



# THE CENTURION

The week of December 3, 2007

www.bucks-news.com

Volume: 43 Issue: 7



## Bucks Events

- Dec. 3:**  
8 p.m.~ Men's Basketball game at Home
- Dec. 5:**  
7:30-8:30 p.m.~ Jazz Orchestra performance
- Dec. 7:**  
7 p.m.~ Robert Bense poetry reading

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## Weather

### MONDAY

MOSTLY CLOUDY AND WINDY. HIGHS IN THE MID 40S.

### TUESDAY

PARTLY SUNNY AND BRISK. HIGHS IN THE UPPER 30S.

### WEDNESDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS IN THE UPPER 30S.

### THURSDAY

PARTLY SUNNY. HIGHS AROUND 40.

Weather courtesy of the National Weather Service

## Officers Give Illegal Parkers the Boot

PHIL COLES  
Centurion Staff

Bucks' students who neglect to pay their parking fines face costly consequences by having a heel boot placed on their vehicle by campus security officers.

Many students equate parking boots as a big-city problem, but campus security has the authority to place boots on vehicles whose owners have received three or more parking violations, and have neglected to pay their fines.

Chris Lloyd, director of safety and security, has said this is not a new trend. "We've been doing this for years. We don't usually see it happen until the end of the fall semester because of the new students coming in."

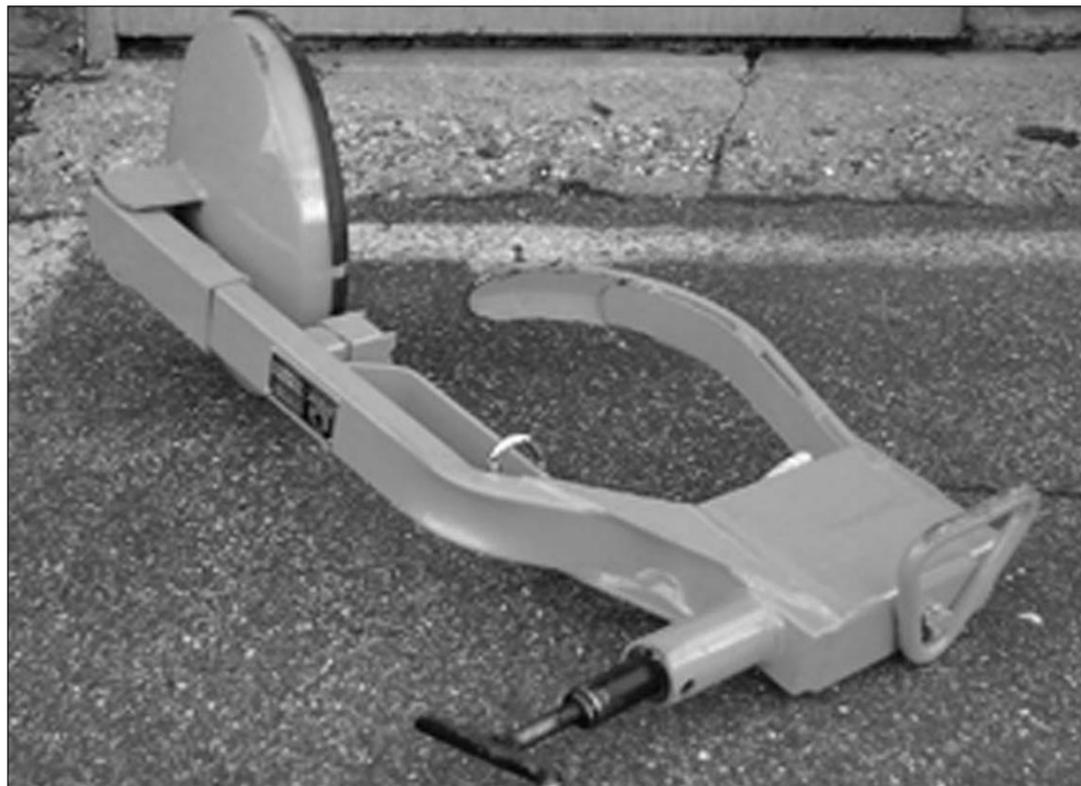
The most common parking violations are students parking where they're not supposed to. That includes the student visitor lots, which can sometimes be a tempting place to park if a lot is full and you are running late for class, and employee lots, which are generally closer to buildings than student parking lots.

Also, vehicles not displaying parking permits are fair-game for parking violations. Not displaying a parking permit in the correct place is also punishable. Trivial, said some, but when safety and security officers see repeat offenders and permits are free to students, they can get annoyed.

Some Bucks students think the college policy of booting vehicles is unfair.

"I think it's ridiculous," said Tim Reno, a liberal arts major from Pipersville. "My girlfriend got two parking tickets the other day and I ripped them up."

That seems to be a common college policy students have come to discover—simply ignoring their



The boot.

Photo by Lior Shulman

parking violations. If your vehicle is registered, however, this policy can come back to cost you.

Students may find their outstanding balances a little higher the next time they go to pay their tuition. However, if you do happen to get a boot placed on your vehicle, it is not the end of the world.

Lloyd said getting the boot off is a fairly quick and easy process. "Once students discover the boot, they come and see us at campus security. We then tell them to go to student accounts where they can arrange to pay their fine. Then they come back to us and we take the boot off."

Students who find themselves in the unfortunate position of being booted must pay a \$100 fine, in addition to the outstanding violations they owe.

"Students do not have to have the cash right away," said Lloyd. "They can set up a payment plan with student accounts. Once we see they have set up a way to take care of the fines, we will take the boot off. The whole process usually takes about 15 minutes."

Campus security does not like to use the boot. "We try to avoid it if possible," said Lloyd. "We've been doing it for years. It doesn't get noticed at the beginning of the semester because of all the new students coming in."

It takes students a little bit of time in order to build up enough parking violations in order to receive the boot.

So far this year, not many have received the boot. "We've only had to do it a couple of times this year," said Lloyd.

