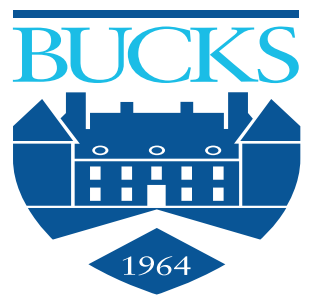


# The Centurion



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

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## Remembering Christine Englehardt

GABRIELLA PIRMANN

*Centurion Staff*

Christine Englehardt, a Bucks student who died while on spring break in Miami on March 18, is being remembered as a gifted student and a warm, caring friend by those who knew her.

Englehardt, 24, was found dead in the Albion Hotel. Two men have been arrested in connection with her death.

Englehardt graduated from Council Rock North in 2014. She began classes at Bucks to take the next steps in getting a career in health sciences.

As well as studying to become a nurse, Englehardt also had aspirations to one day become a Spanish interpreter. According to her obituary, Englehardt was fluent in Spanish and could be heard singing or speaking in Spanish.

Bucks Professor Arlene Toro, who was lucky enough to have Englehardt as a student, remembered her as “charismatic and resolved.”

“Her linguistic performance was impeccable from the minute students began to interact in Spanish,” said Toro. “Her passion for learning Spanish was remarkable.”

Toro continued to praise Englehardt’s passion for learning, “I will never forget she asked me if I could speak with her at the end



*Courtesy of Christine’s GoFundMe page*

of class. Christine spoke without hesitation and asked if I could help her switch into an advanced Spanish level. That day, I knew I had one of the finest language students a professor could aspire to teach.”

According to Toro, Englehardt was waiting to take the advanced Spanish class in the upcoming fall 2021 semester.

A GoFundMe page was created to help Englehardt’s family. With an original goal of \$20,000, it has earned more than \$60,000.

“Anyone who knows this beautiful girl knows that she had the

biggest heart there was and her laugh was nothing short of memorable,” wrote Englehardt’s friend, Samantha DiFrancesco, on the GoFundMe page she organized for the family.

“She would do anything for a person in need and was always fun to be around no matter what.”

Another friend of Englehardt’s, Hailey Davis, remembered her in a Facebook post.

“I can’t believe we didn’t get to say goodbye,” Davis’ post read. “You’ve helped me through so much.”

Englehardt was also a manager

at the local Jules Thin Crust in Newtown.

Jules Thin Crust posted a tribute to Englehardt on Facebook, “She was a shining light in our company and will be missed immensely. Her smile, her laugh, and her wonderful energy will always be cherished and remembered.”

Englehardt’s compassion and upbeat personality were further highlighted in her obituary.

“She lit up a room with her vibrant energy; her laugh was contagious, just like her huge heart. She cared for people and would go out of her way to help anyone.

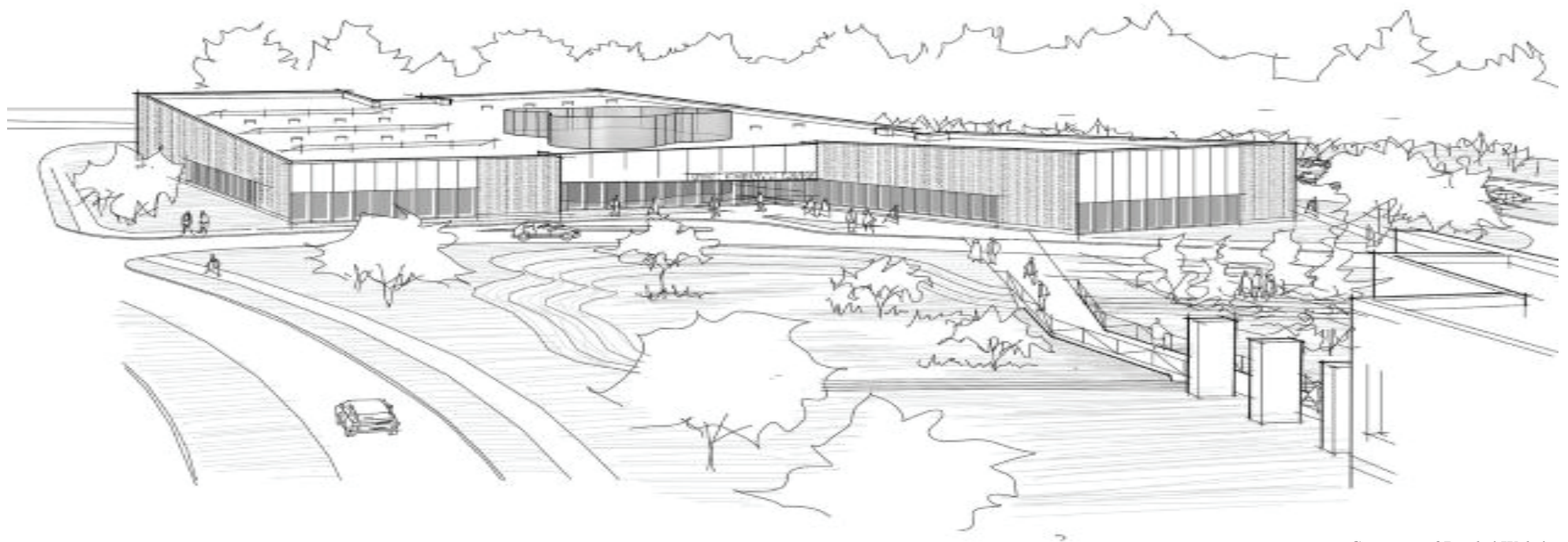
She was full of positive energy and was loved by all that came in contact with her,” it read.

