

tunnelvision

A publication for alumni of student media at Vanderbilt University

ALUMNI

ALUMNI UPDATES GALORE!

Several of your former staff members and classmates give a glimpse into their lives ...

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Lillian Gu and Jerry Yen (page 6)



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 newspapers. Michael Warren served as editor-in-chief in the fall of 2009, and Sydney Wilmer was editor-in-chief in the spring of 2009.

★ ★ ★

WHY TUNNEL VISION?

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 the Sarratt Student Center that has served as home to VSC for many years. The name is a tribute to the countless Vandy tunnel dwellers whose vision created a better campus and world.

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VANDERBILT STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

1967 **42** 2009

CELEBRATING 42 YEARS IN 2009



The inaugural class of the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame (l-r): Sen. Lamar Alexander ('62), Roy Blount Jr. ('63), Mary Elson ('74), Skip Bayless ('74) and Sam Feist ('91) after the induction ceremony held in Sarratt Cinema.

VSC inducts inaugural class of the Vanderbilt Student Media

HALL OF FAME

by Justin Tardiff, Student Media News Editor



Vanderbilt Student Communications inducted the first five members into its Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame on Oct. 16, during Reunion/Homecoming weekend.

Alumni, students and other distinguished guests convened in the cinema in the Sarratt Student Center to watch the induction of Sen. Lamar Alexander ('62), Skip Bayless ('74), Roy Blount Jr. ('63), Mary Elson ('74) and Sam Feist ('91).

"It's finally a way to really personally recognize (some of VSC's alumni) rather than just talk about them," Director of Student Media Chris Carroll said.

The five alumni have gone into a variety of careers following Vanderbilt, all of which include media involvement. As they were honored at the event, they shared humorous and serious anecdotes from their time working in student media during college.

The youngest of the group and the first to be inducted, Feist, who currently serves as CNN's political director and vice president of the network's Washington-based programming, said, "journalists can make a difference." While his father, who had served as a *Hustler* editor, participated in Nashville sit-ins during the civil rights movement, the younger Feist made his own mark at Vanderbilt in pushing for members of the Board of Trust to withdraw membership in country clubs that prohibited African American and Jewish members.

Bayless, 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 Grantland 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, "Grantland 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 hall 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 nominate alumni for the Hall of Fame, please see page 8.

bright lights *an alumni column...*

Forty years of gratitude for Vanderbilt

What a good college experience does for you

by **Chuck Offenburger**, Class of '69



Offenburger

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 of 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

see **Alumni Column**, page 7



HALL OF FAME

2009 Induction Ceremony Photos and Memories...



tunnel vision

Tunnel Vision is published by Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc.

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Hall of Fame Ceremony Photos by
Meg Fenton

Layout and Design by
Jeff Breaux

Printed by
Franklin Web Printing, Co.

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distant voices *alumni updates...*

A glimpse into a few lives that helped shape student media at Vandy

1951



Frank A. Riddick Jr. ★ B.A., 1951, M.D., 1954

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Vanderbilt Masquerader*) Riddick lives in New Orleans, LA, and said: During my undergraduate years (1947-50) I was on the staff of the *Hustler*, as staff writer and feature columnist. I also had several pieces

in the *Masquerader*, and a short story in the literary magazine, whose name I have forgotten. Following my graduation from Vanderbilt's School of Medicine in 1954, my wife, Mary Belle Alston, BA 1951 and I moved to St. Louis for a seven year period at the Washington University/Barnes Hospital complex for residency and a fellowship in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology, with a two year stint as medical officer in the US Army. In 1961 I joined the staff of Ochsner Clinic, a large group practice in New Orleans, where I spent my entire professional career. I added managerial responsibilities to my clinical role and served as Medical Director/CEO of Ochsner Clinic and CEO of Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation until retirement in 2001, since which time I have had a part time presence as CEO Emeritus of Ochsner Health System and maintain a limited practice. My literary efforts have been in the professional sphere. I served on Editorial Boards of four medical journals, authored 26 books or book chapters and had 100 papers in peer-reviewed journals, on endocrine disorders, health care delivery systems and medical ethics. Our three children are Vanderbilt graduates, Laura Riddick Dufresne, BA 1976, Frank Riddick III, BA 1978, and John Riddick, MD 2001. In retirement I have participated in Creative Writing exercises at Tulane.

1954

Jane Guthman Kahn ★ 1954

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Kahn lives in Savannah, GA, and said: Until you first contacted me, I had completely forgotten that I had ever worked on the *Hustler*! Then I remembered. That experience is what sparked my interest in journalism, and my subsequent Journalism Degree from the University of Missouri. I went on to be a reporter, now a freelance writer. My husband and I authored "25 Bicycle Tours in Savannah and the Carolina Low Country," still in active publication.

1956



Walter R. Courtenay, Jr.

Walter R. Courtenay, Jr. ★ B.A., 1956

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Commodore yearbook*) Courtenay lives in Gainesville, FL, and said: I am honored to have short biographies of my life published in the 2010 editions of Marquis's "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World."

1961



Carl L. Sebelius ★ B.A., 1961

(*WRVU*) Sebelius lives in Memphis, TN, and said: I retired from the University of Tennessee, July 2009 as Professor Emeritus Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. While no longer practicing, I am still active in state and national dental organizations.

1962

Geoff McClelland ★ B.A., 1962

(*WRVU*) McClelland lives in Chicago, IL, and said: After Vanderbilt (which included a stint at

campus radio station WRVU), I ended up working for three major Chicago advertising agencies in the area of media planning for over 30 years. I retired as a Senior VP in 2001 but kept my hand in for seven years as an Adjunct Professor of Integrated Media Planning at Loyola University Chicago in its graduate level Masters of Science in Integrated Marketing Communications program. I am now doing a great deal of consulting for nonprofit organizations.

1965

Larry D. Austin ★ B.A., 1965

(*WRVU*) Austin lives in Hardeman County, TN.

1968

Charles Coddington ★ B.E., 1968

(*Commodore yearbook*) Coddington lives 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 Fertility Preservation for cancer patients. It has been an exciting time. On the publishing side, I have written an article on Mentoring which was recently published in our specialty medical journal *Fertility and Sterility*. The family of three sons is well and my wife of 40 years is doing fine too.

