

THE HUSTLER

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The purpose of a pill



VSG debates possibility of Plan B vending machines on campus

KION SAWNEY
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt Student Government Wednesday night voted down a resolution to conduct a campus-wide scientific study regarding the possibility of installing vending machines that would dispense emergency contraceptives in the Student Health Center, Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center and other similar buildings.

After about 45 minutes of debate the resolution was voted down 6-18-3 on the grounds that the proper parties, such as the Student Health and the Women's Center, need to be consulted and that more information is needed before it would be appropriate to conduct a campus-wide survey.

The discussion on the pill centered on a resolution submitted to the body by Representative Kenny Tan of the Alumni Lawn Area.

Much of the debate focused on what the appropriate method should be for any individual seeking the medication. While the intent of the resolution was to create a survey for the student body, the debate shifted to the ramifications of the survey.

Some members of VSG saw a survey as an insult to women and dismissive of the psychological impact such a decision would have on its taker.

"If you sent me this survey I would be furious if you think that a medicine can coup and solve something. You need to see someone immediately. The debate is not about making sure people are protected, it's mental," said one member of the body.

The resolution was submit-

VSG debated the implications of a contraceptive vending machine at a joint session Wednesday night in the Conference Room in Central Library.

CHRIS HONIBALL / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

ted by Rep. Tan after he heard from close friends about other Vanderbilt students who had been victims of date rape.

"Enough is enough. We all come here expecting a safe learning environment and when one of our community members is a victim of sexual assault we should all be outraged," Tan said in a speech before the joint session.

Rep. Tan's proposal is based on an existing program at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pa. The secluded institute of 8,300 students began dispensing Plan B along with condoms, decongestants and pregnancy tests in a vending machine about two years ago.

see **VSG** page 3

THE HUSTLER SPORTS STAFF PREVIEWS THE 2012 VANDERBILT BASEBALL SEASON

SEE SPORTS, PAGE 8



NICOLE MANDEL / FILE PHOTO

Three SAEs under investigation after theft at WKU

KYLE BLAINE
SENIOR REPORTER

The Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity is currently investigating three new members of Vanderbilt's Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity following allegations against them of theft at the Western Kentucky University chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity.

Surveillance footage captured the three pledge members stealing a fraternity composite picture from the WKU Sigma Nu house at around 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 28. According to representatives within Sigma Alpha Epsilon, the composite picture has been returned and a formal apology was issued to Sigma Nu.

Sources within Sigma Alpha Epsilon told The Hustler that they were informed the pursuit of the case by Sigma Nu and the Western Kentucky Police Department has ended. No

formal charges have been filed at this time.

A Bowling Green police report indicated that another complaint of criminal mischief was made on Jan. 28 by WKU Kappa Alpha President Jordan Clark. According to the report, Clark said that someone entered the Kappa Alpha residence and threw a pool ball through the screen of their 42-inch Vizio television.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon has denied these charges, and, according to the report, there is no evidence to link the three new members to the crime.

The pledge class of Sigma Alpha Epsilon has scheduled a day of service in response to the incident, according to fraternity officials.

According to Director of Greek Life Kristin Shorter, the incident may be investigated as a fraternity-related violation following the findings of the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. ★

As colleges obsess over rankings, students shrug

JUSTIN POPE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When US News & World Report debuted its list of "America's Best Colleges" nearly 30 years ago, the magazine hoped its college rankings would be a game-changer for students and families. But arguably, these rankings have had a much bigger effect on colleges themselves.

It isn't students who obsess over every incremental shift on the rankings scoreboard and regularly embarrass themselves in the process. It's colleges.

It's colleges that have spent billions on financial aid for high-scoring students who don't actually need the money, motivated at least partly by the quest for rankings glory.

It was a college, Baylor University, that paid students it had already accepted to retake

the SAT exam in a transparent ploy to boost the average scores it could report. It's colleges that have awarded bonuses to presidents who lift their school a few slots.

And it's colleges that occasionally get caught in the kind of cheating you might expect in sports or on Wall Street, but which seems especially ignominious coming from professional educators.

Competitiveness may be naturally human, but to many who work with students, such behavior among fellow educators is mystifying. Contrary to widespread perceptions, they say, students typically use the rankings as a source of data and pay little attention to a school's number.

Most rankings critics say by far the most pernicious failure of colleges isn't blatant cheating,

see **RANKINGS** page 3

Dance Marathon marks 10th year this weekend

KATIE KROG
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon, supporting the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, celebrates its 10th year this weekend.

The event, which will last 13.1 hours (a reference to the length of a half-marathon), will take place in the Vanderbilt Student Rec Center Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17-18, and all of the profits will be donated to the Children's Hospital.

The registration date for dancers has passed for this year, but general admission tickets are \$10 at the door.

VUDM is the largest student-run philanthropic organization on Vanderbilt's campus.

According to the organization's website, Vanderbilt's Dance Marathon has raised over \$1 million for the Children's Hospital over the past nine years.

This year, Wynonna Judd will make a guest appearance, and the event will include performances by Nick Wells, Dance Line, Patrick Thomas, VIBE and other performers.



CHRIS PHARE / FILE PHOTO

According to junior and Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon Public Relations Director Jennifer Quan, between 200 and 300 students participated in Dance Marathon as dancers last year, but there were around 1000 people present at the event.

Quan said she expects this year's see **DANCE MARATHON** page 3

Tracy Branding and other students dance during last year's Dance Marathon on Feb. 19, 2011. This year marks the organization's 10th year, and will include an appearance by Wynonna Judd and performances by Nick Wells, Dance Line, Patrick Thomas and other performing groups.

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STUDENT PROFILE BY GRACE AVILES

ANDREW KIRKMAN



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FAVORITE FOOD

"I love food. Do I have to pick just one? I guess if I could only have one food for the rest of my life it would be lobster ... probably a prohibitively expensive food to eat exclusively, though."

FAVORITE CLASS AT VANDY

"I've had so many great classes at Vandy. My favorite and most helpful was probably Public Speaking with Professor John English."

FAVORITE VTV SHOW

"I can't pick — that would be like picking a favorite of my nine children!"

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER GRADUATION?

"I'm going to start working for CBS News in New York City right after graduation. I am very excited about this opportunity — I've always wanted to work for one of the three big news networks for as long as I can remember. Being able to see how editorial decisions are made and how it all comes together in time for that hard 6:30 deadline is what I am most looking forward to."

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN VSC?

"I transferred to Vandy after my freshman year and jumped right into media through Media Immersion. I had done some TV production in high school, so I was very interested in VTV. At that time, a new show, Morning VU was being launched and they needed an anchor. I applied and became an anchor, and, because the show was new and needed one, the producer. That year we aired around 40 episodes, and since then have produced around 120 episodes."

What a unique experience to have been able to see the evolution of a project from the start like that.

"It definitely was. It has been great to see the transformation of the television station in these three short years. Back then, VTV was just a green screen where the coffee shop used to be. Now we have our own, much larger space with full-scale camera and editing equipment and everything."

DO YOU HAVE ANY FIVE- OR 10-YEAR PLANS?

"I don't really have a specific long-term plan, but I do know that I plan to keep my head down and work hard. Starting out I will be putting in a lot of work and long hours, but I hope that by doing this there will be a lot of opportunity to grow and advance within CBS."

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER VANDY STUDENTS HOPING TO PREPARE A COMPETITIVE RESUME FOR TV BROADCASTING?

"I would say that for any media career today, it is so important to try and develop as broad a repertoire of skills as possible. If you want to be a print reporter, you need to know how to shoot and edit video, work in online media, the whole bit. Outlets are looking for well-rounded candidates, not specialists. Also, the best advice I've ever gotten was from my 98-year-old grandfather, who said to 'Do what you love.' I used to think it was corny, but I figure if he's saying that and he's 98 it's probably something I could put money on."

WHAT ARE TWO THINGS LEFT TO DO ON YOUR SENIOR YEAR BUCKET LIST?

"Pancake Pantry and the Ryman Auditorium." ★

VU THEATRE

'THE CHILDREN'S HOUR' BY LILLIAN HELLMAN

Neely Auditorium. All tickets are reserved seats. Undergraduate tickets are free, and graduate student tickets cost \$7. A VU ID is required for either discount. General Admission tickets cost \$10.

The Children's Hour by Lillian Hellman / Feb. 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 at 8:00 p.m. / February 19 at 2:00 p.m. / Long before Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," Lillian Hellman shocked audiences with her indictment of a society which blindly swallows unsubstantiated lies and accusations. Hellman's world of 1934, although tame by contemporary standards, still resonates today, especially when compared to our mania for finger-pointing and name-calling. Hellman skillfully charts the decimation that occurs when a spoiled child accuses her teachers of "forbidden" acts. The director is Jon Hallquist, who can be reached at jon.w.hallquist@vanderbilt.edu. Call 322-2404 for more information. ★

Crows dispersed?