Other students have not

noticed them at all, or have only just recently seen them. "I saw one the other day," said Reno. "It made me mad. I can't think of anything worse than sitting in class all day, then coming out to your car and finding a boot on it."

So where does the money go to once you've paid your fines? "The money goes back to the campus," said Lloyd. "Three years ago we used the money to install the emergency phone systems you see all around campus."

If you do manage to get a boot put on your car look on the bright side - at least you could be helping out your fellow students.

If you haven't registered your car and received a parking permit, they can be obtained at the safety and security office.

## Security Upgrades Cause Controversy

JOHN JONES  
Centurion Staff

The installation of security cameras in classrooms at Bucks is getting mixed reactions from the staff and student body.

The cameras are the newest measure taken by Bucks administration to increase campus security.

Some members of the Bucks community have yet to notice the cameras, but among the people who have, there is a growing minority that opposes big brother watching us from above.

"It's just another loss to our privacy in a post 9/11 America," said Craig Johnson, a photography professor, as his students inquired about the sudden addition to the ceiling of their classroom.

Johnson said several students in his photography class thought holes in the ceiling were for a new fire alarm.

Other students just don't feel as though the cameras are necessary.

Kelli Cronmiller, 23, from Quaker-

town, said, "I think the cameras would be better off in the parking lot than in the classrooms."

According to the online security report, in October alone 18 incidents, ranging from graffiti to assault, were reported to Bucks security.

Another reason for the security increase can be traced to the shootings at Virginia Tech. Since the incident, school administrators are taking no chances when it comes to the safety of students.

Other recent security upgrades include an automated system to send cell phone text messages to students in emergency situations, and the installation of an emergency alarm system.

The campus security office staffs trained officers who patrol the grounds at almost all times, but even they can not be everywhere at once.

The hope is the cameras will help officers to respond to incidents more quickly, and maybe even prevent some incidents from ever happening at all.



Photo by Laura Irwin

# Students Targeted by Credit Companies

JOHN JONES

Centurion Staff

The United College Marketing Services reported that student credit lines have on average increased more than \$6,000, and in the past seven years the number of teens using credit cards has tripled.

The U.S. and most other countries allow teens to apply for their first credit card once they're adults. Most targeted are individuals between ages 18 and 24, who are more vulnerable to fraud and credit card scams.

Tori Brown, sophomore from Fairless Hills said, "I get more than three a week."

In the film "Maxed Out: Hard Times, Easy Credit and the Era of Predatory Lenders," writer and director James Scurlock shows how credit card agencies purposely target groups that struggle to pay off debt.

"It's hard not to walk out of that 87-minute film without knowing in your heart that every high school student should be required to watch the all-too-real take on our debt culture and the horror of where it can lead," remarked USA

Today.

Some companies have also started rolling back, a process that alters a bill's due-date and ensures the customer will miss payment, receive a late fee and increase their interest rate.

Citibank, Chase and Bank One face lawsuits of almost \$70 million for allegedly rolling back payment dates.

Precautions have been taken to prepare teens for such dangers. Most high schools require that students complete a course in business finance. Many found the material useful when applying for their first card.

"I knew more about how to balance my interest rates and payment plans than my dad did," said Mohammad Biedon, a student who completed the course.

Teens need to be wary, despite advertised incentives such as free food or clothing. Companies that require applicants to sign up right then and there make it easy for individuals to skim over fine-printed clauses.

Thousands in debt and a credit score in the basement isn't worth a free t-shirt or hat.



College students can find themselves in quite a bit of debt if they are not careful with their credit cards.

Photo by Laura Irwin

# Spring in to Politics with a 2008 Internship

LAURA IRWIN

Managing Editor

Students interested in politics have a new opportunity to gain real-life experience in the field with the institution of an internship program beginning in the spring semester.

The internship is sponsored by the social science department and was created in part by Social Science Professor Mitch Bunkin.

Bunkin says he has been dreaming of creating this opportunity for some time.

"I've always wanted my students to be granted another opportunity to get involved with the different areas of the political world that aren't available at the college-level classroom," said Bunkin.

According to Bunkin, the internship will accept as many students as are interested each semester assuming that they are willing to follow the guidelines and put in their fair share of work.

What this means for students is, an interest in the field of political science, a reasonable GPA and a demonstration of responsibility.

"The last thing I want to do is saddle someone in an intense election campaign with someone who is irresponsible," said Bunkin. "The political internship course is open to anyone interested in getting experience working for an elected official or for a candidate for elected political office."

Although no politicians have jumped on board as of yet, Bunkin said this isn't a problem at all. "Politicians are always willing to accept the help of interested parties."

A student could be assigned, or name their own elected official or candidate, whether in PA State Assembly, House or a campaign. The internship will then be organized through the social science department with that politician's office.

Other responsibilities throughout the internship, aside from working with a politician, include keeping a detailed journal and meeting with their sponsored professor once a month to go over it.

"The host official or candidate will be asked to rotate the student intern through a variety of tasks," said Bunkin, "and to furnish an evaluation of the student-intern's performance."

As far as work-load responsibilities, it's up to the politician.

"I'd like to see a student involved in many aspects of what it feels like to be in a political office or campaign," said Bunkin. "From making phone calls to printing letters or accompanying [a politician] on speeches, fundraisers or photo ops; what we're going to make sure is that the participant won't be doing the same thing every day."

The benefits of this internship are extensive when it comes to net-

working skills. Bunkin said, "A lot of well-known people got their start [in politics] this way. Politics is a skill best learned through apprenticeship."

The behind-the-scenes look at our government will add sophistication to a student's resume as well as give students more of an understanding of the complicated and challenging job of being a politician. "These are the kinds of peo-

ple you need to know to get advice and help [in the field]," said Bunkin. "You'll see just how easy it is to become powerful; plenty of doors you can walk right through [with this kind of opportunity]."

Interested students should contact Mitch Bunkin at extension 207 or John Petito, social science department head, at extension 301 or (215) 968-8272.