Jay Gerald Safer ★ B.A., 1968

(*WRVU, Commodore yearbook, Spectrum*) Safer lives in New York City, NY, and said: Partner at law firm of Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP in New York City.

1969

Douglas Thompson Bates III ★ B.A., 1969

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Bates lives in Centerville, TN, and said: After graduation I was in the Army serving a year in Viet Nam. I graduated from the University of Tennessee law school and have been a lawyer in Centerville, Tennessee, my home town, since 1974. I have been married for 35 years to Molly Bates and we have two grown children, a daughter in Virginia and a son who is a veteran of the Iraq War and and my law partner.

James (Jim) Atticus Freeman III ★ B.A., 1969, J.D., 1972

(*WRVU*) Freeman lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I served as the Business Manager for WRVU 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 also worked extensively for General Electric Broadcasting at the three stations (AM/FM/TV) they owned in Nashville during that period. Times were tough at WRVU when I was there, as those involved know, but we did manage to sell some advertising to help keep the lights on for what has today become a very professional organization. My two experiences in Broadcasting were obviously quite different but both were helpful in many ways in my future career as an attorney. I declined several offers to stay in broadcasting and completed my JD at Vandy and joined the Tennessee Bar in 1972. My last on the air work was as co-anchor of the ABC Radio statewide election coverage for TN in November of 1972 when Nixon defeated McGovern in a landslide. I married Judy (Davis / Univ. of Memphis, 1970) in 1970 while I was in law school and we have three children and two grandchildren. We all live in middle Tennessee. After graduation from law school I accepted a position at Murray, Inc. in Brentwood, TN, a New York Stock Exchange company making a variety of consumer products, where I ultimately became head of legal and risk management functions. I left there in 1989 to form my own consulting company and to join a Nashville law firm. Leaving my position as a partner in that firm in 2003 to form my own firm, James A. Freeman & Associates, P.C., fulfilled a long held ambition and we now have five attorneys in the firm. Over the 37 years I have practiced law the experience gained in and the contacts developed in broadcasting have been of enormous benefit to me and to my clients. Some of the matters handled have included a suit representing a country music legend against the *Star* and the *National Enquirer* tabloids for invasion of privacy; breach of contract litigation against a major national radio network and a large national media company on behalf of a local broadcasting company; acting as defense counsel in litigation between two local music promotion associations; representation of a local syndicated program production company in litigation matters and various corporate matters and representation of a locally based publically traded broadcast company which owns multiple radio stations in the southeast. Vanderbilt Law

School trained me to be an attorney in these and other similar cases but my work in broadcasting has helped me secure the business and effectively represent the clients involved.

1970

Bill Livingston ★ B.A., 1970

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Spectrum*) Livingston lives in North Olmsted, Ohio, and said: My first book "Above and Beyond -- Tim Mack, the Pole Vault and the Quest for Olympic Gold" won the 2009 National Media Award from the Pole Vault Development Committee of USA Track and Field. It's about a Cleveland-born and bred Olympic gold medalist who competed for the Vols. I sincerely apologize for his regrettable choice of school. I'm also co-author of "The Great Book of Cleveland Sports Lists." I have been a sports columnist at the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for 25 years after beginning at the *Dallas Morning News* in 1971 and following that at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (1973-84), where I covered the 76ers with Dr. J for six years. I will be writing columns on Ohio State in this year's Rose Bowl game. I held the Grantland Rice Scholarship at Vanderbilt and felt the *Hustler* was my most rewarding experience in college. I reluctantly admit I should have paid more attention in Western Civ.

1973



Michael Anzek ★ B.A., 1973

(*WRVU*) Anzek lives in Arab, AL, and said: WAFN-FM "Fun 92.7 FM" remains North Alabama's ONLY Oldies Format on FM for over a dozen years. It's "Friday Night Lights" play-by-play High School Football broadcast and "In-Game Scoreboard" feature has been voted tops in the state for the

6th consecutive year. Shown in photo, Michael St. John and fiance' Melanie celebrating another year of "fun"...

Cleve Latham ★ B.A., 1973

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, Freshman Annual*) Latham lives in Chattanooga, TN, and said: Cleve has been an English teacher at McCallie School in Chattanooga for 35 years. In addition to teaching duties, he has served as English Dept. chairman, Director of College Guidance, Director of Academic Research, and Dean of Studies. In addition, he served terms as President of the Southern Association of College Admission Counselors and as President of the National Association of College Admission Counselors. He is also a regular featured speaker at annual meetings of The College Board. Early in his career, he advised the school's yearbook and literary magazine. Today, he is focused on teaching and writing, having recently renewed his dedication to writing fiction. He has worked with novelists Stephen Sherrill, Michael Griffith, and Ellen Slezak. One of his writing students is Jon Meacham, editor of *Newsweek* magazine and winner of the Pulitzer Prize.

1974



Bo Turner Carter ★ B.A., 1974

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Commodore yearbook*) Carter lives in Carrollton, TX, and said: Bo Carter is staff adviser for the Texas Woman's University newspaper (founded in 1914), *The Lasso*, and also serves as a student mentor and ASSET program member.

He writes a weekly notes column for *Dallas Sports Page Weekly* and is a contributing correspondent for the National Football Foundation. Carter also is researching a book on the Vanderbilt Class of 1974 and its greatness over the last 35-36 years!

1975

Jeff Segal ★ B.A., 1975

(*WRVU*) Segal lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I have been practicing law (estate and corporate planning) in Atlanta since 1978 and recently started a new firm, The Segal Law Firm, P.C. I spend most of my spare time coaching youth baseball. Two things from my days at WRVU: I

miss sitting on top of the Vanderbilt dugout to broadcast baseball. And I still enjoy telling the story of my interview with Steve Martin at WRVU after his famous show in 1975...Vanderbilt even gets a mention in his autobiography "Born Standing Up."

