

The Vanderbilt Hustler

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SPORTS
Vanderbilt can't hold halftime lead in 24-13 loss to Kentucky. See page 6

Jay-Z's successful 'HOVcoming' show



Students lined up early to see the New York City native in what many thought to be an incredible performance.

by **MORGAN SMITH-WILLIAMS**
Staff Reporter

Despite not selling out, as previously anticipated, Jay-Z's Friday night concert at Memorial Gym was received with enthusiasm by Vanderbilt students and the local Nashville community.

Students with floor seat tickets, which were first-come, first-serve, started lining up as early as 9 a.m. and took shifts to ensure they would be in the front row.



Go online to watch a video of concertgoers' reactions after Friday night's show and see if other students' opinions match your own.

Jay-Z protege J.Cole opened up the show. "Although not as popular as the main act, J.Cole did a really good job keeping the crowd pumped and interested," said junior Shannon Coleman. "I wanted to go back and listen to his mixtape."

Rapper Wale followed him, performing crowd favorites "Chillin'" and "Pretty Girls" and bringing a couple of Vanderbilt freshmen on the stage with him.

A clock appeared on the screens and counted down the minutes to the main event. When it hit zero, Jay-Z rose from the

middle of the stage. The set, a video board backdrop in the shape of a skyscraper, displayed graphics, clips from music videos, and close-ups of Jay-Z and crew.

"I loved all the technical stuff," said junior Gabrielle Westbrook.

Referring to himself as the JeHOVAh of rap, Jay-Z performed many songs from the recently released "The Blueprint 3," and, much to the pleasure of the crowd, many of his most popular hits from past, such as "Excuse Me Miss," "Dirt Off Your Shoulders" and "Give it to Me."

Jay-Z also had a live band, brought back out popular rapper Memphis Bleek as his hype man and had vocals by up-and-coming artist Bridgette Kelly.

Unlike Homecoming's Quake concert, which featured O.A.R. and Pitbull at the

Please see **JAY-Z**, page 3



ERIC GLASSER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Rapper Jay-Z performed some of his most popular songs, including "Run This Town" and "Excuse Me Miss," in the final show of his RocNation tour on Friday night in Memorial Gym. Concertgoers began lining up at 9 a.m. to get front-row floor seats.

Newly formed ASB groups begin to 'Stir it Up'



CHRIS HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jennifer Reed, Scott Floam, Megan Twomey, Jordan Conger and Danielle Frieson (left to right) play a game with their Alternative Spring Break group Sunday night. Many ASB groups each went on scavenger hunts to find out to which site they were assigned before they joined the 36 other groups in Wilson Hall for the site reveal. The theme for the 23rd year of ASB, where students participate in service projects over spring break, is "Stir it Up."

Despite uncertainty, seniors will be OK

by **SYDNEY WILMER**
Multimedia Editor

Senior Jennifer Dennard is a strong student at a top-20 university who hails from Dalton, Ga. She studies frequently and characterizes herself as a hard worker, who takes pride in what she does. Her goals are specific: Ph.D., think tank or Teach for America.

She says — with confidence — things will work out next year. But what if they don't?

There is something different at stake for every senior next year: Relationships, friendships and professional futures are just a few. Compound these concerns with high unemployment and a difficult job landscape and even polished students like Dennard start to sweat.

Seniors are stressed. "I guess I didn't realize how big a difference applying for things and sort of

thinking about the future would take of time and emotional capabilities," Dennard said. "There is only so long you can think about what you are doing next year before you just say, 'Oh my God!'"

Christy Waggoner, assistant director of the Vanderbilt Career Center, said the office contends with senior anxiety on a daily basis.

"In a way our office is something like reality therapy for students," she said. "Students are on a threshold and there are pressures from every angle. It takes courage to face them."

The Career Center offers career coaching and sessions to help students decide what their interests are. The office also coordinates the on-campus recruiting.

Assistant Professor Michael Vollman, who specializes in stress at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing, said seniors are at a transitional point in their lives. They are

Please see **SENIOR SIDE EFFECTS**, page 3



A series of ongoing articles, videos and podcasts where students and advisers discuss the pressures of senior year.

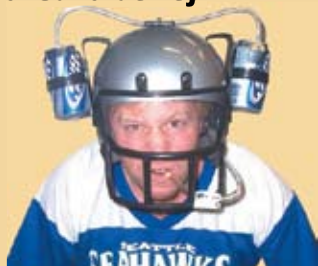


Go online to watch videos and listen to podcasts of students' thoughts on their senior year and experts' suggestions for handling plans for their post-graduate life.

NEWS:
Vanderbilt doesn't make the green grade. See page 3



OPINION:
Frannie Boyle explains how fashion trends evolve around utility. See page 5



OPINION:
"The Daily Show" is more credible than Fox News. See page 5



SPORTS:
Check out a preview of the men's basketball season. See pages 8-9



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Page Two

compiled by LAURA DOLBOW

WEATHER


WEATHER.COM

TODAY




HIGH 72, LOW 52
Partly Cloudy

TUESDAY



HIGH 60, LOW 37
Isolated T-storms

WEDNESDAY



HIGH 57, LOW 41
Partly Cloudy

SERVICE GUIDE

The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday and Friday during the academic year except for during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

AROUND THE LOOP

How was the Jay-Z concert?

"It was awesome. Jay-Z changed my view of rappers. He didn't give a drunk spiel and actually thanked the audience."
— Jean Xiao, 2011

"I thought it was really good. I liked the cell phone lights."
— Sarah McPhillips, 2011

"I thought it was amazing. The only thing I was a little disappointed with was the sound system. I couldn't hear the lyrics clearly, but it was good to Jay-Z. He's been around forever."
— Mehmet Dervisogullari, 2010

"The concert was great. Jay-Z is a showman. It was the best large-scale rap concert I've ever been to."
— Keegan Zuk, 2011

CRIME LOG

Thursday, Nov. 12, 10:30 p.m. — A glass pipe was found in the Stambaugh lobby.

Thursday, Nov. 12, 5:30 p.m. — A person pushed a wheel chair into a woman and knocked her to the floor at Vanderbilt University Hospital ER.

Thursday, Nov. 12, 1:45 a.m. — A person was throwing up in the hallway in Memorial Hall. When officers arrived he was passed out. He became very combative and uncooperative.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 6:45 p.m. — A person had money, an iPod and a credit card stolen from Medical Center North.

PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT

Dana Nelson
English Department
6 years at Vanderbilt



SUBMITTED BY DANA NELSON

- 1. What classes do you teach?**
I teach classes in American Studies and American Literature. My classes are about democracy, culture and gender. I've taught classes about why white men like to play Indians, contemporary Native America, and manliness and brotherhood in American literature and culture.
- 2. What's your favorite place in Nashville?**
The Warner Parks. I live by them, and I'm in them at least five times a week. I love the green space. My other favorite places are the Station Inn and Sanctuary for Yoga.
- 3. What do you like to do in your free time?**
Yoga, hiking, training my dog and cooking
- 4. Where did you go for undergraduate and graduate school?**
Indiana University of Pennsylvania for undergraduate and Michigan State for my master's and Ph.D.
- 5. What did you research for Ph.D.?**
How a variety of British colonial writers and early U.S. writers represented race as a template for social interrelation. I basically looked at how race shaped social relations.
- 6. If you were stranded on a deserted island, what three things would you bring with you?**
My husband, my dog and my cats
- 7. What was your first job?**
Working at Louisiana State University. I worked there back when Shaquille O'Neal was a student.
- 8. If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive, who would it be?**
Lydia Maria Child, who was an abolitionist and activist in the 19th century. She was a fascinating and gutsy woman. I'd have so many questions to ask her. If I could have another person come, it'd be Frederick Douglass because he was such an important thinker about American democracy.
- 9. Why did you decide to become a professor?**
I totally love studying history and literature. Thinking about how people though about conflicts in the past and then contextualizing it to our problems now is such a fun thing to do. I got addicted to college.
- 10. What advice would you give students to make the most of their four years at Vanderbilt?**
Academically, make it a point to visit every professor whose classes they take. Personal interactions are a rich part of the Vanderbilt experience. Even in huge classes, go to visit the professors. Also, if teachers get to know students, they can teach better because they know what their students are interested in and what they need to focus on.
- 11. What's the biggest challenge you've faced during your teaching career?**
Right now, my biggest challenge is getting my syllabus designed for next semester. It's like pieces of a puzzle that I have to fit together. It's very hard for me to plan courses for next semester while I'm still busy with classes I'm currently teaching.
- 12. Who are your heroes in life?**
People who work with very little visibility and thanks to bring social justice to the communities they live in. All activists in Nashville are my heroes.

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, NOV. 16

• VU men's Basketball vs. Lipscomb

Come support the men's basketball team in Memorial Gym at 7 p.m. Admission is free for undergraduates.

• The 11th Hour: Making the Most of Last Minute Writing

There will be a writing workshop held in The Commons Center, room 235 from 7-8 p.m. Even the most diligent students can find themselves working right up to deadlines with busy schedules. The workshop will offer strategies for making the most of a situation that may otherwise seem dire. Students should bring a paper assignment to this workshop.

