The Notre Dame Navy ROTC program welcomed more than 100 Naval personnel from nearly 40 schools to its 15th annual Naval Leadership Weekend (NLW), themed “The Evolving Role of the Navy/Marine Corps Team Against Unconventional Warfare.”

“I chose the theme by just talking to different people about what is facing the naval force today and how it is different from year’s pasts,” NLW organizer Arianna Cassani, a junior, said. “The purpose of Naval Leadership Weekend is to develop midshipmen’s leadership skills and ethical decision-making abilities so they can better be prepared to enter the military when they commission.”

By CARLY LANDON
News Writer

Junior Rochelle Rieger, a member of Notre Dame’s Navy ROTC, said 113 midshipmen and a total of 132 Naval personnel attended the event from 37 schools across the country.

“Each year we invite other ROTC units from around the country,” she said. “Everyone stayed at Sacred Heart Parish across St. Joe’s lake, and on Friday and Saturday we had symposiums for all the participants.

Events of the weekend included speeches by noted naval officers, Commander Mark Becker spoke on leadership and being a junior officer in the Navy, and Commander Kris Doyle gave a speech on the new littoral combat ship and how it relates to evolving warfare.

Rieger said the weekend’s theme related to evolving warfare.

“[The e-mail] said I was co-valedictorian with each other. I was really excited,” Marrah said. “Having known her for so long, and we were roommates together. Marrah and O’Connor were excited to share the title of valedictorian.”

“Because of their friendship and the history together, both Marrah and O’Connor said they were excited to share the title of co-valedictorian with each other. “I’m so excited,” O’Connor said. “Having known her for so long, and we were roommates for three years and being good friends with her — it’s such an honor to share that with her, to share in her hard work and who she is. We get to really share that honor together and I think it’s a really special gift that we’ve been given.

Though the girls have attended school together since kindergarten and we’ve been like best friends since eighth grade. We both separately decided to come to Saint Mary’s but we’ve still remained friends.” Marrah said.

Marrah and O’Connor have a lot in common. They share the same hometown of Kokomo, Ind., and they graduated from Northwestern High School together. Marrah and O’Connor achieved the same 4.0 GPA throughout their time at the College, and now, they have been both been awarded the honor of co-valedictorian for Commencement this May.

“I was really excited,” Marrah said. “We had been hoping we would be able to share the honor together. My main concern when I found out was ‘oh, did Carly get it too?’ because it’s more fun if we can both share it together.”

Marrah said she and O’Connor learned the news via e-mail a few weeks before Spring Break. “The e-mail I said we was co-valedictorian but it didn’t say who else it was going to be.” O’Connor said. “So I was really hoping it would be Audrey because I knew that it was likely that she was going to be the valedictorian.”

Because of their friendship and the history together, both Marrah and O’Connor said they were excited to share the title of co-valedictorian with each other. “I’m so excited,” O’Connor said. “Having known her for so long, and we were roommates for three semesters and being good friends with her — it’s such an honor to share that with her, to share in her hard work and who she is. We get to really share that honor together and I think it’s a really special gift that we’ve been given.

Though the girls have attend school together since kindergarten, they will part ways post graduation. Marrah, a biology major, said she plans to participate in some international service work after graduation on May 15.

“There’s a program in Guyana, South America that I’m looking at,” Marrah said. “There’s another one through the Holy Cross Brothers over at Notre Dame, and that program’s in Uganda.”

O’Connor majored in English Literature and plans to attend graduate school at the John Paul II Institute in Washington, D.C.

“I’ll be getting a masters in theology focused on marriage and the family,” O’Connor said. “This summer I am working at my parish at home as an intern in Family Life Ministry. They will have to say their goodbyes, both Marrah and O’Connor said they were grateful to share their valedictorian experiences together.

“It’s been a wonderful gift and I’m very thankful for it,” O’Connor said. “I feel truly blessed.”

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu
The flurry of brightly colored stick- ers in the hallway of my dorm this week are a bit of a throwback to kindergarten, but each time I pass the fluorescent greens and oranges, my heart beats a little bit faster. These seeming- ly insignificant dots actually hold the fateful keys to the future of my life in Lyons Hall.

Each circle coordinates with a possible home for each Lyonsinex, and green picks have nearly every girl waiting for the end of Tuesday night with bated breath. Each member of my dorm stands waiting with the image of the perfect room in her eye, her lottery number in hand and her future roommate by her side. Should the stars align and the fates act graciously, rooming assignments will fall into place perfectly. However, as the dots for mock picks are arranged and rearranged, the hints of desperation and drama are beginning to fill the air. Our per- fect fourth floor double with the window overlooking the lake is suddenly an object of the most intense competition, and plans to beg and barter our way to that glorious room take shape while the fateful hour draws closer by the minute.

Realistically, we know that we will make the best of our situation, no matter how the cards are dealt. Our current room, though tiny and conven- iently located next to the loudest pipes in the building, has been lived in and loved profusely. Yet we are anxiously awaiting the moment when we can escape the liberation of our tiny basement room for the more spacious accommodations of the higher floors. As we envision our home for next year — the room that will house our comfort, our memories, our many pairs of shoes, our collection of classic Disney movies, and (unfortunately) my roommate’s giant cutout of Edward Cullen — can we help it if we find ourselves waiting with the image of the perfect mate’s giant cutout of Edward Cullen? Movies, and (unfortunately) my room- mate’s giant cutout of Edward Cullen — can we help it if we find ourselves dreaming? This room will be the stage for Monday night dance parties, delusional pillow talk, late night study sessions, traditional Thursday night watch of The Office and midnight ice cream breaks — and we are carried away by far-fetched hope that our- slowly pick No. 55 will secure our chair at the foot of the fateful keys.

So we watch with fingers crossed for good luck and hearts racing with anxiousness. Wednesday is a day that many girls begin to fill with bright bubbles and numbers. The luckiest of the Lyonsites walk with a certain confidence in their step, secure in their single-digit pick num- bers and mentally moving on to deter- mining the layout for next year’s rooms. Others check their stickers between classes and fidget during les- sons with anxiety. Alternatives are weighed over and over in each girl’s head, and the possible arrange- ments are considered should reality spiral into the worst-case scenario. We barely dare to breathe, stomachs fluttering, hearts beating furiously, waiting for a place to call room, sweet home.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

**IN BRIEF**

**Airline crew faces jail time for sending sexual texts**

DUBAI — Two Emirates airlines cabin crew have been ordered jailed for three months in Dubai over sexually explicit text messages, the latest in a string of indecency cases against foreigners, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The pair, an Indian flight attendant and her cabin services supervisor, were convicted of ‘coercion to commit sin’ over the mes- sages and initially sen- tenced to six months in jail. The National newspaper said on its website, cit- ing court documents.

The sentence was later lengthened last Wednesday to three months and deportation orders against the pair were lifted, it added. It did not reveal the content of the messages.

**Private school staffer arrested for poisoning soup**

LONDON — An investiga- tion has begun at one of Britain’s most prestigious private schools after a member of staff was arrested on suspicion of trying to poison the pupils’ soup, police said on Wednesday.

Detectives were called to Stowe School, whose for- mer pupils include blon- den Virgin Group founder Richard Branson, after other members of staff raised the alarm about strange smells in the food the last Friday.

During routine checks, school staff became suspi- cious that foodstuffs had been tampered with and the police were alerted,” said a spokesman for Stowe, set in 750 acres of impressive grounds near Buckingham, 60 miles northwest of London.

**Information compiled from the Associated Press.**

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Home, sweet home**

The flurry of brightly colored stick- ers in the hallway of my dorm this week are a bit of a throwback to kindergarten, but each time I pass the fluorescent greens and oranges, my heart beats a little bit faster. These seeming- ly insignificant dots actually hold the fateful keys to the future of my life in Lyons Hall.

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**CORRECTIONS**

The Observer regards itself as a professional publica- tion and strives for the highest standards of journal- ism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Members of the South Bend community joined with Notre Dame faculty, staff and students for the third annual Black Man’s Think Tank, sponsored by the student group Wabruda, in DeBartolo Hall Saturday.

The weekend’s event, “Moving Up in a Down Economy in a Holistic Approach: Mind, Body and Soul” intended to stimulate dialogue about the role of black men in American society. Wabruda, which takes its name from the Swahili word for “brotherhood,” works to promote brotherhood and leadership among black men on campus. Saturday’s event aimed to embody the three main themes of Wabruda: community service, intellectual elevation and faith in God, members said.

“It’s really helpful to provide useful information to the broader African American community in addition to the wider community,” said Jarred Carter, Wabruda president and a senior. He said it was for that reason that the club put more effort into advertising this year, using radio announcements, announcements in local churches, electronic fliers in LaFortune and posters on campus.

