

Government Shutdown Leaves Workers Desperate Without Pay



Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

JAYLA JOHNSON & BAILEE ZELIS
Centurion Staff

President Trump’s government shutdown, lasting from Dec. 22 to Jan. 25, has been the longest in America’s history, leaving 800,000 federal workers without pay.

According to Trump, his border wall, which has been the center of his campaign and his presidency, is urgent enough to leave almost a million American citizens without a paycheck.

Trump temporarily reopened the government, and Congressional leaders this week reached a tentative agreement to avoid another shutdown.

But Trump, under fire from conservative critics, said he wasn’t happy with the deal because it didn’t include the funding he wanted for the border wall. Neither Congressional Democrats nor Trump seem to be budging in

their stances on this issue..

Cherylayne Walker, a General Business and Industry Employee, under the agency Assistant Secretary for Housing- Federal Housing Commissioner, is one among the many government workers who went without pay for 35 days.

“I was upset because I had to go into my savings account and use some of that money to pay for the bills,” stated Walker.

Walker shared that this in fact was her third government shutdown, but this would have to be the worst one due to it being around the holidays.

Even for people who are not directly involved in government, this past month has been hard to ignore with the shutdown being all over the news and social media. Several Bucks students weighed in with their opinion of this past month’s events.

Kristian Khrystenکو, a 19-year-old Business major from Warminster, made an interesting comment regarding why no agreements have been made yet between Congress and the President. He said, “I think it could work if Congress and the President were the ones not getting paid.”

Craig Mechanic, a 20-year-old Business/Hospitality major from Yardley, discusses someone close to him who has been a mail woman for roughly twenty years and is not getting paid.

Mechanic, when asked about the border wall says, “Nobody supports it. When people realize they have to pay for it they’ll remember how stupid they were for voting for him in the first place.”

With the government shutdown Trump has lost a lot of support from even his own party, his approval rate falling to 39.3 percent in the polls. The border wall, which Trump had previously

promised Mexico would pay for, now seems to be the responsibility of the American taxpayers. To many Americans, the wall is unrealistic.

Jeremy Pruss, 19-year-old Business/Communications major, has no strong opinions on the wall, but when asked if it was a realistic goal he said, “Do you know how many Home Depot trips that would take?” He also commented that the nation could be using its resources in a more efficient way.

The shutdown has definitely caused a lot of inconveniences for Americans, especially when it comes to traveling outside the country. Many TSA workers have been absent during the shutdown, airport security lines have been longer, and flights have been delayed.

Bucks student Samantha Keane, an 18-year-old Communications major from Chalfont, talked about her boyfriend’s family’s inability

to leave the country because they were unable to get a passport during the shutdown. For many American families this could mean cancelled vacations with no refund.

Government employee Cherylayne Walker added that she started wondering if their bills would get paid on time, and if they could afford gas and groceries.

Like most Americans, Keane believes that border control is important, but she says, “There is no need to build a whole wall.”

Overall, the government shutdown has not been appreciated by most Americans, and many are hoping for some sort of reform so that it doesn’t happen again. Hopefully the administration will see what the employees do for the public is very beneficial. With Trump and Congress’ refusal to compromise, it looks like the American people will be on their toes for a while.

Valentine’s CPR Training In Linksز Pavilion

FRANCIS KLINGENBERG
Centurion Staff

The Linksز Pavillion is hosting two 30-minute Hands Only CPR training classes Thursday, Feb. 14, also known as Valentine’s

Day. The American Heart Association reported that 88 percent of cardiac arrests happen at home so it is best to be prepared. There are two training sessions on Valentine’s Day. It is open to both students and employees.Both training sessions each can hold 50

people. It is required to sign-up for a session before the event, a form can be found at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0948a-fab2eaafb6-bucks17>. The first session takes place from 12:30p.m. to 1p.m, while the second session takes place from 1p.m. to 1:30p.m. An attendee will be able to learn, then practice at these sessions. Janet Baker, the Director of Allied Health, stated that. “Heart disease is the leading cause of death in America.” The CDC reported that 610,000 Americans die every year from heart disease, and there are 735,000 heart attacks every year. “If someone knows what to do in an emergency situation, it can make the difference of life and death,” Baker said. She stressed that it was very important to learn CPR because it can

prevent many deaths. “The Hands Only CPR is geared towards people who suddenly collapse who are in an emergency situation,” said Baker. She explained that Hands Only CPR is easy to learn. In short, there are only two steps with Hands Only CPR; calling 911, then performing chest compressions. This class is not a certification. The goal of this class is to inform people on how to perform a form of CPR to prevent unnecessary deaths. If an attendee wants a certification, he or she can take a certification class another time. “All the CPR classes are valuable to learn,” stressed Baker. This is the second year that the Health Sciences Department has held the Hands Only CPR event. It’s one event in a string of events supporting American Heart Month. After this Valentine’s day


CPR training, there is a lecture in Founders Hall 140 about “Women and Heart Disease.” It will take place Feb. 16, 3:30 to 5p.m. Baker said that Valentine’s Day was chosen because, “it is a day that we show someone how much we love them.” “It could be a loved one [we save] someday,” finished Baker. The American Heart Association reported that 70 percent of Americans either don’t know how to perform CPR, or their training has significantly lapsed. If you are part of that 70 percent, then please attend a training session. A heart attack or cardiac arrest can happen to anybody. Do you want to stand by the side while a person dies, or do you want to act and save a life?