BECK FRIEDMAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

At least some of the crows have returned to campus after an attempt to humanely disperse them two weeks ago.

Discussion of religious beliefs at interfaith panel

BEN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

A crowd of students, professors and interested members of the Nashville community gathered in the Student Life Center to watch representatives from eight different religious backgrounds discuss their beliefs (or lack of thereof) at the Vanderbilt Interfaith Council's annual panel discussion on Monday night.

The conversation centered around the question "How much is too much?" as it related to proselytizing and the "Caring for the Lost at Vanderbilt" video from last September, which provoked widespread criticism and satire for its images of evangelical Christians condemning tailgating Vanderbilt students.

The panel consisted of one representative each from Buddhism, Bahá'í, Atheism, Mormonism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism. Each speaker described their background and their religion's views on actively trying to convert other people before taking questions from the audience.

Interfaith Council President Aladine Elsamadicy opened the discussion, introducing moderator Gretchen Person, interim director of the Office of Religious Life. Person's role was limited, however, as the panelists presented their views concisely and there was virtually no direct arguing between them.

The Catholic, Protestant and Islamic panelists emphasized the importance of bringing others into their faith within reason. Father John Baker, the Catholic chaplain at Vanderbilt, highlighted the importance of preaching and converting while noting the inevitable tension between freedom of conscience and religion.

Dave Bachman of the interde-



JON MUNOZ / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Eight panelists discussed the views of their religions at a discussion on Monday.

nominational Christian ministry Navigators connected conversion with his the spreading of the good news of the Gospel central to Evangelism and decried the producers of the "Caring for the Lost at Vanderbilt" video on the grounds that they "stopped sharing the good news of the Gospel. It sounded like a lot of bad news to me."

Sarki Abdulkadir, an advisor for the Muslim Students Association, said that while "it is encouraged that people share," the Quran does not stress active conversion and that such talks need to be civil and respectful.

Dr. Vipul Lakhani, who represented Bahá'í, highlighted the importance of independent investigation. "It's sharing, not converting or putting any undue pressure on anyone else."

The representatives of Mormonism, Judaism, Hinduism, Bahá'í and Buddhism also expressed a general openness to new members as long as they were self-motivated.

Atheist Tim Bolton offered a completely different perspective, identifying atheism as "simply a lack of belief" that follows from a lack of evidence. Bolton also explained that atheists are not necessarily against religion, although many figures like Christopher Hitchens and Richard Dawkins have created that impression. Still, many of his comments were

more caustic.

"As for how much is too much," said Bolton, "if a couple of people in suits ring your doorbell on a Saturday morning, they're probably not atheists."

A question from the audience about whether religious faith plays too much of a role in elections for public office produced a blunt response of, "Yes, totally," from Bolton, while Jewish Rabbi Saul Strosberg claimed that religion needs to play a larger role in which its complexities are fully embraced.

Nevertheless, the evening included little heated debate. Even when speakers offered completely different points of view on important issues, the conversation always remained polite and respectful.

The Interfaith panel is one of three major yearly events put on by the Vanderbilt Interfaith Council, which has members from each registered religious organization on campus. The organization's Facebook page describes its purpose as "to promote campus-wide understanding and respect of diverse spiritual beliefs by means of communication, dialogue, education and advocacy." ★

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SERVICE GUIDE

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VSG: Student Health Center against Plan B machines

Tan cited that Tennessee state law, similar to Pennsylvania state law, doesn't regulate that the drug needs to be prescribed. It would fall within the rights of the school to provide the additional resource of the vending machine.

Tan did add the stipulation that this program, if created, would only be available to students over the age of 17 and a Commodore Card would be needed to purchase to serve as identification.

Members of VSG questioned the lawfulness of the vending ma-

chines on campus. Recently Shippensburg University has come under the investigation of the Food and Drug Administration as to the legality of their program and if it is compliant with federal law. Officers expressed concern that it would be premature for VSG to send out a survey when there is a possibility that the practice is illegal.

When contacted for their remarks by Student Body President Meyer concerning the program, the Director of the Student Health Center Lousie Hanson stated that

they wouldn't support the vending machines because they believe that it isn't the appropriate response for people seeking the drug.

"The most important aspect to me is that we use this event as a teachable moment to speak of the options of birth control or at least talk about it. We all believe this is very important topic. In terms of moving forward there is zero support for this from the administration and the people who will have to enact it," Hanson said. ★

DANCE MARATHON: Silent auction online for first time this year

from **DANCE MARATHON** page 1 event to have as many participants as last year.

"We're excited," Quan said, "What I really love about Dance Marathon is that it brings together the entire student body."

VUDM hosts a silent auction each year in conjunction with the marathon.

According to Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon Sponsorship Chair Hannah Dimmitt, the silent auction is online for the first time this year, which will enable more people to participate in the auction.

The auction, which opened Wednesday morning and runs through Saturday, includes Southwest Airlines tickets, driving lessons on the Land Rover test track, Walt Disney World passes, a Princeton Review course and lunch with Chancellor Zeppos, among other items.

In addition to the main event in February, VUDM hosts numerous other events throughout the school year to raise awareness and funds for the Children's Hospital. These events include an annual 5-kilometer run in the fall, hospital carni-

vals and meet-and-greets with patients and their families, along with other events.

Quan said that this event is especially important to her because the Children's Hospital treats patients without regard to their ability to pay.

According to the Children's Hospital's website, families which cannot afford their children's treatment may be eligible for financial assistance.

The financial assistance brochure for Vanderbilt University Medical Center states that households with incomes less than 250 percent of the federal poverty guideline may be able to receive a "Charity Discount" up to 100 percent of their bill.

Quan added that the Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon motto is "FTK: for the kids."

"It's great to see how they [the kids] are always smiling," Quan said, "It's the best thing in the world."

For more information or to view the countdown to VUDM 2012, visit http://www.vanderbilt.edu/dance_marathon/ ★

WRISTBAND CUTTING CEREMONY

Although many Children's Hospital patients and their families attend Dance Marathon each year, many other children are unable to attend because they cannot leave their hospital rooms for the event.

In honor of those children who cannot attend, Dance Marathon participants wear hospital wristbands.

According to VUDM Public Relations Director Jennifer Quan, Children's Hospital patients leave the event during the night and return at the end of the event for a wristband-cutting ceremony, during which they cut the hospital wristbands off of Dance Marathon participants. ★



PHOTO PROVIDED
Clinton Milliken recently passed away at the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital after a four-year battle with brain cancer.

Poker night to benefit cancer victim's family

TYLER BISHOP
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt students will have the chance Thursday to join in on a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament aimed to raise money to benefit the family of Clinton Milliken, a child who recently passed at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital after a four-year battle with brain cancer.

East House is sponsoring the fundraiser that will begin at 8 p.m. in room 237 of The Commons Center.

In November of 2009, Clinton Milliken, at just four years of age, was diagnosed with Medulloblastoma, a malignant form of brain cancer. He battled the disease for nearly three years, defying doctors' expectations many times along the way.

East House residents have played an active role in providing aid to the Milliken family for the last two school years, according to East House Service Commissioner Katie Flint.

"This is East House's second year supporting the Milliken

ens. We plan to continue our relationship with the family and help them in anyway we can," Flint said.

The goal of the fundraiser is to help the Milliken family with hospital bills and other everyday expenses. After three years, their medical bills have built up, and East House is attempting to ease their burden.

In addition to the fundraiser, East residents also prepare dinner for the family twice a month, have created projects such as "Carnations for Clinton" and plan to host a Dr. Seuss-themed carnival for Clinton's friends in March.

Clinton continues to inspire, even after his untimely passing. In addition to East's commitment to the Milliken family, a charity called Clinton's Club has been founded in his honor. People who knew the seven-year-old only speak of his courage and inspiring attitude.

"People see Clinton as an extremely courageous young boy. He was very brave and had a great attitude," Flint said. ★

Water bottle pyramid for conservation

TYLER BISHOP
STAFF REPORTER

Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility will build a pyramid made of 365 Dasani water bottles next week in The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons Center as part of an effort to make a statement about the effects of water bottle usage on campus. SPEAR hopes to persuade students on campus to use reusable bottles instead of disposable plastic bottles.

This project is part of a wider campaign on campus and in the United States to show people the effects of buying water bottles. SPEAR Co-President Skyler Hutto hopes to motivate change in the way people think about plastic bottles and the

environment.

"The objective is to encourage people to think twice before they buy a water bottle. We use far too many of these useless items," Hutto said.

