

Former law school employee faces prison time, fines for embezzlement

KYLE BLAINE
SENIOR REPORTER

A former employee of the Vanderbilt Law School faces prison time and heavy fines after he was arrested Friday on a charge of theft of university funds.

Federal marshals took Jason Hunt into custody Friday in Montgomery County, Ark., after a university internal investigation revealed a misuse of law school funds.

Hunt, 34, worked as an administrative services manager at the law school, where he regularly handled university money. The university was tipped off in October 2011 of his alleged illicit activities. He is charged with one count of Class B felony theft, which in the state of Tennessee indicates the theft value is more than \$60,000. The sentence with the charge is eight to 30 years in prison and up to \$25,000 in fines.

Hunt is currently being held in the Montgomery County Jail on a \$1,000,000 bond. He has

waived extradition and will be returned to Nashville to face the charge.

Hunt was terminated from his position at the law school in mid-November, around the same time the university turned over its internal investigation findings to the Davidson County District Attorney's office.

"As soon as we became aware of the situation, we aggressively investigated," said University General Counsel David Williams in a statement released by the university Friday. "And once we confirmed the misuse, we turned the case over to the district attorney general's office for criminal prosecution, and we have cooperated fully with them in their investigation. That cooperation involved keeping a tight lid on what information could be shared with the rest of the law school and the university. We will continue to take our lead from the DA's office as this matter works its way through the judicial system."



PHOTOS PROVIDED
Former law school employee Jason Hunt was arrested Friday for allegedly misusing university funds. While the exact amount is unknown, the charges indicate Hunt stole over \$60,000. He is currently being held in the Montgomery County Jail on \$1,000,000 bond.



The university did not disclose the exact amount, but Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Beth Fortune told The Hustler the number is substantially higher than \$60,000.

Out&About Newspaper reported in December 2011 that Hunt and his partner

Cole Wakefield had moved to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and opened Crema, a gay nightclub billed as a "gay party zone."

Before leaving Nashville, Hunt was elected president of Nashville Pride. He resigned from that position after leaving the United

States.

Responding to the incident, the university has strengthened its controls to prevent future incidents from occurring.

Law School Dean Chris Guthrie said in a statement, "We have a trusting community, and our trust

has been betrayed. Though we are extremely disappointed, we have a strong school and we will move forward. The examination of how this occurred and what steps are needed so that it doesn't happen again will make us even stronger." ★

MLK DAY KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

COMPILED BY LIZ FURLLOW NEWS EDITOR

An MLK keynote address by Rep. John Lewis will be held in the Langford Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. on MLK Day. Congressman Lewis will speak on the theme "Fostering the Beloved Community" following an address by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos and an introduction by Brittany Watts, Black Student Alliance president and by Adam Meyer, Vanderbilt Student Government president.

As a student, Lewis organized many sit-in protests during the Civil Rights Move-

ment of the 1960s. He was elected chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, an organization which he helped form, and was a keynote speaker at the March on Washington, where Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. He has served as a U.S. representative in Georgia's 5th Congressional District since 1986.

For free tickets to the event, call 615-343-3361 or go to the Sarratt Student Center Box Office. ★



SEAN GIBSON

ASB participates in MLK Weekend of Service

KATIE KROG
STAFF REPORTER

Alternative Spring Break got off to an early start this year, as ASB participants took part in the Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend of Service.

Although ASB has always done days of service during the spring semester in preparation for spring break, this is the first time the organization has officially participated in the MLK Weekend of Service.

Over 40 students,

most of whom are members of ASB, signed up to volunteer this past weekend to sort food for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee. About half of the group volunteered on Friday afternoon, and the rest of the group will be volunteering Monday morning.

Junior Ryan Planchard and senior Allison Winston are in charge of site and service development for ASB.

"I think that as a service organization, it's important to recognize

that there are lots of opportunities for service," Planchard said.

"We're trying to focus on Nashville and not just on what we do over spring break," Winston said.

According to Winston, the volunteers include "a good mixture of board leaders, site leaders, and participants."

"It's an opportunity for us to bring back some of the skills we've learned to campus," Planchard said. "It's also an opportunity for people to see how big ASB is."

According to the organization's website, ASB was founded at Vanderbilt in 1987 and now sends over 400 students on service trips each spring break. The website states that it is the largest student-run organization on campus.

"I think it's amazing that 20 people are willing to wake up early on a Monday morning when there's no class," Winston said, "or to give up their Friday afternoons."

For more information about ASB, visit vandyasb.wordpress.com ★

Zeta Tau Alpha to begin recruiting for new chapter

LUCAS LOFFREDO
STAFF REPORTER

A new Panhellenic organization, the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, will host events this week to recruit its first class of women. Events and rounds for the sorority will occur over the next three weeks, culminating in their own Bid Day on Feb. 2.

They have the capacity to offer bids to 178 students, and they plan on interviewing twice that amount. Girls from each undergraduate year at Vanderbilt will be considered.

The sorority will be occupying the former Pi Beta Phi house on 24th Avenue, currently being used by members of the Panhellenic Council. Zeta Tau Alpha's national housing corporation will be sponsoring a renovation of the house over next summer.

Zeta Tau Alpha National Traveling Leadership Consultant Liz Austin has high hopes for the new organization's success on campus.

"Vanderbilt selected Zeta Tau Alpha to start this new chapter, with the confidence that we will be successful," Austin wrote in an email. "We have taken the time to research the campus, get to know the students and community, and prepare for a successful and strong colonization."

see ZTA page 2

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



**JAN. 17-27,
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

The Wall at Rand and The Commons Center: Zeta Tau Alpha representatives will be giving out information

JAN. 28-31

Infoviews, where representatives from Zeta Tau Alpha will host an informal meeting to teach potential members more about the organization.

JAN. 30, 7 P.M.

Student Life Center Ballroom A: Experience Zeta Tau Alpha Open House

JAN. 31, 7 P.M.

Student Life Center Board of Trust Room: Think Pink! Think Zeta! Philanthropy Event

FEB. 1

Preference Round, by invitation only

FEB. 2

Bid Day

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VUPD CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY **GEOFFREY KING**

JAN. 8, 2012, 7:55 A.M.

A person was arrested at 204 28th Ave S for indecent exposure.

JAN. 9, 2012, 6:25 P.M.

A suspicious person was in an employee's personal office in Benson Hall.

JAN. 10, 2012, 7:30 P.M.

A student reported a theft at the Student Rec Center.

JAN. 11, 2012, 8:00 A.M.

Kidnapping/abduction and aggravated assault citations were issued after a person was given a ride by an ex-spouse when an argument began. The person was not allowed to get out of the car, as the driver drove across the way and let her out. He hit the gas pedal, causing her to fall.

JAN. 11, 2012, 7:38 P.M.

A burglary/breaking & entering citation was issued at the Village at Vanderbilt after an unknown person was seen holding a wallet that was said to have been found in the hallway. The person fled after the wallet was handed over.

PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT BY **CAMILLE PARKER** STAFF REPORTER

DR. KELLY HOLLEY-BECKMANN



WHAT MADE YOU INITIALLY INTERESTED IN ASTRONOMY? CAN YOU RECALL ANY SPECIFIC MOMENTS THAT REALLY SOLIDIFIED YOUR INTEREST IN THIS FIELD?

My interest in astronomy has always been a part of me — I wanted to be an astronomer before I even knew the right word for it. I used to sneak into the 'big kids' part of the library to read books about planets and black holes, and instead of going to my senior prom, I went to the international science fair! So, I've been a big science geek all my life. One moment that really sticks out is when I was a sophomore undergrad in a classical dynamics lecture where we finally learned a more elegant mathematical formalism to describe the motion of mass in the universe. I felt like I was seeing something profound. And I was!

I UNDERSTAND YOU SPECIALIZE IN RESEARCHING BLACK HOLES. WHAT INTERESTS YOU ABOUT BLACK HOLES? WHY DO YOU THINK THEY'RE IMPORTANT TO ASTRONOMY AS A WHOLE?

Black holes are the universe at its most extreme, and they allow us to test our theories on fundamental things like gravity, space and time. All matter — me, you, your newspaper, everything — makes a little dimple in spacetime. If you pack a lot of matter into a very small point, the dimple

you make in spacetime is deep and sharp. Black holes happen when matter is packed so tightly that the gravitational field is immense, and you warp the fabric of the universe so much that our everyday rules about space and time are turned on their head. How could that not be cool?

THE SCIENCES TEND TO BE HIGHLY MALE-DOMINATED. WHAT WOULD YOUR ADVICE BE TO WOMEN INTERESTED IN SCIENCE?

Join us! Being an astrophysicist is a fascinating, challenging, exciting career — you get paid to solve the mysteries of the universe! I'll be totally honest, though, there are times when it's lonely to be the only woman scientist in the room, and it's sometimes annoying when people act surprised to find out that you're smart or talk down to you without even realizing it. Still, the rewards of the job are so, so much better than these minor things. And, nowadays there are lots more women in the field; for example, half of our Vanderbilt astronomy grads are women. As more women enter the field, it becomes easier for all of us.

IF YOU COULD NAME A PLANET, WHAT WOULD YOU NAME IT AND WHY?

Oh gosh, I spent way too much time thinking about this. See, this week, astronomers announced that there are 100 billion planets just in our own galaxy — Vanderbilt researchers were a part of the work by the way. That's more than all the words in all the languages in the world. Glad we don't have to give each one a name! I guess I feel like Pluto got the shaft recently, after having been demoted from planet-dom, so I'd like to name a planet something like 'New Pluto' to make up for it. I asked my three-year-old son what he would like to name a planet. He said, 'Poop', so let's not let him name any planets any time soon.

