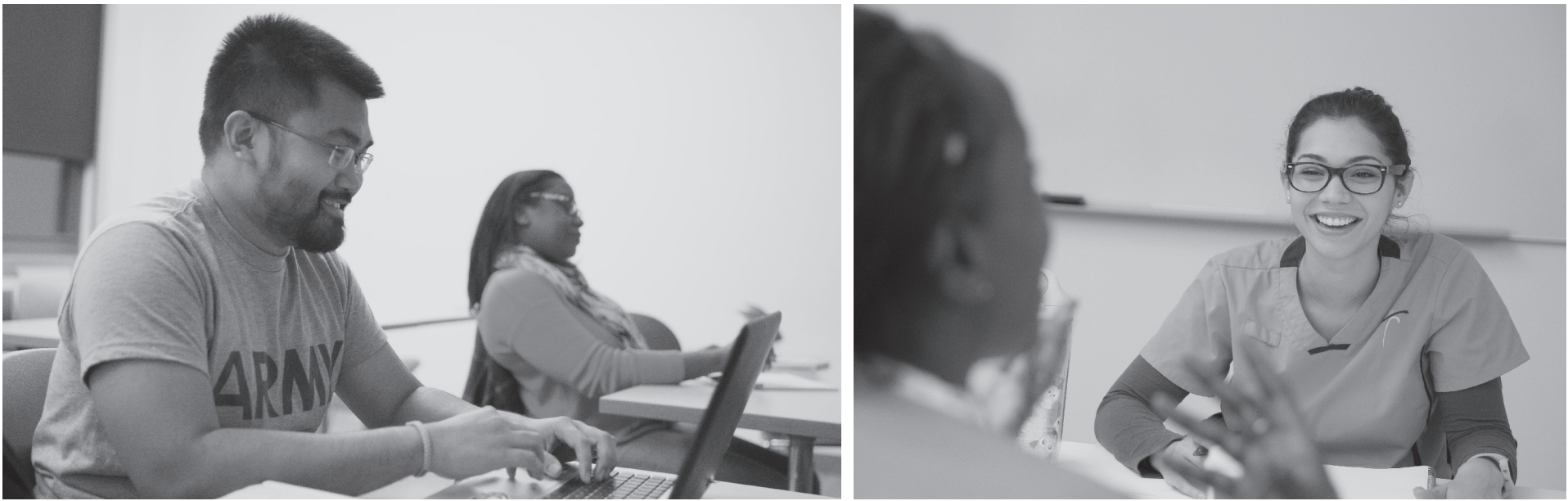


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# Bucks Services

## A Haven for the Troubled and Weary Student

**BYRON GUZMAN**  
*Centurion Staff*

Whether it is the anxiety that comes from writing a ten-page paper, or the stress that comes from speaking in front of the class, college has many ways of putting the average student on edge. And for some, this can take a real toll on their health and state of mind. But not to worry, because

there is a great place that lends a helping hand to students who find it hard getting back on their feet by themselves. And that place is none other than Bucks’ own Counseling Service Center! It’s not an understatement to say that the counseling services provided here are a great way for a student to unload on their problems, because that’s exactly what they are meant to do. Still, taking

that first step can be hard for some students, but rest assured there’s nothing to be afraid of. “We welcome everybody,” said Dekia Smith, director of the counseling services, whose job it is to oversee the services and make sure that services are provided. She adds that it is about “making a connection,” to establish an environment where students and counselors can talk like friends



*Dekia Smith, director of counseling services*

and be open with one another, as she went on to describe some of the services provided here. One of the services Smith described was personal counseling, in which students can talk about their personal problems and help find ways to overcome their situations. She also mentions that this type of service branches into services called Crisis Intervention and Liaison to Faculty. Crisis Intervention deals with more severe issues, issues considered taboo such as drug abuse and even self-harm. Liaison to Faculty deals with problems a student might be having with a professor, sometimes leading to an intervention between the two so that both can resolve their issues and find ways to better handle each other. Other services described by Smith are the career counseling services which includes aiding the student in choosing a major and conducting job searches. There is another service that is not just for students, but for the entire

community, called Encore. What Encore does is provide support for those looking to change their careers, those looking to retrain themselves, or those hoping to get back into the workforce. Services provided here include job hunting tips, resume writing, interview preparation, and many more. There are many more services provided, so if you or anyone you know would like to schedule an appointment with a counselor, you can call 215-968-8189 or send an email to [counseling@bucks.edu](mailto:counseling@bucks.edu), or you can drop in at the office, located near the Rollins Center at the bottom of the stairs where the cafeteria is located. You can also visit the webpage at [www.bucks.edu/resources/counseling](http://www.bucks.edu/resources/counseling), which not only provides the service schedule, but also has a list of emergency hotlines that can be viewed by clicking on the sub-menu. And remember: it’s all confidential!

