TUNNEL NEWS

TORCH WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The Vanderbilt Torch, Vanderbilt Student Communications' conservative and libertarian publication, won the award for best new media at the Collegiate Network's annual Editors Conference this November.

This year's conference was held in San Antonio, Texas, and Torch contributors Katherine Miller and Patrick McBride attended on behalf of the publication. The Torch's current editor-in-chief is senior Frannie Boyle. To see the Torch online, visit www.vutorch.com, or www.vandyright.com for its corresponding blog.

HUSTLER NAMED PACEMAKER FINALIST

The Vanderbilt Hustler was named a finalist for the Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker award for the 2008-09 academic year. This award is considered to be the highest honor for collegiate publications. Michael Warren served as editor-in-chief in the fall of 2009, and Sydney Wilmer was editor-in-chief in the spring of 2009.

VANDERBILT STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

VISIÓN?

At first glance the name of Vanderbilt Student Media's alumni publication may appear to be a celebration of narrow-mindedness. The name Tunnel Vision is actually a reference to what students call the basement area of Carroll Hall of Fame. Many years ago, the name was a tribute to the countless Vandy tunnel dwellers whose vision created a better campus and world.

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1967 42 2009

1967 CELEBRATING 45 YEARS IN 2009

VANDERBILT STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

HALL OF FAME

VANDERBILT STUDENT MEDIA'S INDUCTS INAUGURAL CLASS OF THE VANDERBILT STUDENT MEDIA HALL OF FAME

The inaugural class of the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame (r-l) Sen. Lamar Alexander ('62), Roy Blount Jr. ('63), Mary Elson ('74), Skip Bayless ('74), and Sam Feist ('74) after the induction ceremony held in Sarratt Cinema.

VANDERBILT STUDENT MEDIA HALL OF FAME

by Justin Tardiff, Student Media News Editor

Rayless, who worked as a sports reporter for The Hustler, became a sports writer for the Miami Herald and Los Angeles Times and now serves as a commentator for ESPN. He told the story of his acceptance to Vanderbilt on the prestigious Granstand Rice scholarship: "I was embarrassed and shocked that I won a journalism scholarship to a university with no journalism school," he said. "Yet in recalling how influential the university was to his career, he said, "Granstand Rice made my life." While attending Vanderbilt, Elson served as the first female post-World War II editor-in-chief of The Hustler. She now works as managing editor of Tribune Co.'s syndication and licensing division. Elson discussed the difficulty of being a student journalist while also taking five courses. "It is a luxury to have just one job," she said. Although she had intended to major in science, it was a half mate who took her to The Hustler offices and launched her on a career in journalism. "I would probably never have gotten into journalism if not for Vanderbilt," she said.

Writer and humorist Blount has authored multiple books, is a contributing editor for The Atlantic Monthly and a visiting commentator on NPR's "Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!" He accepted his award with typical wit. "Seeing Glenn Beck cry made me never want to cry again," he said. "It's like seeing Tom DeLay dance."

Last to be inducted, Sen. Alexander, a former news editor of The Vanderbilt Hustler, went on to become a two-term governor of Tennessee, U.S. secretary of education, president of the University of Tennessee and currently a U.S. senator. He opened his remarks by commenting on the awarding process. "For every bona fide four media stars, we must induct one media victim," he said.

A display with pictures and descriptions of the inaugural class is located outside the Student Media offices on the lower level of the Sarratt Student Center. Student Media alumni nominated about 100 individuals for induction into the Hall of Fame. An alumni committee selected the first five members. To see photos from the induction ceremony, please see page 2. To continue alumni for the Hall of Fame, please see page 8.
Forty years of gratitude for Vanderbilt
What a good college experience does for you
by Chuck Offenburger, Class of ’69

Chuck Offenburger, Class of ’69, writes from a farmhouse outside the town of Cooper (pop. 30) in west central Iowa. For 26 years, he was a reporter and columnist for The Des Moines Register, as well as co-host of that newspaper’s legendary summertime bicycle ride across Iowa, “RAGBRAI.” He is now a columnist for two publications in Iowa, does radio commentary, and partners with his wife Carla on their Internet news & opinion site www.Offenburger.com. You can e-mail him at chuck@Offenburger.com.

Last fall, I was back at Vanderbilt University for my 40-year class reunion. Forty years I’ve been out of college! That’s hard for me to believe, since I still often refer to myself as “the eternal sophomore.”

