



**BASEBALL TEAM RECLAIMS No. 1 RANKING**  
For more, see Sports, page 7

Vanderbilt students defend their music taste...  
For more, see the letters to the editor **Opinion, page 4**



KELLY CLARKSON

**WHAT'S NEW ON** [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com)  
Read Matt Huckabee's 'YouTube Roundup' and watch his top 10 videos...  
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# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2007 • 119<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 33

## THE WALL

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

### TODAY Iraq War panel discussion

The panel will discuss the Iraq War from the beginning and pose questions for the end of the conflict. Panelists include James L. Ray, head of the political science department; Lewis V. Baldwin, professor of religious studies; Thomas Schwartz, professor of history; and more. The event will be from 8 to 9:30 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema.

### TODAY Dodgeball match between College Democrats and Republicans

The annual dodgeball game between the College Democrats and College Republicans will be from 5 to 7 p.m. in Student Recreation Center Gym on Court 3. The event is open to anyone who would like to play.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 5 Children's author Rich Michelson to lecture

Rich Michelson, author of children's books such as "Too Young for Yiddish" and "Across the Alley," will give a lecture in the Peabody Library Fireside Reading Room from 4 to 6 p.m. tomorrow, followed by a book signing.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 5 Rising sophomore housing ballots due

All rising sophomore housing ballots are due at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the Housing Office in Branscomb, Room 4113.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 5 Chief of Canada's Supreme Court to speak

Beverly McLachlin, chief justice of Canada's Supreme Court, will discuss the question "Will people learn to be more tolerant in the 21st century than we are now?" in Flynn Auditorium in the Law School from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

Compiled by staff from various sources. Check out <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.

## VSS Bonanza raises \$1,000 for scholarships



Cross country runner Michael Nordlund (right) starts off strong in the second heat of the fastest mile race at the first Vanderbilt Students for Students Vandy Mile Bonanza.

### Vanderbilt Students for Students holds mile run at university track Tuesday afternoon.

by SYDNEY WILMER  
Senior Reporter

Vanderbilt Students for Students raised almost \$1,000 on Tuesday for a local Pearl Cohn High School student.

VSS vice president, sophomore Michael Nordlund, said approximately 80 runners from the Nashville and Vanderbilt communities participated in the organization's first major fundraiser, Vandy Mile Bonanza.

"I am really pleased with the turnout," Nordlund said. "This is our first year, so, originally, I wasn't sure who would come out today, but people kept signing up."

Nordlund explained that the organization has not yet selected a student to benefit from the scholarship, as applications are due at the end of the month.

"We just want to help give a local student the chance to go to college," Nordlund said.

"We entered the (1,600-meter relay) for Alpha

Omicron Pi," said sophomore Amber Curtis. "We thought it looked like a good cause."

Her teammate, sophomore Kylene Grimes, agreed.

"It's important that the Greek community get involved in non-Greek activities like this."

Senior Kathryn Yates said she came out for the race to "help out the cause and have a good time."

"I think this is a great way to get people out to support this," she said.

Both Vanderbilt students and local elementary school students participated in the mile race.

Eight-year-old Ally Nicotera, a Julia Green Elementary School student, said she was pleased with placing eighth in the race.

"My favorite part is figuring out what place you're in," she said. "I also like the running part too."

Vanderbilt alumni James Guthrie also participated in the event.

"I've always been a fan of the mile event," he said. "It's like a field day for me." ■

## Kissam Quad wins freshman energy conservation contest

### SPEAR plans to expand competition to entire university next year.

by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY  
Asst News Editor

Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling announced Kissam Quad as the winner of its Freshman Energy Conservation Contest.

The contest, a pilot program for the organization's sustainability and conservation initiative, took place March 18-31.

"We decided to sponsor the competition for several reasons. One was to increase awareness of the student body of energy use and the very simple practices students can do to decrease energy use," said SPEAR President Jenny Magill. "The freshmen were the most obvious group to target because they will be here for the next three years."

SPEAR encouraged students to follow the simple conservation measures posted on its Web site in order to compete. Turning off appliances when not in use and

using windows as a method of air circulation were two of the suggestions included in the list.

Kissam Quad decreased its energy use by 7 percent by utilizing these techniques and others. This 7 percent equals approximately a .6 kilowatt-hour decrease per person.

Energy use data was collected with the help of the Office of Housing and Residential Education and Plant Operations.

Keagan Compton, a freshman living in Dyer Hall, said he felt that he did not have to do much to decrease energy consumption.

"Just a tiny bit of change from a bunch of people can add up to a lot of energy savings," said Compton, who did his part in the competition by avoiding the use of his main lights and trying to watch less television.

"It's seemed like a good idea to cut down on energy," he said. "We take advantage of how much energy we use."

Kissam and Hemingway Halls both turned off their common room and individual dorm room lights for large segments of time in order to contribute to their quad's efforts.

"With as many rooms as there are in Kissam Quad, you shut off your main lights for a good hour or two and save a ton of energy, so I guess a little bit each day from everybody you can save a bunch of money, and 7 percent is good I guess," Compton said.

In recognition of their efforts, residents of Kissam Quad will receive a pizza party with Ben and Jerry's ice cream and a massage therapist April 15.

While this year's competition included only the freshmen, SPEAR plans to expand the competition to the entire campus.

"This was a trial competition, and we're going to do a more full-scale, broad competition that will include the entire campus," Magill said. ■

## Birth control cost to rise by fall 2008

by CHRISTINA ENGLAND  
Senior Reporter

Students will have to pay more for birth control at Zerfoss Student Health Center this fall.

New regulations intended to maximize rebates for Medicaid recipients have also created incentives for pharmaceutical companies to discontinue discounted sales of oral contraceptives to colleges and universities.

