

Third baseman Pedro Alvarez shines in Dores' victory over MTSU

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Oscar winner Hilary Swank discusses new movie 'The Reaping'...

For more, see **Life**, page 8

WHAT'S NEW ON

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Pose technology questions to 'Ask a Geek'...

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Pedro Alvarez

The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2007 • 119TH YEAR, NO. 31

THE WALL

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

TODAY
'Globalization, the welfare gap, and the rise of the left in Latin America'

The Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies Speakers Series presents professor Susan Stokes from the Department of Political Science at Yale University. The lecture is open to the public and will occur at 3 p.m. in Buttrick Hall, Room 206.

TODAY
Lambda Drag Show

The Lambda Association presents its annual Drag Fashion Show at 7 p.m. on Alumni Lawn. The event is open to the public.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31
Walk for Darfur

Students Taking Action Now: Darfur will host its biggest event of the year Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in front of Kirkland Hall. Participants donate \$10 to walk the campus loop. The event benefits the Lost Boys Center of Nashville.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31
Blair Piano Faculty Signature Series

Melissa Rose, Roland Schneller, Martha Bartles, Elizabeth Eckert, ChiHee Hwang, Karen Krieger, Jama Reagan, Kay Rhee and Deanna Walker will perform a variety of compositions written for zero to eight hands in a one-hour concert titled "Zero to Eight in 60 Minutes." The free public performance begins at 8 p.m. in the Turner Recital Hall.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
Concert Choir, Chambers Singers spring concert

Hear the 75 voices of the Concert Choir and Chamber Singers at 2 p.m. Sunday in Ingram Hall as they present a varied program, including works from five centuries.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
Momentum Dance Group spring performance

Momentum, with the Vanderbilt Dance Program, will perform their own original work in their annual spring presentation Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Student Life Center Ballroom. Admission is \$5.

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

Students rock out on Highland



Junior Mark Rafalko performs "Hello" by Oasis and "Take Your Mama" by Scissor Sisters at the Rock the Quad talent showcase in Highland Quad Thursday night. LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students feel housing crunch

by ANNE MALINEE
Staff Reporter

Rising juniors and sophomores felt the squeeze this week as the combination of more students living on campus and more students reserving their current living spaces limited the number of apartments and suites available in this year's housing lottery.

Several rising juniors did not get Morgan or Lewis suites and Chaffin apartments at the Highland Quad lottery held Wednesday night, and no all-rising-sophomore ballots succeeded for apartments or suites.

Senior director of Housing Facilities Operation and Management Jim Kramka said he has received some complaints from students who were not assigned to apartments, and he understands their concerns.

"Their disappointment is genuine, and I wish that I could provide each student with the type of housing he or she thinks

is ideal," Kramka said. "But that is not possible when our supply of each different type of accommodation is fixed while student preferences are dynamic and change over time."

These students must now compete for single and double rooms in Carmichael Towers East, Tolman and Cole Halls, and Peabody campus dorms.

"It's a really frustrating process, especially since I've already lived on Peabody for a year," said Michelle Pugh, a rising junior who was unable to secure a Morgan or Lewis apartment with two of her classmates. "I really didn't want to live here again, but now I'm forced to."

Students compete for apartments and suites by filling out housing ballots with point values. Rising seniors receive four points, rising juniors receive three points and rising sophomores receive two points. Students are placed in order to choose their living spaces based on the total of points on

their ballot. The selection order for ballots with the same point total is determined by random selection.

Last spring, ballots with as few as six points were able to secure Morgan and Lewis triples, according to a guide to the housing assignment process issued by the Office of Housing and Residential Education. This year, Kramka said 17 ballots each for men and women secured apartments with nine points before all the spots were taken.

Last year, men's ballots with 12 points and women's ballots with eight points secured Chaffin apartments. This year, men needed at least 14 points and women needed at least 13 to get a Chaffin, Kramka said.

"Because more rising seniors and rising juniors are living on campus, the competition for suites and apartments is stiffer," Kramka said.

Kramka also said four more Chaffins and two more three-person Lewis and Morgan apartments were reserved this year

than last year, leaving fewer spots available for the lottery.