*Bucks County Community College*

# Counseling Services

Services can include

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## Domestic Violence A Haunting Concern For Local Judge

**NICOLE “NICO” CISNEROS**  
*Centurion Staff*

Judge Michael Gallagher is not an easily shaken man. With 25 years of law enforcement experience, he was fully prepared to take on his role a district court judge in 2015 for District Court 07-1-01 in Bensalem. And while Judge Gallagher has seen his fair share of first-class misdemeanors and felonies -- “a lot of drug charges and DUIs”-- he admitted that the cases that most affect him are those of domestic violence: “For example, you live in your house, you’re married with your husband or boyfriend, and you get in a fight. Your boyfriend does bodily damage to you. Then it comes time for court, and you are back together, [so] you don’t come to court. No victim, no crime.” It’s a situation victims find themselves in all too often. The public education nonprofit Domestic Violence Roundtable notes that victims stay with or return to abusers for many different reasons, ranging from the emotional to the situational. Some believe their partner may change their ways, or feel guilty about their perceived failure. Others might have to stay because they rely on the abuser economically; they have been isolated socially from support systems; or they may be bound by cultural or religious traditions. The Roundtable noted that victims in suburbs like Bucks have a unique set of difficulties, since these are typically “communities of affluence and privilege.”



Suburban victims may feel embarrassed to seek help because of their education level, social status, or income bracket denotes their success in life. They may also have “system-phobia”, a resistance to ask for help from police and social service agencies. No matter where a victim is from, going to court, or even expressing the desire to leave, can cause victims to lose their lives. Bucks County domestic violence shelter A Woman’s Place reported that 75 percent of serious assaults and homicides occur after a victim has left the abuser or made their intentions to leave known. In fact, 102 people were killed in domestic-violence incidents in the state during 2016, according to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). Four of those victims were from Bucks County. One such tragedy has enabled the courts to help more victims escape that tragic fate. In 2012, an Illinois judge ruled that testimo-

ny of witnesses could be used in a domestic violence murder trial. This decision, known as the Richter Ruling, is about the validity of hearsay in domestic violence cases. Judge Gallagher explained: “If you don’t show up, the officer [who responded] can actually come in and testify” about the incident and the extent of the victim’s injuries, he stated. Another way the courts try to help survivors is by establishing a “no contact clause” for couples involved in domestic incidents: this means the abuser is not allowed to contact, visit, or live with the victim. The judge admitted that “sometimes it creates a hardship if there’s kids,” but in proceedings he’ll order a safe alternative, such as couples meeting and exchange custody at the local police station. Even with these tools, how can survivors get help from the courts if they don’t know what might happen there? Judge Gallagher broke down the two most frequent outcomes: •*Within the Courts* Couples entering the case start at the district court. “At our level here in district court, we just see if there’s enough evidence to go to trial,” he noted. “We listen to facts and if we think a crime is committed and a person was involved it moves forward to the common pleas court.” He can also make recommendations for the common pleas court to consider,



such as if there should be distance between the individuals involved. At common pleas court, an alleged abuser can be entered into the criminal court, where they can be sentenced to jail. •*Counseling Options* If the incident was less severe, such as a push or a shove that did not result in injury, the judge can recommend counseling. In these instances, the judge typically recommends anger management for the perpetrator. After the mandated 60 days, the victims can come to court and confirm if things have or haven’t improved. No matter the couple’s feelings after this period, they will have to come back to see the judge. “If you and your

husband were in a fight and I were to arraign you, the law says you have to see a judge if it’s domestic violence so we can determine if it’s safe to release you,” Judge Gallagher stated. There are organizations that can help victims navigate the legal and other aspects of escaping abuse. In Bucks County, the Judge noted, two organizations for such resources are A Woman’s Place (800-220-8116, 24-hour hotline) and the Network of Victim Assistance, or NOVA (1-800-675-6900, 24-hour hotline). Here at Bucks CCC, you can also reach out to counseling services at 215-968-8189 or [counseling@bucks.edu](mailto:counseling@bucks.edu).



# Valentine’s Day

## Bucks Students Favorite V-Day Rom-Coms

**JARED ROBERTS**  
*Centurion Staff*

Expensive chocolate, roses, and a dinner that will cost you an arm and a leg.

That was the golden standard of what a perfect Valentine’s Day should be, but is there anything wrong with simplicity? Staying inside and enjoying each other’s company whilst watching movies. Here are some suggestions according to your peers at Bucks.

“My favorite Valentine’s Day move is ‘Me before You,’” says Gab Verrecchio, a 19-year-old neuroscience major from Doylestown, “I like the characters and how they change.”

“Me before You” stars Emilia Clark as Louisa Clark who loses her job and is hired as a caregiver to Sam Laffin’s character, Will Traynor, who was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident. Depression overcomes Traynor and it is up to Clark to pull him back from the other side.

When asked what for her favorite sappy flick, Keeley O’Brien, a 19-year-old psychology major from Doylestown answered, “‘Valentine’s Day,’ and I like that movie because it’s funny and I like the actors, even though I haven’t seen it in a while.”

The film “Valentine’s Day” is unique in the way that it follows numerous storylines about the

characters’ own struggles during the holiday. The film also has an all-star cast with the likes of Jessica Alba, Ashton Kutcher, Bradley Cooper, George Lopez and Taylor Swift.

Courtney Keen, Doylestown resident, and 19-year-old dental hygiene major had a few movie suggestions when asked about Valentine’s Day, “Either ‘Longest Ride’ or ‘Safe Haven.’ They’re both cute, I like the actors and how they’re not just love movies, there is some action involved and suspense,” was her response.