Dr. John Greene, director of student health and young adult medicine, said these changes concern student health services on campus although the effects of the regulations were unintentional.

"The American College Health Association has already met with groups of legislators to try and change the effects of the new regulations," Greene said. "Legislators didn't intend for (the Budget Reductions Act) to have the effect it had."

Still, the new regulations will have a drastic impact on the prices students pay for oral contraceptives. Greene says prices will increase to two or three times what students normally pay.

"We've ordered as many generics as they would let us have," Greene said. "When we run out of \$5 packs, we have no choice but to purchase whatever generic is available and prices will increase."

Currently, students pay \$5 for a monthly pack of oral contraceptives at Student Health Center. This price will be raised to \$15 or \$20 in the next few months. Sophomore Candice Gay said she thinks the price change will affect student purchases.

"Some people will still buy it," Gay said. "But it's definitely an inhibitor for some students because that's a big increase."

However, sophomore Liz Claydon said she thinks the price increase will not affect Vanderbilt students too drastically.

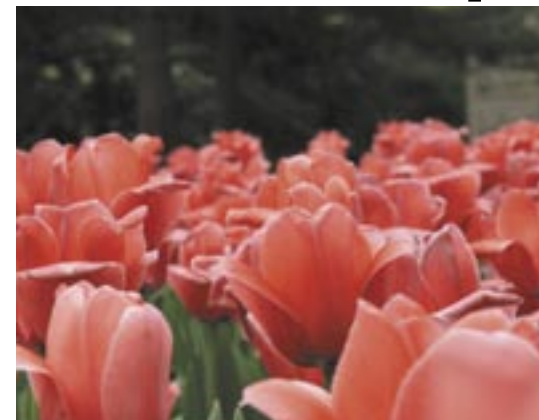
Please see **BIRTH CONTROL**, page 2

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### Birth controls costs

	current price	Koster Student Insurance price	projected adjusted price
per month	\$5	\$10	\$15-20
per year	\$60	\$120	\$180-240

## Colder weather threatens tulips



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The flowers that have bloomed around campus due to warm spring weather in recent weeks may find themselves in danger as a cold front moved into the area Tuesday night. The low today is 32 degrees.

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# Iraq veterans speak after war documentary



Sophomore Erika Hyde watches "The War Tapes," a documentary filmed by soldiers about Operation Iraqi Freedom on Tuesday night in Garland. MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

## University ranks sixth on MPAA piracy list

by **MATT HUCKABEE**  
Contributing Reporter

Vanderbilt University ranks sixth on the Motion Picture Association of America's top 25 most piracy ridden schools in higher education, the association announced last week.

The announcement comes less than a month after the Recording Industry Association of America opened a new phase in its anti-filesharing campaign. Vanderbilt, who had 20 students receive pre-litigation letters from the RIAA, cites 860 students as allegedly misusing copyrighted material.

Purdue University received the "honor" of having the highest overall rank on both the MPAA and RIAA's lists.

Some students said they would not stop downloading illegally as a result of the

MPAA's listing.

"Actually I'm more impressed rather than discouraged," said junior Mike Landau. "Vanderbilt made the top 10 despite our small student body."

Junior Henry Larroucau said the MPAA's listing will not affect him because he does not illegally download music.

"(Downloading illegally) decreases creativity and innovation by the artists and reduces the quality of music," he said.

Information Technology Director for the Dean of Students F. Clark Williams was unavailable for comment about these recent developments.

The Motion Picture Association of America is a leader and advocate for major producers and distributors of entertainment programming for television, cable and home video. ■

## Study blames college administrations for culture of alcohol, drug abuse

by **EMILY SCHWEICKHARDT**  
Staff Reporter

A recent study by Columbia University blames college presidents, deans and trustees for enabling a culture of alcohol and drug abuse to thrive on college campuses.

The report, completed by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia, concluded that binge drinking and drug use and abuse now occur more frequently among college students.

According to the report, alcohol and drug abuse are "linked to poor student academic performance, depression, anxiety, suicide, property damage, vandalism, fights and a host of medical problems."

The issue of binge drinking

is not only the universities' fault, however, but is a combination of both on- and off-campus problems that leads to binge drinking, the report said.

Therefore, universities must introduce a "comprehensive" system to revisit and improve campus policies, punishments for violators, social norms, number of alcohol-free social events, community service and intervention strategies.

Sophomore Julie Reavie said she places blame for campus drinking with the students — not the administration.

"Non-drinking events are not as popular, but it's not because they aren't promoted, it's because of the culture, and students alone propagate this culture," she said.

Likewise, many students

form their ideas about drinking and college life before they step foot on campus, according to the Tennessean article on the study.

"It is mainly freshmen that have the biggest problem, because they come into college with preconceived notions about drinking a lot in college, and the fact that they don't know their limit leads to them binge drinking," Reavie said.

Reavie said that many freshmen drink in order to fit in at the beginning of their time in college.

"Usually by the end of freshman year, much of the drinking has subsided because the freshmen have established their lives on campus, and they don't feel they need alcohol as a big social tool anymore," she said. ■

# SEEKING STUDENT MEDIA LEADERS



The Vanderbilt Student Communications Board of Directors is seeking applications for the following Student Media Leader positions:

### INSIDEVANDY.COM

Director (2007-08 Academic Year)

### ORBIS

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### THE SLANT

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

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Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### THE TORCH

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Division Head (Fall 2007 Academic Semester)

### THE VANDERBILT REVIEW

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### VANDERBILT TELEVISION

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### VERSUS

Division Head (Fall 2007 Academic Semester)

### WRVU

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

### VSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Student Member-at-Large (2-year Terms)

Applications now available at

**www.vscmedia.org**

APPLICATIONS DUE: Friday, April 6 at Noon

ELECTIONS: Tuesday, April 10 at 4 p.m.

