### A Tight Race: Sestak vs. Toomey

By Benjamin Yahalomí '11

Stestak versus Toomey: The Pennsylvania Senate election continues to be highly contested. Pat Toomey’s conservative policies and disdain for Washington has appealed to rural and Republican voters, whereas Joe Sestak’s anti-incumbency rhetoric and liberal policies continue to appeal to moderates and urban dwellers. Every recent poll has shown Toomey in the lead, but recently that lead has narrowed: now 3 points according to Susquehanna Polling and Research. Toomey’s slogan “More Jobs, Less Government” has been a big hit in this swing state. Rural and urban Pennsylvanians alike, hit hard by the economic recession, are angry at Washington’s inability to stop the economic crisis. As a consistent fiscal conservative state’s representation in Washington will be highly partisan. Come out to vote in November, and let your opinions be heard!

By Sami Resnik ‘12 and Zach Barron ‘12

Welcome New FCS Teachers

This year Friends’ Central has welcomed a few new teachers into the faculty. Mr. Colin Angevine, a graduate of the class of ‘05, taught Erica “Doc” Harnett’s Latin class for the first few weeks of school. Though Mr. Angevine was covering for Doc during the month of September, he is teaching Computer Science this year. As a student at FCS, he ironically did not take computer science classes, though he wishes he did. As a teen Mr. Angevine loved to create websites. He notes that at times he would work from, “3:10 in the afternoon...” creating various websites. This love of technology and computers would eventually lead him to create the website Lingua Zone with the Middle School Latin teacher Magistra Roberts. Lingua Zone is a website for language learning which has become so popular that even teachers in India and Romania are using it. Mr. Angevine excitedly explained that working on Lingua Zone “is a wonderful way to fuse my passions of language learning and computer science.” Besides computers, he enjoys snowboarding, dancing, and cooking. The second new faculty member is already known for his unique hairstyle. Mr. Kaz Uyehara, a native Philadelphia and Penn State politics and public affairs professor, and current managing partner of Michael Young Strategic Research. “If Toomey is elected, he’ll be the most conservative candidate elected to office since before the New Deal. We haven’t seen anyone this conservative in a long time.” This election will have a major impact nationally. With no moderate candidate from either party, the election of either Sestak or Toomey will mean the voided his opinions on the Pennsylvania Senate race. Sonjay, a supporter of Pennsylvania Democratic candidates, believes it is an uphill battle for Sestak, Toomey, and Lentz. He wrote, “Sestak’s going to lose, so will Onorato. Maybe Lentz will pull it out, but he has a slim chance.” He then described his reasoning for supporting Sestak in the race. “Sestak has consistently shown that he has the charisma necessary to fight the higher forces such as big business and the high-profile pundits who are plaguing the Senate today. Take for example his race against Specter; he ran the race he thought was right, even though his party was...

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from Election on page 1

against him. We couldn't pass a decent health-care bill because we conceded too much to the other side. Sestak's the kind of guy who will fight for his beliefs and won't give up anything."

On Toomey's slogan and campaign promises, Sonjay wrote, "Toomey's slogan is obviously simple-minded. It's meant to appeal to rural Pennsylvanians who have been hit hard by the recession and honestly, haven't gotten much help from the Bush or Obama administrations."

Another Friends' Central student, Adam Posner, also believes Republicans will be successful in Pennsylvania.

He wrote, "Looking towards the 2010 elections I am very optimistic for the Republican Party. I believe that Americans have gotten a taste of what Obama and the Democrats have to offer, and I believe that they are very unhappy with it. I am fairly confident that Republican candidates across the United States, and in both the House and the Senate, (including Pat Toomey) will experience victory as a result of this level of practical awareness that has been raised."


October 2010

Look Out Lower Merion. The FCS Upper School Squash Team is Here!

By Daniel Banko '13

A few years ago, the Friends' Central Middle School added squash as one of our after-school winter sports. But there was a problem: squash players who graduated to the Upper School and still wanted to play had to join a squash team outside of school because there was no Upper School squash team! Finally, after a few years of waiting, this winter season will be the first season that Friends' Central has an Upper School squash team! The team will be led by Ms. Lukens, our new math teacher. I asked Ms. Lukens about the new team, and she said that it will be a new experience for her! (Although Ms. Lukens was a competitive squash player in high school, she hasn't coached before.) She says she is "excited--kids think it is cool to play for a team and they will have a lot of fun." Every weekday at 3:30 during the winter, the squash team will board a bus and drive down to the Healthplex, where Ms. Lukens says that she plans that the practices will consist of a lot of drilling. Ms. Lukens says she doesn't know if this year the team will be able to compete against other schools, as it's too soon to tell, but says she is optimistic that next year they will.