The obituary went on to share a little more about who Englehardt was beyond how she treated others.

“Christine was a huge fan of Disney and the New Jersey Shore. She spent countless summer days soaking up the sun at the beach. She loved animals and enjoyed an active lifestyle.”

Bucks, as well as the surrounding community, mourns the loss of such a bright soul.

## New Facility Coming to Lower Bucks Campus



*Courtesy of Bucks’ Website*

WILL SUPPER

*Centurion Staff*

Construction has begun at Bucks’ Bristol Campus for a new facility to be used by students. The \$9.9 million facility is going to be the Center for Workforce Development, which will hold classes to partner students with businesses to gain experience in that field.

The new facility will be used to train students in manufacturing fields, a growing sector of the

economy in Bucks County. It is estimated that locally there will be about 3,000 unfilled jobs in manufacturing by 2025.

Chair of the college’s Board of Trustees, David Breidinger, said, “The past year has taught us that traditional classrooms are changing. Students are now taking different paths to succeed.”

The facility will help students explore new fields and give them hands on experience. Programs included are metalworking, welding, industrial maintenance,

robotics, and more. There will also be certificate programs in bookkeeping, Customer Service Specialist, and Microsoft Office Technology.

Some classes will be connected to businesses that are still in their development stages. This gives students the opportunity to be a part of a new era of manufacturing. Due to the demand of employees in these fields, students will be able to easily enter the workforce after receiving their degree.

These programs will guarantee that students who take part in these courses will end up more than qualified to enter the workforce.

Bucks has created a fund for the facility and asks for all individuals, alumni, and corporate partners who are interested in the facility to donate to help get the building and the programs ready for students to learn in.

“With this fund, the Center for Workforce Development plans to provide scholarships to students

who desire a career in manufacturing but cannot afford the tuition,” said Christina McGinley, the foundation’s executive director.

Donating to the fund will not only help give students scholarships, but it will also help pay for the equipment needed for students to learn and become experts in these new fields. The funding towards this facility will benefit the future of manufacturing in our community.

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# Local News

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## Bucks County’s COVID Numbers Rise



ANDREW COATES  
*Centurion Staff*

As vaccines continue to be distributed and are made more readily available around Bucks County, COVID-19 cases continue to go on an upward trend.

Throughout the country, the vaccine has been actively distributed for months thanks to the Trump and Biden administrations’ efforts in working to end the pandemic.

President Biden made a promise to the American people to make the vaccine available to adults before May 1, but on April 6 he moved the availability date to April 19. With growing optimism, some states have been easing up on safety protocols, such as no longer enforcing the mask man-

date or increasing the capacity at stores and restaurants.

In PA, the state has begun to ease restaurant and retail store restrictions starting Easter Sunday, according to Governor Tom Wolf’s website. Seating capacities at restaurants has been raised to 75 percent, as well as other business restrictions, like alcohol sale curfews, have been lifted.

Indoor gathering limits have been raised to 25 percent and outdoor gatherings have been raised to 50 percent. Mask mandates are still in place throughout the state.

With restrictions being somewhat eased throughout the state, Bucks County and the Philadelphia area has seen a rise in COVID-19 cases as of late. According to the Bucks County Health Department’s website, since the beginning of March through April 6, the 7-day case average has gone from 155 to 280, showing an upward trend.

