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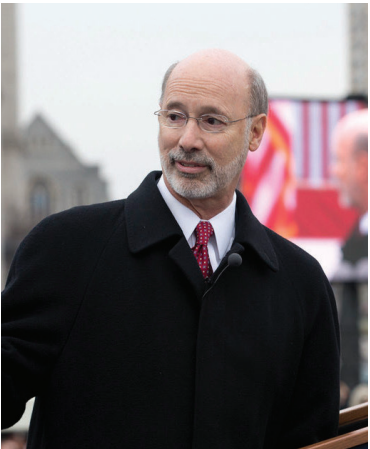
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# Possible Layoffs for Professors in Bucks' Music Department

**DAKODA CARLSON**

*Centurion Staff*

The college is considering laying off two professors in the music department due to declining enrollment at Bucks.

Bucks' provost, Lisa G. Angelo, agreed to comment.

According to Angelo, seniority does not protect professors from layoffs.

"There are provisions in the faculty contract that allow, with enough notice, for any faculty member to be laid off. This is one time where seniority does come into play, but any faculty given the correct circumstances, could be vulnerable," said Angelo.

Layoffs have been announced in previous years at the college but those professors were able to transfer to another department to teach.

"I know that notification of impending layoffs has gone out before. I'm unsure if faculty layoffs actually happened because faculty have the ability to retrain in other areas that have sufficient enrollment," said Angelo.

Angelo also spoke in regards to the declining enrollment at the college.

"Enrollments have been on the decline for numerous years due to a variety of factors. Our main



*The Music and Multimedia Center at Bucks, courtesy of Bucks' website*

factor is the declining number of high school graduates in Bucks County but also increased competition for students," said Angelo.

"State government funding for community colleges have been flat," added Angelo.

Each year the college makes staffing adjustments to try to deal with low enrollment.

"All managers continually assess staffing needs and the deans and I do this each year, particularly given the decline

in enrollment. There were other areas in which faculty retired, or those faculty retrained to teach courses with sufficient enrollment, etc.," said Angelo.

The situation is being handled by Angelo and others carefully. The college is attempting to prevent these layoffs.

"Our efforts are focused on recruitment and retention. It is not something anyone takes lightly," said Angelo.

Angelo added that the music department will remain active

at the college regardless of any professor layoffs.

"It is our hope that the faculty in the music area will be able to be recalled if or when enrollment increases or if senior staff retire.

"Administration is charged with the fiscal well-being of the institution and, unfortunately, sometimes layoffs are a necessary result of that fiscal responsibility," said Angelo.

# A Sit-Down With The New Chief Diversity Director

**NICHOLAS BERUBE**

*Centurion Staff*

"Even though I lost, I won." This is how Bucks' new Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer Kevin Antoine reflects on his 1996 Congressional Run for the now dismantled fourth district of Mississippi. Antoine's successes in emerging from that campaign are not only now part of American history, but helped him get to where he is now.

While he lost the general election, Antoine's victory in the primary made him the first person of color to win the nomination in the district known for its majority white population.

This was not the first time Antoine had broken the glass ceiling. During his undergraduate years, he became the first African American to be elected to student government in a white school in Mississippi, beating out fellow classmate and longtime friend Ken Stribling.

Stribling went on to be a consistent face in the Republican state legislature, and as Antoine mused, "The only loss he ever [had], that we would always say, was the one in undergrad."

Antoine's passion in regards to fighting for diversity and inclusion is rooted in his family and upbringing. Son of a Master Sergeant and one of seven children, Antoine' earliest years were spent in Japan on the base his father was assigned.

When their family relocated back to the U.S. in 1963, he and his siblings were confronted with something they had never experienced, segregation. Dissatisfied with learning that trying to enroll his children in a white school would not be supported by his new base commander, despite



*Photo of Kevin Antoine*

his involvement in WWII, Korea, and now Vietnam, Antoine's father took his eldest brother to the white school and began the integration process the next day and retired from service.

"My oldest sister and second brother, they graduated from the high school while it was still segregated, and they were part of that last class before everything integrated," said Antoine.

Antoine's father went on to be on the board of Trustees for Mississippi Golf Community College, where Antoine himself would begin his college career. With two parents and older siblings already active in the Civil Rights movement, Antoine continued on the straight and narrow, later joining the Airforce as an air battle manager.

With a Juris Doctorate from William & Mary University,

graduate certificates from Harvard University and Cornell University, and 15 years of diversity leadership at both The State University of New York and The City University of New York Antoine said he's now liking Bucks and the newly created position based off the little over a month he's been here.

While he has spent more time with the faculty for now, he has started conversations with the student government body and various student organizations on campus.

Already, Antoine has begun the modernization of diversity intake documentation. Also, he has worked closely with the school's marketing department in an effort to more accurately represent demographics on Bucks campuses and create more captivating content for Martin Luther King Day.

Within his first week, Antoine began tightening Bucks' relationship with the local office of United Way, an international non-profit that strives to pool fundraising resources and affect positive change.

When asked how students that don't necessarily identify as "diverse" can still benefit from his guidance, Antoine responded, "Well, they're students so say it's a white male student. There could be other issues going on, it could be that they need to talk to somebody about some counselling. It could be they're in a class and the professor is diverse and saying some things that are negative to white people. It comes with the territory, there's nothing as a diversity officer you should try not to do or refrain from doing."

