

Bucks Announces New President

ALYSSA MOORE

Centurion Staff

BCCC's Board of Trustees has unanimously picked Dr. Felicia L. Ganther as the next president of the college.

Dr. Ganther will become the fifth president of Bucks in its 57-year history, as well as its first African-American president.

"We are delighted Dr. Felicia Ganther will be joining Bucks County Community College as our next president. The board entered this process wanting to select an individual with a strong vision and a commitment to our students, faculty, alumni and staff, as well as the ability to expand the relationship we have with the community," said Board of Trustees Chair David Breidinger.

On April 23, the Board of Trustees held a special public meeting to formally welcome Ganther to the college.

"I look forward to be joining [the college] very shortly, and I hope that our partnership and our coming together is going to move Bucks to higher heights and deeper depths," said Ganther.

Originally from Los Angeles, Ganther holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from Norfolk State University, as well as a Juris Doctorate from the University of Illinois and and Ph. D. in Commu-

nity Resources and Development from Arizona State University.

Ganther has a remarkable record of accomplishments as an educator, administrator, and a strong advocate for students. She has extensive experience in crisis management, student life, academic quality improvement, among others.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to build on the strong foundation at Bucks County Community College. With our continued focus on the implementation of our strategic commitments, a successful reaccreditation, and efforts towards inclusivity, Bucks will continue to innovate and reimagine how we serve and support our students towards transfer opportunities and career placement. I am honored to have been selected as the next president of the College and look forward to becoming a part of this wonderful community," said Ganther.

Ganther was selected from a diverse and impressive pool of candidates. The search process for Bucks' new president was carefully conducted over the past six months to ensure they would select a president capable of leading the college in the midst of a pandemic.

The college has been through

many challenges over the past year, from reduced enrollment (down 15 percent this spring) to a decrease in government funding. The college reported a \$5.5 million deficit and announced layoffs in some departments last month.

In the fall, Bucks is aiming to gradually welcome students back to campus by holding classes at 50 percent capacity while also offering distance learning. These are just some of the challenges Ganther faces coming into position.

"Institutions of higher education are facing a distinctive set of challenges associated with the pandemic. With Dr. Ganther's leadership and enthusiasm, we will achieve our mission and continue to grow Bucks' reputation as one of the pre-eminent colleges in the nation," said Trustee Blake Eisenhart, who led the search committee charged with recommending candidates to the Board of Trustees.

Current Bucks President, Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, announced her retirement for this June. She has been serving the college since 2012. Shanblatt will be working with Ganther over the next several months to ensure a smooth transition come July 1.

"I join the campus community, in welcoming Dr. Ganther to



Bucks. Her academic credentials, experience, and commitment to the high ideals of the community college make her amply suited to help write the next chapters in Bucks' story," said Shanblatt.

Dr. Felicia Ganther

More Students Returning To Campus In The Fall



Bucks County Community College, Newtown PA

LUCAS DARLING

Centurion Staff

Bucks is planning to bring more students back to campus for the fall 2021 semester, but things are going to be run differently than they had been before the pandemic.

The college's provost, Lisa Angelo, said "We had to get creative on how to get enough seats without all of our students being

face to face."

Angelo said one of the big changes to the way classes will be run is the creation of 35 "high flex classrooms." Angelo described the classrooms as one class split into two modules. A student enrolled in a class would go to class twice a week, but only come to campus once a week, with the other class that week being online.

"Let's say the class holds 24

students. One section would be 12 students with Tuesday face-to-face and Thursday Zoom, and the other section would be the other 12 students with Tuesday Zoom and Thursday face-to-face," said Angelo.

It is essentially like the "hybrid" model many grade schools in the area did/are doing.

There have been a small number of students on campus. Art

students, students with lab-based courses, and health services students have been getting in person classes for the spring semester, adhering to COVID-19 guidelines.

"We are going to continue social distancing, continuing to wear masks, we've been fortunate to not have any transmission on campus," said Angelo.

Students will be able to customize their schedule to their liking this upcoming semester.