“Being on Notre Dame’s campus (and) seeing students like ourselves, for an example, is good for the South Bend community,” said senior Kevin Fobi, vice president of Wabruda. “Plenty of people live in South Bend but never get to go to campus and see the African Americans who are living at ND and succeeding.”

Jeff Jackson, a faculty member from Indiana University, heard about the event from Wabruda advisor David Moss, a professor of psychology at Notre Dame and the University’s Vice President of Student Affairs.

“Whenever you have an event that empowers African American men it’s a must-attend event, because so often we hear the negative,” Jackson said. “This is an event that focuses on empowerment and positive aspects of finding balance.”

Retired civil engineer Josh Chapple, an active stock market investor and a volunteer in the South Bend community, discussed the mind aspect of the holistic approach to the economy and addressed the young African Americans in the audience as “the future leaders of our community.”

Junior Khai Thomas, a member of Wabruda, said he was most looking forward to the speaker who followed Chapple: Chinedum Ndukwe, a former safety on the Notre Dame football team who now plays for the Cincinnati Bengals.

Ndukwe spoke about the body and how physical activity is conducive to a proactive approach to business and work ethic.

Ndukwe was followed by Dr. Robert Price, an ordained pastor who discussed the role of faith in the management of money.

Following the discussion forum was a luncheon at Legends with a roundtable discussion, a showing of the film “The Pursuit of Happyness” and a Black History Tour of Chicago on Sunday.

Members of Wabruda said they appreciate the events like this weekend’s and what the club has done to enhance their college experience. “It is geared to a certain demographic, but it’s open to everyone and we have had members from all walks of life which has been really interesting and really enhanced our experience of being here,” Thomas said.

Contact Nora Kenney at hkenny@nd.edu
Just think, the next time you find your name in The Observer it will be in an article, byline or letter to the editor. (And hopefully not the police blotter.)

Andrea Acosta  Houston, TX
Elena Baluyut  Saint Peters, MO
Elizabeth Biggs  Tulsa, OK
Courtney Biscan  Manhattan, IL
Taylor Boland  Stoddard, WI
Allison Bries  Marion, IA
Vincent Burns  Akron, OH
Mic Byrne  McLean, VA
Eric Cervini  Round Rock, TX
Luke Chellis  St. Louis, MO
Matthew Chardy  Oak Park, IL
Christian Clarke  Irwin, PA
Alex Coccia  Columbus, OH
Matthew Cole  St. Louis, MO
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Tim Siegler  New Berlin, WI
Kristin Springer  New Albany, OH
Chris Steiner  New Albany, OH
Daniel Todd  Nashville, TN
Wyatt Troia  Omaha, NE
Alex Wassenberg  Sterling, VA
Zachary Weems  San Antonio, TX
Ben Yu  Plainfield, IL

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions welcomes the Reilly Weekend students to campus.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS
Small quake kills 3 in Haiti PORT-AU-PRINCE — A small earthquake struck the southern Haiti on Sunday, collapsing an apartment building and killing at least three people. Rescuers said they feared dozens more may have died. The 4.9-magnitude temblor shook the earthquake-prone nation early Sunday, killing a man likely lay on a runway at LaPorte County Airport. The airport was not staffed on weekends. The body of a man likely lay on a runway at LaPorte County Airport for hours after he was ejected from his car. LaPorte County Coroner John Sullivan said it was possible he died in his car Saturday or Sunday while the body lay on the runway. It was fortunate that no aircraft tried to land at the airport. For the site could generate enough interest and state government. Environmental groups, powerful agriculture interests and state government. The proposal for the site could generate enough interest and state government. Environmental groups, powerful agriculture interests and state government. 

Iran remains cold to Americans TEHRAN, Iran - Iran's supreme leader sharply denounced the United States on Sunday, accusing it of plotting to overthrow its clerical leadership, in a chilly response to an overture by President Barack Obama for better cultural and economic ties. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei did not outright reject Obama's offer, saying Iran would keep an eye on Washington's intentions. But the supreme leader said that so far, Washington's offers of engagement with Tehran have been a deception.

The exchange was a sign of how Obama's hopes for dialogue with Iran have been dashed amid Tehran's rejection of Western demands over its nuclear program and its heavy crackdown on the opposition following disputed presidential elections last June.

National New

Boy arrested for harassment WASHINGTON — A 16-year-old boy who police said made an announcement at Walmart ordering all black people out of the store Sunday evening and calmly announced: "Attention, Walmart customers: All black people are not welcome in this store Sunday evening."

The teen was arrested Friday on charges of harassment and bias intimidation. Authorities said he was released to the custody of his parents; they did not know whether he would face a lawyer.

Solar park to create energy LEMOORE, Calif. — Cash-strapped farmers in California's agricultural heartland and environment advocates at odds over water rights and wildlife protections finally agree on something: that thousands of acres of cracked, salty farmland is the perfect site for a sprawling utility-scale solar farm. The 47 square-miles of land proposed for the Westlands Solar Park in remote Kings and Fresno counties is just one of dozens of unfinished solar projects in California, but renewable energy analysts say it is a rare opportunity to enjoy the broad support of environmental groups, powerful agriculture interests and state government.

Once completed, the first chunk of solar proposed for the site could generate enough power to energize up to one million homes.

Local News

Man dies after crash on runway LAKEHURST, N.J. — A 16-year-old boy who police said made an announcement at Walmart ordering all black people out of the store Sunday evening and calmly announced: "Attention, Walmart customers: All black people are not welcome in this store Sunday evening."

The teen was arrested Friday on charges of harassment and bias intimidation. Authorities said he was released to the custody of his parents; they did not know whether he would face a lawyer.

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Advocates march in Washington
Thousands rally for immigration reform hoping to get the attention of Congress

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Frustrated with the lack of action, thousands of demonstrators rallied in front of the National Mall and marched through the streets of the capital Sunday, waving American flags and holding homemade signs in English and Spanish.

Supporters traveled from around the country in hopes the rally would re-energize Congress to take up the volatile issue. Some lawmakers oppose any attempt to help an estimated 12 million illegal immigrants become U.S. citizens while others insist on stronger border controls first.

President Barack Obama, who promised to make overhauling the immigration system a top priority in his first year, sought to reassure those at the rally by a video message presented on giant screens at the National Mall. The president said he was committed to working with Congress this year on a comprehensive bill to fix a "broken immigration system."

Obama said problems include families being torn apart, employers gaming the system and police officers struggling to keep communities safe.

The president, whose comments were released as he prepared to get last-minute votes on a health care overhaul, said he would do everything in his power to forge a bipartisan consensus on immigration reform.

Some demonstrators were disappointed that hadn't been more action a year into Obama's term. "I understand it, but all be his fault," said Manuel Betran, a 21-year-old student from Chicago. "I am frustrated. I really wish not just him, but everybody, would take it more seriously."

Betran arrived in Washington on Sunday morning after a 1 1/2-hour bus ride. Like many at the rally, he had a personal connection to the issue. His parents were once illegal immigrants, but were able to take advantage of an amnesty in the 1980s. "Fortunately, they were able to become citizens during the last amnesty but I know many people that weren't that lucky," said the American-born Betran, adding that his brother was never able to gain legal status and had to leave the U.S. 

Lawmakers failed to agree in 2006 and 2007 when they last tried to overhaul the immigration system, and the political climate is even tougher now. Sens. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., released an outline of a bill last week that calls for illegal immigrants who want to get on the path to legal status to admit they broke the law by entering the U.S., pay fines and back taxes, and perform community service. They also would be required to pass background checks and be proficient in English before working toward legal residency, required before becoming a citizen.

Ben Jealous, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and a speaker at the rally, said the activists no doubt got the attention of lawmakers by converging on the mall on the one Sunday Congress was in session. "I think you'll see a response in the following weeks," he said.

People held signs with slogans such as, "You need us as much as we need you," and "No Human Being is Illegal." Many waved American flags, and a few also carried the banners of their countries of origin. One group from Queens, N.Y., displayed a giant papi-er-mache family — a mother and two crying children. The creation, meant to symbolize the way immi- gration problems have split up families, was the work of teenagers in an after-school program, said Natasha Arzratach, arts and media educator for the group.

Obama works vote outside of public eye

WASHINGTON — No more fiery speeches, no trips to Capitol Hill, no ventures outside the White House gates at all.

President Barack Obama, the most visible player in health care reform, spent the final day of an exhaustive lobbying campaign working from his house.

On any other spring day, Obama might have ventured out for a basketball or golf. The first glimpse of his life was to come until late at night, after the final House vote on legislation to revamp health insurance rules for millions of people. The president was to make a statement from the ornate East Room when that last tally had come in.

The announcement of that plan alone showed the White House was sensing victory.

