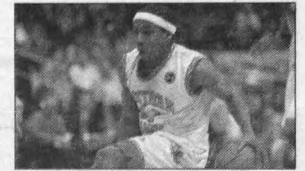


The Shield

University of Southern Indiana Student Newspaper

4-Day 4-Cast	
Thursday	High 56° rain Low 35°
Friday	42° cloudy 29°
Saturday	50° cloudy 38°
Sunday	56° cloudy 42°



Season comes to an end

March 16, 2000 • Vol. 29 Issue 19

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- ◆ Letter to the editor, p. 4
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- ◆ Men's tennis team does well over break, p. 7
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Home Sporting Events

- ◆ Today: Softball, 3 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday, March 18, Men's Tennis 3 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday, March 18, Softball, 1 p.m.
- ◆ Sunday, March 19, Softball, 12 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, March 22, Men's Tennis, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, March 22, Baseball, 1 p.m.

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Spring Break

USI students travel to St. Pete Beach, Florida

by **jason isaacs**
managing editor

Spring Break 2000; one to remember. This almost did not come true until 11:00 p.m. Friday March 3, which is when I decided to go along with Mark Buczkowski and John McGrew to Florida. Nothing like waiting to the last minute to decide.

Enough of the boring background details, lets move on to the Florida scene. Our final destination was St. Pete Beach. On the

way down one of us, not going to say who, fell asleep. I guess some guys aren't cut out for life on the road.

We arrived at St. Pete to meet up with our friends: Lissa Winchell, Leah Higgerson, Nicole Meny, Rachel Meny, Melody King, Betsy Stanley and Erin Griffice. Actually I only knew one of those girls, but I had Geology class with Betsy last semester. After the week ended, the rest became my friends. First I



Left to right: Standing Erin Griffice, Melody King, Lissa Winchell, Leah Higgerson, Betsy Stanley, Nicole Meny. Seated: Rachel Meny.

have to give a shout out to Leah, Nine Eight. out the best pick up line; Joey from Friends said it

Also I finally figured

See spring break, p. 2

Speaker for USI Commencement 2000 chosen

shield staff report

Dr. David Hamburg, an Evansville native, will bring the USI Commencement address to the class of 2000.

Dr. Hamburg will also be awarded an honorary doctorate degree in recognition of his achievements in research, medical and psychiatric fields. He served as the Carnegie Foundation's eleventh president.

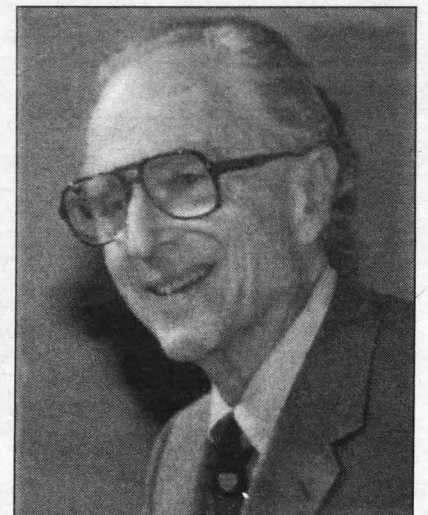
A psychiatrist who graduated from Indiana University, Dr. Hamburg directed the adult psychiatry branch of the National Institutes of Health from 1958 to 1961 and served as professor and chair of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University for the next 11 years. He was president of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences and later was named the director of health policy research and

education and John D. MacArthur Professor of Health Policy at Harvard University.

In addition, a Doctor of Laws degree will be conferred on Ira T. Neal in recognition of his achievements and his public service to the African American community.

Dr. Neal attended secondary school in Memphis and earned a bachelor's degree from University of Evansville, a master's degree from Indiana University and a doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University in Florida.

The University will also confer a Doctor of Laws degree on Mrs. Betty Rice, USI's founding First Lady. Mrs. Rice served as official University hostess and special events planner greeting faculty, students and community leaders in the Rice home. During the first 15 years her husband, Dr. David Rice, served as chief executive officer for the University.



Dr. David Hamburg

Mrs. Rice earned bachelor's and master's degrees in home economics from Purdue University.