Because water bottles are so easily accessible on campus, they are one of the most popular meal plan items. Hutto said SPEAR wants to show students the negative side of the plastic bottle. Producing water bottles requires a significant amount of petroleum, releases carbon into the atmosphere and requires three liters of water just to produce a one liter bottle.

"Despite the water fountains and abundance of reusable bottles, students still buy bottled water

because it is convenient. Buying a bottle of water is like buying a bag of air," Hutto said.

SPEAR's effort in this water bottle demonstration is a small part of their overall campus initiative. Their goal is to promote an energy efficient campus with a smaller environmental impact, which, according to Hutto, starts with the simple things students can do on their own.

"We emphasize five central points: Take shorter and cooler showers, keep the thermostat at a reasonable temperature, do not use the elevator to move more than one or two floors, unplug your cell and computer chargers when you're not using them and turn off your lights when you leave the room," Hutto said. ★

RANKINGS: Increase in merit-based aid to recruit students

from **RANKINGS** page 1

but what they do more openly — allowing the rankings formula to drive their goals and policies.

Colleges, they argue, have caved to the rankings pressure in a range of ways. And these colleges have showered financial aid on high-achieving, and often wealthy, kids with high SAT scores.

In the mid-1990s, roughly one-third of grant aid, or scholarships colleges of all types awarded with their own money, was given on grounds other than need (typically called "merit aid"). A decade later, colleges gave away three times as much money — but well over half was based on merit. Rankings critic Lloyd Thacker,

founder of the group Education Conservancy, calls that a shift in financial aid from "charitable acts to competitive weapons." Or, as Schaeffer describes it, "they end up giving the money to rich white kids."

The latest version of a huge national survey of college freshman conducted annually by UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute asked students to list various factors affecting their choice of college. Rankings in national magazines were No. 11 for current college freshmen, with roughly one in six calling them very important.

Bob Morse, who oversees the US News rankings as director of data research, says many of the behaviors

the rankings have incentivized in colleges are benign. Things like more small classes, programs to boost retention, higher faculty-to-student ratios. And why, Morse asks, should colleges be criticized for casting a wider recruiting net?

But even Morse, who says colleges paid the rankings little attention when they debuted in 1983, says he's been shocked by how seriously they now take their standing, and the lengths they go to move up.

"None of those things when we first started we had in mind would even happen or even could happen," he said. "It's evolved in ways that have taken on a life of their own. To us, it's proof people are paying attention." ★

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OPINION

LETTER

Responsible Vanderbilt

An open letter to Chancellor Zeppos from the Vanderbilt Responsible Endowment Campaign

Chancellor Zeppos,

We understand that you have been made aware of two funds in which the university is invested through the endowment: EMVest and HEI Hospitality. We would like to discuss both in turn. HEI is a company which has violated state labor laws and settled numerous complaints under federal labor laws, and which has refused to agree to allow its workers to decide on whether to unionize through a fair process. You may be aware that there has been a national divestment campaign and that Yale University recently publicly divested after having been invested with over 120 million dollars. This action was taken after Brown chose not to reinvest, announcing so publicly. Subsequently, Cornell University and Swarthmore College have also issued public statements that they are not invested in HEI. There is ample documentation of ethical abuses by this company.

We have come to understand through private conversations with Vice Chancellor Wright that Vanderbilt has been invested in this company. In 2006, after the company published documents claiming Vanderbilt was invested, the administration would not confirm nor deny investment, continuing to hold that position until December 2011 when Mr. Wright informed us otherwise. We continue to maintain that this policy of “no comment” is highly unethical, as it is not adequately transparent. In addition, we understand that the Office of Investments in fact made a decision not to reinvest in HEI in 2008.

We highly commend this decision as consistent with the ethically motivated actions of our peer institutions described above. However, it is not acceptable that this decision was made in secret. Workers have been fighting in these hotels for their rights. It absolutely is “our business,” literally and figuratively. We materially support the companies we are invested in, and that is a responsibility which must be taken seriously. Because you refused our demand that you announce the decision not to reinvest in HEI publicly, we have taken the step of announcing our investment in HEI to the press. We call on you to publicly commit that the university will not reinvest in HEI's subsequent round of capital raising until they reform their labor practices.

The second investment, EMVest, has been a matter of ongoing controversy on campus. The Oakland Institute in California and UNAC of Mozambique are two groups which conducted on-the-ground research. They have alleged the company acquired its land by coercion, has lied in public documents and mistreats workers. Students have done extensive research starting in June and prepared evidence briefs that further support the allegations put forward by these organizations. We have met with both the provost and Mr. Wright, who have addressed our concerns. We commend Mr. Wright especially on feeling comfortable sharing so much detailed information with us about the investment. However, we recognize that this is a unique example in Vanderbilt's history of communication about investments, and it was a meeting that took over six months of campaigning to secure. We must have a policy of greater transparency, as this is unacceptable. Furthermore, Mr. Wright's rebuttals of our evidence, in addition to the evidence put forth by on-the-ground researchers, failed to actually address the specifics of

these claims. We have made these objections clear in public communication and can prepare additional evidence briefs if required. We therefore continue to demand divestment from, or a public commitment to not reinvest in, EMVest.

We find these two investments highly objectionable, and demand the appropriate action as immediately as possible. We see these investment as a result of a lack of accountability and transparency in the investment system at Vanderbilt. We are aware that the Office of Investment has no written ethical guidelines, unlike those that exist at many peer institutions. This is unacceptable. We have already stated our surprise at the lack of transparency when administration refuses to acknowledge or discuss investments that have already been confirmed and have been criticized in national press, such as HEI. We have made it clear to the Board of Trust and Mr. Wright that we are open to working with you in reforming the system in fairly conservative ways such as instituting an ethical recommendations board similar to ones existing at Ivy League and other peer institutions.

To clarify: We want to work with you on modernizing the ethics system that oversees our investment process, but that will not move forward until the university publicly commits to divest, or to not reinvest in, both EMVest and HEI. We are holding this protest to communicate that we are not simply making a moral request. If our voices are not taken seriously within the established decision-making process, we will pursue action to change that process.

Sincerely,

**Responsible Endowment Campaign
Vanderbilt Students of Nonviolence
contact@responsiblevandy.org**

COLUMN

Changing our mantra



SKYLER HUTTO
COLUMNIST

“Socially liberal and fiscally conservative” has become the political mantra of our generation. It offers something for everyone, and I've never met anyone who believed the exact opposite. This line of thinking is becoming more and more popular not only with young people but also with our parents and grandparents. So you may have been as shocked as I was to turn on the news last week and find that Rick Santorum swept three primaries: Missouri, Colorado and Minnesota. One could talk to 10 pundits and find 10 different explanations for this rise, but those reasons would not seem as strange to me as the message that Santorum is using, with apparent effectiveness, in his race for the nomination.

Unlike that noncontroversial maxim that we all like to hear from our friends when we talk about politics, Rick Santorum has abandoned the populist approach. He's adopted a “socially conservative and socially more conservative” message in every speech he makes. In this arena, he alone can definitely run on his record. Some of his recent statements are particularly illustrative. In an interview given in 2011, well before his Iowa victory, he said about birth control: “It's not ok because it's a license to do things in the sexual realm; that is counter to how things are supposed to be.”

To Santorum's credit, he's sticking by his values. When asked about gay marriage he said, “It threatens my marriage. It threatens all marriages. It threatens the traditional values of this country.” And most recently, when asked about women serving in combat positions, Santorum commented that they should not serve on the front line because of the emotions that they bring to battle situations.

While he's also been known to get away with citing some facts that are questionable, such as that the Netherlands uses euthanasia on people against their will to reduce medical expenses, what is truly amazing is that Santorum's socially conservative message has brought him to the front of the Republican race for the nomination.

In the months leading up to the first primaries, the consensus political wisdom was that the candidate with the best economic platform would surge ahead. That conjecture is what gave Mitt Romney his early-favorite status, leaving Rick Santorum as a dark horse. Instead, both of these men have four victories each. In four cases, Mitt Romney's business acumen was trumped by the unexpected message of Rick Santorum. This was a man that I had stopped listening to because I felt him so outlandish. Yet, with almost one-fifth of the primaries decided, Santorum is poised to take the lead with a win in Michigan.

While there are almost 10 days remaining until the Michigan primary, a Santorum win in such a populous state would be an amazing statement. It would mean that a plurality of republican voters in Michigan stand with a candidate who disdains birth control, is publicly suspicious of all non-Christians and questions the morality of scientific experimentation. I would have thought a candidate who represented those positions, as well as he can defend them with his religious conviction, would not have appealed to voters. Even if they agreed with his positions on moral issues, his electability (which sits far below Obama's) might have prevented him from gaining support. He continues to prove conventionality wrong. Rick Santorum will not channel the populist mantra; “socially liberal and fiscally conservative.” He will say what he believes, and evidently, people will listen.