With tighter competition for living spaces, students who were able to reserve apartments considered themselves lucky.

"We got Morgan and Lewis, which is something so many people didn't get," said rising junior Emma Dyer, who initially planned to live in a Chaffin but had to change plans at the last minute. "We got really lucky, even though we didn't get our first choice."

"We were very satisfied, but I know there were a lot of people who didn't get what they wanted," said Douglas Kurdziel, a sophomore with senior standing who was able to reserve a triple.

Kramka said the Office of Housing and Residential Education will not grant additional off-campus authorizations because some students did not get suites or apartments. They will be placed in open rooms elsewhere on campus. ■

Derby hat creates animosity among sororities

by GLENN DeROY
Editor-in-Chief

Some 20 Panhellenic sorority women were involved in a heated dispute Thursday morning over the discovery of the "black derby," hidden by Sigma Chi fraternity as a part of Derby Days.

Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey said there were more than two Panhellenic chapters involved in the altercation but preferred not to specify which.

Sororities had been searching for the derby hat all week in hopes of winning the fraternity's annual week of philanthropy and competition. The derby is worth 1,500 points toward the Derby Days championship.

Torrey sent an e-mail to all Greek women Thursday afternoon in condemnation of what she perceived as a physical altercation.

"The purpose of my e-mail was to avoid any further drama for the rest of the Derby Days activities, especially in the football games, because those have always been something our sororities are highly competitive in," she said.

However, Director of Crime Prevention Andrew Atwood said to the best of his knowledge, the argument remained verbal and no police were called to the scene.

"Based upon what I was told, it appears that it wasn't anything other than a verbal altercation," he said. "It appears that one of our officers happened upon female students this morning arguing over what turned out to be the derby that Sigma Chi uses for Derby Days."

Atwood said the officer who came across the incident handed over the derby to Sigma Chi, who awarded the points to Kappa Alpha Theta.

Torrey said in the e-mail that the fight near McGugin Center resulted in bite marks and a phone call to the police, contrary to VUPD reports.

"To people outside of the Greek community, our specific letters do not matter, and currently we look like stupid sorority girls fighting over a hat," she said in the e-mail. "Please show some class as we finish out the Derby Days week."

Torrey said it was likely that the women involved gave two versions of their story to her and VUPD.

"What somebody is going to say to a police officer is probably different than what they're going to tell me, but more than anything, the people that came in to see me today wanted to apologize for failing to represent the Greek community the way that they know they should," she said.

Torrey said she could not know definitively the extent of the disagreement, as she was not present when it occurred.

"The version of the story had gone through several different people before it got to me," she said. "So, did someone have a bite mark? Did someone not have a bite mark? I'm not really sure, but that was what I was told."

Torrey said the incident is not "a big deal" and the "magnitude of it is not over the top," as it involved a small subset of the hundreds of sorority women who participate in Derby Days.

"However, it is a big deal because we should show better Panhellenic spirit than those women today," she said. "We need to make sure that we are respectful of each other and that we are getting along."

"Derby Days is intended to be a fun event in which we raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. It is not supposed to be an occasion for ill words and drama between Panhellenic sororities," she said. ■

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WEATHER
compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

TODAY



Morning Showers, 79/58

SATURDAY



Mostly Cloudy, 81/60

SUNDAY



Scattered T-Storms, 75/56

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy, 79/58

VUPD CRIME LOG
compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

There is no crime to report.

Check out <http://police.vanderbilt.edu/crimelog.htm> for complete listings.

SERVICE GUIDE

The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the academic year except for during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

IN THE KNOW

The news you need — in brief

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

WORLD

Britain takes case against Iran to United Nations in hopes of freeing sailors

Britain took its case to free its 15 sailors and marines held by Iran to the United Nations on Thursday, asking the Security Council to support a statement that would “deplore” Tehran’s action and demand their immediate release.

The British government said its sailors and marines were seized last Friday after completing a search of a civilian ship near the mouth of the Shatt al-Arab waterway, which forms the border between Iran and Iraq, under a mandate from the Security Council and at the request of Iraq. Iran says the British vessels were inside its territorial waters.

