

The Thielensian

Caitlin Clark Wins WNBA Rookie of the Year

By: Jacob Walsh

October 10, 2024: The Indiana Fever's Caitlin Clark was awarded the 2024 WNBA Rookie of the Year (ROTY), marking the second straight season a Fever rookie has been given the award.

Clark was awarded ROTY in a vote by a group of 67 sportswriters and sportscasters. The award was nearly unanimous, as she received 66 out of the 67 total votes. Clark was chosen unanimously as ROTY by AP.

Clark stated "I am incredibly honored to be named Rookie of the Year, but more than that, I am grateful to everyone that supported me throughout this past season...my family and friends, my teammates, the Fever organization, and everyone that cheered us on all season. I am so proud of what we accomplished and so excited for what the future holds."

Caitlin Clark played college ball in Iowa and was selected number one overall in the 2024 WNBA draft. In her rookie year, Clark averaged 19.2 points and a league-best 8.4 assists per game. Clark also led the league with 122 3-pointers, was second with 90.6% accuracy from the free-throw

line, and averaged 5.7 rebounds and 1.3 steals. She set a league single-season record with 337 assists and set rookie records of 769 points and 122 three-pointers made.

Clark started the season slow but built momentum and was picked as an All-Star Game starter at the mid-season break. However, she was not picked to represent the United States in the 2024 Olympics. This seemed to give the rookie much-needed rest and Clark came back firing from the break; in the first 10 games back she averaged 24.7 points and 9.3 assists while leading Indiana to an 8-2 record.

Clark was named Player of the Week three times, Rookie of the Month four times, and Eastern Conference Player of the Month in August. Caitlin Clark set multiple league records with the first two triple-doubles by a rookie in WNBA history. She also set a league single-game record with 19 assists and became the first rookie to have at least 30 points and 10 assists in a game.



Caitlin Clark.

The 'Caitlin Clark Effect' also continued to transpire throughout the season

with the *Image taken by Sara Cascio.*

Fever leading the league in attendance for home and away games. With her rookie counterparts, Clark exploded ratings and attendance for the WNBA. Six different league television partners set viewership records this year for its highest viewed WNBA game, with all those games featuring Indiana.

Unfortunately, Clark's record-setting rookie year ended in a 0-2 sweep against the Connecticut Sun. Even in a game one blowout loss for the Fever, the game averaged 1.8 million viewers, making it the WNBA's most-watched playoff game since the 2000 Finals and the most-watched playoff game on ESPN ever.

Current Events

Hurricane Milton Hits Florida Hard

By: Hannah Stoughton

October 10, 2024: After the United States suffered a category 3 hurricane that devastated parts of South Carolina, North Carolina, and into the Appalachian mountains, Hurricane Milton has made landfall on Florida, causing mass damage across the state.

Hurricane Milton made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane around 8:30p.m. in Siesta Key, Florida after a series of tornadoes ripped through Southern Florida. In the damage assessment concluded since then, 12 people have been confirmed as dead from these

storms. 11 million people were at risk for flash-flooding and more than 3.4 million people are left with electricity. Prior to landfall, Hurricane Milton progressed into a Category 5 hurricane in less than 10 hours, making it a rare scientific phenomenon. It nearly hit the maximum storm categorization, given the storm's factors, and this caused many experts to grow weary of their preparations. It made its way through the Gulf of Mexico, which is an infrequent pathway for a Hurricane, and hit Tampa in one of the strongest storms its seen in over 100 years. The