There is much about my college experience of so long ago that just wouldn’t happen today. And yet there are some things that might encourage, or at least entertain, any current student. I know this – Vanderbilt provided me one heck of a good, solid, liberal arts education, and some of it even happened in the classrooms.

I knew almost nothing about Vanderbilt until September, 1964, when I was starting my senior year at high school in Shenandoah, Iowa, a town of 6,000 in the southwest corner of the state. I thought I’d probably go to a college or university in Iowa or Nebraska. I knew there’d have to be major financial help, as my dad had died when I was 13, and my mother had to provide for both me and my sister four years younger. But one morning, a letter arrived in the offices of The Evening Sentinel in Shenandoah, where despite my young age, I was in my fourth year as sports editor. “Dear sports editors,” the letter began, “Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, is the alma mater of the late Grantland Rice,” one of the best sportswriters in America in the first half of the 20th century.

The letter went on to say that an organization had endowed a four-year, full-ride scholarship to Vanderbilt each year “for a high school senior who is a promising sportswriter,” the Grantland Rice Scholarship. Sports editors were asked to look around their coverage areas for just such a high school senior, and nominate him or her.

So I did! I gathered up a bunch of my clippings. I solicited letters of recommendation from my managing editor, my parish priest, my high school principal and athletic director. I sent it all off to Nashville, expecting nothing would come from it. But in the spring of ’65, the letter arrived – while I was not the Grantland Rice Scholarship winner, but I was runner-up. Vanderbilt at that time was trying to broaden its student body, which up to then had been half from the South and half from New England. When they saw “Iowa” on my application, it got their attention. And they gave me a scholarship and low-interest loan that would cover more than half of the $4,000 per year total costs then at the university. It was the best financial offer I’d received, and so I accepted.

Keep in mind – I had never seen the place, other than in a brochure. I had a couple long-distance telephone conversations with administrators on the campus. But I had learned about the long list of successful sportswriters at national publications...
A glimpse into a few lives that helped shape student life at Vanderbilt

1951

Frank A. Riddick Jr. 

said: After Vanderbilt (which included a stint at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and a two-year stint as medical officer in the U.S. Army from 1947 to 1949), I served at Ochsner Clinic, a large group practice in New Orleans, which I founded in 1959. I have served on the editorial boards of four medical journals, authored 26 books or book chapters and had hundreds of papers in peer-reviewed journals, on endocrine disorders, health care delivery, and other medical topics. I am a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Association of Men in Retirement.

1965

Larry D. Austin, B.A., 1965

said: A native of Huntsville, Alabama, Larry Austin lived in Rochester, MN, and said: Just a note to say that I am doing well here in MN. Having accepted a position at the Mayo Clinic working in the area of Reproductive Medicine, infertility and adolescent care, I have found a career that I love. My wife, Jane Guthman Kahn, and I authored “25 Bicycle Tours in Savannah GA, and said: Until you first contacted me, I had been in the professional sphere. I served as CEO Emeritus of Ochsner Health System and CEO of Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation until my retirement in 2001, since which time I have had a part time presence as Emeritus of Ochsner Health System and maintain a limited practice in neurology. The second part of my career has been in the professional sphere. I served on Editorial Boards of four medical journals, authored 26 books or book chapters and had hundreds of papers in peer-reviewed journals, on endocrine disorders, health care delivery, and other medical topics. I am a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Association of Men in Retirement.

1966

Charles Coddington, B.B.A., 1966

said: Charles Coddington was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: When you first contacted me, I had been in the professional sphere. I served on Editorial Boards of four medical journals, authored 26 books or book chapters and had hundreds of papers in peer-reviewed journals, on endocrine disorders, health care delivery, and other medical topics. I am a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Association of Men in Retirement.

1969


said: Douglas Thompson Bates III was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: After graduation I was in the Army serving a year in Vietnam. I then owned a General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) I owned in Tuscaloosa. When Times were tough at WVU when I was there, we struggled. I am involved in sales, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has become a very professional operation. After 25 years in Tuscaloosa, we were obviously quite different but both were based in the same state. I have been practicing law (estate and corporate law) since my retirement from law school in 1972. I have been married for 35 years to Myllie Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter and a son. I grew up in the southern states and have been a part of the veteran of the War and my law partner.