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

• GEO Study Abroad Fair

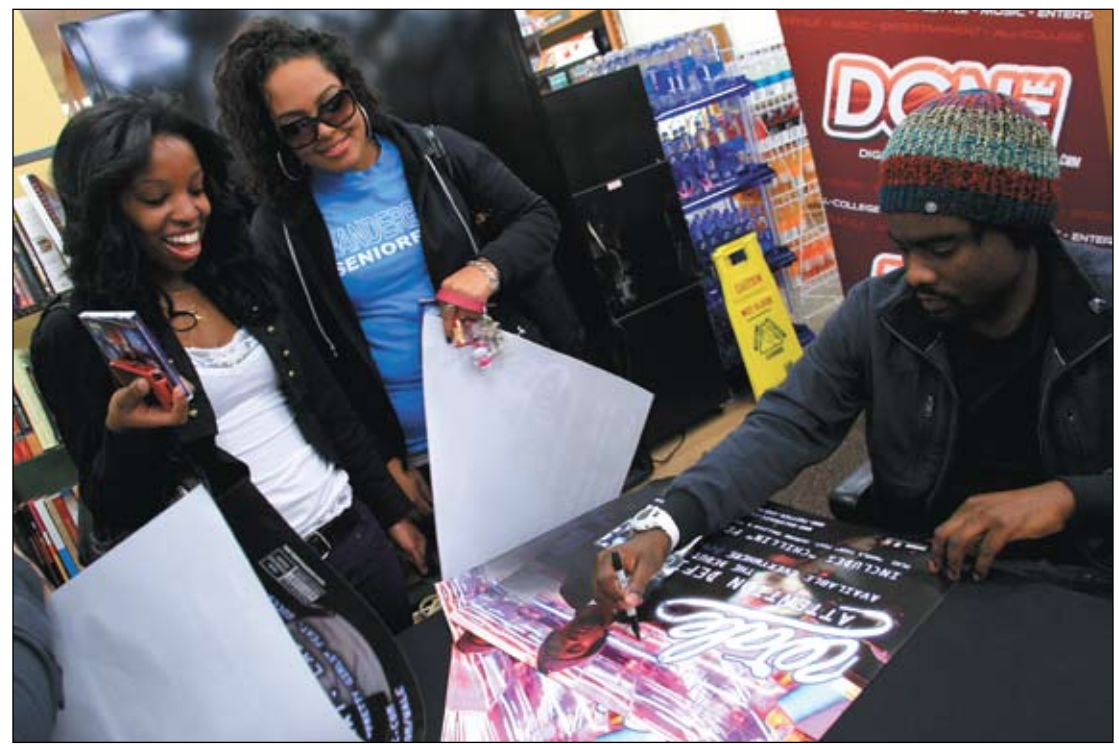
Learn about opportunities to study abroad with Vanderbilt during summer 2010 in the Sarratt Student Center Promenade from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• The Death Penalty: International View Points

In the Covington Room (Law School Building, second floor) from 5-6:30 p.m., come voice your opinion on the death penalty and discuss this controversial topic with students from around the world studying law at Vanderbilt. All students, faculty and staff welcome.

SNAPSHOT

'Chillin' with Walle in the bookstore



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Virginia Tech student Cori Farmer and Vanderbilt senior Laura Webster meet rapper Walle at the Vanderbilt bookstore on Friday afternoon. Walle opened for Jay-Z that night in Memorial Gym.

Diwali 2009 cashes in with a 'Slumdog Millionaire' approach



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students perform an Indian dance, Raas, during the Vandy edition of "Slumdog" at the Diwali festival Saturday night in Langford Auditorium. The festival featured food, dance and song from South Asia.

by **ADRIANA SALINAS**
Staff Reporter

and **IMANI ELLIS**
Contributing Reporter

The traditional Diwali celebration is a major religious holiday in Hinduism, Sikhism and Jainism, during which loved ones gather together to celebrate family, friends and the prosperity God has bestowed.

On Saturday night, Vanderbilt's Masala-South Asian Cultural Exchange celebrated the holiday, adding a "Slumdog Millionaire" twist to its 2009 Diwali show.

Masala-SACE lightheartedly mocked the eight-time Academy Award-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire," which had the audience laughing. The show combined trivia, complete with the "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" theme song, skits, homemade movies and dance routines. A performance by the Black Student Alliance kicked off the show by incorporating Indian music with hip-hop, and performers wore salwar kameez while doing the stanky leg. Vandy Taal, Grad Band, Vanderbilt alumni and more than 150 students also performed.

Diwali showcased South-Asian culture from the classical dance form of Bharatnatyam to the modern dance of Fusion, which combined hip-hop with traditional Indian dance. Indian food was included in the evening as well, as a catered Indian buffet on Library Lawn preceded the program.

Junior Nadia Hussein was thrilled to see the end product of everyone's hard work.

"It's so great to watch it all come together," Hussein said. "Everyone put in so much work and to see the final performance is really amazing."

Freshman Komal Shah co-choreographed the Raas performance.

"It was a really great bonding experience and allowed us to really get to know people, but in a very different way," Shah said. "The best part of Vandy Diwali is that though it is an Indian holiday, we have so many other races participating and celebrating it with us. It allows us to share our culture with everyone else."

Friday's Jay-Z concert was a big act to follow, but Kimi Nathani, secretary of the SACE Board, said she thought the show was a big success.

"The show went really well, but we were all naturally stressed before," Nathani said. "It took a lot of practice to bring everyone together, especially with the arrival of Jay-Z the day before the show."

The annual Vandy Diwali tradition of the senior dance was a crowd favorite. The senior dance closed out the night after the million dollar question was answered and Guru Shah, who played the contestant on the show, finally won the heart of his "Iou Sheena."

SACE President Tushina Jain choreographed the senior dance.

"Diwali is my favorite time of the year, and it makes me sad that this is my last year because I'm a senior," Jain said. "It's a lot of hard work with great people and late-night practices, but it's so worth it." ■

SENIOR SIDE EFFECTS: Uncertainty causes stress

From **SENIOR SIDE EFFECTS**, page 1

leaving the built-in infrastructure of college and moving on to something unknown. The pressures they face, like fear of future social isolation and failure, are classic triggers.

One of the most common stressors, he said, is likely a familiar one for graduating seniors: uncertainty.

This is a point senior Anna Jiang said she understands.

"I don't feel like my entire life hangs in the balance, but in a way my professional life does," Jiang said. "I am at a point where I have to pick the right path."

But Jiang admits there will be no way to know for sure if she has.

DEALING WITH STRESS

Stress is a rubric, but what matters in the process is how students interpret it. Vollman explained that anxiety — one way humans react to stress — can

mount when people believe they do not have the resources to deal with the stressors in their lives.

"If you get a high phone bill but have the funds to pay it from your bank account, you can move on from that insult," Vollman said. "But if you do not have enough money, that is an entirely different situation."

Students trying to get a job in a competitive field in a difficult market can easily translate this experience to their lives, he said. They do not know if they have what it takes to face the challenge.

Low self-esteem may amplify the feeling, too, Vollman said.

"Patients will react to their world based on their own interpretations, not reality," he said. If a student feels they are unable to deal with the strain — regardless of reality — they will likely experience the effects of stress.

"Under this pressure, is not

uncommon for people to practice avoidant behaviors when they are worried or stressed," Vollman said. "This can mean anything from using alcohol, drugs or simply ignoring the situation."

Waggoner said her office terms ignoring the situation the "head-in-the-sand syndrome."

"The down economy is so intimidating — there are experienced professionals hunting for jobs," she said. "It can just be too much."

There is not a good way to estimate how many students deal with the anxiety by just ignoring the situation. Still, it is interesting to note that only 27 percent of students come in for the initial coaching assessment based on data from the 2008-2009 school year. Only about 35 percent of the senior class moves on to graduate or professional school, the center reported.

THE IMPACT

The effects of stress create serious impacts on students' lives, too.

"Stress certainly causes cognitive, emotional and physical impacts," Vollman said.

This is something Vanderbilt's Psychological and Counseling Center has observed as well. Director Dr. Rhonda Venable said the center sees seniors each year for counseling on the subject but would prefer they come earlier for coaching.

The organization offers an online, confidential set of self-exploration questions.

Vollman said stepping back for some perspective, exercising and investing in building relationships with people are some of the best defenses against the impact of stress. But students should not hesitate to seek professional help if stress becomes overwhelming.

It might also help, he said, to

understand that this year will pass for seniors. Waggoner said this is something the Career Center encourages as well.

"I am always rooting for the Vanderbilt student," Waggoner said. "They are in clubs and writing papers and now they have to look for jobs. But these are qualified students, and they will do well."

Staying positive, she said, is crucial to the process.

This is a sentiment senior Guy Kopsombut echoed.

"Senior year is stressful because not only are you deciding what you want to do with your future, but you are leaving your friends, too," he said. "You are leaving the college atmosphere and going into a big unknown. So you get stress from that."

"But eventually I think that it will all be OK, at least according to everyone else in the world. It will be hard, but we will get there." ■

Vanderbilt gets C+ for sustainability, but A in student involvement

by RUTH KINSEY
Asst News Editor

Although Vanderbilt prides itself on being environmentally friendly — with LEED-certified buildings, ongoing "green" projects and the work of student-run organizations such as Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility and SustainVU — it only received a C+ grade on the 2010 College Sustainability Report Card.