Study abroad conference to help students reacclimate

BEN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

Students returning from abroad will have an academically-oriented opportunity to share their experiences and build their resumes at the upcoming Interdisciplinary Conference on Global Research and Study Abroad. This free event will take place on Friday, Feb. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Student Life Center.

Created by the Vanderbilt Global Education Office and sponsored by the private China Education Tours Academic Programs and Government Council on International Education and Exchange, the new conference aims to provide support for students from Middle Tennessee readjusting to life after studying abroad through workshops, paper presentations, speakers and resource fairs.

"We expect a couple different things to come out of this," said Michelle Lilly, program coordinator and student advisor for the Global Education Office. Lilly, who designed the program, hopes it will address a lack of resources for returning students and describes the main goal as being "for students to have a way to reacclimate to Nashville, to Tennessee, so they know how to get involved the

way they did when they were gone."

The conference will be an ideal occasion for students from around the region to share their experiences, but the conference will also have a strong academic focus. "The other thing that we wanted them to take away is to remember that study abroad is also academic, which is why there is the presentation part in the morning," said Lilly. Students will be able to present academic works they produced while abroad, making the conference a great opportunity for resume-building. Even simply attending the conference can qualify as professional development.

The goal for total attendance is 70 students. While most will be Vanderbilt students, other schools will be represented, including Columbia State Community College and Middle Tennessee State University. Students considering spending a semester or a year abroad are welcome to attend as well, as the conference will be a great chance to see how the experience affected other students.

A registration form for students interested in attending can be found at <http://www.jotform.com/form/13413119391>. The registration deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 24. ★

Redhawks get served



MICHAEL FRASCELLA
THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Sophomore Commodore Alex Leatu and Alix Thurman Saturday afternoon during a match with the Miami Redhawks at Lipscomb University. Leatu defeated Thurman 6-3, 6-1, and the Commodores won the match 6-1 to give the team a 2-0 record for the season.

ZTA: Greek row house offers curb appeal

from **ZTA** page 1

The expansion comes in response to an increase in the number of women entering the Panhellenic system.

Vanderbilt's Associate Director of Greek Life Krystal Clark said, "Our chapters are quite large right now, and so one of the benefits of adding a sorority is that our chapters will be able to have smaller groups of women join. Over time this could make their chapters smaller, which could help make community building a lot easier for the organizations."

As far as the type of members Zeta Tau Alpha will be looking for on campus, Austin said, "We will certainly be selective during our process. We believe Vanderbilt selected us to come on strong and it is our expectation that we will put together the host

colony with the best new member class available."

Vanderbilt attempted to introduce the Delta Gamma organization to campus a few years ago, but it did not see its desired level of success and the national organization revoked its charter last year. Clark and Austin each gave various reasons why Zeta Tau Alpha will be successful where Delta Gamma failed.

"We believe Zeta Tau Alpha will be successful at Vanderbilt because we have a strong history of establishing new colonies on similar campuses," said Austin, citing colonies formed at New York University, University of Pennsylvania, Northwestern University, Lehigh University and University of Michigan. "When we choose to extend on a new campus,

we put the full support of our resources behind the effort to ensure success."

Clark discussed the importance of having a house on Greek Row. She said, "During recruitment (for Delta Gamma) women would have to go off to the West Side Row area for their home, and that was very different from when they were visiting the other chapters. It marked immediately that there was a difference, whereas Zeta Tau Alpha is just going to be right there with everybody else in the same area."

Nicolette Siringo, a first-year student, discussed how the sorority is being perceived among women on campus. "I've heard that a lot more girls are considering Zeta versus getting a sorority that maybe they weren't

happy with and trying to just stick it out," Siringo said. "Zeta provides another option, so a lot more girls are looking towards that. So far it seems like people are looking at them as a respectable sorority."

Austin called the ability to join Zeta a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," and went on to say that "it provides a great opportunity for students of all classes to get involved, make a mark on your campus, set traditions for many years to come, be a leader from the very beginning, find friendships that will last a lifetime, and be a part of a strong national organization."

Ultimately, the next few weeks of their recruitment process will be a harbinger of Zeta Tau Alpha's prospects for being a successful organization at Vanderbilt. ★

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SERVICE GUIDE

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CORRECTIONS

The staff of The Vanderbilt Hustler is committed to ensuring our work is

fair and accurate.

Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@insidevandy.com.

You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2012 Commemoration



Fostering The Beloved Community

2012 Schedule of Events

January 13-15

MLK Weekend of Service

Please plan to register for the MLK Weekend of Service where over 300 volunteer opportunities will be available through 16 unique student-led projects. This year's MLK Weekend of service will take place on Friday-Sunday, January 13-15. The Office of Active Citizenship and Service (OACS) will assist with publicity for your service project and maintain a database of available volunteer opportunities. All Vanderbilt students, faculty, and staff that want to participate in your MLK Weekend of Service project will be able to sign-up online through the OACS website.

January 16, 2012

9:00 AM

Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965

9AM-3PM • Showing at Sarratt Cinema

This Emmy-winning documentary from the PBS "American Experience" series uses newsreel footage and narratives from famous and everyday people to take viewers inside the struggle for civil rights during the crucial years of 1954 through '65. Among the critical events discussed, the Montgomery bus boycott, the integration of schools in Little Rock, the murder of activists in Mississippi and Martin Luther King's groundbreaking marches to freedom.

10:00 AM

Nashville Freedom March

Join hands and hearts with the greater Nashville community in a march that commemorates the life and legacy of Dr. King and the civil rights movement. Buses for The 2012 Freedom March will arrive for pick up at 10:00 A.M., at Kirkland Circle, Branscomb Quadrangle and Murray House in The Martha Ingram Commons. The buses will depart campus for the march at 10:45 AM and transport students to the corner of 28th Avenue and Jefferson Street. The actual march will start at 11:15 AM, and will arrive at the TSU Gentry Center at 11:45 A.M. A lite breakfast will be provided at each pickup site, and riders are advised to arrive at their preferred pickup site allowing enough time to receive an MLK T-shirt, and complete a liability form. Immediately after the march buses will be available from Noon-12:30 P.M., at the TSU Gentry Center to transport students back to campus. For those staying for the Convocation, buses will be available from 2:00-2:25 PM at the Gentry Center for the return to campus.

11:00 AM

Brother Outsider (Teach-In)

11:00 AM Showing and Discussion • Black Cultural Center

Since its premiere at the Sundance Film Festival and its national broadcasts on PBS' P.O.V. series and on Logo/MTV, Brother Outsider has introduced millions of viewers around the world to the life and work of Bayard Rustin—a visionary strategist and activist who has been called "the unknown hero" of the civil rights movement. A disciple of Gandhi, a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., and the architect of the 1963 March on Washington, Rustin dared to live as an openly gay man during the fiercely homophobic 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Randy Tarkington, Senior Director of Residential Education will lead a discussion following the film. A box lunch will be provided for all recipients on a first-come, first-serve basis as space is limited.

12 Noon-4 PM

Nashville Freedom Ride

Leaving from Branscomb Circle at 12:15 PM

Nashville Freedom Rider Kwame Lillard will conduct a tour of significant sites in the civil rights movement in Nashville. Buses will depart at 12:15 PM. Participants will have lunch at historic Nashville Restaurant; Harper's or Puckett's downtown location. Students must register and 50 participants will be selected at random. Winners will be notified after 5pm when registration closes and must then RSVP by Friday, January 13th at 8pm.

12 Noon

Dr. Debra Toney, Ph.D, RN

208 Light Hall • Presented by The School of Medicine and The School of Nursing

Following Dr. Toney's address the medical school and nursing students will participate with select metro community agencies in community service. For more information contact Jana Lauderdale at jana.lauderdale@Vanderbilt.Edu.

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

Lunchtime Roundtable Discussions

Rand Function Room and Martha Ingram Commons Multipurpose Room

Again this year, faculty and students will host stimulating discussions of their areas of study and the connections with Dr. King's legacy. Roundtables topics include Civility, Women's Rights Internationally, Civil Disobedience Today, The Global Community and other topics reflecting on fostering the beloved community. A sample of faculty presenting include Jemima Pierre, Lewis Baldwin, Mark Bandas, Marshall Eakin, Frank Weislo, Houston Baker and Mark Forester. A box lunch will be provided or all recipients on a first-come, first serve basis as space is limited.

1:00-2:00 PM

Art Exhibit Grand Opening – MLK Belongs To All: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial From The Lens Of Dr. Lucius T. Outlaw, Jr.

1PM • Black Cultural Center • Reception and Opening (Lunch refreshments served)

Photographer and Vanderbilt Philosophy professor Dr. Lucius Outlaw, Jr., uniquely captures the images, faces and emotions of the October dedication in Washington D.C.

Exhibit Open from 8AM-5PM, Monday-Friday • January 16-February 3. For more information contact 615.322.2524.

1:30-3:20 PM

Teach-Ins

1:30-2:20 PM

Hands Up: Post Blackness, N-Word and the B-Word – A Shift In Meaning?

Buttrick 102

Associate Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies, Trica Keaton will contextualize and explore the connotations, uses, and abuses of these widely used terms that touch many aspects of U.S. and global popular cultures. Who can say the N-Word or B-Word today? Who decides? Who cares?