## Centurion Publication Schedule

The Centurion is published weekly on Mondays.

Deadline for advertising is **noon** on the **Wednesday** before publication.

Publication dates are as follows:  
December 11

THE CENTURION 

Bucks County Community College's Student Newspaper

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Register at [www.Bucks-News.com](http://www.Bucks-News.com) and a .PDF version of the newspaper will be delivered directly to your email box.

### LETTER POLICY

Letters should be limited to 300 words. They will be edited for spelling and malicious or libelous statements, and may be edited for space. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer's full name, address, and telephone number, although the address and telephone numbers will not be published.

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Official Member  
2006-2007



# When Classes Swim, Relationships Sink

**ROBERT CHASE**  
Centurion Staff

Somewhere between toddler days and adult years, people are expected to give up frequent outings with their peers for school and work, rather than fun and play.

"It seems that every single day of the week I'm rushing right from school to work, and then struggling to finish all my homework before the day is out," said Michele Lestochi. "At least right now, it doesn't seem to be getting any easier."

Students may have a difficult time earning money and getting good grades, but they also have to maintain relationships, which takes up time that doesn't seem to exist.

"Parents and teachers seem to forget that there is more to life than school and a job," said Liz Marinucci. "There are so many different things pulling you in so many dif-

ferent directions, without a social life, it's hard to stay on track in your professional or school life."

Money might make the world go round, but friends help the world go round too. In the big picture, students are forced to fit friends, family, work and school together; which wouldn't be so bad if there were a few more hours in the day.

"Even weekends don't warrant extra time," said Maureen Quinlan. "School for me comes first and foremost, and then I work when I'm not in class. I'm basically forced to fit in my friends in any free time that I have."

And as many struggle to balance those three aspects of college life together, there are some who never find the balance at all.

Thomas Grier, professor of business studies, said, "I do know that there are some who don't work at all. There are students who find no need to balance the things in their lives, and those are the ones

who usually do poorly in class. School is only secondary; going out with friends is always the no. 1 priority."

Everyone is different; therefore there is no single solution to this balancing act.

"It's easy to say that this problem is something college students must learn to live with while they're still in school, but I think it's more than that," said Student Analyst Dr. John Rich. "Every day and every week of every month become a unique challenge because as you grow, the responsibilities grow. Students have three major aspects to deal with now...in a matter of years, that could triple."

At Bucks, students are challenged every day by the choices they make and the activities they participate in. Balancing school and a social life has become difficult for many, something that doesn't get easier with time.



Several students socialize during a brief break.

Photo by Kate McDermott



A few students enjoy the rare luxury of a few minutes of relaxation and socialization.

Photo by Laura Irwin

# No Time to Waste When You're Paying for College

**JAMIE MELGOZA**  
Centurion Staff

There was a time when most college students had only their grades to worry about. Tuition, books and general living expenses were expected to be paid by the student's parents.

In today's world, things are much different.

The cost of living for the average college student could be described as oppressive, while the minimum wage is \$7.15 an hour.

This combination causes many students to have to work more hours than they can handle.

Ashley Scaccetti, 19, liberal arts major and aspiring fashion

designer, goes to school full-time and works at Duck Sauce as a waitress. She also babysits for her aunt whenever possible.

Paying for her school, her car and insurance can be overwhelming, but she said that her education, and ultimately opening up her own boutique, are her priorities.

Many students agree that education should be a top priority, but admit that it does take a back seat to other areas of their life from time to time.

"It is all about focusing," said Jill Kiryluk, 20, education major. "It is unbelievably difficult to go to school full time, and then work full time on top of that. I frequent-

ly have to cut my social life in order to keep the more important things in order."

Kiryluk is one of the luckier students at Bucks. Her parents help her out financially.

"Even though [my parents] are the stressor in my life sometimes, at the same time they make up for it by pitching in the money. But I still work [and] stay up till like 2:30 a.m. with papers and text books just like everyone else."

Both Scaccetti and Kiryluk's stories are very common at Bucks, but they, like most of us, are willing to put in the hard work and long nights today for a better future tomorrow.

## A student guide to wide eyes

According to the Divertex website, there are five easy things a student can do to keep themselves awake throughout the day:

### Drink Something

You can drink anything such as juice or water, it doesn't have to be caffeinated. By drinking something it helps you stay awake and less hungry.

### Chew a Mint or Gum

There is a caffeine-infused gum call Jolt that students use for another source of caffeine. Having a mint or chewing gum is stimulating and helps you to focus and stay awake.

### Move Around

Try to walk around when you're feeling tired to get your blood moving. If you are stuck at a desk, try moving something like your legs under the desk.

### Make it Engaging

Try to get involved and interested in what's going on in class. Try to answer questions or participate in a discussion or debate. Sit in the first row if you are brave enough. You'll be forced to listen to the lecture because of the proximity between you and the professor.

### Open a Window

This may be hard to do because some rooms don't have windows, but if they do, open them! This supplies fresh air and 'grey noise' (traffic, pedestrians, ect.) to break silences.

# Class Takes Students Back to the Dark Room



Photo courtesy of Whitehouse.gov

**JOHN JONES**  
Centurion Staff

In this digital era, photography using film has dwindled to a rarely used option.

But the pros of dark room development are passionate when it comes to photography as a visual art and Bucks is aiding in keeping it alive.

Introduction to Photography, an intergration of knowledge course taught by Professor Craig Johnson, teaches students the history and mechanics of how film photographs are created and the equipment used.

A wide range of projects are assigned in class that allow students to learn a full spectrum of photography studies, such as action shots, the use of lighting,

emotion and still life.

Alisha Corwin, a business major, said, "When, you finally get to the [final product], it's, worth, it in the end."

Students are also excited by their work, in imitating, the style of famous photographers.

Although many found it taxing, most also agree that the project inspired new ideas and styles for them to use in the future.

"It's, rewarding to see what your end result is, especially when the perfect print can take 10 or 12 attempts and almost an hour of work," said Stephen Charles, an art major from Yardley

Some students ignore film and concentrate on digital photography, but there is satisfaction in manipulating the world around you to form art.