The report evaluated 332 colleges across the U.S. on their "green" practices. The Sustainable Endowments Institute, a special project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, conducted the report.

Vanderbilt was highly acclaimed for student involvement in green issues, especially for initiatives such as Eco-Dores, a new student-run environmental education program, and the annual inter-house energy competitions conducted by SPEAR. However, Vanderbilt failed two of the categories relating to the university's endowment.

Yet Vanderbilt environmental experts and students are not worried. The failing grades on the endowment, which contributed to the overall grade, are attributed to the fact that Vanderbilt does not make the details of its endowment available to the public. The low grade is not to be attributed to the standard of the university's environmental sustainability.

"The reason we were rated as low as a C+ is because if a university doesn't reveal where it gets its endowments from, it's an automatic F," said Leslie Labruto, SPEAR president. "In all the places we had control over — the more environmental ones — we had fantastic grades."

"The score card is not a true sustainability score card," said Andrea George, director

of the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office. "It measures a lot of endowment sustainability as opposed to only environmental sustainability. To become transparent in endowments is competitive from a sustainability standpoint, but not from an economic standpoint."

The commission praised the positive impact of student involvement at Vanderbilt. Not only do projects such as Battle of the Bulbs reduce energy consumption — Crawford House won with a reduction of 7.76 percent, SPEAR announced late last week, and overall there were 43,286 total kilowatt hours saved in the month-long competition — but they also provoke student discussion.

There is room for improvement, however, especially in consumer consumption. According to professor and geochemist John Ayers, who teaches a course on sustainability, the need to reduce the impact of consumption is paramount.

"The best thing that can be done is to educate people. We have to change our value system," he said. "I know people who live in big, beautiful houses, and all they can think about is how they can make it better. After a while it just stops making sense. You just have to step back and ask yourself, 'Do I really need all this stuff?'"

As well as further educating students, Vanderbilt needs to continue making progress on sustainability developments.

"Vanderbilt's just starting with the sustainability improvements," Ayers said. "We were a little slow to get onto the bandwagon. Last year, when the university ran out of money, they kind of came to a halt. However, hopefully they will start making progress on it again soon."

Lucas Loffredo contributed reporting to this story. ■

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT CARD 2010

The Sustainable Endowments Institute, a special project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, published its yearly report card recently. It profiled 332 universities across America. All the grades and explanations are online at GreenReportCard.org.

VANDERBILT'S OVERALL GRADE: C+

ADMINISTRATION: B

The Environmental Advisory Committee designed an environmental commitment statement. The Sustainability and Environmental Management Office evaluates vendors on environmentally responsible production methods.

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY: C

The ThinkOne Energy Conservation Campaign resulted in a 5-10 percent reduction of energy use in participating buildings, but the university hasn't made a commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by a specific amount.

FOOD & RECYCLING: B

Dining services purchases local and organic food, although there is no on-campus garden or farm. Composting programs run in 50 percent of dining locations, and a recycling program keeps items out of landfills.

GREEN BUILDING: B

Seven buildings are LEED-certified. Energy retrofits such as installation of motion and light sensors have been completed. New water conservation technologies are expected to save 24 million gallons of water per year.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT: A

Multiple student organizations promote sustainability. Freshman residence halls have an extensive environmental education program.

TRANSPORTATION: B

Vanderbilt offers financial incentives for carpooling. Faculty receive a 60 percent subsidy on public transportation passes. Car- and bike-sharing programs are available. Vehicle traffic is only allowed on the perimeter of campus.

ENDOWMENT TRANSPARENCY: F

The university does not make a list of endowment holdings nor its shareholder voting record public.

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES: A

The university has invested in renewable energy funds and community development loan funds. Investment managers in part focus on environment and sustainability initiatives.

SHAREHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: F

Most of the endowment is in commingled investment vehicles. For separately managed accounts, the university asks its investment managers to handle the details of proxy voting.

PAST YEARS' RANKINGS:

2010: C+

2009: C+

2008: C+

2007: C-

JAY-Z: Interaction with crowd a plus



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

J.Cole opens for Jay-Z at Memorial Gym on Friday night as part of the RocNation Tour. The North Carolina-raised rapper performed several songs from his recent mixtape, "The Warm Up."

From **JAY-Z**, page 1

same venue, the audience Friday night was hyped throughout the whole performance, especially when Jay-Z took time to shout out individual people in the crowd.

"His interaction with the crowd was great," Westbrook said. "He really connected with the fans by shouting them out at the end of the concert."

The RocNation tour — popularly referred to as the HOVcoming by many of Vanderbilt's students — was deemed a success for many concertgoers.

"In all my four years at Vanderbilt, this was hands down the best concert I have been to," said senior Michael Romeo. "... With the exception of this year's Homecoming, I have been front-row center at every Rites of Spring and Quake concert, and Jay-Z took the cake. If any artist is able to engage the audience including the nosebleed section for two hours, and dazzle us with a backdrop out of this world, they are of such a high caliber and breed." ■

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WHAT OTHER UNIVERSITIES ARE DOING RIGHT

While no university got an A, several universities got an A-. Here are some of the initiatives they're taking:

BROWN UNIVERSITY

- An end-of-semester move-out program collected 15 tons of unwanted goods for donation.
- All take-out containers are biodegradable.
- The empower student group has reduced bottled water purchases and campaigned for Brown's carbon reduction commitment.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- The campus has four solar photovoltaic arrays, three solar hot water arrays and a rooftop wind installation.

- Harvard's green building guidelines require LEED Silver certification for projects costing over \$5 million.
- Harvard has achieved a drive-alone rate of 15 percent.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

- Trayless dining has reduced the university's water consumption by about 12,000 gallons each week.
- Lighting occupancy sensors are installed in 40 percent of common spaces.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

- In a skylit portion of the main campus cafeteria, the university is installing a hydroponic garden to grow herbs and greens for use in dining locations.
- Efforts to retrocommission heating, venting and air conditioning systems and optimize building controls in nine campus buildings are expected to save Penn over \$1.5 million in energy costs. Penn purchases 45 percent of its electricity in the form of wind power and uses some biodiesel for its nonelectric energy needs.

YALE UNIVERSITY

- By 2020, Yale aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 43 percent below 2005 levels.
- Yale spends 35 percent of its annual food budget on local and organic products. By 2013, the university aims to purchase 60 percent of supplies from sustainable sources.
- The Yale Harvest program offers an optional sustainability-related orientation to first-year students.

Opinion

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COLUMN

First impressions: In defense of grammar



MEDORA BROWN
Guest Columnist

Humans are hard-wired to make snap judgments about new people, places and experiences, based on the initial information we receive. This is why presentation is extremely important: Do you show up to a job interview in your pajamas? Do you go on a blind date looking unkempt? Not if you want the job or a second date. If you are concerned about making a good impression, you will put some energy into your appearance as well as your substance.

The importance of presentation is not limited to first impressions; our judgments and perceptions continue to change and evolve with every new bit of information we receive. If new information does not fit with our previous conceptions, we start to question what we first thought to be true. Of course, we understand that there are anomalies and everybody has an off day — showing up to class in sweats once may be excusable, as long as you do not make a habit of it.

This brings me to my main point: why grammar matters. Not just in general, but to us as members and representatives of an academic institution. Yes, there are a lot of arbitrary and nitpicky grammar rules, and yes, they are broken all the time in speech and all too frequently in writing, and yes, strictly adhering to them might make

you sound pretentious, elitist, arrogant and pedantic, but you know what else? Good grammar in your writing and your speech can also make you sound intelligent, thoughtful and educated. It can also force you to consider what it is — exactly — that you are trying to say. It's not just form; grammar, at its base, is about content. In order to convey an idea effectively, an author has to structure her sentence in a way any reader can comprehend.

Grammar alone doesn't give you content, but weak grammar undercuts both logic and style.

In formal writing, the author seeks to establish her own credibility to convince the reader of the veracity of her claims. To gain a reader's trust, an author has three tools at her disposal: content, logic and style. Grammar alone doesn't give you content, but weak grammar undercuts both logic and style. If an author can wow her readers with the dexterity of her pen, she can use that to promote her arguments. People believe in the transitivity of learnedness; if a text is well composed, a reader is more likely to believe the arguments presented

therein. "This person sure can write; she must be knowledgeable about neuroscience, too." The opposite, it turns out, is also likely: "This person can barely string a sentence together; how could she know anything about Peruvian tribes?"

Yes, it is possible to get by with the occasional squinting modifier or, like, you know, a kind of a vaguely articulated ... thing (I must admit I once split an infinitive, leaving it to bleed into the margins of my paper, and I have yet to forgive myself), but students are not attending Vanderbilt University to settle for elementary reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic. Professors are not teaching and researching here to do mediocre work. Administrators are not here to create and promote a moderately successful academic institution. We all know the quality and seriousness of the content of the pursuits undertaken here. The greatest disservice the members of this community can do to this world-class institution is to undermine the credibility of our own products — be they lesson plans, student papers, policy proposals, resumes or the voice of the university itself — by not paying enough attention to the logic and style of our arguments. And that, dear friends, is why grammar is important.

—Medora Brown is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at medora.k.brown@vanderbilt.edu.