1972

James Limi Atticus Freeman III, B.B.A., 1972

said: James Limi Atticus Freeman III was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: I served as the Business Manager for WVU for several years during my undergraduate time at Vandy (1965-1969) and did some on the air work as well. From 1965 until November of 1972. I served extensively for General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) I owned in Tuscaloosa. When Times were tough at WVU when I was there, we struggled. I am involved in sales, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has become a very professional operation. After 25 years in Tuscaloosa, we were obviously quite different but both were based in the same state. I have been practicing law (estate and corporate law) since my retirement from law school in 1972. I have been married for 35 years to Myllie Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter and a son. I grew up in the southern states and have been a part of the veteran of the War and my law partner.

1973

Cleve Latham, B.A., 1973

said: Cleve Latham was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: I served as the Business Manager for WVU for several years during my undergraduate time at Vandy (1965-1969) and did some on the air work as well. From 1965 until November of 1972. I served extensively for General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) I owned in Tuscaloosa. When Times were tough at WVU when I was there, we struggled. I am involved in sales, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has become a very professional operation. After 25 years in Tuscaloosa, we were obviously quite different but both were based in the same state. I have been practicing law (estate and corporate law) since my retirement from law school in 1972. I have been married for 35 years to Myllie Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter and a son. I grew up in the southern states and have been a part of the veteran of the War and my law partner.

1976

Bo Turner Carter, B.A., 1976

said: Bo Turner Carter was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: I served as the Business Manager for WVU for several years during my undergraduate time at Vandy (1965-1969) and did some on the air work as well. From 1965 until November of 1972. I served extensively for General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) I owned in Tuscaloosa. When Times were tough at WVU when I was there, we struggled. I am involved in sales, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has become a very professional operation. After 25 years in Tuscaloosa, we were obviously quite different but both were based in the same state. I have been practicing law (estate and corporate law) since my retirement from law school in 1972. I have been married for 35 years to Myllie Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter and a son. I grew up in the southern states and have been a part of the veteran of the War and my law partner.

1977

Jeff Segal, B.A., 1977

said: Jeff Segal was a native of Savannah, GA, and said: I served as the Business Manager for WVU for several years during my undergraduate time at Vandy (1965-1969) and did some on the air work as well. From 1965 until November of 1972. I served extensively for General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) I owned in Tuscaloosa. When Times were tough at WVU when I was there, we struggled. I am involved in sales, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has become a very professional operation. After 25 years in Tuscaloosa, we were obviously quite different but both were based in the same state. I have been practicing law (estate and corporate law) since my retirement from law school in 1972. I have been married for 35 years to Myllie Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter and a son. I grew up in the southern states and have been a part of the veteran of the War and my law partner.

distant voices alumni updates...
1978

Julia to VU (incl. NROTC!). I haven't yet begun work-8-year-old "soccer star" (and a Freshman at Swarthmore College (after WRVU)
Roger david Hyman
and
at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University,
see you sometime.
have two beautiful daughters.

1979

Juliet B. S. Phillip
and
Stu Evans (B.A., 1980) Evans lives in Phoenix, AZ, and said: "I've spent about 20 years as the PA drive manager at Whole Foods Market in Phoenix and Reno. I love the area."
Stu filled in on mornings and afternoons during summer sessions on cross-town rival station, KNIX. He started Big Shoe (WRVU) in 1977, which encompasses several types of audio and video enterprises.

1980

Roger David Hyman (B.A., 1980) Hyman lives in Portland (Kingly, OR), and said: "My oldest child (Christina) is now 18 and a freshman at townhouse College (after being accepted at VU-but rejecting my parents' requests)

1981


1982

My debut novel, "Blood Gazala" (Kingsley Press), was published in October, 2009, after winning the Editor's Choice and Rising Star prize/publishing awards from my publisher. I'm now researching and writing my next novel, "Tales of the Black Dog", and will soon be moved to Florence. For more information visit www.richardgazala.com.

1983

Erica Eisenstein (B.A., 1983, J.d., 1986) Eisenstein lives in New York, NY, and said: "My law firm was handed down to me by my father, and I'm now the sole practitioner in his name.

1984

Steven David Hall (B.A., 1984) Hall lives in Fort Myers, FL, and said: "This fall, I've been able to attend two VU football games, in which I was hosted by one of my former instructors in the School of Engineering. I was happy to see the campus looking good and visting with some of our engineering students' families."