1:30-3:30 PM

Documentary Sing Your Song Viewing and Discussion

The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons Multipurpose Room

Sing Your Song is an inspirational documentary about the legendary life of Harry Belafonte. Professor Tiffany Patterson and Professor Richard Blackett discuss Belafonte's significant contribution to and his leadership in America and to social justice globally.

2:00-3:30 PM

Documentary "Yes Ma'am" Viewing and Discussion

The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons Multipurpose Room

A revealing, award winning and, it must be said sometimes cringe-inducing peek into New Orleans' past. Long before the popularity of the book and film The Help, this film offers a portrait of the often-complicated relationship between the city's domestic workers and their white employers. Alice Randall, Vanderbilt University writer-in-residence, will lead a discussion following the film.

2:30-3:20 PM

Solidarity

Buttrick 102

David Gray, Assistant Professor in Philosophy, will present the conceptions of solidarity and the civil rights movement (e.g. who should be included in the civil rights movement and to what ends).

3:30 PM

Vanderbilt Student Voices

Sarratt Student Center

Come out and witness the voices of Vanderbilt students as they reflect and share their thoughts and opinions on this year's theme, "Fostering The Beloved Community." Performers will include Vanderbilt Spoken Word and open mic performances. Also, share your thoughts in writing on the MLK Wall Boards. The boards will be placed in prominent areas near Sarratt to allow students the flexibility to participate at any time utilizing a different media.

6:30 PM

MLK Keynote Address

Langford Auditorium

6:30 PM

Opening Performances

Performances by Voices of Praise, Jeremiah Generation, Victory A Cappella and the Blair Chamber Choir.

6:45 PM

Essay Contest Readings

The winners of the MLK Essay Contest from middle and high schools will recite their essays before the keynote address by Congressman John Lewis.

7:00 PM

Welcoming Remarks

Introduction of Keynote Brittany Watts, Black Student Alliance President and Adam Meyer, Vanderbilt Student Government President.



Keynote Address: U.S. Congressman John Lewis

Langford Auditorium

"Fostering The Beloved Community" (Tickets required).

Tickets are free and available through Sarratt Cinema Box Office. Student tickets available on December 1st. General Admission tickets available on January 3rd. Contact Sarratt Box Office at 615.322.2425.

Reception Immediately Following Keynote

9:00 PM

Candlelight Vigil at Benton Chapel

Join us for an inspirational evening Candlelight Vigil. This interfaith service will include a message offered by Brandon McCormack, a doctoral student at Vanderbilt Divinity School, VU Spoken Word, music by an undergraduate student jazz quartet and choral ensembles as well as university organist Jonathan Setzer, prayers, prophetic sacred readings, and candlelight. The Vigil will offer an opportunity to reflect on the rich experiences of the day, to give thanks for the shining light Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. continues to have in our lives, and to look forward with hope as we light candles that illumine the darkness. The Vigil will include the leadership of VU undergraduate students as well as the Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students.

In Conjunction

Monday, January 23, 2012

4:10 PM

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center MLK Commemorative Lecture

Room 241 Kennedy Center/One Magnolia Circle

Reception following lecture. For additional information visit the Kennedy Center website at kc.vanderbilt.edu.

Rud Turnbull, B.A., LI.B., LI.M.

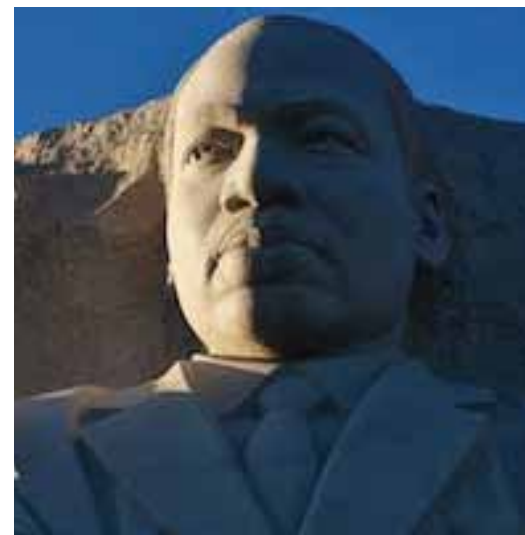
Distinguished Professor of Special Education and Life Span Studies, University of Kansas, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Beach Center on Disability

Free at Last: Kennedy, King, and the Meaning of Liberty for Individuals with Intellectual and Related Developmental Disabilities.

Mr. Turnbull will discuss the meaning of liberty for individuals and families affected by disability. He will trace its origins to the early years of this country, its meanings as stated by President Kennedy and Dr. King, and the significance of the Supreme Court's 1954 decision in Brown v. Topeka Board of Education for individuals with disabilities.

Kennedy Center Lecture Co-sponsors:

Department of Political Science, Department of Special Education, Vanderbilt Law School.



Vanderbilt professor reacts to video of alleged Marines in Afghanistan

JIM PATTERSON
VU NEWS SERVICE

Video purporting to show four U.S. marines urinating on dead Afghani fighters, if verified, would clearly fall under the category of a war crime, says a Vanderbilt University law professor.

"The law of war has long made this a war crime in all circumstances during all types of conflicts, and we prosecuted people after World War II for situations like this," said Michael Newton, professor of the practice of law.

Prohibition against desecration of the dead during wartime goes back at least to the 1907 Hague Convention, Newton said. The

ban is also included in the Geneva Conventions and many military manuals around the world, Newton said.

The video, widely available on the Internet, shows what appears to be four U.S. Marines urinating on the corpses of Taliban fighters. During a telephone call Jan. 10, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta promised Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai a full investigation of the video, according to news reports.

The International Criminal Court's Rome Statute bans "committing outrages upon personal dignity" during international armed conflicts, Newton said. There is no provision that a per-

son "be aware of the existence of the humiliation or degradation or other violation," meaning a victim need not be living to be protected from desecration.

Newton, a West Point graduate and former professor there, helped revamp the laws and procedures for U.S. military commissions and helped establish the Iraqi Special Tribunal and led the training in international criminal law for its judges. Newton served in the Office of War Crimes Issues at the U.S. Department of State and was one of two U.S. delegates who negotiated the Elements of Crime document for the International Criminal Court. ★

REC CENTER EXPANSION INFO SESSIONS

VSG Press Release

The Student Recreation Center has an exciting opportunity to expand its facilities and services for all students and members. The university is committed to building an indoor field house that can accommodate intramurals, sport clubs, varsity athletics, university functions and numerous other activities. Additional recreation center expansion opportunities have been identified and student input is being solicited to fine tune what these areas may house. The information sessions will be held on:



NEIL BRAKE / VU MEDIA RELATIONS

- Wednesday, Jan. 18 at noon
- Thursday, Jan. 19 at noon
- Thursday Jan. 19 at 5 p.m.

All sessions will be held in Classroom B of the Student Recreation Center. Come join the discussion. Free pizza and drinks will be provided! ★

Harry Potter fans unite to support childhood literacy

KATIE KROG
STAFF REPORTER

While many Vanderbilt students were on Greek Row Saturday night, others gathered in the SLC ballroom to drink butterbeer, compare wizard costumes, win Harry Potter prizes and enjoy performances by the Melodores, Archive Nights, Patrick Thomas, Vanderbilt Univer-

sity Theatre and a live DJ.

Mayfield 11 hosted the Yule Ball on Saturday, Jan. 14 to raise money for their chosen charity, Books from Birth of Middle Tennessee.

Books from Birth of Middle Tennessee, a program at the Monroe Carell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, donates books to pre-school aged children.

According to the program's

website, its mission is "to increase literacy and school readiness while strengthening the bonds of families."

The program was formed through a partnership between the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation.

"The vision," the website states, "was that all of Tennessee's 375,000 pre-school-

ers would be eligible for a free book, each month, regardless of income."

According to members of Mayfield 11, the total revenue for the Yule Ball exceeded \$2500, but they are still calculating the exact amount raised for Books from Birth of Middle Tennessee.

"We don't know an exact amount yet," sophomore and Mayfield 11 member Marga-

ret Mirro said, "but we are excited to donate it all to Book from Birth because \$1 is one book."

According to sophomore and Mayfield 11 member Ben Draffin, the Yule Ball has the highest attendance rate of any Mayfield event so far this academic year.

"It far exceeded our expectations," sophomore and Mayfield 11 member Patrick

Voytek said, "We were very happy with the event. We hope people enjoyed it and that even more people will enjoy it next year. It was good to see all of our hard work pay off."

According to Voytek, the event seemed to be enjoyed by all those in attendance.

While at the Yule Ball, Junior Kayla Yelle told The Hustler, "It's bloody brilliant." ★

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OPINION

COLUMN

YouTube, and a lot of s**t



ALLENA BARRY
COLUMNIST

If you read this column at all last year, you know that I frequently make bold statements that you may or may not agree with. Generally before I make these statements, however, I begin with some sort of rapport-building phrase, such as “If you’re anything like me,” “Personally,” or “I’m no expert.” It’s a trick, to be sure, but an effective trick nonetheless. This semester will be no different.

So when I say, “If you’re anything like me, you spent a good part of your break watching the ‘S**t Girls Say’ phenomena that sprung up all over YouTube,” you should be ready for some bold statement to follow.

I will not disappoint.

For those who are not familiar, the “S**t Girls Say” YouTube videos, started by comedians Kyle Humphrey and Graydon Sheppard, feature a man donning a wig and parodying all of the annoying things we girls say (I have been guilty of calling up a friend, asking if they were near a computer, and proceed to have them look something up for me, but I digress). Surpris-

ingly well done to the point where there has been little to no feminist backlash, these initial videos inspired a revolution: one can easily find “S**t Black Girls Say,” “S**t Spanish Girls Say,” “S**t Girls Say to Gay Guys,” and “S**t White Girls Say to Black Girls.”