COLUMN

Political correctness is appropriate now



JESSE JONES
Columnist

President Barack Obama has recently received unfair criticism for his Fort Hood eulogy. Unfair, because the main purpose of a presidential eulogy is to give the victims' grieving families some semblance of closure, not to score political points. Doting on Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan's background would have obscured Obama's message; a funeral is a poor place for anyone, even the president, to use inflammatory language. If George W. Bush were still president, it is doubtful he would have labeled Hasan a terrorist or brought up his Islamic extremism, either. Even in his Sept. 11 speech, Bush did not bring up Islam — though he did mention terrorism, because that's what those attacks were: cold, calculated and coordinated strikes on America, not the isolated, passionate outburst of one deranged individual.

A secondary, unstated rationale underlying Obama's omission was so to curb retaliatory violence against Muslims and Arabs. For this reason, the news media also played it PC. New York Times columnist David Brooks argued in "The Rush to Therapy" this impulse to "tamp down vengeful hatreds in moments of passion" is patronizing to the American people. Perhaps, but when lives are at stake, the news media cannot afford to be fancy; it must pander to the lowest common denominator. Until all of us can interpret data and put together arguments as well as a New York Times columnist, I say better safe than sorry.

While I am generally in favor of calling a spade a spade, some circumstances call for careful choice of words. This phenomenon, easily interchangeable with neutral terms like "level-headedness," has instead acquired the charged (and politically incorrect) term "political correctness." Think of political correctness not as newspeak for a secret liberal agenda, but as a rhetorical bandage over our great national wounds of race, sex and religion. Does our careful speech solve the underlying problems? Of course not. The traumas of our past and present take generations to slowly mend themselves. One fine day we may be able to remove the bandage, see our scars and talk freely and openly about all these issues on the national scale. But the alternative — ripping off the bandage before the wound has closed — only causes pain and spills fresh blood. Political correctness rarely goes too far, but it is just enough to accustom ourselves to the idea that we are free from prejudice until the day we can let the scales fall from our eyes and see this ideal in practice.

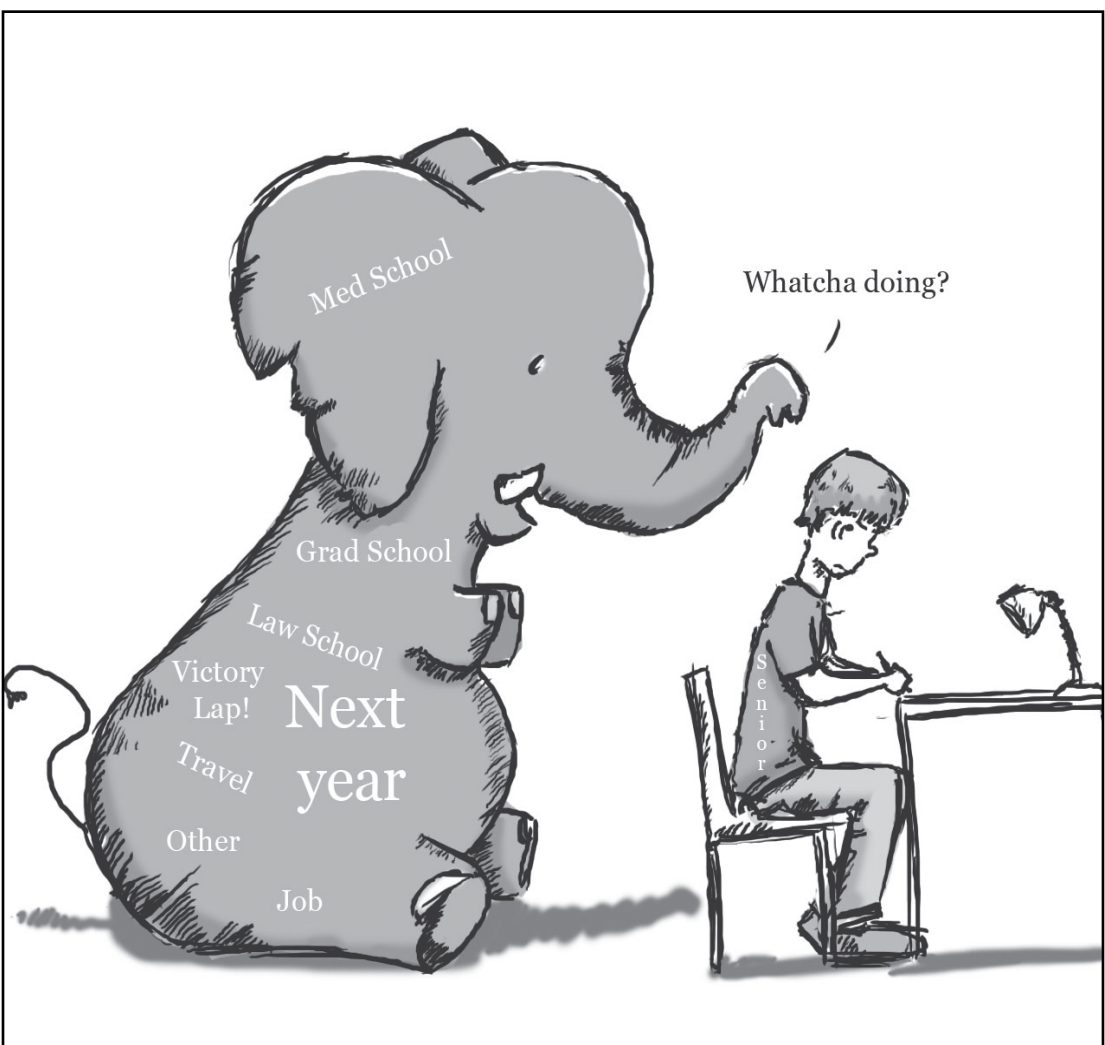
Most people want things to make sense. We look for cause and effect. But psychopaths like Hasan prove they are perfectly capable of snapping at any time, for any reason, with any justification or no justification whatsoever. We may look back and try to piece together a narrative, but until someone comes up with a way to predict these outbursts, leave me out of the name-calling.

From now until doomsday there will be those who pervert religion to further violence or other injustices, but we must not play into their hands by adopting their prejudices. All religions, properly understood — including atheism — share the same belief in humanity and preach the same ideals of peace. If holding this belief makes me politically correct, send me to Hades.

—Jesse Jones is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at jesse.g.jones@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

GUY KOPSOMBUT / The Vanderbilt Hustler



LETTER

Pro-choice argument illogical

To the Editor:

I have been reading The Hustler for over four years. In that time, I have seen many good opinion articles and many bad opinion articles. The worst I can ever remember was published just this past Friday, titled "Abortion is legal, right?"

Many of those who are pro-choice argue that the unborn child is not alive. If we knew that the unborn were alive, they say, it would be morally repugnant to end his or her life. This argument is at least consistent, although scientifically wrong.

The author of Friday's article is not concerned with convincing us that the unborn is not yet alive, however. He openly admits that life may well be there, but then attempts to convince us that it is not wrong to end that life. His argument is not that abortion is not willful homicide; he is trying to tell us that willful homicide is not wrong.

The article's third paragraph is one of the most stupefying pieces of writing I have ever read. Choosing not to create a life is radically different than creating a life and then destroying it. If I build a magnificent house for my friend, and then burn it down while he is out, the moral implications are different than if I had simply not built him a house. The difference can be summed up in a single word: waste. But in the case of abortion, the immediate consequences of that waste are not borne by the destroyer.

I could go on about the article's ridiculous equation of animals with humans, or its failure to recognize the many non-Christian and non-theistic pro-lifers, or its disregard for the principle of civil disobedience, but I'll stop here.

Drew Rankin
Senior, College of Arts and Science

The article's third paragraph is one of the most stupefying pieces of writing I have ever read.

OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion page aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument to back their views. Unreasonable arguments, arguments in bad faith or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in The Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on InsideVandy.com.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to opinion@insidevandy.com. Letters via e-mail must come from

a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of The Hustler and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which The Hustler is a division.

CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at hustler.news@insidevandy.com. You may also report them by telephone on the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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Your voice doesn't stop here. The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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COLUMN

Fox News is lying to you



SCOTT MARQUART
Columnist

I know, I know. You're no doubt reading this article begrudgingly, thinking, "What a revolutionary and original idea," with sarcasm dripping down the side of your mouth. This time, however, it's even worse. On Tuesday, Jon Stewart of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" lambasted Fox News' Sean Hannity for attempting to make the GOP anti-health care reform protest appear more heavily attended than it was by recycling old footage of a larger rally and claiming it as footage of the most recent GOP protest. Unfortunately this type of deceit has become par for the course for America's most-watched cable news service.

First, Stewart called to attention how Fox News' anchors had been claiming all day that between 30,000 and 40,000 people attended the rally, while The Washington Post had reported the turnout as no more than 5,000 to 10,000. He aired footage from Hannity's show, pointing out how a clip of a few protesters approaching the rally on a sunny day with no leaves on the trees, was immediately followed by a wider angle of a huge rally under cloudy skies, surrounded by bushy green trees. He then ran this footage side by side with film from Glenn Beck's rally in September, the rally Hannity used to misrepresent the GOP protest. It was identical.

“The problem is, everyone keeps watching.”