—Skyler Hutto is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at skyler.b.hutto@vanderbilt.edu.

LETTER

Publicize Vanderbilt's investment research

Editor's note: The following letter is written on behalf of the Oakland Institute's board of directors. The Oakland Institute is an independent policy think-tank based in California, whose research led to allegations that Vanderbilt's endowment is invested in exploitative “land grabs” in Africa.

To the editor:

We, the Oakland Institute's Board of Directors, write to praise the Vanderbilt students for their courageous action in challenging Vanderbilt University's endowment strategy.

The Oakland Institute has done extensive ground-breaking field research on the impact of foreign investments in Africa concerning land use, food security, the environment, employment opportunities and the overall wellbeing of those who live there. Our research has examined over 50 land deals in seven African nations. The findings of the research appear on our website, www.oaklandinstitute.org, and have been widely reported in media in the U.S. and globally. Because most of the investment and underlying agreements have intentionally been done behind closed doors and hidden from the public, both the research and the back-up documentation has been very difficult to access. One of the deals examined involves Emergent Asset Management, in which the Vanderbilt endowment is invested.

While we are obviously pleased that that Vanderbilt claims to have done its own research, we believe the students and the public deserve to see it. More particularly, the public should be able to compare OI's research with that done by Vanderbilt and to learn the criteria Vanderbilt used to determine that their investment has, in fact, ben-

efited the people of Africa. Matthew Wright, vice chancellor for investments, told our Executive Director Anuradha Mittal on May 20, 2011 that while he was aware of Emergent's claims of socially responsible investment, the university had not conducted any due diligence to determine that.

In Mr. Wright's words, “We don't have a socially responsible investment criteria. It is not primary concern. Our primary motivation behind investing in Emergent since 2009 was economic access to agricultural land that will have high return from the endowment.”

It is not disputed that the people and resources of Africa have centuries of history of exploitation. It is, therefore, incumbent on us to be vigilant regarding claims that any particular foreign profit driven investment in Africa will benefit the African people. Emergent Asset Management, the recipient of Vanderbilt's investment, has made claims that investments will provide a 25 percent return and will even be profitable if the land lies fallow. Such statements, coupled with lack of transparency, should increase our scepticism of who really stands to benefit.

Some of what our research has uncovered includes the displacement of hundreds of thousands of small farmers, the diversion of water without environmental impact studies, the use of unsustainable farm practices, the failure to meet job creation and other promises as well as special tax and other financial incentives so that the financial returns can be met. Our research revealed additional egregious negative impacts including conversion of land that is used for local food production into land to grow cash crops, including cut flowers and biofuels, for global export. In some cases, local farmers are driven off their land, fences are constructed around what was farmers' land and the land

just lays idle, waiting for speculation around land prices to provide profits for investors. Meanwhile, special tax holidays and other financial incentives ensure financial returns can be met for investors.

We look forward to receiving a response from the university's administration and having a public, open discourse concerning these issues. We believe that institutions of higher education can be our allies in working toward a more just sustainable planet. For further information or to contact the OI board, please contact Jeff Furman at jfurman@twcny.rr.com.

**Jeff Furman
On behalf of the Board of Directors,
The Oakland Institute**



CHRIS HONIBALL / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER
Students representing the Vanderbilt Responsible Endowment Campaign hold a teach-in in Kirkland Hall, Feb. 8.

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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

'Obama generation' not going anywhere

ERIC LYONS
COLUMNIST

Two days ago, in an article on collegiate activism at CPAC, Daily Beast columnist Mark McKinnon suggested that the president might now be losing the crucial support of young millennials, the age group that some in the media have taken to calling the "Obama generation." It's a familiar notion, one also bandied about in cable news and in the Vandy College Republicans viral video "The Debt Generation" released last fall.

As the story goes, back in 2008 a full 66 percent of 18 to 29 year olds voted for Obama, and for some time thereafter the newly elected president enjoyed approval ratings in the 80 percent range among 18 to 29 year olds. As tends to happen when the hip new guy comes to be perceived as just another establishment cog, youth support for Obama fell drastically over his first term: 10 points or more over the past year depending on the poll.

McKinnon points to increased participation at events like CPAC as evidence that today's college students are turning to the right, but all that the rise in conservative activism on campuses really tells us is that self-identifying "conservative" college students who likely didn't (or, more likely, couldn't) vote for Obama in 2008 will be throwing their support behind the Republican candidate in the general election. The picture presented by the Vandy College Republicans — that of a large swath of disillusioned college students feeling betrayed by a president who allegedly failed to deliver — just doesn't conform to the reality.

Even as the rest of the country went Republican during the midterms two Novembers ago, the majority of 18 to 29 year olds voted for Democratic can-

didates in 2010. And while it's true that Obama's approval rating among young voters has faltered since his inauguration, this happened as Obama's ratings among all voting blocs melted out: down to around 40 percent in the fall but back up to 50 percent as of February. The steady decline of Obama's favorability since his honeymoon three years ago comes only as a symptom of broader dissatisfaction with the government, and compared to the tanked ratings of congressional Republicans, who are supported by only one in four Americans according to some of the more generous findings, Obama has suffered a rather light blow.

Come November, young voters will be casting their ballots for either Barack Obama or Mitt Notobama, and that's precisely how the Republican Party must frame that choice.

While Obama might have lost a marginal number of prospective young voters, Republicans have not seen any tangible gains. In anticipation of the 2012 election, a polling of 18 to 29 year olds conducted by Harvard's Institute of Politics released this December found Obama faring just slightly better than a hypothetical "generic" Republican challenger, but when he's placed against Romney or Santorum, Obama regularly outperforms these actual candidates by double digits. The problem for Republicans seems not only to be that most

young millennials aren't excited to jump behind the Republican message, but also that, as the Harvard polls suggest, college students are in fact turned off by the candidates the GOP has to offer.

Despite Rick Santorum's recent wins, the latest flavor of the week in the Republican primary race is likely the final candidate to pose a challenge to Romney before he inevitably secures the nomination. By advocating a far-right position on contentious social issues like contraceptives and same-sex marriage, Santorum has distanced himself from young voters and eliminated any potential appeal to swing voters. Meanwhile, the aloof and fickle former governor of Massachusetts has botched his every attempt to energize and win over the Republican base, and young voters seem unwilling to fall for Romney's indecisive shtick. In contrast, the ever-savvy Obama has made a point of reaching out to young millennials and swing voters with his student loan initiatives and several well-timed compromises.

Come November, young voters will be casting their ballots for either Barack Obama or Mitt Notobama, and that's precisely how the Republican Party must frame that choice. Given the investments made by Santorum and the aging youth-favorite Ron Paul this late in the game, a third party ticket — à la Perot in 1992 — seems increasingly likely, but in this climate of binaries, such a ticket would almost certainly divide conservatives and spell another defeat for the GOP.

—Eric Lyons is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science and a member of the Vanderbilt Debate Team. He can be reached at eric.c.lyons@vanderbilt.edu.

THE RANT

What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. To submit to The Rant, go to the opinion page on InsideVandy.com.

It's unfair that students who can't go to the women's BB game because of week-night commitments are put at a disadvantage for good seats for the Kentucky game.

Why do I pay so much to live in a freaking shoebox?

BYOB to the frats ... really?

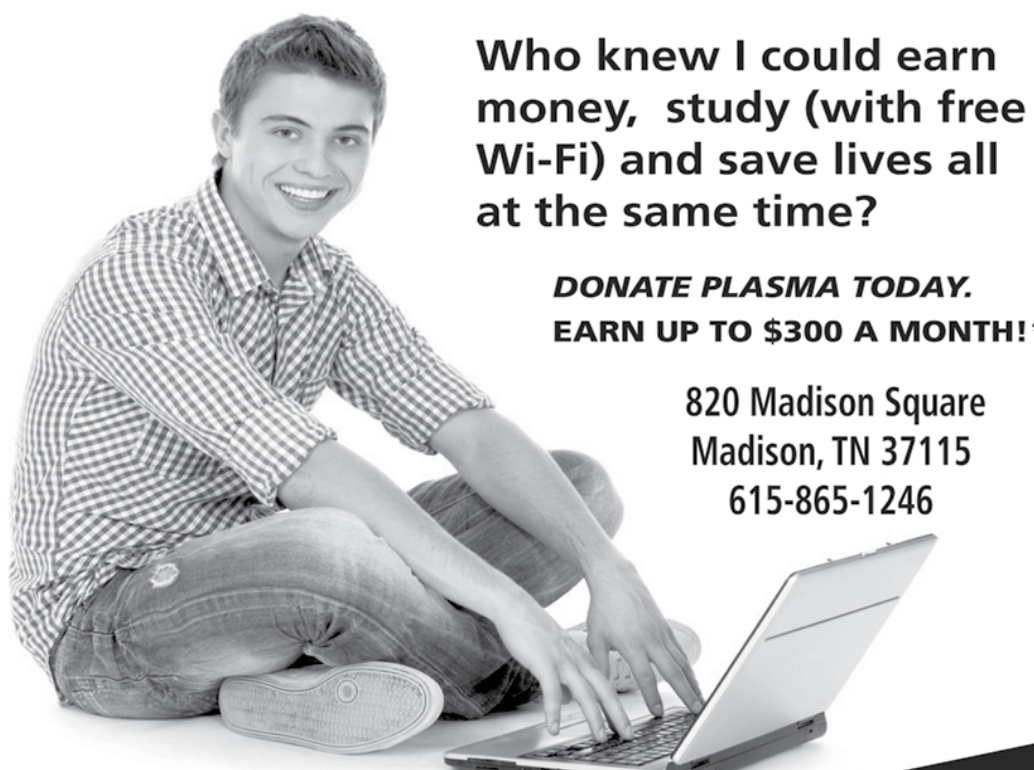
For being such a skinny campus, Rand is awfully crowded