USI Commencement will take place Saturday, May 6 at Roberts Stadium.

Spring Break

best, "Hey, how you doin'?" Actually it didn't work for me, but people laughed.

As Lissa would say, I ended up having an "excellent" time. The weather was perfect; no rain until the road trip home. The temperature was in the 80's the whole week and only one of us came back with third degree burns.

While in Florida, John and I got to check out a tennis match and ate a couple of chicken wings. There was also an appearance by Santa Claus, but he did not stay very long.

Here are some things to remember if you are ever going to St. Pete; you do not have to pay the toll to cross the bridge if you do not want to, do not ask the friendly gas station attendants for directions to the Liquid Blue, go eat at Crabby Bill's and try to win a lobster, go to Scrumpy's and eat the grouper, and be sure to sleep with your legs and arms up the air at all times.

Continued from p. 1

Also hang out with any guy named Vince, but do not offer him something to drink (right Leah), listen the 98.9 at all times (you might hear Dre and Eminem about 200 times, but it is okay), make sure you are up by 8 each morning (we had our own alarm clock, her name was Betsy), if you are sleeping be careful because you never know when someone is going to cough and startle you, and go to John's Pass.

Also come up with fake names when going out (i.e. Bruno, Ricky, Sugar, Trixy, Capri, Sergio, etc...), try not to sleep in the same vicinity as someone who snores (that goes for vacation or no vacation), and finally when Lucy comes home late say, "Lucy, yous got some sesplainin to do!"

Some details of the story (keg) were left out (beeramid) to fit the rules (beads) and regulations. So until Spring Break 2001, I leave you with these three simple words.....BYE, BYE, BYE!!

Disney officials seeking interns

shield staff report

Walt Disney World officials will present an informative program on Disney World summer and fall internship positions for USI students at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 20 in Mitchell Auditorium.

Following the presentation, students may schedule times for interviews that will be conducted on Tuesday, March 21, in the Career Services Office located in the Orr Center.

Walt Disney World internships are open to students who have completed at least one full semester of college and are students in "good

standing" at their schools.

This semester, 19 USI students hold internships at the Orlando site.

Walt Disney World has contacted Ivy Tech State College, University of Evansville, Brescia College, Henderson Community College, Vincennes University, Oakland City University, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro Community College and Wabash Valley College to invite their students to attend the presentation at USI.

For more information about the Disney World internship program, call Ms. Pam Doerter, USI internship coordinator, at 464-1865.

• Upcoming USI Events •

Today, March 16

- SGA meeting, 4:30 p.m. HP 1006
- Screaming Eagle Thursday, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Eagle's Nest
- Speaker: Mitoji Yabunaka, Consul General of Japan in Chicago, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Carter Hall
- Friday, March 17
- No events reported

Saturday, March 18

- No events reported
- Sunday, March 19
- Catholic Mass, LA 0101, 7 p.m.
- College Bowl, Carter Hall
- Monday, March 20
- Disney recruiters on campus (see article above)

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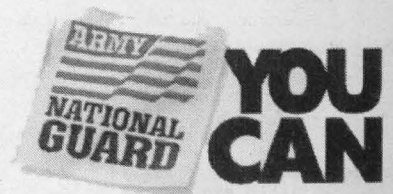
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March 16, 2000

Gas prices skyrocket

staff editorial

The Daily Athenaeum (West Virginia U.)

Some days, people just want to stay at home instead of getting up, getting in the car and commuting to work or to school. At the rate gas prices are going up, however, some people won't have a choice. Currently, the price of a single gallon of gasoline is around \$1.50 in most of the country. Experts are predicting that by this summer if nothing is changed, that price will have risen to \$2.00.

That's a ridiculous price to pay for gasoline, and many Americans are growing restless as the prices continue to rise with no end in sight.

Some members of Congress are proposing that the 4.3 cent per gallon federal excise tax be repealed temporarily in order to help reduce prices.

Meanwhile, President Clinton is pressuring OPEC to boost their production and is also considering opening up the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve in order to help alleviate the current state of gas prices.