"If you want an entirely face-to-face schedule, you ought to be able to get one. If you want an entirely zoom schedule you ought to be able to get one. If you would like a mix, you'll be able to get one," said Angelo.

"We are also monitoring student enrollment, if online sections are starting to fill up, we will add more online sections. If more students are signing up for hybrid sections, we will add more hybrid sections. If students are flocking to the face-to-face options, we will add more face-to-face sections."

Safety is still at the top of the college's priorities, as some students may be hesitant to return to campus. Angelo is hopeful students will feel safe on campus.

"I think that students who have been coming on campus are very comfortable coming there and feel safe, once students return to campus will see that we are doing

everything to keep people safe, some students are a little anxious to be around people after not being around people for a while. I think it's that initial hesitancy we need to get over, and then we'll be a little more relaxed about interaction," said Angelo.

"We've done everything we can to keep students and faculty safe since we've been allowed back. There have been no transmissions on campus, you can see that data on our website."

Response from students and faculty has been mostly positive.

Angela Leamon, a 20-year-old communications major said, "I don't know why, but in person connections make me feel like I'm learning better, I hope that everyone can go back to in person. Yes, [virtual learning] is easy, but it's also making me lazy."

John Madden, a 23-year-old communications major said, "I think I'd like to be back for at least some of my classes, for it to be part of my day. It's nice to get out of the house."

"I like in person teaching; it's nice to be on campus and see people. If I don't go back to campus soon, I'll never wear anything but sweatpants and slippers," said Tony Rogers, Bucks' journalism professor

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COVID 19

How COVID Has Impacted Community Health

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GABRIELLA PIRMANNT
Centurion Staff

Since the beginning of March 2020, maintaining both physical and mental health has been a struggle for not just our community, but for much of the world. The weight of isolation isn’t the only weight that people have had to carry. With gyms being forced to close, many people have begun to carry more physical weight while slipping away from healthy eating habits. It’s been said that food brings comfort, and in these unprecedented times that saying has never been truer, even I’m guilty myself. In April 2020, I was out of work because my store was deemed unessential, and I gained fifteen pounds.