Why does Dining Services think it's okay to use misogynistic images in their advertisements? Not cute.

Mr. Jordan Clark presents the non-discrimination issue wonderfully. Well done, sir.

Why I'm wearing white — because I'm lazy and have no other clean shirts.

Conservative media outlets need to stop posting inflammatory lies about religious life at Vanderbilt to rile up their readers. It's not fair that our dialogue is being misinterpreted and abused in this way.



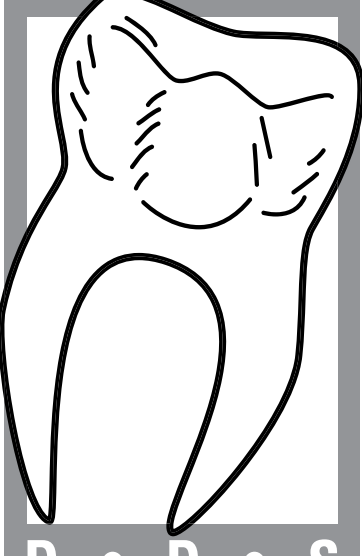
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New Fray album shows fresh image with 'Scars'

After three years with no new record, can the Fray still stay relevant?

KEVIN BARNETT
PHOTO EDITOR

Following a three-year hiatus since their self-titled sophomore album, The Fray's newest work "Scars and Stories" was released last week. In an attempt to more closely replicate a live sound, "Scars and Stories" was produced by Brendan O'Brien (who has also worked with the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Pearl Jam and Rage Against the Machine) as opposed to the production duo of Aaron Johnson and Mike Flynn. This change in producers ultimately lends itself to the creation of a very solid album as the listener comes to find that The Fray has managed to refine their musicality and grow as a band.

"Scars and Stories" opens with the earlier-released single entitled "Heartbeat," which immediately hooks longtime fans with its familiar pop-rock sound. That having been said, the track seems to demonstrate a confidence that may have been bridled in previous works. Rather than showcase a subdued and light sound, the song highlights powerful guitar riffs and moving percussion showing The Fray isn't scared to let their passion and feelings be heard. This progression to a more strongly assured sound can be seen throughout the rest of the album, particularly in tracks "Here We Are" and "The Wind."

Following on the heels of "Heartbeat,"

The Fray displays their propensity for power ballads with track two, "The Fighter." Isaac Slade's continued growth as lead singer is evident in this track as he retains his iconic and heavy American accent but manages to make it both edgier as well as more delicate when required. This development in vocals becomes increasingly apparent as listeners advance through the album, noting that Isaac no longer slurs and muddles his way through songs as he once did.

Overall, the rest of the album carries the same themes that The Fray has always covered — joy, disappointment, war and relationships — but does so in a conscious manner that demonstrates their own impetuses as artists. As opposed to picking out songs for the sake of radio-friendly popularity, The Fray pulls influence from heavy-hitting topics such as the Rwandan genocide ("Heartbeat") and the Berlin Wall ("1961") as well as from their own personal stories that have since scarred over.

Closing with the calming track of "Be Still," "Scars and Stories" is an album that comes full circle, hitting all the highs and lows requisite of a truly cathartic experience. The Fray have reinvented themselves with this album, improving on what they were good at, doing away with their weaknesses and adding fresh elements that will appeal to new and old fans alike. ★

GRADE: B+



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Following the success of their second album — 'The Fray' was nominated for a Best Pop Vocal Grammy in 2010 — 'Scars and Stories' expands on the group's strengths while foregoing their weaknesses.

5 artists to thank Whitney for

TREVOR ANDERSON
STAFF REPORTER

The death of pop superstar Whitney Houston on Saturday evening came as a shock to many, but to many others, it was not a personal loss. Unlike the death of Amy Winehouse, for example, many college students do not have memories of Houston in her prime. Our memories revolve more around her erratic behavior than her superstar voice. For all her troubles, however, Houston left an undeniable legacy behind. As one of the first artists to bring gospel-based singing into the pop mainstream, she influenced a number of today's top singers. If you like any of the following artists, then you owe something to Whitney Houston.

Mariah Carey

No surprise here. From her 1990 debut, Carey has been most often compared to Houston, and its no wonder why. Her use of melisma, best exemplified on her debut hit "Vision of Love," came straight from the Whitney Houston songbook, and the singers often battled for chart dominance in the 1990s. Plus, Carey and Houston's 1998 collaboration "When You Believe" still reigns as one of the most impressive duets in pop music history.

Beyoncé

Those riffs. Those grunts. As with Mariah, Whitney's introduction of melisma in pop music can be directly found in Beyoncé songs ("Halo," "Love on Top"). Whitney's breakthrough into films such as "The Bodyguard" and "Waiting to Exhale" also echo Knowles' own path into film crossover. Fun fact: Whitney Houston was supposed to play Deena Jones in a 1990s film version of "Dreamgirls." The project was scrapped but later revived in 2006, when Knowles took the role.

Lady Gaga

While you probably don't instantly associate Houston and Lady Gaga, Gaga nonetheless attributes much of her desire to be a singer to Whitney Houston. When Gaga won the Best Pop Vocal Album Grammy Award in 2011, she famously thanked Whitney Houston as the inspiration for the song "Born This Way": "I imagined she was singing it — because I wasn't secure enough in myself to imagine I was a superstar."

Christina Aguilera

Christina may have NBC's "The Voice" to thank for reviving her career, but it was a demo tape featuring a cover of Whitney Houston's "Run to You" that started it all. That cover both landed Aguilera the task of performing "Reflection" for the Mulan soundtrack and became her first sizeable hit. Her association with Houston never wavered, and many of her songs, including "I Turn to You" feature a prominent use of chest voice influenced by Houston. BET thought so highly of Aguilera's tribute that the station invited her to perform when Houston won the BET Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.

Jennifer Hudson

Sunday's Grammy Awards proved that Jennifer Hudson might be the closest thing we have to a Whitney Houston. Hudson's balance of smooth R&B and powerful vocals creates a unique style first popularized by Houston in the 1980s. Hudson herself called Houston her "ultimate influence" in a 2008 "Nightline" interview and says she dreamed of singing a duet with Houston on "I Will Always Love You." Though Hudson sadly performed the song alone on Sunday night, her tribute instantly called to mind her idol. Eighteen years after Whitney performed "I Will Always Love You" on the Grammy stage, Jennifer Hudson reminded us just how far-reaching Houston's influence truly is. ★

Even silently, 'The Artist' stuns in black and white

One of the year's biggest award nominees may have slid under the radar this season. Film fans won't want to miss 'The Artist,' which will begin slipping out of theaters soon.

BEN RIES
SENIOR REPORTER

Who would have guessed that a black-and-white French silent (though scored) film starring actors mostly unknown to the American public would become one of the most popular and critically-recognized films of 2012?

"The Artist" has already grossed over \$50 million worldwide, won three Golden Globe Awards and garnered 10 Oscar nominations (the second most of any film). As the hype behind the unlikely crowd pleaser continues to grow, an inevitable wave of backlash has also developed among some circles of viewers.

The deliberately predictable story contrasts the fall of silent film star George Valentin (Jean Dujardin) with the rise of the young Peppy Miller (Bérénice Bejo, recognizable to most Americans only from a small role in 2001's "A Knight's Tale") following the advent of sound and the new dominance of "talkies" in the late 1920s. Valentin stars, typically with his adorable dog, in spy thrillers of classical Hollywood in which he defeats the villains and rescues the damsel in distress.