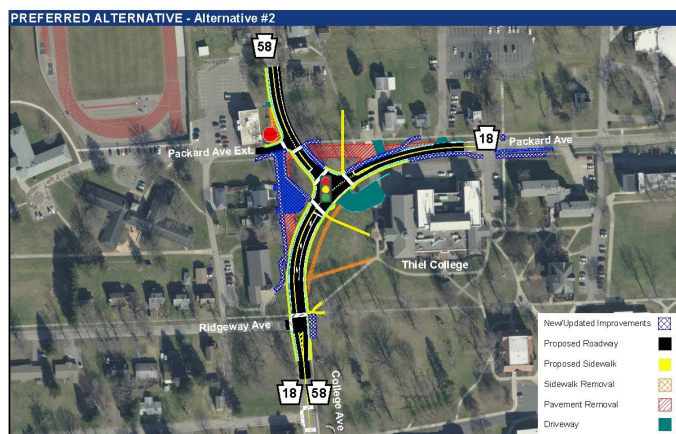
residents and experts, who do not typically experience these types of weather phenomena, were underprepared, allowing for mass amounts of damage and destruction in Florida.

The damage total has yet to be released, and the death toll continues to rise.

Image from NBC News.



Construction on College Ave!



Construction Project on College Ave.

By: Colin Schroyer

October 1, 2024: On September 30, the city of Greenville, Pa., began construction along College Ave., starting an extensive renovation project.

Working predominantly along College Ave. and Packard Ave., the project will consolidate the traffic into two main roads connected by a single intersection.

Many students at Thiel College woke up surprised to hear the sound of construction early Monday morning as the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) began the Route 18 and Route 58 Improvement Project. The construction and repaving that took place during the first week of October were preliminary renovations necessary for future construction and minor rerouting planned for later. “Proposed work also includes new or upgraded sidewalk, curb ramps, driveway entrances, milling and paving, base repair, new traffic signal, drainage updates, and pavement marking updates,” shared PennDOT on their website.

There are no anticipated full road closures...

(cont. on next pg.)

Current Events

Explaining the Israeli Conflicts

(cont. from prev. pg)

...on Route 18; pedestrian detours will be in place as new curb ramps, sidewalks, and crosswalks are constructed. Detours may also be in place for construction on Route 58.

The project hopes to improve traffic for vehicles and pedestrians through improved roads and sidewalks, as well as enhancing ADA accessibil-

ity. The project will be primarily funded through state and federal funds, but Thiel College will financially contribute to improvements for the campus, such as the sidewalks.

Construction will occur in five stages and aims to be completed by 2025.

For more information, read more at

www.penndot.pa.gov/RegionalOffices/district-1/ConstructionsProjectsAndRoad-work/MercerCountyProjects/Pages/Routes-18-and-58-Improvement-Project.aspx.

National Dock Strike Ends

By: Colin Schroyer

October 3, 2024: After just two days, the national dock workers strike was suspended as a new contract was being negotiated.

On Thursday, October 3, it was announced that the International Longshoreman Association's (ILA) strike, which began on the first of the month, would be suspended as a tentative deal has been reached.

In a joint statement, the ILA and the United States Maritime Alliance, Ltd. (USMX)—the organization representing shipping companies and port operators—state that the groups “have reached a tentative agreement on wages and have agreed to extend the Master Contract until January 15, 2025 to

return to the bargaining table to negotiate all other outstanding issues.”

Wages for ILA workers will increase 61.5% over six years, which is greater than USMX's original offer of 50%, though not quite as much as the proposed 70% requested by the ILA.

The ILA went on strike on October 1 as the contract between them and USMX had expired, and the two groups had not yet come to an agreement on a new contract. President Joe Biden had met with USMX to encourage them to come to a deal with the dock workers. “I want to thank the union workers, the carriers, and the port operators for acting patriotically to reopen our ports and ensure the availability of critical supplies for

Hurricane Helene recovery and rebuilding,” President Biden stated Thursday.

36 ports across the eastern and southern U.S. had shut down as a result of the strike. While the strike was thankfully resolved quickly, the ramifications could have been dire for consumers, businesses, and the economy.

Outstanding issues remain, such as automation, that the ILA and USMX still need to resolve in less than 100 days lest the dock workers resume the strike.

For more information about the strike and its potential impact, take a peek at last week's Thielsian Newsletter!