*Story continued on Page 3.*



# Student Life

## STAFF

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Sarah Siock

**Managing Editor**  
Alyssa Moore  
Shannon Goldhahn

**Advisor**  
Tony Rogers

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

**JOSHUA THOMPSON**  
*Centurion Staff*

It’s Jan. 30, 2020. Journalism class 276, Feature Writing, just ended. The Bucks Community College newspaper, The Centurion, is about to hold its first meeting of the semester. Students in the feature writing class just spent most of the period editing stories for the paper’s first issue. It’s 12:30 p.m, when in walks a young woman with brown hair, wearing blue jeans and a pink and white shirt. She carries two boxes of pizza. The student in question is the editor in chief of the college newspaper, Sarah Siock. Ever since the fall of 2018 when she first came to Bucks, Siock has been studying journalism. What lead her to decide on this major was a mix of not knowing what to

do, and a love of writing. “I know a lot of people know from a young age what they want to be when they grow up, but for me, this was not the case. I always struggled with what career path I wanted to pursue. I never felt like I had an overwhelming interest in a particular subject. During my senior year of high school, I felt a lot of pressure to pick a major for college. To me, it seemed like it was such an easy decision for all of my friends,” Siock said. Siock chose journalism since she always enjoyed writing. However, her high school did not

have a student newspaper which made her a bit hesitant when deciding to choose journalism as a major. “I was definitely nervous that I would not have the necessary skills to be successful in the major. However, picking journalism as my major was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I realized it was silly to be nervous because college is the time and place where you learn. After taking journalism classes at Bucks and becoming involved in the student newspaper, I finally felt like I found that passion or

interest everyone else had,” said Siock. For Siock what makes journalism so special was the fact that it gives voices to ordinary people. Being a journalist doesn’t just give her the ability to write news stories for the school newspaper, it gives her the ability to be involved and representative of the student body. “The short answer is, I want to be a professional journalist because I like hearing the human side of stories,” said Siock. Despite not working on a school newspaper in high school,

Siock would quickly become The Centurion’s editor in chief in the spring semester of 2019. At the time, this was Siock second semester at Bucks. “The current editor in chief was transferring mid-year and a replacement was needed for the following spring semester, it is fairly unusual to have a new chief in the spring,” said Siock. Siock speculates that one possible reason for her being chosen as the editor in chief was because of the interest she showed as a student reporter. *Story continued on page four.*



Sarah Siock (right) sits with Managing Editor and future Editor in Chief Alyssa Moore, courtesy of Francis Klingenberg

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# Student Life

## A Professor and A Poet

SHANNON GOLDHAHN  
*Centurion Staff*

Clinking spoons against teacups filled with foamed cappuccinos and boisterous laughter illuminate the cafe. Bucks’ English professor Ethel Rackin soaks up each detail of the small room scribbling down each instant of inspiration from the anxious kids waiting to receive their hot chocolates to the ruffling leaves blowing in the wind to help create her poetry. Even though the hustle and bustle of a cafe can be distracting, Rackin finds it to be the opposite. “If I’m at a cafe and there’s ambient noise in the background it helps me to feel more relaxed and less pressure,” She clarified with a soft smile. “I think I just always want to take pressure off and feel like ‘Here I am sitting at a desk on my computer writing a poem,’” she said while using her hands to act like she’s typing on her computer. Laughing with a brush of her hand through the air, she said, “It’s just too much pressure, it’s too serious.” Rackin is always ready to write down any spontaneous line that comes to mind. She’ll doodle before taking a nap, speak into her phone while walking to her next class, and will always carry a notebook with her - just in case. Although, Rackin prefers to write in a notebook overall. “It’s a way for me to not put pressure on it and keep it alive in the notebook for a while,” she said. Rackin spoke about her poems as if they are literally a living

person. She breathes life into the beautiful and therapeutic process of writing. “Let it have a life of its own,” Rackin said to describe the process. Rackin’s entire process is filling up notebook after notebook after notebook with lines of poetry. Finally, once you’ve completed a notebook all you want to do is look at all your hard work. Wrong! Rackin said a great writers’ process is to allow the poems to simmer in a notebook for a while. “After a few months, later you come back and you look at one of the notebooks and you’re like, ‘oh, I didn’t know I did that,’” Rackin said. She lets her poems hibernate for years at a time before she goes back to them. She even has her first few notebooks from when she was a child. “That’s one way in which I am a pack rat. I have kept all of them,” Rackin admitted with a proud look on her face. She has boxes and boxes of notebooks that travel with her whenever she moves. “When you’re a poet, it’s so personal,” said Rackin. Poetry becomes like family that will never leave your side, even when you’ve become so frustrated with it. Right now, Rackin has been going through past notebooks to find inspiration for a book of poetry called, “Lately.” As Rackin grows older she finds herself looking at her friends, family and society suffering yet changing. “The theme is really loss. So, there are poems in there

that are elegies or poems for people who’ve passed,” Rackin explained with a somber tone that some of the poems are for society itself. “I think my writing is changing as society changes. It seems like a time where we were needed to tell our stories and where it’s a little weird not to” said Rackin. Rackin’s story started in Germantown with her parents and her older sister. Rackin isn’t the only one who has caught the creative virus. Her sister is a visual artist, while both her parents are English professors. Her mom taught at the University of Pennsylvania, where Rackin attended, while her dad worked at Temple University. Growing up, there would be books all around her house. Her parents also encouraged her writing when she was just a child, not that she felt comfortable sharing her work yet. Rackin confessed that she felt “it was a secret to hold and carry with me.” To properly expressive herself, poetry became the outlet that she needed. Rackin made clear that although it was helpful that she had parents who studied English, “I don’t think that’s the magic formula.” The ‘magic formula’ seems to be the perseverance to be a writer. I mean it seems to be a biological need,” she said. That’s why she enjoys teaching creative writing classes here at Bucks. People who have an affinity to be creative tend to be introverts who are waiting to find people who have that same drive.