Photo Courtesy of Wikimdia Commons

INSIDE


International Students at Bucks Pg.2




Polar Vortex Pg.9



Women’s Basketball Pg.10



Oscar Nominations Pg.5



Bucks News

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International Students Are Welcomed to Bucks



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JON CORLEY
Centurion Staff

Bucks offers a gateway to various opportunities in education, career goals, and determining your future for all kinds of students, even those who live overseas.

Bucks is among the group of colleges with a program that recruits international students to study on campus in order to achieve their individual academic goals.

While Bucks has accepted students who were attending campus with visas for over twenty years, it didn’t start actively recruiting students until October, 2007.

This program was headed and managed by Vice-President Jason M. Mayland, Director of

Admissions Marlene Barlow, and Recruiter Casey Grunmeier. Mayland stated “It is my sincere hope that all of us can embrace and benefit from international students in an increasing globalized society.”

The main goal of this exchange program is to create a more diverse student body. It also benefits them with an education while having them share their experiences with other Bucks students.

The countries that these students are selected from include, but are not limited to, Yemen, Nigeria, Nepal, Russia, Zimbabwe, Thailand, India, Ukraine, Albania, and China.

Georgia Serica, 22, a Civil Engineering major from Albania, said, “The benefit of having more

international students at Bucks is great because I can experience a variety of cultures that I wouldn’t be able to experience back home.”

In order for the students to attend Bucks, they must first go through a process in their home country to get themselves set up and obtain visas and enter the U.S.

First, the college searches for promising individuals and issues an academic I-20. Once this is done, the students must set up an appointment with the U.S. embassy in their country and are interviewed for about 1-3 minutes.

The students must also provide the embassy with their documentation, bank statement, and passport in addition to applying to Bucks in advance. The embassy

decides whether the application gets approved or denied, and must inform Bucks if they were approved.

After that, they must then go through student process which includes taking the placement test, course selection, and paying tuition. In addition to their visas, international students must register as full-time students.

Once the students have completed their studies at Bucks, they return to their homes.

Collins Horinda, 20, a Mathematics Major and Shola Swarres, 20, a Sports Management major, both from Zimbabwe, are among these students who were accepted to Bucks.

They both said, “We met Mr. Mayland and Mrs. Barlow

though our educational agency in Zimbabwe. After hearing about the benefits of studying at Bucks, as well as the small class size and location, we knew this would be the right fit for us. Everyone here is so welcoming and helpful. It makes being so far away from our family a little easier.”

Bucks is committed to giving its students the best possible experience when it comes to their academic studies.

Recruiter Casey Grunmeier stated “Having these students experience the American culture can not only be beneficial to them, but to us as well.”

Get Real On-Air Experience By Joining the Radio Bux Club

TYLER SEALE
Centurion Staff

Radio Bux is a student-run club here at Bucks that has been active for over a decade. The club has its members running their own radio shows in different time slots each week while gaining hands on experience as they learn to use the equipment and techniques of broadcasting. The Radio Bux shows are broadcasted in real time and are easily accessible through their website, radiobux.com, or the app, tunein-radio. It can be found in both the

App Store and Google Play. The club itself is located on the Newtown Campus in reserved student life and club rooms. There are also open office hours on Mondays and Wednesdays each week, as well as scheduled meetings on March 7 and April 11. There are currently around 15 members of differing majors as the club is meant mainly to help anyone with an interest in broadcasting gain some experience and possibly opportunities. One of these members is President of Radio Bux and Cinema Video major,