Before the rise of cases in March, the numbers for the county were on a downward trend since mid-December. The total case numbers for Bucks County

between March 23 through April 5 was 3,785 reported cases.

It should be noted that the acting Secretary of Health in PA, Alison Beam, mentioned a trend in which many PA residents are not seeking COVID tests. This makes it harder to get accurate numbers regarding how many cases are currently in the state.

The total number of deaths in the county is 1,183 as of April 6. On the flip side, the number of PA residents who are fully vaccinated was almost 2.5 million on April 6.

Bucks student Kayla Horn

*Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons*  
weighed in on why she thinks cases are suddenly rising. “I think it might be a combination of everyone going back to school and more people thinking they can be out and about since restrictions have been lifted,” Horn explained.

Horn went on to say that in person school attendance might open other issues like close contact during sports, and improper mask wearing while around others. In addition to school, Horn mentioned that she has seen more people going out in groups at places like restaurants lately as well.

## Should Vaccines be Mandatory for Students?



JOHN MADDEN  
*Centurion Staff*

An increasing number of universities, such as Northwestern and Rutgers University, are requiring students to get the COVID-19 vaccine in order to return to campus in the fall.

For some people, this hasn’t posed much of an issue, but there are other students who are uncomfortable with the decision as they are concerned about the long-term effects of the vaccine.

Vaccine hesitancy is something that has grown in recent times with the rapid production of the

variant COVID-19 vaccines. Some are concerned about the possibility of the vaccines being rushed and ineffective.

There has also been questions surrounding the side effects and possible long-term risks of the vaccine. With most college students being young adults and not part of the at-risk group when it comes to COVID-19 infections, it is fair to wonder why this mandatory vaccine policy is becoming the new norm for universities.

However, mandatory vaccinations also adds a layer of protection for school faculty and staff, who generally are more likely to

be at-risk than students.

A poll by Gallop showed that as of March 2021, 69 percent of Americans had either gotten the vaccine or were willing to receive the vaccine. This is up from the 52 percent of Americans who fell into that category in Sept. 2020. Interestingly, 72 percent of Americans favored the vaccine in May 2020.

Bucks, as of now, is set to resume in person classes in the fall with smaller class sizes, about 50 percent capacity. Currently, the college has not mandated a COVID-19 vaccine for new or returning students. The college

will offer online learning for those uncomfortable with returning to campus.

President Joe Biden originally declared that all Americans would be eligible to receive the vaccine by May 1, but revised the deadline to April 19. This came after the Biden Administration declared that they were averaging over 3 million vaccinations daily as of late, compared to the 1 million daily back in Jan.

It’s expected that the supply of vaccines will be greater than its demand in the near future.

Jason Schwartz, assistant professor of health policy at Yale

*Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons*  
University and a member of the Connecticut vaccine advisory committee, said, “Expanding to open eligibility will lead to that initial rush of eligible individuals who have been champing at the bit to get the vaccines, navigating the system, signing on the minute they’re eligible. Very quickly, really in a matter of weeks after each state moves to open eligibility, we’re going to shift to a very different phase in the vaccine rollout where we will have plenty of doses available.”



COVID-19

A Day In The Life of a Teen with COVID-19

EMME OLIVER  
*Centurion Staff*

It’s a Tuesday morning. I wake up and my throbbing headache is gone, but I still can’t find the sliver of motivation to get myself out of bed. I sip my fruit punch flavored Gatorade of which I cannot taste. The steam from the humidifier comfortably cools my face and I groggily drift back to sleep.

A couple hours later, my eyes open again. Sun rays shine through my window, illuminating my pillow. My mom knocks on my door and enters, wearing two masks, and asks if I’m hungry. I say no, because what’s the point of eating if you can’t taste it?

I sit up in bed and check Snapchat, seeing pictures of my friends running through the tall grasses of the backwoods of Playwicki Farm. Dread fills me and soon enough I’m laying back down on my side coughing and sniffing. Eventually, my mom brings me soup and a fresh cup of water.

When I have to use the bathroom, I put two masks on and slide my feet across the hardwood. I take a hot shower and let the steam rise and fall off my congested chest. I start feel a little better, but most of me is still in a foggy haze. My mom is in the kitchen cooking dinner that she will place on the table I can’t eat at. She says she wishes she could give me a hug.

That is what it was like for 10 days when I was diagnosed with COVID-19. Thankfully, my symptoms were not severe and I recovered quickly. My mom worked tirelessly to not only take



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

care of me when I was sick, but my father as well.