## Health Professions Graduate School Fair

Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 6 - 9 pm  
Student Life Center, Commodore Ballroom

Medical, Dental, Nursing, and other health related programs from schools around the country will be attending.

Whether you know which type of program you wish to pursue, or are seeking the path that is right for you, all are welcome to attend.

This event is co-sponsored by the Health Professions Advisory Office and Career Center

# OPINION

## THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER Editorial Board

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### OUR VIEW

## Birth control conundrum may prove unsolvable

New legislation intended to maximize rebates for Medicaid recipients has also made it more advantageous for pharmaceutical companies to discontinue the sale of cheaper birth control to universities nationwide. As a result, Vanderbilt students will have to pay more for their oral contraceptives beginning in the fall.

While birth control now costs just \$5 a month when obtained through the health center, it will now cost \$15-20 a month — as much as four times what students currently pay, depending on popularity.

The American College Health Association, an organization that advocates for better student health care, has pledged to do all it can to minimize the impact of these regulations, and students should praise this action, however futile. Cheaper oral contraceptives for students encourage safe sex and do not encourage promiscuity, as one must weigh the decision to add birth control pills to an already hectic daily routine.

Many students already pay for their birth control out of pocket, and at \$5 a month, this proves doable for most people. Raising prices, however, may force students to obtain oral contraceptives through their parents' health

insurance plans, limiting individual privacy.

Individual university efforts to reverse this national shift would likely end in failure; thus, Vanderbilt health professionals cannot be faulted for failing to try. However, the university has said it will use this change to drive students toward Koster Student Insurance, the health insurance program offered by Vanderbilt.

This is not the solution either. Students should not have to subscribe to a different health care plan just to obtain cheaper oral contraceptives.

The university will undoubtedly put significant effort into changing the current health care plan, as Koster does not yet provide low-cost oral contraceptives. This work may go unrecognized, however, because many Vanderbilt students will not switch plans simply it to save \$15 a month. And still, for some, the change will be unadvisable and the new cost will be prohibitive.

No matter what the university decides to do, the new federal regulations may put students at Vanderbilt and at colleges nationwide in a tough bind, forcing them to weigh the privacy of student insurance plans against the inconvenience of making the switch to Koster.

### LETTER

## Vanderbilt boasts surprisingly healthy music scene

### To the Editor:

Scott Greer's column ("Vanderbilt must broaden its musical horizons," April 24) claims Vanderbilt's music scene is shortsighted because fraternities do not play "indie" music on their lawns. The article then plugs an upcoming Ratatat show at Mercy Lounge. I checked out Ratatat, and enjoyed their music. Regardless, please do not criticize the music community here to advertise your new favorite band.

What I find interesting in Monday's article is the explanation of the term "indie." Quoting from the article, "Now when I use the word 'indie,' I mean the middle ground between popped collars and hemp necklaces." The term actually stands for "independent," meaning a band is not signed by one of the four major record conglomerates: SonyBMG, EMI, Warner Bros. or Universal.

While the term "indie" may be stereotyped to include offbeat or alternative-sounding acts, it actually has nothing to do with genre. Independently backed bands are usually less known, though this is not necessarily the case. In fact, Tim McGraw signed to an "indie" label right here in Nashville, and he is as about as big as any country star will ever be. Thus, Greer's definition of "indie" is misleading.

The truth is, Vanderbilt's music scene is very healthy. Any given Friday afternoon we can hear everything from classic rock to country, bluegrass, hip-hop, funk, R&B, rap and, yes, the occasional Fergie single. Aside from any Greek notions, the entire Vanderbilt community has a very broad range of well-educated tastes and preferences.

While some claim "Vanderbilt must broaden its musical horizons," we, in fact, have already done so and continue to do so every year with Commodore Quake and Rites of Spring. In combining well-known crowd pleasers and revenue boosters with up-and-coming lesser-known independent acts, Rites is one of the premier college music festivals in the nation. Most students are unaware of how unique our music culture is; how many other universities allow their student organizations to bring in Ludacris, The Roots, Wolfmother and names like Ben Folds, Hootie and My Morning Jacket? These are just headliners — any independent music lover can find solace in the dozen other bands that come each year.

Yes, I would always encourage students to venture out of the "Vanderbubble" to see some of the great shows Nashville has to offer, but just because everyone at Vandy doesn't know who is playing at Exit/In next Tuesday, or Ratatat isn't blaring on a fraternity lawn doesn't mean our music scene is unhealthy. If you're hungry for new music, keep an open mind and ear to the great variety of bands Vanderbilt brings in for our student body. We are lucky to have such opportunities.

**Brian O'Neil**  
Junior, Peabody College



Wayne Stayskal—MCT

### LETTER

## Pretentiousness gives indie music a bad reputation

### To the Editor:

Scott Greer's article on broadening Vanderbilt's musical horizons ("Vanderbilt must broaden its musical horizons," April 24) reads like something straight out of either The Onion or Pitchfork Media. The last thing this campus needs is an indie hipster to tell us what music we should like. Pretentious indie elitists like Greer give the whole indie scene a bad name. Maybe with more listening experience and an open mind Greer could find the redeeming value in, say, a Kelly Clarkson song; she has a pretty amazing voice. You do not have to like everything you hear, but I encourage Greer and others like him to keep an open mind and be receptive to a range of music—even pop music. Instead of attacking the consumer, perhaps Greer's ire would be better directed at radio stations like Nashville's 107.5 The River, which maintains a playlist so tight you can literally predict the next song on the radio all day long, thus preventing a variety of diverse bands like Ratatat from reaching the masses.