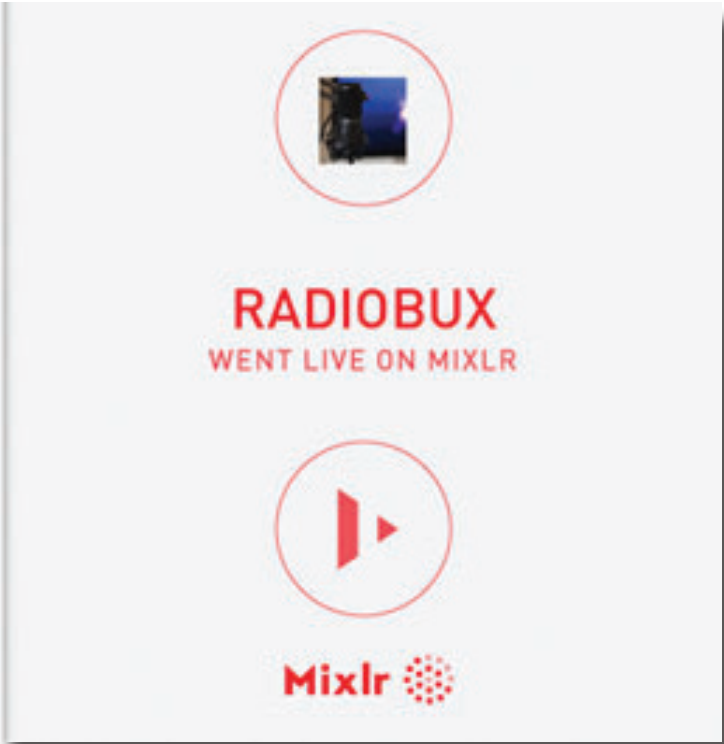
Nick Macey. Macey, like presidents before him, is very involved in organizing and running the club’s time-slots and shows. Two of these shows are run by Macey, who is also known by his on-air alias “Mad Hatter.” The first of his shows is “Jamming with the Mad Hatter,” on Wednesdays from 3-5p.m., in which he plays funk and rock band music. Specifically, he plays bands such as The Grateful Dead. Macey’s second show is the “Late Night Mad Hatter Metal Show” on Thursday nights from 10p.m. to midnight. He had picked up some listeners from Germany because of it. This shows off one of the most impressive aspects of Radio Bux. Their shows can reach people all over the world. When asked what he enjoyed the most about the club, Macey answered, “The joy of broadcasting. There is something really awesome about being able to reach people.” Other members clearly shared the same passion as they fill their time slots with interests. For example, “Sports Talk with K-Rock” is a Flyers-oriented talk

show that runs on Mondays, and he even takes music breaks as there are no annoying ad breaks to interrupt the show. Another show is, “Mosh the Block with Ethan” which plays punk-oriented pop, and lighter-metal. It is driven by variety in music. Each week Ethan goes on to interview a band. He organizes the music selection around that band’s music. The freedom Radio Bux has with their broadcasting is another

bonus. They are considered internet radio, which prevents the Federal Communications Commission from having control of them. This allows for more room for expression. Their ambitions for doing remote broadcasting in different locations adds to their freedom. Their new tech such as the RODEcaster Pro and speakers allow for all the trained members to expand where they can broadcast from. Radio Bux shows a variety of



Photos Courtesy of Bucks’ facebook page



Bucks News

Make Your Voice Heard in the Student Government Elections!

PAIGE SCHOLL-D’ANDREA
Centurion Staff

The student government is going up for re-election this upcoming April, but the current members are still committed to performing their best this semester while tackling many student issues.

The ballot to vote will be sent out electronically via e-mail. It

will be sent toward the last week of April, so make sure to get your vote heard.

If a student wanted to get the student government’s attention on a particular issue, they may go to the Bucks website and express their concerns on the Student Government tab.

A list of contact information for the student government members may be found on the website on

the homepage. They are all open to hearing your concerns, criticism, and issues at any point in the semester. They also provide basic information if asked.

If a student wished to run for student government, it would be wise to start getting all the information required in soon. Visit the Student Government in Rollins 111 and speak with Matthew Cipriano.

Cipriano is the head of student programs and clubs here at Bucks. He will be able to provide any information for entering the election.

The duties of each board member are listed under the Executive Board tab on the student government webpage.

Students may also attend open board meetings to voice concerns and see what student government

members do. These meetings are held every Tuesday throughout the school year.

Some meetings are also hosted online by video so students at the Upper and Lower Bucks campuses can sit in on meetings.

You can make real change and become involved here at Bucks with Student Governemnt.

STUDENT LIFE Elections

ELECTIONS

- Elections for Executive Board Officers and Councilors are held once annually, no later than the last week in April each academic year.
- Elections are coordinated through the Student Life and Athletics Office and all policies and procedures can be obtained through the office.
- All members of the student body (enrolled students)will be eligible to vote.
- Each voter will have one (1) vote for each position.
- The candidate receiving the plurality of votes will be elected. Tie votes will be resolved by the casting of votes during a second election.

HOW DO I VOTE?

It's easy!

You will receive an email notification in your Bucks email and the My Bucks Portal with a link and instructions for voting.

Photo Courtesy of Bucks.edu

Are you business savvy? Join the Bucks Business Association

HAILIE BASTET
Centurion Staff

The Bucks Business Association (BBA) is a long-running organization here at Bucks which aims to educate about marketing, finance, and management while providing students with professional development.

The club helps many further their professional skills and abilities. BBA is targeted at business majors but anyone is welcome to join. With such a large percentage of business-related majors at Bucks, it cannot be overstated how such an organization can benefit the student population. President of the BBA, Lia Messer, a business administration major, says it’s “a great opportunity to learn a lot and to interact with so many different types of people.”

Not only does the BBA seek to educate and develop their members, but they also have a heavy focus on giving back to the community. Messer exclaims that “we do try to give back to the community as much as possible.” The organization is routinely involved with bake sales and other charitable events to raise money to benefit the community.

The club does cover business topics, however the meetings are full of entertainment. Messer says that the club is “very open” and “a lot of fun.” With any club you’ll always find ways to have fun

regardless of subject matter, however, the BBA can benefit all students on a deeper level. We live in a corporate world in which many diverse businesses are everywhere you go. It is important to understand how our world works in a business sense, and beyond that, gaining both experience and knowledge which can be applied outside of business practices.