Yet two photos released by the White House showed the carefully hand-picked images of a president in a serious fight for votes until the end Sunday. In one, Obama was on a cell phone talking to an unidentified lawmaker from the office of his chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel. The president was surrounded by Emanuel and four other legislative and political advisers. There wasn't a smile in the room.

The other photo showed Obama in Washington on Sunday morning after a 1 1/2-hour bus ride. Like many at the rally, he had a personal connection to the issue. His parents were once illegal immigrants, but were able to take advantage of an amnesty in the 1980s.

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The other photo showed Obama in the Oval Office, sleeves rolled up, working the phones again in conversa- tion with another unnamed law- maker. The one big burst of Obama news came about 4 p.m. by press release from his staff. Obama revealed he would issue an executive order to make sure that the emerging health care legislation would uphold all federal funding restrictions on abortion. That step would uphold all federal funding restrictions on abortion. That step would be a popular step with Catholic bishops, fearing it could turn off many in a key voting bloc of the election.

Overall, aides said the president spent his day bouncing between phone calls, updates from his advis- ers, and drop-ins on his staff. The workmanlike approach yielded the spotlight to Democratic House mem- bers, as well as the Republican law- makers striving stop the legislation.
**Arabic continued from page 1**

The idea of sharing Arabic culture with the rest of the University was not easy.

"Students were able to enjoy song, dance, poetry and imagery that wouldn’t otherwise likely get to experience at Notre Dame," he said. "It’s really a one-of-a-kind event and has grown in performance and popular- ity every year."

Junior Victoria Braga, a member of the Arabic Club, said the format of the event has grown stronger with each passing year. "Students attending the event hopefully learned more about Arabic Language and Culture," she said. "This is the ultimate goal of the event, and we are happy to say that the event met its goal not only this year but in all of the past three years of its existence."

Buishan said the inspiration for an event to share Middle Eastern culture came from students and from her own hus- band.

"I started it two years ago with the idea of creating an opportuni- ty for Arabic major students to connect to Arabic history and culture through music and art," he said. "Also, my husband pro- duced several international festi- vals over 15 years ago at Notre Dame as a student, and I know that his experience would be very useful.

Dufour said the event was a success because it blended per- formance and education.

"Everyone there seemed to really enjoy the night whether they study Arabic or not," he said. "It showed aspects of the Arabic culture that people may not know about or [to people] who don’t study Arabic, espe- cially since the readings and song in Arabic all had English translations on an accompanying slideshow to the event."

Dufour echoed Dufour’s senti- ment, noting that attendance at the event was very strong, with Jordan Auditorium at standing room only capacity. She said over 350 students attended, and their response was positive.

"They were very excited, and the event has grown each year. I’ve already received many emails from students who were in the audience saying that they want to be part of the show next year," she said.

**Joseph Dufour vice president Arabic Club**

"Students were able to enjoy song, dance, poetry and imagery that they wouldn’t otherwise likely get to experience at Notre Dame."

**DACMS continued from page 1**

DACMS will not signi- ficantly affect the existing Department of Mathematics, Crawford said.

"Both departments will be very well resourced," he said. According to Crawford, the new department will have an interdisciplinary research and teaching focus.

"Since statistics is so impor- tant in all disciplines, as the department starts to grow, the new department will cooperate with other departments," he said.

He cited offering statistics courses that are geared to social sciences, engineering and biology majors as areas in which the new department will affect undergraduates in other disci- plines.

Crawford said he expects DACMS to remain a relatively small department and will have a high number of fac- ulty members who have joint or concurrent appointments in other departments.

The planned size of the new department is consistent with statistics departments at other universities, Crawford said.

"Statistics departments tend to be very collaborative and do much interdisciplinary work," he said. "[DACMS] will work with other departments and col- leges to hire jointly with them."

Graduate students in the new department will have a unique role that is consistent with the department’s interdisciplinary mission. Instead of only serving as teaching assistants, graduate students will also serve as col- laborative assistants (CAs).

CAs will be available to assist faculty members and graduate students from other depart- ments and colleges with the sta- tistical elements of their research.

"This will stimulate the cross- disciplinary research that’s going on at Notre Dame," Crawford said. "It’s very exciting for [the College of] Science to offer this to the other colleges on campus."

The new department will sponsor its own major in applied and computational mathematics and statistics. Students who graduate with an undergraduate degree from DACMS will have graduate school options in diverse fields, including econom- ics, sociology, psychology, engi- neering and science, Crawford said.

Alumni of the program will also have options in the private sector.

"It’s a very applied degree, so industry is looking for applied mathematicians and statisti- cians, as are hospitals," Crawford said. "Most companies are looking for people with com- putational savvy."

Crawford said creating the new department does not affect the College of Science’s commit- ment to the Department of Mathematics.

"The investment is going into the new department and the existing mathematics depart- ment," he said. "It’s very impor- tant that both departments grow together."

"We have an excellent mathe- matics department here."

Contact John Tierney at jtierny@nd.edu

**Write SMC news. Contact Ashley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu**

**ROTC continued from page 1**

Lee said the board decided to open the position for students outside of ROTC to apply in performanc- e with education.

"It was really difficult contact- ing such a high-ranking officer as a midshipment in order to ask him to speak," Cassani said. "We real- ly were so honored to have him, a three-star general, as our final speaker."

Cassani also said having a young former Marine at the event was a valuable experience for attendees.

"In addition to the lieutenant general being a highlight, Mr. Jacob Cusack, a 2004 ND by and former Marine, was another favorite," she said. "He was really relatable, being so close to our age, and focused on what junior officers will be experiencing once commissioned and deployed."

Cusack is now out of the Marine Corps and attends Harvard Business School.

Cassani said she has been plan- ning the event since August with a committee of ROTC sophomores and juniors.

"I think the best aspect of NLW is that it is put together complete- ly by students. It is an endear- ing put on by juniors and sopho- mores in college," Rieger said. "Arianna deserves so much credit for the work she put into the event."

Rieger said the weekend’s events were useful in educating the University as a whole about the ROTC program.

"We always get a lot of ques- tions about all the people in uni- form, so I think it is interesting for students outside of ROTC to know why there are people in uniform learning about Notre Dame, taking over South Dining Hall and boosting DeBartolo," Rieger said. "NLW is not only good for our ROTC unit, but also good for the school."

Contact Carly Landon at clandon1@nd.edu

**Contact Nora Kenney at hkenney@nd.edu**

**Contact John Tierney at jtierny@nd.edu**
Toyota faces more legal trouble

Autokemaker’s shareholders sue over fallen stock price, claim company misled them

Associated Press

MIAMI — Toyota shareholders filed lawsuits over a sudden drop in the Japanese automaker’s stock price, hoping to court with lawsuits claiming company executives deliberately misled investors and the public about the depth of accelerator problems in millions of its vehicles.

At least three proposed class-action lawsuits filed by Toyota investors say the company gave false initial assurances that the sudden acceleration problems were a simple matter of floor mats trapping gas pedals, helping prop up the stock price.

The shareholder cases are part of an avalanche of potentially costly lawsuits against Toyota Motor Corp. over the acceleration issue, including those filed by crash victims and their families and those brought by Toyota owners contesting their vehicles are worth far less because of the recalls.

One investor lawsuit says Toyota spread misleading information through news releases, conference calls with stock analysts and TV interviews to assure stockholders and the public that the accelerator problem was easily fixed or might be the driver’s fault.

Instead, the lawsuits contend, top Toyota executives have known for nearly a decade that faulty electronic throttle controls caused vehicles to sometimes careen wildly out of control but covered it up to protect the company’s reputation for safety and its stock price. The company has not issued an official recall involving flaws in the electronic throttle control. Instead, it repeatedly denied they are the problem.

U.S.-listed shares rose from just over $75 on Oct. 5, the day of the floor mat recall, to above $90 on Jan. 21, when Toyota announced another recall — over gas pedals it says can stick in certain conditions.

After that, the stock price fell, dropping 16 percent as of early March. Shares have since rebounded somewhat, closing Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange at $79.34, but some investors say the recovery did not prevent them from losing potential millions of dollars as the stock was dropping.

Since the sticky pedal recall in late January, Toyota’s total U.S. market capitalization has fallen 13 percent to $135.87 billion. In trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Toyota shares also have lost nearly 17 percent of their value since Jan. 21. That’s wiped out about 2.27 trillion yen ($25.1 billion) of the company’s market capitalization there.

Toyota declined comment because the cases are pending in court. The company has repeatedly denied its electronic throttle controls are to blame for sudden acceleration.

In the lawsuits, the shareholders are asking a judge to certify a “class” of plaintiffs that would represent all Toyota shareholders in the U.S. who held company stock on specific dates. If Toyota is found liable, damages could easily run into the hundreds of millions or even billions of dollars.