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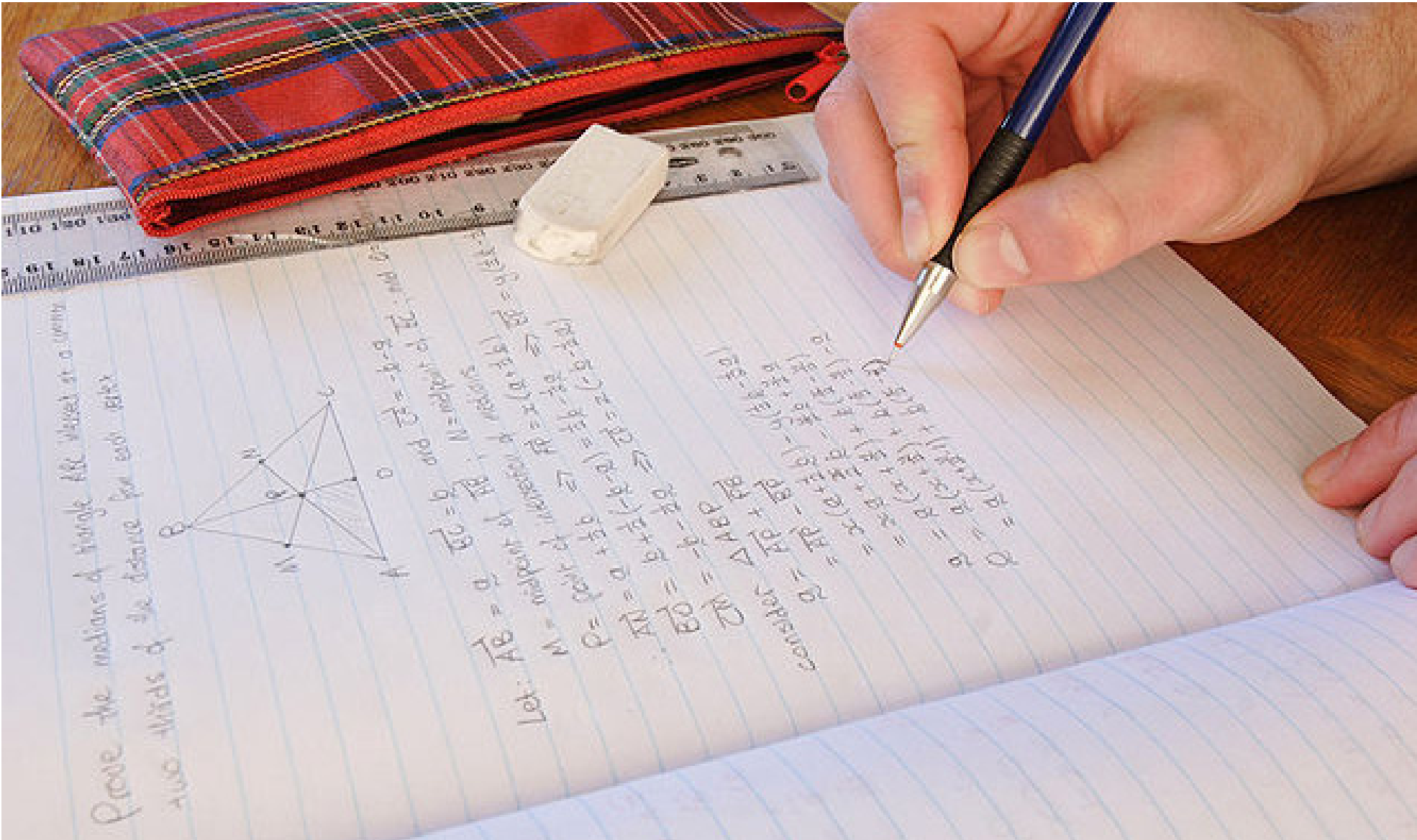
I reached out to members of our community to get their input on how they feel the pandemic has affected their health, and the response was largely the same. Quarantine made the already daunting challenge of maintaining physical health even more difficult. “I feel like my relationship with my physical body has gotten worse during quarantine. Gaining weight has played a role in that, because I am mentally unhappy

with it, but also because I don’t feel as well,” said Emily Eberle, a community member with a bachelor’s in health sciences. Sofi Choinski, a student of Penn State, shared these feelings. “I was very sick last year and lost so much weight, so I was pretty skinny. In staying home, I stopped working out and let myself eat whatever whenever. I gained a lot of weight and started to feel poorly about my body as summer came on,” said Choinski.

“Over quarantine I’ve learned how to listen to my body more and act based solely on what I’m inspired to do day by day. I try to eat healthier for the sake of my health.” Erin Volov, a student at Delaware Valley University, had a similar story. “I felt like because I wasn’t doing as much that I had to restrict my diet more, thinking I’d get fat if I ate a bite of ice cream,” said Volov. “But I also think it was

good, because it made me work through that and realize I need to have a better relationship with food.” Unfortunately, we live in an age where a lot of a people’s self-worth rests on their physical appearance. If you feel like your mental health has been impacted negatively by this pandemic and you need help, please reach out to someone. Bucks’ Guidance is prepared to help you.

Students Reveal Their Best Excuses



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

DAVID SCOTT
Centurion Staff

Missed assignments seem to be piling up faster than ever for students across the nation. In a survey of 2,500 students conducted by University Business, 75 percent reported an increase in anxiety when it comes to getting assignments done. This anxiety for many stems from the sudden and jarring change from in person to on-line learning format. Asking for extensions or to be excused from projects is something that has

become part of the new normal. With the increase in missed work, there has been an uptick in good, and some not-so-good excuses that have been used seeking extensions, or just to not have to do more work. A senior at Neshaminy High School has blamed this on something he calls “super senioritis.” It makes sense that seniors, whether it be high school or college, are being hit especially hard in the year of online learning. “I wasn’t doing enough of my work for English, so I emailed my

teacher and said my aunt got Corona,” said the student. “She said I didn’t have to do work for the rest of the marking period, I don’t think I’ve been to a Zoom for that class since.” Most students’ excuses were very similar in anxiety and stress woven into emails to instructors. But the increased use of technology means that more things can be blamed on the technical difficulties many faced this year. Bucks student Will Supper had trouble early on with getting his laptop to work.