Messer added that by being a member of the BBA she learned “better communication skills, how to be more confident, and how to manage her time.”

This spring semester, the BBA is holding their annual Business Etiquette and Networking Dinner in April, along with a Networking Mocktail Hour.

The Bucks Business Association is a place for all people, regardless of major or interests, to come together to learn and discuss all things pertaining to business and to learn from real professionals. For those new to the subject, it is an open place to gain knowledge and understanding of our ever rapidly changing business world.

The BBA will hold their spring semester meetings every Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Rollins room 115 with free pizza included, new members are welcomed!

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Politics

A Look Ahead At The 2020 Election

MELISSA STEWART
Centurion Staff

The 2020 election is steadily approaching and many Democrats such as Democrats like Kamala Harris, Cory Booker, and Elizabeth Warren are taking a chance against Trump in 2020.

Some students at Bucks have been closely following their campaigns, while others are ignoring this upcoming election. The elephant in the room is whether or not Trump will have a chance again for a second term, or if he will be vulnerable in 2020.

Some students at Bucks do not have enough faith for voters to not choose Trump again. For example, Francesca Descano, 19, who is majoring in communications, said “I hope he doesn’t have a chance, but I don’t have much faith in America to not vote him again, and unless Democrats can pull something together, I fear that many still favor Trump over others.”

Some also believe that the Democrats do not have a



Photo courtesy of Wiki Media Commons

chance against Trump at all. One student who believes Trump will stand strong in the 2020 election is Katie Pugh, age 25 from Glenside, PA.

While speaking with Katie, she told me, “I believe Trump has a very good chance of winning in 2020. Citizens that voted for Trump in 2016 believe that he has done an unprecedentedly great job at running our country thus far. I believe the Democratic nominations will not have enough support in one outstanding candidate to give President Trump a fair fight to win the presidency in 2020.”

While students fear and have preparations for

Trump’s possible win in 2020, others believe Trump will be vulnerable.

Trump may have let down some of his supporters, according to, Taylor Bucknum, who is age 19 from Levittown, PA. Bucknum believes Trump will be vulnerable in this upcoming election. She said, “His supporters may feel let down over the government shutdown, and still not having a wall.” Although she “hasn’t been following the race closely,” she feels “anyone can come to this conclusion.”

While some students believe Trump will be vulnerable in this election, others believe Trump may still have a chance in 2020.

Trump still has the support of many voters, according to Tyler Reed, who is 20 from Levittown, PA, majoring in Science. Reed stated, “I think Trump has a chance due to the fact a lot of people agree with the angles he believes in. I haven’t been very involved in any election to date, mainly because I have most of my time occupied with school/work/general responsibilities.”

Sometimes students seclude themselves from politics because it’s a “hot button issue.” The differences in political views worry them.

Cherry Kivumbi, who is 22 and majoring in communications, has not been paying attention at all. She said, “Politics end up being a hot button issue.”

To add on, Cherry believes Trump being elected again is “unlikely because people who voted last term seemed to not like the candidates, and if a candidate does not have a lot of scandal to their name, he/she could most likely win.”

Another student who removes herself from anything politically related is Gabbi

Nader, who is 18 and majoring in History. Gabbi confessed, “I tend to not follow politics in fear of others making me feel ashamed for my political views, and that not many people can come together to find a resolution.”

Not only do some students at Bucks believe Trump has a chance to be re-elected for another term, “The Daily Beast” believes, “Trump should have a 70% Chance of Winning in 2020”.

In an online newspaper article written by Clifford Young and Chris Jackson, stated, “Trump Should have a 70% Chance of Winning in 2020,” they added, “This prediction comes from our analysis of more than 500 elections,... With Trump’s current 44% percent approval rating, he should have about a 70 percent chance of winning in 2020.”

The opinions of Trump winning, or becoming vulnerable in 2020 is still a big question for students at Bucks, but what we should be asking ourselves is something simpler: “Trump 2020: Scared or Prepared?”

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JUST A 20 MINUTE DRIVE FROM BUCKS!

Arts and Entertainment

Do Bucks Students Care About Oscar Nominees?

ERIN SMITH

Centurion Staff

As the Academy Awards Show grows closer, Bucks students give their take on which movies they've seen and which they feel deserve to win.

"Black Panther" "Bohemian Rhapsody," as well as "A Star is Born," "BlacKkKlansman," "Roma," and "The Incredibles 2" are headlining the Oscars and it so happens that they are the only films that students have seen out of the almost 40 that were nominated all together.

Each student had only seen one or two movies themselves that were on the list of nominees, and some haven't seen any of them at all.

"Bohemian Rhapsody" is a dramatic biography of the 80s rock band, "Queen" and its late lead singer, Freddie Mercury, was nominated six times, despite low ratings from critics and movie review websites.

20-year-old Grace McCaughey, an art history major from Feasterville, PA, felt that it deserved to win based on how well the acting was in the film.