The opening scene establishes the main theme and the

constraints of the film's silence as a group of nefarious villains torture Valentin in one of his films. "I won't talk! I won't say a word!" a title card tells us. Indeed, when an executive in the studio system (played by John Goodman) announces that the day of the silent film is over, Valentin dismisses sound films as a fad and produces another silent adventure flick with his own money. Meanwhile, the young Miller rises slowly through the ranks in Hollywood, landing a lead role in a sound film that decimates Valentin's at the box office. Valentin, unable to adapt to the times, becomes a relic and a poor recluse.

Miller's Hollywood career began when she bumped into Valentin as an unknown aspiring actress, and from that point on their power dynamic shifts in Miller's favor. Dujardin and Bejo fit their roles perfectly — Dujardin may very well have been a silent film star had he been born a hundred years earlier, while Bejo adds just the right notes of freshness and earnestness to make her character likeable and sympathetic — just watch her smile when Valentin draws a beauty mark on her cheek that she keeps for the rest of the film. The bond they share is the film's real triumph, and its most memorable scene shows Dujardin stumbling through multiple takes because of the distraction caused by his newly-acquired feelings for her.

Visually, "The Artist" is astounding. Director Michel Hazanavicius grasps the ability of the medium to embellish the story through an intricately artful arrangement that smoothly incorporates metaphor (at one point, an old reel of celluloid



PHOTO PROVIDED

film burns down Valentin's house) and amusing sight gags.

"The Artist" is also loaded with references destined to delight film buffs (most notably nods to "Rescued by Rover" and "Citizen Kane") and conveys an earnestness in tone and humor likely to please any audience. Although its silence is almost absolute, the film never becomes boring.

But "The Artist" is also a missed opportunity that has remarkably little to say about the differences between silent and sound film and the appropriate acting styles for each form. As Valentin descends into poverty and drunken madness, the film

runs out of steam. Last year, the Best Picture Oscar went to "The King's Speech," a film about a man who overcame a speech disorder through endless drills and hard work. Who wants to cheer for a movie about a man who refuses, ever, to try to speak instead of bravely facing his problems? For all its cleverness, "The Artist" never transcends the material of its subjects. The silent era produced many masterpieces that "The Artist" effectively celebrates, but a decade from now — whether it sweeps the Oscars or not — it will likely be as forgotten as Valentin's adventure films. ★

Weekend on campus

KRISTEN WEBB
LIFE EDITOR

DANCE MARATHON

Friday through Saturday
Student Recreation Center
7 p.m. Friday night to 8:06
a.m. Saturday morning
\$10 on the Card or at the door

This year's Dance Marathon will feature a little bit more than the usual Vanderbilt crowd. Legendary country music singer Wynonna Judd will be present at the event for several hours at the beginning of the evening in support of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. The Miracle Children and their families will enter the room on a red carpet, at the end of which they will be greeted by Judd and have the chance to meet and speak with the country star.

In addition, Dance Marathon will feature an online version of their traditional silent auction, which can be accessed via the group's Facebook page.

The evening's performances include Big Bang Dueling Pianos, Patrick Thomas, DJ Brannan Doyle, Juggleville, VIBE and the Dodecaphonics.

SPOKEN WORD: ANY LAST WORDS?

Friday and Saturday
Sarratt Cinema
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. both nights
\$5 on the Card or at the door

Vanderbilt Spoken Word, Vandy's performance poetry group, will be performing their showcase for two nights this weekend, bringing the deeper themes of life into the spotlight through their dramatic expression.

"Any Last Words?" will fea-



MURPHY BYRNE/FILE PHOTO

Former Vanderbilt Spoken Word President Justin Barisch performs "Lifelong Pissing Contest" at Athenian Sing in September 2011.

ture guest performances by the Vanderbilt Melodores, VIBE, Southern Word and Tongue N' Cheek. Proceeds from the show will go toward establishing a scholarship fund for talented youth poets.

ASIAN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL: THE DRAGON KING

Saturday
Student Life Center Ballroom
Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m.,
show begins at 7 p.m.
\$15 for dinner and the show,
\$10 for show only

The Asian American Student Association will present their annual Asian New Year Festival this weekend. This year's theme is "The Dragon King," and will feature song and dance from a wide variety of Asian cultures, both traditional and

modern. All pieces are entirely produced and performed by members of the Vanderbilt community.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Asian New Year Festival, and to celebrate, AASA will donate all profits from the evening to programs that promote awareness of Asian cultures in and around the Vanderbilt community.

Tickets for the dinner and show can be purchased in the Sarratt Box Office on the card any time before the show, or by emailing AASA Co-Cultural Vice Presidents Cole Garrett and Lusi Zheng at ANYP2012@gmail.com. ★

SPOTLIGHT ON VU

VANDERBILT STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF MAKE HEADLINES ACROSS ENTERTAINMENT WORLD

KRISTEN WEBB
LIFE EDITOR

PREMIERE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED FILM WITH STRONG VANDERBILT CONNECTIONS

"Deadline," a film about the investigation of a racially-motivated killing in Alabama, premiered at the Green Hills Cinema on Wednesday, featuring Vanderbilt alumni and faculty both on camera and behind it. The film was filmed and produced primarily in Nashville, and stars Ana Felix, a research assistant at the Mass Spectrometry Core Lab at Vanderbilt, as the protagonist's girlfriend. Additionally, Associate Director of the Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture program at Vanderbilt Divinity School Dave Perkins composed and performed the soundtrack to the film.

"Deadline" will open in theaters nationwide in April of this year. The film also stars Academy Award-nominated actor Eric Roberts and is based on the novel "Grievances" by Mark Ethridge.

VANDERBILT ALUMNA CLIMBS CHARTS

Whitney Wolanin, a 2011 Vanderbilt graduate, recently released her single "Honesty," which is rapidly climbing the Billboard charts. "Honesty" reached 30 on the Adult Contemporary charts this week, and Wolanin has been featured on radio and television shows alike. Most recently, Wolanin appeared on the Daily Buzz, as well as various radio shows in the northeast.

"Honesty" is available for purchase via iTunes, as is her full-length album, "1."

VANDERBILT MELODORES TAKE SECOND PLACE AT A CAPPELLA COMPETITION

Last weekend, Vanderbilt's a cappella group The Melodores competed in the quarterfinals of the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella, placing second in the region and allowing them to move forward to the semifinals.

"Between now and then we will be working on polishing the choreo and music of our 12-minute set," Melodores Vice President and junior Turi Clausell said. "We know that the best groups from the south region will be competing here in a little over a month, so our plan is to work even harder to put on a heck of a show."

ICCA semifinals will take place on Vanderbilt's campus on March 17 at 7 p.m. in Ingram Hall, and tickets are currently available for purchase via TicketMaster at the Sarratt Box Office. ★

MAKE YOUR MARK AT VANDERBILT

JOIN THE NEWS STAFF

Learn more at our info session:
MONDAY, FEB. 20
8 P.M., SARRATT 130

The Vanderbilt Hustler's

FASHION, HEALTH & BEAUTY GUIDE

February 29, 2012

On Wednesday, February 29, The Vanderbilt Hustler is publishing a special edition that will focus on fashion, health and beauty tips and suggestions for the Vanderbilt students, faculty and staff. This special issue will include fashion trends, health and beauty tips, healthy eating options and much more. We are encouraging our local fashion retailers, restaurants and salons to promote their business to the Vanderbilt community in this special issue. You might discover a great new place to shop, dine or just spend a relaxing day at the spa.

FASHION

HEALTH

BEAUTY

The Vanderbilt Hustler Fashion, Health and Beauty Guide comes out the Wednesday before Spring Break at Vanderbilt, giving our readers time to do some shopping before heading off for a well-deserved break. As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Ad space reservation deadline is Feb. 24, 2012
Ad delivery deadline is Feb. 27, 2012
Call George Fischer at (615) 310-3336

BASEBALL PREVIEW 2012

THE 2012 VANDERBILT COMMODORES

2012 SCHEDULE

*Home contests in bold



With last year's trip to Omaha behind them, the 2012 Vanderbilt Commodores begin their season on Friday against the No. 2 Stanford Cardinal. The Hustler sports staff previews the upcoming season.