**Mike Hammond**  
Senior, Engineering

### LETTER

## Greer column fails to mention diversity of campus radio station

### To the Editor:

As promotions director and music director of Vanderbilt's esteemed college radio station, 91.1 FM WRVU, we are writing this letter in response to Scott Greer's editorial ("Vanderbilt must broaden its musical horizons," April 24). While we agree with Greer's intention to encourage students to pursue music choices outside the Billboard Top 40, it is astonishing he fails to mention Vanderbilt's own student-run radio station. WRVU has been in existence since 1953, two years after station founder Ken Berryhill began broadcasting music over a one-mile radius from his dorm room. Now our signal encompasses a 60-mile radius, and more than 100 volunteer DJs from within and outside the Vanderbilt community help to provide music programming truly "left

of the dial." In fact, our station's mission statement explicitly states, "It is the official policy of the station that we will focus our programming on 'non-mainstream music,' and we will not play mainstream music on the station." We invite both Greer and the entire Vanderbilt community to tune in and listen to the indie rock, punk, funk, hip hop, soul, bluegrass, country, blues, jazz, metal and electronic music WRVU broadcasts 24 hours a day. Our award-winning programming is sure to broaden your musical horizons.

**Kelly Taylor**  
WRVU Promotions Director  
Senior, A&S

**Sam Patton**  
WRVU Music Director  
Peabody Graduate Student, A&S '06

### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section 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 our website.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to The Hustler office or via e-mail to opinion@vanderbilthustler.com. Letters via e-mail must either come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

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

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

### CORRECTION POLICY

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

Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-3757.

### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

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

**President Boone Lancaster**  
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**U.S. Sen. Bob Corker**  
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**Rep. Jim Cooper**  
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**Rep. Brenda Gilmore**  
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**Sen. Douglas Henry, Jr.**  
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(615) 741-3291

**Councilor Ginger Hausser**  
Metro District 18  
521 Chesterfield Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37212  
(615) 783-0106

COLUMN

# Quality of American educational system continues to decline

**THE FORUM**  
Group Columnist

In the most recent 2003 UNICEF study, the United States ranked 18th out of 24 nations in terms of the relative effectiveness of its education system. These rankings average the results of five different international studies and are used to obtain an overview of global education trends. Furthermore, the U.S. ranks ninth among industrialized nations in terms of percentage of population holding a high school degree and seventh among populations holding college degrees: two measurements the U.S. led two decades ago. Unfortunately, these findings are but two of many international education polls in which the American education system continues its downward spiral.

So where is this lapse in education? The 2003 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study, conducted in part by the National Center for Education Statistics, shows a rapid decline in both science and math scores from the fourth to the 12th grade in the U.S. as compared to other countries. Therefore, an appropriate conclusion to draw would be that our international counterparts have done a markedly better job of educating their children between the ages of 10 and 18.

To what can this education gap be attributed? Is the answer that we are not spending enough money on education? The majority of the data says no. The U.S. spends \$11,152 per student per year. This ranks second internationally behind Switzerland, which spends \$11,334. However, even though we have increased the amount we spend per student by about 30 percent over the last five to 10 years, we have seen steady, sometimes even declining, international test scores. As a result, the last couple of decades have shown us the surfacing reality of a country having reached an intellectual "roadblock," and a youth that is slowly being left behind as the members of its international community continue to excel.

But is this problem inherent in our system, or can it be fixed with good legislation? David Marsh, a professor at the USC Rossier School of Education, says, "The U.S. focuses more on procedure ... other countries work on the concept." All of us would agree that, throughout our educational careers, there have been moments where we have taken tests and done well on them, despite having replaced a solid understanding of the concepts with the easier knowledge of how to get the right answer. Does an average American fourth-grader really know what fractions are, or just how to add and subtract them? A recent poll showed that more high school students know the dates associated with the Civil War than the reasons for which it was fought. Likewise, how can we go to war in Iraq when the average American cannot find the Middle East — much less Iraq or Afghanistan — on a map? These problems are inherent in our education system and cannot be fixed with a simple act of Congress.

What the American education system needs is a system prioritizing the fixation of concepts rather than the submission of correct answers. At the same time, we must value intellectualism over test scores and be unafraid to hold a student back a grade if he or she needs it.

Our children must not be left behind, but at the same time, no child should be pushed ahead either. When all is said and done, our future is what will really be hurt the most. By supporting our upcoming generations with sub-par standards and handouts, America will be hard-pressed to remain the super-power it is today if the average American can barely read and write. Our economy is booming, our standard of living is high, and this begs the question as to how countries like Latvia, Russia and Estonia can have a better education system than ours. Lately, little attention has been paid to our education system. This lack of consideration needs to change.

—“The Forum” is the collective voice of Mayfield 10, a living/learning lodge.