“We are not seeking to put Iran in a corner. We are simply saying, ‘Please release the personnel who should not have been seized in the first place,’” said the spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with government policy. Britain is also infuriated with the presentation of the captives on Iranian television.

Iran’s top negotiator Ali Larjani said if Britain follows through with its policies toward Iran, “this case may face a legal path,” and the sailors would be prosecuted in court.

As a result of the ongoing conflict, oil prices rose by more than \$1 a barrel Wednesday to a six-month high as the U.S. Navy completed its largest show of force in the Gulf since the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

SOURCE: AP

Castro assails U.S. biofuel policies in op-ed piece

In his op-ed statement published on Thursday, Cuba’s 80-year-old leader Fidel Castro lashed out against U.S. biofuel intentions, signaling he may be taking a more active role in politics after his surgery.

Under the headline “Condemned to Premature Death by Hunger and Thirst more than 3 Billion People of the World” in the Community Party Daily Granma, Castro invokes an apocalyptic rhetoric accusing President Bush’s support of using crops to produce ethanol for cars as causing depletion of food stocks in developing nations.

If rich nations decide to import huge amounts of traditional food crops such as corn from developing countries to help meet their energy needs, it could have disastrous consequences for the world’s poor, Castro writes.

While Castro has been ill for the past eight months, the piece does not seem aimed at dispelling rumors about his health, but rather at drawing attention to his stand on world affairs. As a result, it is unclear what the message infers in terms of Castro’s future role in domestic affairs.

Castro temporarily ceded power to his younger brother Raul, the 75-year-old defense minister, on July 31 after announcing he had undergone intestinal surgery. He has not appeared in public since.

SOURCE: AP

NATION

Former top aide accuses attorney general and white house counsel for prosecutor firings

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and President Bush’s former Counsel Harriet Miers approved the firings of eight federal prosecutors, Gonzales’ one-time chief of staff Kyle Sampson told the Senate Judiciary Committee Thursday.

Eight federal prosecutors were fired last year because they did not sufficiently support President Bush’s priorities.

“The distinction between ‘political’ and ‘performance-related’ reasons for removing a United States attorney is, in my view, largely artificial,” Sampson told the committee.

Responding to questions from Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., Sampson rejected the notion that the dismissals were ordered by young or inexperienced Justice Department officials.

“I and others made staff recommendations, but they were approved and signed off on by the principles,” Sampson said, referring to Gonzales and Miers.

On the one hand, the committee’s ranking Republican, Sen. Arlen Specter, scolded Sampson for causing an uproar that has distracted the Justice Department and jeopardized Gonzales’ job.

On the other hand, “it corrodes the public’s trust in our system of justice. It’s wrong,” said Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., as he gaveled open a hearing featuring the testimony of Sampson.

However, Sampson denied that the firings were improper, and spoke dismissively of Democrats’ condemnation of what they call political pressure in the firings. He concluded that adherence to the priorities of the president and attorney general was a legitimate standard.

SOURCE: AP

CAMPUS

Vanderbilt professor reveals chemical signal for heart formation in study

A new study has identified a chemical signal that plays a crucial role in heart formation. This finding could potential lead to combating congenital heart defects.

Vanderbilt professor of biological sciences Lillianna Solnica-Krezel directed the study.

The study, published this March in the research journal Cell Biology, identifies the chemical signal as the one that directs cells to their proper location to transform into cardiac cells during early human development

The foundation of the research came from developments with a zebrafish, a small tropical fish that has become a model for studying the development of vertebrates. Easy and inexpensive to raise, scientists keep thousands of these fish in their laboratory to observe their transparent eggs that develop outside of the body.

Solnica-Krezel’s team discovered that a certain protein, Apelin, acts as the signal for heart formation. This protein is known as a chemokine, meaning it is involved in a process that moves cells toward or away from a particular chemical concentration.