MURPHY BYRNE / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Feb. 17-19 – at Stanford
Feb. 22 – OAKLAND
Feb. 24-26 – OREGON
Feb. 29 – LOUISIANA TECH
March 2-4 – RHODE ISLAND
 March 6 – at Belmont
March 9-11 – SAN DIEGO
March 13-14 – SIENA
 March 16-18 – at Florida
March 20 – EVANSVILLE
March 23-25 – GEORGIA

March 27 – TENNESSEE TECH
March 30-April 1 – SOUTH CAROLINA
April 3 – TENNESSEE-MARTIN
 April 6-8 – at Miss. State
April 11 – BELMONT
April 13-15 – AUBURN
April 17 – MTSU
 April 20-22 – at Alabama
 April 25 – at Middle Tennessee State
April 27-29 – KENTUCKY
 May 4-6 – at Tennessee
May 8 – LOUISVILLE
 May 11-13 – at LSU
May 17-19 – OLE MISS

POSITION-BY-POSITION BREAKDOWN:

MEGHAN ROSE
SPORTS EDITOR



TONY KEMP, LF
#6, Sophomore
 Bats: Left, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Named SEC Freshman of the Year and to the College World Series All-Tournament Team
 • Had a career-high five hits in the win over South Carolina on April 16



CONNOR HARRELL, CF
#20, Junior
 Bats: Right, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Crushed his ninth home run of the season to lead Vanderbilt over UNC in a CWS elimination game
 • Hit the first-ever home run in TD Ameritrade Park at the 2011 CWS



MIKE YASTRZEMSKI, RF
#18, Junior
 Bats: Left, Throws: Left

QUICK FACTS
 • Led the Commodores in stolen bases last season with 23
 • Had a career-high four RBIs in the 11-1 win over Oregon State in game one of the Super Regionals



ANTHONY GOMEZ, SS
#13, Junior
 Bats: Right, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Had at least one hit in 54 games last year
 • Held a 29-game hitting streak until matchup against Florida on May 15



RILEY REYNOLDS, 2B
#8, Senior
 Bats: Left, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Boasted a .995 fielding percentage in 60 games of action last season
 • Hit .331 last season, starting 50 games for Commodores



JOEL MCKEITHAN, 3B
#42, Sophomore
 Bats: Right, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Notched his first career hit last season against Tennessee Tech on March 22
 • Hit .333 last season, seeing action in six games for Vanderbilt



KEVIN ZIOMEK, P
#35, Sophomore
 Bats: Right, Throws: Left

QUICK FACTS
 • Appeared in 27 games as a true freshman last season
 • Tabbed as a Freshman All-American and Freshman All-SEC in 2011



CONRAD GREGOR, 1B
#50, Sophomore
 Bats: Left, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Selected as a Freshman All-American, Second Team All-SEC and Freshman All-SEC in 2011
 • Led the Commodores with a .353 batting average



SPENCER NAVIN, C
#5, Sophomore
 Bats: Right, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Started two games behind the plate last season for the Commodores
 • Scored a run in Vanderbilt's game against Tennessee on May 1



CHRIS HARVEY, DH
#44, Freshman
 Bats: Right, Throws: Right

QUICK FACTS
 • Graduated high school a year early to enroll and play at Vanderbilt
 • Selected as a 2011 All-American by Perfect Game and Under Armour, among others

Full Roster

No.	Name	Position	Bats/Throws	Ht./Wt.	Class
11	Tyler Beede	RHP	Right/Right	6-4/200	FR
1	Connor Castellano	IF	Left/Right	6-0/190	FR
46	Will Clinard	RHP	Right/Right	6-4/230	RS JR
3	Vince Conde	IF	Right/Right	6-0/190	FR
2	Will Cooper	OF	Right/Right	6-0/190	FR
45	Drew Fann	C	Right/Right	6-4/205	RS SR
13	Anthony Gomez	IF	Right/Right	6-0/185	JR
55	Conrad Gregor	IF	Left/Right	6-3/220	SO
20	Connor Harrell	OF	Right/Right	6-3/215	JR
17	Andrew Harris	IF	Left/Right	6-0/195	RS JR
44	Chris Harvey	C	Right/Right	6-5/215	FR
15	Will Johnson	OF	Left/Right	6-0/185	SO
6	Tony Kemp	OF	Left/Right	5-6/160	SO
27	Keenan Kolinsky	LHP	Left/Left	6-1/200	RS SO
7	Josh Lee	OF	Right/Right	6-0/195	SO
25	D.J. Luna	IF	Right/Right	6-2/190	RS SO
51	Jack Lupo	OF	Right/Right	6-2/190	RS JR
42	Joel McKeithan	IF	Right/Right	6-3/200	SO
33	Brian Miller	RHP	Right/Right	6-4/190	FR
28	Jared Miller	LHP	Left/Left	6-6/230	FR
5	Spencer Navin	C	Right/Right	6-1/205	SO
10	John Norwood	OF	Right/Right	6-2/188	FR
40	T.J. Pecoraro	RHP	Right/Right	6-0/160	SO
22	Philip Pfeifer	LHP	Left/Left	6-0/195	FR
12	Adam Ravenelle	RHP	Right/Right	6-2/187	FR
8	Riley Reynolds	IF	Left/Right	6-1/190	SR
19	Steven Rice	LHP	Left/Left	5-8/180	SO
39	Sam Selman	LHP	Right/Left	6-3/185	JR
34	Drew VerHagen	RHP	Right/Right	6-6/225	JR
43	Zander Wiel	IF	Right/Right	6-3/225	FR
24	Nevin Wilson	LHP	Left/Left	6-2/180	FR
18	Mike Yastrzemski	OF	Left/Left	6-0/180	JR

VANDERBILT BASEBALL BY THE NUMBERS

JACKSON MARTIN
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

2 National ranking of Vanderbilt's opening day opponent, Stanford

18 Wins needed by head coach Tim Corbin to reach 500 for his career

10 Where the Commodores rank in the Baseball America preseason poll

1992 Wins in Vanderbilt program history

6 Returning starters from last year's squad

13 Letterwinners gone from last year's College World Series team

30 Consecutive games outfielder Tony Kemp has reached base

5 Number of SEC teams ranked in the top 10

1 Ranking of the Commodores' freshman class by Baseball America

Outfielders provide leadership, experience

Kemp, Harrell and Yastrzemski lead Commodores in the field, at the plate in 2012

REID HARRIS
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

On a team that returns no weekend starters and just two starting infielders, the 2012 Commodore baseball team will look to an unproven group to fill holes in the pitching staff and batting lineup. While the infield and pitching rotation are searching for their identities, the outfield composed of Tony Kemp, Connor Harrell and Mike Yastrzemski brings a wealth of experience to provide defensive support and bolster an inexperienced lineup.

After losing eight pitchers to the MLB draft, this year's pitching staff will need all the help it can get in the field. A year ago, the combination of Kemp, Harrell and Yastrzemski committed a total of just five errors, including zero from then-freshman left fielder Tony Kemp.

"There are definitely going to be some obstacles that this team will have to overcome, but I definitely think that we can do it," Kemp said. "Our defense has been so good this fall and spring. Leading up to opening day on Friday, I think we're going to be prepared."

The chemistry in the outfield is something that gives the talented trio a serious advantage heading into the season.

"It gives a lot of confidence. We know how to play with each other, we know each other's range and we know how each other thinks," Yastrzemski said. "We know strengths, weaknesses and we know how to communicate. That's really going to benefit us and give our pitchers a lot of confidence too."

Aside from their prowess in the field, the three outfielders will be a critical piece to the Commodore offense as well. After hitting nine homeruns a year ago, more than any other returning player, Harrell represents the lineup's power. This team will rely on his bat as much as his glove to match last year's success.

"We like our offense as a unit. We're

OUTFIELDER PROFILES

CONNOR HARRELL, CF

#20, Junior

2011 season:

- .289 batting average, 35 runs, 57 hits, 36 RBI
- 64 games played, .990 fielding percentage

TONY KEMP, LF

#6, Sophomore

2011 season:

- .329 batting average, 58 runs, 83 hits, 34 RBI
- 65 games played, 1.000 fielding percentage

MIKE YASTRZEMSKI, RF

#18, Junior

2011 season:

- .296 batting average, 60 runs, 68 hits, 42 RBI
- 66 games played, .974 fielding percentage



KEVIN BARNETT/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

going to be able to put together a pretty good offense power source, whether it's home runs or doubles," Harrell said. "We just have to take every at bat one at a time."

Tony Kemp was named a freshman All-American after batting .329 and stealing 17 bases in 2011. Yastrzemski led the team with 23 stolen bases on 26 attempts. The three will look to maintain their productivity at the plate and on the base paths this season to reach their goal: the College World Series in Omaha, Neb.

"The team goal is definitely to get to Omaha. The guys that returned from last year are telling what it's like and what it takes to get there," Kemp said. "From the fall, everyone's getting faster, everyone's getting stronger and everyone's mental capacity is getting better as well. I think we have what it takes to get back."

Matching last year's success will be a tough task for the 2012 Commodore baseball team. The trip to the College World Series in 2011 was the first ever for the Vanderbilt baseball program. While much of the media's expectations for this team are lower, the team's goal remains the same.