She shares, "I really love Rami Malek [who is nominated for Best Actor], and I think he did such a great job. It'd be awesome to see him win an Oscar".

"Black Panther" was also nominated for six different categories and was the first superhero film to ever be nominated for an Academy Award.

Cherry Kivumbi, age 22 and a communications major from Fairless Hills, PA, hasn't even seen the film and is still rooting for it to win.

"I haven't watched any of the movies, but I have seen the most praise from "Black Panther" out of any other nominee I've heard of."

For the people who have seen the film, they believe that "Black Panther" deserves every nomination it got.

"It goes to show how excellence can be achieved with such a di-



Photo Courtesy of Google Images

verse cast and crew working on a movie," says 23-year-old business administration major, Doreen Forson from Winneba, Ghana.

She also shares how she respects how they adapted the plot from the original comics the film is based on in a way that is still original and fresh.

"I feel like almost all the films nominated for Oscars are unoriginal and keep cycling through stories that someone else has already thought of."

The issue of diversity in Oscar nominations is still a hot topic in movie culture, and "Black Panther," "Roma," and "BlacKkKlansman" are good examples of how Hollywood is evolving since previous Academy Award shows.

20-year-old Gabriella Morgan, an english major from Robins-

ville, N.J., praised "BlacKkKlansman" for its storytelling and phenomenal acting.

"[BlacKkKlansman] is a great reminder that racism is still not dead in modern-day America."

Due to its mainly white and African-American cast, Morgan believes the film, directed by Spike Lee, is great and adds to the growing diversity of Oscar nominations and allows more black actors and actresses to be recognized for their talent.

"It's outrageous that this is the first time Spike Lee has been nominated for an Oscar. He has done so much amazing work, he should have been nominated a long time ago," said Doreen Forson

Morgan also is very impressed with the fact that "Roma," has

been nominated for 10 categories including "Best Picture," despite the fact that it is a Mexican film spoken entirely in Spanish, and she "would love to see it win."

Students also shared the fact that they don't go out to see new movies in the theaters very often, which can be accredited to why they hadn't watched a lot of the movies that have been nominated.

Almost every student revealed that overpriced movie tickets and other inconveniences have stopped them from going to the movie theater.

"Why would I go and spend so much money at the movies if I'm not even sure that I'll like the movie?" says Zachary Zimmerman, a computer science major from Philadelphia, PA, age 19. "It's just a waste of money to

me." Zimmerman revealed that he hadn't seen any of the movies that were nominated, but said that "Bohemian Rhapsody" looked the most entertaining and would be his choice to win.

More than half of students revealed that they would most likely watch this year's Oscars, though none are fully committed.

Needless to say, an Oscar show without a host and so much diversity should be an interesting time. Hollywood has really shown how much it has evolved in the recent years and this award show will show it to us.

The Academy Awards will premiere Sunday, Feb. 24, at 5 p.m., PST on ABC. All information regarding movie nominees has been obtained from thehollywoodreporter.com.

"Sex Education" Teaches the Audience All the Right Things



BRENDON LAUFF

Centurion Staff

Despite being awkward, "Sex Education" is a thrilling and hysterical British comedy/drama that has viewers stunned, shocked, and in disbelief.

The Netflix series was created by Laurie Nunn and premiered in 2019. It not only throws inappropriate laughs and sex jokes at the viewers, but also hits them hard with serious issues like

body-shaming, homophobia, bullying, anxiety, promiscuity, and even abortion.

The story follows the complicated life of Otis, played by Asa Butterfield, an awkward teen who's incapable of masturbation or sex. With his classmate, Maeve, the two create a secret sex clinic for troubled teens at their high school. Otis and Maeve have trouble getting their business idea going at first but with one good therapy session things are up and running.

The series also follows Otis'

mother, played by Gillian Anderson, as a strange and intruding sex therapist that crosses her son's personal boundaries. Otis' mother is so intruding that this simple line she says, "I know you've been pretending to masturbate and I was wondering if you wanted to talk about it," to her son sets the tone for the funny yet strange "nurturing" mother.

Otis' best friend, Eric, is a homosexual who deals with homophobia, bullying and questioning his sexual orientation before finding his path in life. Eric's

many sisters and disapproving father are the least of his worries as Adam, the school bully and principal's son, sees him as a punching bag.

Maeve, a troubled girl and Otis' business partner, has the reputation of being the class "slut." Although from a broken home, and barely worth a dollar, she has a special gift of writing that may be more trouble than it was worth. She also has to go through the most difficult decision in the show that has caused controversy not only in the United Kingdom but

throughout the U.S. as well.

There are numerous awkward teen moments through this series that make you stare at your screen with interest.

This series is funny and strange with the uncomfortable topic of sex being exploited right and left. Not only is this series inappropriately funny but it also hits hard with drama and the serious issues that are facing teens and young adults everywhere in the world.

At its core, Sex Education is a coming of age story that will resonate with viewers and may even inspire others about the importance of making healthy decisions during sex. This comedy includes British people, sex, romance and all the other ingredients for a unique and loving experience. "Sex Education" has released season one with eight 45-minute episodes, taking new twists and turns in each episode.

