

MEN'S BASKETBALL



BRANDON FOLTZ | IDS

Freshman guard Nick Williams elevates for a jump shot during the Hoosiers' 64-59 loss to No. 8 Michigan State on March 3 at Assembly Hall. Williams announced Wednesday he plans to transfer at the end of the semester.

Freshman guard to transfer

Williams to leave IU at semester's end

FROM IDS REPORTS

As the IU men's basketball team prepares to welcome a top-10 recruiting class next year, freshman guard Nick Williams announced his decision to transfer Wednesday, saying he wasn't sure how he would fit in to a dynamic 2009-10 lineup.

Williams is the second player from last year's recruiting class to transfer this spring. His roommate, Malik Story, decided to transfer less than three weeks ago in order to be close to his hometown of Los Angeles.

IU coach Tom Crean said Williams was not satisfied with his position within the team and said so to the IU coaching staff.

"After the season, Nick expressed displeasure with his role this year and also shared concern with members of our coaching staff about his future role in the program," Crean said, according to a press release. "He is a fine young man, and we have enjoyed our relationship with him over time. He played hard and did some very good things for us, and we wish him the best."

The 6-foot-4 guard started 29 of 31 games for the Hoosiers last season, posting 8.9 points, 4.5 rebounds and 26.5 minutes on average.

"It was a difficult decision, but one I felt I needed to make as I looked at the future," Williams said in a press release. "I want to thank everyone at IU for their support this season. I'm going to finish up the semester and then begin the process of finding a program where I can come in and have an impact for them."

IU now has one scholarship left, and could pick up another player for the 2009-10 season if it chooses to do so.

The national signing period for men's basketball started Wednesday and ends May 20.

Crean said IU will not end its search for more players to fill Hoosier uniforms.

"We will continue to recruit and work with the young men who have embraced the challenge of competition that is in front of them as we rebuild this great program," Crean said.



ALEX FARRIS | IDS

Protestors march through the downtown square as part of a "tea party" protest Wednesday. Demonstrators started in front of City Hall and signed a petition protesting President Barack Obama's economic policies.

Not their cup of tea

More than 200 protestors marched on Tax Day in objection to Obama's stimulus package, tax plan, government bailouts

BY MEHDI AYARI

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Just because Americans were required to file their taxes Wednesday doesn't mean they did so quietly.

Nationwide protests of government spending reached Bloomington as the federal government tallied up the last taxpayer dollars they received on Tax Day. More than 200 people gathered outside Democratic Congressman Baron Hill's office for the Bloomington Tea Party.

The "tea parties," which are going on nationwide in response to Tax Day, are a citizens' response to what they see as fiscal irresponsibility by the government.

Bloomington residents Spencer Leiter and Doug Parker organized the event. They said their goal was to raise awareness in Bloomington on the amount of debt the government is incurring with the current stimulus package.

"There had been a few tea parties in other cities when we thought of the idea," Leiter said. "We just wanted to bring this to our city to show that we also care and are fed up with the way the government is spending our money."

Leiter started out the protest with a speech, accusing the government of overexpanding its power, citing government spending as a transition to socialism.

"The president's economic program is starting to fail," Leiter said, addressing the crowd. "The deficit went up 200 percent since Obama took office."

With that, the crowd moaned, hissed and booed.

Leiter said he couldn't understand why "honest, hard-working" Americans had to bail out "irresponsible" businesses, bank owners and other citizens who defaulted on their mortgages.

Spencer blamed the Democratic party for passing the stimulus plan, and said he does not

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Conference to look at AIDS in rural areas

BY MICKEY WOODS

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People in rural areas represent 8 percent of all reported AIDS cases – and the Rural Center for AIDS/HIV Prevention is trying to find a solution.

The center is having its sixth national biennial conference this year starting today and running through Friday.

It will mark the 15th year since the center was established at IU, as well as the first year a new award will be presented in honor of Ryan White, a national AIDS advocate who died of the disease in 1990 at age 18.

His mother, Jeanne White Ginder, an AIDS advocate and human rights activist for people living with the disease, will receive the Jason Nickey Ryan White Distinguished Leadership Award at 1 p.m. Friday in the Tudor Room of the Indiana Memorial Union, according to a press release for the conference. She will also be speaking in honor of her son.