Photo of Ethel Rackin

“That’s a theme, I think, in artists and writers. That at some point you’re gonna feel isolated and there’s a need to meet others who are doing similar things,” Rackin explained. Even though Rackin wakes up at the crack of dawn with her dog, to then teach, write, communicate as the director of the Poet Laurette contest, and coordinate for the Word Smith Reading Series; she still makes time to put all her work into her students. She truly cares about the thoughts and work that her students do in and out of the classroom. Sitting in her classroom one

day with all the students facing each other in a circle, she began by congratulating a student on his music that he’s producing. She even questioned when the album is coming out so she can listen to the complete version. Teaching has always been on Rackin’s mind as she first began teaching at Penn State Delaware County, which is now Penn State Brandywine, at 27 while completing her MFA in creative writing. Although, she admits that it didn’t come naturally at first. The hardest part was learning how to critique students work. *Story continued on page seven*

# A Sit-Down With The New Chief Diversity Director



PICKLE BRINED  
***Fried Chicken Fingers***

PICKLE BRINED  
***Fried Chicken Sandwiches***

HOUSE MADE  
***Coleslaw***

***Clucks Mac`n Cheese***



Photo of Kevin Antoine

*Story continued from page one.* At Bucks, Antoine’s goals for the future development and improvement of diversity include: setting up walking tours with faculty and students to see what needs to be improved for the disabled, hiring intake and investigation staff to his team, collaborating with administration and student affairs to foster more diversity during orientation, partnering with affinity groups to help with identification for students, setting up search committee guidelines for hiring, and conducting a climate survey to get

a more sophisticated look at campus demographics and concerns. Known as, son, brother, father, grandfather, candidate, and captain, Antoine said Bucks students can simply call him Kevin. Perhaps most important, he stressed, “One of the things this office does is I always keep an open-door policy. You can come in and talk. If I can’t help you I can direct you where you need to go.” Antoine’s office is located in Tyler Hall in room 228, and he can be reached by his email: kev-in.antoine@bucks.edu.

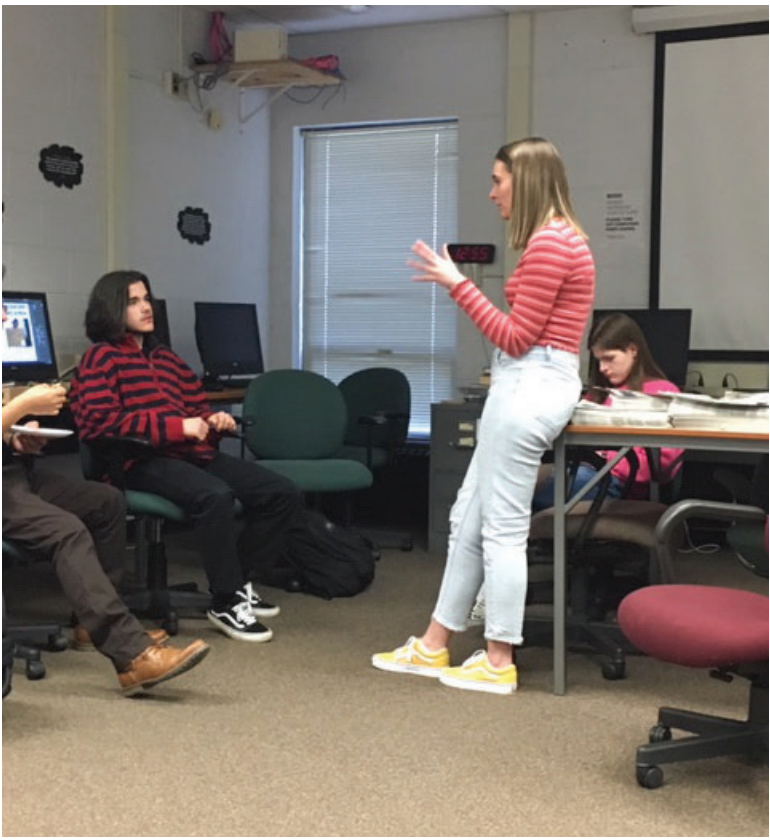


# Student Life

# Get To Know The Editor in Chief



Sarah Siock (middle) stands with fellow student reporters



Sarah Siock interacting with reporters at a Centurion staff meeting, courtesy of Joshua Thompson

Story continued from page 2.

In just her first semester, Siock wrote several stories for the paper, attended the staff meetings and helped with The Centurion’s layout. With that kind of dedication, it should be easy to understand why Siock was chosen to take over the ship.

