

The Thielensian

Thiel Celebrates Homecoming Weekend 2024!

By: Jacob Walsh

October 3, 2024: Thiel College's 2024 Homecoming, 'the Tomcat Centennial,' featured many festivities and a football game throughout last week.

The festivities began Tuesday, September 24th, when the Thielensian staff held Tommy's Birthday Bash. The party was planned in recognition of Tommy the Tomcat's 100th birthday. Tommy's Birthday Bash took place in the bistro, where students could stop by and celebrate with cake, cupcakes, and party hats. Tommy attended the event as well.



Pictures from Colin Schroyer.

Homecoming officially kicked off on Thursday, the 26th, which was deemed Thiel Spirit Day. Throughout the day, Thiel held a Career Con-

versation Alumni Panel and Joining Generations Cookout.

On Friday, the class reunions began with a multitude of past Thiel classes coming back together. In the afternoon, the Class of 1974 hosted an Alumni and Friends Wine Tasting in the Haer Family Science and Arts Connector. In the evening, an Alumni social was held, and the Women's basketball team hosted an alumni game.

Thiel Women's and Men's Soccer hosted Saint Vincent to open conference play on Friday night. The Women's team played first, falling to the Bearcats 7-1. Imogen deBlois has the lone goal for the Tomcats on a penalty kick. When the Men's team took the field, sparks flew. Thiel and Saint Vincent played a grudge match that could be described as going 'blow for blow.' The Men's team would come out on top, winning 2-1. On Saturday, the Homecoming Parade began at 1:45 p.m. The Thielensian staff took part, with Hannah Stoughton representing the Alpha Xi Delta sorority and Colin Schroyer representing the Phi Theta Phi fraternity. Jason and Jacob Walsh ran the

Thielensian float, with Jason driving and Jacob sitting atop the vehicle, throwing out newspapers and candy.



Image taken by Sara Cascio.

Lastly, at 3:30 p.m., the football team kicked off their Homecoming Game against the Westminster Titans. Unfortunately for the large homecoming crowd, there was not much to cheer for. Westminster put 58 points up on the Tomcats through almost all four quarters until the Tomcats scored a touchdown on the final play of the game. The final score was 58-6; Westminster gained a total of 366 yards of offense, while Thiel had 135. The Tomcats punted the ball away 8 times, while the Titans only punted once.

Current Events

East Coast Dock Workers Go On Strike



Image from Tampa Bay Tribune.

By: Colin Schroyer

September 30, 2024: Across the eastern coast of the United States, roughly 45,000 members of the International Longshoremen's Association went on strike on October 1, shutting down 36 ports.

The International Longshoremen Association (ILA) officially went on strike on October 1, coinciding with the end of the previous contract held with the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX), the organization representing the larger businesses and corporations that depend on dockworkers' efforts.

The strike primarily occurred over pay disputes and the ILA's desire not to have automation in the docking business. Initially, the union sought a 77% pay raise over six years, coinciding with the length of the contract, while USMX opted for only 50%. ILA President Harold Daggett expressed how their proposed pay increase exists to counteract the effects of inflation and

years of minuscule pay raises. Additionally, the ILA expressed the desire for no automation in practice for fear of technology replacing jobs, while the USMX seeks to maintain its current automation regulations.

In a statement on social media, ILA President Harold Daggett laid out the details of the decision to go on strike: "USMX brought on this strike when they decided to hold firm to foreign owned Ocean Carriers earning billion-dollar profits at United States ports, but not compensate the American ILA longshore workers who perform the labor that brings them their wealth... We are prepared to fight as long as necessary, to stay out on strike for whatever period of time it takes, to get the wages and protections against automation our ILA members deserve."

Ports have shut down from Maine to Texas, including ones in major cities such as Boston, New York, Tampa, and Houston. Dozens of ports all across the East Coast have ceased operations until a new contract can be negotiated. As the two organizations could not negotiate a new contract prior to the expiration of the previ-

ous one, ILA issued a strike until needs and demands could be adequately met. In the meantime, the strike has the capability to have significant consequences for industries and the economy; the strike could cost an estimated \$5 billion every day, inflaming already rising inflation, as items ranging from food supplies to luxury cars will not be able to enter the U.S. market.