“The last few years, we and others have uncovered a number of pathways that direct and regulate global cell movement, but this is the first pathway we have found that controls movement of a discrete group of cells that form rudimentary organs while leaving the rest of the cells largely unaffected,” Solnica-Krezel said.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

‘The Real World’ auditions to be held at Buffalo Billiards

by **BEN GRIMWOOD**
Life Staff Writer

As its 20th season approaches, the enduring MTV reality show “The Real World” searches for its latest cast members to make this landmark season memorable. In pursuit of this goal, Casting Coordinator Tony Miros will hold an open casting call right here in Nashville on Saturday, March 31.

In each season of “The Real World,” seven people are carefully selected to live and work together for five months in a lavishly furnished house in a major city. As to the locale of the 20th season, Casting Director Damon Furberg said, “We have no idea at this point. Casting works pretty far ahead of production, so we have no idea where the show is going to be taking place until right before we lock the cast.”

If you are a fan of “The Real World,” you have probably wondered at one time or another if the show is scripted. Furberg put these rumors to rest.

“I can emphatically tell you it’s not scripted, nor is it manipulated,” he said. “In addition, it’s not directed, nor is the crew even allowed to talk to the cast.”

One of the biggest criticisms of the show is that the seven cast members are selected stereotypically — it

is rumored that individuals are chosen for their race, sexual orientation, social status or lifestyle. Yet, Furberg denied this as well.

“We’re always trying to have a diverse cast, but I think people get hung up on the idea that we sit there and say ‘OK, we need some person in this category and some person in that category’ ... We really don’t do that,” he said. “If we were picking people solely based on their category, we would end up with a really boring cast.”

“No matter what happens, at the end of the day, we’re going to pick the people with the seven best personalities,” he added.

“The Real World” is well known for cast members’ frequent on-screen spats over many issues, especially those involving prejudices of race and sexual orientation.

Furburg explained the frequent conflicts, saying, “You put together people who are different, and there are going to be initial issues. ‘Real World’ is like a microcosm of the larger world that we live in. Love and anger — those are the two central things that are always going to be there.”

However, this season, the casting crew is looking for something especially unique. According to Furberg, those interested in pursuing a career in the entertainment industry

may have a leg up in the competition, but he assures that individuals simply looking for a big break won’t make up the cast.

“We don’t want a bunch of people who look at the show as a commercial for themselves, or as a resume, though it can be a positive thing for people’s careers in the entertainment industry,” he said. “If you’re not suited for that type of career to begin with, ‘The Real World’ is not going to be the magic bullet that will make you an actor or that sort of thing.”

Instead, he said they are looking for people who are outgoing and charismatic, adding that “‘The Real World’ is not the place for shy people.”

So, if you think you fit this mold of a charismatic actor or actress and are just dying for silver-screen fame, this casting call is for you.

To audition, you must be between 18 and 24 years old. The casting call will be held at Buffalo Billiards at 153 Second Ave. North between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Applicants should bring a recent photo of themselves, as well as photo identification. For more information, visit www.bunim-murray.com. ■

—To hear the full interview with Casting Director Damon Furberg, see Life on:



The Lady Chablis to perform at 2007 Lambda Drag Show

by **SYDNEY WILMER**
Senior Reporter

The annual Drag Show, hosted each year by the Vanderbilt Lambda Association, differs from previous years in more than its timing.

The show, typically held in the fall but cancelled due to weather conditions last semester, will also be larger and have a wider “appeal” to the Nashville community this year, said Lambda President Kristen VanDenBossche, a senior.

“We wanted our message to apply to the more of the Nashville area,” said Lambda Secretary Katie Palmer. “To make this a larger celebration of equality, we included Nashville groups like Nashville Cares.”

On-In-Teen and Brothers United will also attend the Friday event to share information.

Palmer said \$6,000, the majority of Lambda’s budget, went into this year’s event, to be held at 7 p.m. on Alumni Lawn.

This year’s featured performer, the well-known Lady Chablis of Savannah, Ga., appeared in the film “Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil.”

In all, Palmer said 24 drag queens, along

with Vanderbilt dance groups Momentum and Vibe, will perform at the event.