So what is squash? Squash is a two or four player sport in which the players wield racquets and alternate striking the ball against a wall. The first player to miss or strike the ball out of bounds loses the point. Ms. Lukens says that the game requires a lot of speed and agility. It's called squash because of the ball's "squashy" construction. Will you join the squash team this year?

By Ben Fogel '13

The Spanish Exchange was "una experiencia inolvidable." That is, "an unforgettable experience." For three weeks, beginning Saturday, September 3rd, 19 Spanish students found their homes with 18 Friends' Central students. Every other year (alternating with the French exchange), a handful of FCS students host Spanish students from a school in Spain's 4th largest city, Sevilla. In this year of the exchange, 19 Spaniards aged 16-18 took the 3,646 mile journey to Philadelphia (that's 5,867 kilometers to them).

During the time they were here, they experienced life as American teenagers. To the surprise of some, the lives of American teenagers are different than American life as portrayed in Hollywood movies. Many of the exchange students were familiar with The Fresh Prince of Bel Air (1990-1996), starring Philadelphia native Will Smith, The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, along with many other American television shows, is very popular in Spain. Much of the Spaniards' dismay, like the average American teenager, is not as kooky and exciting as the characters in the show of "Will Smith" and "Carlton Banks" from the show.

The Spanish students and the FCS students quickly became close friends. The Sunday that they arrived, every student and his or her American counterpart (or their "American brothers and sisters," as they would call them) assembled for a group barbecue to start interacting and building relationships with each other. It was a fun experience for all...until we decided to play volleyball. At first, we all played together with mixed Spanish and American teams, until someone decided Americans were different than Americans. I think the exchange was "una experiencia inolvidable." For all of you who don't know, Friends' Central has a learning specialist named Ms. Dottie Mazullo on staff. You may be asking yourself, "We have a teacher named Ms. Mazullo? or "What exactly does a learning specialist do?" To find out more, I ventured to her second floor office in the Wood Building. Located between the newly renovated girls bathroom, the Upper School office, and the gargoyles room, Ms. Mazullo's office is hard to miss. I knocked on the door plastered with Mickey Mouse memorabilia, curious as to what other possible interior decorations I would find.

Sure enough, Ms. Mazullo welcomed me in and offered me a seat. To my surprise, there was even more. I didn't think I could have had anticipated. Aside from her affinity for Disney, Ms. Mazullo is a trained learning specialist and spends her time helping students develop ways that will help them with homework and tests. Ms. Mazullo, who has a background in speech and language therapy and has worked in education for 22 years, hasid "learning challenges" then come up with strategies to help students. Learning challenges can range from disorganization to slow reading. Ms. Mazullo commented, "I'm available if you're experiencing difficulties of any kind and could benefit from some help. Every student whom I meet with is extremely bright but needs specific focus with education."

Ms. Mazullo is ready to help with anything, and encourages everyone to stop by with questions or just to chat! She is also the faculty person to see about extra time and all that jazz. Go check it out! PS There's usually some candy involved!

By Hannah Albertine '12

"Hasta Luego," Spanish Exchange Students

They did, however, have size on their side having a few guys over 6' including one, Alejandro Jimenez Garcia, who is 6'6"! Besides the initial barbecue, the Spaniards and American students spent much of their free time bonding together. Whether it was shopping on South Street or at the King of Prussia Mall, going to see their first baseball game, or just hanging out and partying, the Spaniards and the FCS students created a loving bond. Andie Belkoff ('12), junior on the Exchange, exclaimed, "I think the exchange is an awesome experience. It's amazing how close you can get to someone in a mere three weeks. My exchange student truly is my Spanish sister!" It is truly remarkable that two strangers living in the same household can develop a close friendship in such a short amount of time.