“My laptop was broken for a week. When I eventually turned in my assignments, they were really bad and I don’t know if my professor believed me at all.” Another Bucks student talked about a somewhat similar experience. “I had an 8 am [class] first semester this year, and I really didn’t feel like turning my camera on at all. So, I just said it was broken.” “Broken” laptop cameras, like heightened anxiety, seemed to

be something most students have leaned on not only as an excuse, but as a tool to help deal with the stresses of this unprecedented time. No one knows what’s happening in the world, so maybe these excuses shouldn’t be looked down on, but looked into, so cut us some slack. Yes, we don’t want to turn our cameras on, it’s 8 am and I have three papers due tonight. But they will get done... well, maybe not. My aunt just got corona.

Arts & Entertainment

Will the Film Industry Recover From the Pandemic?



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

WILL SUPPER

Centurion Staff

It has been a while since most people have gotten to go to the movies. Due to cinemas closing because of COVID-19, the box office has lost billions of dollars.

Closing theaters and halting film production put a big dent in the film industry and left many filmmakers troubled. Films set to release in 2020-2021 have had to reschedule premieres due to the

pandemic.

However, drive-in movie theaters made a comeback in 2020, both as a way for people to safely watch movies from their cars and to enjoy the nostalgia of going to a drive-in theater.

Streaming services have had a major increase of usage since lockdown started as well. Netflix acquired more than double its projected new subscribers since the pandemic began.

Many production companies are finding ways to work on films while following safety guidelines. Instead of releasing movies in theaters, some companies have been releasing films on streaming platforms.

The pandemic's current effect on the film industry may alter the future of film. As companies continue to plan and work throughout lockdown, streaming services have a monopoly over the film

business.

Bucks Student Abby Forkell said, "As someone who works at a theater and loves going to see movies, I'm anxiously awaiting their opening. I think theaters could open safely with a limited capacity and social distancing. Even if the theaters are not showing new movies, and instead show older movies I'd still be interested in going!"

"I am worried about the future

of theaters. I watch my fair share of Netflix, Hulu. Nothing beats watching a new movie in theaters," Forkell added.

Only time will tell what further effects COVID-19 will have on the film industry. Even as vaccines are distributed, people still need to follow guidelines and procedures so we can put an end to this pandemic and safely return to our normal way of being.



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Opinion

Students React to Chauvin Trial Verdict



EMME OLIVER
Centurion Staff

April 20, 2021 will be remembered as a day containing one small but integral step to police reform.

Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was convicted on all three charges of third-degree murder, unintentional second-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter.

These charges come after the death of George Floyd, who was killed by Chauvin after he kneeled on his neck for 9 minutes and 29 seconds. Communities rejoiced at the verdict all throughout Minneapolis and the rest of the country.

Though this victory was significant, the path to police reform and the demolishment of police brutality is still slowly being paved. According to the New York Times, 1 in 2,000 police officers

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

are charged in deaths by police force or abuse of policing power.

“I hope that [the verdict] sets an example that cops can’t kill people without repercussions, it really shows how much power [police] have,” said Bucks student Tyler Garnier.

“Nothing more satisfying than seeing him hauled off to jail,” said Bucks student Lindsay Binder.

Recognizing Chauvin’s incarceration is essential to combating police brutality, but our communities must stay informed and remind themselves of the injustices that take place in the police force every day.

The Minneapolis police department is currently under investigation for how force is used and more tolerant training will be implemented to aid in stopping these deaths.

Letter to the Editor



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

TONY PATTI
Reader

Will Supper’s article in issue 11 about gun control was incomplete in several ways.