1985

Robert Francis (B.A., 1985, B.S., 1986) Robert Francis lives in Nashville, TN, and said: "After the recent pur-

1986

Bruce e. Peoples (B.A., 1986) Peoples lives in Indianola, IA, and said: "I am now a consumer or customer marketing research rep for corporate marketing and

1987

Blake Hall (B.A., 1987) Blake Hall lives in Nashville, TN, and said: "This fall, I was able to attend two VU football games, with my family."

connect with old VU friends and classmates... Looking for old friends and (and)
visit VUconnect.com
Vanderbilt's new online community, where you can connect with students and friends around the world
George Bevington • B.A., 1990
(Virus magazine) Bevington lives in Atlanta, GA, and is a software engineer. His favorite movie is 2 1/2
years in Sequoyah Hills in Knoxville, Tennessee. His
wife, Clarissa, is a teacher. His daughter, Ashley,
resides in Sequoyah Hills in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Joe Peebles • B.S., 1993
(VWU) Peebles lives in Washington, DC, and said: I
will live vicariously as I dream of occasional
weddings, celebrations and anniversaries in the DC
Metra Area. I started a foundation in my hometown of
Murfreesboro, TN, to serve graduating minority high
school students attending college. Please visit www.
jf-foundation.org for details.

Laura Creekmore • B.A., 1993
(The Vanderbilt Husher, VSC board member) Creekmore lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I’m having a blast as the mom of three [Ellis,

Harper Barnes at 3 months old.

5th grade, Jacob, 3, and
Harper, 1].

Stephen Mass • B.A., 1990
(The Vanderbilt Husher) Mass lives in Doylestown, PA, and said: Since graduating from Vanderbilt in 1990, I obtained an M.D. from Duke University, and then completed a residency at Northwestern University in Chicago. I now live in Doylestown, PA, about one hour outside of Philadelphia, practicing head and neck surgery. My wife, Marlen, and I are busy with three children with whom we enjoy traveling.

David Werle • B.S., 1990
(VWU) Werle lives in Greenock, NC.

1951

Chris Norris • B.S., 1991
(VWU) Norris lives in Murfreesboro, TN, and said: I am a real estate broker and now have the distinct pleasure of dressing up by having two busi-
nesses in the worst real estate market in history. I should have stuck with the radio gig! Actually, we have fared well and are ready for recovery. I am married to two great kids in elementary school. Still miss VWU and listen to a few old cassette tapes I have of shows with my kids.

Maryanne Lambright Zike • B.A., 1991
(The Vanderbilt Husher, The Vanderbilt Review) Zike lives in Houston, TX, and said: Living and working in Houston and enjoying time with my 4
children. Not much else going on, but most days, that suits me fine.

Maria and her son Raymond.

1993

Joe Peebles • B.S., 1993
(VWU) Peebles lives in Washington, DC, and said: I will live vicariously as I dream of occasional
weddings, celebrations and anniversaries in the DC
Metra Area. I started a foundation in my hometown of
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Laura Creekmore • B.A., 1993
(The Vanderbilt Husher, VSC board member) Creekmore lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I’m having a blast as the mom of three [Ellis,

Michael Bruno • B.A., 1997
(The Vanderbilt Husher, Vanderbilt Television, Vanderbilt Review) Bruno lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: I’m trying to hold the military industrial com-
plex responsible as the bureau chief for the team reporters covering defense issues at Aviation Week. But best times come with best friends, like Langhorne Slim [ADD, ‘91], and our beautiful wives Kendra and MJ.

Stephanie Kaye Storey • B.A., 1997
(Verse magazine) Storey lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: This fall, Stephanie Storey directed the web series, Don’t Make Me Sick, a medical comedy about a hypo-
chondriac doctor. Don’t Make Me Sick was written by Storey and based on her experiences and features a cast from TV shows such as Glee, Girl, The Office, Grey’s Anatomy, The Law Show, and The Daily Show. Check it out at www.DontMakeMeSick.net.

Kristen B. Smith, Michael Bruno, Kendra Smith, MJ Bro.

Michael Bruno • B.A., 1997
(The Vanderbilt Husher, Vanderbilt Television, Vanderbilt Review) Bruno lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: This fall, Stephanie Storey directed the web series, Don’t Make Me Sick, a medical comedy about a hypo-
chondriac doctor. Don’t Make Me Sick was written by Storey and based on her experiences and features a cast from TV shows such as Glee, Girl, The Office, Grey’s Anatomy, The Law Show, and The Daily Show. Check it out at www.DontMakeMeSick.net.