"We came up a little bit short but we feel like we have a roadmap to get there. Our hope is always Omaha — that's our goal," Harrell said. "But our main goal now is to beat Stanford on Friday night." ★

Youth meets talent

GEORGE BARCLAY
SPORTS REPORTER

Coming off their first trip to the College World Series, the Vanderbilt Commodores are primed for the 2012 season. While many fans lament the loss of last year's talent, the future looks extremely bright for the baseball program. After his team set a Southeastern Conference record with 12 players selected in the MLB Draft, head coach Tim Corbin wasted no time rebuilding his program and selected the top-ranked recruiting class in the nation according to Baseball America.

Faced with the difficult task of playing in a highly competitive conference with a team containing only two seniors, Corbin has fully embraced the challenge.

"It's great. It's like having another kid. You're ready for one and you bring on another one. You try to repeat some of the same things or you say I screwed up raising this kid, so we're going to do something different with this one," Corbin said about his young team. "You're just trying to develop your team so that by the time May and June roll around, you have something that's credible and one that can win some important games at the end."

Although the Commodores have many new faces, there are still some important old ones remaining. Junior infielder Anthony Gomez, redshirt junior reliever Will Clinard, junior outfielders Connor Harrell and Mike Yastrzemski and sophomore outfielder Tony Kemp highlight the 2012 roster's returning players.

With a grueling non-conference and SEC schedule, much of the Commodores' team growth will come from playing high-level competition. One player for Vanderbilt that has really benefitted from playing in the SEC is junior shortstop Anthony Gomez. Now one of the team's key leaders, Gomez has been impressed with the preparation for the 2012 campaign.

"I think we're getting better every day," Gomez said. "Obviously, we have a lot of young talent, so every time these guys get on the field, it seems like they're getting better."

A large portion of Vanderbilt's success will rest on the performance of its young pitching rotation. Led by sophomore Kevin Ziomek, ju-

OTHER STARTERS:



TYLER BEEDE, #11, RHP

Freshman, Auburn, Mass.

2011: N/A

Highlights: Selected as the No. 21 overall pick of the 2011 MLB Draft by Toronto, only first round pick not to sign, consensus First Team All-American selection



SAM SELMAN, #39, LHP

Junior, Austin, Texas

2011: 7 appearances, 6.1 IP, 0-0,

1.42 ERA, 6 K

Highlights: Struck out one batter in two innings of relief work in the Commodores' 9-1 win over MTSU on April 5, pitched one perfect inning of relief against Tennessee Tech on March 22



DREW VERHAGEN, #34, RHP

Junior, Rockwall, Texas

2011: 4 appearances, 24.0 IP, 2-2,

1.50 ERA, 15 K

Highlights: Won the Junior College World Series last season with Navarro College before transferring to Vanderbilt this year

BULLPEN STANDOUTS: RHP Will Clinard (RS JR), RHP T.J. Pecoraro (SO), LHP Keenan Kolinsky (RS SO), LHP Steven Rice (SO)

nior Sam Selman and heralded freshman Tyler Beede, this unit could make or break another trip to Omaha for Vanderbilt.

The young Commodores will have their first test this weekend in California against a talented Stanford team. The Cardinal has one of the best programs in the country and will act as a barometer of where Vanderbilt stands on a national level.

Faced with one of the nation's most intimidating road environments, look for the Commodores' ability to respond to adversity. With so much talent, Vanderbilt should have the ability to combat it. ★

IN HIS SHOES



DREW FANN
#45, CATCHER



KEVIN BARNETT/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

KRISTEN SHEFT
SPORTS REPORTER

Coming off the most successful campaign in school history, the No. 10 Vanderbilt Commodores look to build on last year's 54-12 season when they hit the road this weekend for their season opener at Stanford. Redshirt senior catcher Drew Fann recently spoke with *The Hustler* about his leadership style, playing in a competitive conference and the team's postseason goals.

I try to lead the younger kids through example and do whatever the team asks of me. It's great because this is a quality you can find with a lot of the guys on the team. We all just try to fit in by embracing our roles. We do whatever we can for the overall benefit of the team. If I can help out by being a vocal leader, I'm going to do it.

Last year we knew the kind of players we were working with, but this year is a little different with

all of the new guys. The team may be young, but we all have a lot of confidence in each other.

Opening against Stanford is a big challenge for us. It's our first big road trip, and we will be tested right out of the gate. A lot of our players have not been on the road yet, and I think it will be a great experience for them. We're going across the country to play a top team in the nation, which is huge for us.

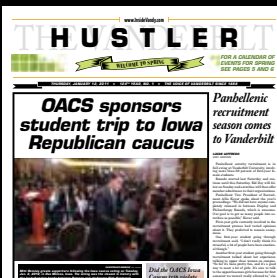
We're going to play against incredible talent this year. The SEC is competitive, which is why we all signed up to play here. We know we're going to play the best every weekend, but we're more than ready for it.

We had a goal last year, and we have the same goal this year. We have higher expectations. We want to get back to the College World Series and win it this year.

Now that we have the experience, the path is clear for us. ★

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WHO SEES THIS AD?
11,500 STUDENTS
 and many faculty/staff, parents and alumni

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

2/13 Solutions

7	8	4	9	2	3	1	6	5
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2/16/12

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 USAF NCO
- 5 Crème de la crème
- 10 Jazz devotees
- 14 "Tulip chair" designer Saarinen
- 15 Plant need
- 16 Crowning
- 17 Some HDTVs
- 18 Hopelessly lost
- 19 Pasta/rice brand word
- 20 Basic computer command
- 21 "Check, mate"
- 22 Common Cape Cod feature
- 24 Restaurant kitchen workload
- 26 Get one's teeth into
- 28 Bush spokesman
- 29 Invoice word
- 30 Encourages
- 31 "... a problem"
- 32 Palm tree starch
- 33 Organize, in a way
- 34 Incidentally, in lms
- 35 Massachusetts school ... and a description of the two-word meeting that occurs at each circled letter
- 38 Summer setting in Chi-town
- 40 Off-the-wall response?
- 41 61-Across curl
- 44 Rival
- 45 Catchall checkbox
- 46 One point from a service break
- 48 Football's Parseghian
- 49 Thing to cook up
- 50 "Just like that!"
- 51 To a greater extent
- 53 Expert in pop psychology?
- 54 Vinaigrette ingredient
- 55 ... ideal world
- 56 First name in bologna
- 59 One-named il-lustrator
- 60 Touch down
- 61 Fire sign
- 62 Stepped heavily
- 63 What some losers have to resist
- 64 Cary of "The Princess Bride"
- 65 "...-mitel"; "Good Times" catchword

DOWN

- 1 Severe fear
- 2 Bolts down
- 3 Fictional wolf's disguise
- 4 Talking-...: tongue lashings
- 5 Somewhat far
- 6 Past curfew
- 7 Part of TGI
- 8 "Catch my drift?"
- 9 Acquired by, in the big leagues
- 10 "The Alienist" writer
- 11 Cartoon hero with antennae
- 12 Twelve-note scale, e.g.
- 13 S'ance contact
- 21 Lovable droid
- 23 Clumsy hammerers' cries
- 25 Square dance complement
- 26 Hobby with hooks
- 27 30-Down genre
- 30 Classic film involving a split personality
- 34 A sleeper hit may be on it
- 36 Went wild
- 37 Bee complex
- 38 Circles around the sun
- 39 Landers lead-in
- 42 "My sympathies" Exhortation from a gift giver
- 44 Clan
- 45 Chances for photos
- 47 Lake Erie city
- 50 Small openings
- 52 Fades to black
- 53 Create
- 57 Tee size letters
- 58 Bully
- 59 Flight board abbr.

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2/13/12

2/9/12 Solutions

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Acts of Faith: Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Global Religious Crisis



Project Dialogue welcomes

Eboo Patel, Ph.D.

Member of President Barack Obama's Inaugural Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighborhood Partnerships and Founder of the Interfaith Youth Core

February 21, 2012

Langford Auditorium • 7:00 p.m.

Reception and book signing immediately following

Refreshments will be served.

Eboo Patel's 2007 book, *Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, in the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation*, will be available for purchase at the reception.

Project Dialogue is dedicated to creating opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to engage in public discourse and dialogue in an effort to foster a transformative experience.

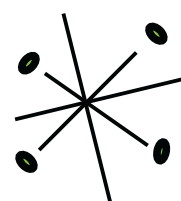


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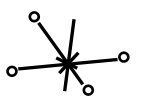


The Roger T. Noe Lectureship for World Peace, Vine Street Christian Church

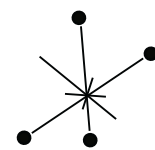
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