Everyone’s talkin’ s**t, apparently.

These entertaining parodies got me thinking: what other voices need to be heard — and rightly mocked — via YouTube? Whose s**t needs to be hung out to dry?!

I only had to look to the Republican presidential campaigns for fodder. Full disclosure: I’m pretty moderate. I think most politicians on either side of the aisle are pretty full of — well, you know — so I can listen to either side with a healthy level of skepticism. To be sure, throwing one’s hat into the presidential race is no easy task. Every skeleton in the closet is thoroughly examined and even the slightest indiscretions are up for grabs. It’s enough to make a guy nervous to open his mouth.

But one candidate not only opens his mouth frequently, he does so with a degree of irreverence that can only be admired, if only for the sheer moxie that spawned it. This candidate is Rick Santorum.

As Santorum shows us, some s**t isn’t funny. Sometimes, it just smells bad. In a speech in Sioux City, Iowa, Santorum was quoted by NPR as saying, “I don’t want to make black peoples’ lives better by giving them somebody else’s money; I want to give them the opportunity to go out and earn the money.” Santorum didn’t stop there, however. On Jan. 4, he continued his s**t talking on CNN, stating, “I’m pretty confident I didn’t say black. I started to say a word and then sort of changed and it sort of, ‘bleaugh,’ mumbled it.” And this is a man who wants to be President. Of the United States. A paraphrased quote by the Joker, infamous villain of the Batman series, seems appropriate here: we deserve a better class of presidential candidates.

Perhaps we can take solace in the fact that Santorum’s poor showing in the New Hampshire primary means his s**t talking has reached an end.

Personally, I prefer to hear the s**t from men in drag on YouTube.

Another one of those bold statements. My apologies.

— Allena Barry is a senior in Peabody College. She can be reached at allena.g.berry@vanderbilt.edu.

LETTER

Re: “Say no to Ron Paul,” by Hudson Todd

To the Editor

I count myself as a firm supporter of the “narrow-minded imbecile” with a medical degree from the fifth-ranked medical school in the nation known as Ron Paul. The main reason is his support for the Austrian school of economics, as opposed to the Keynesian school of economics followed by Obama, Romney and others. The Keynesians think the economy is like an engine that, in the case of a recession, needs a quick spark like big bailouts to get the economy going. The Austrians believe that if this happens, money gets wasted (which happened), the government cronies and Wall Street executives get richer (which happened) and companies with bad business practices stay in business longer and drag down our economy more than they should have

(which happened). What would Ron Paul have done? Paul would have let the economy naturally weed out the businesses that were “too big to fail” and let business that were actually good at what they do take their business. Paul doesn’t want the Fed planning our economy for us; he wants plans by the many, not by the few. As quoted in a YouTube video produced by economics professor Dr. Russell Roberts of George Mason University, who also follows the Austrian school, “The economy’s not a car, there’s no engine that’s stalled. No expert can fix it, there’s no ‘it’ at all. The economy is us, we don’t need a mechanic. Put away the wrenches, the economy is us, it’s organic.”

Bruce Spencer
Senior, School of Engineering

COLUMN

Grade charades

HANNAH RUTCOFSKY
COLUMNIST

We all signed it. The Vanderbilt Honor code. We committed ourselves to honesty and accountability — that we would not lie, cheat or steal. For some, laziness and competition soon overwhelmed these promises. Not many students would raise their eyebrows at the confirmation of the commonality of cheating; from copying papers, to getting questions on an exam before taking it, to using smartphones on tests, deception has been accepted all too well on our campus. But, it is not this dishonesty that I find most appalling; rather it is the frustrating grading system that seems to have spurred it.

Inconsistency plagues the fair grading system. In one psychology class, individual students may write appeals for the fairness of specific multiple-choice questions on tests. If a question is deemed incorrectly graded, a student may regain his or her points. However, the professor will not apply a grading change for the whole class. Even if the “right” answer is contradicted by a sentence in the textbook, each student must appeal the question individually.

Not many students would raise their eyebrows at the confirmation of the commonality of cheating. But, it is not this dishonesty that I find most appalling; rather it is the frustrating grading system that seems to have spurred it.

In classes with teacher’s assistants and no grading rubric, assessments are graded in a similarly irregular manner. If two different graders look at different halves of a group’s assignments, they will not grade with the same level of harshness. Additionally, there is no guarantee that TA grading will line up with the pro-

fessor’s standards. An individual appeal system is often in place to combat any potential issues. Still, the overarching problem remains, unaddressed in Vanderbilt’s non-uniform grading atmosphere.

In spring 2011, a newly instituted computerized grading system inaccurately graded a set of HOD 1000 midterms, with some students’ correct answers being marked wrong. In this instance, graduate student TAs caught the error. However, many of my classmates were suspicious of similarly flawed grading on the final. We were assured that the final was graded by hand, but this does nothing to guarantee that the computers’ failure — which resulted from an incorrect answer key — was not duplicated. With another flawed key, the same problem could arise despite human graders. Since students could not view their graded final exams — and because Vanderbilt does not guarantee the right to do so — there was no way to confirm that grades were accurate.

In general, the fact that students are not given the opportunity to view their graded finals reinforces the sense that learning is often seen as a means to achieve good grades, and not for the sake of knowledge itself. By not allowing students to view their finals or final grades, the college deprives students of the educational value of fully assessing their progress and of learning from their mistakes.

During last semester’s finals, I heard a surprising rumor that some classes’ finals are curved so that students who elect to take earlier, “alternate” exams receive an easier curve on their scores, to combat the advantage students taking them later may have by getting the questions or answers from the students who had taken the tests first.

There is no way of knowing if this practice is anything more than urban legend, but the spread and acceptance of the rumor is evidence of the significance of the problem and undermines the purpose of the Honor Code. It is as if students are expected — and expect themselves — to take advantage of the Honor System if given the opportunity.

—Hannah Rutcofsky is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at hannah.r.rutcofsky@vanderbilt.edu.

COLUMN

Illinois discriminates against students, poor people, minorities and the elderly



STEPHEN SIAO
COLUMNIST

A new law that recently went into effect in Illinois is discriminating against college students, poor people, minorities and the elderly. The law that took effect on Jan. 1, 2012 now requires one to present a photo ID in order to purchase certain types of drain cleaners. And since many in the above demographics apparently do not have photo IDs, they are now being discriminated against. If they don’t have a photo ID, now they are unable to purchase their favorite brand of drain cleaner.

Discrimination is only the beginning though. Not being able to purchase a strong enough drain cleaner will only lead to bigger plumbing problems. They may no longer be able to shower or use the toilet at their own house. Furthermore, they will then have to pay even more to get it fixed by someone who does have a photo ID and can acquire drain cleaner. This all makes sense, right? Well, according to the

ACLU, NAACP, the Obama Department of Justice and numerous others, this blatant form of “discrimination” is legal, but requiring a photo ID to vote is not. Apparently allowing dead people to purchase industrial drain cleaner is a much bigger problem than allowing dead people to vote.

The fact of the matter is that the Democrats and their allies’ complaints about the new photo ID law are baseless. The Department of Justice recently struck down South Carolina’s new voter photo ID law, even though South Carolina will issue photo IDs for free. In Tennessee, the Democrats and the unions have also been crying foul. Here too, if one does not have a photo ID, they can acquire one for free.

If requiring one to have a photo ID to vote is indeed discriminatory, then why do many unions require one to allow a member to vote in their own elections? Are unions, on the front line of the battle against new photo ID laws, disenfranchising or discriminating against their members who do not have photo IDs? Universally, photo IDs are needed to drive a car, fly on an airplane, cash a check, enter a federal building and much

more. In many states, you also need a photo ID to apply for welfare or to live in public housing. We surely are not discriminating against the poorest in our society by requiring them to have a photo ID (which, before the new law, was not free) in order to get government assistance, are we?

Voter fraud is still prevalent. Just last year, an executive committee member of an NAACP chapter in Mississippi was convicted on 10 counts of voter fraud. In our own state, Memphis is known for allowing dead people to vote. Requiring a photo ID is not discriminatory or disenfranchising. To the contrary, having my vote canceled out by that of a dead person is what really disenfranchises not only myself, but also students, poor people, minorities and the elderly. If the Department of Justice wants to continue striking down voter photo ID laws, then they ought to strike down Illinois’ new law requiring a photo ID to purchase certain drain cleaners.

—Stephen Siao is a junior in the College of Arts and Science, and the President of the College Republicans. He can be reached at stephen.h.siao@vanderbilt.edu.

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OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion page aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument

to back their views. Unreasonable arguments, arguments in bad faith or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in The Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and

offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on InsideVandy.com.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via

e-mail to opinion@insidevandy.com. Letters via e-mail must come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Sunday or Wednesday.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students may be considered for a guest column at the

editor’s discretion.

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

COLUMN

NDAA: Death to due process



KENNY TAN
COLUMNIST

Imagine if you accidentally cut off one of your fingers, or bought several guns and weatherproofed ammunition, or more than seven days of food. Imagine then, at three in the morning, a Navy SEAL team knocked down your door, dragged you out of your bed, accused you of being a terrorist, handcuffed you, denied you any legal counsel, and then sent you to spend the rest of your life being waterboarded in Guantanamo. Sound impossible? While you might think so, in fact there are now laws on the books that say a person missing fingers, or a person owning either guns, weatherproof ammunition or more than seven days of food can be considered a potential terrorist, according to Sen. Rand Paul.