“I was very humbled to be asked to fill the position. It’s provided me with many opportunities and has given me confidence as a writer. I feel like my journalism skills have really improved due to this role,” she said.

Starting out as the editor in

chief for the school newspaper was a bit overwhelming for Siock. This was her first leadership role. As time went on, Siock would get more comfortable as a leader. Her two Keystone Awards in the 2019 Pennsylvania News Media Association competition also helped her confidence.

“I do feel like I have fallen into place with the role. I now have a system that I follow for each issue of the paper. I would say it is a fun role and I enjoy working with my fellow editors. I am definitely receiving on the job experience which is extremely valuable,” said Siock.

Siock’s dedication to the

newspaper stays strong, with her stating that there were times she would show up to school on a Saturday to work on layout for the newspaper, and stay hours after all her classed ended to edit stories. This isn’t a complaint however, but more so an example of how time-consuming being editor in chief of the paper can be.

Stress does come with the job. For example, Siock’s first issue she was working on as editor in chief, the campus was closed down due to snow on the day the paper needed to be sent out to be printed.

“So yeah, stuff like that can cause a panic but it’s all part

of the experience,” said Siock reflecting on that day.

This is Siock’s last semester at Bucks before she transfers to Rider University. From there, Siock hopes to get her bachelors degree, and find a career in journalism.

Journalism Professor Tony Rogers, the faculty advisor to the Centurion, said Siock was one of the best editors in chief he’d seen at the paper in his 23 years at the college.

“Not only is Sarah excellent at editing and layout, she has a maturity and rock-solid steadiness at the helm that you don’t often see in someone that age,” Rogers

said.

“My joke with Sarah is that I’ve got to convince her to stick around for one more year at Bucks because she’s doing such a great job,” he added.

Siock did not let lack of experience scare her away from begin editor in chief of The Centurion. She puts her neck out for the paper and does her best to organize it, work on the layout and make sure it gets sent out in time.

Siock said that she was going to miss working on the paper when she transfers, and we’re going to miss her too. The next editor in chief for The Centurion has some big shoes to fill.



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# National News

## Governor Wolf Announces Huge Scholarship for College Students

KALEI CASIANO  
*Centurion Staff*

Governor Tom Wolf visited Riversid Junior/Senior High School in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 4 to propose a \$240 million scholarship program that would allow for more students to graduate college on time with less debt.

The program will assist lower and middle-class students attending one of the 14 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education universities (PASSHE.)

The scholarship was named in honor of Nellie Bly. Bly was an Pennsylvania native born in 1864 who enforced a movement improving reforms to mental health systems. Due to cost, Bly left what we now know as Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Students paying for expensive tuitions would prevent them from obtaining future necessities. For example, buying a car, a home, and saving money for retirement.

Anyone is eligible for the scholarship if they meet the criteria, though the program has a few requirements that participants must abide by.

Students must attend an undergraduate program at one of the PASSHE universities and qualify for a federal subsidized student loan.

Students must also stay within the state after graduating the same amount of years the scholarship is given to them. If they choose

to leave the state, the scholarship must be paid back in full.

Steve Brady, a 20-year-old Business Administration major from Doylestown said, “I like this idea. It seems to be almost like a government loan because of the rule of living in the state after you graduate for a certain number of years which will allow the money to help students afford it during times they may not have the income.”

Michael Murphy, a former Bucks graduate, said, “That’s fair. The scholarship is designed to help the Pennsylvania economy and using it as an out of state reward is taking advantage of the incentive.”

Another factor that falls under the programs requirements is that students must be full time. Melissa Novak, a former Bucks student said, “Tom Wolf should give half the scholarship to students who can only attend school part time.”

The scholarship also encourages student lives outside of the classroom. It will benefit students to obtain degrees and will also strengthen the workforce after expanding hands-on working experiences for students not attending college.

Connor Volb, an 18-year-old Sports Management major from Fairless Hills said, “This scholarship increases opportunity not only for young adults attending school but adults who go straight into the workforce.”

The program will be invested



Governor Tom Wolf, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

by repurposing revenues from the Horse Racing Development Fund annually.

Other costs will also be benefitted. Wolf’s budget provides for grades K-12, public school funding, special education, and high-quality early childhood education.

More than 130,000 students will receive aid for the Pennsylvania State Grant and budget will increase the maximum to \$4,300.

Victoria Cichonski, an 18-year-old Nursing major from Warrington said, “This is an amazing financial program due to the fact

that it not only helps college students but the entire community.”

Further movements will be made by Wolf as he currently travels to other school districts in the state.

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# Arts&Entertainment

# “Sonic the Hedgehog” Speeds Past Everyone’s Expectations

BRADLEY HARE  
Centurion Staff

The underdog story of the year stars a hedgehog.

I think it’s safe to say that the “Sonic” movie faced a hideous uphill battle from the start. From a terribly designed Sonic, a hilariously bad trailer with an ill-fitting song, and being pushed back to fix these issues, leaving it to battle for money with the film “Birds of Prey” just a week prior, all eyes were on this film for being squashed at the box office.

So, with that said, it feels wrong that this movie not only survived, but also thrived and became good. The story starts with a baby Sonic being sent to Earth in the real-life town of Green Hills, Montana, sent away by his mother to keep his speed powers safe.