Debra Moore Newman ★ B.A., 1975

(*Commodore yearbook*) Newman lives in Florence, AL, and said: Establishing the baseline, beginning in late '70s: beat reporter for local newspaper, where I met my future husband; research consultant for Miccosukee Indians in South Florida, whose efforts eventually led to the Big Cypress Reserve federal legislation; marriage with two children, stay-at-home mom 10 years -- lots of home-baked cookies, costumes & school newsletters. Widowed in 1994; husband one of 10,000 persons with hemophilia in this country who contracted HIV from tainted blood products; participated on state and national levels with NIH-related advisory boards supporting efforts to create an AIDS vaccine. Family & Children's Services social worker for state since 1991 -- formerly supervised frontline investigators of child abuse/neglect; currently quality assurance supervisor, analyzing data and writing reports, humanizing the technical with human interest vignettes. Both children received MFA's, daughter in screenwriting in Southern California, son in theatre, working as lighting designer in Louisville, KY. Focusing now on transitioning into freelance writing & photography as I transition out of government work. Big decision: move to the Newman farm in Giles County, Tennessee, or to North Carolina, my favorite state. Hope to write, travel, cook, explore the outdoors, and share the mature years, now punctuated with life experience and wisdom about the significance of simple gifts, with old friends and new ones to make.

Nancy Jeanne Johnson ★ BSN, 1975

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Johnson lives in Alexandria, VA.

Charles Austin Heffernan ★ B.A., 1975, M.B.A., 1977

(*WRVU*) Heffernan lives in Hagerstown, MD, and said: Owner - Royal Aircraft Services, KHGR.



L to R: My Son Charles, Daughter Linda, myself, and Wife Pamela.

1976

Paul Jensen ★ B.S., 1976

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU*) Jensen lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: Writing software instead of Pink Floyd reviews (in *Hustler* long ago)...

1977

Beth Raebeck Hall ★ B.S., 1977

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine, VSC Board member*) Hall lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Grammy nominee Beth Raebeck Hall is still happily pursuing her love of words and music, in both the media and the entertainment industry. As a copywriter at the *Tennessean*, she covers a variety of subjects for their Custom Publications Department. In addition, her work has appeared in *Nashville Arts, Culture & Leisure, HER, FLOWER*, and *N' Focus Magazines*. She also created, hosted and produced over 200 *Music Row Minute* AAA radio segments for WRLT-Lightning 100, one of the country's most prestigious alternative stations. Currently at work on her fourth CD, her *Llve at Caffe Mil*.



Beth Raebeck Hall with friend Desmond Child, one of the greatest living rock writers whose credits include: "Livin' on a Prayer", "Dude Looks like a Lady," "I Hate Myself for Lovin' You" and many other top hits.

alumni updates...

1979

Fred Buc ★ B.S., 1979

(WRVU, VSC Board member) Buc lives in Nashville, TN, and said: This past summer, several WRVU staffers from the 70s and early 80s got together to reminisce about our old college radio memories and how much fun we had back in those days. Special thanks to Fred Katz for organizing and hosting the picnic, which we hope will become an annual event.



Pictured L to R: Mary Catherine Tubbs, Fred Katz, Nick Archer, Dave Barie, Skip Woolwine, Roy Dickinson, Winston Gaines, Fred Buc.



Stu Evans ★ B.A., 1979

(WRVU) Evans lives in Phoenix, AZ, and said: Stu spent almost 20 years as the PM drive personality on KMLE (Camel Country 108), Phoenix. 2009 has been a time to rediscover and reinvent. Stu filled in

Stu Evans

mornings and afternoons during the summer on cross-town rival station, KNIX. He started Big Shoe STUdios LLC (<http://www.bigshoestudios.com>), which encompasses several types of audio and video enterprises. In addition to commercial, instructional, and industrial voiceover, Big Shoe STUdios is exploring a project with Arizona's PBS television station, producing interview videos for professionals, and exploring a new form of event invitations. Stu and his wife of 23 years, Bunny, have two beautiful daughters. Maya is a freshman at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, and Carly (still in middle school) is determined to take her place in the world of fashion design. Stu loves to hear from old "WERVites".

Roger David Hyman ★ B.A., 1979

(WRVU) Hyman lives in Powell (Knoxville), TN, and said: My oldest child (Cristina) is now 18 and a Freshman at Swarthmore College (after being accepted at VU—but rejecting my earnest pleas that she be my "legacy"!); However, my 8-year-old "soccer star" son (James) is now promising that he is indeed a "firm commitment" to VU (incl. NROTC!). I haven't yet begun working on my youngest (Julia, age 18 mos). Elsa and I have been married for 12 years now; I'm currently senior partner with Hyman, Carter & Patel, PLLC, Attorneys, in Knoxville, TN. A big "hello" to all my old friends from WRVU, and hope to see you sometime.

1980



Jason A. Bernstein ★ B.S., 1980

(WRVU) Bernstein lives in Atlanta, Ga, and said: Still practicing patent, trademark and copyright law (until I get it perfect) since 1983. I joined Barnes & Thornburg in April 2009 to help start their Atlanta office.

Jason A. Bernstein

Studying blues and jazz guitar with my three sons (15, 14, 10) keeps me young.

Elizabeth Catherine Phillips ★ B.S., 1980

(WRVU) Phillips lives in Knoxville, TN, and said: For the past few years I have been working on environmental remediation projects at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. I just participated in a Mercury Summit at Vanderbilt University in October 2009 at the School of Engineering. I was happy to see the campus looking good and visiting with some of the current engineering professors. In my job with the Department of Energy I spend a lot of time using the communication skills I learned at Vanderbilt to interface with the public, regulatory agencies and other scientists on the complex technical issues associated with environmental cleanup projects. I have also been instrumental in securing over \$15 million of research funding for scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory to understand the mercury methylation process in a contaminated environment. I hope to see some of my classmates at the 30 year reunion in October 2010.

Jay Coogan ★ B.A., 1980

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine) Coogan lives in Wayne, PA, and said: The advance of technology has enabled me to get a true fix for my sportswriting jones. After 10 years of sending columns to a small circle of friends by e-mail, and a brief stretch of blogging (along with some actual journalists) for www.neworleans.com, I set up my own site for reports and columns about my beloved New Orleans Saints at www.girodstreetendzone.com. Just what the world needed: one more blog.