The shareholder lawsuits are pending in federal court in California, the location of Toyota’s North American headquarters.

In one of the lawsuits, Toyota stockholder Harry Stockhouse of Richboro, Pa., contends the company “misled investors by failing to disclose that there was a major design defect in Toyota’s acceleration system, which could cause unintended acceleration.”

“This drop removed the inflation from Toyota’s securities prices, causing real economic loss to investors who had purchased securities,” said Stockhouse, who said he bought 40 shares in 2009 just as the acceleration problems became known.

A hearing is scheduled next week in San Diego on whether to consolidate the dozens of Toyota owners’ class-action lawsuits.

MSU program targets counterfeiting

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — The fight against fake products has found a home at Michigan State University with the launch of the Anti-Counterfeiting and Product Protection Program.

“The FBI has called it (the crime of the 21st century),” university spokesman Andy Henion wrote on the school’s Web site. “The counterfeiting of products from pharmaceuticals to auto parts accounts for hundreds of billions of dollars in global trade.”

Michigan State’s program is designed to fill what Henion said is a need for research on the world-wide phenomenon and “evidence-based strategies” to fight it.

Counterfeiting is more than an economic crime against the companies whose goods are faked, the university said. “The damage extends to health, the environment and national security, it said.

“We’re blending the different sciences and bringing something unique to the table here,” said the program’s director, criminal justice associate professor Jeremy Wilson. “Our goal is to serve as an international hub for anti-counterfeiting.”

Wilson said the program is a response to requests from business and industry. He said the interdisciplinary program encompasses criminal justice, food safety, international business, engineering, public health and communications.

One of its first projects was to create a database of U.S. product counterfeiting cases from 2000 on. Wilson said in a statement.

Another project includes development of a DNA marker embedded in textiles that could be used to determine the authenticity of items such as purses and clothing.

Major focuses of the program include counterfeiting of pharmaceuticals in Africa and food additives in China.

“Product counterfeiting is a risk to . . . exploited workers and it’s a risk to the consumer,” said program associate director John Spink. “This is clearly not a victimless crime.”
As April warmly approaches, I am winding up my year-long senior thesis project on the preservation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Now that I'm nearing completion, I realize that most of what I've learned is in the value of complicating my outlook on the world, of forcing myself to see things as more than just black or white, positive or negative. When we stop looking for a bad guy and realize that "bad guys" exist in all of us, the real lesson becomes interconnectedness and even attacking the bad guy within.

As a history major, most of my research has been archival. About once a month, I drive to Gary, Ind., to peruse the Calumet Regional Archives, the best archive around of recent dunes history and steel in northwest Indiana. Oh, the faces I get. I wish I could share them in this medium, but alas you will have to imagine them yourself.

"Gary! Get your bullet-proof windows ready?" “Try not to breathe the air. "You couldn’t think of a better place to study environmental history?” Well the truth is, yes. I can think of many places much more picturesque than Gary (although I appreciate the concern if you are one of the worried friends quoted above). But in ignoring the industry, pollution and poverty that proliferate in Gary, we miss the full narrative not just of preservation movements, but of our society as a fully interconnected one.

Preserved land in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore covers 20 miles of shoreline from Gary (home to what once U.S. Steel's largest integrated steel plant worldwide) to Michigan City, Ind. (home to the smokestacks of the Michigan City Generating Station). Congress officially preserved this unitarily candidate for a National Lakeshore in 1966, during the simultaneous construction of a steel port, two steel mills and a coal-generated power plant within the Lakeshore's outer boundaries.

The case of the dunes appears at first glance as no escape from industry. The National Park Service official map for Indiana Dunes has organic greens, browns and tans that conflate park land, while dull grays (beets of labels) signify industry. This color choice attempts to convince the visitor that the dunes are the serene retreat from mankind after which National Park Service patrons pine. Yet no visitor could drive to the dunes from any direction without passing evidence of man-made power and filth.

And yet, the value of the dunes remains inside of this difficult attempt to mask the sullied as pristine. While hiking through most sections of the park, the marsh or dunes feel expansive and pure, as if they could continue for miles. When the mills are out of sight, the pristine nature in some form exists — the dunes are the seventhbio-diverse park in the National Park system, even in the Rustbelt of America (or “Cancer Alley,” I once heard the area from Chicago to South Bend called).

Treating the industry as evil and the park as good, however, misses the mark of a broader understanding of the interconnectedness of American structures. Most visitors to the National Lakeshore come either from Chicago or northwest Indiana — the two patchworks requiring containment.

TODAY'S STAFF

Katie Peralta

Kristen Durbin

Emily Schrank

Mary Cecilia

Michelle Architects

Jordan Gamble

Adriana Pratt

VIEWPOINT

Jackie Miranda

Freckled Thoughts

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

As the steel and power plants lean, I realized that the Calumet Regional Archives and the best archive around of the connected nature of good and evil, as if they could continue for miles. When the mills are out of sight, the pristine nature in some form exists — the dunes are the seventh-most bio-diverse park in the National Park system, even in the Rustbelt of America (or “Cancer Alley,” I once heard the area from Chicago to South Bend called).

Treat the other man's faith gently; it is all he has to believe with. Henry S. Haskins

U.S. writer
We must increase responsibility to the needs of our wounded veterans. The difficulties involved in caring for those who have experienced psychological and physical harm during combat are well-documented. The Wounded Warrior Project is a nation-wide organization that honors and empowers military personnel who were severely injured while serving our country. More than 500,000 troops have been wounded in recent conflicts, many of them suffering traumatic brain injuries, amputations, severe burns and post-traumatic stress disorder. The Wounded Warrior Project’s goal is to ensure that this is the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded soldiers in our nation’s history.

WWP encompasses numerous programs, from legislative advocacy to provision of counseling services to help in occupational transition to the civilian sector. There are many local veterans in our area who benefit from the WWP. I would like to invite and encourage the student body, faculty, staff and community to participate in the March Madness 10K this Saturday, March 13 at 9 a.m. The company services of the Tri-Military ROTC units here at Notre Dame are sponsoring this race, with all proceeds going to the Wounded Warrior Project. Registration is $20 and includes a T-shirt, refreshments after the race and a chance to win a Chipotle gift card. Registration is available on race day, as well as online at http://www.nd.edu/~tridents/come. We owe it to our wounded warriors.

Geraldyn Janku
junior
Pasquerilla West Hall
March 18

Music program left in capable hands

In the past week, we have read many letters in the Viewpoint section about Gail Walton and her legacy. Through reading those testimo- monies, we are reminded that Gail didn’t have her own era where the impact she had on their lives. As Holy Week approaches, it is difficult to imagine those sacred days without Gail Walton. But like any good teacher, Gail didn’t do it all on her own, she surrounded herself with talented men and women who shared in her mission of performing sacred music worthy of our faith and our community. Of these, none was more trusted than Dr. Andrew McShane, the Basilica’s Assistant Director of Music. For nearly 20 years, Gail and Andy worked side-by-side at Campus Ministry, and to knead Card music. Andrew McShane has worked tirelessly alongside Gail and Notre Dame’s other talented choral directors at our University’s occasions for celebration. Junior Parents’ Weekends, Baccalaureate Masses, Alumni Weekends, openings of school years and countless others. He also has helped lead us in musical prayer during times of loss and mourning, including Pope John Paul II’s death, the afternoons of Sept. 11 and the funerals of Father Joyce and other beloved members of the Notre Dame family.

Andy is an example of strength to us. In Gail’s sickness, he shoul- dered the bulk of her responsibilities while caring for the emotional well-being of his choir — a feat that demonstrated his exceptional leadership. While supporting his best friend through a life-threatening illness, he managed to maintain the same standard of musical excellence that he learned from Gail. Indeed, it was Andy who directed the music for Gail’s own funeral, an occasion none present will ever forget. Even if Gail did not have only that one sad instance as an example, we would know that though we mourn the loss of Gail, we needn’t mourn music at the Basilica. It will never be the same without her, but knowing that Gail’s work will pass into the hands of her dear friend and colleague, we feel confident that Andy’s unique direction and leadership will con- tinue Gail’s work of raising our hearts and minds to God. And knowing him, we’re confident and eagerly look forward to the continued development of the music at the Basilica of the Sacred heart in the capable hands of a former student, dedicated professional, gifted teacher, charismatic leader and excellent friend, Dr. Andrew McShane.

Sam Blake
The Minneapolis Daily

Who are the Mythica?

By now, those of you who pay attention to these kinds of things (or, at the very least, read The Minneapolis Daily’s Opinion section on a regular basis) are probably familiar with Chatroulette, the recent Web site that lets you have video conversations with random people. Chatroulette is the culmination of an important progression in the way that people interact on the Internet, as it is one of the few Web sites that allow you to interact with real people. Let me extrapolate somewhat on this notion of “real people.”