While the Friends' Central students were in school, the Spaniards went on day and even overnight trips to explore the East Coast of the United States. They visited our nation's capital, Washington D.C., to see such monuments and museums as the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the White House, the Air and Space museum and many more. One of their favorite trips, though, was their day trip to the Big Apple, New York City. Having the opportunity to see the bright lights and big screens of Times Square and walk around Central Park was fascinating to the Spaniards, who commented positively on their experiences in the city. Back in Philly, they visited museums such as the Art Museum and the Museum of Archeology and Anthropology. They see Spanish on page 3.
Top 10 Fashions of Fall 2010

By Sami Resnik '12

This fall, fashion has taken a refreshing turn. Fashion has become as wearable as it has ever been. From minimalist structure to cargo pants, everyone has a chance to look stylish! Take a look at the top 10 trends this fall that you won’t want to miss:

1) Camel and Beige
These simple colors are great for coats and bags.

2) Old fashioned schoolgirl look
High socks and pleated skirts are comfy and cute.

3) 60's glam: Mad Men style
From minimalist structure to wearable as it has ever been. Fashion has become as fashionable as possible, the military inspired look is everywhere. Cropped jackets, coats, army boots and the color green is one of the most popular looks this fall. Maybe best worn when not in school!

4) Cargo Pants
Every celebrity from Victoria Beckham to Rihanna has been seen wearing Cargo pants.

5) Ruffles
On shirts, jackets, and even dresses - ruffles are on everything.

6) Military inspired
Worn in the most peaceful way possible, the military inspired look is everywhere. Cropped jackets, coats, army boots and the color green is one of the most popular looks this fall. Maybe best worn when not in school!

7) Plaid is back
Easy to wear, plaid is a trend that is here to stay.

8) Leather jackets/
Motorcycle look
This rocker-chic look is fun to wear whenever you go.

9) Lace
Ladylike and simple, lace is the perfect way to dress an outfit up.

10) Big knit sweaters
These chunky sweaters will not only look chic, but will keep you warm throughout the winter.

Sources: http://www.glamour.com and http://www.teenvogue.com

When Our Parents Killed Our Dog on Christmas

By Oliver Goodman '13 & Rachel Goodman '11

While there are many Goodman family tales that have already been inducted into our hall of fame, “How Dad Killed the Dog on Christmas” is easily the quickest to be admitted. Although we had traditionally dubbed ourselves as ingenious scheme masters (with some notable attempts from our younger sister, Molly), we must admit that our parents’ performance three Christmases ago suggests that our knack for sneaky plan-making may, in fact, be hereditary.

Two weeks before the exchange, and I'll come back to Philadelphia this summer.” Besides the students, the teachers and families hosting the students enjoyed the presence of the Spaniards during their time here. The FCS students will have the opportunity in March to fly to Spain and stay with their Spanish counterparts for 2.5 weeks. They will start off in Madrid for a few days and make their way over to the south-west part of Spain to stay in Sevilla.

Whether it was chomping down on a cheesesteak, watching Ryan Howard slam a home run, or just sitting in a circle together talking and laughing about school, friends, the movies and everything else going on in any teenager’s life, the 2010 Spanish Exchange has been memorable for all. They will be missed dearly by many at Friends’ Central. Goodbye and until next time, adios y hasta luego!

This surprise made a lot more sense Christmas morning. Like always, we woke up early and opened our presents. Unlike always, we were then instructed to say our final goodbyes to Scarlett, who our Dad had deemed too sick to live another day. We did as we were told, but as we sobbed and blew our noses into Scarlett’s fur (not seeing the point of living without our beloved dog), we were shocked to see Molly, Mom, and Dad laughing together and dragging a string around the house for the kitten to play with. Dad kissed the kitten goodbye, searched for a Jewish vet who would be open, and took Scarlett to be put down…on Christmas.
Back in the Playoffs Once Again  
By Daniel Yahalomi ’14 and Max Ginsberg ’14

Well, if you haven’t heard, the Phillies have clinched the NL East and have earned a spot in the playoffs for the fourth straight season. This mark sets an all-time Phillies record for consecutive playoff appearances. Over the course of the seemingly endless 162-game season, the Phillies have had to deal with multiple injuries to their key players. But it has been the unhittable pitching combination of the Phillies’ Big three, Roy Halladay, Roy Oswalt, and Cole Hamels that has helped to carry the Phillies to where they are today. In addition the Phillies received help from two underrated players, right fielder Jayson Werth, and catcher Carlos Ruiz, who have provided the run support that has helped the team win games. Everybody knows you are going to get big numbers out of players like Ryan Howard, Chase Utley, and Shane Victorino, but the depth of the Phillies is what puts them on a level above other teams. Manuel applauds Werth’s effort and determination to get better, as he states, “He comes to play every day and wants to prove he can contribute something.”