Michelle Zimmerman Donohue • B.A., 2001
(The Vanderbilt Husher) Donohue lives in Washington, DC, and said: After spending 2 years as a suburban weekly newspaper, freelancing and a stint at a Canadian business wire service cover-
ing the U.S. Treasury and Capitol Hill, I’m now a white-hat mother of a 1-year-old, William. I will get the requisite embryo storage in place when I happen to reference the Vanderbilt Husher as my college paper in the future. My college paper was really called ‘The Husher’.

Lauren Brick Bruner • B.S., 1999
Bruner lives in Amasola, MD, and said: Enjoying life in Amasola, MD and I am very thankful to be with a 2 1/2 year old daughter Julia, and a baby girl due in January.

Ryan Lee Triplette • B.A., 2000
(The Vanderbilt Husher) Triplette lives in Washington, DC, and said: I have lived in Washington, DC for the past seven years. I recently joined the legal Corpo-rate Group at a large law firm. I spent the first six years after college working in Corporate Relations after serving as the Chief Intellectual Property Counsel for Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. The past few years have been busy ones, during which I found many large and small accomplishments, including being one of the founding members of Blondes vs Brunettes, Tackling Alzheimer’s, which is set to launch nationally in 2010. I currently serve on the board of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association and am a leader in the Junior League of Washington.

Edward Stoner • B.A., 2001
(The Vanderbilt Husher) Stoner lives in Vail, CO, and said: I am an assistant managing editor at the Vail Daily newspaper in Vail, Colo.

Michelle Zimmerman Donohue • B.A., 2001
(The Vanderbilt Husher) Donohue lives in Washington, DC, and said: After spending 2 years as a suburban weekly newspaper, freelancing and a stint at a Canadian business wire service cover-
ing the U.S. Treasury and Capitol Hill, I’m now a white-hat mother of a 1-year-old, William. I will get the requisite embryo storage in place when I happen to reference the Vanderbilt Husher as my college paper in the future. My college paper was really called ‘The Husher’.

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Bruner lives in Amasola, MD, and said: Enjoying life in Amasola, MD and I am very thankful to be with a 2 1/2 year old daughter Julia, and a baby girl due in January.

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ing the U.S. Treasury and Capitol Hill, I’m now a white-hat mother of a 1-year-old, William. I will get the requisite embryo storage in place when I happen to reference the Vanderbilt Husher as my college paper in the future. My college paper was really called ‘The Husher’.
alumni updates...

2004

Jodi Rachael Edelstein • B.A., 2004
(Vanderbilt Board member) lives in Providence, RI, and said: Jodi recently returned from working in Asia as part of the Asia Center. She is now a full-time attorney with Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP in Providence, RI.

Meredith (Gray) Gray-Grener

2005

Caroline Collins • B.A., 2005
(The New Yorker) runs the press box on gamedays. She is currently working as a research assistant at the Department of Sociology at Kennesaw State University.

Jean Williams • B.A., 2004
(The New Yorker) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Jean lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Jean is currently the deputy executive director with Growth Energy in Washington, D.C. after working for nearly three years with U.S. News & World Report. This summer he spent out in Taos, N.M. to shoot the wedding of fellow alumnus Jonathan Rodgers and Vanderbilt Review editor Jennifer Cusack.

2006

Gasha Khuchua • B.A., 2006
(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Inside/Vandy.com; USC Board member) Khuchua lives in New York, NY, and said: After spending two years with the San Francisco 49ers, I work in public relations with Eliot, on the Hetrick-Martin account. I manage reverse programs for 100 desks in computers, monitors, and a lot of other fun hardware! I’ve also still kept the 49ers PR staff in running the press box on game days.

Jerry Yen • B.A., 2006
(Vanderbilt alumnus) Yen lives in Durham, NC, and said: Still working on the PhD in toxicology at Duke University and starting to think about what to do afterward.

2007

Bridgeport Carroll • B.A., 2007
(The Slant, The Vanderbilt Review) Carroll lives in Philadelphia, PA, and said: Working on premed sci coursework and living as the assistant editor at Body+Soul magazine. We are going through a bit of a name change and rebranding.

2008

Rachel Diehl Unger • B.A., 2008
(The Slant) Unger lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I’ve ended my glorious tenure at Waffle House Japanese Steakhouse and Soho Bay, and I’m currently working with Vanderbilt Temporary Services in Nashville (yes, we have our own temp agency, who knew?) in Commercial Relations for the College of Arts and Science. As of late I’ve been interviewing with Volkswagen Group of America in Irvine, California, both to work with the German/English/English positions, and also with a film agency back in NYC. But wouldn’t have minded finding a more permanent home right back with Vanderbilt, either.