While attendance at the fall 2005 show hovered around 150, event organizers hope to attract close to 1,000 guests this year, Palmer said.

“We hope to see a larger turnout this year,” VanDenBossche said. “This year’s show is going to be wonderful, and we hope a lot of people will come.”



THE LADY CHABLIS

Admission is free to Vanderbilt students and the general public.

“I would like to go,” said freshman Jenny Mehl. “I think it would be fun to go out and watch the show. I think it is great way to raise awareness.”

While freshman Rebecca Maddox said she thought the event will be a great “celebration,” she questioned how it will change the opinions of those who strongly oppose the GLBT message.

“If you really harbor animosity on these grounds, why would you come out?” she said. “But at the same time, because it is such a large and inclusive event, it gives a different perspective into this culture.” ■

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Benefit gala raises money for Lwala, Kenya, Thursday



PETER TUFO / The Vanderbilt Hustler

A silent auction was a part of the festivities Thursday night when Students for Kenya held a benefit at the Student Life Center. Former Sen. Bill Frist delivered the keynote address.

Momentum, other groups to perform Sunday

by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY
Asst News Editor

The Momentum Dance Group has been practicing for its Sunday performance since November.

Tickets to the show cost \$5 on the Commodore Card, and all proceeds from the performance, which will be held at 3 p.m. in the Student Life Center, will go to the Marian Chace Foundation of the American Dance Therapy Association.

"We wanted to support the arts, and when we were researching we ran into them and liked their approach to healing in using dance as a form of healing," said Momentum Co-Chair Sarah Sharp. "It's the nation's largest dance therapy association. It provides treatment to patients in various hospitals."

The show will also feature performances by Original Cast, Vandy Taal, Variations, the Juggling Club and the Asian American Student Alliance.

"We're calling it a Momentum dance show, but we're featuring all of these other groups as well," Sharp said.

Momentum is currently operated under the Vanderbilt Dance Program and performs as many as 14 shows per semester. This show will feature a wide array of dance, from hip-hop and modern to jazz and ballet.

"We've been working really hard, and I think the whole weekend's going to be really neat," Sharp said. ■

Students walk in support of Darfur refugees

by NIKKI BOGOPOLSKAYA
Staff Reporter

Students Taking Action Now: Darfur will hold its first walk for Darfur Saturday at 2 p.m. The walk will start at the statue of Cornelius Vanderbilt and continue around the perimeter of campus.

To participate in the walk, supporters donate \$10, which will go toward the Darfur refugee population in Nashville. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. In recent years, the death toll in Darfur has reached 400,000, and the number of refugees totals more than 1 million.

STAND co-organizer, freshman Lindsey Smith, said she hopes the walk will make her peers more aware of the current situation in Darfur.

"Over the years the situation in Darfur has only worsened, and for any change to be made, people need to become more aware about it," Smith said.

"All proceeds from the walk go to the Lost Boys of Nashville Foundation (which is a center that helps provide guidance to young male refugees from Darfur)," Smith said.

Another co-organizer, freshman Kelley McIlhatten, urged students to attend.

"I think coming to this event is just really important in order to raise awareness and help people to really understand what is happening," she said. "Hopefully, it will raise awareness about all the suffering that people in Darfur, and all over Sudan, are going through."

The Lost Boys Foundation of Nashville was established in 2004 by a small group of volunteers. There are currently approximately 150 lost boys living in the Nashville area. The mission of the center is to reunite and enhance the living conditions of the Lost Boys of Nashville by funding a community complex for their convenience. ■

Comedian discusses racism, growing up as foreigner

by CHRISTINA ENGLAND
Senior Reporter

Wednesday night, Masala-SACE hosted comedian Vijai Nathan as part of Multicultural Week.

Nathan focused most of her comedy around themes such as racism and growing up as a foreigner.

"Smiles are universal, laughs are universal," said Lori Groves-White, Director of Leadership Development and Intercultural Affairs. "Instead of always beating diversity over people's heads, this was an opportunity to have fun and learn at the same time."

Junior Ekta Kumar, co-president of Masala-SACE, reminded the audience at the beginning that these themes are real issues despite the comedy.