The Phillies had to play well in the final months of the regular season because they were shaky at the beginning of the year. Two months ago, the Phillies were 58-48. They were trailing the Atlanta Braves by two games in the division, and were in 3rd place in the wildcard standings. Things didn’t look good. Since then, the Phillies are 39-17, and the club is going into the playoffs with an overall season record of 97-65 which is the best record in baseball. If the Phillies can ride the momentum of their final two months of the regular season, we should be on our way to our third straight World Series. Gotta’ love those Phils.

2010 NLCS Schedule
Phillies vs Giants

Game 1: Sat Oct 16 @ Philadelphia - 7:30
Game 2: Sun Oct 17 @ Philadelphia - 8:00
Game 3: Tues Oct 19 @ San Francisco - 4:00
Game 4: Wed Oct 20 @ San Francisco - 7:30
*Game 5: Thurs Oct 21 @ San Francisco - 7:30
*Game 6: Sat Oct 23 @ Philadelphia - 3:30
*Game 7: Sun Oct 24 @ Philadelphia - 7:30

*if Necessary

Focus Congratulates Roy Halladay on throwing the 2nd No-Hitter in Major League Baseball Postseason history and his 2nd of the 2010 season!

NLDS Game
Two outs in the top of the ninth, Phillies up 2-0 with Scott Rolen coming up to bat. Cole Hamels is working on the complete game shutout, which would be the Phillies second shutout in three NLDS games. The 0-2 pitch, Swing and a miss on some high heat and the Phillies are going back to the NLCS for the third consecutive year.

Before the NLDS began, Phillies manager Charlie Manuel opted for the eight day series which gave him the opportunity to use Halladay, Oswalt, and Hamels on their regular rest. This turned out to be one great decision which in turn led to a Phillies sweep against the Cincinnati Reds in three games. Game three featured Johnny Queto against Cole Hamels, the third of the Phillies aces. The Phillies scored first in the top of the 1st to take a 1-0 lead and then gave the ball to Cole. He did not disappoint. Hamels ran through the Reds lineup not allowing a run. However the Phillies were not able to produce any insurance runs until the 5th inning. When Chase Utley came up to bat in the 5th inning, he added to the Phillies lead by hitting a solo home run which landed in the front row of the right field bleachers, to give the Phillies a 2-0 lead.

Pitching was one main reason why the Phillies swept the Reds. Game 1 had Halladay’s no hitter. Game 2 had a rocky start by Oswalt but the bullpen picked him up which lead to the...
Roy Halladay on throwing the 2nd no-hitter in Major League Baseball Postseason history during the 2010 season!
November and December

Movie Preview

By Louis Lesser

NOVEMBER

Due Date (11/5) – Following the success of The Hangover, director Todd Phillips and Zach Galifianakis return, with Robert Downey Jr. in tow. The plot is about an expectant father, who, due to unfortunate circumstances, must drive cross-country with a struggling actor, in order to arrive home to see his child’s birth.

127 Hours (11/5) – James Franco stars in director Danny Boyle’s follow-up to his massive hit, Slumdog Millionaire, as Aron Ralston, a real mountain climber who defies the odds in Utah. Considering the success of the predecessor, expect this movie to perform well come awards season.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part I (11/19) – One of the most beloved franchises of the generation reaches its climax, or, at least partly. The adaptation of the seventh Harry Potter book will mark the beginning of the end of this pop culture sensation, and is quoted to be the most faithful adaptation of the books yet.

Unstoppable (11/12) – Denzel fans, rejoice. While his last train-themed film, The Taking of Pelham 123, was not a bona-fide success, this film, from frequent Washington partner Tony Scott, also features Chris Pine (Star Trek), and looks to bring Denzel back in the action spotlight.

DECEMBER

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (12/10) – The third film in the series is also the first movie not to be released by Walt Disney Pictures (the film is being distributed by 20th Century Fox), and the first in 3D. Based on the fifth book in the “Chronicles,” this movie follows the two youngest Pevensies on a naval rescue mission. Look to see if this poplar franchise remains profitable under new management.

How Do You Know (12/17) – Partially filmed just downtown this past year, Reese Witherspoon and Paul Rudd star in the newest producer from director James L. Brooks, known for his work As Good As It Gets and as a producer of The Simpsons. Early praise has said this movie just might be a winner.