However, many members of Congress are also pressuring the President to create an energy policy that would reduce the nation's dependence on imported oil. Currently, 54 percent of all petroleum products in the U.S. are imported, which basi-

cally puts American gasoline consumers at the whim of OPEC and other oil-heavy nations.

There is also a region in Alaska that is heavily saturated with petroleum, but is environmentally "sensitive." Despite some members of Congress trying to get the area opened up for drilling, Clinton consistently refuses, claiming that it would irreparably damage the environment despite evidence that shows otherwise.

It's blatantly obvious that the United States can produce enough oil to support consumers and better regulate prices. Instead, an American citizen purchasing gas has to deal with state and federal taxes, overseas negotiations and environmental bickering, not to mention the increasing toll that paying these higher prices takes on one's wallet.

The government has the option to open more U.S.-based oil fields, let some out of their stockpile, convince OPEC to start pumping more petroleum, and/or suspend their own excise tax in order to help out the American consumer.

Until any of the aforementioned happens or the market rebalances itself, oil prices will remain just one more problem for every American with a car, and one more thing that the government is going to have to amend.

Indiana should re-examine its position on death penalty

staff editorial

Indiana Daily Student (Indiana U.)

Illinois Gov. George Ryan made a choice in February. Ryan, a supporter of the death penalty, put a stop to any future executions in the state.

According to The New York Times, Ryan said, "The system is broken. It's time we take a look and see what's wrong."

Ryan saw troubling details surface: Flaws in the justice system leading to wrongful convictions and 81 people since 1976 sitting on death row for crimes they did not commit. Some were released just hours before being executed.

Gov. Frank O'Bannon should follow suit and put a moratorium on capital punishment until Indiana's sys-

tem can similarly be re-examined. Since 1970, two men have been sentenced to death in Indiana and later acquitted, the latest in 1989. Charles Smith was acquitted on all counts of murder just three days before he was to be executed. Take away these three days and an innocent person would have been dead - because the system failed.

Ryan said "There is no margin for error when it comes to putting a person to death." He is exactly right. The system needs to be re-examined, especially when the numbers coming up present racial imbalances.

O'Bannon should stop executions now, before one more innocent person is put to death. Even one life wrongly ended is one life too many.

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Send me back to Florida!

by **joe grace**
staff writer

I had just spent six days in Florida basking in glorious 80-degree weather, followed by a peaceful three-hour nap on the flight back to Evansville. What an absolutely perfect... wait a second, something is wrong. What is that white stuff slowly drifting from the sky? Either God has a dandruff problem or it is snowing. I look down at my attire to see sandals, shorts and a tee shirt. Crap.

The Evansville Regional Airport's idea of customer comfort is a little tarp that goes about five feet in front of the entrance to the airport from the plane. The pilot, of course, parks the plane about 200 feet from the tarp. There is an exact mathematical equation an airline pilot follows in which the colder it is, the farther out the pilot must park. In layman's terms this equates to the "Walk of Death."

The obvious answer to this problem would be to run to the doorway. However, that is not allowed. Everyone must walk to the doorway. It's written in the Airport Book of Etiquette. Other well known rules include that you must lose

something purposefully in the unlikely scenario that nothing gets stolen. Also, the person who figures out how to open a peanut bag without a machete, automatically becomes dictator for life.

The Airport Book of Etiquette requires walking to the inside no matter what. Even if it is 100 below freezing and the airport is being attacked by alien beings who became lost on the way to Washington D.C., you must walk on the inside. You'd just have to keep on walking and hope for the best.

So here I am in a pair of shorts and a tee shirt looking out the window at the daunting task facing me. The intelligent person sitting beside me is wearing a coat. I ask him how he knew it was going to be so cold. "I checked the Weather Channel before leaving for the airport." Interpretation: "You are a stupid idiot who doesn't realize that the weather may be different in places 2000 miles apart."

I wait for everyone to file past me before getting up and heading toward the exit door. I am waiting for the attendant to yell out, "Cold Man Walking." I reach the door and feel the first tinges of the bitter cold. This is it. It's "go" time. No turning back now. The attendant is looking at

me with that perpetual smile on her face shared by all flight attendants. My theory is that flight attendants were once the children who didn't heed the classic parent warning that a face held in place too long, will stay that way forever.