Since 9/11, the federal government has been sacrificing civil liberties in the name stopping terrorists. The PATRIOT Act was just the first step. The National Defense Authorization Act, recently signed into law on Jan. 6 by President Obama, is yet another step toward the decline of civil liberties in America.

Under Section 1021 of the NDAA, the president can send the military to arrest "suspected" terrorists and decide whether or not that suspect gets a trial, and if so, what type of trial. Under Section 1022 of the NDAA, if the suspect "participated in the course of plan-

ning or carrying out an attack or attempted attack against the United States or its coalition partners," the suspect can then be sent to a military tribunal or just held indefinitely in a military facility, without charges.

Since 9/11, the federal government has been sacrificing civil liberties in the name stopping terrorists. The PATRIOT Act was just the first step. The NDAA, recently signed into law on Jan. 6 by President Obama, is yet another.

The NDAA is a blatant violation of the Fifth Amendment, which states that "(n)o person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury ... nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." An essential element of due process in American legal history and common law has been always been the right to trial by jury. Even the recent U.S. Supreme Court case Hamdi v. Rumsfeld in 2004 ruled that, "Fifth Amendment due process guarantees give a citizen held in the United States as an enemy

combatant the right to contest that detention before a neutral decisionmaker." Yet the federal government now claims the authority to send even U.S. citizens to a military prison for an indefinite period of time with neither trial nor charges.

Theoretically, the U.S. Supreme Court will never overturn this law, even though it is blatantly unconstitutional, because a person detained with the provisions in the NDAA might never get a day in court. Thus, the only remaining solution to this grossly un-American legislation is its swift repeal. To do this, the public needs to be made aware of this heinous law. This begins with you, the reader of this article. I challenge you to stand up for your rights, spread this news to all your friends, and discuss the alarming decline of civil liberties.

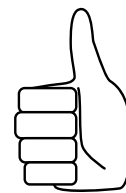
To help educate more students, Young Americans for Liberty at Vanderbilt University, a student organization of which I currently serve as president, will be hosting a meeting tonight, Monday, Jan. 16, which will include a teach-in about the NDAA led by Vanderbilt Law School graduate John Drake. The time and location is 6:30 p.m. in Buttrick 206. After the teach-in, we will also be hosting a presidential debate-watching party with free food starting at 8 p.m.

—Kenny Tan is sophomore in the College of Arts and Science and the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at kenny.tan@vanderbilt.edu.

THE VERDICT

The opinion staff weighs in on the pros and cons of various topics found in recent headlines from around the world. Obscure references mixed with humor? THUMBS UP!

STEPHEN COLBERT



Late night comedian and American hero Stephen Colbert announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for President of the United States of America (in South Carolina). Although he'll be running as a write-in, a recent poll has Colbert already beating Jon Huntsman, who has been campaigning for about a year now. Although it's not clear how far Colbert can go as "the President of the United States of South Carolina," he can certainly make some waves in his home state.

MITT ROMNEY



Mitt Romney's secret serial-killer past has been revealed. A political advertisement ran today in South Carolina, declaring, "If you believe corporations are people, protect them" — from Mitt Romney, who spent the better part of his business career cutting up various corporations. The ad coincides with Stephen Colbert's presidential candidacy in South Carolina, but was not released by Colbert himself. Instead, it is the work of Jon Stewart's political action committee, Americans for a Better Tomorrow, Tomorrow. Now there's an organization The Verdict can get behind.

FRATERNITY BIDS



Why didn't anyone show up to clean The Verdict's room?! That's 100 push-ups. Each.

INSINCERE MOURNERS



Reports have leaked from North Korea that those who did not attend official state mourning ceremonies after the death of Kim Jong-Il are being rounded up and imprisoned. Understandable? Perhaps, but it doesn't stop there: six-month sentences await those "who did participate but didn't cry and didn't seem genuine." Seems a little harsh to us.

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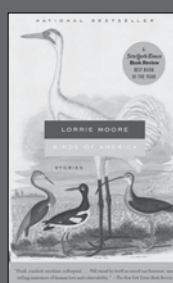
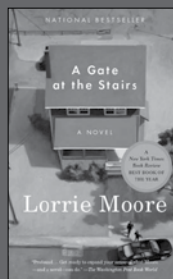
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Lecture 5:30 p.m. : Library Community Room



LORRIE MOORE, Delmore Schwartz Professor in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, will bring to the Chancellor's Lecture Series her uniquely original sense of expression and creative commentary on life's ordinary and extraordinary moments. *The New York Times* praises her as "one of the most nuanced writers working today...as likely to write about sweeping themes as she is to deliver sharp witted and trenchant observations about life's small moments." Catapulted onto the literary scene with the 1985 publication of *Self-Help*, a collection of short stories that was her master's thesis at Cornell University, Moore is also the author of *Like Life*, *Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?*, *Anagrams*, *Birds of America*, *A Gate at the Stairs*, and other works.



The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Parking is available in Wesley Place Garage.

For more information:

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Harmful hookah?

Studies show that smoking hookah may present more health risks than cigarettes

KELLY HALOM
STAFF REPORTER

In recent years, the availability of hookah bars has grown substantially in the United States. As this form of smoking becomes more popular with young adults, it is important to take a closer look at some of the myths that surround this new trend.

This growing movement seems to be supported by the belief that hookah smoking is a healthier alternative to cigarette smoking. However, Becky Spires, the assistant director of wellness programs at the Student Recreation Center warns that “hookah smoking is not less harmful than cigarettes, and recent research is showing that in fact it may be more harmful.”

Hookah is a water pipe with a smoke chamber, a bowl, a pipe and a hose. Flavored tobacco is then heated before the smoke passes through water and then through a rubber hose to a mouthpiece. Hookah has become a popular social activity as it is often practiced in group settings with the mouthpiece being passed from person to person.

While many assume that the water somehow filters out toxins or chemicals in the smoke, the Center for Disease Control reports that “water pipe smoking delivers the addictive drug nicotine and is at least as toxic as cigarette smoke.”



KEVIN BARNETT/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Nick Visos and others look on as the hookah pipe is prepared during Vanderbilt Hillel's Falafel at Midnight event, Sept. 4, 2011.

Research also finds that a typical hour-long smoking session can result in inhaling 100-200 times more smoke than a single cigarette. This implies that a night smoking hookah is equivalent to chain smoking 100 cigarettes.

Secondhand smoke is also more harmful in hookah bars. Due to the mixture of tobacco smoke and the smoke from the charcoal heat source, hookah bars create unhealthy environments both when smoking and not smoking.

Because hookah smoking has had a recent surge of activity in the United States, many are unaware of its long term effects. However, the CDC acknowledges, “Hookah

smokers are at risk for the same kinds of diseases as are caused by cigarette smoking, including oral cancer, lung cancer, stomach cancer, cancer of the esophagus, reduced lung function, and decreased fertility.”

So before you head out to the hookah bar with your friends, stop and think about the facts. Maybe dinner together would be a better option. ★

L.L. Bean: What the duck?



JUSTIN MENESTRINA/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

NISSA OSTROFF
ASST. LIFE EDITOR

Getting your feet wet is sometimes a good thing, but on our campus it seems that more often than not, sitting in a class with wet socks and icy feet are a distraction from reaching true learning nirvana. Life doesn't have to be like this.

Look no further than your dad's snow shoveling shoes: the duck boot. In 1911, L.L. Bean designed these boots as a response to the cold feet effect. Duck boots are now rapidly gaining popularity, and sales have nearly tripled over the past five years, hopefully even cutting into the market share for UGGs. Duck boots are also conveniently gender-neutral so you can

lend them to your boyfriend with small feet.

The original brown duck boot can be found at L.L. Bean for \$99, but it now also comes in blue and pink. L.L. Bean boot wearers can sleep at night knowing that their boots were made not by underpaid children in Indonesia, but rather in glamorous Maine. For those of us who like to make long term plans and commitments, L.L. Bean can also refurbish duck boots when they come back in style in 2050!

For a more upscale version, Tory Burch makes a pair for \$398. The reincarnation of the L.L. Bean duck boot also brings to light the obvious question: will the L.L. Bean backpack be next? ★

Documentary explores capital punishment

“Into the Abyss” captures the emotional toll of a death penalty case

BENJAMIN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

A death row chaplain stands in front of a cemetery in the opening moments of Werner Herzog's disquieting new documentary, “Into the Abyss.” The graves, the chaplain explains, belong to men who have been executed by the state of Texas. They are marked and identified not by names, but by numbers.

The chaplain insists that capital punishment is not incompatible with his Christian beliefs. His conviction never waivers, but he soon breaks into tears and expresses a futile wish that he could do something to stop the deaths that he regularly witnesses.

In the next scene, Herzog interviews Michael Perry, a convicted murderer with eight days left until his execution. Herzog states his position plainly: “I don't have to like you, but I think it isn't right that the state can kill you.” These first scenes imply that “Into the Abyss” will be an angry attack on the death penalty along the lines of “Dead Man Walking.” Instead, Herzog essentially removes himself from the rest of the picture and prompts his subjects — all connected in some way by the triple murder committed by Perry and Jason Burkett (who received a life sentence) — to speak freely about their experiences.

