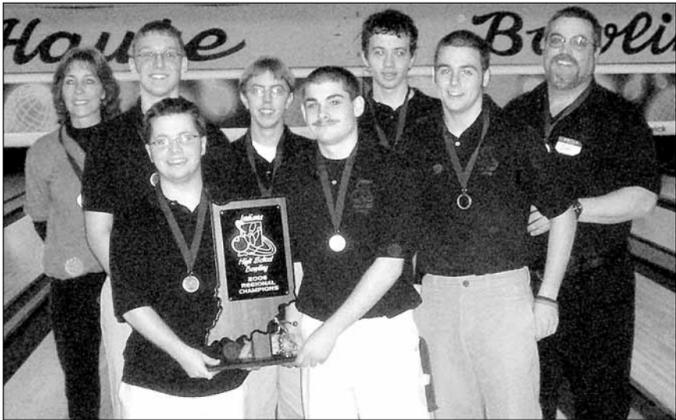




SUBMITTED PHOTOS

TOURNAMENT CHAMPS

The Northwood Owls were the Franklin Community Elementary Basketball League A-season tournament champions. Members of the team are, front row from left, Jake Etter, Zach Hawkins, Bo Kennedy, Caleb Calvert and Evan Dudley; and back row from left, Jacob Smith, Kyle Lowhorn, Alex Bramlett, Cody Ridge, Caleb Nally and coach Jeff McCrary.



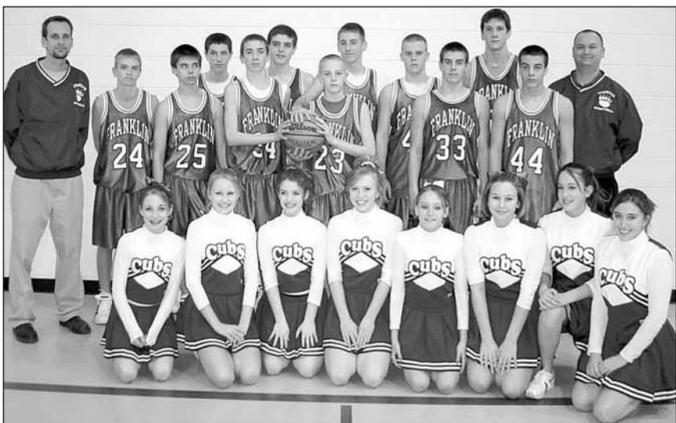
BOWLING REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

The Center Grove High School boys bowling team won the Southern Regional in Terre Haute on Saturday by defeating Warren Central, Ben Davis and Brownsburg in the stepladder finals. The Whiteland Community High School girls team finished fifth and also will advance to the semistate in Noblesville on Saturday. Among individuals at the regional, Anthony Myers of Whiteland was 15th and Brad Hackett of Center Grove was 16th, and both will advance to the semistate. Members of the Center Grove boys team are, front row from left, Zach Curd, Brandon Didion and Steve Froman; and back row from left, coach Cindy Milligan, Brad Hackett, A.J. Jacobs, Alex Vidols and coach Rick Lane.



COUNTY CHAMPIONS

The Custer Baker Middle School sixth-grade boys basketball team recently won the Johnson County tournament championship. Members of the team are, front row from left, Hunter Dougherty, Ty Warner, Brad Parish, Matt Kelsay and Conner Brester; second row from left, Jordan McIntosh, James Biggerstaff, Jake Moran, Jake Hemrick, Cody Zapfe, Alex Ladd, Brandon Stinson and Chris Lynn; and back row from left, coach Zach Mullis, Rudy Aguilar, Cody Hayes, Logan Wall, Patrick Kennedy, Chris Percifield, Donnie Waters and coach Doug Warner.



CONFERENCE, COUNTY WINNERS

The Custer Baker Middle School eighth-grade boys basketball team recently completed a 19-1 season in which it won Mid-State Conference and Johnson County tournament championships. Members of the team are, front row from left, cheerleaders Lanie Pryor, Ariel Hemrick, Emily Gramse, Madeline Clark, Sheena McCray, Maggie Smith, Chelsie Clark and Michelin Bryant; and back row from left, coach Erik Kimbler, Brett Clark, Alex Blakley, Michael Higdon, Ryan Atkinson, Ross Syphers, Clay Warner, Matt Dickey, Chris Nicodemus, Ben Davenport, Jake Jewell, Austin Clark and coach Bill Wallace.

Do The MATH

Caltech 0-242 in conference basketball games

By KEN PETERS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA, Calif.

If basketball were rocket science, Caltech would be flying high. Instead, the brainy Beavers have turned losing into a mathematical constant. They're 0-242 in conference games, a streak dating 21 years, and have lost 195 in a row against NCAA opponents.