I stick my leg out of the door to feel just how cold it is. My leg is instantly covered with more goose bumps than the population of China. The attendant just continues to smile and wishes me a good day for the second time in five seconds. This I must get away from, so I stick the rest of my body out to join my partially frozen leg. Then the walk begins.

Only 150 more feet to go. I am freezing cold, but refuse to run. 100 more feet to go. I can't feel my arms. I can't see my arms. I am gripped by panic at this revelation before I realize they're both in my shirt hiding from the cold. Smarter than I thought they were. 50 more feet to go. The doorway is so close, yet so far away. 25 feet to go. I think I can, I think I can. Victory! I hug the baggage claim in joy. A skinny college freshman dressed for a Hawaiian Luau in 20-degree weather hugging a baggage claim. The other passengers can only wonder.

My joy is short lived, though. I remember I still have to walk to my car.

The Shield

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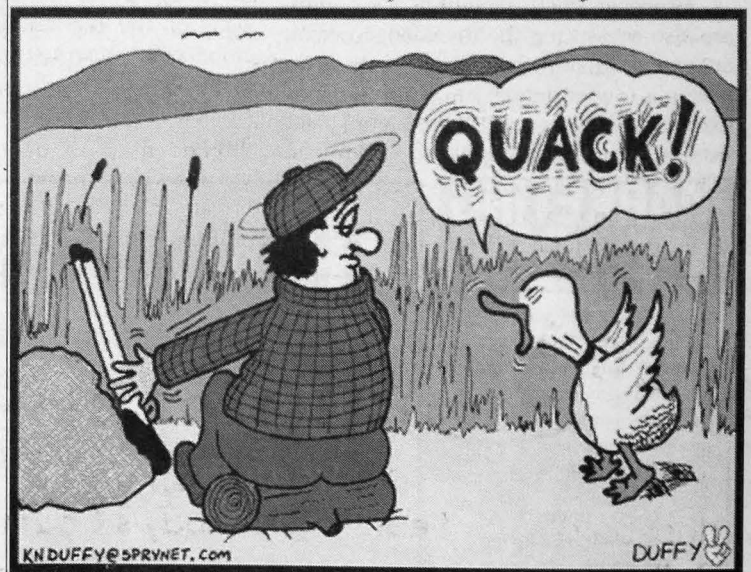
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Letters to the editor may be submitted in person or sent via e-mail to shield@usi.edu. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters must be 250 words or less.

Virtual Humor by Kevin Duffy



Duck Suicide!

Entertainment

March 16, 2000

5

Folks, we have a winner!

by ryan jackson
staff writer

I remember the first time I saw *American Beauty* and watched Annette Bening repeatedly slap herself in the face and scream, "Stop crying!" She said that her incredible performance in such a wonderful movie would surely secure her the honors of Best Actress at the Oscars. But unfortunately for Ms. Bening, this past weekend I saw a performance that should and probably will take home the gold.

The movie is *Boys Don't Cry*, the actress is Hilary Swank and the rest as they say is history. If you hadn't already noticed, the critically acclaimed *Boys Don't Cry* was never theatrically released in Evansville. If it was, it was one of those one-weekend deals that I somehow overlooked, but I doubt that very highly. Instead, I had to go south to Nashville, TN, to catch this remarkable film before it was pulled from theaters forever. Yes, the film is dark, unrelenting, uninhibited, and at times depressing, but most of all it's powerful.

The film is based on the events following Brandon Teena or later known as Teena Brandun, as she deals with her sexual identity crisis in a small Nebraska town. Simply put, Brandon feels the world has made a mistake by making her a girl and she will do anything to erase her true identity, including creating fake i.d.'s, physically constructing herself to appear manly, and even lying to other girls in order to fulfill her fantasies of

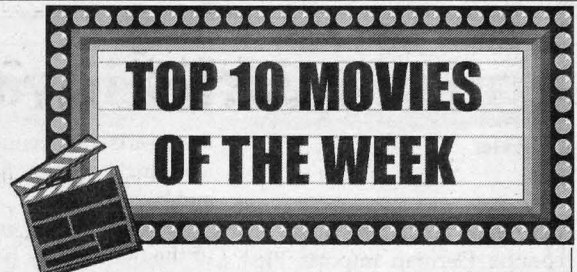
being with another woman. As the saying goes, "the truth can be a powerful thing."