"This is the biggest thing about this particular conference," said Bill Yarber, IU applied health science professor and senior director of Rural Center for AIDS/HIV prevention. "Rural America lost a native son and this is a great way to carry on his legacy through public awareness efforts."

He said the conference centers on HIV/AIDS education for people in rural communities from nationwide prevention specialists.

The Rural Center for AIDS/HIV Prevention serves as the first organization in the nation of its kind, solely serving the purpose of addressing issues pertaining to American rural areas.

Yarber said rural people really appreciate the efforts of the organization to spread awareness to their communities and have their voices heard.

"This all began when I and some people I work with now for the center realized the disparity of information about HIV and AIDS being reported to rural communities," he said. "I wanted to address the fact that HIV and AIDS doesn't just affect urban areas like people tend to think."

Yarber said he was further motivated to begin the organization when he realized the reason why rural communities tended to report lower statistics of AIDS cases than what was actually occurring. The reason includes various stigmas about the disease, including homophobia.

Sharon Day, executive director for Indigenous Peoples Task Force, which is based in Minnesota, will participate in this year's conference.

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Btown ticket takes IUSA office today

BY ALYSSA GOLDMAN

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Today begins Btown's reign as IU Student Association's executive administration.

Btown is in the stages of planning what they wish to accomplish during their time in office with some help from their predecessor, the Big Red administration.

Btown plans to continue with a few of Big Red's initiatives, such as fall break and tax-free textbooks.

However, the Btown ticket will not push for a student section in Assembly Hall.

After meeting with Athletic Director Fred Glass, members of the Btown ticket realized IU already has 7,500 student seats in Assembly Hall, and this number "rivals other Big Ten schools," said junior Jack McCarthy, IUSA vice president.

Senior Dan Sloat, former IUSA vice president, said when men's basketball coach Tom Crean spoke at the Beta Theta Pi house, he seemed enthusiastic about basketball fans. He said this makes it time to push for a student section, but Btown

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Hillel House creates home for students during Passover

BY MARYJANE SLABY

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For some students, 9:05 p.m. Thursday will pass without a second thought, but for more than 3,800 Jewish students it will mark the end of a celebration.

For eight days, Jewish students visited the Helene G. Simon Hillel Center to eat lunches and dinners free of leavened products during the holiday.

"It's all about keeping a good attitude, even if you are used to eating out," said senior and former Hillel President Dena Kranzberg as she ate ravioli made from matzah meal.

She said matzah tastes like Saltine

crackers without salt. She added that the foods served at Hillel come from a Jewish food company that even makes matzah waffles.

The Jewish holiday of Passover began April 8 and will end half an hour after sundown on Thursday.

During this holiday, Jews refrain from eating leavened products or anything with bread in it. Some also refrain from other foods that expand when cooked, such as rice and beans.

Hillel Executive Director Rabbi Sue Shifron said the holiday is a celebration of the Jewish people's exodus from Egypt and freedom from slavery. She added the holiday reminds people to treat others well and remember all

people have the right to be free.

Junior Mark Swick, Hillel student president, said the Jewish people fled Egypt quickly and didn't have time to wait for their bread to rise.

Kranzberg said she could normally eat lunch at a restaurant on Kirkwood Avenue such as Noodles & Co., Qdoba or Dagwood's, but during Passover she can't. Hillel served meals twice a day for Passover to Jewish students who either paid when they arrived or bought the meals online.

Sophomore Gail Rosenbaum said Hillel has given her a place to gather with other students and has supported her because it's not easy to avoid bread. Between meals, she said she

eats matzah she keeps in her room and kosher candy her synagogue at home sent to her for the holiday.

She added that when she celebrates Passover at home, people don't always eat in large groups for every meal, but eating at Hillel gives her the opportunity to see everyone who is also celebrating.

Swick said the Passover celebration is bigger when he is on campus than when he is home, where the holiday is more about family. He said he was pleasantly surprised because sometimes it is hard to see the large amount of Hillel members on campus,