## Clinton Campaign Office Held Hostage

### A man, with what appeared to be a bomb taped to his chest, held police at bay for nearly four hours.

**BEVERLEY WANG**  
Associated Press Writer

A man wearing what appeared to be a bomb strapped to his chest walked into a Hillary Rodham Clinton campaign office in Rochester, N.H. on Nov. 30, took several hostages and demanded to speak to the candidate during a nearly four-hour standoff, authorities said.

The man released the last of the hostages as the afternoon wore on, but he remained in the office and was not immediately taken into custody.

Clinton was in the Washington area at the time, and extra security precautions were taken to protect the former first lady, who still has a Secret Service detail, said a law-enforcement official.

The man entered the simple storefront office along the town's

main street around 1 p.m., ordered people onto the floor and then let a mother and her baby leave, said State Police Maj. Michael Hambrook.

About two hours later, a woman in a green sweater was led away from the building by a SWAT team member.

The suspect was an older man known around the town to be mentally unstable, the law enforcement official told the AP. He walked into the campaign office and opened his jacket, revealing what appeared to be a pipe bomb.

Witness Lettie Tzizik told television station WMUR of Manchester that she spoke to the woman who was released first and that she was crying, holding the infant.

"She said, 'You need to call 911. A man has just walked into the Clinton office, opened his coat and

showed us a bomb strapped to his chest with duct tape," Tzizik said.

Clinton was scheduled to give an address at the Democratic National Committee meeting in Vienna, Va., Friday afternoon, but DNC Chairman Howard Dean announced from the podium that Clinton would not speak.

"We are in close contact with state and local authorities and are acting at their direction," Clinton said in a statement. "We will release additional details as appropriate."

Authorities sent a tactical bomb unit to assist local police, and the area was evacuated, Hambrook said. A nearby school was in lockdown.

Workers for both Sen. Barack Obama and John Edwards' campaign offices also evacuated, a campaign spokesman said. Their offices are a few buildings away.

## Hershey Gets Heat Over Drug-Like Mint Packages

**MARC LEVY**  
Associated Press Writer

The Hershey Co., the century-old maker of chocolate bars recognizable in every corner of America, is selling a mint that police officers say would be recognizable on a drug corner.

Ice Breakers Pacs are nickel-sized dissolvable pouches with a powdered sweetener inside. But they look nearly identical to the tiny heat-sealed bags used to sell illegal powdered drugs like crack, heroin and cocaine, Philadelphia Police Chief Inspector William Blackburn said.

"It glorifies the drug trade," Blackburn said. "There's really no reason that a product like this should be on the shelf."

The mints, which are sold in blue and orange plastic slide-top cases, first hit store shelves in November.

Blackburn said Linda Wagner, a Philadelphia narcotics officer

whose teenage daughter died of a heroin overdose, had to hold back tears when she saw the pouches.

He said the likeness could have consequences if, for example, a child familiar with the mints swallows a heat-sealed bag of cocaine.

The Philadelphia Daily News first reported the similarity in its Friday editions.

A spokesman for the company, based in Hershey, Pa., about 80 miles west of Philadelphia, pointed out that each pouch — made by two dissolvable mint strips — bears the Ice Breakers logo.

"It is not intended to simulate anything," spokesman Kirk Saville said.

Saville would not directly respond to questions about whether Hershey has plans to change the product's appearance or whether anyone in law enforcement or inside the company has previously raised a concern about it.



The common area at the Lower Bucks campus

## Random Photo of the Week

## Upcoming Events

Dec 5:  
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Faculty lecture, Dr. Skip Jones  
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Jazz Orchestra  
8:05 p.m. Men's Basketball vs Manor (away)

Dec. 6:  
7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Bucks Chat!

Dec 7:  
7 p.m. Poetry Reading - Robert Bense

Dec 8:  
3 p.m. Men's Basketball vs Delaware (home)

Dec 11:  
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Concert Choir  
8 p.m. Men's Basketball vs Central Penn (home)

# 'Atomic Lipstick' and Other Such Sounds of Cordova

**KELLI CRONMILLER**  
Centurion Staff

If you're looking for a local band that that's worth going out to see, look no further because Cordova is playing plenty of shows in the area you won't regret seeing.

Bringing rock and roll to a new level, the band has labeled their sound as "indie metal."

Cordova was formed about three years ago by James Alex Snyder, lead singer/guitarist and Matt Balikian on drums.

Recently added to the lineup to complete the group are Phil Milia on guitar and Mark Druckenmiller on bass.

Each member brings a different musical taste to the group that accentuates their raw ability to make a good, new-age rock and roll sound that is necessary for success in the music business. Every band strives to do something with music that hasn't been done before, and Cordova sure sells it.

The band's upcoming CD "Be Mine or There Will Be War," is recorded and halfway through

mixing stages; the band expects it to be released in the beginning of 2008.

"We are fiercely proud of the new record," said Snyder. "This one is more attacking; more rock and roll."

A few noteworthy songs they love on the record are "Stella Jane," "Six Sixty Six," and "French Novels about American Films."

With influences that vary from The Pixies to Johnny Cash to all that is punk rock, the album exemplifies the evolving of the music industry today.

The band has a video for the song, "Atomic Lipstick," posted on their MySpace page. The video was produced by former Temple student, Andrew Watson, and the actors in the video are from the Philadelphia area.

Word-of-mouth and MySpace "no matter how much we [Cordova] don't wanna admit it," has helped the band out as they have played to crowds in North Carolina, Denver, Los Angeles and Ohio. "Everyone seems to be really



Cordova  
Photo by Stacy Trumbauer

receptive to us and our music," said Balikian when asked how people around the country have taken to the indie rock metal band.

"We're itching to get to Europe and England," Snyder added.

The band feels the best way to get out there is to just play a lot of shows and promote themselves the best way they can: live shows.