I know this all might sound deranged or even sick, but believe me, that's not the intention or the effect of *Boys Don't Cry*. The movie is just the opposite. Instead of repulsive, the film offers a sympathetic view into the life of this confused young girl and the people's lives she affected.

This sympathy comes not only from the films female director, Kimberly Pierce, but the majority of this films firing power lies in the incredible Hilary Swank. The performance turned what could have been a manipulative and sickening role, into something heartfelt and intensely moving. Not only was Swank unrecognizable as a girl, but her mannerisms and voice tone were formatted to fit those of a young teenage boy as well. A tremendous physical and acting achievement for the young Hilary Swank, who was in movies such as *The Next Karate Kid* and a securing role in *Beverly Hills 90210*.

Overall, I felt *American Beauty* triumphed as Best Picture. However, there is no doubt in my mind that I saw no better performer this past year, male or female, than Hilary Swank.

Along with Ms. Swank, another actress, Chloe Sevingy, was also nominated (Best Supporting Actress) for her performance in *Boys Don't Cry*. Sevingy played Brandon's object of desire and ultimately pulled no punches when portraying a white trash vixen with dreams of being a professional karaoke singer.



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Entertainment

6

March 16, 2000

German quartet invades United States music market

by justine baxter
staff writer

Here they come...the new, up and coming German imports First Love. These soft-hearted crooners are the next boy band to hit the US scene along with Backstreet Boys, N'Sync and 98 degrees.

Friends Delane, Tobi, Peanut and Phil sing their hearts out on their debut album *I Just Can't Get Enough*. The four started their group in hopes of stealing

the hearts of Americans with their love-stricken lyrics, hot dance moves and boyish charm.

Although they are just making it to the States, they have been breaking hearts in Germany for the past three years.

Their freshman disc release combines many of the hottest sounds of R&B and Pop to flavor their new spicy album. The tracks showcase songs of dance and rhythm: "Freaky," a hip-hop booty shaker

playing out the new dance craze-called the *freaky*, *I Just Can't Get Enough*, a somewhat heartfelt song of sweetness with the groove of R&B, and the ever popular romantic ballads of *Lady* and *Smile*..

Overall, I didn't really like this CD. I think that these guys seem to be hard workers and want to outperform all the boy bands in the US, but they have a long way to go for success. This disc is a good jumping off point for them to get their vibe out into the

American culture, but the group is still rough around the edges.

However, I do admire their flavor for fun and their excitement to tear it up with their dance moves and funky choreography.

The American scene really needs some newcomers to re-energize the love and romantic feelings of serenading while still captivating audiences with their hip-hop moves. Their image needs some polishing, but they may be the next teen heartthrobs.

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March 162000

Men's tennis splits matches over break

by richard morris
correspondent

The University of Southern Indiana Men's Tennis team had, according to coach Jon Mark Hall, a good spring outing and will start their conference schedule on Saturday when Fort Wayne and Indianapolis travel to USI.

On their spring trip, the team won twice at Cumberland University while falling against the University of Louisville and North Alabama.

"I felt good about the trip," said Hall. "We had a lot of stiff competition and that was something that was good for us to start the

season with. Louisville is a top 40 Division I team and North Alabama is a top 25 Division II team. We did very well against some very good competition."

Now with a record of 4-2 on the season, including two other wins over Georgetown, Hall's team is looking forward to a lot of good things out of this season.