Gulliver’s Travels (12/22) – Jack Black headlines a comedic cast in another retelling of Jonathan Swift’s famous book. The only difference between previous adaptations is that this version is meant to be funny, and Jack Black hasn’t had top billing by himself since Tenacious D & The Pick of Destiny, so look to see if he can handle the weight of the film relying mostly on his performance.

2010 Fall TV Preview

By Jack Kornblatt '13 and Keira Sultan '12

One of the things that has characterized NBC this fall television season is a few old faces and a lot of new ones. While quality programs like The Office and 30 Rock return for yet another season, the majority of the National Broadcasting Company’s lineup features new shows. NBC hopes to stage a comeback in the broadcasting arena; its viewership has fallen, and it is now ranked 4th out of all US broadcast companies. While it has been able to create a broadcasting niche with comedy shows like The Office, it hasn’t had a smash hit like House on Fox and Grey’s Anatomy on ABC in years. Below are previews of some of NBC’s most highly anticipated shows.

What is The Event? For weeks NBC has been airing commercials featuring a tantalizing tag line for their new suspense thriller The Event. The show tells the story of the President of the United States and the conflict between him and a group of mountain prisoners who are known to be not of terrestrial origin. Caught in this is Sean Walker, whose girlfriend’s disappearance has led him to uncover an assassination plot against the president. The Event airs on NBC on Monday from 9-10 P.M.

This season of The Office represents a turning point in the series, as it is Steve Carell’s last. While many question whether the show will be funny next year without Carell, this season is poised to be the funniest yet. Featuring several guest stars, including all of Michael’s previous girlfriends, the official return of Holly Flax, and a rival salesman from Pam’s past, The Office is expected to create huge laughs every Thursday from 9-9:30 on NBC.

One of the most successful franchises on television is Law and Order. Now, after the cancellation of the original show, series creator Dick Wolf has come out with a brand new show, Law and Order: Los Angeles. As the first Law and Order to take place outside New York City, this new series brings with it an entirely new set of situations, crimes, and plots. Featuring the tag line “Welcome to the Wild West,” Law and Order: Los Angeles airs on Wednesdays from 10-11:00 P.M. on NBC.
Sports Poll of the Month: FOCUS surveyed the 9th-12th grade and asked: 

*What is your favorite Philadelphia Sports Moment of the Last 20 Years?*

**Philly Win 2008 World Series** - 97/86.6%

**Eagles Make it to 2005 Super Bowl** - 5/4.5%

**Flyers Return to Stanley Cup in 2010** - 4/3.6%

**Allen Iverson Leads Sixers to 2001 NBA Finals** - 4/3.6%

**Joey Chestnut Wins the Wing Bowl** - 2/1.8%

Write in Votes:

1. Chris Pronger steals game puck last season
2. Roy Halladay throws a perfect game
3. Chase Utley’s World Series Parade Speech
4. Chase Utley’s first at bat of his career with the Phillies is a grand slam
5. Philadelphia Soul with the AFL Championship
6. Aaron McKie wins the 2001 NBA Sixth Man Award
7. FCS wins soccer championship in 2004

**ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT**

**Boardwalk Empire**

By Anonymous

**Advice Column**

I have written a number of tips below with the intention of preserving your high self-esteem and possibly the formation of your face. I understand that we all harbor fantasies but this is NOT Cougar Town; so

1. Do aim for someone significantly less aged. Take advantage of the fact that you still have bounce in your step and flow to your hair.
2. Do realize your chance of success is no fatter than Paris Hilton eating air as sustenance.
3. Do ask her out with lots of eye witnesses present. It is probable that she will be generous with words and actions if there is a crowd.
4. Do avoid senior boys and always carry pepper spray for protection afterwards.

Yours Truly,

Jane D

Dear Luv4senior-itas,

You walk into the school on Wednesday morning and throughout the school on Wednesday and throughout the school on Wednesday.

You can hear three different conversations from my friends. I believe myself to be quite “crushing on” is a senior. I’m a freshman, but I keep receiving comments from my friends.

Dearest Jane,

I’m a freshman, and the girl I am currently dating is a senior. I believe myself to be quite “crushing on” is a senior. I’m a freshman, but I keep receiving comments from my friends.