Lillian Gu • B.A., 2008
(Commodore yearbook) lives in Durham, NC, and said: I’m currently working on getting a Master in Engineering Management program with a concentration in Global Health at Duke University, but not involved with any media work now, but still taking a lot of pictures.

2009

Katie DePaola • B.A., 2009
(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Intern at InsideVandy.com) DePaola lives in Providence, NY, and said: I moved to New York City right after graduation and haven’t looked back since! I started with a part-time position as the assistant of a Business Strategy Consultant who I met through a Vanderbilt alum and a public relations fellowship in the fashion industry. I wasn’t sure which route I wanted to take. In the interim, I also did ghost writing for an author and wrote a handful of chatty and fun fashion e-books. After a few months, the consulting job picked up and became full-time. As an Analyst, I mainly work on compiling market research and building business development proposals for our clients. I also sit on the Junior Board of the Step Up Women’s Network - a network of more than 50,000 women nationwide. I’ve met lots of successful women (and men), and I’m happy to make introductions wherever that may take me. To connect with other alumni at VUconnect.com.

Dustin Swidsyn • B.A., 2009
(VWRU) Swidsyn lives in Houston, TX, and said: I am currently working for Bakers Hughes in their industrial chemical department. After I finished training in Houston (1st quarter of 2009), I started working on an account in the Midwest or Northeastern States.

Mike Kranzler • B.A., 2009
(The Vanderbilt Hustler, The Alum) Kranzler lives in Miami, FL, and said: Mike Kranzler is currently a Communications Intern with South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee as we prepare a record-breaking 10th Super Bowl in South Florida. I’m currently living in the first 30 feet Below outside of Hawaii in 30 years.

2004

Jodi Rachael Edelstein • B.M., 2004
(Vanderbilt Board member) lives in Providence, RI, and said: Jodi recently returned from working in Asia as part of the Asia Center. She is now a full-time attorney with Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP in Providence, RI.

Jay Williams • B.A., 2004
(Vanderbilt Board member) Williams lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am currently working as a third-year associate in the Commercial Litigation Group of DC law firm, Greenberg Traurig. My wife Camille and I welcomed our first son on 4/29/2009! Jack has already watched two Vanderbilt football games on TV, so he’s well-prepared to be a Vanderbilt fan for years to come.

Meredith Trezise • B.A., 2004
(The New Pork) Trezise lives in Jacksonville, FL, and said: I am stationed with the Navy in Jacksonville training to be a navigations/communications officer on the P-3 Orion.

(The New Yorker) lives in Ithaca, NY, and said: After graduating from the School of Fine Arts program in Fiction Writing at Vanderbilt in May 2009, I moved back to Ithaca, NY, where my husband, Adam Gremer (ABE UVA) is finishing his Ph.D. in English at Cornell University. Right now I work as a Grants and Contracts Coordinator at the College of Veterinary Medicine, where I focus on the editing and compilation of public health grants.

2005

Caroline Collins McKearney • B.A., 2005
(The New Yorker) McKearney lives in Boston, MA, and said: I received a master’s in publishing, writing and literature from Emerson College in May 2009. Now working as the assistant editor at Body+Soul magazine, a Matthew Stewart Omnimeda publication.

Jennifer Carlisle Dillard • B.A., 2005
(Orco, The Vanderbilt Review) Dillard lives in Washington, DC, and said: In the summer of 2009, I completed a year-long clerkship at the D.C. Court of Appeals. I am now an honors attorney at the U.S. Department of Labor.

2006

Dial lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Dial lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Dial is currently a third-year law student at Georgetown, searching for opportunities in legislative practice on the Hill.

Ben Tndali • B.A., 2006
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Tndali lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I’m now working as a research assistant in the department of sociology at Rutgers University. We’re studying the lives and turning points of older drug users.

Elizabeth Marie Ryan • B.A., 2007
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Ryan lives in Cambridge, MA, and said: Currently living in Cambridge, MA, I will be graduating from Harvard Law School in May. After graduation, I will be spending a year in my hometown, Lincoln, Nebraska, where I will be clerking for Hon. C. Allen Braam of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Courtney Dial • B.A., 2007
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Dial lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am currently serving as the career counselor for students interested in environmental sustainability, and nonprofit careers with the Vanderbilt Career Center.

