

The

Thielensian



Devastating Earthquake Strikes Taiwan, Leaving Destruction

By: Carol Birdy

April 4th, 2024: Taiwan was shaken to its core as a powerful earthquake struck the island, leaving a trail of devastation in its wake. The seismic event, which registered a magnitude of 7.2 on the Richter scale, struck with sudden ferocity, catching residents and authorities off guard.

The epicenter of the earthquake was located in the eastern part of Taiwan, near the coastal city of Hualien. Reports indicate that the quake was felt across the island, with tremors being felt as far away as Taipei, the capital city. The sudden jolt sent people scrambling for safety, as buildings swayed, and infrastructure suffered significant damage.

Initial assessments reveal widespread destruction throughout affected areas. Residential buildings, commercial structures, and critical infrastructure such as roads and bridges have been severely damaged or collapsed entirely. The picturesque landscape of Taiwan's eastern coast, known for its scenic beauty, now bears the scars of the earthquake's fury.

There have been casualties reported,

with both fatalities and injuries being confirmed. Emergency services are working tirelessly to rescue survivors trapped beneath the rubble and provide medical assistance to those in need. The full extent of the human toll is yet to be determined, as rescue and recovery efforts continue amidst challenging conditions.

Authorities have issued tsunami warnings following the earthquake, urging residents in coastal areas to evacuate to higher ground as a precautionary measure. The seismic activity has raised concerns about the potential for secondary hazards such as landslides and aftershocks, further complicating relief efforts and exacerbating the sense of uncertainty among the population.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, Taiwan's government has mobilized resources to respond to the crisis. President Chen Wei-Ling has declared a state of emergency, deploying military personnel and emergency services to the af-

ected areas. The government has also called for assistance from the international community to support relief and reconstruction efforts.

The earthquake in Taiwan serves as a stark reminder of the unpredictable and devastating power of nature. Despite advances in technology and the ability to prepare for natural disasters more easily, many communities remain vulnerable to the destructive forces of earthquakes. As Taiwan grapples with the aftermath of this disaster, the resilience and solidarity of its people will be tested, as they come together to rebuild their lives and their communities.

Aftermath of Taiwan Earthquake.



Sports

S.C. and UConn Dominate, Capture National Titles

By: Jacob Walsh

April 7th, 2024: The South Carolina Gamecocks defeated the Iowa Hawkeyes in the NCAA Women's National Championship by a score of 87-75. On the Men's side, the University of Connecticut vanquished Purdue with a score of 75-60 to win their second consecutive title. All four teams in the two title games were no.1 seeds.

The Women's Final Four was hosted in Cleveland, Ohio, with the two number-one seeds facing off in the title game. South Carolina spent their entire 2023-24 season undefeated, winning a total of 39 straight games. Ironically, their last loss came in the Final Four last year against the Hawkeyes.

For Iowa, the team came in 34-5, with record breaker Caitlin Clark leading the charge. Clark fought the vengeful Gamecocks hard, leading Iowa in scoring with 30 points with 5 assists and 8 rebounds. However, Iowa could not stop the South Carolina flood, as Tessa Johnson, Te-Hina PaoPao, Clohe Kitts, and Kamilla Cardoso combined for 59 of South Carolina's 87 points.

The Hawkeyes came out firing and led through the first quarter, but the tides turned as South Carolina led at the half. Though the second half was close, the Gamecocks fended off any chance for Iowa to win in the last two frames. Late in the fourth, South Carolina expanded

their lead and defeated the Hawkeyes. This title was South Carolina's third, with the other two championships being won under current head coach Dawn Staley (2017, 2022) as well.

With the combined talent on the court, the Women's Championship was the highest-viewed women's basketball game since 1992, with 18.7 million watching, and peaking at 24 million viewers. As Clark and Cardoso leave their programs, they leave Women's basketball with an unforgettable mark.

Down in the desert, the Men's National Championship was fought for between no.1 UConn (37-3) and no.1 Purdue (34-5)...

(cont. on pg. 3)

Games to Watch

WLAX	SATURDAY, APRIL 13th vs. WESTMINSTER (PAC)12p.m.
MLAX	SATURDAY, APRIL 13th vs. WESTMINSTER (PAC).....3:00p.m.
SOFT	TUESDAY, APRIL 16th vs. GENEVA.....3:00p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Current Events

S.C. and UConn Dominate, Capture National Titles

(cont. from pg. 2)

... in Phoenix, Arizona. The defending champion Huskies were led by senior guard Tristen Newton, who scored 20 points with 7 assists and 5 rebounds. The Boilermakers combatted Newton with their phenom Zach Edey dropping 37 points and capturing 10 re-

bounds.

Purdue started the second half only down six to the defending champs, but it would not last long. UConn began to run away with the game midway through the second and led by 15 late in the game. The Huskies would be too much for the Boilermakers,

culminating in the program's sixth title.



Aggressive Elephant Charges, Kills Woman in Zambia

By: Christina Newman

April 4th, 2024: An American woman was killed by an elephant when it charged and flipped the tour vehicle, she was in at the Kafue National Park in Zambia.

Gail Mattson, the 79-year-old victim, was enjoying what she called her "last big trip" when an irate bull elephant charged the vehicle carrying six tourists and a guide, flipping over the car. This led to one passenger being sent to a South African medical center, four passengers being treated for minor injuries, and the death of Mattson.