My mom was vaccinated early, as she works in the health field, which allows her to feel comfortable with going out to dinner and hugging her mother for the first time in months, but ultimately made her the designated caretaker when my dad and I got sick.

Luckily, my mom and brother did not catch the virus, or any of my friends that I hung out with just a day before I got my positive test result back.

I asked my friend Kai about how they felt when I was diagnosed

“I was just like, s—t is she gonna be okay? I was also really worried because I live with my grandparents who are very high risk so I had to quarantine in my room for a bit,” they said.

According to the CDC, since the beginning of the pandemic, teenagers and other school-age children have been abundant spreaders and catchers of the virus, “May–September 2020, average weekly incidence (cases per 100,000 children) among adolescents aged 12–17 years (37.4) was approximately twice that of children aged 5–11 years (19.0).”

News outlets all over the

country from, NBC to Fox, have covered the amount of teen and young adult partying. A study conducted through my Instagram account shown that 45 percent respondents had COVID-19 at one point.

As someone who has had COVID-19, I encourage you to wear your mask, be safe, and if you’re feeling sick, get tested.

How High School Students Feel About Returning To School



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

DAVID SCOTT  
*Centurion Staff*

Neshaminy High School recently reopened its doors for full 5 day, in person classes and the students have mixed feelings about it.

“I don’t know why we took this long,” said Dominic Vacca, 18, senior at Neshaminy. “Central Bucks has been back for a month now and there’s still no word on prom.”

Vacca’s words echo similar concerns that Neshaminy stu-

dents have about this ‘socially distanced’ return to in person learning. Students are worried about missing out on highly anticipated events like prom, and with little word from the school district about the matter, it’s doubtful that there will be one at this point.

Pennsbury High School has been following a similar hybrid model to Neshaminy since Feb. 2, and by next week is planning on sending students back fully as well.

Olivia Caldera, 18, is a senior

at Pennsbury who, before the pandemic, was involved in many of the school’s drama productions. She isn’t sure how she feels about the way her school is handling the “rona-restrictions.”

“They don’t tell you if someone who was in your class had it,” Caldera said. “There’s been a few cases in the school, both students and teachers, but if it’s a student, the school doesn’t notify anyone in class with them.”

This was shocking to hear considering how contact tracing has

been a big part in helping flatten the curve of the pandemic. If this information is being withheld from the students, it could further slow the return to ‘normal’ life.

“We’re back hybrid right now, but we’re going all in on the [April] 12th,” said Caldera.

Caldera talked about how like Neshaminy students, Pennsbury teens also felt the hybrid ‘model’ could’ve started sooner for them.

Realistically it’s hard to imagine 3,000 high schoolers maintaining a 6 feet (3 feet now) distance from

one another for six hours a day.

One of the biggest counterpoints on the part of the schools has been that not all students will be returning at once. However, from the perspective of those who attend it, it seems as if almost everyone is back.

“Main street (Neshaminy’s biggest hallway), looks almost exactly like it did before the shut-down,” said Anthony Tamanini, 18, another senior at Neshaminy. “There’s like no social distancing.”



News

Gun Control in the United States

WILL SUPPER  
Centurion Staff

So far in 2021 there have been 126 mass shooting within the United States. The U.S. is where most of the world’s mass shootings take place. There have been more than 2,500 mass shootings in the U.S. since July 2020.

Why is America home to so many shootings? There are many factors that contribute to the constant gun violence that takes place in the U.S.

One factor is that the U.S. has more guns within the country than it has people. The U.S. owns about 45 percent of the world’s privately held firearms. America also has the most civilian owned firearms in the world.

The U.S. is one of few countries that has the right to bear arms within the country’s constitution. Many gun owners within the U.S. would not like to see any further restrictions on firearms.

Countries like the United Kingdom have more restrictions on gun laws than the U.S. Since the restrictions took place in the U.K., gun violence went down, but there was an increase in crime using weapons such as knives, machetes, axes, acid attacks, and others.

This shows that taking away the people’s right to bear arms in the U.S. might not work as well since people will find other ways to use violence.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Kutztown student Ryan Poust said, “I feel like mass shootings and gun violence in this country is a minefield of a conservation. While many people think it’s a right to defend someone’s property, some take the concept of these rights too far. I think there is a bending of morals and values when it comes to mass shootings because the perpetrators are normally full of hatred or another mental hyper fixation.”