Flash forward ten years later, a more grown Sonic, voiced by Ben Schwartz, accidentally caused a power outage. He has to move onto another world, but loses his means to do so, as his rings fall into San Francisco after opening up a “Doctor Strange” type portal. Now he needs help from Green Hills cop Tom Wachowski, played by James Marsden, to go and get them back while they are pursued by the evil Dr. Robotnik, played by Jim Carrey.

First thing worth mentioning is the visuals. Sonic went through quite the graphic overhaul, and the design does not disappoint. While I can think of a couple other things I wanted to see from it, I would happily take this over the original design any day.

Speaking of which, the visuals for this movie are great. They find so many unique ways to portray Sonic’s running speed, like him running in a circle and it being so fast that you can see his after-image run frame by frame. Then there are the scenes where he is literally running fast enough that the rest of the world stops around him.

The fans certainly deserved some credit for demanded a redesign of the original monstrosity, and it’s nice to see some references to the Sonic series sprinkled out through the film. Be it obvious like the ending credit moments which I dare not spoil, having a poorly designed hedgehog picture that became a meme online be in the film as someone tried to draw Sonic, or small hidden emblems hiding in the frame.

That said, there is more to the story than visuals; and that’s more of a mixed bag. While the story is generic, with the typical buddy road trip plot, with Tom and Sonic becoming friends throughout the way. It’s pretty easy to tell where the story is going.

With that being said, there are still plenty of positives with the writing, namely the jokes. Sonic has a plethora of one liners and gags, and while some miss the mark entirely, be it either through dancing or farting, other jokes hit, namely his makeshift baseball game and road trip detours.

The other characters do their fair share. You can tell that as annoyed as Tom is with Sonic he still wants to genuinely help him, and pretty much any scene with Carrey playing an over the top Dr. Robotnik is an instant win. Even in the original trailer, he was the one good thing about it and I’m glad to see it carried over.

In the end, despite being a predictable, and sometimes unfunny film, it still has a few tricks up its sleeve that made me happy to spend the time and money to check it out. There are more than enough jokes and sights to see in the film that makes it worth it. This is one of those films where you can judge if you would like by watching the trailer. Just make sure it isn’t the original trailer. That would scare anyone away from the movie.

Overall Score: 6/10



# “Frozen II” Has A Colder Reception

BRADLEY HARE  
Centurion Staff

On the bright side, the cold never bothered me anyway.

It would be foolish to say the original “Frozen” film was anything besides a massive success for Disney. Merchandise flew off the shelves, movie tickets were bought out and sold out, becoming Disney’s biggest box office animated hit, and do I even need to mention the song “Let It Go”?

Of COURSE, a sequel was going to be made; Disney would be ignoring free money if they didn’t, not like those live action films aren’t already doing that for them. The real question is that if the film delivers on quality.

It’s been years since the events of the first “Frozen” movie, and the main cast, especially Elsa and Anna, are hoping that nothing is ever going to change that.

Unfortunately, thanks to Elsa’s ice magic, nature spirits from up north in a land called Northuldra break out of a sealed mist and threaten to destroy Arendelle.

Now it’s up to Elsa and Anna to go out to save the land once again, teamed up with the goofy snowman Olaf and Anna’s wannabe husband, Kristoff.

It’s a Disney movie, so alongside princesses and fantasy elements, gorgeous graphics are next on that checklist, and by whatever deity Disney sold their studio to,

does the film look stunning.

Particle effects of ice and fire look absolutely amazing and realistic, creating lovely paths of the cold crystals of the ice and the burning fury of the fire. The details on the characters look more or less the same, but considering just how well done they were designed in the first film, this is hardly a complaint.

Speaking of characters, this does lead into one big complaint the film does have; outside of Elsa and a bit of Anna, every one of the original cast members felt pointless, like they were only brought back to sell more toys, which considering Disney nowadays, I highly believe that theory.

Olaf is just the wacky comedic relief, save for two scenes with him doing charades and reenacting the plot of the first movie, he’s worse than the first movie, and Kristoff is just the predictable subplot of the guy trying to propose for the movie and failing.

Thankfully, the story these characters are revolving around is rather intriguing and suspenseful. The adventure is consistent on the stakes and drama, even if both of them are lower than the last movie. There are definitely high points in the movie, like seeing Elsa’s attempt at crossing the sea fully playing out, and the moment before that, but there are also low points, like the songs.

You can tell that Disney RE-



ALLY wanted another “Let It Go,” but while that song was so good it made the writers decide to make Elsa the hero instead of the villain, (yes, that was actually the story) none of these songs carried that same power, catchiness, or credibility.

The closest we got to “Let

it Go” is “Into the Unknown”, which as nice as it is, is also wishy washy, with Elsa wanting nothing to do with adventure at the start, and somehow convincing herself to go on an adventure in the end. Then there are the other songs, like Olaf’s and Kristoff’s songs, making me wish they were

axed from the story even more.

However, I can definitely say I enjoyed it more than disliked it, but if this is the direction the series is trying to race towards, than Disney really needs to do us all a favor and let this franchise go.