**“Our children must not be left behind, but at the same time, no child should be pushed ahead either.”**

THE VERDICT		Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!
Wine		Spaniard uses technology to produce better wine and even uses less water to irrigate the vineyards. Huzzah! We've found a way to preserve precious resources AND make good wine. At least we'll be drunk when global warming hits.
Flu virus		Japanese researchers found that the Type-B flu virus is becoming more resistant to some antiviral drugs. Our advice? Wear a mask.
Zamboni machines		It's not drunk driving in New Jersey if you're on a Zamboni. Ice-smoothing machines take to Greek Row as Vandy frat boys recognize the loophole. And forget we're not in New Jersey.
Doug Burns		2006 Mr. Universe was arrested for assault of a police officer. Isn't this an abuse of power?
James Doohan		Star Trek's "Scotty" will indeed reach the final frontier. His ashes have been loaded into a private rocket, set to launch from New Mexico later this month. Hey, it's more than Keith Richards' dad got.
Keith Richards		Rolling Stones guitarist admits that he once mixed his father's ashes with cocaine and snorted the concoction. Yet another reason why you shouldn't do drugs, kids!
Lady Vols		They may not be our Dores, but at least SEC teams dominated the championships. Even though it's hard to root for Tennessee. Or Florida.
CNN		Gunfire at the CNN Center in Atlanta kills one. Is the network that desperate for something to report?
Treehouses		Not just backyard forts anymore, luxury treehouses are making an appearance in France. Who needs the Hilton when you can climb a tree?
Hurricanes		Researchers say the 2007 hurricane season will be "very active." Maybe everyone should just move inland; doesn't the Midwest need a few more people?
Walrus		Danish scientists want to attach GPS tags to the animals in order to "find out where they are going." They're walrus. They roll around. Do they really go that far?
Drought		The West has seen so little rainfall, pipelines are being run in some places in order to supply water. Global warming, anyone?
Justin Timberlake		Pop star says he "despises" what celebrity gossip magazines do. How nice. Also, he's Justin Timberlake. Does he need another reason to get a thumbs up?

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Nashville

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**Singers** – Come prepared with your best 16 bars of a ballad and uptempo. Stylistically, must be able to sing Contemporary Broadway, Pop/Rock, and R&B. Sheet music required in the proper key. Also, come prepared to dance.

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Sign in 9:15 am - Audition 9:45 am



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## SPORTS

## Gators go down as best ever

WHAT 2  
WATCH 4

## Upcoming Events

Baseball  
Vanderbilt at Austin Peay  
Tonight  
6 p.m. CT

The Commodores (26-4, 5-4 SEC) put their 21-0 non-conference record on the line tonight against Austin Peay. After taking two out of three from South Carolina over the weekend, it will be interesting to see if Vanderbilt can avoid a letdown against the Governors. With coach Tim Corbin in charge, that shouldn't be a problem. The Commodores return home for a three-game series with Alabama this weekend.

Prediction: Vandy 10, Austin Peay 3

Women's Lacrosse  
Vanderbilt at New Hampshire  
Today  
1:30 p.m. CDT

The Commodores (6-4) look to rebound after a heartbreaking loss to Stanford over the weekend. Margie Curran leads the team with 38 points, while Kendall Thrift is second with 32.

Prediction: Vandy 12, New Hampshire 6

WNBA Draft  
Today  
Noon CDT  
ESPN2

Vanderbilt senior forward Carla Thomas is one of 22 women's basketball prospects from around the world attending the 2007 WNBA Draft in Cleveland, Ohio, today. There are 13 teams in the WNBA, and the draft is three rounds long. Point guard Dee Davis could also hear her name called.

Major League Baseball  
New York Mets vs. St. Louis Cardinals  
Today  
7:10 p.m. CDT  
ESPN2

While they lost last season's NLCS, the Mets have won the first two games of this series. The Cardinals look to avoid the sweep as Braden Looper takes the mound against Josh Maine.

Prediction: Mets 6, Cards 3

Major League Baseball  
Cleveland Indians vs. Chicago White Sox  
Thursday  
1:05 p.m. CDT

Former Vanderbilt lefty Jeremy Sowers gets the nod as the Indians play Mark Buehrle and the White Sox. Current Commodore ace David Price recently passed Sowers, who entered his second big-league season, on the school's all-time strikeout list.

Prediction: Indians 7, White Sox 0

Florida became the first team since the 1991-92 Blue Devils to win back-to-back national titles. Do the Gators now deserve to be considered the best in college basketball history?



## GOOD CALL

by ANDREW BARGE  
Sports Reporter

Florida made history Monday night, becoming the first men's basketball team since 1992 to repeat as National Champions. So where do these Gators stack among the all-time best?

For starters, they're extremely talented. Three players (Corey Brewer, Al Horford and Joakim Noah) will be NBA lottery picks and three others (Taurean Green, Lee Humphrey and Chris Richard) would be stars on most teams. From their size to their skill to their athleticism, the "Gator Boys" have it all. But that's not why Florida is the best team ever.

The real reason? Look no further than chemistry.

"I think this team should go down as one of the best teams in college basketball history," said coach Billy Donovan. "Not as the most talented, and not on style points — but because they encompassed what the word 'team' means."

Donovan is right. Finding a squad with five players who understand and embrace their roles is nearly impossible. And the fact the same five players were able to do that for two years in a row makes their accomplishments even more impressive.

Think back to this time last year. Noah and Horford both had opportunities to be top-10 picks. Brewer was slated to be a first-round selection as well. Knowing they were capable of making history, the three, along with Green and Humphrey, came back to school for another ring. "We all love each other, and we all love playing with each other," Green said. "People made huge sacrifices. They all came back for this and wouldn't have been satisfied without it."

Now that they've reached basketball immortality, finding a worthy opponent is tough. Popular choices would include some of John Wooden's UCLA teams. While any one of his 10 National Championship teams would put up a fight, remember that they played in a 32-team tournament. Furthermore, their style of play wouldn't fly in today's game.

For the sake of hype, let's discuss the Fab Five team. Yes, they might be more talented than the Gators, but they never won a ring. For a team to be considered great, it has to play its best basketball on the big stage.

Then there's the most compelling challenger — the 1991-92 Duke Blue Devils, the last team to win back-to-back championships. On paper, the team shared several similarities with the present-day Gators. Duke, however, had a tougher time winning its championships. In the 1991 Final Four game, the Blue Devils squeaked out a two-point victory over a favored UNLV team. A year later, they narrowly escaped Kentucky in overtime during the Elite Eight (we all remember Laettner's miracle shot).

The Gators, meanwhile, have never put themselves in a true do-or-die situation. While Georgetown put up a tough fight in last year's Sweet 16, Florida has avoided a major scare thanks to an unprecedented combination of size, athleticism and team chemistry.