The Internet is a massive collaboration of the individual efforts of many people, blah, blah, blah. You’ve heard this all before. But in our usual human tendency to simplify complicated systems into nice, unitary objects, we often forget that the Internet, as we know it (that is, the social construct rather than a technical one), is made entirely out of the output of human endeavor. These people — precious, unique snowflakes though they may be — get lost in the cacophony of constant information the Internet provides.

So, let us ask ourselves: Do real people exist on the Internet? This seems like a stupid question for the very convenient reason that it is one. Of course real people exist on the Internet; after all, nothing on the Internet would exist were that not the case.

So let’s be a little more precise. When interacting with people, however indirectly, by using the Internet, are we actually interacting with people? Or are we just consuming some information that someone at one time created? If the latter is the case, then we are not, in fact, interacting with “people” in the traditional social sense of the word, but we are instead just manipulat- ing the same data stream.

Let’s consider people in the field of semantics of concepts that have no word associ- ated with them. Incidentally, the notion of a con- cept without a word, insofar as I can tell, does not have a word to denote it. This means that this notion is “anthropologizing” — describes itself — or at least it would be if it had a name, which it doesn’t, and if it had a name it would no longer be a concept, which makes it an instance of the Greling-Nelson paradox. Isn’t semantics fun?

The solution, of course, is making up new words as they are needed. For our purposes, we will refer to our data-generating pseudo-people as the Mythica. As with classical mythology, we use the concept of the Mythica as a sort of origin story explaining the people we who infer to exist from our artifacts. The Mythica are people in the same way that the Sumerians were people. We have convincing records of their existence, but given that we have never interact- ed with them, it is impossible for us to have any sort of social relationship with them.

Practically speaking, then, who are the Mythica? This isn’t terribly obvious. Which peo- ple online are actually “people” (perceptually speaking), and which of them are just the remnants of data? If you wanted to be especially technical, all online interactions are strictly data, but let’s try to come up with a reasonable definition. To do this, let’s look at how the Internet has evolved over time.

In the good old days, the Internet was predomin- anly an interaction-based medium, populated by bulletin boards, newsgroups and chat rooms. These kinds of environments often fostered commun- ities where people were acquainted with one another; people had reputations and interacted and established relationships with each other. As the Internet grew in popularity, there was a shift, which is still evident today, towards content-based media. Blogs replaced bulletin boards, Wikipedia and news aggregators replaced newsgroups, and YouTube replaced chat rooms. These new media still have “communities” in a sense, but instead of being face-to-face, intertwined relationships between members, they are usually defined by pervasive cultural norms, or memes. Some people may have status, but generally, the commun- ity is too large to have a coherent basis of rela- tionships, and so communication by meme becomes a necessity.

However, as social media become the norm, some new systems are beginning to return to the interaction model. Chatroulette is an excellent example; there are no memes that define who can talk to whom (unless you count masturbation). Chatroulette is a technology that harkens back to the old Internet, where people talked to people instead of just digesting content. The people you see on Chatroulette are “real people,” you may not have a pre-existing social relationship with them, but you do interact on a personal, rather than cultural, level.

So let us once again address the question. Who are the Mythica? They are everyone who has contributed in some way towards your personal experience using the Internet but that you don’t actually know in an meaningful way. The Mythica is not an actual entity; rather, it is a psy- chological defense mechanism. Our brains are simply not capable of processing the complexity of the social structure that the Internet actually represents, so we simplify until we reach a model that we can handle. The Mythica as we understand it is that intellectual reduction; millions and millions of people, all reduced into a nice, thick syrup, perfect for serving on ice cream or over poires bêlêêé. But if you don’t like poires (though I can’t understand why that would be the case), you might consider adopting habits of Internet use that involve real people and the ones that don’t actually exist.

This column first appeared in the March 10 edition of The Minnesota Daily, the daily publication serving the University of Minnesota. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Minnesota Daily.

Emily Pike
William & Mary
Chapel 2007

Brendan Hanahan
William & Mary
Chapel 2007

Peter Mitchell
William & Mary
Chapel 2006

March 19
This movie had all the pieces for a decent, or possibly really good movie: thought-provoking social commentary, high-tempo action sequences and solid actors like Jude Law and Forest Whitaker. However, a sloppy storyline and a horrendous, “surprise” ending made this movie as much a waste of two hours as standing in line at Reckers after parietals. If you were planning on seeing “Repo Men,” I’d suggest saving the $7.50 and avoid being sorely disappointed.

The story is set in the future, where The Union is a large corporation selling artificial organs to the sick. The corporation corners the sick into buying these at an unreasonably high price, getting loans with "19 percent APR." A select group of The Union are designated "Repo Men" who are in charge of seizing the organs from those who defaulted on their loan. Remy (Jude Law), one of these Repo Men, must hunt down Remy and seize the artificial heart.

The biggest bright spot of the movie is when a nine-year old girl performs surgery and is absolutely adorable in doing so. Also, Forest Whitaker provides a great portrayal of his character and convincingly progresses from believing "a job’s a job" to trying to protect and provide for his friend. However, these positives are overwhelmingly shadowed by the horrendous conclusion. Not only was it completely unnecessary, but it also fails to follow the progression of the movie.

Jude Law’s acting in this movie was about as believable as presidential campaign promises, as he goes from heartless and cold killer straight to artsy writer, being crushed by his wife leaving him to fall for a woman he meets in a dump (literally). Likewise, Beth’s character lacks depth and dynamic.

By ANKUR CHAWLA
Scene Writer

"Repo Men" directed by Miguel Sapochnik, written by Eric Garcia and Garrett Lerner, starring Jude Law, Forest Whitaker, Alice Braga, and Liev Schreiber.
Have you ever been in a conversation with someone who's name-dropped a band and you've nodded emphatically, agreeing that said band is so good/cool/innovative, only to completely forget the name the minute you walk away? Fear no more, because here is a list of some of the most noteworthy music out there today, at least in the category of slightly-more-important. Did I un forgivingly ignore your favorite? E-mail me and maybe I'll include it in the next list.

**Damien Rice**
If you have never heard of this guy, drop the paper and go YouTube him right now. He's probably the most swoon-worthy cult indie artist of our time, and most people who have heard him swear to have a deep, personal relationship with him. Epic folk songs indeed.

Tracks to tap: “The Blower’s Daughter,” “9 Crimes,” “Cannonball”

**Alexi Murdoch**
This man is the Damien Rice of Scotland. Other than the ubiquitous teen-TV-series-exploited “Orange Sky,” Murdoch’s music was featured heavily in the movie “Away We Go.” His grainy baritone lends itself perfectly to the wistful but hopeful lyrics that politely tug at the heart.

Tracks to tap: “Orange Sky,” “Breathe,” “Song For You”

**Amos Lee**
Lee is far more soul than folk but has the sensibility to be delicate with his songs. Lee’s music doesn’t favor love stories of the wistful but is heavy on the social justice — which he does well. His music gracefully marries acoustic and plugged-in. It’s jam-worthy in the way that makes you want to lean back and drink a cold iced-tea.

Tracks to tap: “Street Corner Preacher,” “Shout Out Loud,” “Supply and Demand”

**The Bird and the Bee**
This electronic pop duo had minor success with their “Greasy’s Anatomy” soundtrack song. “Again and Again.” Inara George’s light but pointed voice makes all of her lyrics seem slightly tongue-in-cheek. But that doesn’t detract from this band’s pop flavor that balances Los Angeles sunshine with New York savvy.

Tracks to tap: “Again and Again,” “Love Letter to Japan,” “P*cking Boyfriend”

**Frightened Rabbit**
This indie band is from Scotland and belts out lyrics that beg to be lapped up. Slightly quirky but always positive, these guys just released a new album, solidifying their position in the indie-cult arena. And they’re just a bit more accessible than, say, the Shins, which is a plus.

Tracks to tap: “Keep Yourself Warm,” “Old Old Fashioned,” “Swim Until You Can’t See Land”

**The Gabe Dixon Band**
Piano rock with a folk-kick that ends up bringing the most delicious trio band experience this side of Nashville. The fact that most of their music is so piano-driven means that even when it’s heavy, it’s not overwhelming. They deliver feel-good music with an inventive take on love and life. Note: this band will make you curse your parents for letting you drop piano lessons in the fifth grade.

Tracks to tap: “Find My Way,” “All Will Be Well,” “Five More Hours”

**Josh Ritter**
A man of blatant Americana and the Irish — the nationality, not Notre Dame — love him. But we should, because he’s unafraid to bounce back and forth between truly folk and lyrically hip. Ritter seems to have cornered (or created) the market for indie-country-folk, and many of his songs are quite radio-worthy.