"Those numbers are impossible, even at a place like Caltech," Beavers coach Roy Dow said. "It's impossible to the point of (being) silly."

The world-renowned institution where Albert Einstein lectured, where Linus Pauling was a professor and where 31 Nobel Prize winners either have taught or studied, draws only the best and brightest students in science and math. But not necessarily the tallest and most coordinated.

Like other Division III schools, the California Institute of Technology does not offer athletic scholarships. Only six members on this season's squad so much as played varsity in high school, and all of those are underclassmen.

At a recent game, youngsters in the stands held a sign reading "Pi (10th power) + Z x X Just One!"

Didn't happen. Although Caltech stayed relatively close in the conference game against Division III foe Occidental, the 12th-ranked Tigers beat the Beavers 80-66.

Jordan Carlson, who played intramural basketball in high school, scored 29 points and was Caltech's lone player in double figures. The senior physics major was able to put the loss, and all the others while he's been at Caltech, in relative terms.

"It's been fun a lot of the time. It always gets frustrating when you have homework to do and you're tired, but that's natural; that happens everywhere," said Carlson, at 6-foot-5 one of the tallest on the team.

Asked if his knowledge of physics helps him propel the ball through the hoop, Carlson chuckled and said, "No."

All has not been completely lost for Caltech basketball. The Beavers have won two games in recent years, against a pair of non-NCAA schools. The most recent was a 51-49 victory against Life Pacific at the beginning of last season. Day Ivy, a 6-1 senior guard with a



AP PHOTO

California Institute of Technology's Jordan Carlson is helped up after falling into a crowd of spectators during a basketball game against Occidental College on Feb. 1.

double major in applied math and economics, said basketball provides a much-needed break from the arduous academic load.

"It's a good relief from my classes and studying all the time. The work here is very hard. You play basketball to have fun," said Ivy, whose shooting repertoire includes a one-handed set shot, a rarity in today's game.

"Sure, you want to win, but if I didn't enjoy it, I wouldn't still be playing," Ivy added.

The streak aside, there are no losers playing for Caltech, which has about 850 undergraduates. Eight members of the squad were high school valedictorians, and Dow said the lowest grade-point average for any of the seniors is a 3.8.

"Almost all of them have a 4-point average or higher," the coach said. "The material they're being exposed to at Caltech is off the charts. And that's what they're here for; that's what engages them."

The 43-year-old Dow, in his fourth season at Caltech, clearly respects his players' determination and notes that the Beavers have made strides from his second year, when their losing margin averaged nearly 60 points. Now it's down in the 20s.

"They don't back off, they never flinch, but it's much more enjoyable being part of a team that could compete, could think of having success as opposed to the foregone conclusion that you're going to go on the floor and get beaten badly," Dow said. "There's no badge of honor to have to live though going out there and getting smashed."

"To lose the way the Caltech teams had been losing, lopsided, there was no hope. That's not a good experience. We've changed hopeless into hope."

Tom Heer, who played for Caltech in the early 1980s, brought his family to cheer the Beavers against Occidental. "Compared to this team, we were a lot shorter, a lot slower and probably not as coordinated," Heer said.



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN GROTHJgroth@thejournalnet.com

Ten-year-old Sydnee Fisher, right, of Morgantown, gets tips from LPGA golf instructor Mary Rabb at the Golf Dome in Indianapolis on Saturday.

• Indoor

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

practice there, she thought it looked like fun.

Sydnee started hour-long lessons with LPGA golf instructor Mary Rabb in January and has visited the golf facility each Saturday morning for six straight weeks. She plans to play next year at Indian Creek Middle School.

"I think it's a really fun sport," Sydnee said. "I love it. I think it's the best sport to play. You can't get angry. You have to stay calm. You don't have to hit (the ball) hard to make it go far. Mary's shown me how to take my swing up, instead of out, and which clubs to use."

Her brother, Alex, had his first lesson Saturday. He learned how

to hit the ball correctly and enjoyed the experience.

"I like hitting the ball, because if you hit it right, it goes far," said Alex, a second-grader at Indian Creek Elementary School. "I like that you can come here in the winter when it's snowing and play when it's snowing."

Maggie Stephon also benefited from hitting golf balls at the Golf Dome. Stephon, 15, is a Roncalli High School junior varsity golfer.

The sophomore normally takes summer lessons at Smock Golf Course in Indianapolis. But she tried out the Golf Dome on Saturday for the first time.

She said her lesson with Rabb was helpful.

"We were working on my grip and the strength of my left hand," Stephon said. "Your left hand is supposed to take over the power in the swing. It made me have better distance and aim."