As easy as it is to hate the Gators, they deserve credit. That's why I'd like to take this time to congratulate the 2006-2007 Vanderbilt Commodores for beating the best team college basketball has ever seen. ■

## BAD CALL

by WILL GIBBONS  
Senior Sports Reporter

Four letters. UCLA. Four more letters. UNLV. And a four-letter word. Duke. That doesn't even include a dominant Kentucky team.

Any team from the seven straight UCLA champions from 1967-1973 would be favored over these Gators. While Florida has owned the Bruins the past two years, a match-up with one of John Wooden's squads would tell a much different story.

But, since that was a different era — one without a 3-point or the possibility of NBA defection — we'll move on to a more modern era for purposes of this argument.

Even then, however, the case for Florida is suspect. Despite its off-the-court issues and lack of class, the 1990 UNLV squad merits recognition as one of the greatest of all time. They wouldn't dismantle Florida by 30, as they did to Duke in 1990 (103-73), but there would be too much of Greg Anthony, Stacy Augmon, Anderson Hunt (29 points against Duke) and Larry Johnson for the "Gator Boys" to handle. The oddsmakers in Las Vegas would pick the hometown team.

Duke's 1992 championship team, which featured Bobby Hurley, Grant Hill and Christian Laettner, would also be favored over Florida. In addition to these three well-known stars, this team also had x-factors Thomas Hill (the one who cries in the famous Laettner clip), who averaged 14 points per game, as well as Brian Davis (11.2 points per game).

This too would be a classic, but if the stars cancel each other out, so to speak, Duke would have more depth. Seven members from the 1992 team were eventually drafted by NBA franchises.

Should Billy Donovan bolt for Kentucky, it is teams like the 1996 one that fans hope he would help replicate. This incredibly balanced club sent six players to the NBA, rattled off 27 straight victories and scored 86 points in a half of one game.

They only lost twice while cruising to the National Championship. It appears that Tony Delk, Antoine Walker, Ron Mercer and Derek Anderson would have something to say about Florida going down as the best ever.

In his press conference, Donovan seemed to concede that champions of the past would likely defeat his Gator team.

"Again, the UNLV teams, the UCLA teams, the Kentucky teams, the Duke teams, I'm not sitting up here saying that these guys on our team could beat them," he said. "I'm saying the word 'team...,' I think they've got to be talked about."

When all is said and done, the 2006-07 Gators did what anyone could ask them to do: beat the teams in front of them. They've shown what staying in school instead of leaving for NBA millions can lead to, and they had a lot of fun while doing it. They have also entertained America in the process.

Still, that doesn't mean Grant Hill or Larry Johnson wouldn't dominate or that the Rick Pitino press wouldn't confuse them.

In the end, it's a matter of preference. ■

—Whose side are you on? Cast your vote in today's poll on:

InsideVandy.com

## Sports Briefs

## Davis, Thomas ready for WNBA Draft

Vanderbilt seniors Dee Davis and Carla Thomas will wait for their names to be called in today's WNBA Draft, which begins at noon.

Thomas, a unanimous All-Southeastern Conference selection, was one of 22 women's basketball prospects from around the world to be invited to attend the draft. She averaged 16.2 points per game this season and finished her career sixth on Vanderbilt's all-time scoring list with 1,774 total points.

Thomas competed at last week's WNBA Pre-Draft Camp in Cleveland, impressing all in attendance. Davis, Vanderbilt's all-time leader in assists, made a splash at the camp and could also be selected.

—Check for updates on all three rounds of the WNBA Draft today on:

InsideVandy.com

## Women's golf places fourth

The sixth-ranked Vanderbilt women's golf team shot a three-day total of 875 and finished fourth out of 17 schools at the PING-Arizona State Invitational over the weekend.

Sophomore Jacqui Concolino tied Arizona State's Jennifer Osborn for fourth place in the individual standings with a three-round 211. Concolino posted her third consecutive round below par at the tournament with a 1-under 71 on the final day.

Senior Chris Brady shot a 1-over-par 73 on Sunday to finish in a four-way tie for 15th place at 218. Junior Liebele Lawrence finished with a 3-over-par 75 in final round action to finish tied for 31st place at 223. Senior Kristen Svarovich ended the tournament tied for 33rd position (224) after posting a 4-over-par 76 on Sunday. Freshman Brooke Goodwin tied for 46th place (228), finishing with a 3-over-par 75 on Sunday.

The Commodores welcome Belmont and Kentucky for the Vanderbilt Triangular on April 14 at the Vanderbilt Legends Club in Franklin.

## Runners post career-best times at Stanford

While most of the Vanderbilt women's track and field team competed in the Yellow Jacket Invitational in Atlanta, four runners turned in career performances at the Stanford Invitational in California last weekend.

Senior Brittany Sizer shined from 800-meter and 1500-meter distances, while sophomore Carmen Mims and junior Valerie Kazmer ran career races in the 5,000-meter and 3,000-meter steeplechase, respectively. Senior Erika Schneble ran the fastest race of all Commodores with an excellent 5,000-meter effort.

"I was proud of all four of them. We didn't have the best travel getting there, but each of them ran up to my expectations, and maybe a little better than I expected," said coach Steve Keith.

Competing on just five hours of sleep last Friday, Sizer took an amazing four seconds off her 800-meter personal best, running 2:13.08. Sizer took two seconds off her recent PR in the 1,500, running 4:30.69 on Saturday. She is now less than three seconds off the NCAA regional qualifying standard.