The next day, Hannity acknowledged the incident, claiming that the swap of footage was "inadvertent." Come on. This is just another in a sad history of dishonest, deceptive and deceitful "inadvertent" mistakes. Now I'll be the first to admit, there are enough lies heaped upon the American people in the pursuit of political agendas to topple the Watergate Hotel itself. We all cope with them in our own way: Some ignore them, some accept them, some are skeptical. The problem is, everyone keeps watching.

Now I'm not writing this to point out the evils of conservatives and convince you all to come to the liberal's side of the health care debate. If the thought of a public option makes you want

to spit the coffee out of your "Ronald Reagan for President" mug every morning, that's fine with me. But I thought you Republicans were the ones who said, "If someone hits you, hit back." Well, Fox News is hitting you, you logical-minded, well-spoken conservative. They're beating you up like the kid in middle school who wore the Coke bottle glasses and was picked last in dodge ball, making the conservative ideals you stand for look ridiculous. Isn't it about time you show us all what you're really made of? Stop watching their spin and they'll stop spinning. After all, they wouldn't do it if it didn't get them viewers. So all of you Republicans reading this: Stop walking so damn softly and let's see that big stick you're always bragging about. Then maybe the landslide victory in the 2010 elections that you've been wishing for every time you throw a penny into a fountain — if you have any left after all of those taxes that us mean, old Democrats have been making you pay — will come true and Congress can finally get something done. Thanks.

—Scott Marquart is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. He can be contacted at scott.m.marquart@vanderbilt.edu.

COLUMN

The convenience of style



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

Ask that girl walking through the Towers lobby barefoot on a Friday night with her heels in one hand and purse in the other, and she will probably tell you that dressing "in-style" is a pain. In this case, and many others that involve heavy, dangly earrings, thousands of bobby pins or even the bulky

Santa costume that guy was wearing for a Christmas-themed party Saturday night — style is sometimes a pain. But more often than not, the "in" look or the "in" product catches on because it is more convenient for everyone.

Just think about it. You know those sorority tote bags every girl on campus seems to have? They are just a chic, convenient way of getting a sorority's name out there while still serving

the purpose of a book bag that holds laptops, makeup bags and enough materials for a day's worth of classes. Think about those Vera Bradley ID holders. They can fit money, credit cards, a phone and multiple drivers' licenses all in one compact and flowery wallet. Also, a pair of Nike running shorts and a North Face fleece make for a convenient outfit to throw on if one just rolls out of bed and still wants to look like he or she cares enough to dress like

“But more often than not, the 'in' look or the 'in' product catches on because it is more convenient for everyone.”

everyone else on campus. In a bad mood one day, but don't want to seem like a chach to everyone you run across? Throw on that ASB T-shirt and you are good to go. Want to show off that you haven't been eating much lately, but hide the fact that you don't work out? Throw on some leggings underneath a long T-shirt, and that

will do the trick. Headbands have always been around, but it seems like we have been seeing a lot more of them lately. This is probably because most girls conformed into getting their bangs cut in the past couple of years. Now the trend is on the decline, though, so many are opting to grow them out. This leaves the awkward chunk of hair that isn't long enough to be thrown back with the rest of it, but still has to be dealt with because it's too annoying to leave hanging in front of the eyes. Headbands take care of the problem while working as a hair accessory that adds a little flare.

Recently, the most convenient style trend has been the loose-fitting shirts and high-waisted skirts. Obesity has become more of a national problem, and especially on a college campus where there's way too much Quiznos and alcohol, it's not uncommon for students to want to hide those extra pounds. Loose-fitting shirts are a great way to do this and still look good. High-waisted skirts can help with this too, and also function to hide any unwanted affects of birth control. (Too soon?)

—Frannie Boyle is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at mary.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu.

THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!
Compiled by Katie Des Prez

Taylor Swift		You can't just win at everything, Taylor. I wish Kanye had been at the CMAs to interrupt that winning streak every once in a while.
Sesame Street		Even though Oscar's still a little grouchy and Bert and Ernie's relationship remains ambiguous, everybody loves "Sesame Street."
Baguettes		A piece of French bread was found to be the cause of a malfunction in the operations of CERN's Large Hadron Collider, a particle accelerator that tests hypotheses of high-energy physics. Apparently the French have difficulties with the distinction between "high-energy partide collider" and "microwave."
Finance		A Goldman-Sachs employee this week claimed that his company is "doing God's work!" So that's why Heaven is awash with financial meltdowns.
Pigs		They're so smart they can use mirrors and play videogames. Next up: learning to avoid mirrors after a long night of gaming (not exactly a beautifying experience).
The "Twilight" saga		Stop it now, Stephanie Meyers.

COMING OUT ON WEDNESDAYS!!!

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Sports

Vanderbilt unable to stop Kentucky rushing attack in dropping seventh straight game



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Patrick Benoist (30) tries to bring down Randall Cobb (18) during Kentucky's 24-13 win.

by **BRIAN LINHARES**
Sports Reporter

Entering the home finale of their 2009 campaign, the Commodores (2-9, 0-7 Southeastern Conference) sought their first SEC victory.

Thirty minutes of football later, holding a 13-10 advantage at halftime, they seemed well on their way.

But Kentucky junior Derrick Locke and sophomore Randall Cobb were not going to let that happen.

Locke spearheaded the Wildcats' second-half comeback, as visiting Kentucky scored 14 unanswered points to keep Vanderbilt winless in conference play in its last eight tries.

Running for 83 yards after intermission, he finished with a career-best 144 on the afternoon.

"It was pretty apparent that (Kentucky) wore us down and beat us down. We could not stop the run in the second half and they controlled the ball for the second half. When you do that ... it's hard to win," said Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson.

Locke's lone touchdown, with five minutes to play in regulation, cemented the Wildcats' fourth consecutive season of bowl eligibility.

"Give Kentucky credit for using a simple game plan to take it to us," Johnson said. "They did a good job controlling the game."

Kentucky's simple plan, however, was not limited to Locke.

Cobb managed to gain an additional 99 rushing yards, on 14 carries and a pair of touchdowns. His second, at the 10-minute mark in the third quarter, put the Wildcats ahead for good.

Kentucky offensive coordinator Joker

Phillips summarized the game plan simply.

"Those are the guys that we have to get touches," Phillips said, "and we just decided to hand it to them before the game."

That strategy paid off, as the Wildcats could not muster much through the air. Quarterbacks Morgan Newton and Mike Hartline combined to throw for just 50 yards and two interceptions.

"We struggled with the passing game and we had to run the football," Phillips said. "We sprinkled Morgan (Newton) in there a little bit, but we had to get the ball in those guys' hands."

As Phillips turned to the ground attack, the duo of Locke and Cobb ultimately wore down the Commodore defense.

"They made good adjustments on offense that caused trouble for us," said senior linebacker Brent Trice.

Kentucky notched 399 total yards from scrimmage, 308 of which were gained on the ground. Moreover, 188 rushing yards came in the second half alone.

"We were unable to get off of the field, as a defense," Trice said.

Indeed, the Kentucky offense could not stay off the field. Whereas Vanderbilt held the upper hand in the opening period, holding the ball for nearly 18 minutes, Kentucky retained possession for over 23 minutes following halftime.

"I thought that the last 30 minutes was some of the best football we played in a long time," said Kentucky coach Rich Brooks.

Unfortunately for the Commodores, those 30 minutes came in the second half.

"It would have been nice to come out of here with a win," said Vanderbilt redshirt senior quarterback Mackenzi Adams.

Adams and the Commodores finish their season next Saturday in Knoxville, at rival Tennessee. ■

Commodores hope to start strong against crosstown Lipscomb



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jermaine Beal is the lone senior on the Vanderbilt roster this season.

by **ERIC SINGLE**
Sports Reporter

Eight months of fervent speculation and hype will swell to a crest Monday night, as the men's basketball team hosts Lipscomb at Memorial Gym at 7 p.m. for its first game of the 2009-2010 regular season.

After missing the postseason last March for the first time since 2003, the Commodores

return all five of last year's starters for their season opener against the Bisons, who start the season at the top of many Atlantic Sun Conference projections.

Senior guard Jermaine Beal likes the way this year's edition of Commodores basketball has looked in the preseason.

"I think our team this year is way better. We're way smarter, more mature, more athletic. I think this team has a chance to go farther," said Beal, who scored 14 points in Vanderbilt's 91-56 exhibition victory over Alabama-Huntsville on Tuesday.

Despite his optimism, Beal is faced with the difficult task of keeping his team grounded as a dangerous non-conference schedule looms. The Commodores will travel out west to play St. Mary's, who reached the third round of the NIT last season, before flying out to Hawaii to play Cincinnati at the Maui Invitational.

With multiple opportunities for impressive non-conference wins ahead, it can be very easy to get caught in a close game with a low-profile team. Already this season, Southeastern Conference teams Mississippi State and Alabama have lost at home to Rider and Cornell, respectively — two heavy underdogs brought in to essentially collect paychecks and lay down on the road.

A.J. Ogilvy knows Lipscomb will not go quietly against their cross-town opponents.

"We know Lipscomb is a great team, and so we're just going to come out and try and prepare as best we can for them and hopefully come out and play as smoothly as possible," Ogilvy said.

Ogilvy is still recovering from a concussion sustained in the preseason, but expectations are high for the 6-foot-11-inch junior, who led the Commodores last season with 15.4 points per game.