On Dec. 8, look for Cordova playing in Philadelphia at The Fire

and after the holiday they pick back up at The Khyber, also in Philadelphia.

Fans can pick up the new CD upon release from MySpace, iTunes and at every show.

## Local Band Builds Local Fans



**JEN KLIMOWICZ**  
Centurion Staff

In a time with garage bands sprouting at an enormous rate, there are a few that have advanced to reach an even higher level of success.

In Bucks County, where it is common for bands to play at numerous locations throughout the year, one band has started to gain recognition for their unique style.

Neighbors on the Moon, who usually perform at a different location every weekend, are rapidly becoming one of the county's most popular bands.

Neighbors formed last May after pianist Matt Kuntzmann and

bassist Jim Cattrambone separated from their former band and began to play with front man Jay Trzaska.

The three eventually met up with drummer Greg Stefan to complete the mix.

The band says that they get their inspiration from such legends as The Eagles, Billy Joel and the Pixies.

Neighbors made a name for themselves in Bucks County, Philadelphia and the surrounding areas with their indie/classic rock style and high-energy performances that encourage people to dance and sing along with the music.

Trzaska, who is also the lead guitarist, said, "We joke around on

stage, and just try to make it a fun atmosphere. We like to see people dance and smile, and so far, we have had a great response from the fans."

Besides the playful atmosphere of the shows, Neighbors set themselves apart through their meaningful lyrics and well written music.

"We are bringing back good, strong writing," said Trzaska. "We don't want to copy other people."

The band just recorded a 14 song album that fans can expect to see in February 2008.

A complete list of Neighbors upcoming shows can be found at [www.myspace.com/neighborsonthemoon](http://www.myspace.com/neighborsonthemoon).

## Mont. Co. Hosts Filming

(AP) Shooting is under way in Montgomery County for a Hollywood movie.

A stretch of Main Street in the tiny community of Royersford has been made over for "The Lovely Bones," directed by Peter Jackson.

Publicist Claire Raskind says the production needed a certain authenticity, and many of the buildings in Royersford still resemble those of the 1970s.

The ones that don't, Raskind

says, have been painted so they do look like those of the era.

Furniture store operator Roger Lebow says the movie crews have added a Chinese restaurant and have turned a former gas station into a bus depot.

The movie has been in production in the Philadelphia suburbs for about a month, but shooting in Royersford began Wednesday. "The Lovely Bones" is due out in early 2009.

### Top 20 prime-time TV programs in the Nielsen ratings

By The Associated Press

1. "Dancing with the Stars" (Monday), ABC, 22.85 million viewers.
2. NBC Sunday Night Football (Philadelphia Eagles at New England Patriots), NBC, 21.81 million viewers.
3. "Dancing with the Stars" (Tuesday), ABC, 20.96 million viewers.
4. "Desperate Housewives," ABC, 18.64 million viewers.
5. "NCIS," CBS, 17.34 million viewers.
6. "House," Fox, 16.89 million viewers.
7. "60 Minutes," CBS, 16.13 million viewers.
8. "Criminal Minds," CBS, 15.88 million viewers.
9. "CSI: Miami," CBS, 15.83 million viewers.
10. "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," ABC, 15.03 million viewers.

As of Monday Dec. 3, the Financial Aid Office will no longer be located on the lower level of the Rollins Center. It has moved to its new location, the old bookstore, in Pemberton Hall.

# A Piece of My Mind

A weekly column by Centurion Editor Mark Bennett

Several friends and I were driving near Street Road, and in the distance along the shoulder came the blurry figure of a person carrying something on his back.

We get closer, and the blurry figure turns into the shape of a man, carrying a ... wooden cross? The cross was easily 6-feet tall and aided in transportation by two little wheels.

"What the Hell is he doing?" asked one of my friends as we passed him. It hadn't occurred to us where he was going: the abortion clinic just down the road.

For sheer lack of something better to do we decided to swing by the clinic to check out the protesters and yell some rude things to them. Not because they are protesting abortion, but because they are in a large group of people, standing outside in the cold; a.k.a. fair game.

We get to the clinic and there's a decent-sized group of protesters outside of it with picket signs, banners, pro-life shirts everywhere, as well as the police, so we held off on yelling and went about our business.

However, when we left there was something bothering me. Not until returning to my house did I realize that there were way more male protesters than female ones.

Everyone has the right to believe what they want to believe. If you think abortion is evil and the girl's

that go there are evil as well, that's fine. If you believe that a woman should have the right to choose and nobody can tell them what to do with their bodies, that's perfectly understandable.

But it is my opinion that a guy should never be able to tell a woman what they can do with their body unless they're the father.

Even if my girlfriend got pregnant, the final decision would be hers and hers alone. Before the accusation of me being a coward gets shouted out, please, allow me to better explain myself.

If I found myself in such a life-changing situation, I would support her final decision, but I would give my input, of course.

If I feel that bringing a child into this world when I am not emotionally and financially capable of taking care of is unwise, I would tell her that; but it's still her choice. If I feel that I'm ready to bring a child into this world and start the next chapter in my life, great. But it's her choice.

Where does a guy get the nerve to tell a girl what she can and cannot do with her body?

A man can't possibly imagine what's on her mind, what she feels knowing that there is a person growing inside of her.

And that's why I think that she should have the final say in it. Because at the end of the day, after her husband or boyfriend has left,

she is the one that has to go to sleep. When she wakes up in the morning, she's the one that has to look at her face in the mirror.

So if you find yourself in that situation, support your girl no matter what she decides to do, and don't try to force her into doing something that she might regret for the rest of her life.

We all have our reasons for our beliefs. Some people believe in life because of their religion or moral values.

I'm pro-choice, because while doing construction work I was robbed by a pack of 14-year-old kids with knives and bats. I wonder if abortion was legal at the time those hoodlums' mothers were pregnant, would there have been fewer of them? Would any of those little punks have been there?