“The Longest Ride” is a film adapted from the novel of the same name by Nicholas Sparks. The film stars Scott Eastwood as

Luke Collins, a professional bull rider who is injured and delays his return to the sport. He then meets Sophia Danko, played by Brit Robertson, at his returning show and the two fall in love.

“Safe Haven,” also a novel by Sparks, centers around Katie Tierney played by Julianne Hough as she runs away from her abusive past and eventually meets Alex Wheatley played by Josh Duhamel and low and behold they fall in love.

The next film seems to have struck a cord with more than one person. The film?

“50 First Dates.” Elaine Transue, an 18-year-old nursing major from Plumstead chose the film,

“because the main characters get to fall in love all over again every time they see each other, it’s like love at first sight 50 times over again.”

The film follows Henry Roth a marine veterinarian, played by Adam Sandler who lives in Hawaii and fears commitment until he meets Lucy Whitmore played by Drew Barrymore, the only problem is that she can never remember Henry because she has short-term memory loss.

Whether or not it is one of Bucks’ picks for flicks, snuggle up with a sweet treat and watch whatever makes you feel loved on Valentine’s Day!

## Love at First Swipe? Today’s Online Dating Networks

**BREAYNA CURRAN**  
*Centurion Staff*

Tinder. Bumble. MeetMe. Badoo. These are the dating apps taking over our smartphones, responsible for the sweet ding of notifications swarming our screens with matches of possible loves of our lives only a swipe away.

First impressions have been reduced to profile pictures from our good angles and biographies admitting our sarcastic faults. If you add an adorable dog into the mix, you’re instantly guaranteed to get more matches.

These extremely minute peeks into our everyday lives is seemingly good enough to make someone decide on whether or not we’re worthy of their precious time.

Out of a small sample group of

22 local students with a variety of majors, aged 18 to 25, 16 of them said they use some form of a dating app, mostly Tinder.

While some students have tried them out before, their reasons for stopping vary. The same can be said for people who continue to use it as a form of dating.

Paige Kaufmann, of Warmminster, a psychology major here at Bucks used dating apps but quickly stopped. “Meeting people alone after only talking to them makes me incredibly nervous,” she said. It is a trend that seems to be prominent throughout our students.

Another student, Jackie Rose, an 18-year-old cinema video major from Warminster, has also stopped using dating apps, not only because it “felt inauthentic” but because “killers, rapists, and stalkers were the reason [she] was



Above: Tinder logo  
Below: Bumble logo

hesitant.”

For many, the risk doesn’t seem worth it. However, not all of our students are concerned about worst case scenarios, instead seeing dating apps as an easier way to communicate.

Bridget Neirotti, 19-year-old communications major and Morrisville local, believes “it’s easier to open up online because you don’t have to worry about facing rejection in person.” Our screens act as a “shield for your feelings,” she said.

“If the relationship goes south it’s easier to block out that person online than it is to block them out of real life,” Neirotti noted. This take on dating online is a shared viewpoint of plenty of students. The fear of not being good enough is easier hidden and dealt with when one doesn’t have to

face the other person.

Most students see the double-edged sword of online dating as well, citing the toll it takes on our face to face communication skills.

Tyler Cook, another cinema video major, 25, from Doylestown, sees dating apps as a necessary evil in today’s society. “It’s dating without having to leave your house.” In other words, it’s convenient and attractive.

Izabelle Cammarata, 19, nursing major and Yardley resident, says “I think it does kind of hurt people’s social skills because they might not have the courage to talk to someone in person when that might be the healthier thing to do.”

It seems our modern-day fairytale love stories may soon begin with a different twist: “we matched, and I knew.”



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# Awesome Mix

## Awesome Mix, Vol. 4: That Love Story Love

When music is the soundtrack to your life, you don't put crappy songs in the queue. That's why we're giving you *Awesome Mix*, something that is exactly what it sounds like. In every issue, you'll get a unique playlist full of songs that are actually worth getting stuck in your head. Your earbuds will thank you.

**NICOLE “NICO” CISNEROS**  
*Centurion Staff*

Ah, Valentine's Day. In the post-Super Bowl haze, it's easy to lose sight of this celebration of romance and love because, well, we're still blissfully celebrating our beloved champions. But other kinds of love exists outside the green-and-silver heart-shaped bubble we're all cocooned in right now. There's love that's true and pure, love that inspires the likes of "The Notebook" and Mona Lisa, the kind of love that makes Super Bowl babies.

But you don't get that kind of love from scaling lamp posts on Broad Street together (well, that last one might be the exception). This is how that love story love happens:

1: *The Meet Cute*  
**Past Lives: BORNs**  
"Lost love is sweeter when it's finally found/I've got the strangest feeling/this isn't our first time around"

It's that movie moment every romantic dreams of: you lift your gaze, you say hi, and within a second, you know you're supposed to be with this person. They almost feel familiar in a way you can't explain. Don't worry, BORNs can. By the last catchy refrain, you'll believe in soul mates.