Lipscomb finished the 2008-2009 season with a 17-14 record, losing to Jacksonville in the second round of the Atlantic Sun tournament. After averaging 76.5 points per game last season, the Bisons put up 86 in their first regular season game Saturday night, a 5-point loss to Elon.

In an opening game against an experienced team that returns four starters, Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings is looking for his squad to step up its defense.

"We need to be able to sustain our defensive intensity for an entire 40 minutes," Stallings said. "I would say we got 25 to 30 minutes of good defense (in the Alabama-Huntsville game). But sometimes it's very difficult even in the course of a whole season to get 40 minutes of good defense."

After eight months of anticipation, the 2009-2010 Commodores appear ready to meet that challenge starting Monday night, 40 minutes at a time. ■

WEEKLY REPORT CARD

by Daniel Marks

QUARTERBACK: C-

Other than his perfectly thrown touchdown pass to John Cole, Mackenzi Adams had a poor performance on the day. He missed wide-open receivers at least five times with throws that were essentially uncatchable, finishing 11-24 passing with an interception, and also was ineffective running the ball, averaging only 1.5 yards a carry.

RUNNING BACKS: B-

The freshman duo of Warren Norman and Zac Stacy was not a big factor today against a Wildcat defense that had allowed 190 rushing yards per game coming into today. Their lack of big plays, however, can mainly be attributed to a makeshift offensive line not opening up holes and utterly predictable play calling from the offensive staff.

WIDE RECEIVERS: B+

The wide outs played a very solid game. They created separation and got open but Adams just missed a lot of throws, and that can't be put on the receivers. John Cole continues to come on strong despite playing with a broken bone in his hand with a great touchdown grab among five total receptions for 61 yards.

OFFENSIVE LINE: C

The line continues to struggle in what has been a disappointing and injury-filled season for them. They failed to open up holes against a weak run defense and committed a false start penalty on the first series, something that has become much too common this season, but they have been dealing with a myriad of injuries that has led to constant in-game shuffling along the line, killing any chance of developing continuity for the unit.

DEFENSIVE LINE: C-

The line failed to register a sack on the trio of Kentucky signal callers and got no pressure on Morgan Newton on a key third-and-6 on Kentucky's fourth-quarter touchdown drive that allowed him to complete the pass and get the first down. They also allowed Derrick Locke and Randall Cobb to consistently get into the second line of defense, which was the primary factor in Locke registering a career-high 144 yards.

LINEBACKERS: C+

The linebackers had a solid game, making a lot of tackles that saved big plays after the runner got past the d-line. Chris Marve was all over the field, registering 13 tackles, while John Stokes and Brent Trice also played well registering eight and 10 tackles respectively. The loss of Patrick Benoist hurt the unit in the second half.

SECONDARY: B+

The defensive backfield had a great game, with Eddie Foster and Myron Lewis each recording an interception. They played well in coverage, not allowing a lot of separation for the Wildcat receivers, and made nice plays on the ball when Kentucky did throw it, which wasn't often (15 times for only 91 yards).

SPECIAL TEAMS: B+

Ryan Fowler had his best game of the season, nailing field goals of 42 and 47 yards. As he always does, Brett Upson made great punts that pinned the Wildcats deep, averaging 47.7 yards per attempt. Kentucky did a good job of keeping the ball out of Warren Norman's hands for the most part on kickoffs, and Alex Washington was fairly unimpressive on punt returns.

COACHING: D+

The offensive staff needs a total makeover. The play calling was way too conservative and predictable, and the no-huddle offense hasn't produced results on offense and it leaves the defense on the field more than it has to be. Also, the defense didn't look prepared for the Wildcat formation with Randall Cobb as he ran for 99 yards on 14 carries.

Cross country team runs into the record books

by **TRAVIS YOUNG**
Vanderbilt University Athletics

The Vanderbilt women's cross country team capped off an excellent 2009 season as they ran into the school record books with a fifth place finish at the NCAA South Regional Championships on Saturday. The Commodores' top-five finish ties for the best finish in the program's 27-year existence.

Florida and Florida State finished first and second in the women's 6,000-meter race while Tennessee, Georgia and Vanderbilt rounded out the top-five. The Commodores defeated four Southeastern Conference teams on the day, including Auburn, host Alabama, Mississippi State and Ole Miss.

"Super effort by our top-five runners led by Rita's all-region performance (25th overall)," said Vanderbilt coach Steve Keith. "Jordan (White) and Louise (Hannallah) were just behind and gave us a group of three in the top 30. Allie

Scalf had a strong finish, as did Kristabel (Doebel-Hickok) with both picking up valuable points in the last 400 meters. This meet caps off a great season and with everyone back next year we look forward to even better results."

Jorgensen earned all-region honors for the second consecutive season after pacing the Commodores with a season best time of 21:12.74, good for 25th place. Jorgensen's time Saturday was 48 seconds faster than her previous season high time.

White was the second Vanderbilt runner to cross the finish line on Saturday, clocking a career best 21:20.85, good for 28th place. White's regional time was a minute faster than her previous season best, in which she ran two weeks ago at the SEC Championships en route to earning All-SEC Freshman honors.

Hannallah finished just two seconds and one spot back of White, giving Vanderbilt three runners in the top 30. Like Jorgensen and White, Hannallah set

a personal record of her own with a time of 21:22.12 in the 6K.

Scalf was the fourth VU runner to finish while Doebel-Hickok rounded out Vanderbilt's top five runners. Scalf topped her previous best time in the 6K by over half a minute, finishing with 21:52.99 while Doebel-Hickok clocked a season-best 21:59.67, good for 54th.

Kristen Findley and Alexa Rogers clocked times of 23:12.35 and 25:20.07 to finish in 92nd and 162nd.

"This season has been about the 'team' and how we can position ourselves to move the program forward," Keith said. "It has been a real pleasure to watch this group mature and develop."

Assistant coach Rhonda Riley agreed that the program is on the rise and that there are a lot of positives to take from this season.

"I am extremely proud of what our women accomplished today," Riley said. "The team chemistry is amazing right now and it shows when they run. It has



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Vanderbilt women's cross country team finished in fifth place at the NCAA South Regional Championships in the 6K race, tying for the best finish in school history. After sitting out part of the season with an illness, Rita Jorgensen led Vanderbilt Saturday with a 21:12.74.

been an incredible season and feels good to finish strong."

On the men's side, Vanderbilt closed out the 2009 season on Saturday by finishing 22nd out of 26 teams in the men's 10K race.

Sophomore standout Jenner Kizer paced the Commodores with a 32:54.78 while freshman Billy Malmed clocked a

33:46.98. Fellow freshman Chris Baker turned in a 34:02.61 while Thomas Davis and Kyle Rewick rounded out Vanderbilt's top five runners.

"The men had a solid effort by Jenner but not where we wanted with our No. 2 through No. 5 runners," Keith said. "They are young and they will learn from this experience." ■

Vanderbilt rolls in opening win



CHRIS HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jence Rhoads (22) makes a break to the basket during Vanderbilt's 90-54 win over Lehigh. Rhoads set a career high with 10 assists and had just one turnover, and she also scored 8 points.

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

The Commodores got a bright glimpse of the future Sunday afternoon against Lehigh.

The present isn't looking too bad either.

Freshman forward Tiffany Clarke scored 14 points, and junior guard Jence Rhoads had 8 points and a career-high 10 assists in a 90-54 win in No. 20 Vanderbilt's season-opener.

Clarke and fellow freshmen Elan Brown and Gabby Smith all played significant minutes.

"I was very confident putting them in and knew I could put them in quickly, and I love what they're giving us," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "It's a calm confidence with a lot of energy."

Rhoads was not surprised that her young teammates had earned that trust.

"They've been working hard in practice and they have earned it in practice so I knew that they would be ready to play today," Rhoads said.

The key to that calmness out there, Balcomb said, was

Rhoads' ability to run the offense with ease.

"Jence is a really, really good basketball player," Balcomb said. "She made people pay for not playing (defense on) her. She was aggressive all (afternoon)."

The Commodores (1-0) got things going mid-way through the first quarter and took a 47-29 lead into halftime. Clarke knocked 5-6 shots for 10 points and showed a strong ability to create her own shot. She also snagged five rebounds, as Vanderbilt dominated the boards with a 41-28 advantage.

"You're nervous in your first college game, but it was great," Clarke said. "We played how we were supposed to."

At least they did until Lehigh shot out of the locker room on a 9-0 run to slice an 18-point lead in half, prompting a time-out.

"Just really wanted them to settle down," Balcomb said. "I got on them and tried to inspire their defense."

The Commodores allowed the Mountain Hawks (1-1) to score just 5 points over the next nine minutes and built the lead to 26 before cruising from there. ■

He said She said

KYLE REWICK

ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

We spoke with sophomore cross country runner Kyle Rewick and senior bowler Josie Earnest for this edition of "He Said/She Said." Among other things, they talked about their Thanksgiving plans and how they balance individual play with team play.

by MEGHAN ROSE
Asst Sports Editor



JOSIE EARNEST

Vanderbilt University Athletics

What are your plans for the upcoming Thanksgiving Break?

We normally go to a neighbor's house for Thanksgiving dinner. We have the standard turkey and mashed potatoes — the whole big meal. I think my grandma might come up this year.