First, this is a Civil Rights issue, and the history of gun control shows that. Additionally, this is a women’s right issue (example Dana Loesch’s excellent book “Hands off My Gun,” especially her chapter six which is particularly relevant for women on college campuses.)

Second, the article mentions the Second Amendment to the US

Constitution, but fails to mention Article 1 Sections 21 and 25 of the Pennsylvania Constitution:

§ 21. Right to bear arms. The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned.

§ 25. Reservation of powers in people. To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government and shall forever remain inviolate.

The article has the Kutztown student-attributed quote “While

many people think it’s a right to defend someone’s property…” instead, as you can read above, what we are protecting is ourselves and the state.

The Founding Fathers of our country understood this. This is even clearer if you read the US Supreme Court’s landmark decisions about our enumerated rights in Heller 554 U.S. 570 (2008) and also McDonald 561 U.S. 742 (2010).

Fox News had a cogent discussion earlier this month on this topic at <https://video.foxnews.com/v/6247739770001>



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Sports

How Far Can the Sixers Go?

JOHN MADDEN
Centurion Staff

The 76ers currently sit at the top of the Eastern Conference at 39-18. Star center Joel Embiid is having an MVP worthy campaign averaging 29.9, 11.2, 3.1, and both him and Ben Simmons are in the conversation for Defensive. New coach Doc Rivers has been getting the best out of the roster, and key additions like Danny Green and Seth Curry provide the floor spacing that they lacked last year. Expectations are high this season and many believe a deep playoff run is eminent. It's fair to wonder if they are the team to come out of the East. They're not alone at the top, however. Most notably, it's the Brooklyn Nets, the super team that's the favorite for the majority of NBA fans to win the Eastern Conference. Though battling injuries as of late, it looks like come playoff time, they'll have the starting five that includes three current all-star caliber players Kyrie Irving, Kevin Durant, and James Harden, with Harden and Durant being former MVPs. Although Lamarcus Aldridge retired due to health concerns, the acquisition of Blake Griffin has proven to be the right move for the Nets. Other threats include the Milwaukee Bucks, Miami Heat, and Boston Celtics. Miami is bringing an improved roster from last year in a final's appearance with the addition of Victor Oladipo, and Boston has always been a chal-



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

lenge for Philly, and coming off a conference finals appearance. When asking fans how they feel about the Sixers making the finals, there was shared optimism. "I mean, from what I can tell, they have a chance. Joel has been playing incredibly this year and Simmons is a DPOY candidate. The Nets are the biggest roadblock, but if we could come that close to the conference finals against the raptors who won it all a few years ago we can do it again this year," said 19-year-old film major Lucas Darling. "I think they're playing very well, obviously their biggest challenge is going to be Brooklyn. That's going to be the litmus test, and if they get past them, who knows. I'm more hopeful this year than last year. Embiid and the team are playing better

than last year. As a Philly fan, its optimism tempered with experience," said journalism professor Tony Rogers. This team is playing with incredible chemistry and Doc Rivers seems like a sure upgrade over former Sixer's coach Brett Brown. Brown was often criticized for adjustments during games that would result in blown leads and letting up big scoring

runs for opponents. It's fair to wonder how they will perform come playoffs time, as Ben Simmons has struggled in the past, and Jimmy Butler, who is now with the Heat, was far and away their best player in the semi conference finals against the eventual NBA champs, The Toronto Raptors. Butler was also a key part of the Heat's finals appearance last season.

Which Philly Team Will Win a Championship Next?