We all have our reasons and if you think that people who have abortions are sinners who will burn in Hell, fine, let them burn. But don't waste your ever-so-important time to go picket outside of an abortion clinic, screaming, "Murderer" at those who have made a decision to not bring a child into the world.

Especially if you're a guy, you don't know what it's like, neither do I, so how about the male gender as a whole back off of a touchy issue which we really have no place in anyway.

## A Modern Hypocrisy

A weekly column by  
Managing Editor  
Laura Irwin



### You are what you eat

November 2005 was one of the worst months of my life. I was diagnosed with a form of cancer called Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

After many months of chemotherapy and dozens of other medicine-related treatments I was cancer free, but left physically altered.

At the time it didn't matter what the effects of treatment were in order to live, but now two years after my initial diagnosis and another clean bill of health from my doctor, I am still left trying to regain the physical identity I had when this all began.

Re-growing my hair was an obviously long, painstaking process in regards to time. I finished chemo in May 2005 and since then I have been waiting for my normal hair length to be met. It has taken more than a year and a half to once again have shoulder-length hair. Finally, a part of me that had been lost, has returned.

I have two visible scars; one on my neck and the other across my chest. They will never go away. They are permanent reminders of the battle for my life.

And finally, the heartbreak of it all for me is that I gained a lot of weight while I was on steroids for nausea, among other medicines.

In total, I increased 10 dress sizes. After discontinuing use of the medications I was on, I went down four sizes.

But it isn't good enough for me, I have six to go.

Which brings me to my main point—how to do it.

I have always been a picky eater and an athlete, and my normal diet and exercise wasn't enough. I had to do something more drastic. Then I read about veganism.

I work part-time at a bookstore and picked up the book "Skinny Bitch."

After reading the first chapter, I realized it could just be the thing I could do to assist in losing the extra pounds. I was never a diet-fad person, but I could relate to the diet the book was suggesting, vegan.

I already love soy milk, and I never ate fast food or drank soda. I rarely ate meat, because I just didn't have the time to marinate and cook a steak. So, eliminating all meat and other animal-byproduct foods wouldn't be difficult for me to wrap my head around.

I bought the book and got reading. No dairy, no eggs, no chicken, pork, cow, honey, as well as white flour, rice and sugar.

There were a lot of restrictions, but all it really takes is careful reading as to what ingredients are in the foods I was eating. The day after Thanksgiving, to allow myself one last hurrah as far as

meat-eating, I went veg.

My first trip to Whole Foods was an amazing experience. I could buy just about any food in its vegan alternative. I got soy "butter," "yogurt" and "ice cream." I bought vegan bread and hummus and organic vegetables and fruits.

It was too perfect. And like all things considered too perfect, there was a catch. I nearly doubled the amount of money I spend on food for the same, if not less amount of food.

If it's marked organic or vegan, I guarantee you it costs double what it's substituting.

However, I think it is worth it for my cause. I would do just about anything to look like I had before I got sick. I wouldn't expect many to be able to empathize with me, but I am sure that most of us out there can have a consensus that it is difficult to balance a diet with all the yummy, tempting foods that line the supermarket shelves.

I never even had an interest in eating the stigmatized "junk foods." But when I started to look at the labels of the food I was eating, I was shocked. I bought 12-grain bread that included high-fructose corn syrup in the ingredients! I was eating 8 oz. cups of yogurt with 14 grams of sugar!

I was eating and drinking hidden fats and sugars and otherwise unhealthy foods, while thinking I was eating well, I nearly lost it. How could this have happened?

What I am learning is it's all in the ingredients. Not the water, wheat and citric acid kind of ingredients, but the ingredients people can't pronounce. Never mind I don't over eat or indulge in bowls of ice cream if what I am eating is in healthy foods has the equivalent calorie intake of a bowl of pudding because of high fructose corn syrup, hydrogenated oils, artificial colors and monosodium glutamate (MSG).

I can't lie, I felt like an idiot for all this. I knew that these common ingredients have been linked to cancer and diabetes and other health problems, but I never paid enough attention to what was in my supposedly good for me oatmeal to notice.

Maybe my digestion of these ingredients is what made me sick in the first place.

This is why I became a vegan, and it's going well so far. I'm not starving or eating rabbit food. And yes, a part of me does feel better for not promoting the abuse of animals, I'll admit it.

I even had a slight smile on my face on my way back home from Whole Foods that I was no longer going to harm animals.

Then, I ran over a bird.

## Letter to the Editor:

### A Professor's Plea to Save the Deer

I am writing to express my grave concerns and opposition to the proposed deer hunt in Tyler State Park scheduled for the first week of December. As a citizen and taxpayer of this county, I request the hunt be abolished.

Hunting is an extremely short-lived "solution" to managing wildlife in an urban park environment. Countless studies have shown that deer hunting actually boosts the reproductive rates in deer populations. Deer that live under non-hunting conditions, for example, typically produce one offspring, while deer that are hunted are far more likely to bear twins and triplets.

The hunt also clearly compromises public safety. Tyler Park, of course, co-exists with a large college and densely populated residential areas. Most of the time, this co-existence is peaceful—until the shooting begins.

Are you really willing to risk the safety of students and nearby residents?

As a professor of education at Bucks, I am gravely concerned that the use of execution perpetuates the growing problem of violence and shootings that we have witnessed on many campuses throughout the country. This sends a negative message to our students that the solution is killing, when a far more responsible and humane approach is well within our reach.

A more responsible and permanent solution will initially require more planning, but will ultimately lead to a humane reduction in deer population. Fencing systems and landscapes modified with native repellent plants will diminish browsing on residential or commercial grounds. Low-cost audio/visual scare devices can also steer deer away from areas. Many

communities have successfully implemented humane alternatives including contraceptive programs to reduce birth rates in deer. These and other strategies will in the long run prove far more effective than killing our wildlife. Let's stand up and be counted as one of those communities that have found more humane, non-lethal options to the killing fields the Game Commission sanctions every year.