A way to solve problems like these without taking away every American’s right to bear arms would be to add restrictions on who can and cannot own a gun. Stricter background checks and frequent tests on the gunowner’s mental state could help eradicate gun violence in the U.S.

Studies have found that states within the U.S. that have restric-

tions on gun ownership have lower gun related deaths than other states. America has six times as many firearm homicides then Canada, and almost 16 times as many as Germany.

Homicides are not the only problem when it comes to gun violence, the easy access to firearms increases the risk of suicides as well. As the media focuses solely on murders and mass shootings

when it comes to gun violence, most of the gun related deaths in the U.S. are suicides.

Many citizens do not want to lose their rights to own and use firearms in the U.S. With mass shootings happening often enough throughout a year, there is going to need to be some sort of change within the country to help create a safer environment for us to live in.



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# News

## Wordsmiths - Spring 2021 -



**FRIDAY, APRIL 16 • 7:30PM**  
**Maggie Smith & Cleveland Wall**

**Maggie Smith** is the author of four award-winning books: *Lamp of the Body*, *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison*, and *Good Bones*, named by the *Washington Post* as one of the Five Best Poetry Books of 2017, and her most recent *Keep Moving*. The title poem of *Good Bones* was called the "Official Poem of 2016" by Public Radio International and has been translated into nearly a dozen languages. Smith's poems have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Tin House*, *The Believer*, *The Paris Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *Best American Poetry*, and on the CBS prime-time drama *Madam Secretary*. A Pushcart Prize winner, Smith has received fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Academy of American Poets, the Ohio Arts Council, and the Sustainable Arts Foundation.

**Cleveland Wall** is a poet and teaching artist who performs with poetry improv troupe No River Twice and with musical combo The Starry Eyes. Her work has appeared recently in *River and South Review*, *Schuykill Valley Journal*, and *Monday journal*. She is the author of *Let X=X* (Kelsay Books) and many small, handmade chapbooks.

All events are free and open to the public and will be broadcast on the Bucks County Community College YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/user/BucksCCC](https://www.youtube.com/user/BucksCCC)  
Contact: Ethel Rackin, [ethel.rackin@bucks.edu](mailto:ethel.rackin@bucks.edu) • The readings are funded by the Cultural Programming Committee.



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Sports

The Top 3 Overrated NFL Prospects

MICHAEL TARAPCHAK  
Centurion Staff

When you think about the 2021 draft, what comes into mind? The players? Your team? Hanging out with friends? All of these things are what makes the draft such a great time, not only for the players, but also for the fans.

When talking to longtime NFL fan Jonathan Gaberial, 20, he discussed why he enjoys the draft.

“When I was a kid, I would always watch the draft with my dad. Even though I didn’t know what was really going on I still enjoyed hanging out with him and bonding over football. My dad and I were always happy to have the draft because that meant football season was coming back,” said Gaberial.

One of the most interesting parts of the NFL draft is learning about the players coming into the draft and making your own assumptions about how good they’ll be. Putting yourself in the shoes of your favorite team or as an NFL scout can make the process very interesting.

For our pleasure, I put together the top 3 overrated prospects coming in the 2021 NFL draft.

The players to view will be Miami Edge Gregory Rousseau, Penn State Linebacker Micah Parsons, and Michigan Receiver Nico Collins.

Although these players are listed as overrated, that does not mean that they’ll be a bust in the NFL, it simply means that they may not be as good as projected.

DE Gregory Rousseau is quite the athlete; he’s a converted



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

receiver who now plays on the edge. This is something you don’t hear often. Standing at 6’7” and a huge wingspan, Rousseau is a freak. The reason he is picked to be overrated, is although he has all these crazy measurables, he’s still very raw at the position. Rousseau is not yet technically sound to be elite at his position.

When talking about Rousseau with NFL fan Asher Peligi, 19, he believes that Rousseau is going to

be a great “project player.”

“If he finds the right coaching staff, he might be something special, it all depends on the fit. If he were to land on a team like the Browns, he’ll be a great player to play alongside Myles Garrett,” said Peligi.

LB Micah Parsons was projected a top 5 pick this year before the season started, and then it all seemed to go downhill from there. First, he opted out of the season

which seemed to decrease his draft stock. Second, reports came out about his attitude and off-field problems. Finally, teammates also came out with a few interesting choice words for Parsons. You’ll likely see Parsons stock fall to mid first round by draft time.