Overall Score: 6/10



# Student Life

## Students Have Mixed Reactions Over New Justin Bieber Album

DEMARCO THOMAS  
*Centurion Staff*

Justin Bieber was once known as a pop teen sensation with breakout songs like “One Time” and “One Less Lonely Girl,” but now most fans have seemingly changed their opinions after the release of his new album “Changes.”

Sabrina Silva, 23, a neuroscience major said, “He was more pop music and now he tries to just do anything and I get that it’s just him being him but I liked him more for his pop star days.”

Last month, Bieber faced criticism after going on a Instagram live video to ask fans to stream his single “Yummy” while they slept so that he could get the number spot on the Billboard charts. Bieber also encouraged his foreign fans to use American virtual private networks when listening to the song to inflate his numbers in the US.

Many students expressed that they missed Bieber’s old self. They missed the cheerful kid who did music because he loved to, not just to be numbers one on charts.

Bieber released his new album on Valentine’s Day. It is his first album since his mega popular album, “Purpose,” that was released in 2015. “Changes” has received a mixture of reviews.

The New York Times said, “On Changes, he finally stakes his claim, honing a vocal approach that’s soothing, tender although maybe slightly tentative, a middle



Justin Bieber in 2012, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

ground between comfort and reluctance.”

Other news outlets felt the now 25-year-old and new husband to model Hailey Baldwin did not provide a record worth listening to.

The Evening Standard said, “A handful of acoustic tracks near the end seal the deal: happily married Bieber is boring.”

Sarah Elwekil, 20, a psychology major said, “Honestly, Justin Bieber made his fans wait five years for that terrible song ‘Yummy,’ you could kind of tell he only did

it so it would be catchy and go viral fast.”

Fans can feel the love and effort put into songs, so when they feel that element is gone, what is there to keep them as fans?

Many fans thought his comeback was going to bring them back to the days they remembered screaming his hit single “Baby.” Fans remember staying up all night and standing in lines to get anything Bieber related: clothes, CDs, you name it.

Julia Rifkin, 20, an undecided major said, “As a wee little lad, I

wanted to have him so bad I wanted to be Mrs. Bieber. I thought I would be his one less lonely girl at his concert and all that. Sadly, I was not. Then he went MIA for a while and now he’s back with a wife and that’s annoying. I like his music, but I think it’s super repetitive though. He makes the same song over and over again with new words, but yes, I would still like to be Mrs. Bieber, so sorry Hailey.”

Having the same sound is what fans like, but not songs that they seem like they were easily made to fit the trends.

Some students thought Bieber’s departure from music for a few years meant he was done for good.

“He still makes music?” Scott John, 21, a business major said. “I haven’t heard his name in years and I’m surprised that people are still asking about him.”

However, several longtime fans felt that him coming back out with his new music did not make up for his absence.

# Professor Ethel Rackin

*Story continued from page three.*

“When you first start off, it’s hard to be that flexible because your scared and you don’t know too much,” Rackin answered honestly. Although, true to Rackin’s disposition she continued to work at it until she felt that her critiques were helping her students. “I think when you help people identify what’s most unique in their own work and grab onto that and run with it, that’s a really helpful thing to do,” said Rackin.

Rackin enjoys meeting with students working on their writing. Seeing her students experience that types of joy and pain that she has when writing is life changing. The way that poetry can really become the center of someone’s life.

Rackin has been married since 2002. Her husband is just like Rackin where it seems that they can’t just stay still. She happily said that he is a real estate agent, builder, and does contracting and historical restoration. Rackin finds it better that he does not write himself.

“It is great in many ways because were never competing with one another. We support each other, but were slightly in different worlds,” said Rackin.

The Rackin’s only child is their dog. Rackin said that there is no hidden secret of why she doesn’t have kids. It was just, as she put it, ‘a non-decision.’ Both Rackin’s felt like they didn’t need to have children. Rackin, for once looked vulnerable while talking about

her writing as she said, “I knew that if I did have kids, I would want to put my kids first. And my writing would get kind of shoved to the side.”

Women often feel that they have to choose either family or their career. Rackin still believes you can do both, as she said, “I know plenty of writers who have kids. It’s just for me personally, it didn’t feel like it was a balance that would work.”

Writing isn’t a career that occurs if you just go with the flow. Rackin, with a fierce determination said, “I felt that I’ve had to kind of fight to maintain my writing life in graduate school, in the context of my job, in the context of my marriage, in the context of family, my friends. I feel like I’ve had to kind of fight to maintain that space.”

Fighting for her writing has been a constant struggle in Rackin’s life, yet she constantly pulls through. Her first book was published when she was 40, which apparently is late for a first book. She expressed that it became a struggle to write. That it felt like she wasn’t being accepted to sit at the writers table.

“I was happy that it happened when it did, very happy. Almost like, less elated and more just relieved,” She paused and got a far off look in her face as she remembered the heart-ache she experienced before her poetry was published.

“If you want to do something for a very long time and it’s not working out, and you just have kinds of doubts about your path; then you start to lose faith. So, that actually happening was just like, ‘Oh, thank God!’” said Rackin.

She then went on to publish two more books of poetry, which led to her being a finalist in national awards and being in multiple poetry magazines.

Rackin is now working on finalizing a textbook for students who have just started their creative writing experience. It is set to be published in the next few years but knowing Professor Rackin, it will breathe the life into a few more writers out in the world.