"Even though this is a comedy show," Kumar said, "we need to remember that these are real issues that people face on a day to day basis."

Students, graduate students and faculty attended the event.

"The show was really well-attended by graduate students and people from different schools on campus," said junior Krish Vigneswaran. "Comedy is unique and fresh, and we don't get opportunities like this a lot at Vandy, so a lot of people came out."

Cancer biology graduate student Mayda Valentin

said it was a unique educational experience as well as a comedy.

"I learned more about the culture without having to go to a lecture to learn about it," Valentin said.

Junior Shivani Shah said the show highlighted part of the diversity on Vanderbilt's campus.

"The show definitely advertises that there are different types of people at Vanderbilt," Shah said. "I'm really glad that Vanderbilt had the opportunity to listen to a different types of comedy that represents a slice of diversity on campus."

Nathan is an internationally recognized performer who has won numerous awards and been featured on television. She also travels with her themed performance "Good Girls Don't, but Indian Girls Do."

"I didn't used to do comedy based on the Indian culture," Nathan said. "I used to say Indian-Americans are just like everyone else, just Americans like everyone else, but then I realized that Indians aren't like everyone else so I started performing Indian-American comedy."

Groves-White said it was a fun and educational night for all who attended.

"The event was good because it shows that students are multidimensional and can laugh at each other," Groves-White said. "That's what comedy is all about." ■

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OPINION

THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

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OUR VIEW

The Hustler weighs in on lesser-known campus issues

Andrew Solomon's column "Important issues thrive on campus" has piqued our interest. Opinion's favorite lovable drunk temporarily changed his focus to the important issues currently dominating the campus's discourse and in the process produced a very topical and interesting column. This is inspiring on the same level as is the Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's masterpiece. Keeping Solomon's efforts in mind, we have responded with a list of our own. Without further ado, we present The Top Ten Lesser-Known Issues of Vanderbilt University.

10) Basketball: The Harlem Globetrotters still exist, and 2005 Vanderbilt alumnus Corey Smith plays for them.

9) Comedy: The Slant is actually one of many humor papers that have sprung forth like Athena from the head of Zeus at Vanderbilt University. Predecessors include the aptly named "Slightly Amusing" and "The Dirty We'jun."

8) Fashion: A "we'jun" is a type of loafer Vanderbilt students used to find fashionable. Think 1960's UGG boots.

7) Living wage: The campus is burned out on

hearing about this one, but the issue is still there.

6) Jobs: Every senior who has not been accepted to law school or graduate school is drinking heavily at this very moment. And every other moment, for that matter.