2: *Falling for Each Other*  
**Lottery: Jade Bird**  
"You used to tell me/Love is a lottery/And you've got your numbers/and you're betting on me"

So you and the object of your affection are flitting around each other, pining while you hide your true feelings...like chumps. So instead, you're sitting there, talking about the dates you've gone on with other people. As masochistic as this is, Jade Bird finds a way to make it really bearable by putting it to some pop guitar.

3: *First Date*  
**First Date: blink-182**  
"I dread the thought of our very first kiss/A target that I'm probably gonna miss"

One of you fools decided to end the denial dance and actually ask the other out on an actual date! At a movie/restaurant/some activity that involved the two of you spending quality time together! This is not Netflix and chill nonsense, this is as thrilling as it is terrifying. And this Blink classic completely captures that.

4: *Being Together*  
**Cupid's Chokehold: Gym Class Heroes**  
Ah, the honeymoon phase. Y'all are in a rose-colored world of your own design, where nobody can do any wrong. You'll sing your partner's praises to anyone who'll listen-- especially your parents. Travis McCoy does just that here, rapping to his mom and dad about how his girlfriend cooks him pancakes and gives him alka-seltzer when his tummy aches. "If that ain't love, then I don't know what love is."

5: *Being... "Together"*  
**Get You (ft. Kali Uchis): Daniel Caesar**  
"Every time I look into your eyes I see it/You're all I need"

We're all adults here, people, so even if you haven't had any real-world experience with this part of dating, it does happen. No, I'm not talkin' the bump and grind of those wham-bam-thank-you-ma'am hookups. This is much deeper, more real than that. This is being so blown away by someone thinking enough of you to not only be with you, but to be with you. That's why you're being given the greatest slow jam in the history of slow jams. Use wisely.

6: *The Cracks*  
**III. Telegraph Ave. ("Oakland" by Lloyd): Childish Gambino**  
"I'm nervous, truth be told/I never saw me growin' old/In Oakland"

Sometimes, a good thing can seem too good. So you start tripping yourself up with where this whole relationship is going, are you ready for commitment-- y'know, things that you should probably discuss with your significant other before you spiral down a freak-out hole. But if you're gonna go down that rabbit hole, Alice, at least Childish can give you some mellow Cali vibes for the fall.

7: *First Fight*  
**Waste of Time: Snow Tha Product**  
Insecurities always, always, always lead to fighting. Because insecurities lead to stupidity, like being paranoid about who your partner's talking to, or avoiding them. (Helpful hint: neither of

those are viable solutions.) Snow Tha Product is not a woman to suffer fools nor their foolishness-- and if your partner is anything like her, they are probably going to call you out before walking away.

8: *Fork in the Road*  
**Surrender: Natalie Taylor**  
"My love, where are you?"

Natalie Taylor takes all the heartbroken hopelessness from the aftermath of the fight and puts it in this simple, sincere plea. There's no fanfare, no big sweeping orchestration or catchy beat. It's sparse-- only a guitar, some snaps keeping the beat, and her whispering vocals. It's clear that there's a choice to be made about where this relationship is going.

9: *Option 1 - The Break Up*  
**Ex-Factor: Lauryn Hill**  
"It could all be so simple/But you'd rather make it hard...See I know what we've got to do/You let go/And I'll let go too"

Sometimes, there's just no other option-- but that doesn't mean it's easy. The incomparable Ms. Hill perfectly captures just how hard it is to leave somebody you've loved, especially after the two of you have continually tried to make it work. The lyrics, the vocals, the beat, the ending guitar solo, are sonically stoic sadness: you know this is for the best, you just wish that wasn't true.

10: *Option 2 - The Make Up*  
**Stronger than You: Estelle**  
"Go ahead and try and hit me if you're able!/Can't you see that our relationship is stable?"

Sometimes, though, you figure it all out! You reunite and commit to overcome any obstacles that



come your way, especially the haters. British pop singer Estelle is Garnet, a fusion gem character from Steven Universe-- and while I can't break that down for you here (or my love for that wonderful, thoughtful cartoon), just know that being a fusion is the most important relationship any of the characters can have. This song is a triumphant celebration of that relationship. May it be one for yours, too!

**\*BONUS TRACK: God Only Knows - Beach Boys\***  
This Beach Boys standard has been voted the #1 love song of all time in a myriad of polls. It's been used at countless weddings and anniversary parties. And it may have the most brutally honest opening line about romantic relationships of all time: "I may not always love you." Brian Wilson's classic is a reminder that no matter how a relationship ends, the people we date impact who we are, who we become, and the paths our lives take. For that, they become a part of us that we take with us, whether they're with us for the ride or not. That's the trick with love: being in love can end, but love itself doesn't. And that makes love as annoying as it is beautiful.

*Mixes are so much sweeter than candy hearts. Find this playlist on Spotify by searching for "AM#4: Love Story".*



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# Movie Review

## “The Post” A Timely Film on Secret Files, Feminism, and Free Speech

RYAN DAVIS

Centurion Staff

Steven Spielberg, continuing a list of successful historical films including “Lincoln” and “Schindler’s List,” has produced a timely film touching issues of government corruption, female power, and freedom of the press.

The movie follows Katharine Graham (Meryl Streep) as she takes the reigns of the Washington Post amid intense financial scrutiny and a looming IPO. Meanwhile, her editor Ben Bradlee (Tom Hanks), seeks to gain access to a series of secretive documents detailing White House mendacity about the nation’s most pressing issue: the war in Vietnam.