WR Nico Collins, a projected 3-4 round pick, and is a 6’4” receiver. Collins, however, is very slow for the position and it’s very hard to see him transfer to NFL

speed.

Collins made his name known for being able to out jump college cornerbacks and catch 50-50 balls. This unfortunately isn’t how the NFL plays; pro quarterbacks won’t throw balls into coverage. Unless Collins can make a change to Tight-End, I don’t see him performing well at the next level.

Can the Phillies Make the Playoffs This Year?

CHRIS WARREN  
Centurion Staff

After almost a decade without postseason baseball, Phillies fans believe that this is the year they can make it to October.

“If they’re going to make the playoffs, it’s going to be this season,” WBCB producer Mike Warren said. “Between bringing back JT and DiDi, as well as adding some much-needed depth to the bullpen, this team can compete in what is now a very competitive division.”

The Phillies had a lot of moves to make this offseason, especially now that teams within their division have become buyers instead of sellers. Between the Mets trading for shortstop phenom Francisco Lindor, and the Washington Nationals having yet another busy offseason, the Phillies needed to check off a lot of boxes if they wanted to compete for a spot in the playoffs.

They checked off their first box by resigning the “BCIB” (Best Catcher in Baseball), J.T. Realmuto. On top of that, they re-signed shortstop DiDi Gregorius to a two-year deal, giving the Phillies lineup a couple more mainstays for the near future.

Their offseason work wasn’t done yet, as they went on to bring in a plethora of relief pitchers for a bullpen that was historically bad in 2020.

“Oh, it was bad, really bad, and I wish I was exaggerating,” journalism major Xander Weinstein said. “We were playing a 60 game season where every single game counts, and we were let down too many times by our bullpen.”

If the Phillies’ comment sections weren’t spammed with “Sign JT,” they were spammed with endless complaints about how terrible the bullpen was.

Enter Jose Alvarado, Archie Bradley, and Sam Coonrod. It may not seem like much on the surface, but these three could prove vital for the team’s success.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

If the bullpen was even below average instead of historically bad, the Phillies would have made the playoffs last season. This time, the Phillies bullpen is looked at as a strength, not a weakness.

Although the bullpen took most of the blame for last season, the starting rotation still needs improvement. Aaron Nola and Zack Wheeler provide one of the best 1-2 punches in the sport. Even Zach Eflin has taken a step up over the last couple of seasons, having earned himself the third spot in the starting rotation.

It’s the back end of the rotation that starts to raise question marks. Over the years, it’s been a carousel of mediocrity when filling out that back end of the rotation. This season, it’s up to lefty Matt Moore and veteran Chase Anderson to put a bow on what can be considered a solid starting rotation.

One aspect of this team that gives fans high hopes is the offense. When healthy, they have a core of Andrew McCutchen, Rhys Hoskins, Bryce Harper, J.T. Realmuto, Alec Bohm, Jean Segura, and DiDi Gregorius to build the lineup around.

“If it wasn’t for the offense, postseason contention wouldn’t have been in the picture,” said student Noah Vradenburg. “I just hope that we can build off of last season’s offense now that we have the pitching to support it.”

With this core batting 1-7, it will be tough for most starting pitchers to get through the lineup more than twice. Even at their worst, most of these guys know how to work at-bats and draw walks, Rhys Hoskins is the epitome of that.

Alec Bohm might be one of the few people in the entire world that

can say they had a good 2020. Not only did he make his major league debut last season, but the former first round pick out of Wichita State was even a finalist for National League Rookie of the Year.

Simply put, the kid can hit. If he can build off of what was a very impressive rookie season, he could be a mainstay on this team for years to come.

“I really liked what I saw from the kid last season,” said business major John DiVeronica. “I hope he wasn’t a one season wonder, and lives up to his potential. It’s not often that we get to see a player from our farm system flourish before our eyes.”

Up until this point, Bryce Harper has been minimally mentioned. His contributions to the team this season, however, will be the furthest thing from minimal.

Our team’s success starts and stops at the \$330 million man. He may not start off strong, but his summer numbers will surely make up for the slow start. He’s too good of a baseball player, and too much of a professional not to do so. After all, that’s why we made him the face of the franchise.

All in all, if the Phillies do what they’re supposed to do, they should (key word: should) make the postseason for the first time since 2011.

There are plenty of outside factors that can change this team’s outlook, and a contested division won’t make things any easier. A Wild Card spot might be this team’s best shot at October baseball.

It hasn’t happened for a while now, but for the first time in a long time, the Phillies have a chance to make the playoffs.