As a result, “Into the Abyss” is a deeply enriching — and saddening — experience. While it might be unlikely to change a viewer's stance on the death penalty, the film presents an invaluable portrait of the emotional toll that Perry and Burkett's senseless crime (their only goal was to steal a car) and the resulting ju-

dicial process have taken on society. Like the chaplain, each person related to the case has had to find a way to cope with realities of pointless evil and death, an isolated struggle that has worn many of them out.

The film's most devastating moments concern two relatives. Lisa Stotler-Balloun, the daughter of one of the victims, disconnected her phones in an effort to shut herself off from the outside world after the loss of many of her family members. The father of Jason Burkett, who has spent most of his long life in prison, takes consolation only in the fact that his tearful testimony over his own failures as a father may have saved his son from execution.

Herzog poses all of his questions in his distinct Bavarian accent, and occasionally halts the drama to take note of an amusing quirk in his subjects (a joke about a tattoo draws a cheap, unexpected laugh), but otherwise “Into the Abyss” carries strikingly few signs of its director. Herzog's relative absence adds to the authenticity — despite his declaration at the beginning, the viewer gets the feeling that the documentary could have gone anywhere simply depending on what his subjects had to say.

At the Faculty-Led interactive Cinematic eXplorations screening of the film at the Belcourt on Jan. 8, speaker Randy Spivey, academic director of Lipscomb's Institute for Law, Justice and Society, pointed to the repeated use of the phrase “useless” in the film, and how the crime is the empty “abyss” of the title into which decades of meaningless pain flow. “Into the Abyss” is not a political film, but rather a profoundly humanistic one. It's a rare documentary that explores a polarizing issue and leaves the viewer with a better understanding of how each person affected by the issue feels. ★

Nashville Symphony to offer student discounts



PHOTO BY STEVE HALL OF HEDRICH BLESSING

SoundCheck program provides cheap tickets to students

BENJAMIN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

The idea of spending an evening with the Nashville Symphony at the magnificent Schermerhorn Symphony Center sounds like a pricey affair, but college students can obtain excellent seats for a bargain price thanks to the Symphony's SoundCheck program. After a simple registration process, students can purchase up to two tickets for seats anywhere in the auditorium for only \$10 each at select events.

The Nashville Symphony website currently lists such events

that will occur between now and the end of March. The highly diverse selection includes performances by 146-member Nashville Symphony Chorus on March 4, and by the Japanese ensemble TAO, which combines martial arts, dance, traditional drumming and theatre, on March 12.

The next SoundCheck event consists of three shows from Jan. 26-28 featuring renowned guest conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski and guest pianist Garrick Ohlsson. The symphony will be performing a concerto by Frédéric Chopin and a symphony by Johannes Brahms.

Extensive flood damage caused the Schermerhorn Symphony Center to close for seven months in 2010. The building was fully restored by the end of the year in a massive restoration effort that, according to The Tennessean, cost nearly \$40 million.

The SoundCheck registration process can be easily completed at the Nashville Symphony's website. In addition, the symphony requires that you submit a copy of your most recent transcript by mail, email or fax, and that the process be repeated annually.

For an example of the program's benefits, a front row seat at a March 10 Nashville Symphony performance that would normally cost \$64 would only cost \$10 with SoundCheck. Of course, the best seats often disappear quickly, so seats need to be reserved well in advance.

The SoundCheck program makes a visit to the Nashville Symphony a viable option for college students, whether you're a fan of classical music, looking for a classy place for a date, or just trying to spend an evening outside of the Vandy bubble. ★

Civil Wars astound Ryman

KRISTEN WEBB
LIFE EDITOR

In certain ways, The Civil Wars are exactly the opposites that their name would seem to describe. John Paul White, the duo's male component from Florence, Ala., looks the part of a brooding funeral-goer in his trademark black tuxedo next to Joy Williams, a bubbly California native who was quick with quips regarding her excitement throughout the entire evening.

And that's where any discord ends. The pair opened up their show at the sold-out Ryman Auditorium on Thursday with a sultry rendition of "Tip of my Tongue" off of their "Poison & Wine" EP, stunning the audience with flawless harmonies, which were often improvised. White's low Southern tone, often almost a growl, mixed with Williams's angelic harmonies in songs that ran the gamut from lullabies to passionate pleas.

"There are some bands that have been put on this earth to cheer you up, and we are not one of those bands," White joked with the audience after the pair's introduction. "And that makes us happy."

The audience, however, proved that statement wrong with an overwhelming standing ovation after "Barton Hollow," the title track from The Civil Wars' most recent album. The performance showcased the singers' talents, with both pouring emotion and incredible vocal power into the Southern folk-style piece.

To the artists' credit, nothing at the Ryman could eclipse the power they weaved onstage — not even a surprise appearance from Nashville's own Taylor Swift to premiere their co-written song "Safe and Sound" from the up-

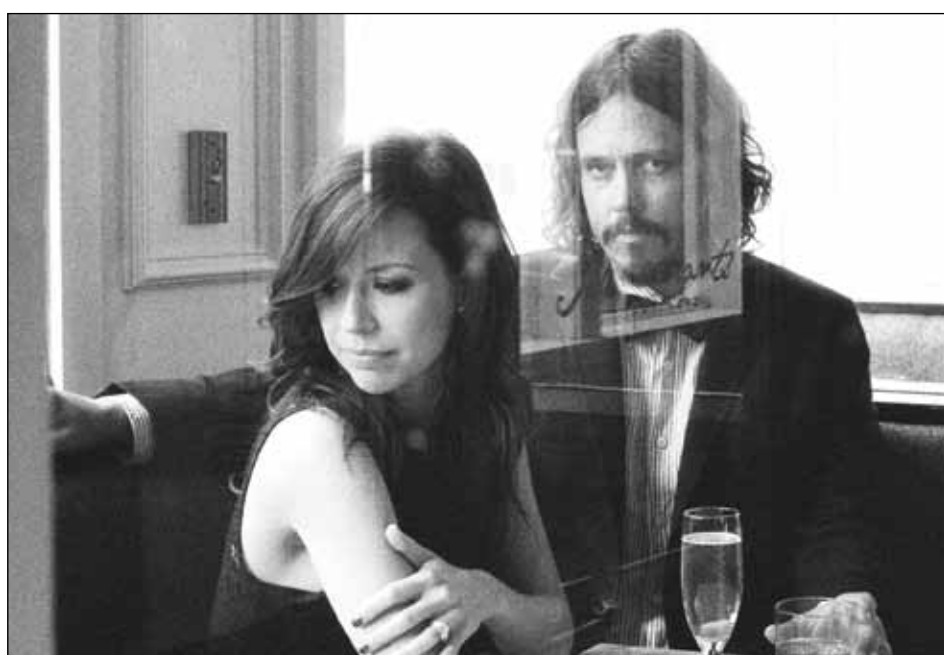


PHOTO BY ALLISTER ANIN

coming "The Hunger Games" movie soundtrack.

Alongside The Civil Wars, Swift gave a rock-solid performance, adding a third part to the duo without allowing her pop style to detract from the somber melody.

The second half of the performance included more of the band's unrecorded material, including a new original piece called "Oh Henry" in the explosive style of "Barton Hollow." The Civil Wars also added their own flair to several older favorites, such as a haunting rendition of the Smashing Pumpkins' "Disarm," of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," and finally, in traditional Ryman style, a completely unplugged version of Leonard Cohen's "Dance Me to the End of Love".

Perhaps the show could be summarized with a few numbers. The Civil Wars sold out all 2,362 seats in a matter of several hours after the tickets went on sale. During the course of the show,

the pair received four separate standing ovations. Joy Williams even joked about needing to wear waterproof mascara three times due to her excitement at playing the Ryman.

Even so, the most accurate description for many concert-goers may come from the group's own lyrics: "Oh dear, never saw you coming, look what you've done. You're always on the tip of my tongue."

For a band in relative obscurity a year ago, The Civil Wars have made huge strides in becoming one of the most popular singer/songwriter pairs in America, earning Americana Music nominations for Best New Artist of the Year in 2011 and even a 2012 Grammy nomination for "Barton Hollow" in the Best Folk Album category. The Civil Wars' performance at the Ryman only further proves that their music will be on the tip of America's tongue for a long time to come. ★

Free FLiCX at Belcourt

FLiCX Program and International Lens Series Offer Free Screenings for Students

BENJAMIN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

Students often have multiple opportunities every week to attend an eclectic selection of free film screenings, thanks to the Faculty Led interactive Cinematic eXplorations Program and the International Lens Film Series.

"Vanderbilt University arguably has one of the most robust co-curricular film programs in the country, given FLiCX and International Lens," says F. Clark Williams, coordinator for FLiCX. Every screening is followed by a discussion led by someone connected to the film, often a professor or filmmaker.

FLiCX events require student registration at the FLiCX website, and the screenings take place at the nearby Belcourt Theatre. International Lens Screenings occur on various nights at 7:30 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema. A full list of the screenings for the spring semester can be found at the International Lens Series website at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/internationalens/>.

Entering its ninth semester, the International Lens Series aims to unite various smaller film programs and provide international film screenings in a sustainable way. A committee determines each semester's film selection based on the results of a faculty poll and the availability of 35mm prints and public performance rights. The wide range of professors involved in the process results in a deeply diverse selection of films. As Williams stated, "The co-curricular nature of these film programs administered by the Dean of Students Office is key to faculty involvement and ultimately their success."

The program's first screening of the semester, "AbUSed: The Postville Raid," presented a liberal condemnation of a massive immigration raid in Postville, Texas. Tristan Call of the Vanderbilt Campaign for Fair Food led the discussion, which connected the events captured in the film with similar (though smaller-scale) raids and related issues in Tennessee.