Tracks to tap: “Snow is Gone,” “Good Man,” “The Temptation of Adam”

**Jose Gonzalez**
A man and his guitar, and that is all you need. His circular strumming patterns become hypnotic, and on them Gonzalez layers some of the most poignant poetry of the New Folk movement. He can either be tempered home-work tunes or the backdrop of a soul-searching conversation.

Tracks to tap: “Heartbeats,” “Teardrop,” “Crosses”
Lucas hobbled into a tunnel that weekend for the fourth time in the season. The Panthers pulled off the upset in the first half and did not return. He came back to the bench with 12½ minutes to play. Lucas’ shot capped a wild finish to a game that the Spartans appeared to have in hand. With 12 minutes to go, they were up by 16.

The drama started when Summers went out with his fourth foul with 6:19 left and MSU holding a 74-64 lead. A 3-pointer by Eric Hayes and a layup by Adrian Bowie pulled Maryland within 78-71 with 3:59 left. Lucas, who missed on his next possession, and the Spartans worked time off the clock before Lucas scored for an 80-71 lead with 2:05 to go.

Vasquez scored quickly on the other end and sank the foul shot to make it 80-74. Then, Maryland’s press off. Vasquez, the ACC player of the year, stole an inbounds pass and给 off a layup. The Terrapins’ Cliff Tucker stole the ball on the next possession and Vasquez but a 3 from the left corner to cut it to 80-79 with 1:19 left. Tucker stole the ball again and Vasquez made a runner over the top and drew contact to get a foul. Tucker scored quickly on the other end and sank the foul shot to make it 80-79.

Maryland blew up. Tucker stole the ball again and Vasquez made a runner over the top and drew contact to get a foul. Tucker scored quickly on the other end and sank the foul shot to make it 80-79.

Cornell couldn’t miss to start the game that the Spartans appeared to have in hand. With 12 minutes to go, they were up by 16 — or beyond.

That poor kid, he was devastated,” Izzo said. “It’s a shame for him. But it’s part of athletics and it’s part of this business. It’s beyond.

Achilles’ tendon. That would make it almost impossible for him to return. He came back to the bench with 12½ minutes to play.

But it’s part of athletics and the Spartans advanced Saturday.

Michigan State became the lowest seed — No. 12 — to advance to the round of 16 in NCAA tournament history. Cornell became the lowest seed — No. 12 — to advance to the round of 16 in NCAA tournament history.

Lucas, the dynamic point guard who led Michigan State to victory in the Big Ten tournament and the first Ivy League team to get that far in 30 years, became the first Ivy League team to get that far in 30 years. He sparked their late comeback scoring nine of Maryland’s final 11 points in the last two minutes.

After his winning shot, Lucas backedpedaled down the court and met his teammates. The Terrapins team — minus Lucas — doggedled on him under the Maryland basket. Even the mascot, Ralphie, came out. And Lucas, a sophomore, matched his season high with 13 points.

To the three-story, off-campus house that is the home of the team’s athletic training staff, the third memory, the fourth memory is always presenting different aspects. Though it remains the same, is the first step in the acquisition of knowledge. The lopsided affair should make for some interesting conversation this week at the "Dog Pound," the nickname given to the three-story, off-campus house that 13 players and a team have call home.

"We’re definitely going to enjoy that," center Jeff Foote said.

"But we’re not done yet," said Cornell coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Cornell became the lowest seed to advance to the round of 16 in this year’s tournament and the first Ivy League team to get that far since Penn State in 1931 years ago.

Wisconsin (24-9), with 26 points, including the team’s first 12. Jason Bohannon added 18, Ian Evans chipped in 11 and Trevor Hughes finished with 10.

But Wisconsin’s problem was defense. Cornell shot 61 percent from the field, 53 percent from 3-point range and dominated every aspect of the matchup. Anyone believe the Big Red were seeded correctly now?

"We want to take this ride as long as we can because after this it’s just nothing but babies and memories," Dale said.

Foote had 12 points and seven rebounds. Chris Weuelbzlowski added 12 points, and Jon Jaques finished with nine before fouling out.

Cornell couldn’t miss to start this one. The Big Red made their first five shots. Wijutan hit consecutive jumpers to set the tone. Cornell got a head start when their team got a head start when their team advanced Saturday.

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Twins sign Mauer to $184M extension

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Joe Mauer is staying home.

The AL MVP agreed to an eight-year, $184 million contract extension with Minnesota on Sunday that includes a full no-trade clause, a massive deal that shows the Twins are no longer spending like a small-market club.

The deal covers the 2011-2018 seasons and is the fourth largest — both in total value and average salary — in major league history. Starting next season, the All-Star catcher will make $23 million a year.

The team said on Sunday evening that neither Mauer nor team officials would comment until a news conference scheduled for 7 p.m. EDT on Monday at the team’s spring training facility in Fort Myers, Fla.

With the announcement, the entire state of Minnesota can take a deep breath and relax.

The 26-year-old Mauer, who has won three AL batting titles and is considered one of the best defensive catchers in the game, was entering the final year of his current contract.

Even though both he and the Twins insisted all along that he would be staying in Minnesota, Twins fans were growing more nervous by the day as negotiations dragged on. But agent Tony Shapiro and Twins brass eventually worked out the deal, ensuring that the hometown favorite wouldn’t be lured away by one of the many big spenders that were salivating at the thought of adding the sweet-swinging lefty to their battery after this season.

Then the Twins, who have become much more fiscally aggressive as they prepare to open Target Field in 2010, came through with a staggering package.

The $184 million total worth is fourth behind two deals signed by Alex Rodriguez — the $275 million deal with the Yankees signed in December 2007 and a $252 million contract signed with Texas in December 2010 — and Derek Jeter’s $189 million deal signed with the Yankees in 2001 that expires after this season.

The only players to have a higher average salary than Mauer’s $23 million are Roger Clemens ($28,000,022 prorated deal in 2007 — he actually received $17,442,637 — with the Yankees) and Rodriguez, who had average salaries of $25.2 million from 2001-07 and $27.5 million in a deal that runs through 2017.

Yankees are G. Sabathia also has an average salary of $23 million as part of a deal that runs from 2009-15.

Martiniron

Twins catcher Joe Mauer, right, shares a light moment with teammate Jacque Jones while stretching during a spring training session. Mauer just signed an eight-year, $184 million extension with his hometown team.

IN BRIEF

Flames’ Langkow hit in neck & with puck

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Calgary Flames center Daymond Langkow is in good condition at a local hospital after being hit in the back of the neck with a puck.

The team said Langkow has movement in all his extremities and is undergoing X-rays and more tests.

Langkow was not moving as he was removed from the ice on a stretcher. The 13-year veteran remained on the ice for nearly 10 minutes before leaving. He was injured at 5:20 of the second period of Sunday’s game against the Minnesota Wild.

Langkow was checked from behind by Minnesota defenseman Greg Zanon and hit Wild defenseman Marek Zidlicky as he lost his balance and fell forward. With Langkow’s head down as he fell, Calgary defenseman Ian White fired toward the net and hit his teammate.

Braves’ Jurrjens will miss rest of year

TAMPA, Fla. — New baseball players’ union head Michael Weiner anticipates talks with Major League Baseball on a new collective bargaining agreement will begin by spring training or perhaps a bit earlier next year.

“Our goal will be to sit down, we always want to have an agreement without a threat of a stoppage,” Weiner said on Sunday. “But you also have to have an agreement that works for both sides. I’m sure that everybody will try our best to get a deal done on a kind of timeframe that we did last time. So we’ll just have to see how it plays out.”

The current agreement expires in December 2011. The deal was announced during the 2006 World Series, about two months before the previous agreement expired.

Weiner and other union officials met with New York Yankees players as part of a tour of spring training camps.

NHL

Penguins at Red Wings

7 p.m., Versus

NBA

Spurs at Hawks

8 p.m., ESPN

around the dial
NHL

Bruins move into 8th place with win against New York

Boyd, Hornquist score back-to-back goals late in third period to help boost Predators in victory over Blues

Associated Press

BOSTON — Miroslav Satan and Dennis Wideman scored for Boston and Tuuka Rask kept the New York Rangers scoreless until late in the third period in the Bruins’ 2-1 victory Sunday.

Boston has 76 points to hold the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with 11 games remaining. The Rangers remained in 10th place with 71 points and 10 games left. The Atlanta Thrashers, with 11 games to go before playing Sunday night in Philadelphia, have 73.

The Bruins had been 1-8-3 at home since winning the Winter Classic on Jan. 1 at Fenway Park, 2-1 over Philadelphia. And they were coming off a lackluster performance in a 3-0 home loss to the Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday night.

Michael Del Zotto scored for the Rangers, who failed to rebound from a 4-3 loss to St. Louis that same night and have lost three in a row.