After well received reviews according to Variety, Netflix has decided to confirm that a second season is in the works, just a couple weeks after the initial release of the series. According to the IMDb page, this new series has received numerous positive reviews with an average rating of 8.5 out of roughly 31,000 ratings.

This story hits its viewers hard while offering laughs and inspiring change to stand up for what you believe in.

Phot Courtesy of Brendon Lauff

Arts and Entertainment

“Into The Spider-Verse” Will Stick With You

BRADLEY HARE

Centurion Staff

Given the state of how Spider-Man movies usually are, and with how widely repulsive Sony Picture’s last animated film “The Emoji Movie” was, it is very safe to assume that the public was going to look at “Into the Spider-Verse” with much caution and concern. So, when the reviews came rolling in and started to praise this as the best Spider-Man movie period, it’s easy to raise an eyebrow at the reaction and shrug it off as paid reviews. However, this reaction is genuine, as “Into the Spider-Verse” is a beautifully animated movie with some of the best action scenes I have ever seen.

The plot, despite involving some dimension travelling, is relatively simple. Miles Morales is your hero for the day, if you couldn’t tell by his last name. He’s your standard student, trying to survive the next day in his new school, impress the girl he likes, and so on. Except when a spider bites him in a way, I dare not spoil since it is way funnier than I thought it could be, he finds himself taking up the role of Spider-Man, replacing the original Spider-Man who met a fate that makes me question what 2018 had against Mr. Parker. Seriously, first “Infinity War” and now this? What are the odds?

It only gets weirder when he finds another version of Peter Parker, a version of Spider-Man from another dimension who has seen better days to put it nice-



Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

ly. The two have to stop a plan that King Pin has that would put the entire universe in jeopardy. It only leads to complications, with this having to be done in a certain time frame. If not, any other version of Spider-Man from this dimension will glitch out and cease being more or less. Other versions of Spider-Man being Spider-Gwen, the girl Miles was actually crushing on, Spider-Noir, a cheesy parody of crime Noir dramas, Peni Parker, an anime inspired Spider-Man, and Spider-Ham, a more lighthearted

version of Spider-Man as a pig. Despite the oddity of the scenario, it never feels like it’s too much. Each character is introduced at times where the audience feels like they’re ready for them, and they each have their own personalities and even unique art style. Personally I was surprised by how much I loved Spider-Ham. I thought he was just going to be a standard loud mouth comedic relief, but he was given actually pretty emotional lines and quiet moments; they all work extremely well.

That’s another thing; the art style is glorious. It feels like it is a comic book that popped up on the big screen. Text boxes, big bold letters, and even comic book covers keep popping up throughout the movie, and they never feel out of place. There were many fun techniques they utilized to bring more comic specific ideas to the silver screen. The story is hard to talk about in terms of trying to not spoil too much, because this is something that you NEED to watch without anything spoiling you beforehand.

It manages to be simple enough to follow along with some funny and heart wrenching moments. When it came time to think about potential faults the movie had, I honestly couldn’t think of any, and even found myself disagreeing with other faults the critics listed. I honestly have nothing but high praises to sing for this wonderful film. Anyone can wear the mask, even if you made a terrible movie last year. Sony, consider yourselves redeemed. Overall Score: **10/10**

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Student Life

Bucks Gears Up for the Semiannual Student Research Conferences

FRANCIS KLINGENBERG
Centurion Staff

Prof. Sarahlyn Bruck and Dr. Stephen doCarmo are hosting the Spring Student Research Conference on Friday, May 3, said doCarmo. The Student Research Conference (SRC) was an idea thought up by Jennifer Diamond nearly 11 years ago that has become a growing event on all three Bucks' campuses. She wanted to emulate the professional world where business professionals get together to present their work.

The SRC is a daylong event that takes place in classrooms. Students share their presentations and work with other students in the program. The main event takes place in the Gallagher room during lunch hour where administration presents their speeches to every student in the program.

"Bucks' SRC is the first of its kind in US community colleges," said Dr. doCarmo. "As of writing this, it was nominated for a second time and is a finalist in the Bellwether Awards, which rewards innovation." Prof. Brusk and Prof. Tracey are at the Bell-

wether Awards to see if Bucks won.

The SRC is sponsored by local businesses like textbook companies. One company that helps is "W. W. Norton & Company, Inc."

In an interview with Dr. Stephen doCarmo, a Lang and Lit professor, he told this reporter that he was filling in as a panel moderator for Dr. Charlie Groth, a professor on sabbatical. Dr. doCarmo used his hands to talk, especially when conveying his excitement for what the students will bring to the table this spring.

He has been at Bucks since Fall 2002, and he is the program coordinator behind "Honors@Bucks." Interested students with a GPA of 3.25 or higher may join at bucks.edu/honors. "It looks amazing to any college," he said.

Dr. doCarmo stated. "That there are around 150 students who participate in the conference per semester. He even mentioned that their highest amount of students was 254." The SRC used to be held on Thursday, but scheduling problems prevented it last semester. "We realized we had to do the conference on a Friday," stated

Dr. doCarmo, "we hope this will become a new norm."