2008

Reese Hamilton • B.A., 2008
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Hamilton lives in Austin, TX, and said: After interning around the country at The Nation, The Texas Observer and The Newsleer with Jim Leher, I've settled for the time being in Austin, TX. I'm working as a reporter at The Texas Tribune, a new non-profit, nonpartisan start-Up focusing on politics and policy in Texas.

Madeline Frances Pulman • B.A., 2008
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Pulman lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Still living in Atlanta and enjoying my position with Nissan North America. I looked something new with every day that passes and am enjoying being part of such a complex industry! Our fiscal year ends on March 31st and I cannot wait to see what new challenges and opportunities arise in my life.

Rachel Diehl Unger • B.A., 2008
(The Slant) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I ended my glorious tenure at Waffle House Japanese Steakhouse and Soho Bay, and I’m currently working with Vanderbilt Temporary Services in Nashville (yes, we have our own temp agency, who knew?) in Commercial Relations for the College of Arts and Science. As of late I’ve been interviewing with Volkswagen Group of America in Irvine, California, both to work with the German/English/English positions, and also with a film agency back in NYC. But wouldn’t have minded finding a more permanent home right back with Vanderbilt, either.

Lillian Gu • B.A., 2008
(Commodore yearbook) Gu lives in Durham, NC, and said: I’m currently working on getting a Master in Engineering Management program with a concentration in Global Health at Duke University, but not involved with any media work now, but still taking a lot of pictures.

2009

Douglas H Kurzdav • B.A., 2009
(The Seck) Kurzdav lives in New York, NY, and said: I graduated in May, 2009, and moved to New York City in September to start at Bain & Company as an Associate Consultant. I’ve also been volunteering on a weekly basis and writing in the newsletter for God’s Love We Deliver, a ministry that delivers freshly prepared hot meals to people homebound with life-limiting illnesses.

Katie DePaola • B.A., 2009
(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Intern at InsideVandy.com) DePaola lives in Providence, NY, and said: I moved to New York City right after graduation and haven’t looked back since! I started with a part-time position as the assistant of a Business Strategy Consultant who I met through a Vanderbilt alum and a public relations fellowship in the fashion industry. I wasn’t sure which route I wanted to take. In the interim, I also did ghost writing for an author and wrote a handful of chatty and fun fashion e-books. After a few months, the consulting job picked up and became full-time. As an Analyst, I mainly work on compiling market research and building business development proposals for our clients. I also sit on the Junior Board of the Step Up Women’s Network - a network of more than 50,000 women nationwide. I’ve met lots of successful women (and men), and I’m happy to make introductions wherever that may take me. To connect with other alumni at VUconnect.com.

Dustin Swidsyn • B.A., 2009
(VWRU) Swidsyn lives in Houston, TX, and said: I am currently working for Bakers Hughes in their industrial chemical department. After I finished training in Houston (1st quarter of 2009), I started working on an account in the Midwest or Northeastern States.

Mike Kranzler • B.A., 2009
(The Vanderbilt Alum) Kranzler lives in Miami, FL, and said: Mike Kranzler is currently a Communications Intern with South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee as we prepare a record-breaking 10th Super Bowl in South Florida. I’m currently living in the first 30 feet Below outside of Hawaii in 30 years.

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Media Immersion welcomes freshmen

by Erin Prah, VSC Editorial Fellow

A week before classes began and three days before their classmates arrived on campus, 24 new students were given their first college assignment – complete a multimedia story package with fellow classmates you have never met before.

These students were participating in VSC’s third Media Immersion journalism camp for a selective group of incoming Vanderbilt students. They were chosen through a competitive application process during the summer to attend the three-day program, which began Aug 19.

After crash courses in interviewing, storytelling and the mechanics of their equipment, they set out in small groups armed with notepads, voice recorders, still and video cameras. They covered campus subjects ranging from Vanderbilt Police and Army ROTC to the Vanderbilt Farmers’ Market and the Marching Band. With the help of returning student media leaders serving as counselors, each group was asked to have a written story and a video component by the end of the program for a showcase event at Jack’s Landing during the summer to appeal to the Vanderbilt Farmers’ Market and the Marching Band.

Media Immersion was created to introduce new students to campus and familiarize them with the various student media opportunities at Vanderbilt. VSC Director Chris Carroll said this year’s program was the most successful yet, given the retention rate with Media Immersion participants staying active in student media after the program concluded.

“This year’s group was smaller by design,” Carroll said. “The result was we attracted some amazingly talented students and were able to devote more attention to each of them.”