Emmet Schwartzman ★ B.A., 1980

(WRVU) Schwartzman lives in Key Biscayne, FL, and said: I had the pleasure of taking my family to see the Vanderbilt - Florida football game in Gainesville on November 7. We attended a terrific VU tailgate party with former WRVU sportscaster Steven Lippman (A&S '79) and his family. Although the 'Dores did not beat the No. 1 Gators, my wife Jill, who graduated Florida undergrad and law school, was pleased with the final score.

Kenton L Erwin ★ B.S., 1980, J.D., 1982

(Commodore yearbook) Erwin lives in Portland, OR, and said: I'm General Counsel for VTech, an Asian-owned manufacturer of telephones, learning toys, and other consumer electronic products. One of our two daughters just graduated from Vandy and is working with Proctor & Gamble in Cincinnati. The younger one is in school in Illinois, studying architecture. For fun I grow grapes, make wine, collect wine, and have a license to buy wines at wholesale. And then there are wine-related trips around the country and the world...

1982

Charles Euchner ★ 1982

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine) Euchner lives in Hamden, CT, and said: Euchner will publish his tenth book, "Nobody Turn Me Around: A People's History of the 1963 March on Washington," this June with Beacon Press. The book, which offers a dramatic narrative of the day when 250,000 gathered on the National Mall to hear Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" oration, resulted from more than 100 interviews and extensive archival research. The book already has won praise from Juan Williams ("compelling and dramatic") and Nashville author John Egerton ("the pages crackle and vibrate with the voices of unsung heroes"). Euchner, who has taught writing at Yale for three years, has also completed a draft of another book, "The Writing Code." That book forms the basis of his seminar program for businesses, schools, and professional writers. "Anyone can become a proficient writer by mastering roughly 100 simple skills," Euchner says. "We already use most of those skills, but need to sharpen them and add some missing skills to our repertoire." The Writing Code seminars teach those skills by building a foundation of storytelling tactics, then using the "template" of those skills to improve technical and analytic skills. "Any organization can transform its writing with a one-day seminar and some smart followup," Euchner says. "Surveys show that two-thirds of all professionals write regularly. Better to do it well and avoid the misery of miscommunication." Information about the program can be found at www.thewritingcode.info.

David Linn ★ B.E. M.S., 1982

(Commodore yearbook) Linn lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I don't recall ever hearing of Tunnel Vision before but it sounds like a good idea. I work in the Dean's Office IT Group for the VU School of Engineering. This isn't exactly news; I've been a staff member since 1990 and have been doing pretty much the same sort of job in the Engineering School since 1983.

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old VU friends
and classmates...

Looking for old friends and
classmates?

visit

VUconnect.com

Vanderbilt's new online
community, where you
can connect with alumni,
students and friends
around the world.

1983



Bruce E. Peoples

Bruce E. Peoples ★ B.A., 1983

(WRVU) Peoples lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I am now a consumer or customer marketing research consultant. I conduct focus groups, interviews, online bulletin boards, and social media monitoring; and I create online advisory communities. I like it

because marketing begins with the customer, and I like the variety of industries that I work for, from beverages to insurance. My website is peoples-marketinginsights.com.



Philip Tate

Philip Tate ★ B.A., 1983

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Commodore yearbook) Tate lives in Charlotte, NC, and said: Philip Tate, APR has been elected Treasurer of the Public Relations Society of America, the largest communications organization in the world with more than 32,000 members.

Daniel Hardon Monroe ★ B.A., 1983

(Versus magazine, Vanderbilt Poetry Review) Monroe lives in Birmingham, AL, and said:



Daniel Hardon Monroe

The last couple of years have been great for us here in Birmingham. Cayenne, the advertising and design company I own with business partner, Dan Murch, has exceeded all our expectations despite the gloom/doom economy. Our broad client base helped. Running a pretty tight ship helped. Just

being in the right place at the right time helped. At the moment, we're really excited about finally having a web site we love (we've been like the cobbler whose kids ran around in ugly shoes for about three years now). Check it out at www.cayennecreative.com. Oh, and I would be remiss without pointing out that we're looking to grow our client base on a more national level. F.I.T.B. On the personal side, my wife, Pam has now been in college counseling at The Altamont School for about three years. In another three, that experience will be put to the test with my son, Sam (14), whose main skill right now, (in addition to being so much smarter than both his parents it's scary), is whipping his father at golf. He's been playing less than two years. There is no justice in that.

Richard Gazala ★ B.A., 1983, J.D., 1986



Blood of the Moon, A Thriller -- Front Cover

(WRVU) Gazala lives in Vienna, VA, and said: My debut novel, "Blood of the Moon," was published in October, 2009, after winning the Editor's Choice and Rising Star pre-publication awards from my publisher. I'm now researching and writing my next novel, "Triad," a thriller set in New Orleans in the grim aftermath of Hurricane

Katrina. Visit my web site for more about the books, at www.richardgazala.com.

1984

Steven David Hall ★ B.E., 1984

(WRVU) Hall lives in Fort Myers, FL, and said: This fall, I've had been able to attend two VU football games, one home and one away, first time in years. Unfortunately I could not attend the Reunion. I continue to be amazed how much technology has changed since college. My son carries several devices and somehow is able to multi-task!

1985

Robert Franke ★ B.A., 1985

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, Commodore yearbook, Film Committee) Franke lives in Nashville, TN, and said: After the recent purchase of William Morris Agency, my agent and I moved over to United Talent Agency in July, 2009. I am working on a script with rapper/

actor 50 Cent (Curtis Jackson) and another with director Stephen Sommers (GI JOE, MUMMY movies). My children, Aloe (5) and Sean (2) like splitting time between Nashville and Los Angeles and thank goodness their mother does, too.