When asked why students should participate in the SRC, Dr. doCarmo said, "We want them to have a nice feature for their applications to 4-year schools." He also said that it develops public speaking and organizational skills.

"It gives the students a chance to think of themselves as scholars," he stated. "Often, students don't realize that by sharing their research, creations, and knowledge during presentations, they are officially scholars."

The deadline for announcing intent to participate is on Thursday, April 18, 11:59p.m. "It's a quick and easy form to fill out," said Dr. doCarmo. The form can be found at bucks.edu/src.

Honors students and students with GUID101 are required to participate in this conference. They must sign up themselves at the above link.

Every student come and participate it's an experience that builds your portfolio, and it's a taste of the future.



Dr. docarmo, photo courtesy of Francis Klingenberg

Adventure Awaits with the Trip and Travel Club

ALICIA MINCH
Centurion Staff

The Trip and Travel Club opens many opportunities for full day, inexpensive travel for students currently enrolled at Bucks.

If you've never traveled before, this club is the perfect opportunity to go to new places and explore cultures with your friends and fellow clubmates!

The advisor of this club is Heather Kouveras, who is a Program Developer here at Bucks. The goal of each trip is to "broaden horizons and get people thinking" she says. "There is typically some correlation to learning goals in all areas of study. Sometimes it is a specific event and sometimes it is tasting a food from a different culture and finding something new to love. We try to combine each activity with a lot of interesting facts and fun!" There is no fee

to pay to join the club, you pay per trip. The prices for these trips are very inexpensive. Most trips are between \$20-\$25, the highest priced upcoming trip is \$55. This club raises money for the Bucks County Housing Group, a group that provides housing for indigent people who live in Bucks County. This club provides students with transportation by luxury motor coach, which arrives at the Newtown Campus at Student Lot 4. The motor coach will arrive at 7:30 a.m. and will bring you back to school at 6:30 p.m., or after, depending on the trip. You will have a full day to spend with your friends and clubmates!

This club averages around 40 trips a year. With that many trips, there's something for everyone. Obviously, you don't have to go to every single one, you pick which events you'd like to go to. Some of the previous trips include the Baltimore Aquarium, Statue

of Liberty, Franklin Institute, and many others. One of the upcoming trips is to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty on March 30th. This includes a ferry ride to the island, tours, and lunch without the big group. Some other upcoming trips include the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, Eating Tours in the Lower East Side and one in Greenwich Village, Washington, DC, and multiple other exciting trips! The club has a number of friendly people. And on how many people can join, Ms. Kouveras says "The more the merrier!" The meeting place of the club is in the Rollins Center, room 122, near the testing center. The club meeting days are TBD, so if you want to be involved, you should email heather.kouveras@bucks.edu. You can purchase tickets online and see all the newest trips at <http://www.bucks.edu/studentlife/trip-stravelclub/>.



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Climate

Polar Vortex to Bring Even Colder Weather This Winter

JOSH THOMPSON
Centurion Staff

From late November to late March and maybe even early April, the weather getting colder is to be expected from an average Pennsylvanian winter. However, last week, things got a little too cold when a polar vortex hit the Midwest and even reaching our region.

A polar vortex is a low pressure area, filled with cold air. When the North Pole expands, all that cold air gets sent down to us.

This polar vortex has certainly put a wrench in a lot of people’s plans. CBS reported that 2,300 flights were canceled due to cold weather. Chicago, Michigan, and Wisconsin declared states of emergencies. Chicago was hit the worst, with -50 degree weather that according to the national weather service, can cause frost-bite in just 5 minutes.

Even Bucks got a taste of the extreme cold weather. A day after the school closed down at 6 due

to possible rain and snow, all campuses ran on a 2 hour delay on Jan. 31, as weather was in the single digits that morning.

With all this cold weather, how have students here at Bucks been handling the cold air?

“It sucks, but it really doesn’t affect what I’m doing”, said business major Haley Korabik. Computer networking Major Steven Sanchez also gave his thoughts on this cold air.

“You’re gonna need to wear something heavy, unless you want to become a Popsicle.”

“The winter weather can be a season of snow and having fun, but can also freeze a person.” said Draven Zhou from Bensalem.

Students may also have to keep an eye out on the Bucks website as well as Canvas. In this kind of weather it’s possible that classes can be canceled. That was what happened on Tuesday, Jan. 29, when both Newtown and Lower bucks closed at 6 o’clock, due to possible rain and snow that was going to start around that time. While we didn’t get any snow, we

did get rain, and thanks to the extreme cold weather, it made things very slippery.

Bucks students seemed to not mind that much about school closing down or classes getting canceled due to the winter weather, and they certainly knew what they were going to do if this was the case.

Along with suggesting that people make sure they really bundle up, Steven Sanchez also said he would do homework if classes got canceled due to the weather. A good idea since professors would have to assign make up work to make up for the missed classes. Ryan of communications also said the same thing, along with adding that he would do some laundry.