Consumers should not be immediately concerned. High product inventories on select products will help to keep prices stable while supplies last. New York Governor Kathy Hochul said that food items or essential goods should remain unaffected for the time being. However, should the strike continue for an extended period, product reserves will run short, and prices will rise.

White House officials are hoping for a short strike, according to some sources.

Image from AP News.



Current Events

Explaining the Israeli Conflicts

By: Hannah Stoughton

October 2024: Israel has been at the front of a variety of conflicts in the Middle East within the last three years, with each conflict covering years of tension and conflict between the regions. In the Middle East, Israel currently has conflicts with the Palestinian people, the Hezbollah of Lebanon, Yemen, and now Iran, in the latest updates on these conflicts.

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Israelis and Palestinians have been in a conflict of property and self-determination since the 19th century. When Britain seized control of the area, known as Palestine, it housed multiple ethnic groups, with the two largest being Palestinians and Jewish people, respectively. Britain then became tasked with finding a place for Jewish people to call home within Palestine due to the Balfour Declaration of 1917, which pledged goodness to Britain's Jewish Community. This formatted the common argument used in modern politics—that Palestine had been the Jewish community's ancestral home.

Since the adoption of this “ancestral home,” the Jewish population in Pal-

estine has grown exponentially, particularly during World War II, where Jewish people faced persecution from Naziism. With this rise in Jewish population, the violence and tensions between native Palestinians, the Jewish community, and, for a long time, British authority.

In 1947, the United Nations pushed for separated Palestinian states into Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem being international. Jewish leaders accepted this idea, but the Arab leaders never did, and thus never implemented this idea. Due to the inability to solve the conflict, Britain withdrew in 1948, and Jewish leaders declared the birth of the State of Israel. The day after declaring statehood, five Arab countries attacked Israel, beginning the physical conflict between Israel and Palestinians. By the time the ceasefire occurred, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians had fled the area, and Israel controlled the majority of the territory.

Since this physical combat, a peace agreement has never been signed. Palestinians still believe that they reserve the right to their homeland, and Israelis believe that they reserve

the right to their homeland as well.

This conflict has continued for years, including the October 7th, 2023 Hamas invasion of Israel. Since Hamas, whose self-proclaimed goal is to liberate Palestinians and establish a Palestinian state, attacked Israel, conflicts have been growing, with other surrounding countries and organizations beginning to attack Israel, including Houthis in Yemen.

The Israeli-Houthi Conflict

The Houthi organization is an extremist Zaydi Shiite organization that currently controls Yemen and has announced their support for the people of Palestine. Since the Israeli attacks on Palestinian people, Houthis from Yemen have been launching airstrikes on Israel's port Eilat, which were intercepted by the United States or Israel, as well as threatening sea routes along the Red Sea. They have also announced that Israeli-linked vessels and ships were targets of attacks.

The Israeli-Hezbollah Conflict

Since the Israeli occupation of Southern Lebanon in the 1990s, Hezbollah, a Lebanese organization, has vowed to...

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...disassemble Israel as a state.

The physical conflict between Hezbollah and Israel reignited after the Palestinian-Israeli conflict reengaged, with each shooting airstrikes over the Israeli-Lebanese border. After pagers and walkie-talkies exploded in Lebanon, and Hezbollah believing the attack to be from Israel, tensions have exploded. Hezbollah launched retaliatory airstrikes on Israel, to which Israel responded similarly. Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in one of Israel's retaliation, and the conflict has

since been widened to hundreds of airstrikes on each state.

The Israeli-Iranian Conflict

Iran launched hundreds of missiles into Israel after a

Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh was killed in Tehran, the capital of Iran, by explosives. Iran believed that Israel was behind the attack, despite Israeli officials laying no claim to the attack. Iran also claimed the right to defend oneself as a state and government.

Israel has faced a plethora of conflict within the last few years, each of which being a culmination of precious years of conflict. The United



States, an Israeli ally, has maintained the position that they will defend and fund Israel throughout their conflicts.



Images from AP News.

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