Normally we get up that day, and go to dinner at my grandmother's house. We all bring some sort of dish and eat with each other.

What legacy do you hope to leave at Vanderbilt?

I'm really hoping the program can improve a lot. Coach (Steve) Keith and the guys before us have done a lot to improve the program from where it was. I'd like to keep that upward motion going.

I'd love to leave the program with two national championships. Especially this year, I have my sister on the team as well, and I'd like to be one of the first sibling duos to win a national championship.

How do you balance concentrating on your own play within the play of the team?

We really focus on running as a pack and running together in a race. That really helps because if you see your teammates working hard, it's a lot easier to run with them. If you see them pushing themselves, you'll want to push yourself too.

It's become easier; it was kind of tough at first. Bowling, outside of college bowling, is a very individual sport; when you go, it's just about you. Coming into a team it was a little bit difficult, but we've worked on it. When we're back in the paddock it's talking and encouraging each other, but when it's my turn I'm ready and completely focused on myself.

How has your coach helped you to improve?

Coach Keith is awesome, he's really helped me transition into college. He communicates a lot with us and is very receptive.

We actually have a really close relationship; I was one of the first recruits he brought in for our class. (Coach Williamson) is very open and understanding about what goes on here with schoolwork and sports. Really, he's the reason I am here, and he is a really important figure in my four years at Vanderbilt.

What would you like to tell fans about this season?

I think we're pretty happy with our season, but we'd like to be better. We're going to set some goals for the years to come, but overall everyone did an awesome job this year. We're pretty happy with how it turned out.

We're a very competitive team, and I think a lot of people who aren't involved in bowling don't realize how much goes on at a tournament. We're there for like eight hours. A lot of people who come out won't stay for the whole time because it's very tiring on the fans as well. It is very interesting to see all of the different dynamics that are going on.

MADNESS

12.02.09

Get the 2008-2009 Commodore Yearbook on sale now in the Vanderbilt Bookstore

This past year's book features a section dedicated completely to student submitted photos!





VANDERBILT MEN'S BASKETBALL

THE STARTING



It's a year ripe with expectation and optimism for the Vanderbilt men's basketball team. The Commodores come off a 19-12 season that saw them fall short of postseason play for the first time since 2003, but with every starter returning, the deepest roster Kevin Stallings has had in his tenure in Nashville and the arrival of highly touted recruit John Jenkins, Vanderbilt has its eyes set on returning to its old place as a force in the Southeastern Conference.

Here's a quick look at Stallings and the five expected starters for the Commodores, who open their regular season tonight when they host Lipscomb.

FULL ROSTER				
No.	Name	Position	Height	Year
0	Jermaine Beal	G	6' 3"	SR
15	Elliott Cole	G	5' 11"	JR
50	Joe Duffy	F	6' 8"	JR
3	Festus Ezeli	C	6' 11"	RS SO
5	Lance Goulbourne	G/F	6' 8"	SO
2	Charles Hinkle	G/F	6' 6"	RS SO
23	John Jenkins	G	6' 4"	FR
21	Darshawn McClellan	F	6' 7"	JR
10	Chris Meriwether	G	6'	SR
14	Aaron Noll	F	6' 7"	SO
4	A.J. Ogilvy	C	6' 11"	JR
12	Jordan Smart	G/F	6' 6"	RS FR
44	Jeffery Taylor	G/F	6' 7"	SO
33	Steve Tchiengang	F	6' 9"	SO
1	Brad Tinsley	G	6' 3"	SO
24	Andre Walker	F	6' 7"	RS SO

JERMAINE BEAL, #0
SENIOR

POSITION	Guard
HEIGHT	6' 3"
HOMETOWN	DeSoto, Texas
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dependable point guard who takes great care of the ball and has made his game dynamic with improved 3-point shooting Team's only senior and one of its hardest workers Has one of the best assist-to-turnover ratios in the SEC since he became a starter his sophomore year Averaged 12.5 points per game and 40.3 percent shooting from beyond the arc his junior season Knocked down seven 3-pointers in road win over Auburn and scored a career-high 27 at home against South Carolina



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

JEFFERY TAYLOR, #44
SOPHOMORE

POSITION	Forward
HEIGHT	6' 7"
HOMETOWN	Norkopping, Sweden
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding athlete with incredible ups, Taylor looks like a shoe-in for the NBA once he leaves Nashville Highly touted recruit chose Vanderbilt over such powerhouse programs as UCLA, Kentucky, Arizona, Texas and Gonzaga Stepped in as a freshman and started all 31 games for the Commodores Known for his highlight-reel slam dunks, but he also plays tough defense and is developing a better jump shot Scored a career-high 27 points in SEC Tournament loss to Alabama

ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler



A.J. OGILVY, #4
JUNIOR

POSITION	Center
HEIGHT	6' 11"
HOMETOWN	Sydney, Australia
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the nation's best big men when healthy, Ogilvy has the ability to take over games Great scorer and an unusually good free throw shooter for his size Led Commodores in points (15.4) and rebounding (7.1) his sophomore year despite a nagging heel injury and received Preseason All-SEC First Team selection this season Recovering from a concussion, Ogilvy may be replaced as a starter at first by Festus Ezeli Career-best 33 point performance came in Vanderbilt's lone win over a ranked team last year against No. 11 LSU

FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler



ANDRE WALKER, #24
REDSHIRT SOPHOMORE

POSITION	Forward
HEIGHT	6' 7"
HOMETOWN	Rossmoor, Illinois
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The versatile Walker can play both forward positions and guard and has battled back from a tough knee injury Received a medical redshirt last season after tearing his ACL three games into the year in his first career start Saw action in all 34 games his freshman season (2007-08) off the bench and earned reputation as a tenacious defender Has scored career-high 10 points in two occasions in his career

ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

KEVIN STALLINGS
HEAD COACH

YEARS IN NASHVILLE	10
CAREER RECORD	312-198 (.612)
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ranks third in school history with 189 Vanderbilt wins First Commodore coach to lead Vanderbilt to two Sweet 16s since the field expanded Three Commodores have been named SEC Players of the Year under his tutelage Owens a 28-20 conference mark over the past three seasons Mentored at Kansas by current North Carolina head coach Roy Williams

BRAD TINSLEY, #1
SOPHOMORE

POSITION	Guard
HEIGHT	6' 3"
HOMETOWN	Oregon City, Oregon
QUICK FACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dynamite 3-point shooter and quality ball-handler comes off a breakout freshman campaign Tied Vanderbilt record set by Shan Foster in 2004-05 for most 3's (69) in his freshman season Led team in assists 13 times last year and Kevin Stallings calls him one of the best passers that he's ever coached Improved defense still needed to make Tinsley an elite player Saved his best game for last, scoring 20 points in narrow loss to Alabama in SEC Tournament

FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

SEASON PREVIEW 2009-2010



Commodores a year older and a year wiser

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

There are plenty of reasons why loads of optimism is surrounding the Vanderbilt men's basketball team this season. With a roster featuring just one senior as point guard, Jermaine Beal, one wouldn't think experience would be one of them, but it is.

Last season, a youthful squad featuring seven freshmen and a 1-5 start to Southeastern Conference play hurt the Commodores in the early going. As the season wore on, the talented Class of 2012 elevated its play, especially forward Jeffery Taylor and guard Brad Tinsley, now sophomore starters and seasoned veterans compared to a year ago.

"The experience factor is so much better this time around," said Vanderbilt head coach Kevin Stallings. "It's very difficult in a league like ours to have the success you want to have when over half your team is truly first-year guys. I think with those guys becoming sophomores — and not only just becoming sophomores, but getting older, getting stronger, getting better — our team is in a much better position for success because of the progress that our guys have made from a year ago."

Tinsley became the team's most accurate 3-point shooter, averaging 11 points per game and tying a Vanderbilt freshman record set by Shan Foster in 2004-2005 with 69 made shots from beyond the arc.

"I think we grew a lot," Tinsley said. "Just the experience of getting to play in almost every game, and that's the only way you can get experience. Coaches did a good job of getting us well-prepared for the games and I thought we did a pretty good job."

Taylor was named to the All-SEC Freshman Team after the 2008-09 season, starting all 31 games and averaging 12.2 points and 6.2 rebounds. Both he and Tinsley saved their best for last, scoring a career-high 27 and 20 points, respectively, in a narrow loss to Alabama in the first round of the SEC Tournament, and ultimately their last game of the year when they rejected an invitation to the College Basketball Invitational.

Despite coming up short of more postseason



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jeffery Taylor (left) and Steve Tchiengang celebrate after a play during Vanderbilt's 77-64 win over Kentucky on Feb. 17. Both saw significant playing time during their freshman seasons.

play, it demonstrated a season-long period of improvement that only continued with the team's trip to Australia this summer.

"I think we matured a little bit along the way, and I think we gained a lot of experience with the playing time we had and just going through the SEC season," Taylor said.

Taylor scored 19 points in just 21 minutes of play to lead the Commodores in their exhibition win on Nov. 10 against Alabama-Huntsville. Tinsley scored 12 and fellow sophomore Steve Tchiengang had 11 in a 91-56 blowout win. Vanderbilt had 19 assists on its 32 baskets.

"I think that we will have a very unselfish basketball team, and that will make some nights look awfully good offensively," Stallings said.