It might suck, but we’re nearing the end of winter. Daylight savings time is March 10, and the first days of spring are approaching. I think 24 year old early education major Joli Edwards said it best: “I’m ready for summer”, and I’m sure many other students at Bucks are as well.



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Sports

A Look At The Women’s Basketball Season



Photo Courtesy of Bucks’ website

MACKENZIE MOONEY
Centurion Staff

The Bucks women’s basketball season is coming to a not so happy ending end, with a record of 0-19. Despite all the hardship, the team is only looking up from here with bigger plans for the future.

With 17.6 points per game average, the team is working very hard to do their best for the remainder of their season.

Team captain Haleigh Kaufmann (Yardley, PA), a second-year student and player here at Bucks said, “We set simple goals for every game this season, such as having

five different people score, and we met that every game.”

Although the scoreboards don’t show it, the team successfully did everything that they said they wanted to do. Considering how last season went for the girls, they were sure not to be too hard on themselves this time around.

“This year, we had more team unison, we just try our best to have fun. With a season with very little skill level, all you can do is have fun and try to improve every game” Kaufmann said.

As a player, she feels that defense is her strongest suit. With shooting also being one of Kaufmann’s strong suits, she really enjoys the defense aspect of every game.

As a team, their strength is being able to set every goal they created for each game.

With a tough season comes tough competitors. Haleigh Kaufmann said, “Every team we play is very skilled compared to us. We’re a team made of soccer and tennis players and have only two girls that play basketball outside of Buck’s, so that’s definitely a struggle for us.”

She added that the team’s coach does the best he can do to lead them to victory. With how their season has been going, Kaufmann stated that it “can be frustrating at times, but he is doing his best to accommodate and try to make us as successful as possible.”

With basketball not even being most of

the girl’s main sport, it is tough.

“I wish we would all have communicated more. Since none of us really have any education on the game, talking would’ve made us more successful. Communication off the court and between coaches and players should have happened more,” added Kaufmann

Although this season might not have been the best, the team gave their all and remembered to have fun while doing it. Best of luck to all players as we are all eager to see how both them as individuals and Buck’s women’s basketball as a whole grow.

76ers Move Forward After a Big Trade

JAMES WISTER
Centurion Staff

In the midst of an exciting and drama filled season in Philadelphia, the Sixers have high expectations to close out the year strong.

For the first time in years, the Philadelphia 76ers came into the season with real expectations. Mike Belardino, a 20-year-old exercise major from Bensalem always has high hopes for his favorite basketball team. “I would like to see them make the finals this year, I expect all of my sports teams to make it every year” said Belardino.

With a young core built around center Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons, many fans believed that this team was the best it’s been since Allen Iverson graced the floor in the early 2000’s.

Ryan Jacobs, a 24 year old communications major from Fallsington, believes that Simmons is the key to the team’s success thus far this season. “It’s his versatility” he said. “He can play any position and the offense runs through him.”

Despite a bit of a rough start to the season the team has started to gel and just past the halfway

point of the season currently have a record of 34-19, which is good enough for the fifth best record in the Eastern Conference.

If the playoffs started today the Sixers would be in and looking to build off of last season when they won a playoffs series against the Miami Heat before losing in the second round to the Boston Celtics.

The Sixers knew that in order to advance further in the playoffs they would need to add a third star to the team. They did that by making a trade for Jimmy Butler.

On Nov. 12 NBA.com reported that the Sixers had traded Jerryd Bayless, Robert Covington, Dario Saric and a 2022 2nd round draft pick to the Minnesota Timberwolves in exchange for Jimmy Butler and Justin Patton. Since the trade the team has been quite successful.

Despite the success, not everyone was a fan of the trade. Nolan Gromlich, a 19 year old business administration major from Washington’s Crossing, questions Jimmy Butler’s fit with the team. “The trade improved the team, but he isn’t the piece we needed” said Gromlich.

Butler has brought a bit of drama with him to the city of brotherly love. According to an

NBCSports.com report, on January 4th Butler aggressively challenged coach Brett Brown about his role within the team’s offense. While that incident hasn’t seemed to hurt the team’s success, it could play a role down the line since Butler will be a free agent after the season.

While many thought that the Butler trade would be the only major change this season, the team had other ideas. Rather than stay complacent and watch competitors get better the Sixers went out and made yet another trade for a big name player.

Wednesday morning Sixers fans awoke to huge breaking news as Adrian Wojnarowski of ESPN.com reported that the Sixers had made a trade for Tobias Harris, Mike Scott and Boban Marjanovic, with Harris being the biggest piece in

the trade. In order to make this trade happen the Sixers had to send the Los Angeles Clippers Wilson Chandler, Landry Shamet, Mike Muscala, two future first round draft picks and two future second round draft picks.

This type of aggressive move makes it clear the Sixers management wants to compete for a championship this year.

The home stretch of the season will soon be here after the February 15-17th All Star break. After the strong start to the season, the Sixers are looking to finish the 2018-19 season even stronger than they’ve started it and build some momentum for what hopes to be a finals run in this years playoffs.



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