The people are turning against the war, the press are against it and the whole of America is beginning to see through the administration’s use of what today might be called “alternative facts.” Bradlee and his newsroom are intent on showing the American public the truth.

Graham struggles over the decision to publish information from the documents, a classified 4,000-page study known as the Pentagon Papers. The Papers contain proof that Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara (Bruce Greenwood) knew that the war was unwinnable but kept sending American lives to die in order to save face, as well as proof of foreign- in this case, American- interference in Vietnamese elections.

Thanks to the efforts of the Times and the Post, it is possible today to find the entire dossier



of Pentagon Papers documents, bundled in a five-volume hard-back set, in Bucks’s library on the Newtown Campus available for browsing by students. The Papers can also be found online on the Washington Post’s website.

The film deals most pointedly with issues of press freedom and free speech, and how the government wants complete privacy in official matters, as well as the problem of media chumminess with government officials and the conflict of interest that can create.

In a time of fake news, seemingly endless war and government classification, it is stories like this that show what happens when the American people decide to take matters into their own hands.

The movie is impressively shot and the acting is well-done. This is especially true of Streep, who does a great job acting calm when needed and feisty when she is questioned. The camera is always in the right place to show the intense emotion convulsing through American society during a highly

polarized period.

However, the story is not a perfect parallel of what would happen today if a trove of government secrets was exposed. There was great urgency surrounding the publication the Papers in time for the printers to start rolling, but today, the whole batch could be dumped online instantly, as the Snowden Leaks or WikiLeaks’ Vault 7 and Vault 8 files were.

On the bright side, this movie may driver young audiences to become skeptical of the powers that be, including the government and even the news media itself. This would allow people to not take things at face value but to dig deeper and really understand what is going on.

In the end, The Post is a well-designed movie with an interesting story highly relevant with today’s fascination with fake news and government conspiracies and serves as a testament to what America’s newspapers have had to go through to get where they are today.

## “The Last Jedi” Stokes Controversy

SHAUN GRACE

Centurion Staff

Moviegoers across the country have been flocking to catch the latest installment in the Star Wars Saga- “The Last Jedi.”

Picking up precisely where the previous installment left off, “The Last Jedi” follows the adventures of Rey (Daisy Ridley), Finn (John Boyega), and Poe (Oscar Isaac) fighting against the insurgent Sith Lord Kylo Ren. Helping them with their adventures are none other than Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) and Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher). With the immense success of its predecessor, “The Force Awakens,” “The Last Jedi” had huge shoes to fill.

Star Wars fans everywhere eagerly awaited the release of the film for two years, their minds filled with questions and theories about the upcoming plot. “The Last Jedi” came out in theaters this past December, and many people saw it within the first week of its release (myself included).

The reviews came in fast and there have been many debates on its ranking compared to other Star Wars films. Some say the added humor was a mistake, while others say the graphics made the film a success. With so many different viewpoints on the film’s overall quality, it was important to get the opinions of students at Bucks.

Brian Wurtz, a media and communications major at the Newtown campus, was more than willing to give his input on the latest installment of the space

opera franchise. “So I really liked the movie because it took a lot of chances. I think the biggest thing I like, which is probably the least popular opinion of all time, is that they turned Luke Skywalker into this old washed-up man who used to be great but now wants to be left alone.” While going on enthusiastically, Wurtz continued with his review of the film, “I like this because movies tend to use this trope a lot but we don’t normally get to see this person before they turned into the old grumpy man they are now.”

Although his opinion was mostly positive, he did still have his negative feedback, “as for what I didn’t like, probably that the whole movie was kind of a slow speed car chase. I felt like there was no urgency to the first order and the rebels chase.”

With some students being avid Star Wars fans, others most certainly do not have the same taste for science fiction films. Margaret Doyle, a sophomore at Bucks, expressed how she did not participate in seeing the latest installment of the series. She says “I did not go to see it because I have not seen the other films in order.” Doyle stated she would feel “lost” if she had gone to see it in theaters.

Love it or hate it, “The Last Jedi” was one of the biggest blockbusters of 2017 after grossing 1.3 billion dollars at the box office. Regardless of your film interests, it is undoubtedly a movie that has gotten people talking.

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# Women’s March



## Doylestown Rises Against Trump & Sexism as 1000+ Women & Students March on Courthouse

HAL CONTE  
*Centurion Staff*

Over 1000 women, students, and activists marched through Doylestown in the heart of Bucks County against Donald Trump and sexism in a local manifestation of a global series of Women’s Marches that took place on Jan. 20 and 21.

“I’m sick and tired of being sick and tired!” shouted Tayna Longino, one of the organizers of the march, held under the banner of a coalition titled Rise Up Doylestown. “We’re joined together tightly...showing our solidarity. I think we will win over a lot of the hatred and the negativity,” she added.

Newly elected Democratic councilwomen, LGBTQ+ students, Muslim women, and black activists denounced Trump and the direction of American society in a series of fiery speeches, expressing the view that the Republican government was depriving

women and other marginalized demographics of a national say.