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# Sports

## 2020 Philadelphia Union Season Preview

**SKYLER HOFFNER**  
*Centurion Staff*

The Philadelphia Union are heading into the 2020 MLS season after undoubtably coming off the best season in the clubs short 10-year history in 2019.

The Union during the 2019 season secured the clubs first MLS Cup Playoff win, finished with the most points in club history at 55, notched the most wins with 16, scored the most goals at 58 and assists at 59.

Like all sports teams though the 2019 roster wouldn't stay together for long. The Union would go on to make multiple trades in the early stages of the offseason.

The Union sent homegrown defender Auston Trusty to the Colorado Rapids for up to \$750,000 in Allocation money, and Forward Fafa Picault would also be traded to FC Dallas in exchange for \$375,000 in General Allocation money.

On top of losing Trusty and Picault the Union also lost midfielder Haris Medunjanin in the 2019 MLS End-of-Year Waiver Draft. Also, the Union would not pick the club option for star midfielder Marco Fabian who signed with the Union during the 2019 offseason.

Losing the likes of Picault, Medunjanin and Fabian could hurt the Union during the 2020 season. Union sporting director Ernst Tanner has other tricks up his sleeve though.

Union Sporting Director Ernst Tanner would then go on to sign multiple players to fill the voids of the players lost, midfielder Jose "El Brujo" Martinez, midfielder Matej Oravec and defender Jakob Glesnes.



Subaru Park, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

The biggest signing for the Union during the 2020 offseason though has been bringing back midfielder Jamiro Monteiro who was on loan with the Union during the 2019 season.

Monteiro has been brought back on a permanent transfer from his former club FC Metz in exchange for a \$2 million transfer fee.

Monteiro would ultimately go on to sign a three-year Designated Player contract with the Union.

The signing of Monteiro breaks a club record transfer fee which was \$1 million spent to acquire now Union captain Alejandro Bedoya in 2016.

After a particularly busy off-season for the Union with players

being traded away during the 2020 offseason the Union will be challenged to integrate the new players into the clubs unique playing style.

Many Union fans seem to be wondering where the goals will come from this season after losing the likes of Picault, Fabian and Medunjanin.

Well look no further then forward Andrew Wooten. After coming off a sub-par second half of the 2019 MLS season after being acquired by the club looks to be hungry to show his worth in 2020. Before being acquired by the Union in June 2019 Wooten scored 17 goals in 31 appearances in the 2018/19 season for his

former club SV Sandhausen.

These statistics prove that Wooten can be a prolific scorer in MLS, especially with the past offseason to get acclimated to his new environment. I expect Wooten will get back to his goal scoring ways in 2020.

On top of player signings and trades the Union also renewed the club's jersey partnership with Bimbo Bakeries USA on December 4th,

The four-year partnership will continue through 2023 and enable Bimbo to vary its sponsor branding on the home and away kits for the upcoming season. The deal is also the first of its kind for any MLS club sponsor.

Another big deal the Union made this offseason was renaming the stadium, the Union and Subaru of America, Inc. would announce a multi-year stadium naming rights partnership on Feb. 18.

The home of the Philadelphia Union will now be named Subaru Park. Subaru of America won't just be a name of the stadium, they are supplying a brand new HDR video board, new parking lots and helping fund the brand-new tunnel club.

The Union in all are set up to have a very exciting 2020 MLS season, let's hope they can surpass last season's historic season.

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## Sports

# JLO and Shakira Turn Viewers' Heads at Super Bowl LIV

RANDY HANSEN  
Centurion Staff

Shakira and Jennifer Lopez's halftime performance at Super Bowl LIV show raised debates over sexual and objectifying choreography. The performance sparked controversy on social media because of the sexual nature of their dancing and their clothing attire. Their performance included various forms of Latin inspired dancing. But also featured a small portion of pole dancing. Several viewers and critics have spoken out against their performances. Franklin Graham is a prominent member of the Christian church, and president of Samaritan's Purse. He publicly posted on social media that he was not pleased with the performances. Graham wrote, "This exhibition [The Pepsi Halftime show] was showing young girls that sexual

exploitation of women is okay." He continued, "With the exploitation of women on the rise worldwide, instead of lowering the standard, we as a society should be raising it." But students here at Bucks seemed to disagree with the online criticism. Nolan Crane, 23, a part time student, did not think that pole dancing should be categorized as an explicit form of dancing. Crane said, "I believe Jennifer's performance during the Super Bowl was appropriate for national television, I don't see a problem, Jennifer Lopez wanted to express herself and pole dancing is her way of expressing herself." Melissa Marks, 20, Bucks student studying communications, believed the NFL got exactly what they wanted when they booked the two performers. Marks said, "Hips don't lie,



Jennifer Lopez, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



Shakira, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

that's her [Shakira's] thing. That's what she does." Marks went on to say "They can express themselves in any way they want." Lopez is 50, and Shakira is 43, and students were impressed by the confidence and beauty they displayed during their performances. Some students felt that their performance was an empowering experience. Kailyn Schaller, 24, said, "I think that in order to make your performance memorable, you

have to do something big to stand out. And J-Lo has a huge following of women, and I think that it was empowering to see a 50-year-old woman perform with that much confidence and energy." When Lopez was asked about the criticism she responded with class. Lopez said, "Both of us are really respectful performers who are moms and have kids and are very conscious of what we do. We put on a show that I believe

was a celebration of women and our Latino culture that I think was really well reserved." The halftime show brought in more viewers than the actual game. The Associated Press reported that the Super Bowl had 102 million viewers and the halftime show had 104 million viewers. The halftime show was a complete ratings success. But with great success, comes great criticism.