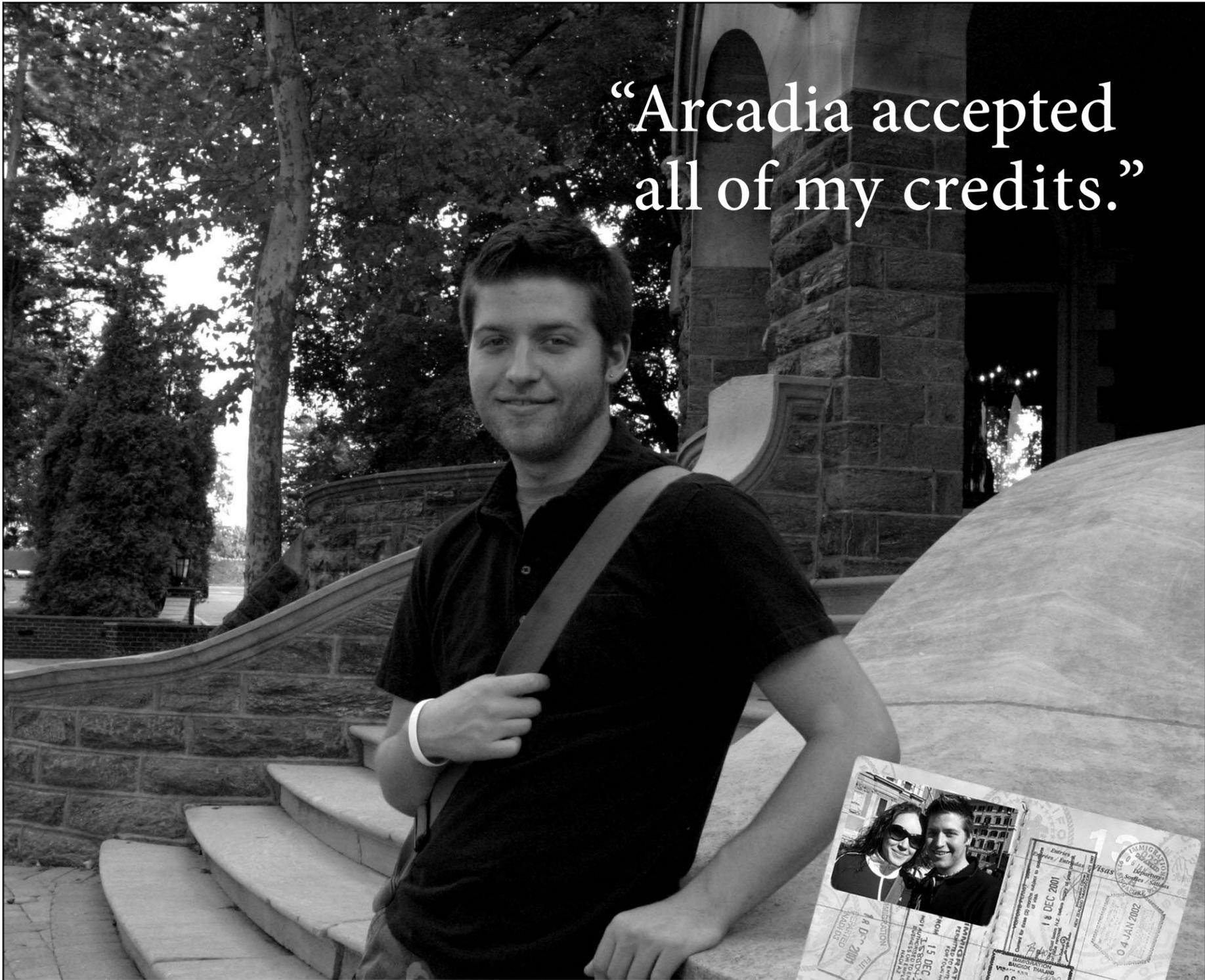
The Game Commission's lethal approach to wildlife management simply does not work in the densely populated region surrounding Tyler Park. I therefore urge the Game Commission and Bureau of State Park's to call off this year's hunt and adopt a non-lethal strategy. By doing so, it can position itself as progressive and humane stewards of Tyler Park's wildlife and avoid the negative public relations image that is created with each hunt.

In short, it is simply irresponsible to manage the Park to create an ever-increasing population of deer for the enjoyment of visitors for 11 months of the year and then blow out their brains each December. According to Tyler Park, no data has been collected in 12 years, and this will be the 21st hunt. There is no evidence to justify this hunt. Humane and effective options do exist. As taxpayers of the State of Pennsylvania, we give you resources to manage the park's wildlife.

To show support, sign a petition to stop the hunt at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/stop-the-hunt-at-tyler-state-park> or write the governor and urge a moratorium on the hunt this year and thereafter.

Signed,  
Barbara Pearl  
Bucks Professor

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Monday, December 3, 2007

## Centurions Drown Ducks

**NICK TAMBURINI**  
*Centurion Staff*

The Centurions defeated the Thaddeus Stevens Tech Institute Ducks 71-61 on Tuesday, Nov. 27, thanks to good defense and great hustle.

"The whole team deserves credit," said Centurions Coach Gaeton Curione, "we played very well."

The game started off well for the Centurions, but they fell behind midway through the first half.

After a timeout, Curione put in a quick, undersized lineup with 10 minutes to play. The Ducks countered with an 8-0 run. Point guard Chris Schaffer stepped up and stopped the bleeding and knocked down two three-pointers on the right wing in an effort to keep up.

The Centurions fought back, tak-

ing the lead with under five minutes left. Their relentlessness and hustle led to a Claude Chalk three-pointer. Then, with seconds left in the first half, Schaffer stole the ball for an easy two.

In the second half with the Ducks down by six, the team switched to full court man-to-man coverage. Guard Matt Lacovar beat the press, eased into the lane and scored two. The defense continued to be consistent, with Chalk blocking shots left and right.

Guard Brandon Davis had an outstanding game for the Centurions, scoring 12 in the first half, and finishing with 27 points.

The Centurion players can finally breathe after getting their first win of the season. But, some kinks still need to be worked out.