Sophomore Meghan Rose served as a counselor during Media Immersion. She and another returning student media leader helped their group of new students cover the women’s soccer team. Rose said seeing so many students with such a variety of journalism backgrounds converge to make one project was exciting to watch in action.

“There were so many impressive people,” Rose said. “There were a few who hadn’t even worked on their high school newspaper and just had interest in writing. Seeing them all work together and towards a common goal was interesting.”

Rose’s group included first-year student Eric Single. Single, a recipient of the Fred Russell-Grantland Rice sports writing scholarship, said if he had not participated in Media Immersion, he would not have been given a great opportunity by Rose so immediately after arriving at Vanderbilt. On the last day of Media Immersion, Rose asked all the student leaders if they would like to interview the porter on the Vanderbilt football team for a story. “At the time, I freaked out,” Single said with a laugh. “But I had an article on the Internet before school even started. If I hadn’t done Media Immersion, I would have done sports writing eventually, but I would have missed that cool opportunity had I not gotten into the program.”

And a fringe benefit from Media Immersion, Single said, was the creation of a group of familiar faces around campus. “I could walk into a room and see people from Media Immersion,” he said. “I have a small group of people you already know going into the first day of school.”

Carroll inducted by peers into national hall of fame

by Ann Marie Dear Owens, VU News Service

Chris Carroll, director of student media for Vanderbilt Student Communications, has been awarded the 2009 College Media Advisers Hall of Fame Award. The award honors those long-time members of College Media Advisers whose dedication, commitment and sacrifices have contributed to the betterment and value of student media programs both on their campuses and nationally. Recipients must have contributed to collegiate journalism education for 20 or more years while an active member of the organization.

Carroll began his career in college media advising at Arkansas Tech University in 1986. He served in similar positions at Tulane University and University of South Carolina before coming to Vanderbilt in 1996.

Carroll is a co-founder of the Center for Innovation in College Media and former president of the College Media Advisers. He played a leading role in the creation of the College Media Advisers’ First Amendment Institute.

He is a former president of the Southeast Journalism Conference and board member of the Student Press Law Center. In addition, Carroll founded the Middle Tennessee Scholastic Press Association. Through the years college media under Carroll’s guidance have won national, regional and state awards. In addition, many students who were advised by Carroll have become successful journalists at outlets that include USA Today, The New York Times, Sports Illustrated, Washington Post, ESPN, MSNBC, Vanity Fair and “The Daily Show” on Comedy Central.

Carroll’s accomplished career includes leading Vanderbilt baseball like it had never been covered before. Through our enthusiastic, colorful stories, we turned home games into major campus events. Ever a sportswriter at heart, I guess.

I hope current Vanderbilt students can relate to some of my stories.

What it demonstrates, I think, is that you can be a poor kid from a small town, but if you jump on opportunities when they pop up in front of you, if you throw yourself into something new, you can feel comfortable. I’ve had some pretty unique experiences in my life that I’ve become curious about everything, if you seek out and get to know people who are different than you are, and even if you are a long ways from home – well, 40 years or more from now, you’ll probably love Vanderbilt as much as I do.
We welcome your nomination for the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame. Deadline: Nominations for inclusion in the 2010 Hall of Fame class are due by Feb. 22.

CANDIDATE NOMINATION INFORMATION

- Your name
- Email address
- Phone
- Mailing Address

Nominee Information:
- Name of nominee
- Nominee’s class year or approximate
- Vanderbilt student media organization(s) in which nominee worked
- Dates (or approximate) when nominee worked in Vanderbilt student media
- Please describe your knowledge of how the nominee contributed in a significant way as a staff member to one or more of Vanderbilt’s student media organizations
- Please describe how the nominee has achieved outstanding personal or professional accomplishments and/or made distinguished and lasting contribution to his or her field and/or society in general

You are welcome to also send additional supporting information, documentation, photos, etc.

To nominate a Hall of Fame candidate, please complete the above information and send via email to chris.carroll@vanderbilt.edu or mail to Vanderbilt Student Communications • Attn: Hall of Fame • 2301 Vanderbilt Place • VU Station B 351669 • Nashville, TN 37235-1669

PHOTO GALLERY: A sample of the photography of Chris Phare, A&S ’10 (Vanderbilt Student Media Photo Staff).

Students celebrate with Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos before Vanderbilt won its season opener 45-0 against Western Carolina on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2009.