The FLiCX program was created five years ago as the product of a partnership involving the Office of the Dean of Students, the Film Studies Program, and the Belcourt Theatre. FLiCX functions by allowing students to register for free tickets for specific Belcourt screenings.

Discussions always follow the screenings and are typically led by academics, directors, or stars — one discussion last year was led by Nicole Kidman. According to Jennifer Fay, the director of Vanderbilt Film Studies, "the conversations have been consistently substantial and genuinely illuminating."

Upcoming events include an International Lens screening on Wednesday, Jan. 25 of the Israeli-American production "City of Borders" to be presented by the Office of LGBTQI Life, and a FLiCX screening of "Nuremberg" at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, a documentary on the famous Nuremberg trials. Sandra Schuleberg, the daughter of the film's director, will be leading the discussion.★

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Dores show promise in SEC play

Vanderbilt seeks to assert itself as a top-tier SEC team in conference play

GEORGE BARCLAY
STAFF REPORTER

The NCAA Tournament may get the most attention when it comes to college basketball, but conference play can be just as exciting and informative in the months leading up to the big dance. A team's performance during this stretch in the second half of the season not only determines their seed in the conference tournament, but it can also become a major factor regarding NCAA Tournament invitations.

Vanderbilt University Men's Basketball is all too familiar with the importance of conference play. This season, Vanderbilt looks to accomplish a task that has not been completed by the program since 1993: a first place finish in the SEC East, a feat much easier said than done.

However, with an experienced core of upperclassmen highlighted by junior guard John Jenkins, senior forward Jeffery Taylor and redshirt senior center Festus Ezeli, Vanderbilt recognizes the fact that these wins will not come on their own.

"It's definitely the toughest part (of the season) because you play most of the teams twice," said Jenkins about SEC play. "When you've been here for a few years, it's harder because you know most of the players on the other teams and vice versa. You know the scouting report better than you do for the non-conference schedule."

In a competitive conference such as the SEC East, even the slightest advantage can make a difference at the end of a game.

"It's all about watching a lot of film and just remembering what kinds of tendencies different players have," said Taylor about the impact of familiarity in SEC games.

Although the overall level of competition has increased with the start of in-conference games, Vanderbilt is hitting its stride at just the right time. Following a rocky start to the season, the Commodores have won seven games in a row. After their 77-66 win against Georgia on Saturday, Vanderbilt is 13-4 on the season and 3-0 in SEC games.

"We've started to earn a little bit of swagger, especially on defense. Ever since Christmas, we said we were going to start a new season and we did and it's been great," said Ezeli about his team's recent play. "We're focused on right now. We're focused on us. We're trying to get better and be the best team that we can be."

Yet, even with their timely win-streak, the Commodores still have some important questions to address.

Can Vanderbilt's veteran starting five consistently produce as a unit? Can the Commodores close out games against top-ranked opponents? Can Kevin Stallings give a talented freshman class the necessary minutes for it to be prepared for March?

With a balanced team consisting of savvy veterans and athletic young players, Vanderbilt has its best opportunity for a deep tournament run since the days of Shan Foster and Derrick Byars. A tough stretch beginning with Thursday's matchup against the highly-skilled Crimson Tide will define the trajectory of this Vanderbilt season. ★



BECK FRIEDMAN/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Kedren Johnson (2) and the Commodores are currently 3-0 in conference play and are looking to contend for their first regular season SEC title since 1993.

COLUMN

Post play quietly leads team

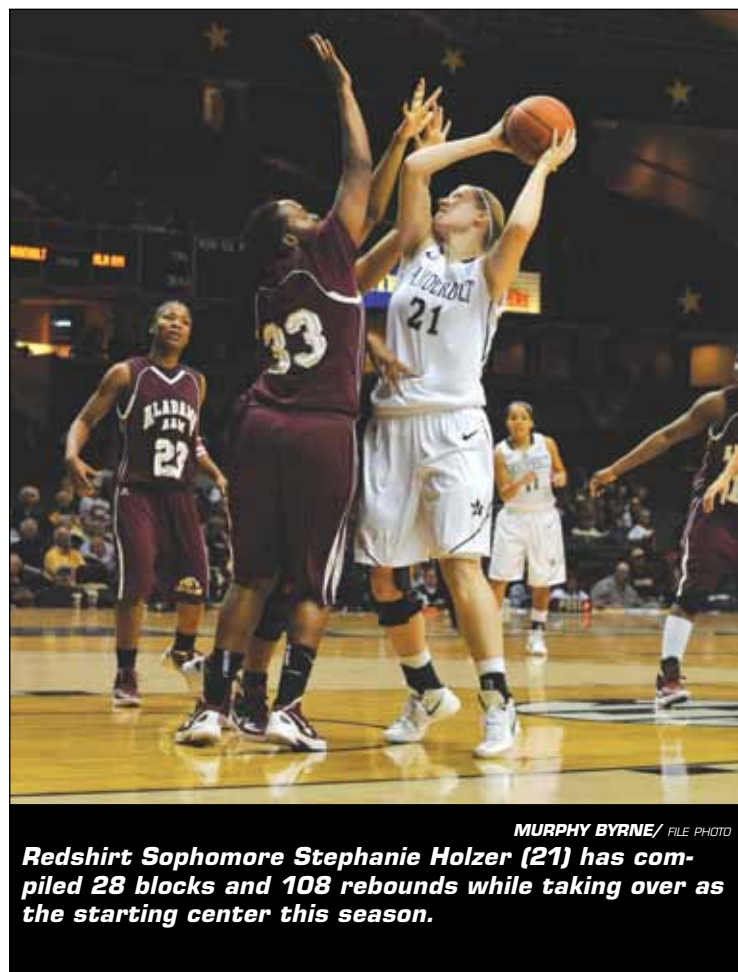
Tiffany Clarke and Stephanie Holzer assume leadership roles within strong offense

KRISTEN SCHEFT
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt entered the 2011-2012 basketball season as one of the conference's biggest underdogs. After a disappointing postseason run capped by an 81-62 first round loss to Louisville many wrote the Commodores off as too inconsistent to compete against the likes of perennial powerhouses Tennessee and Kentucky. Although a talented team, they lacked the ability to finish games. In fact, nine of their 12 losses were determined by 10 points or less, with many teams stringing together late game runs to push past the Commodores.

Fast forward one season, and the team is almost unrecognizable.

The same Vanderbilt squad that entered SEC play with a 9-4 record last year now sits atop its conference with a near perfect 14-2 record. They started their season on a tear, avenging last season's losses to Florida State and Denver. As the season has progressed, the Commodores have become known for their high-power



MURPHY BYRNE/ FILE PHOTO

Redshirt Sophomore Stephanie Holzer (21) has compiled 28 blocks and 108 rebounds while taking over as the starting center this season.

offense, led by sophomore guard Christina Foggie.

What many people may not realize, however, is that the combined efforts of junior forward Tiffany Clarke and redshirt sophomore center Stephanie Holzer are just as important to the success of the team. Currently, they lead the team in shooting percentage, rebounding and blocks, helping the Commodores land the No. 25 spot in the Associated Press poll.

"This is our favorite part of the season. We like the challenge of stepping up. It's time to get serious," Clarke said. "Although I got a concussion earlier this year and was unable to play for a few games, I feel a lot better now."

If Clarke is still suffering the lingering effects of her concussion, it is not evident in her performance. Averaging 10.7 points and 7.3 rebounds per game, the

powerful forward has provided the team with a huge spark heading into conference play.

"I'm coming off the bench this year, but I bring more energy to the team now," Clarke said. "My role is still the same; I'm here to help the team."

Along with Clarke, Stephanie Holzer's improved play has been integral to the team's success. She spent much of the offseason working on her defense, which continues to be one of her areas of improvement.

"I have tried really hard to limit my fouling this year," said Holzer. "Sometimes I get myself into trouble and have to sit out for most of the game. I worked on my footwork a lot this year, and I feel a lot more comfortable on defense."

After being named the conference's sixth woman of the year last season, Holzer has adjusted nicely to her new role as the team's starting center. Compiling 28 blocks and 108 rebounds in just 16 games, she is well on her way to the best defensive season of her career.

"We all just need to stay focused heading into this part of our schedule," Holzer said. "We have all worked really hard this year, and I think it's starting to show. I think that everyone feels a lot more confident in themselves and each other." ★

Southeastern Conference Power Rankings: Week of 1/15

BY JACKSON MARTIN
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

1. NO. 2 KENTUCKY (17-1, 3-0 SEC)

The Wildcats narrowly avoided a huge upset against Tennessee Saturday, erasing an eight-point halftime deficit to prevail, 65-62. Anything can happen in the SEC, but don't expect John Calipari's team to be challenged again until No. 19 Florida comes to Lexington on Feb. 7. The Wildcats are clearly the most talented team in the conference, but youth and inexperience could play factors in upcoming road games against tough crowds at Florida and Vanderbilt.

2. NO. 19 FLORIDA (14-4, 2-1)

With two losses to top five opponents Syracuse and Ohio State and two losses to Rutgers and Tennessee (both teams struggling to stay above .500) this Florida team has been tough to figure out all year. The Gators have rebounded nicely from the Tennessee loss with big victories over Georgia and South Carolina. The next big test comes Jan. 28, when No. 20 Mississippi State visits Gainesville.