Satan’s fifth goal of the season late in the second period came just 23 seconds after Boston’s Daniel Paille failed to score on a penalty shot when it deflected off Henrik Lundqvist’s glove.

Wideman scored his fourth goal — and first since Jan. 9, also against the Rangers — midway through the third period when he lifted a backhand from the left circle over Lundqvist’s glove to the far side.

That became critical when Del Zotto ruined Rask’s bid for his fourth shutout with his eighth goal with 3:04 left in the game. Del Zotto scored on a blast from the middle of the blue line as Olli Jokinen skated across the slot to try and screen Rask.

The Rangers had made a solid bid with the score 1-0 when Dan Girardi fired a shot from the inside edge of the right circle about 15 feet from Rask. But the goalie skated out and the shot went into his pads.

Neither team mustered many good scoring chances despite the significance of the game. Both had been struggling in their efforts to gain a playoff berth.

Boston finally showed some offensive spark after four scoreless periods when Satan scored at 16:36 of the second period. Andrew Ference skated in from the left point to the low left circle and fired a low pass across the slot, where Satan waited to put it past Lundqvist.

Wideman made it 2-0 at 10:40 of the third period, but the Rangers couldn’t score again despite pulling Lundqvist from the net for an extra skater.

Nashville 3, St. Louis 2

Dustin Boyd scored his second goal of the game 48 seconds after teammate Patric Hornqvist tied it late in the third period, helping the Nashville Predators beat the St. Louis Blues on Sunday night.

Defenseman Carlo Colaiacovo had a goal and assist for the Blues, who fell to an NHL-worst 12-18-5 at home with a setback that could be devastating to faint playoff hopes. They were 9-3 in the previous 12 games, but remained six points out of the final Western Conference spot with 10 games to go.

David Perron put the Blues ahead early in the third, swatting in a backhander. Colaiacovo’s power-play goal in the first period ended Nashville goalie Pekka Rinne’s shutout streak at 149:04, including 1-0 victories over Columbus Saturday and 5-0 over Minnesota on Thursday. Rinne made 59 saves before the goal.

Boyd added his first goal in nine games since being acquired from Calgary on the trade deadline to tie it at 1 late in the second period.

Nashville outshot the Blues 39-25 and carried play much of the final two periods with a combined 29-13 advantage. That made things easier on Rinne.

Alex Steen assisted on both St. Louis goals and has 19 points in 19 games.

Hornqvist scored his team-leading 28th goal on a rebound with 3.34 left, and Boyd also converted a rebound with 2:46 remaining after a Blues player diverted the puck to his stick off Martin Erat’s centering pass from behind the net.
Lavender, Buckeyes dominate early in rout

Vanderbilt comes through in overtime to take down DePaul and advance into second round of tournament

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Neither sickness nor St. Francis were about to slow Ohio State.

Jantel Lavender dominated inside for Ohio State with 23 points and 16 rebounds against smaller St. Francis and the second-seeded Buckeyes opened up a 27-point lead before halftime during a 93-59 rout in a first-round NCAA Dayton Regional game on Sunday.

Lavender, the three-time Big Ten player of the year, starting guard Tayler Hill and two reserves became all too eager after every sandwich following practice Saturday, but the Buckeyes (31-9) certainly look to be recovered by game time.

They roared all runs of 11-0, 19-2 and 13-3 before halftime, taking control from the start and never allowing the Red Flash (17-15) to build any confidence or momentum.

The Red Flash had no one who could defend the 6-foot-4 Lavender’s post-up moves. Johnson’s outside shooting or playmaking, as quickly became evident. Johnson ended with 18 points and 13 assists and six rebounds.

It didn’t take long.

Johnson hit a pair of 3-pointers. It didn’t take long.

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Johnson hit a pair of 3-pointers.
Senior attack Gina Scioscia's goal in the second sudden-death period closed out No. 15 Notre Dame's 7-6 comeback victory over No. 11 Boston University Saturday.

“There were some huge defensive plays out there,” Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. “[Freshman goalkeeper] Ellie Hilling made a big save in overtime where it came down to a one-on-one situation. Each defender had a big play, and all of those plays led to opportunities on the offensive end.”

Sophomore attack Maggie Tamasitis started off the scoring in the first half for the Irish (4-1). Freshman midfield Jenny Granger scored Notre Dame’s only other goal in the half midway through the period, and the Irish closed the half with a 2-1 lead in a low-scoring opening period.

“We were getting good looks the whole game,” Coyne said. “Their goalie is very good. Sometimes we would shoot wide, and sometimes she would make a great save. We could shoot better, but I think we still got it done.”

The Terriers scored five of the first seven goals after halftime to take a 6-4 lead with three minutes left in the game, but the Irish got clutch goals from junior midfield Shaylyn Blaney and Tamasitis to tie the game and send it into overtime.

“You can say this much about this team, they have a refuse-to-lose mentality,” Coyne said. “We created the situations that won us this game. It wasn’t BU falling apart, it came from our toughness.”

The game, which went into two overtimes and lasted more than 71 minutes, ended as the second-longest game in Notre Dame history. The Irish caused several of Boston’s 14 turnovers in the extra period while Hilling kept Notre Dame in the game with an eight-save performance in only her fifth collegiate start in net. Coyne was especially pleased with the rookie goalkeeper.

“She had a great game (Saturday),” Coyne said. “She came out with a real strong warm-up and we had a feeling that she was going to play well, which she did.

Coyne was also pleased with the way her team dealt with fatigue in the high-pressure situations of overtime.

“We were definitely in shape, we were composed,” Coyne said. “Our end-of-game defensive unit was really strong under pressure and we work on that in practice so we’re pleased by that.”

The Irish will look to continue their winning ways when they take on No. 14 Vanderbilt Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in the team’s home opener at Arlotta Stadium.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu
BASEBALL

Spartans ruin Irish home debut with sweep

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Senior Sports Writer

Swept the Irish in the three-game series

Michigan State starter A.J. Achter tossed a complete game shutout and the Irish were routed 13-0. Achter struck out nine and gave up seven hits in the win, and Notre Dame sophomore Steve Sabatino touched up for nine runs in five innings.

“We had a good focused approach coming into the weekend and came out with a lot of positive energy despite the weather,” Irish senior pitcher Eric Maust said. “We had a good attitude coming into the weekend but didn’t see the results we wanted.”

Freshman second baseman Frank Desio had two of Notre Dame’s seven hits in the game. The Irish rebounded in Saturday’s second game to take an early lead, scoring three runs in the opening frame off Spartan starter Kurt Wunderlich. Senior outfielder Ryan Connolly hit a two-run home run over the left field fence, and Notre Dame scored a third run after Wunderlich threw a wild pitch with the bases loaded.

Michigan State got on the board in the second off Irish starter Briana Dupra, and an RBI single by Spartan Ed Boike in the fifth inning narrowed the score to 3-2.

Another wild pitch with the bases loaded by Wunderlich helped Notre Dame double the lead back to two runs, but in the seventh inning the Irish pitching began to struggle.

After Dupra allowed a run and two hits and came out with a lot of positive approach coming into the weekend but didn’t see the results we wanted. “There were no easy outs but nothing was insurmountable.”

Maust allowed just two runs on seven hits in seven innings of the opener, striking out three and walking one.

“I was decently pleased with my season but there is still a lot of room for improvement,” Maust said. “I am feeling better for me that I get more and more comfortable out there with each outing, and I feel like I’m getting a lot of strength back that had been idle during football season.”

The Irish fell to 7-13 on the season with the losses. Notre Dame will host two more home games this week against Ball State and Illinois-Chicago Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, before starting Big East play this weekend at South Florida.

Contact Michael Bryan at mhbryan@nd.edu

Swim

continued from page 20

Nixon is the only other Irish All-American in the 50 freestyle. Nixon accomplished the feat in 1999, 2000 and 2002.

Maxwell also earned All-American honors in the 100 breaststroke for the second consecutive season with a time of 1:00.69 in the preliminaries. Maxwell also earned All-American status in the event as a sophomore.

Both Notre Dame swimmers swam in Saturday’s events, but neither one reached the finals of their respective races.

Miller finished 25th in the 100 freestyle with a time of 49.44 while Maxwell finished 36th in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:14.17.

The Irish had some ups and downs in the regular season before the Big East championships, where they had their best performance of the season and captured their 14th consecutive Big East title. The Irish should be favored to win the conference again next season as both Miller and Maxwell will return for their senior campaigns.

Maxwell and Miller picked up 14 points for the Irish in the meet as the Bulldogs finished 38th among the 47 teams. Florida won the team title with 182 points followed by Oklahoma with 379.5 and California in third with 362 points.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens@nd.edu

Stahl

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through for the win.