From Teachers on page 1

**From Teachers on page 1:**

the reigns from Mr. Coval of last year. She teaches mostly underclassmen with multiple sections of both Geometry and Algebra II. Ms. Lukens is very familiar with Friends’ Central as she is a Philly native from Center City. She says that FCS drew her attention immediately because of “the Quaker values and sense of community”. She went on to say that her favorite thing about FCS is “how everyone treats each other with respect and integrity”. Ms. Lukens previous job as a saleswoman at the company Super Derivatives is very different from being a high school teacher; however she seems to have made the transition quite well. Ms. Lukens contributions to the FCS community stretch past the math department, as she is already making FOCUS headlines as the coach of the first ever squash team. Details of the squash team can be found on page 2, in an article written by Daniel Banko. Please help welcome these promising and multi-faced new teachers into our community!

from page 2:

**from page 2:**

“EVIL)” you can put some butter on the popcorn and enjoy the show!

The Prohibition in 1919. By illustrating the life of Al Capone, were like when they were unknown, and makes them more human}

**Glee**

on page 6

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Phoenix In the Phast Lane by Jamie Ulrich ’12

Joey Brodsky ’12 – Boys’ Soccer

After a year on the Radnor High soccer team, Joey Brodsky ’12 has returned to the Phoenix this fall and is making an impact. His superior speed and agility allow him to track down opposing players quickly, while his skill and field vision help him create scoring opportunities on offense. An exciting player to watch, Brodsky looks like a young version of French superstar Thierry Henry. His dynamic play on both offense and defense make him a respected player in the FSL, while his passion and lack of fear for contact strike fear in opponents.

In addition to being a top player, Joey has earned the respect of his teammates and coaches. Coach Campbell was quick to praise his junior star, saying, “His work rate and leadership both on the field and in training have set an example for the younger players on the squad.” A valued member of the community, Joey has developed into an admired player and person.

Alexa Fusselbaugh ’13 – Field Hockey

This sophomore sensation is tearing up the hockey field with her terrific play as of late. The hybrid forward-midfielder sets the pace on offense and attacks the goal with a ferocity that few would expect from the mild-mannered Alexa. Despite being one of the youngest players on the team, Alexa makes her presence known with her aggressive style of play blended with superb skill. Few would suspect that such a young player would have such a significant impact on every game, yet Alexa proves them wrong time and time again.

Head Coach Jody Mayer commented, “There is never a practice or game where Fuss isn’t focused on improving. She works hard all the time.” Mayer went on to say “She recently told me that unless she was bleeding or had an internal injury, she didn’t want to come off the field, no matter how tired she was.” It’s this combination of guts and ability that makes Alexa “Fuss” Fusselbaugh an exciting player to watch and a person worthy of admiration. Look for Alexa to help lead the team into contention for the Friends’ Central League title in the coming years.

Philadelphia Sixers 2010-2011 Preview

By Wesley Kaminsky ‘11

It was a disastrous season for the Sixers last season. After reaching the playoffs the previous two seasons, they had aspirations to return to the post-season. Nothing went right for them though, which lead to a 27-55 record. Changes needed to be made, and they were.

The first thing the Sixers did was fire Eddie Jordan and replace him with a veteran, proven coach; they chose Doug Collins. In addition to hiring Collins, the Sixers lucked out by landing the second pick in the NBA draft. With that pick, the Sixers took Evan Turner, the reigning Naismith player of the year. Turner seems to be extremely “pro-ready,” and he strikes comparisons to Brandon Roy. The Sixers would not mind that in the least bit.

The Sixers also unloaded the contract of Samuel Dalembert to the Kings in exchange for Andres Nocioni and Spencer Hawes.

The Sixers got the best value they could out of Dalembert, and Nocioni brings toughness to their team. He’s the kind of player who is not afraid to throw an elbow or take a hard foul. The Sixers were lacking a player like that. Not only did they ship out Dalembert, but also longtime Sixer Willie Green and fourth year forward Jason Smith to the Hornets. In return, the Sixers received veteran forward Darius Songalia, and first round 2010 first round pick Craig Brackins from Iowa State.

If Evan Turner is impressive in his rookie season, the Sixers may very well find themselves back into the playoff hunt. A potential trio of Jrue Holiday, Evan Turner, and Andre Iguodala could be dangerous. This is a big year for Holiday, a good defender, who showed promise in his rookie season. Now he is the starting point guard, and the Sixers are expecting big things out of him. It would also be nice to see something out of Elton Brand who has been a big disappointment since signing with the Sixers two summers ago.

Don’t expect a lot out of the Sixers this season, but after a nightmare season last year, there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

Prediction: 36-46


FOCUS

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