Banners and signs read, “One Race, Equal Rights,” “Be a Leader Not A Tweeter,” “Rise Up and Fight,” “Fake President, Real Racist,” and “We Know We’ve Seen It All Before,” among countless other slogans.

Along with “pussy hats,” the pink caps seen across the country in anti-Trump protests, some women were wearing hats depicting the president as an orange-haired turd.

The demonstrators included women of all ages, from those still in high school to veteran activists. Many families were also present. The protesters’ concerns were equally widespread, ranging from the administration’s legitimization of rape culture to Trump’s withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord.

Asked why she was marching against Donald Trump, Marlene Pray, a local resident, said “Because our democracy is in trouble

and our rights are being taken away, our Earth and people are suffering, and our voices need to be heard.”

Taylor Branch, a high school student from Central Bucks East, expressed her exasperation with the Trump presidency, which she characterized as bigoted and out of touch. She maintains that peaceful protest can put pressure on the government. “We can’t fight his hate with more hate,” she warned.

Eileen Reed, a grandmother, explained that she had been involved in the protests of the 1960s and 70s against sexism and the Vietnam War. She expressed optimism with the potential for change. “We have a lot of support for a lot of the issues,” she said, citing DACA, the executive order repealed by the Trump Administration that protected undocumented minors who entered the country from being deported.

“[Trump’s] isolationism is preventing a solution to the global

problems caused by global warming and population,” April Ann Bohmler, a local artist, said.

She demanded that the federal government address “modifications to our laws around fossil fuels, changes in the way we prohibit chemicals, and more education around farming and sustainability.”

Many of the protesters in Doylestown were regular attendees of anti-Trump demonstrations. “We were at the Philly march yesterday, we were at an impeachment march over the summer,” said Connor Lamb. “I think he [Trump] is lying to the people.”

Debra West, who was accompanying Lamb, listed multiple reasons for her anger.

“My relatives died at the hands of Nazis. My family came to America so that they didn’t have to worry about being tortured and gassed in concentration camps by people who are not very fine people,” she said.

“For all women who were

raped, assaulted, and basically disrespected for years by men... That’s why we march,” West added. “That’s why we will not give in or give up. Because we care!”

The organizing coalition was composed of a broad front of Democratic, Green Party, Democratic Socialist, reproductive rights, religious, anti-war, indigenous rights, feminist, and student groups. Several local businesses also displayed signs in support of the protests.

Along the side of the road near the Old Courthouse on East Court St., where the march, led by students, began, tables with petitions, anti-fracking pamphlets, and organizing tip sheets were set up.

“Our rights are in jeopardy,” concluded Kathy Truesdale, one of the women holding signs. “The voting must be protected. The rights of the voting public must be protected. The misogyny and attacks on women must be addressed.”





# Women's March

## Worldwide Marches Show Path For Feminism

JOCELYN PAPPAS

Centurion Staff

With how far the suffrage movement has progressed and seeing the sheer number of women who've contributed, it is hard to believe that the fight for equality lingers in the current chapter of American history.

Hundreds of women gathered on Jan. 21 in Doylestown, Pa. near the old courthouse for an afternoon of releasing high strung emotions with regards to the current sociopolitical hot topics.

The rallying event was only one in a series of Women's Marches blossoming around the states, with more protestor events planned in the future.

Orchestrated by the Rise Up movement, the particular day flourished with support as the masses bellowed chants and cheered for the guest speakers.

Just how effective are these activists outside of their incased states?

Do these crusades for justice and equality have an effect outside of the fizzling crowds?

Although there will always be critics, the United States does have a past of successful wide-spread activism within terms of Women's suffrage.

Moreover, it would not be giving the pioneers of feminism their rightfully owed credit if international involvement was excluded.

Suffrage movements for women date further back in Europe, with pioneering ladies including icons like Emmeline Pankhurst and eventually giving way to activists like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Despite the efforts and strides, there is still much to be achieved that which the current generation of feminist activists have been pushing for.

One of the major ongoing concerns that have been constantly worked towards alleviating would be the wage gap between the two genders.

The argument can be made that women are paid relatively better than 40 years ago, but on the other hand, the gap has yet to close up from roughly \$10 differences in salaries, or potentially more.

While it could be automatic assumed that protests, the primary tactic that these movements use, are inefficient, one has to take into consideration the political climate.

When a more progressive agenda is showcased by the administration of the U.S. government, it becomes easier for a feminist group's influence to trickle down, and usher more favorable policies.

In wake of the chaotic political strife that has overtaken recent days due to careless actions and words, one has to give some credit to the Rise Up movement.

Additionally, many women have been inspired to take action as opposed to silencing themselves and taking a passive role.

The #MeToo movement, which encourages women to be vocal about their experiences with being sexually assaulted, is a perfect example of a development that was made.

After all, as Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "A woman is like a tea kettle, you can't tell how strong she is until you put her in hot water."



Women and their allies worldwide protested against Donald Trump in January. From left to upper right: Doylestown, Bern, Los Angeles, Oslo, New York City PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS, HAL CONTE

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\* National Public Radio, September 2015

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# Bucks Sports

## Men's Basketball Still Confident With 8-6 Record This Year

**ANTHONY DiRENZO**  
*Centurion Staff*

Bucks Men's Basketball team has had a nice season thus far, but they are not quite done as the Centurions need to win four of the final five games to qualify for Region XIX playoffs. Players on the team are still confident, after maintaining a chip on their shoulder throughout the season.