1986



David Turner

David Turner ★ B.S., 1986, 1987

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine, The Vanderbilt Review) Turner lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Dave was one of five international artists to participate in an exhibit entitled *The Mandala from Ancient Tibet to Today*. Digital

Dave showed Mandala Meditations, a new animated video and a series of new canvas giclees inspired by the video. The exhibit, held in Rome, Italy, was well attended and will soon be moved to Florence. For more information visit www.digitaldave.com

1987

Patricia Lynn Lanford Storck ★ B.A., 1987

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Storck lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I am using my communications background in a way I never envisioned as an undergrad at Vandy. I am currently pursuing my teacher's certificate from University of Georgia's College of Special Education and Communication Sciences while working with special needs children at Hawthorne Elementary in Dekalb County. I support a visually impaired child in an inclusion classroom, adapting and modifying curriculum and transcribing Braille. My work and school schedule is perfectly suited around my own daughters, who are doing well in fifth and eighth grades.

1988

Danielle Berger ★ B.A. B.S., 1988

(The Dome — independent, underground publication) Berger lives in New York, NY, and said: Founder St. Hill Pharmaceutical Corporation. Creator of the Simpsons Vitamins. www.st-hill.com Exclusive healthy formulas for families everywhere. Awarded 2009 Creative Marketer of the Year by publishing industry. 2009 New York Award for exceptional marketing in local community in Vitamin category. Don't forget your vitamins™.

1989

Charles Joesten ★ B.A., 1989

(WRVU) Joesten lives in Arlington, VA, and said: My experience at Vandy influenced my life and career in many positive ways. One of these was my involvement with WRVU as the host of the weekly Reggae and Ska Show in the early 90s. My love for reggae took me to Washington, D.C. to work for an international reggae label and distributor, Real Authentic Sound (RAS) Records. After a few years there of working in sales and touring across the country as a band manager with reggae superstars, I left the industry and went back to school for an MBA. Flash forward 15 years and I have finally reopened my vinyl collection to digitally archive and preserve it. I have my first turntable since WRVU and have only just begun this massive project. I have thousands of records so this will take awhile, but this is one musical challenge I love. I hope to one day share these experiences online (reggaetour.com) so stay tuned.



Archive project inception, cracking open the first 45's...

1990

Deron Buice ★ B.A., 1990

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Commodore yearbook, Sports Information Department) Buice lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Working as Georgia Zone Sales Manager for Snyder's of Hanover. Still involved in sports coaching daughter's basketball team and son's baseball team.

George Bevington ★ B.A., 1990

(Versus magazine) Bevington lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Leading a student excursion to the Iron Pour at Ga. State, and 3,000 degree F molten iron on a 35 degree F day. Cheers!



Students look on as techs pour molten iron into sandblock molds.

Stephen Mass ★ B.A., 1990

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) 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, Pennsylvania, about one hour outside of Philadelphia, practicing head and neck surgery. My wife, Marion and I are busy with three children with whom we enjoy traveling.

David Werle ★ B.S., 1990

(WRVU) Werle lives in Greensboro, NC.

1991

Chris Norris ★ B.S., 1991

(WRVU) Norris lives in Marietta, GA, and said: I am a real estate broker and now have the distinct pleasure of doubling my risk by having two brokerages 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 with two great kids in elementary school. Still miss WFUV and listen to a few old cassette tapes I have of old shows with my kids.



Me catching tarpon on a Vandy boys reunion weekend.

Marnie Lambert Zrike ★ B.A., 1991

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, The Vanderbilt Review) Zrike lives in Houston, TX, and said: Living and working in Houston and enjoying time with my 4th grader. Not much else going on, but, most days, that suits me fine.



Marnie and her son Raymond.

1993

Joe Peebles ★ B.S., 1993

(WRVU, Vanderbilt Television) Peebles lives in Washington, DC, and said: I still love music as I deejay occasional weddings, celebrations and anniversaries in the DC Metro Area. I started a foundation in my hometown of Murfreesboro, TN to serve graduating minority high school students going to college. Please visit www.jpj-foundation.com for details.



JPJ Foundation Scholarship recipients 2008.

Laura Creekmore ★ B.A., 1993

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, 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.

Ashby Barnes [also '93] works for the State of Tennessee's Solid Waste Division, helping counties reduce the amount they send to landfills.

1995

Keith Alberstadt ★ B.A., 1995

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU) Alberstadt lives in Astoria, NY, and said: Still schlepping around NYC doing stand-up comedy and punching dry wall whenever the Commodores lose a game in the fourth quarter. I have a ton of repairs to make after this year. I'm also writing freelance for Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update and Late Night with Jimmy Fallon and traveling to comedy clubs around the country every now and then and working on my run-on sentence skills. keith-comedy.com



Me with Kix Brooks at a fundraiser in Nashville.

1996

Amy Coombs Calhoun ★ B.A., 1996

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Calhoun lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Alan and Amy Coombs Calhoun (BA 1996) welcomed their third child, Owen Richard Calhoun on November 16, 2009.

Sovana Paul Moore ★ B.S., 1996, M.D., 2000

(Commodore yearbook) Moore lives in Murfreesboro, TN, and said: Sovana (Paul) Moore and Steve Moore, BS 1996, had their first child Shelby in December 2008. Sovana is practicing OB/GYN in Murfreesboro, TN.

1997



Michael Bruno ('97 - Hustler) and Langdon Shoop ('97 - Hustler, Versus) at the Kentucky Derby in May.

Langdon Shoop ★ B.A., 1997

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine) Shoop lives in Lexington, KY, and said: I continue to ride the wave of ups and downs with the car business. Much more up than down this winter compared to last. And it is time once more for my Annual Christmas get together with Michael Bruno (class of '97, Hustler). Attached is a photo of us at the Kentucky Derby this past May. After one Mint Julep, Michael was picking winners!

Michael Brill ★ B.S., MEd, 1997

(WRVU, Vanderbilt Television) Brill lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: Started a new company called Reel Motion Sports (www.reelmotionsports.com) that focuses on filming action sports like freeride mountain biking. I've been consumed by downhill mountain bike racing this past summer as well as building a few documentaries.