Schneble and Mims both qualified for postseason competition in the 5,000-meter run. Competing in separate heats, school record-holder Schneble ran her fastest 5,000 in nearly a year, finishing in 16:40.71. Running the 5,000 outdoors for the first time as a collegiate, Mims finished sixth in her heat with a time of 16:49.48. Kazmer set the biggest PR, taking more than 10 seconds off her previous best with a time of 11:09.24.

In Atlanta, four Commodores — hammer thrower Kasi Foster, distance runners Amanda Scott and Mindy Skelton, and hurdler Lauren Fortson — had career-best performances. ■

# Pitcher refuses to give up on goal

## Former student-manager works way onto squad.

by JARRED AMATO  
Sports Editor

Before the Commodores' recent road trip to Arkansas, coach Tim Corbin approached sophomore Jason Cunningham with a demand.

"If I give you an opportunity, don't fall apart on me," Corbin warned. "Or else you're going to make me look like an idiot."

"I won't do that, coach," replied the soft-spoken lefthander.

When given the opportunity in the bottom of the seventh of the series finale, Cunningham backed up his word, pitching two scoreless innings.

This responsibility was quite the contrast from a year ago when Cunningham was taking care of Hawkins Field, filling out pitch charts and holding radar guns as one of the team's student-managers.

### Taking a chance

Despite his success at Greater Atlanta Christian School, the recruitment letters never did pile up on Cunningham's kitchen table. If he wanted to play at the next level, it would most likely have to be for a Division III program.

"It came down to either going to Emory to play or coming here and just taking a shot," said the math major and former National Merit finalist. "I just figured there was no better opportunity than to come work with these coaches."

So Cunningham arrived on campus in the fall of 2005 hoping to make the

squad as a walk-on. He didn't. Instead, Corbin gave the freshman the option of remaining with the team as a student-manager.

"I said, 'I don't know how fulfilling it's going to be for you because I know you had aspirations of wanting to make the team, but I can't



CUNNINGHAM

do it," Corbin recalled.

Was Cunningham frustrated? Of course. But, was he discouraged? Hardly.

"It didn't feel like I was cheated," he said. "I hadn't earned it."

### Making his luck

Instead of going home for summer vacation, Cunningham remained in Nashville to work with pitching coach Derek Johnson and hurlers Brett Jacobson and Steven Shao.

He got stronger and more confident and even changed his delivery to add velocity to his fastball that tops out at around 80 miles per hour. But, most importantly, Cunningham learned how to pitch.

"I found out what my strengths were and what things I could get away

with," he said.

When fall tryouts rolled around again, he was ready. Asked to pitch against All-American Pedro Alvarez and the rest of the Commodore regulars, the southpaw found success by throwing strikes and changing speeds.

As a result, Cunningham didn't have to wait for the coaches' decision—he made it for them.

"He put himself in a situation where we couldn't pass him by, where we couldn't just say, 'Nah, not yet,'" Johnson said.

Cunningham's dream officially became a reality shortly after fall practice ended.

"We were sitting up in the classroom and coach (Corbin) informed us that he was going to open up an extra spot (for me)," he said. "It was a pretty exciting day."

### Deception

While some may wonder how the soft-throwing walk-on could have ever earned a spot on the No. 1 team in the country, Corbin isn't one of them.

"I don't care how hard you throw if you get people out," Corbin said.

But, how is Cunningham able to get out some of the nation's best hitters?

It's all about deception, according to Corbin.

"It's like you think he's throwing 87, and he's throwing 77, and that's good," he said.

Couple that with what Corbin called a "Bugs Bunny" changeup, and the hitter often has a hard time

adjusting.

"There's a good speed differential between the two pitches and that's what really separates him," Johnson said.

On a side note, it should come as no surprise that when asked if he could change one thing about baseball, the lefty said it would be to eliminate radar guns.

### Living the dream

Cunningham's first appearance came so suddenly that he didn't have time to get nervous. He had thrown only five warm-up pitches, none of which were near the strike zone, when Corbin called down to the bullpen to see if No. 2 could record the last out of Vanderbilt's 15-2 victory over Western Kentucky.

"Luckily when they asked if I was ready, coach (Blake) Allen said, 'Yeah, he's good to go,'" Cunningham said. "He kind of took one for me and gave me the chance."

With his adrenaline pumping, Cunningham retired Scotty Colt to end the game. He pitched again a few days later against the Razorbacks.

"I thought all along it could happen, but I knew I had a long way to go," he said. "I wasn't sure it'd happen this quickly."

A year ago, Corbin wasn't sure it could happen at all.

"I never thought he would make it," he admitted. "But that just goes to show you never say never in baseball because there's more weird things that happen. He certainly deserves a spot on the team. Anyone would

# Vandy reclaims No. 1 ranking



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Brett Jacobson should get the nod in tonight's contest at Austin Peay.

by JARRED AMATO  
Sports Editor

It didn't take long for the Vanderbilt baseball team to return to the top.

After winning two out of three games against South Carolina on the road over the weekend, the Commodores (26-4, 5-4 Southeastern Conference) reclaimed their No. 1 ranking all but one poll.

Despite losing the series finale to the Gamecocks, Tim Corbin must be pleased with where his squad stands after playing quality opponents Ole Miss, Arkansas and South Carolina in succession. Vanderbilt travels to play Austin Peay tonight at 6 p.m. before hosting Alabama in a three-game series beginning Friday.

- Vanderbilt is 7-4 against top-25 opponents and 21-0 in non-league games.
- Sophomore third baseman Pedro Alvarez leads the team with a .365 average, 10 home runs and 34 RBIs. He also has a .738 slugging percentage and .449 on-base percentage.

- In 38 innings last week, the pitching staff recorded 38 strikeouts and just 12 walks, while sporting a 3.32 ERA.

- David Price fanned 10 batters last Friday to move past current Cleveland Indians starter Jeremy Sowers (327) into second place on the school's career strikeout list with 336.