Jrue Sanoumega, Guard and health science major, hit a pivotal three-point shot to send his team to overtime against the second-ranked team in the regional division, Northampton Community College in just his first year.

Somah Slewion, team captain,

and a sophomore business administration major said, "It was the greatest moment of the season, really showed us what we can do when we come together."

Matt Ricketts, a sports management major, a second year player said, "Beating a division two school (Valley Forge) was a big step for us." He added, "We were also shorthanded that game just showing the grit and that helped them grow and progress this season after a big win."

Bucks now stands at 8-6 in the conference and 8-11 overall. Bucks has an uphill battle ahead but they are determined to get it done. Positive attitudes can only lead to good outcomes, and some

teams could be intimidated by a hungry, young team making marks in the regionals.

Ricketts states, "If we make the playoffs, as we should, there could be some sort of run, and these other teams should be on the lookout."

Slewion adds, "These teams aren't looking to see us in the post season, they will be looking out for us because they know we have gotten close to beating them before."

With all of this uplifting energy surrounding the team, it will be an exciting finish regardless of the final outcome. Bucks has had a hard-fought year but it is not over just yet.



## New Coach Brancato Gives Bucks Baseball A Fresh Start



*Players Colin Dybalski (left) and Johnny Arroyo (right)*

**MEGAN CONROY**  
*Centurion Staff*

Carman Brancato, a 29 year old Bucks alum, was hired by the college in November to be the new head coach for the baseball team. With a rough 2017 season

still lingering, the new skipper brings hope for a better outcome for 2018.

Brancato is no stranger to the baseball landscape. He coaches a college program in the summer, and is the head coach of Pen Del

baseball, located in Southampton. He also played high school ball at William Tennent.

He has a lot to offer to the 2018 team, including new strategies for success. His philosophy for the team is to focus on throwing strikes, and pitching to contact. Brancato says he is "happy if a guy can strike people out", but he likes to keep the pitch count low to preserve the pitcher's arm. He believes the team's greatest strength lies within their lineup, chalked with hitters who have been putting a lot of work.

Offensively, Brancato's game plan is to be aggressive in all counts. He intends to implement the same philosophy as other programs, like looking to drive the ball, but also play situationally when necessary.

Last year, the team struggled mightily, resulting in a 3-22 record. But this year, Brancato

has set big goals for his new team. The main goal, he says, is to make playoffs. In order to do that, the team would have to have a .500 record regionally or overall. The secondary goal is to get his players recruited to four year schools.

The team has four returning players, but is looking for more to add players to their roster. Two returning players, Colin Dybalski and Johnny Arroyo, are especially eager about being in the lineup this season, since they did not get the chance to play last season.

Dybalski and Arroyo have been playing baseball since they were young. Arroyo proclaiming Baseball is "in his blood." Similar to Brancato, these two sophmores have also set the bar pretty high for this year's team. As a team, he explains, there is "a lot of repetition in hitting, fielding, and bullpens with the pitchers." Arroyo also commented on his

excitement about the new coach, and the fresh start that he brings to the team.

The season begins on March 18th, and the Centurion's home opener is March 22nd, at 3:30 PM against Williamson Trade.

One of the more exciting games that was noted by the players and Brancato is the game against Hudson Community College at Ripken Stadium in Maryland on March 27th at 6:30 PM.

Want to join the team? Workouts for the preseason are in the gym Mondays 2-4, and Fridays 2-6. The training becomes five days a week on February 16th.

*If you find interest in joining the Bucks Baseball team, contact Coach Brancato at [bucks.baseball@bucks.edu](mailto:bucks.baseball@bucks.edu) or the Assistant Athletic Director, Justin Burroughs, at (215) 497-8788.*



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# Eagles Victory

## World Champions



Continued from Page 1

yet another 4th down situation, turned to the guy that has been known around the league for his aggressive play-calling: Doug Pedersen. The Eagles decide to keep their offensive unit on the field in efforts to convert and keep the drive alive. Not only did the Eagles convert on 4th down, but Foles threw a dart to a streaking tight end Zach Ertz cutting to the inside of the field who makes the catch and leaps for the end zone only to be reviewed and ruled as a touchdown with 2:25 left in the game.

Tom Brady and the Patriots could only pray from that moment on in hopes of completing enough

passes in order to have a chance to just tie the game and head to overtime. However, this was the year of the dog which only lead to Tommy heaving a Hail Mary pass as time expired and seeing it batted down, officially ending the drought in Philadelphia!

The Eagles, who were dubbed “underdogs” even as the #1 overall seed in the NFC, after experts doubted them throughout the postseason when facing the offensively high-powered Atlanta Falcons in the Divisional Round, and the defensively stingy Minnesota Vikings in the NFC Championship Game, had overcome insurmountable odds on their road to the Super Bowl after being riddled with injuries to key players,

most notably star quarterback Carson Wentz.

