

The

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Wildfires in Pennsylvania

By: Colin Schroyer

Nov. 13th 2024: : Efforts continue to put out a forest fire that broke out on Friday, Nov. 8, at Neversink Mountain, just outside of Reading, Pa.

In Cumru Township, a suburb just outside of Reading, residents woke to see a fire approaching over the horizon of Neversink Mountain. Crews and firefighters responded to the wildfire, and residents were evacuated to safety.



Susan L. Angstadt captures the wildfire.

"I could look across here, and you could see 20-foot flames every 100 feet," shared local resident Jim Stump.

A statement issued by Reading Mayor Eddie Moran told people to stay off the mountain so the respondents could take care of the fire. The fire spread due to relatively dry conditions, exacerbated by 35 mph winds at around 2 a.m. Saturday morning.

The American Red Cross established an evacuation center at Amanda E. Stout Elementary School. The Pennsylvania Rivers Chapter of the Red Cross helped individuals impacted by the fire but was thankfully closed

by noon Saturday as the evacuation order was lifted.

It is unclear how the fire started, but crews took care of it quickly enough to mitigate the damage. About 170 acres were expected to be affected, but only about 120 were, and most of the blaze was limited to the understory of the woods. By Sunday, firefighters and other crews extinguished most of the wildfire, but cleanup continued for several days.

"We're getting a real break today," shared Richard Deppen. Deppen is the assistant forest manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) forestry division. "The fire

is no longer very active. It's kind of creeping, smoldering," he added.

Reading, Pa., is located in Berks County, whose firefighting and environmental departments helped to combat the forest fire. Without the help of the various departments — trained firefighters and state forestry controlling the fire and the American Red Cross providing relief — the blaze could have been more severe.

Berks County has a population of over 430,000, with around 94,000 living in Reading and 15,000 in Cumru Township.

Current Events

Steelers Top Red-Hot Commanders in Week 11

By: Jason Walsh II

Nov. 14th, 2024: The Pittsburgh Steelers sit at the top of the AFC North heading into week 11.

This past Sunday, the Steelers beat the now 7-3 Washington Commanders 28-27. Coming off their bye week and two primetime wins, the Pittsburgh Steelers are now 7-2 after nine weeks of play.

Heading into week 9, the Steelers were 2-0 under Russell Wilson's leadership. Wilson received his third start after leading Pittsburgh to a home win in week 8. After the week 9 bye week, Wilson and the Steelers faced off against the Commanders in Washington, D.C. In the week 10 win, Wilson threw 14 completions on 28 attempts (50 percent completion), 195 yards, and 3 touchdowns. Wilson also rushed for 3 yards on 4 scrambles.

Steeler Wire.

Also, in the week 10 win, the whole offense was once again involved under Wilson. Running back Najee Harris rushed for 53 yards on 21 attempts. Running back Jaylen Warren rushed for 66 yards on 14 attempts. George Pickens had another big game with 91 yards receiving on 5 receptions, including a highlight reel touchdown grab. Tight-end Pat Freiermuth had 17 yards receiving on 3 receptions alongside tight-end Darnell Washington with 6 yards on 1 receptions. Newley acquired wide receiver from the Jets, Mike Williams, only caught one ball on the afternoon. However, the catch was a moon ball pass from Wilson for 32 yards and was for the go-ahead Steelers touchdown. Together, the week 10 Steeler offense combined for 312 yards, 21 first downs, 4.2 yards per play, and 36 minutes of possession.

defensive lineman Cam Heyward worked to keep rookie quarterback Jayden Daniels uncomfortable all afternoon; Heyward recorded 2 sacks.

Deshon Elliott and Joey Porter Jr. both recorded 5 tackles on the afternoon. Minkah Fitzpatrick and Elandon Roberts both had 4 tackles as well. The Steelers' Defense allowed 242 yards of total offense for the Commanders, 19 first downs, and 4.1 yards per play.

This Sunday, November 17th, the Steelers continue into the back half of their season. Pittsburgh will face their first AFC North opponent, the 7-3 Baltimore Ravens. The AFC North Matchup will be a home game for the Steelers at Acrisure Stadium on Sunday at 1 p.m. The following three games for the Steelers will also be AFC North Matchups.

The Steelers will face:

Week 12: The Cleveland Browns, at Cleveland, Thursday, November 21st, 8:15 pm

Week 13: The Cincinnati Bengals, at Cincinnati, Sunday, December 1st, 1 pm

Week 14: The Cleveland Browns, in Pittsburgh, Sunday, December 8th, 1 pm



For the Steelers' defense in week 10, Patrick Queen and Cam Heyward led the team. Patrick Queen was a disruptive force with 6 solo tackles. Veteran de-

Current Events

Cuba Hit by 6.8 Earthquake



Image from Getty Images.

By: Jacob Walsh

After weeks of storms and black-outs, Cuba was hit with another disaster when a 6.8-magnitude earthquake hit the island.

The earthquakes struck the southern coast of Cuba in a pair. Around 10:50 a.m. on Sunday, the 10th, the

first 5.9-magnitude earthquake hit.

An hour later, the larger 6.8-magnitude earthquake hit.

Both earthquakes hit south of the city of Bartolome Maso, with the first 22 miles away and the second 25 miles away. Both struck at a depth of around 8 ½ miles.

President Miguel Diaz-Canel of Cuba said on X, "We are beginning to assess the damage in order to begin recovery. The first and most important thing is to save lives."

There has been word that homes and powerlines were damaged on the south coast due to landslides caused by the earthquake. Enrique Diego Arango Arias, chief of the National Seismological Service of Cuba, stated that the municipality of Pilon, located in Granma Province, suffered "a lot of damage."

The island of Cuba now sits in major destruction after Category 3 Hurricane Rafael hit a week prior, before these two consecutive earthquakes.

Looking to write?

Come talk to Hannah Stoughton (HStou192@thiel.edu), Jacob Walsh (JWals221@thiel.edu), or Matthew Humphrey (mhumphrey@thiel.edu)!

Jobs Opening Fall 2025, after seniors graduate!