# The Philadelphia Wings: Philly's True Underdogs

JOSHUA THOMPSON  
Centurion Staff

When you think of Philadelphia teams, a lot comes to mind. The Flyers, the Eagles, the 76ers, the Union, the Phillies, but one team you might not have heard of is The Philadelphia Wings. The Wings are not a new team; they have been around since 1987, and have won six championships in their league, the NLL (National Lacrosse League.) That was until 2014 when the Wings relocated to New England and become the New England Black Wolves. At the time, the Wings had just finished their 28th season with a 6-10 record, missing out on the playoffs. For four years, Philadelphia would be without a Lacrosse team. However, in 2017 the NLL announced that Philadelphia was awarded an expansion team alongside San Diego. Those who followed this team were chosen to vote for the team's new name, and among one of the names was the Wings. Wings won the vote, and the team officially made its return on Dec. 15, with a new coach,

Paul Day. The Wings' return to Philly was bittersweet. Their first season didn't go so well, with them struggling to find a win throughout most of the season. Even with star player Kevin Crowley back, the Wings just could not get it together, with a record of 4-14. Now the Wings are playing in the 2019-2020 NLL season. The NLL's landscape has once again changed with the new editions of New York Riptide and Rochester Knighthawks, who momentarily went on hiatus as their original owner moved them to Halifax to become the Halifax Thunderbirds. Meanwhile, the Wings made some changes to their lineup. Brandon Miller has returned, and with him is a new goalie Zack Higgins. The wings lost their first game (6-12) to the Georgia Swarm, and things were already looking grim. However, the season changed for the better on Dec. 29. The Wings faced off against the Colorado Mammoth. With three seconds on the clock, Matt Rambo scored a goal giving the Wings

their first season win. Already the Wings had one win on the board sooner than they did in the previous season. The Wings followed up with two more wins, one against the New York Riptide 15-12, the other against the Vancouver Warriors in a home opener 18-10. The Wings are currently in first place in the eastern standings, a place they haven't been in a long, long time. While the Wings still have some weeks to go, it's safe to say that if they keep playing the way they are, they'll be able to make it to the playoffs, a place they haven't seen since 2013. The Wings play at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia, sharing their home with the 76ers and Flyers. You can learn more about the Wings at [www.wingslax.com](http://www.wingslax.com). For Tickets, visit [www.wingslax.com/tickets](http://www.wingslax.com/tickets).



The Philadelphia Wings, courtesy of Joshua Thompson



Sports

Men’s Basketball Fall Short of Playoffs by One Win

COLE SCHUG  
Centurion Staff

Although the Bucks’ men’s basketball team missed the playoffs by just one game this past season, a lot was learned.

The Centurions finished with a record of 10 wins and 12 losses, just one more win away from securing a spot in the EPAC playoffs.

In the month of November, the Centurions finished with a record of 3-3, with all the team’s wins coming by just two points or less.

During the month of December, the team only had three games scheduled, losing two of those games by a wide margin.

When the new year rolled around the Centurions would have a packed schedule with nine scheduled games in the month of January. The Centurions would go on to finish 4-4 during this stretch of games with one of the games being postponed.

Onto the last month of the season where the Centurions would ultimately lose out on making a playoff run. The team would end up going 2-3 during the month of February, not enough to clinch an EPAC playoff spot.

When asked if he was satisfied with the season, head coach Dominic Farello said, “We always reach our annual goal of

competing at a high level, focusing on academics, and getting our players recruited to play at the next level.”

The team won and lost its fair share of close games, which made for an exciting and strenuous season. In 13 of their 22 games, the scores were within 10 or fewer points. The outcomes of the games really could have gone either way.

“Knowing that the close wins could have also gone the other way is how I try to balance the stress of a close loss” said coach Farello.

Every season comes a reward for coaches even through the turmoil of winning and losing games.

Despite missing the playoffs by just one loss, head coach Farello was still able to come out of the 2019/20 season with a positive outlook.

Farello mentioned there’s a point in every season when players become leaders on the court.

When asked what his greatest reward this season was Farello said, “To see our team, towards the end of the season, become confident and unified enough to make in-game decisions on their own.”

Overall the Centurions had a great season and continued to



Men’s basketball team, courtesy of <http://athletics.bucks.edu/landing/index>

work hard throughout its entirety, but missing the playoffs will just make all of the team’s returning players look even more forward to the 2020/21 season to seek a playoff berth.

Before the start of the 2020/21 season it’s going to be all about bringing in players who will dedicate their time to the program and filling in spots left by the graduating sophomore class.

Farello went onto say that he and his staff look forward to “Being a part of a college basketball team and athletics program that is giving student-athletes access to college athletics and college education”.

The Centurion men’s basketball team ultimately had a very hopeful season.

The team finished their season strong with a big win for the

Sophomore class who was honored before the game on Sophomore Day.

Hopefully, next year’s 2020/21 men’s Centurion basketball season is filled with more exciting and memorable moments.



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