"When you have a conference championship year like last year and then have all twelve of those players return for you the following year, one would think that the success would continue," said Hall. "We are not going to take anything for granted though-we

See Men's Tennis, p. 8

Classifieds

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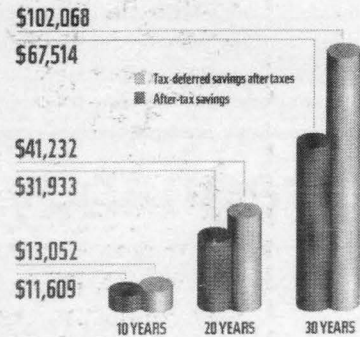
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Eagle Hysteria Comes to End

MARK'S WORLD OF SPORTS



On Sunday afternoon, the USI men's basketball season came to an end against the defending National Champion Kentucky Wesleyan, 88-79.

In a sold-out game at the Sportscenter, the Panthers led by as many as 19 points in the second half and the Eagles never built the

comeback they needed.

Once again, just like every other time USI plays at KWC, Eagle fans could be seen cheering up in the heated rafters of every corner of the stadium. We did the best we could on rooting on the Eagles, but being so high up, it almost seemed like we didn't exist.

Nothing against the Panther fans (even though they can be obnoxious most of the time), but don't you think that seating should be assigned in a less favorable way to the team playing on their home floor, especially since the game is for the Regional Championship?

I know you can't usually blame

a loss on the refs, but...in this case I am—they were terrible and definitely had to be from Kentucky!!!

Believe me, I'm not making excuses, I just hate KWC and everything that has to do with a Panther.

I'm not taking anything away from the Panther victory either, because they played like champions. I'll even congratulate them and say that they'll probably take another one in Louisville.

Now I would like to thank the men's basketball program on another successful season. You guys have nothing to hang your heads about and should use this loss as a tool for next year. With

many players returning, the future looks just as exciting for Eagle basketball.

For you seniors, Ryan Kelly, Habib Ademi, Brandun Hughes, Kevin Herdes and Josh Kain good luck after graduation and thanks for the true leadership that you showed on the court all season.

Congratulations to Hughes and junior Derrick Lyons on being named to the Great Lakes Regional All-Tournament team. Also, on Hughes being named to the All-GLVC team.

To Coach Pearl and his staff, thanks for a great season and let's recruit some key players and bring one home in 2001!

Men's tennis

know there are a lot of teams out there that have the capability to beat us."

Of the twelve players on the team, only four are seniors and they include John Benedyk, Jason Cash, Chris Webb and Jason Coomer.

The team's main strengths this season are not only their doubles pairs that aided them in last years conference tournament, but also the depth of the team in general. Hall has found it difficult

deciding who to play and who not to play this season because of the players he has to choose from.

"It's challenging sometimes to decide who to play when, but having that kind of depth in a team comes in handy on tournament weekends. When you are lucky enough to have that in a team, you can rest players throughout the weekend, substituting them with others. It works out to our advantage most of the time. Last year we played nine dif-

ferent guys in the conference championship."

"Our main challenge this season is to be able to stay focused. We have a lot of people that have expectations that we'll do well again and we are planning to do that, but we have to stay focused on that goal and not take anything for granted. We aren't going to overlook any team as being an automatic win. If we can stay focused in that sense, it will be the key to doing well this season."

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Erin Brockovich (R) [12:40 1:20] 3:40 4:20 6:50 7:20 9:45 10:20	DIGITAL Cider House Rules (PG-13) [1:10] 4:00 7:00 9:55
Final Destination (R) [2:00] 4:30 7:10 9:40	DIGITAL Reindeer Games (R) [1:40] 5:05 8:00 10:30
Mission To Mars (PG) [12:55 1:45] 3:50 4:40 6:40 7:35 9:20 10:10	DIGITAL Pitch Black (R) [2:50] 5:30 8:05 10:35
Ninth Gate (R) [1:00] 4:10 7:30 10:25	DIGITAL Whole Nine Yards (R) [2:30] 5:25 7:55 10:05
Next Best Thing (PG-13) [2:10] 4:55 7:50 10:15	DIGITAL American Beauty (R) [2:20] 5:15 7:45 10:25
My Dog Skip (PG) [1:30] 4:05 6:55 9:10	DIGITAL Snow Day (PG) [2:25] 4:45 6:45 9:15
Drowning Mona (PG-13) [12:30 2:40] 5:00 7:40 9:50	DIGITAL Green Mile (R) [12:50] 4:50 8:25

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