Yet, the team was only picked by the media to finish third in the SEC East behind rivals Kentucky and Tennessee. But as far as expectations, there is only one that the Commodores care about: their own.

"It's not where you start, it's where you finish, and we keep that in mind and our goal is to finish high," Stallings said. "We don't care where they put us to start."

They hope to start the way they finished last season, winning seven of their last 10 conference games before falling to the Crimson Tide. A 19-12 record and 8-8 mark in conference play weren't enough even for an NIT bid in a down year for the SEC that sent only three teams to the Big Dance.

Of course, every team is trying to reach the NCAA Tournament, and if the Commodores make it, that would be their third trip in four years. But any specific goals they have stay private, Stallings says, save for one.

"The No. 1 goal that we have each season is to try to come and close to reaching our potential as a basketball team as we can, and that's what we'll set out to do," Stallings said. "That's what we've already set out to, and hopefully that's what we'll accomplish." ■

2009-2010 SCHEDULE

11/16/09	LIPSCOMB
11/20/09	at Saint Mary's
11/23/09	Cincinnati (EA Sports Maui Invitational)
11/24/09	Maryland/Chaminade (EA Sports Maui Invitational)
11/25/09	Championship game (EA Sports Maui Invitational)
12/02/09	MISSOURI
12/05/09	DEPAUL
12/08/09	at Illinois
12/11/09	WESTERN KENTUCKY (SUN BELT CLASSIC AT SOMMET CENTER)
12/19/09	TENNESSEE STATE
12/21/09	MERCER
12/30/09	MANHATTAN
01/02/10	SOUTHERN MISS
01/04/10	MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE
01/09/10	FLORIDA
01/13/10	at Alabama
01/16/10	at South Carolina
01/23/10	AUBURN
01/27/10	at Tennessee
01/30/10	at Kentucky
02/03/10	MISSISSIPPI STATE
02/06/10	at Georgia
02/09/10	TENNESSEE
02/13/10	LSU
02/18/10	at Mississippi
02/20/10	KENTUCKY
02/25/10	GEORGIA
02/27/10	at Arkansas
03/02/10	at Florida
03/06/10	SOUTH CAROLINA

Ogilvy, Ezeli hope to form potent frontcourt

by ALEX WALDER
Sports Reporter

Finding a good center isn't easy, but Vanderbilt doesn't have to worry about that with two on the roster, both standing at 6-feet-11-inches in junior A.J. Ogilvy and redshirt sophomore Festus Ezeli.

Last year, Vanderbilt was considered a very young team. Specifically, in the frontcourt, Ogilvy started at center as a sophomore last year, along with much freshman support at the power forward position, and led the team with 15.4 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. This year, the Commodores are one year older and are looking for big development out of many of their players, especially Ezeli.

In hopes of developing a stronger on-court connection, both players spent the summers training in Australia along with the rest of the squad during a 10-day, five-game exhibition series. This gave them a great opportunity to develop on both sides of the ball, though defensively the tandem is seeing great progress.

"He helps my defense a lot because I am guarding him every day," Ezeli said. "Playing defense against him makes me better."

Ezeli has done a lot of work in the offseason and preseason to fine-tune his game according to the experiences he had playing last year. Though Ezeli did not see a huge number of minutes in his freshman season, he certainly used that time productively in learning the game and adjusting to the high level of competition.

"Last year was like a trial and error year for me," Ezeli said. "Just trying to get a feel for the game. Playing SEC was a big jump for me. Kind of like a shocker, but this year I know what to expect. Just coming in and worked on my game over the summer so I'm



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Festus Ezeli (3) makes a move toward the basket during Vanderbilt's 91-56 exhibition victory over Alabama-Huntsville on Nov. 10. Ezeli may start over A.J. Ogilvy at center at first as Ogilvy recovers from a concussion.

ready to go."

On the other side of this inside combo is Ogilvy, who appears primed for a big year and was voted onto the First-Team Preseason All-SEC roster. Though quite an achievement, Ogilvy is not letting it affect his work ethic going into the season.

"At this point it is just people's opinions," Ogilvy said. "But that is something I am aiming to achieve this year, so I've just been working hard but not really worrying about that, I've just been worried about working hard."

The work ethic of the tandem is certainly not being called into question as they have spent much time individually and with the team working on both sides of the ball. Though it doesn't seem overly likely the two will be on the court at the same time, having Ezeli able to provide a spark off the bench should be invaluable

for the Commodores. This should be especially important in terms of keeping Ogilvy in good health for the entire season as he has had injury concerns in the past, including having to deal with a concussion suffered during an October practice.

Ezeli actually started in the exhibition victory on Nov. 10 against Alabama-Huntsville, and Ogilvy spelled him. Both scored eight points, with Ezeli notching a team-high four blocks. Ogilvy will be the starter once fully healthy, but Ezeli's ability to produce was encouraging.

"Having Festus come of the bench and play as well as he has been playing in practice will really help out a lot," Ogilvy said. "Especially towards the end of the season where everyone wears down a little bit. I'll be fresher towards the end of the season, and hopefully Festus will be as fresh then too." ■

5-star Jenkins elevates Vanderbilt recruiting

by DANIEL MARKS
Sports Reporter

The Commodores only had one scholarship to offer to the high school Class of 2009, and they made good use of it, landing shooting guard John Jenkins, the school's first ever five-star recruit, who is regarded as one of the best shooters in the entire nation, freshman or otherwise.

Jenkins starred at nearby Station Camp High School where he led all high school players in the nation in scoring, averaging 42.3 points per game on 62 percent shooting. He was a five-star recruit (the highest rating given to any player) on Rivals.com, was rated the top shooter in the Class of 2009 and was Rivals' 15th-highest-ranked recruit overall in his class. Also, The Tennessean named him the boys' basketball player of the year in both 2008 and 2009.

To say he is an impressive recruit would be obvious. He is Vanderbilt's most highly touted recruit ever.

"I knew coming in that I would be the first five-star recruit here," Jenkins said. "I definitely think that with me being highly ranked, I can help maybe put Vanderbilt on the map for other guys who may not have considered it before, so I think from that aspect my status as a highly touted recruit can definitely help the program in the near future."

Usually most top recruits are deciding between traditional powerhouses like Duke, North Carolina and Kansas when it comes to where to play their college ball, but Vanderbilt is slowly becoming a big player in the recruiting ranks.

Jenkins knocked down three 3-pointers in his first collegiate action, a 91-56 win over Alabama-Huntsville on Nov. 10.

"I thought he played very well," said sophomore guard Brad Tinsley. "He hit some shots, made some good plays, played well on defense. As long as he stays within himself and continues to keep working hard, he'll be a great (addition) to our team."

The Jenkins signing comes off the heels of a 2008 signing class that included four four-star players (Lance Goulbourne, Brad Tinsley, Steve Tchiengang and Jeff Taylor), and the recruit list is just as strong this year as in the past two as Vanderbilt has received commitments from its three top recruiting



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

John Jenkins (23) attempts a lay-up during Vanderbilt's exhibition win on Nov. 10. He is the team's lone freshman and first 5-star recruit ever.

targets in center Josh Henderson, point guard Kyle Fuller and small forward Rod Odom.

"I think good recruiting begets good recruiting," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings. "I think guys want to play with good players, and so they see a guy like John or they see Brad or Jeff or those guys and they want to come play with guys that are good."

While Jenkins' signing here certainly can help put the university more squarely on the basketball map for high school recruits, the most important thing to continuing to land these high-quality recruits was said best by Jenkins himself.

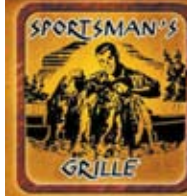
"The key to landing recruits is winning, plain and simple," he said. "If we can win games and win them in a way that is attractive to the recruit and prove to recruits that we can compete on the court with the traditional powerhouses, they will come." ■

Back Page

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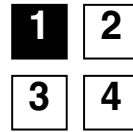
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

11/13/09 SOLUTIONS

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11/16/09

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Heats a bit
- 6 Movie music
- 11 Cigar residue
- 14 Like loud crowds
- 15 "Family Matters" nerd Steve
- 16 "I like ___": '50s campaign slogan
- 17 Striding self-confidently
- 19 Blender setting
- 20 Having sufficient skill
- 21 No-brainer college course
- 22 Lamp-to-plug link
- 23 God of thunder
- 25 Short races
- 27 It's a virtue, so they say
- 31 iTunes download
- 32 Midterms, e.g.
- 33 Emitted a delighted sigh
- 35 Beaver or boater
- 38 Tick off
- 39 Paid to play
- 40 Hepcat's jargon
- 41 Condescending cluck
- 42 Climbing tool for frozen surfaces
- 43 TV host Philbin
- 44 About, in a memo
- 46 Words while delivering a blow
- 48 Team supporters, collectively
- 51 Hobbling gait
- 52 Tiny pond plant

DOWN

- 53 Aired, as a TV show
- 55 Wolf's shelter
- 59 Dry gently, as tears
- 60 Enjoying an extravagant existence
- 62 Brit. record co.
- 63 "Maria ___": 1940s song
- 64 Kitchen tearjerker
- 65 Pooch
- 66 '50s Ford flop
- 67 Part of a Santa costume

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11/16/09

11/13/09 Solutions

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