Mattson's family said that they had learned about her death through the U.S. Embassy. Mattson was a retired mortgage professional and planned to enjoy her retirement by venturing on her dream trip to South Africa. She was

staying with friends and family at the Lufupa Camp and had gone out for a photography tour before the attack.

A video of the incident began circling the internet, showing an elephant running toward the vehicle, and slowing down as it approached the left side. The elephant proceeded to flip the vehicle with its tusks, then the car began to roll.

In a statement, CEO of Tour Operations for Kafue National Park, Keith Vincent, said the company's guides "are all well trained and experienced." He went on to add "Sadly in this instance the terrain and vegetation was such that the guide's route became blocked, and he could not move the vehicle out of harm's way quickly enough." Vincent also expressed their condolences for the family of Mattson and said the company is working to support the guests and guide

involved in the incident.

With the help of Zambian authorities and the U.S. Embassy located in the capital Lusaka, Mattson's body will be returned to her family.

This is not the first incident where an American tourist has died at Kafue National Park. In September of 2016, Bianca Rudolph was found dead due to a fatal shotgun blast. Just last year her husband was sentenced to life in prison after being charged for her murder and found guilty.

During an interview with the "TODAY" show, Marlon du Toit, safari guide and wildlife photographer said, "It's extremely rare to see an elephant that irate." He went on to say "Across Africa, there are thousands and thousands of guests on safari on a daily basis with no negative consequences."

Current Events

Thiel College Wellness and Benefits Fair

By: Jason Walsh II

Thiel College held its annual Wellness and Benefits Day Fair on campus. The fair was held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Bistro and Howard Miller Student Center.

During the fair, the Bistro and HMSC were filled with people and tables set up by a multitude of groups from the college as well as the Mercer area. These tables provided information on health, and wellness, as well as different types of benefits for early adult life. Also provided at the fair were refreshments, different types of giveaways from the organizations, and prizes attendants could win.

At the fair, Thiel College's Physi-

cian Assistant Program, who had a table set up, was interviewed. The table was being run by PA graduate students who provided information about the table and program. The PA table was doing a trivia game where contestants were given the name of a bone and had to guess what part of the body it was from. If the contestant answered correctly, they won a prize. The graduate students running the table said that they're enjoying the PA program here at Thiel. They also explained that although the program is new, the classes are fulfilling, and they feel the professors are doing a good job teaching the subjects.

The Thiel College Exercise Science Club was also interviewed. Thiel Students Luke Faber, and Mike Sittig, club members, were running the table. The Exercise Science Club Table had three activities for attendants. The

table had a grip strength tester, a BMI calculator, and a general health and wellness activity. Luke Faber provided information about the club; "We're a club for science and exercise science majors who are interested in exercise and treatment awareness." "Our club focuses on the different aspects of wellness that keep people healthy, different activities people can do to stimulate both their mental at physical health as well as prevent common issues or diseases."

Overall, the Wellness and Benefits Day Fair was a success for Thiel. Throughout the day the Bistro and HMSC were filled with attendants visiting the different tables and participating in the activities and games.



Current Events

The Fight For Equality: Understanding the 4b Movement

By: Hannah Stoughton

April 2024: In a fight against sexism, women across the world have decided to partake in the 4b Movement, a movement in which women have decided to not involve themselves with men.

Originating in South Korea, women have banded together to follow the 4b – or 4 Nos – movement. The Bs stand for “bihon, bichulsan, biyeonae, and bisekseu,” meaning marriage, childbirth, dating, and sex respectively. Women have decided to forego traditional relationship norms with men, actively fighting against patriarchy and misogyny in society.

According to South Korean women, the primary motivations for the 4b movement have been anti-feminist rhetoric, workplace discrimination against mothers, and higher prevalence in gender-based violence in heterosexual relationships. This is seen by relationship-

associated lingo in South Korea. There, when a relationship that ends without violent reaction, it is called a “safe breakup,” whereas one with a violent reaction is just a breakup.

Due to strong patriarchal and misogynistic structures in the workforce, South Korean mothers are often discriminated against, as they are “to be home with the children instead.” It has led to wage gaps, cut hours, and low pay for women. The government has not enacted any policies to help women in their discrimination, strengthening the motivations behind the 4b movement. In fact, the lack of reaction to sex crimes, revenge pornography, femicide, and other acts that are overwhelmingly perpetrated by men whilst jailing women for months at a time is one of the largest catalysts for this movement.

Since it has started, women have forgone beauty standards and tradi-

tions. They have began shaving their heads and not abiding the social standards regarding makeup, acting against what men want. Some have even cut off the existing men in their lives, distancing themselves from male friends and family.

The 4b Movement is a testimony to the desire for abolishing patriarchy and sexism in society. As women band together to fight for gender equality in South Korea, many others across the globe have begun to protest as well, signaling a potential change in how society runs in the future.



Staff: Hannah Stoughton (Co-Editor-in-Chief/Webmaster), Jacob Walsh (Co-Editor-in-Chief), Jason Walsh II and Colin Schroyer (Staff Writers), Carol Birdy and Christina Newman (Co-Curricular Writers), Prof. Matthew Humphrey (Advisor)