Instead of giving up on the season after Wentz went down in Week 14 of the regular season, the Eagles responded with a resurgence to push on and rely on each other with a team effort mentality. Leaders like defensive back Malcolm Jenkins, defensive tackle Fletcher Cox, and linebacker Brandon Graham stressed the importance of sticking together through tough times, resulting in the mantra “We all we got, we all we need,” which signified that no matter what people say about the team, the character of the team will never dwindle.

## Finally Did It: Students React to Eagles’ Super Bowl Championship

ANTHONY DiRENZO AND JOE ROATCH

Centurion Staff

Philadelphia’s elusive Lombardi Trophy is coming home to the city of brotherly love, a day the city has been waiting for since 1960. The Eagles have won their first Super Bowl in franchise history, creating a bevy of emotions from the most passionate fans in all of sports.

With multiple injuries suffered on the Eagles squad throughout the year, the fan base is well aware how special this season was.

Joe Roatche, a journalism major at Bucks, said, “I can’t believe we actually won the super bowl.” He added, “Through all the injuries, the team scraped and clawed.” He finished by saying, “If there was ever an Eagles team that deserved to win this trophy, it was this one.”

Some students were not huge Eagles fans, but were still able to feel the energy and positive thoughts on the Eagles winning the trophy.

Will Frei, a journalism major at Bucks said, “It’s really good for them to win.” He added, “I’m a big Flyers fan, but for Philly sports it’s very emotional and captivating.”

Other fans remember the grit and grind it took for the Eagles to get through the season with enough help to capture the ultimate goal.

Julia Pacifico, also a journalism major, said, “It’s unbelievable.” She added, “When Carson went down, everyone thought our season was over.”

Philadelphia was able to beat New England in time of possession, a key to limiting the amount of drives Tom Brady was able to command down the field.

The key statistic of the game was defensive end Brandon Gra-

ham’s lone sack against the invisible pass rush of the Patriots which had zero. Graham strip sacked the greatest quarterback of all time to give the city of Philadelphia the ultimate gift.

Another student, Mason Sullivan, a business major, said, “Doug Pederson left it all out there.” He added, “He didn’t let Bill beat us at his own game!” Both the Eagles and Patriots set an NFL record for any postseason game in history by accumulating 1,151 total yards offensively.

Other fans could not find their words after the birds took care of business. Connor Palush, a Quakertown graduate, stated, “I can’t believe it man.” He added, “It’s hard to put into words.”

Fans full of utter excitement such as Nick Cass, a Quakertown High School graduate, said, “Philly, Philly!” He added, “We finally did it!”

Fans in the city immediately flooded Broad Street in Philadelphia after the thrilling victory over the Patriots. Crisco and many police officers were then put to work in trying to harness the chaos that ensued.

Thursday, Feb. 8, the world will encounter the biggest Super Bowl parade in history, as millions of fans will flood the city to participate in the madness.

Philadelphia plans a route leading to Rocky and the art museum steps where a sea of green will party like no city has ever partied before.

## Eagles Pep Rally

ISABELLA GARRATT

Centurion Staff

Eagles’ fans got pumped this Thursday at Bucks’ rivalry-filled pep rally in preparation for the second exciting Super Bowl showdown between the Eagles and the Patriots.

The rally was filled with all things green in an effort to get sleep-deprived college students excited about something in the dead of winter, and for good reason; not only is this game the second time these two enemies have made it to the Super Bowl, but fans were very opinionated, giving it a fun and competitive spirit.

If all of the hype about who’s winning or losing wasn’t enough to make you regret not joining the pep rally, maybe the slew of prizes will. Eagles gear, including hats, stickers, and finger pointers were given out during fun games like cornhole. Students became almost as competitive as the NFL players themselves. Tossing the small bags into the holes was reminiscent of football players kicking a field goal.

For some it’s the novelty of a possible Philly win, as Matt Cipriano, who helped to organize the pep rally said: “The eagles have never won a single Super Bowl. I think it would be good if they got that monkey off their back. The Pat’s just don’t deserve it. The

pep rally is important for friends and comradery too. The Super Bowl is exciting because it will be a good game, but it’s also really good for the economy.” Matt would know, he once drove all the way to Detroit to see a Super Bowl, and the only hotel he could get was in Ohio.

Others are excited for another possible close game after a comeback. In 2012, the Eagles lost 24-21 in the Super Bowl.

One student’s eyes became wide when I asked him for his opinion, “When Carson Wentz was injured—I thought it was over for the Eagles. My Dad said Foles could pull it off to make it to the Super Bowl, and he was right. I’m glad I was wrong.” said Tyler C., a 25-year-old music major.

Some have much simpler requests of their Super Bowl players. Mike O., a 19-year-old engineering student, had some much lower expectations of the rivalry team. “I just don’t want the Patriots to cheat. I just want the Eagles to win. That’s all I want.”

Lower Bucks campus also hosted a pep rally the previous Wednesday, and Matt again shared his opinion, “The Super Bowl will feel like one big, giant, homecoming game. Philly fans care about it because we’ve never won. It’s more special than if the Pat’s win again.”

Sometimes, a love of the game really is that simple



Above: Tom Brady looking defeated during the game.  
Below: Philadelphia coach Doug Pederson after the victory.



Eagles’ tight end Zach Ertz.



Eagles’ defensive end Brandon Graham