3. NO. 20 MISSISSIPPI STATE (15-3, 2-1)

A 56-52 win over Alabama on Saturday cemented (at least for now) the Bulldogs as the third best team in the SEC. The Bulldogs will still have to travel to Memorial Gymnasium to face a hot Vanderbilt team Jan. 21 if they want to retain their lofty place in this prestigious ranking system.

4. ALABAMA (13-4, 2-1)

Despite the loss to Mississippi State, Anthony Grant's team certainly looks like a club that can make a run in the NCAA tournament. Unfortunately, the next two games come against two very talented teams in Vanderbilt and Kentucky.

5. VANDERBILT (13-4, 3-0)

The Commodores have won seven games in a row, but to be honest only Marquette was truly a quality opponent in that stretch. John Jenkins is again leading the SEC in scoring at 19.8 points per game, but he and the Commodores will be challenged with two upcoming games against Alabama and Mississippi State.

6. ARKANSAS (13-4, 2-1)

At this point in the power rankings, the teams are almost interchangeable. All the remaining teams have played good teams close and have lost to inferior opponents. Arkansas gets the nod at the top of this tier by having the least of those bad losses.

7. LSU (11-6, 1-2)

With one truly good win (against Marquette) and (mostly) respectable losses, LSU is a head above the rest of the murky bottom of the SEC. After a date with Auburn, the Tigers must face three ranked opponents in a row, with road games against Florida and Mississippi State before welcoming Kentucky to Baton Rouge.

8. GEORGIA (9-8, 0-3)

By virtue of only having one bad loss (to rival Georgia Tech) and playing Vanderbilt close, Georgia is the next pick here. Granted, the Bulldogs don't have a good win either, but at least they have one of the most electrifying freshmen in the conference in Kentavious Caldwell-Pope, who is scoring 14.5 points per game.

9. CAROLINA (8-9, 0-3)

Like Georgia, the Gamecocks only have one or two bad losses, but don't have any good wins either. Bruce Ellington has yet to emerge as the scoring threat he was last year, and the Gamecocks have dropped their last three games.

10. OLE MISS (11-6, 1-2)

There really isn't much to say about Ole Miss here that hasn't been said about the other teams. The Rebels have no good wins and a few bad losses, which would put them at last in most power rankings if there weren't so many bad teams to choose from in the SEC.

11. TENNESSEE (8-9, 1-2)

The Volunteers might be better than we originally thought. They are the only team at the bottom of this list that has shown any real upside, beating Florida and playing Kentucky and Mississippi State close. However, losses to Oakland, Austin Peay and College of Charleston keep them at the bottom of the list for now.

12. AUBURN (11-6, 1-2)

The 11-6 record the Tigers boast looks good on paper, but when you look closer and realize the best win the team has is a double-overtime victory over Ole Miss Saturday that mark looks pretty empty. The other wins? Victories over powerhouses like McNeese State, Kennesaw State, Nicholls State, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, South Florida, North Florida, Florida A&M, Hawaii, Georgia Southern and Bethune-Cookman. ★

COMMODORE BUZZ:

James Franklin announced two new additions to his coaching staff Friday to fill the vacancies left by Wes McGriff and Chris Beatty. George Barlow, former New Mexico defensive coordinator, will coach defensive backs and serve as the defensive recruiting coordinator while Josh Gattis will coach wide receivers and coordinate offensive recruiting.

IN HER SHOES



CHRISTINA FOGGIE

SOPHOMORE GUARD

KRISTEN SCHEFT
STAFF REPORTER

Coming off one of the best non-conference starts in recent history, which included a convincing win against ranked opponent Oklahoma, the Vanderbilt women's basketball team looks to shake things up as SEC play begins. Sophomore guard Christina Foggie recently talked to The Hustler about the team's growth, staying healthy, and winning in a competitive conference.

We all feel that we need to step our games up a little bit this year. Because we lost some of our team leaders last year, everyone has a chance to emerge as an offensive and defensive threat. It's actually really exciting to know that there are so many opportunities for all of us.

We're a young team. We only have one senior, so our style of play is a little bit different this year. One of our biggest strengths is our athleticism. We've been able to run the ball up the court a lot more. Although we may not be as experienced as last year's team, we're playing well together. We have so much ahead of us, and it's exciting.

We're doing well, and we're just going to keep growing. It's a huge confidence booster knowing that our team will remain mostly intact next season. We're in a very good place right now. We started off the year with our best start in awhile, which says a lot about our team's effort and dedication.

Last year I missed half the season with injury. This year I have played every game, so it's been big for us. I am finally consistent and feeling very confident. It's important that everyone stays healthy because we have such a small team. We all have very important roles to play. We play as a team. If one individual is hurt, our whole team suffers.

Sometimes it's hard to take things one day at a time. Since we play in such a tough conference, we know that we're going to face great competition all season. One thing we have really emphasized is staying focused and taking practice very seriously. Coach tells us to not overlook any of our opponents. It's been our motto, and we've stuck to it all year. ★



MURPHY BYRNE/FILE PHOTO

Sophomore Christina Foggie (10) leads the Commodores in scoring with 17.3 points per game. That total is second best in the SEC.

WEEKEND UPDATE:

MEN'S BASKETBALL



BECK FRIEDMAN/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The Commodores held off a tougher than anticipated Georgia team 77-66 to improve to 3-0 in conference play. John Jenkins led the team with 18 points while Jeff Taylor added 16. Strong free throw shooting paced the team in the final five minutes, where they hit 15 of 22 foul shots to seal the victory. The Commodores converted 30 of 44 foul shots overall, while Georgia was only able to get to the charity stripe 20 times the entire game. Next up for the Commodores is Alabama on Jan. 19.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sophomore guard Christina Foggie had a career high 27 points, but it wasn't enough as the No. 6 Tennessee Lady Vols ran away with an 87-64 win. The Commodores trailed by just three points at halftime, but committed 15 second-half turnovers, allowing the Lady Vols to improve their lead by 20 points in the second half. The Commodores, who have never won in Knoxville, fell to 14-3 overall and 2-2 in conference play while Tennessee improved to 13-4 and 4-1 in league play. Foggie wasn't the only Commodore who had a high scoring night; junior forward Tiffany Clarke added 14 points while sophomore guard Jasmine Lister had nine points and five assists. Tennessee had four different scorers in double digits, led by 20 points from Shekinna Stricklen and 16 each from Vicki Baugh and Glory Johnson, while Meighan Simmons had 10. The Commodores next travel to Fayetteville for a faceoff with 12-5 Arkansas.

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1/12 Solutions

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1/16/12

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Anderson
- 5 Like one who limps
- 9 Exhausted, with "out"
- 14 Sportscaster Hershiser
- 15 Director Kazan
- 16 Biscotti flavoring
- 17 Sagacious
- 18 Computer storage medium
- 19 Aquarium fish
- 20 Dairy food with loose curds
- 23 Pub pint
- 24 Buddhist sect
- 25 Many shoppers buy on it
- 28 Bare minimum
- 30 Jibs and spinnakers
- 33 Often-flowery verse
- 34 "Is it soup ___?"
- 36 Letters before an alias
- 37 Bed with a mate
- 38 Dip for veggies
- 42 "I've Gotta ___": Sammy Davis Jr. hit
- 43 Fair-hiring inits.
- 44 "Casablanca" pianist
- 45 Honest prez
- 46 Idyllic places
- 48 Lukewarm
- 52 Internal Revenue Code expert
- 54 Stable diet?
- 56 Brian with the album "Music for Airports"
- 57 Tenderloin often served with Béarnaise sauce
- 61 Pandemonium
- 63 Jackson 5 member
- 64 Glitch
- 65 Songstress Lena
- 66 Gunk
- 67 Remote button
- 68 Broke off, as talks
- 69 Ballyhoo
- 70 Suffix with road or hip

DOWN

- 1 Like diet beverages
- 2 Baltimore bird
- 3 Lipton rival
- 4 Abba's "___ the Music Speak"
- 5 Rocky projection
- 6 Martians and such
- 7 Catchall abbr.
- 8 For one
- 9 Track transactions
- 10 Occupied, as a lavatory
- 11 "Put a lid on it!"
- 12 Sixth sense, for short
- 13 Susan of "L.A. Law"
- 21 Ancient Mexican model series
- 26 Beatnik's "Gotcha"
- 27 Finger count
- 29 "Auld Lang ___"
- 31 Hank with 755 career homers
- 32 Tina Turner's ex
- 35 Precisely, after "on"
- 37 Game-stopping call
- 38 Country singer McEntire
- 39 "Don't leave home without it" convenience
- 40 Poor grade
- 41 Mythical man-goat
- 42 Halloween decoration
- 46 Rubbed off the board
- 47 "Zip your lip!"
- 49 Bar snack item
- 50 Present from birth
- 51 Los Angeles ballplayer
- 53 "E.T. ___ home"
- 55 Place to live, one of which starts the three longest puzzle answers
- 58 Cut with acid
- 59 Breezy
- 60 Doctrines
- 61 Revolutionary Guevara
- 62 Darlin'

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1/16/12

1/12/12 Solutions

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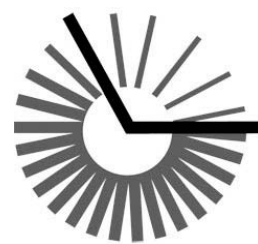
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- Lisa Carr, Board Certified Health & Nutrition Coach

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THE HUSTLER PHOTO STAFF NEEDS MORE PHOTOGRAPHERS!

No experience necessary!



If interested,
COME BY SARRATT 130
 (past Last Drop Coffee Shop)
TOMORROW AT 5:30 P.M.