Oklahoma State coach taking leave of absence

By KELLY KURT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TULSA, Okla.

Eddie Sutton may have coached his final game, a 35-year career possibly ending six victories short of 800 because of a traffic accident in which he was injured and cited for driving under the influence.

Oklahoma State announced Monday that the 69-year-old Sutton would take a medical leave and that Sean Sutton, his son and designated heir apparent, will finish this season as coach. The school said no decision had been made on who will coach next season.

Sutton said in a statement released by the university that he nearly took medical leave after a Feb. 4 trip to Kansas State because of chronic back pain that was making it very difficult to coach.

"After Friday's events, I know it is best to go on medical leave the remainder of the season to address my future health," he said. "It is very difficult to step away from the team. But I know they are in great hands."

Eddie Sutton suffered a head injury following Friday's accident in Stillwater.

Witnesses described Sutton's sports utility vehicle as driving dangerously and erratically, forcing cars to swerve out of the way before he hit another SUV from behind at about 60 mph, according to police reports released Monday.

The driver of the other SUV received minor injuries and was released at the scene.

One witness at the accident scene told police that Sutton seemed confused, responded angrily to questions and had a slight fruity odor on his breath.

• Positive

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

"The grant money helps buy equipment, have special programs and purchase clubs," said Stack, a 62-year-old Indianapolis resident. "For inner-city kids, we have videos they can watch about mentoring and life skills. They can learn about anger management, time management and money management."

"And they can also have the opportunity to play golf."

Stack started the program in November 2003. He received a \$5,000 grant from the USGA in 2004, which enabled him to work with inner-city youth. And during the past couple of years, he's worked at helping disabled people start playing golf.

"The joy in their face and their eyes when they make contact and how happy they are, that's where the real enjoyment is."

Tony Rogers

Volunteer instructor in the Positive Swing program at the Golf Dome

Last year, Positive Swing worked with 12 disabled people from Hook's Adaptive Rehabilitation Center for a 12-week period.

Two volunteer instructors, Tony Rogers and James Warren, help give lessons. Both men are amputees.

Warren golfs despite having lost his right arm. Rogers, who lost his right arm below the elbow, has worked with Stack for the past 4½ years.

In 1997, Rogers developed a blood clot in his right shoulder and lost more of his arm. But he

didn't let that keep him from golfing. Rogers still golfs with help from a prosthetic device that attaches to his shoulder.

"When anybody comes in and thinks that golf is too hard and they can't do it, they see somebody do it with one arm and hit (the ball) 280 yards off a tee, then they think it's not that difficult," said Rogers, a 39-year-old Indianapolis resident.

Rogers loves to teach. He volunteers between seven and eight hours each week at the Golf Dome, offering people pointers if

they have a slice or hook or if they're topping the ball too much.

But he likes teaching the inner-city children and teenagers most.

"When they first go from swinging to hitting it and to contact, it's enlightening," Rogers said. "The joy in their face and their eyes when they make contact and how happy they are, that's where the real enjoyment is."

"It goes back to, I had a little help in bringing a little joy to their face."

Stack also is looking to help younger girls become interested in golf.

The LPGA has established golf sites for girls ages 7 through 17 throughout the United States, but there are none in Indiana.

Stack is working to have the Golf Dome become the state's first girls golf site within the next few months, he hopes. He's already started working with

local Girl Scouts groups in trying to bring them to the Golf Dome.

Recently, Stack hired LPGA instructor Mary Rabb, who is the Golf Dome's USGA/LPGA girls golf program director.

Rabb, 40, started Dec. 1 and gives lessons to golfers of all ages. She hopes that the Golf Dome will provide a safe place for girls to come to and give girls a positive path to follow.

"I'll be teaching the girls the game of golf," Rabb said. "A lot of them will be playing for the first time and come from single-parent homes. It gets them out of the house and from watching TV during the summer months. It taught them that it's a game they can play for life."

Golf also helps keep people in shape. That's what Positive Swing can offer senior golfers.

Trig Gravelie, 80, started golfing 20 years ago. But as he's got

ten older, he's not as flexible as he once was.

Gravelie, of Indianapolis, met Stack five years ago. Gravelie lived down the street and started coming to the Golf Dome to hit practice shots and stay active. Now, he helps Stack with repairs and picking up golf balls in between practice times.

"It limbers me up a little bit," said Gravelie, who practices two to three days a week for 30 minutes each time. "I like to be active. I don't play rounds of golf anymore. It does help. When you get older, you get stiffer."

Stack believes golf can help everybody, and he just wants people to enjoy it.

"The game is not just for avid golfers," he said. "For the retired population, it's a perfect place to start. We haven't reached nursing homes yet, but we're still looking to."