Michael Brill, Sea Otter Classic - Monterey, CA

Michael Bruno ★ B.A., 1997

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Vanderbilt Television) Bruno lives in Washington, DC, and said: Still in the thick of it in Washington, D.C. When not doing community theater or playing Ultimate, I'm trying to hold the military industrial complex responsible as the bureau chief for the team of reporters covering defense issues at Aviation Week. But best times come with best friends, like Langdon Shoop (A&S, '97), and our beautiful wives Kendra and MJ.



Langdon Shoop, Michael Bruno, Kendra Shoop, MJ Bruno.

Stephanie Kaye Storey ★ B.A., 1997

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus 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 hypochondriac doctor. Don't Make Me Sick was written by an Emmy-winning writer and features a cast from TV shows such as Gilmore Girls, The Office, Grey's Anatomy, The Jay Leno Show, and The Daily Show. Check it out at www.DontMakeMeSick.net



Mike Gandolfi, starring as Dr. Kevin Carr, hypochondriac AND doctor and Shira Scott (The Office) as "Bleeding Patient."

Amelie Walker ★ B.A., 1997

(Versus magazine) Walker lives in New York, NY, and said: My web design and development company, Castle Builder Design, turns five in 2010! My clients include several in print and online media.

1998

Ryan Denning ★ B.A., 1998

(WRVU) Denning lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: Happily engaged and looking forward to 2010 after first full year as Managing Director of R/GA's (www.rga.com) fledgling San Francisco office.

James Noble ★ B.S., 1998

(WRVU, Slightly Amusing, VSC Board member) Noble lives in Demarest, NJ, and said: In October Jamie and wife Annie welcomed Beatrice Elizabeth, little sister to Benicio (1), Salvatore (3), and Josephine (5). Jamie is now working full time at Harlem Hospital, part of Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons. He relies heavily on his WRVU musical roots in his ongoing work, including developing intergenerational programs to improve neurologic health literacy in the community by educating its children with health messages incorporated into hip hop songs (written by rapper Doug E Fresh). For more info, check out http://hiphoppublichealth.org/

Meredith Fletcher ★ B.A., 1998

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine) Fletcher lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Meredith Fletcher is celebrating the one-year anniversary of Fletcher Public Relations, a boutique consultancy specializing in media relations for business services companies.

1999

David Woods ★ B.A., 1999

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Woods lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: I recently completed a successful film festival run with BIRTHMARK, the most recent short film that I wrote and directed. I'm currently employed as the Post Production Supervisor on the CBS Television series, The Good Wife.

Justin Seibert ★ B.A., 1999

(Vanderbilt Television) Seibert lives in Wheeling, WV, and said: Justin is the President of Direct Online Marketing, a search engine marketing agency that helps clients reach people looking for their products and services. He lives in Wheeling, WV with his wife Kristin, and children Clare Ella (4), Max (3), and Emma Bailey (4 months). Justin and Frank recently applied for a spin off of Two Bitter Seniors entitled Two Fat Middle Ageds, but mercifully were rejected.

Lauren Brick Bruner ★ B.S., 1999

Bruner lives in Annapolis, MD, and said: Enjoying life in Annapolis, MD with husband Todd Bruner, 2 1/2 year old daughter Julia, and a baby girl due in January.

2000

Ryan Lee Triplette ★ B.A., 2000

(Commodore yearbook) Triplettelives in Washington, DC, and said: I have lived in Washington, DC for the past seven years. I recently joined the Intel Corporate as their Director of Government 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.

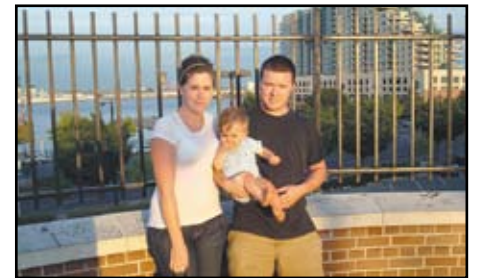
2001

Edward Stoner ★ B.A., 2001

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Stoner lives in Vail, CO, and said: I am assistant managing editor at the Vail Daily newspaper in Vail, Colo.

Michelle Zimmermann Donahue ★ B.A., 2001

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Commodore yearbook, The Vanderbilt Review) Donahue lives in Washington, DC, and said: After spending several years with a suburban weekly newspaper, freelancing and a stint with a Canadian economic wire service covering the U.S. Treasury and Capitol Hill, I'm now a write-at-home mother of a 1-year-old, William. I still get the requisite raised eyebrow anytime I happen to reference the Vanderbilt Hustler as my launchpad into journalism: "Yes, my college paper was really called The Hustler."



Michelle, her husband Jimmy and son William on a recent visit to Philadelphia.

Carl Vincent Morales Manalo ★ B.S., 2001

(The Vanderbilt Review) Manalo lives in New York, NY, and said: I am now a Teacher Director at the Phoenix Academy at Herbert H. Lehman High School. This is an Academy for at-risk students to catch-up with credits needed to graduate. It seeks to rekindle their interest in school and learning and reconnect them with success.

Daniel Vo ★ B.S., 2001

(The Vanderbilt Review) Vo lives in Philadelphia, PA, and said: Daniel finished Pediatrics residency at Columbia University Medical Center in New York and moved to Philadelphia, PA to start a combined anesthesia and pediatric intensive care fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He was back in Nashville in November and was amazed at how much Vandy had changed...and stayed the same. He still enjoys writing about himself in the third person.

2003



My girlfriend Kristen and me at a wedding.

Alex Shoor ★ B.A., 2003

(Orbis) Shoor lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: After four years in New York City, I moved to my home state of California in August to go to grad school at USC. I will graduate with a Masters in Public Administration in May 2011.



Emily Faye Abbott

Emily Faye Abbott ★ B.A., 2003

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Abbott lives in Knoxville, TN, and said: Emily Faye Abbott has gotten a new job and a new apartment. She is an Assistant District Attorney in the 7th Judicial District in Tennessee, which is Anderson County. Her life is very much like an episode of "Law & Order." She resides in Sequoyah Hills in Knoxville, Tennessee. She is the proud parent of a fluffy white dog, Martin; and a fat orange cat, George.

UPDATE
your contact information at
VUconnect.com

alumni updates...