- Shea Robin has a team-best seven game hitting streak heading into tonight's game. He currently leads the team with a .351 batting average in SEC play.

- Vanderbilt has come from behind in 15 of its 26 victories. The clutch Commodores also have 97 two-out RBI (206 total). ■

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A program of Screening for Mental Health, Inc. and funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Addiction and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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For the second year, Vanderbilt University and the Vanderbilt Institute for Integrative BioSystems Research and Education (VIIBRE) invite Vanderbilt undergraduates to apply for a prestigious opportunity to conduct an independent research project in a dynamic, multi-disciplinary research setting. Applications are requested from Vanderbilt undergraduates in all degree programs, and successful applicants will be selected based on scholastic performance and/or previous research or other relevant experience. **Students who have just completed their freshman year are encouraged to apply!** Students whose primary interests are in the humanities or social sciences are invited to apply and indicate why they are interested in participating in a scientific research project.

Within the SyBBURE program, VIIBRE is actively investigating four areas of cellular biology: Bioreactors, Chemotaxis, Cell Forces, and Immune Cell Activation. See <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/viibre/SyBBURE.html> for details.

Successful applicants will join a current group of undergraduate and faculty researchers to engage in research projects full-time during Summer 2007. Successful students will be encouraged to continue their projects for 5-10 hours per week during the 2007-2008 academic year. Summer participants will receive a \$4,000 research stipend. During the 2007-2008 academic year, students will receive a \$1,000/semester stipend, and can, if they choose, receive 1 credit hour for independent research. SyBBURE will provide training in microfabrication, instrumentation, AutoCAD, LabVIEW, ImageJ, MATLAB, and other research tools. Students will be expected to work independently and collaboratively to: design and perform hypothesis-testing experiments; attend workshops; prepare scientific documents; and present study results. Participation in a weekly journal club is required. Excellent students may have opportunities to travel to scientific conferences.

**Application information is provided at**  
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/viibre/SyBBURE-Research.html>.

**Applications must be received electronically by 5:00 PM, Monday, April 9.**

# FUN & GAMES

## SUDOKU

**TO SOLVE:**  
Fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

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### 4/2/07 SOLUTIONS

5	3	4	1	9	7	6	8	2
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1	7	6	2	8	3	9	4	5
4	1	9	3	5	8	7	2	6
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3	4	1	5	2	6	8	7	9
8	6	5	9	7	1	2	3	4
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## YOU IN THE YEARBOOK

One of the many photos submitted for possible inclusion in the 2007 Commodore yearbook...



Submitted by Tracy Branding  
Sydney Turner, Jadzia Butler, Shannon Hawley and Tracy Branding at Universal Studios Islands of Adventure in Orlando, Fla., during spring break.

It's easy to submit your favorite photos from this year at Vandy: Just visit [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com) and scroll down to the big red Commodore yearbook button that says "click here to submit your pics." Your photos will help the yearbook staff commemorate 2006-07 at Vanderbilt!

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Inflatable floaters
  - Renown
  - Annapolis inst.
  - George who was Mary
  - Related
  - Hired muscle
  - River's end, often
  - Pusher's pursuer
  - Fabricate
  - Black mark
  - Jostled
  - La-la leader
  - Accomplishes
  - Unfounded
  - Jupiter neighbor
  - Knowing
  - Pooped
  - Dundee denial
  - Great review
  - Proximity bombs
  - Houston school
  - \_\_\_ out (scrape by)
  - Soccer passes
  - Cloyed
  - Family cars
  - Aggressive drivers
  - Supervisor
  - Have debts
  - Stretchy
  - Mosquito barrier
  - Flat charge
  - Alan or Cheryl
  - Miserable dwelling
  - Picture on a PC
  - Canal of song
  - Expunge
  - Retained
  - Transmit
  - Intuit

- DOWN**
- Funnyman Foxx
  - Away from the wind
  - Movie
  - Carryall bag
  - Take by surprise
  - Outstanding!
  - Alias acronym
  - Stuck in the mud
  - Fences off
  - Maximum
  - "Rich Man, Poor Man" writer
  - Reheat in the microwave, slangily
  - Ripened
  - Wrath
  - Rosary unit
  - Exposes
  - Not sleeping
  - Kept for later
  - Before, once
  - Goes under
  - Join forces
  - Fast-moving serpent
  - Requisites
  - Answered
  - Projectiles
  - Way cool!
  - Windsor or granny
  - Is agitated
  - AWOL word

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4/4/07

### 4/2/07 SOLUTIONS

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C	O	B	S	E	C	D	P	I	V	A	C	
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- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 48 Lamb's mama      | 56 Barreled along        |
| 50 Kind of crow?    | 57 Terrible ruler?       |
| 52 Satie or Estrada | 58 Loch in the Highlands |
| 53 Lingerie trim    | 59 Elation               |
| 54 On the summit of | 62 Cacophony             |

# Got Housing? Last Chance!

## Rising Sophomore Single and Double Ballots

April 4 & 5

All rising sophomores seeking single or double rooms should submit a rising sophomore singles or doubles ballot in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle on April 4 or 5, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. The deadline for submitting ballots is 4:30 PM, Thursday, April 5.

All rising sophomores who have not already taken an assignment must enter their names on a ballot for a single room or a ballot for a double room. All applicants must have applied for the housing assignment process.

Rising sophomore singles and doubles building assignments and room selection schedule will be posted on Sunday, April 8 on the housing website: [www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd).

Room selections will take place the evenings of April 10, 11, and 12. Students who cannot attend the selection events due to schedule conflicts may designate a proxy to select a room for them. Please contact the housing office: 322-2591.

Office of Housing and Residential Education  
4113 Branscomb Quadrangle  
322-2591



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