CHRIS WARREN
Centurion Staff

With three of the four major sports seasons underway, Philly sports fans are speculating about the future of their franchises. **The Flyers** "I don't even want to talk about them right now," said business major John DiVeronica, whose body language changed the second he was asked whether or not the Flyers could win the Stanley Cup anytime soon. "If you asked me this a couple months ago, you would've gotten a completely different answer. Right now, however, we're clearly gearing up for some sort of rebuild, so the only thing that I can really say with confidence is that this season has been a massive disappointment." Only time will tell whether or not they're able to turn things around in the coming years, but one thing's for sure, they're definitely not winning anything this season. **The Phillies** "On paper, this is the best this franchise has looked in almost a decade." WBCB producer Mike Warren thinks this team still has ways to go, but he can't help but acknowledge the talent that is sprinkled throughout the roster. "Re-signing DiDi Gregorius and JT Realmuto was huge for us, we have a really solid lineup that can change the game in the blink of an eye. Throw that on top of a solid one-two punch in Nola and Wheeler, and we could be looking at a serious postseason push," said Warren. Despite the potential for October baseball, a World Series run is highly unlikely for this team. If they can continue to build upon their current roster, they'll be able



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

to throw their name in the hat for championship contention. **The 76ers** If there's a Philadelphia sports team that can win a championship this season, it's the Sixers. With the regular season winding to a close, the Sixers still have a grasp of the top seed in the Eastern Conference. Now that Joel Embiid and trade deadline acquisition George Hill are returning from injuries, this team is gearing up to make some noise in the postseason. We all know about the dynamic duo of Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid - the potential DPOY and MVP, respectively. What isn't focused on as much by most is how they are easily the most complete team this city has to offer. From Daryl Morey leading the front office, to Doc Rivers mentoring the team on the court, this team is built for success from top to bottom. Veterans Dwight Howard and Danny Green have provided valuable minutes for a team that

has lacked experience and composure in tight games. New starting shooting guard Seth Curry has added a dynamic to the offense that hasn't been seen since JJ Redick was in town. While we know what to expect from the starting five, some fans, like Bucks student David Scott, believe that this team will live and die by the strength of the supporting cast. "I think it all revolves around the shooting," said Scott. "Joel Embiid will get his, we know that.

What we don't know is whether or not the supporting cast can show up when we need them to." If the supporting cast can establish some consistency, then this team will be a very tough out in the playoffs. Regardless of how far this team makes it this season, they're a team built for long term success. If they don't win a championship this season, they'll most likely be the next Philadelphia sports team to bring the city a title.

Sports

NFL Prospects Top 3 Quarterbacks

MICHAEL TARAPCHAK

Centurion Staff

When was the last time you saw five top elite quarterback prospects in a single draft? Well, this might be the first time ever.

Trevor Lawrence, Clemson, is easily one of the best prospects we’ve seen since Andrew Luck declared. Lawrence possesses elite arm talent and decision making. Not only that, he’s an athlete and can even be effective as a runner. With his unique skill set, he may be a top 10 NFL quarterback as a rookie, which is extremely rare.

In regards to Lawrence, Rishi Patel, 20, a student at Penn State University said, “I see a smart, instinctive player, someone who can help a team go from bottom tier to mid-tier as a rookie. Although, even the best prospects have a chance to flop. I don’t see how this happens with Lawrence. He’s one of those game changers.”

Zach Wilson, BYU, is a flashy playmaker. He seemingly makes plays out of nothing, avoiding sacks, and throwing 60-yard bombs off his backfoot. Nobody really knew who he was until he broke out, in a similar style as Joe Burrow last year.

In regards to Wilson, Frank Schoepfer, 20, a student at Penn State University said, “Although he could be labeled as a one-year wonder, sometimes that’s all you



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

really need to see a guy’s talent. The throws that Wilson can make reminds me of another quarterback with the same last name, Russell Wilson.”

Justin Fields, Ohio State... one word that comes to mind is “accuracy,” which just so happens

to be the most important trait for a quarterback. He easily has the best overall accuracy of any prospect in the draft this year.

In regards to Fields, we asked Luke Sisco, 21, a student at Kutztown University said, “Fields should be the third quarterback

off the board to the 49ers, the chatting up them passing up on him is just insane. Fields has all the intangibles to be a franchise quarterback and maybe even a top 10 quarterback his rookie season.”

Although this list is the top three quarterbacks, it can really

be viewed as a list in no particular order. Each quarterback is unique and will change a team’s future.

In the draft we don’t always see, players of this caliber came out in the same year. If you need a quarterback, this is the draft to get one.



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