Houston Ruck ★ B.A., 2003

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Commodore yearbook*) Ruck lives in Washington, DC, and said: Recently accepted a position as creative director with Growth Energy in Washington, D.C. after working for

Houston Ruck

nearly five years with *U.S. News & World Report*. This summer he zipped out to Taos, N.M. to shoot the wedding of fellow *Hustler* alumnus Jonathan Rodgers and *Vanderbilt Review* alumna Jennifer Casale.

2004

Jodi Rachael Edelstein ★ B.M., 2004

(*VSC Board member*) Edelstein lives in Providence, RI, and said: Jodi recently returned from working in Japan as part the Japan Exchange and Teaching ("JET") Program. She is now an attorney with Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP in Providence, RI.



Jay and Jack Williams

Jay Williams ★ B.A., 2004

(*WRVU, VSC Board member*) Williams lives in Washington, DC, and said: I am currently working as a third-year associate in the Commercial Litigation group of DC law firm Venable LLP. My wife Corinne and I welcomed our first child, Jack, into the

world on October 29th, 2009! Jack has already watched two Vanderbilt football losses on TV, so he's well-prepared to be a Vanderbilt fan for years to come.

Meredith Trezise ★ B.A., 2004

(*The Torch*) Trezise lives in Jacksonville, FL, and said: I am in stationed with the Navy in Jacksonville training to be a navigator/communications officer on the P-3 Orion.

Meredith (Gray) Gray-Grener ★ B.A., 2004, M.F.A., 2009

(*The Slant, The Vanderbilt Review*) Gray-Grener lives in Ithaca, NY, and said: After graduating from the Master of Fine Arts program in Fiction Writing at Vanderbilt in May 2009, I moved back to Ithaca, NY, where my husband, Adam Grener (A&S '04) is finishing his Ph.D. in English at Cornell University. Right now I work as a Grants and Contracts Coordinator at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, where I focus on the editing and compilation of public health grants.

2005



Caroline Collins McKenzie

Caroline Collins McKenzie ★ B.A., 2005

(*Commodore yearbook*) McKenzie lives in Boston, MA, and said: 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 Martha Stewart Omnimedia publication.

Jennifer Carlisle Dillard ★ B.A., 2005

(*Orbis, The Vanderbilt Review, VSC Board member*) 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

Gosha Khuchua ★ B.A., 2006

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, InsideVandy.com VSC Board member*) Khuchua lives in New York, NY, and said: Continues to work at Neo, the digital arm of Ogilvy & Mather, as a media supervisor. Recently went abroad to Australia and Russia and is contemplating working outside of the country in the next year or two.

Andy Lutzky ★ B.S., 2006

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Lutzky lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: After spending two years with the San Francisco 49ers, I work in public relations with Edelman, on the Hetlett-Packard account. I manage reviews programs for HP desktops computers, monitors, and lots of other fun gadgets! I also still help the 49ers PR staff in running the press box on gamedays.

Jerry Yen ★ B.A., 2006

(*WRVU, Commodore yearbook*) 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

Bridget Cornett ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Slant, The Vanderbilt Review*) Cornett lives in Philadelphia, PA, and said: Working on pre-medical science coursework at Bryn Mawr College in the hopes of attending medical school in the near future.

Alessandra Henderson ★ B.A., 2007

(*WRVU, Versus magazine*) Henderson lives in New York, NY, and said: After graduation, Alessandra moved to Beijing, China where she managed a Chinese contemporary art gallery. While in Beijing, Alessandra organized the Beijing Pecha Kucha as well as contributed an art column to a bi-monthly local publication. Having moved to New York in September 2009, Alessandra is immersing herself in the city's art community as well as keeping up her involvement with China related issues.

Tim Bowles ★ B.A., 2007

(*Orbis*) Bowles lives in Sacramento, CA, and said: I am a PhD student in the Graduate Group in Ecology at UC Davis. I am interested in agricultural ecology and relationships between biodiversity and human wellbeing. I also like 60 degree sunny days in December.

Mary LaDriere ★ B.S., 2007

(*Versus magazine, Spoon magazine*) LaDriere lives in Chicago, IL, and said: I am working as an account executive at Leo Burnett advertising agency in Chicago.

Adam Setren ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, InsideVandy.com, Commodore yearbook*) Setren lives in Baltimore, MD, and said: Adam is a third year medical student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Imagine a crossover between "Scrubs" and "The Wire." He takes photos sometimes for the *Campus Connection*, his local student newspaper.

Adrienne Willey ★ B.S., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com, Spoon magazine*) Willey lives in Chicago, IL, and said: I currently work in the Office of Institutional Advancement at Illinois Institute of Technology. In my spare time I also serve as the CoRPs (Commodore Recruitment Programs) Chair for the Chicago chapter of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association.

Cappi Williamson ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com*) Williamson lives in New York, NY, and said: I am working at *The New Yorker* magazine in public relations.

Mike Burns ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, VSC Board member*) Burns lives in Washington, DC, and said: I am currently a third-year law student at Georgetown, searching for opportunities in legislative practice on the Hill.

Ben Tyndall ★ B.A., 2007

(*Vanderbilt Television*) Tyndall lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I'm now working as a research assistant in the department of sociology at Kennesaw State University. We're studying the lives and turning points of older drug users.

Elizabeth Marie Ryan ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Torch*) 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. Arlen Beam of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Courtney Dial ★ B.A., 2007, 2009

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Dial lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am currently serving as the career counselor for students interested in environment, sustainability, and nonprofit careers with the Vanderbilt Career Center.

2008

Reeve Hamilton ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Hamilton lives in Austin, TX, and said: After interning around the country at *The Nation*, *The Texas Observer*, and *The Newshour with Jim Lehrer*, I have 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.

Madeleine Frances Pulman ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com, Commodore yearbook*) Pulman lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Still living in Atlanta and enjoying my position with Nissan North America. I learn something new with every day that passes and am enjoying being a part of such a complexed industry! Our fiscal year ends on March 31st and I cannot wait to see what new challenges and opportunities arise in FY10!