They gave up 23 points off of the Ducks' offensive rebounding, and were lucky they got away with that much.

"I'm not surprised with that number, size is tough, we have a small team, but our plan is to go out and run," said Curione after the win.

The game is an improvement from the two previous games, when turnovers and lack of rebounding plagued them.

Upcoming games against Reading and Philadelphia Community College will be big ones for the team.

The team does sound confident, especially Chalk who said, "We'll most definitely improve. By mid-season, we'll have chemistry and will be ready to make a push for the playoffs."

## Teams Find Few Followers Among Bucks Students

**KEVIN YORKE**  
*Centurion Staff*

Bucks sports teams have received very little fan attendance, partly because students don't have time and partly because they don't know about the teams.

Students give many reasons why they can't seem to make time to cheer on their own.

While there is a natural enthusiasm among students for the teams, the consensus among students is that they are too busy to make it to games.

Sebastien Dylag, 19, a liberal arts major, said, "I haven't heard too much about the sporting events. I really don't have that much time to attend them."

Many students said they don't attend the games because they have other, more pressing priorities.

Sheila Wing, 20, a health and physical education major said, "I have too much to do. I am a full-time student and work full-time. There is not much time for me to attend a game."

Some wanted to attend the games, like Tim Reno, 20-year-old liberal arts major, but the game times don't match up with his on-campus schedule.

"I'm too far away, but I wouldn't mind attending if I didn't live so far."

Some students had no idea there were even sporting events at the college. Chad McCurdy, 21, liberal arts

major said, "Do they even have sporting events? I was completely unaware."

He said that if attendance was a mandatory part of class, "I think I could fit it into my schedule."

Many students are not surprised that the Bucks sporting events have such low attendance.

Since Bucks is a commuter campus, students who attend classes generally don't stay around campus unless they have to.

Some students suggested that Bucks promote the teams by posting flyers around the school or having special give-aways or contests, like they do for professional teams.

Scott Bradshaw, assistant director of athletics, reiterated the problems that face Bucks' sports teams.

"I think everyone's busy. Everyone works or goes to school, full-time. They go to class and then they go home, so it is rather difficult to have consistent attendance."

According to Bradshaw, attendance is still not great, but it is improving.

"This year we've seen a big increase. There have been a lot of people encouraging others to come out and watch their friends."

For a schedule of sporting events check the Bucks website at [www.Bucks.edu](http://www.Bucks.edu).



Dominique Alonzo-Wooding getting a rebound in a game last semester.  
Photo by Todd Miller

## Baseball Hall of Fame Releases 2008 Ballot

**WILL HEDUS**  
*Centurion Staff*

The 2008 Baseball Hall of Fame ballot was released this week including 25 names, 11 of which are first-time candidates.

The new candidates are headlined by outfielders Tim Lincecum and David Justice, along with second baseman Chuck Knoblauch.

One of the favorites to be voted in is Raines.

Raines, who played 23 seasons for six teams, 13 with the Montreal Expos, made the All-Star team 7 times and was named MVP of the 1987 All-Star game. He won the 1986 National League batting title, hitting .334, and received a Silver Slugger Award.

A .294 lifetime hitter, Raines led the National League in stolen bases four times and finished his career with 808, which ranks fifth

all-time. During his career, Raines compiled 2,605 hits, 1,571 runs, 430 doubles and 113 triples. Raines also won two World Series rings, in 1996 and 1998, with the New York Yankees.

Don Mattingly, long time New York Yankee player and coach, is drawing much attention from voters. Mattingly, a 1985 American League MVP and a six-time All-Star, led the AL in batting in 1984 with a .343 average and hit .300 seven times in his career. He hit .307 for his career with 2,153 hits, 222 home runs and 1,099 RBIs. These may not be huge numbers for a first baseman these days, but Mattingly battled injuries towards the end of his career.

Also, Mattingly's strength was his defense. He won nine Gold Gloves and his career fielding percentage of .9958 is fourth all-time among first baseman.

Arguably the best pitcher on the ballot is Rich "Goose" Gossage. Gossage played for nine different teams, most notably for the Yankees, and was one of the first true closers in baseball history. He was a nine-time All-Star, won a World Series and led the AL in saves three times. He topped 30 saves twice.

Exceeding 30 saves does not sound like a Hall of Fame stat in today's game, but in the 70's and 80's, saves were not as easy to earn as they are now. Pitchers usually had to pitch two or three innings every appearance.

Gossage's 310 saves are still seventeenth best as he pitched in the thirteenth most games ever. He had an outstanding career earned run average of 3.01 and won 124 games as a reliever.

The other notable pitcher on the ballot was long time Chicago Cub club Lee Smith. Smith's 478 saves

were the highest total until future Hall of Famer Trevor Hoffman passed it.

Smith has pitched in the eighth most games and holds the record for most games finished. He was a seven time All-Star and led his league in saves four times.

He had 13 consecutive seasons with at least 20 saves, 10 of those years topping 30 and three with more than 40. Smith's career ERA is an unprecedented 3.03.

The most controversial name on the ballot is former Oakland Athletics and St. Louis Cardinals slugging first-baseman Mark McGwire.

This selection, being as controversial as it is, can be justified and should not be tarnished until Barry Bonds and any other steroid-era player is found guilty and formally charged.

That being said, McGwire was

one of the most feared power hitters in the 90's. He was the AL Rookie of the Year in 1987 and won a Gold Glove in 1990. "Big Mac" was voted an All-Star 12 times and won three Silver Slugger Awards. He led his league in home runs four times and hit 70 home runs in 1998 setting a new record that surpassed Roger Maris' total of 61 from 1961.

McGwire also led his league in slugging percentage four times and his lifetime percentage of .588 is eighth all-time. He also ranks eighth in career home runs with 583, but his most impressive stat is his 10.6 at-bats per home run.

This this year's ballot is not as strong as in recent seasons, but names like McGwire, Mattingly, Gossage, Raines and Smith cannot be ignored.