Friday saw the Irish defeat a ranked Fresno State team, 4-3, to advance to the semifinals.

Notre Dame’s pairs struggled again at first and third doubles as Havens and Watt lost 8-4 at the top position while Anderson and Stahl trudged partners at the Bulldogs’ Tjetslos Veerepan and Sudhardh Alapati to a 9-7 loss.

Anderson was downed again at fourth singles, but the Irish came back with wins by Watt, Stahl, Keeton and Moros.

The team’s win streak came again to an end against Texas Tech Saturday, as the Irish fell 4-0. The Red Raiders grabbed the doubles point and wins at first, second and third singles to advance to the championship match. Texas Tech claimed the first two doubles matches at second and third singles over the Irish duo of sophomores Niall Fitzgerald and junior Tyler Davis and the combination of Anderson and Stahl.

With the doubles point already won, the first doubles pair of Havens and Watt did not take on the Red Raiders’ No. 18 duo of Raony Carvalho and No. 27 Watt was defeated 6-1, 6-0.

No. 27 Watt defeated 6-1, 6-0 before No. 15 Carvalho at first singles, and Havens lost 6-0, 6-3 to No. 63 Gonzalo Escobar. Stahl fell 6-2, 6-4 to Garcia. Anderson and Moros did not finish their matches with the overall match already decided.

Texas Tech went on to defeat No. 17 Oklahoma in the tournament’s title match Sunday.

Notre Dame returns to the courts next weekend at Northwestern as the Irish continue a nine-match road streak.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles sweep Spartans for non-conference win

By KEVIN BALDWIN
Senior Writer

Saint Mary’s brought home a pair of wins Saturday as the Belles swept Manchester College in a doubleheader. The Belles improved to 7-3 with their first victory in dramatic fashion by a score of 7-6 after two extra innings including an 11-8 win to close the day.

One of the most crucial aspects of the Belles’ double victory was their solid performance in the field that allowed them to hold the Spartans in critical situations.

Sophomore pitcher Monica Palicki was a force on the mound, throwing all nine innings of the opening game while giving up only one earned run to record her fourth win of the season. “Monica Palicki threw really well and battled through some tough spots. I was impressed with her mental toughness,” Belles coach Jordan Lawler said. “[Sophomore] Lauren Enayati had stellar defense in both games. It was very windy and she tracked down some balls that would not be caught by the average center fielder. She made some big outs for us.”

Several Saint Mary’s players had big games at the plate, including junior Hayley Bojorquez and senior...
Kristen Rafael added two points to the lead back and forth as fresh-Commodores and the Irish traded point."

"I've had a height advantage," McGraw said. "They came in a lit- tle bigger in the first half when Devereaux Peters was in foul trou- ble, but in the second half I thought we did a better job of get- ting the ball down to [senior for- ward] Lindsay Schrader, Erica Williamson, Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux [Peters]. We just really wanted to get them some touch-

Now that the Irish have advanced to the second round, they will take on No. 10-seed Vermont (27-6), which pulled an upset by Vanderbilt's No. 38 sophomore Shannon Mathews, and Vermont (27-6), which pulled an upset by Vanderbilt's No. 38 sophomore Shannon Mathews, and

"It was a typical play where they were putting pressure on us and we were capable. David was our best play-

Winding out expecting that and I just didn't have a spectacular game and she is a great player."

"I didn't feel like I played my best," Frilling said. "I was definitely too comfortable as the nation's No. 1 ranked team. In the first half, Klein was con-trolling the game." Frilling said. "I was definitely disappointed, and I feel like I didn't adjust really well to her game."

"We've been meeting with everyone and talking about improving. We're talking about the mindset about fighting for every point."

"I'd feel better [about our defense] if I didn't feel we gave them a couple goals," Corrigan said. "It was a very good defensive performance in our settled defense, but we gave them a goal seconds into the game. Those kind of things are disappointing, especially when you end up in overtime because you realize those are the goals that could have cost us the game.

Despite his disappointment in the overall performance, Corrigan said the way the Irish fought through the fourth quarter and overtime was promising. "I was really happy with the way we scrapped in the fourth quarter to put ourselves in a position to win that game," he said. In terms of how we played that point, down a couple in the fourth quarter and need- ing to make plays, I was very happy with how hard our guys fought.

Notre Dame next takes the floor when it opens up Big East play Saturday against Rutgers at Arlotto Stadium.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Buckeyes continued from page 20

way to win,

"David was our best play-er," he said. "He made plays at both ends of the field. He was an absolute warrior." Of Earl's winning goal, Corrigan said the junior ful-filled his role, and more. "It was a typical play where we have him in for that situa-
tion because they have ball coming out of the timeout and he's in there to play defense," Corrigan said. "He plays defense, gets the ball, clears the ball, and here's an unsat-isfied goal. It was a great play by him.

Earl not only scored the winning goal, but also netted Notre Dame's first goal of the game — after Ohio State start-
ted the game with a 2-0 advan-tage — and he scored the tying goal with less than four minutes to play in regulation. The Irish needed Earl's heroics from the opening minute of the game after the

"I didn't feel like I played my best," Frilling said. "I was definitely disappointed, and I feel like I didn't adjust really well to her game."

After winning the first set and los-
ing the second, Ciobanu's eight-match win streak was greatly threatened heading into the third set. But Ciobanu won the tiebreak point and the match for Notre Dame.

"Ciobanu was playing a girl with a huge serve, [but] she adjusted really well, came through for us and pulled out the win," Frilling said.

Beating Vanderbilt improved Notre Dame's overall record to 13-2 and picked up last week's loss to No. 7 Duke. The 4-3 victory suggests minor adjustments need to be made before the Irish get too comfortable as the nation's No. 3 team, Frilling said.

"It was a lot closer than what we want our matches to be," she said.

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during the first half, scoring 21 of Cleveland State's 25 points in the period. Klein got the score as close as 29-25 with 1:13 left on the clock before the Irish went on a quick run to stretch things to 34- 25 heading into the break.

"I have not seen anybody have that kind of performance in a half," Klein said. "I was com-

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THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

A balanced victory

Irish use their bench in first round win

By JARED JEDICK
Senior Sports Writer

The No. 2-seed Irish used their depth to wear down a spirited Cleveland State team and over- come a 31-point performance by Vikings guard Kalley Klein in an 86-58 victory in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Sunday at the Purcell Pavilion.

“I was really pleased with the balance of the game. I thought different people stepped up at different times. I thought in the first half we were able to get out to a nice little jump.”

Klein went off on the Irish (28-5) playing their fifth game in 14 days, you are happy to find a

men's tennis

Notre Dame falls to Red Raiders in tournament semifinals

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame took two of three at the Blue Gray Classic in Montgomery, Ala., falling to No. 16

men's lacrosse

Two hat tricks earn victory

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

Playing their fifth game in 14 days, the No. 9 Irish needed an overtime goal from junior mid- fielder David Earl to top Ohio State 7-6 Saturday.

Heading into the tournament, Irish coach Bobby Bayliss had a few specific goals for his team as they continue to adjust to playing out- doors again.

“Extend the rallies, be a little more patient outdoors, a little less quick to pull the trigger, become a much more sound outdoor team,” Bayliss said. “Fortunate that we have made a good transition.”

Notre Dame defeated Middle Tennessee State and No. 26 Fresno State in the first two rounds of the tournament that the Irish have played in since 1991. The Irish move to 9-8 on the season and 42- 25 all-time at the tournament, hav- ing won it three times previously in 1993, 2001 and 2007.

The win over Middle Tennessee State was Bayliss’ 700th career win, and his record now stands at 701-306-1 in 41 seasons.

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Ciobanu brings team over the net for a win

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

Senior Cosmina Ciobanu came through under pressure Friday, as her three-set victory over Rachel Dillon of No. 17 Vanderbilt at No. 4 singles secured a 4-3 win for No. 3 Notre Dame.

“It was a good match for us, but we learned a lot from it,” Irish sophomore Kristy Frilling said. “We needed that close of a match because I think it’s important for us to experience that you can’t go through a season just coasting.”

Since switching their pairings around earlier in the season, the Irish doubles teams have won their point in each contest.

The Irish won the doubles point after defeating the Commodores’ pairings in the first and third dou- bles slots. The first doubles team of Frilling and senior Kai Kriuk, ranked No. 4 in the nation, topped their No. 27 opponents 8-1 to improve to 11-0 on the season. The Irish fell at second doubles, leaving the crucial doubles point up for grabs. The third doubles pairing of Ciobanu and senior Colleen Bitely came through, 8-6, for an early Irish lead to secure that point.

“It helped a lot to win the dou- bles point, and we would have lost the match otherwise,” Frilling said. “Everyone seems to have found their partner and the dou- bles teams are doing well at this