Rachel Diehl Unger ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Slant*) Unger lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I've ended my glorious tenure at Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi Bar, and I'm currently working with Vanderbilt Temporary Services (yes, we have our own temp agency, who knew?) in Development and Alumni Relations for the College of Arts and Science. As of late I've been interviewing with Volkswagen Group of America in Chattanooga, TN for bilingual German/English positions, and also with a film agency back in Knoxville, TN, but wouldn't mind 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 working on getting a Master in



Mike and Jerry Yen (BS, 2006) at Duke basketball game.

Engineering Management program with a concentration in Global Health at Duke University. I'm not involved with any media work now, but still taking a lot of pictures.

2009

Douglas H Kurdziel ★ B.A., 2009

(*The Torch*) Kurdziel 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 charity that delivers freshly prepared hot meals to people homebound with life-altering illnesses.



Katie DePaola

Katie DePaola ★ B.S., 2009

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, InsideVandy.com*) DePaola lives in New York, 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 Vandy alum and a public relations internship 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 speaker, working on her blog and a potential new e-book. 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 whenever possible!



Dustin Swysgood

Dustin Swysgood ★ B.E., 2009

(*WRVU*) Swysgood lives in Houston, TX, and said: I am currently working for Baker Hughes in their industrial chemical division. After I finish training in Houston (1st quarter of 2010) I will be assigned to an account in the Midwest or Northeast United States.

Mike Kranzler ★ B.A., 2009

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, The Slant*) Kranzler lives in Miami, FL, and said: Mike Kranzler is currently a Communications Intern with the South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee as we prepare a record-breaking 10th Super Bowl in South Florida, in addition to the first Pro Bowl outside of Hawaii in 30 years.

★★★

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PHOTO GALLERY: A sample of the photography of **Zac Hardy**, A&S '12 (Vanderbilt Student Media Photo Staff).



Travis Snyder and Nathan Lo play guitar in front of Alumni Lawn on Thursday August 27, 2009.

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 BBQ in downtown Nashville.

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 Single if he would like to interview the punter 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. "It was good to 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 Deer Owens**, VU News Service



Carroll

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 longtime members of College Media Advisers whose dedication, commitment and sacrifices have contributed to the better-

ment 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. ☺

Alumni Column, continued from page 2

who'd gone to Vanderbilt, as well as other media figures, and that was good enough for me. I still had never seen it before my big brother Tom Offenburger drove me to Nashville so I could enroll in early September, 1965.

It was a beautiful, stately campus, about half the size it is today. You could see and feel Southern tradition everywhere. I'd never been any place like that before.

But I got stuck in a temporary freshman dorm, living with 11 other guys in an old house next to the stadium. It was kind of a dump, and I immediately felt like an outsider. Soon, the door swung open and in walked my roommate, Nicholas Rutgers Duke, a prep schooler from New Haven, Connecticut, wearing a blue blazer, button-down oxford cloth shirt, club necktie, khaki pants and penny loafers. After we talked a bit, he answered my obvious question – yes, he was indeed related to the families that had founded Rutgers University and Duke University. I *really* felt out of it. So, I finally asked, why had he picked Vanderbilt? "Well, because I am a five-string banjo player," Duke said, "and Nashville is the country music capital of the world."

I nearly fell off my chair! In that little flash, everything began to change for me. I soon came to understand that Vanderbilt was full of people who might be brighter than me, who thought a whole lot differently than I did, a lot of them came from wealthy families, many had graduated from exclusive prep schools, and I was the first Iowan most of them had ever met. But when I talked to them – and I was as curious as a somewhat experienced sportswriter might be – I sensed they were some of the most imaginative, talented, fun and downright peculiar people I'd ever been around.

As a student, I really was mediocre to poor most of my four years at Vanderbilt. I was a political science major, and English minor and I took as broad a range of courses as I could get. Other things were more important to me than my classes. I threw myself whole-heartedly behind the racial integration that was happening at Vanderbilt, including our school breaking the "color line" in the Southeastern Conference my sophomore year. I also attended as many curious-sounding guest lectures, concerts and theatrical productions as I could. I seldom missed home sporting events, and even followed the Commodores on the road several times.

I worked for the *Hustler*, as well as the sports department of the *Nashville Tennessean*. I played baseball as a freshman and until I got cut as a sophomore. I also co-founded a campus humor magazine. I wrote for Nashville's city magazine. Several times I hired out as a pallbearer for funerals of indigents at the nearby Catholic Cathedral in Nashville.

I'd carry Nick Duke's banjo case for him to jam sessions at Nashville honky-tonks with many country music stars – like the Bluegrass legends Flatt & Scruggs. I was in the live audience for tapings of Johnny Cash's TV show, and I squeezed into a Nashville studio to listen while Elvis Presley recorded "In the Ghetto." Brother Tom, based in Atlanta, Georgia, introduced me to his boss Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the other leaders of the American civil rights movement. I covered the early 1968 anti-war march on the Pentagon. And that spring in Memphis, Tom's pals took me in to stay up all night with them in King's room at the Lorraine Motel, when their leader had been assassinated on the walkway outside the room door. I covered riots in Nashville and demonstrations on our campus and others. I never missed the appearances of any U.S. presidential candidates in Nashville.

In the fall semester of 1968, I was the rather radical editor in chief of the *Hustler*. Because I was out of money, I lived in my editor's office in Alumni Hall. Our staff practiced lively, sometimes shocking journalism. I quit going to most classes that fall and rang up a hard-to-excuse 0.0 grade point. Newspapering had been more fun and more important, according to my 21-year-old reasoning. But I was justifiably ruled academically ineligible to head a campus organization, and was fired as editor. The kindly dean of men persuaded me I'd made a major mistake, reinstated me as a student for second semester and gave me a dorm room and a cafeteria meal ticket good for spring semester. He may have saved my life and career.

That spring, I redeemed myself as a student, and I also became the journalism comeback player of the season. My best friend Douglas T. Bates III and I decided to cover 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 story.

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 sometimes uncomfortable challenges, if you make yourself 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. ☺

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.



NOMINATION FORM

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

Please include the following information on separate paper or in an email:

Your 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:
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