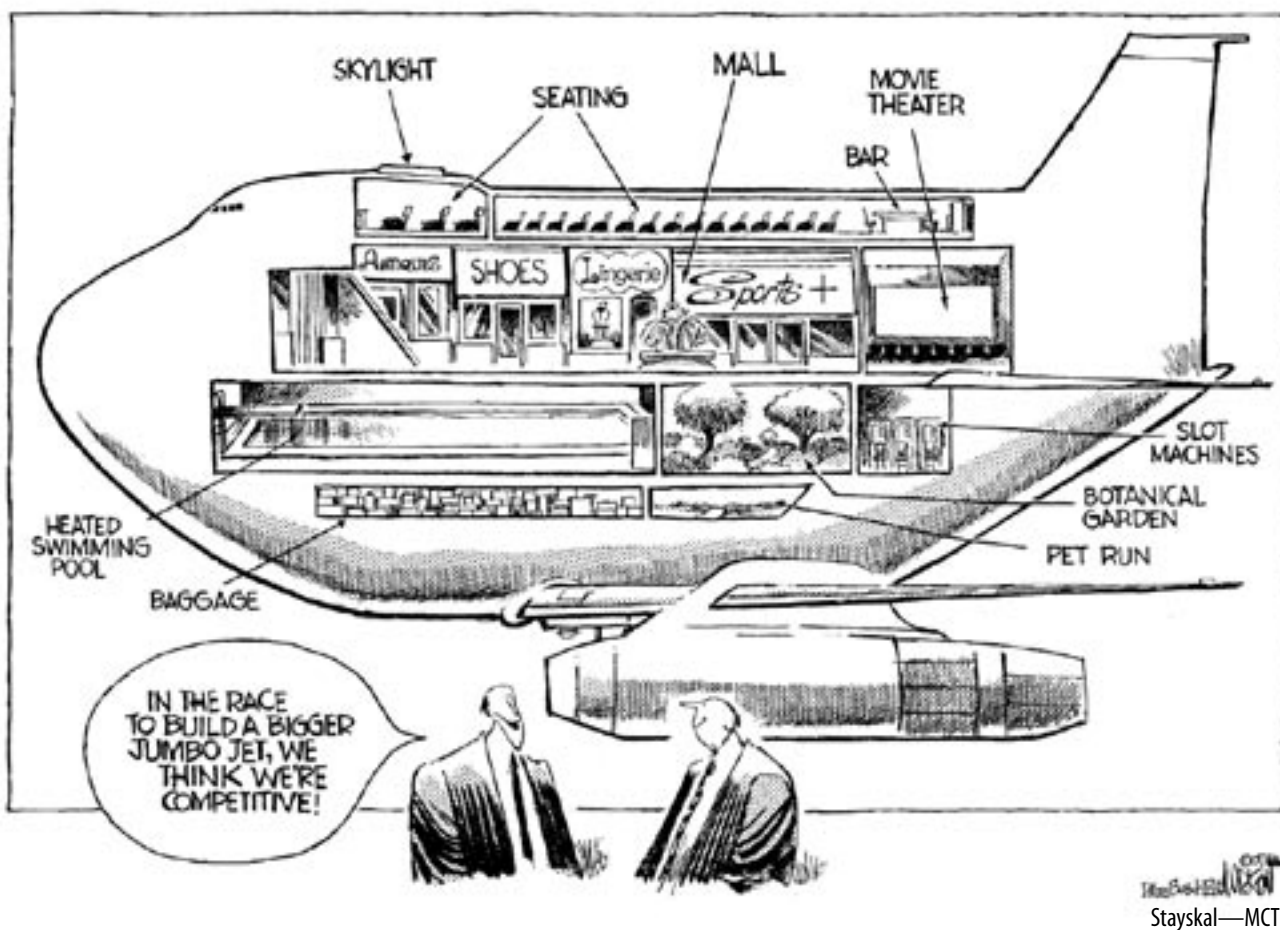
5) Party themes: Perennial fraternity favorites such as "CEOs and Business Hos" have become less common. Sorority women continue to wear very little.

4) Transportation: Students on bicycles continue to run down students on foot without warning on the way to class. What happened to Commodore community?

3) School spirit: No one supports the baseball team. For shame. Or something like that.

2) Grade deflation: Our grades are lower than grades in the Ivy League. Are our grades deflating, or simply not inflating as quickly? We demand inflation and plenty of it!

1) Haberdashery: Sorority women will fight tooth-and-nail, literally, for a silly hat in exchange for nearly meaningless points in a fraternity's contest. It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye. Then it's hilarious.



LETTER

Vanderbilt housing standards pose grave insult to student population

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Justin Poythress' March 28 article regarding on-campus housing, and I stand in total agreement. As a senior living off-campus, I feel that I have some insight to offer. I do not believe Poythress or other underclassmen realize how drastic the difference between on- and off-campus housing is. I pay \$450 to \$500 a month to live a block from campus with two roommates, a queen-size bed in my own room, a huge common area with hardwood floors, our own washer and dryer (no quarters needed) and our own kitchen complete with dishwasher. My bedroom alone is larger than most Vanderbilt accommodations.

When I lived in Gillette Hall during my sophomore year, perhaps the worst place I have ever had the indignity to reside, I paid the Vanderbilt rate of approximately \$900 per month. I lived in a basement room with a small window looking out onto a concrete wall, and my room also had a roach problem. I sincerely believe the lack of direct natural light and cramped quarters caused me to go into a mild temporary depression. On top of that, I had to deal constantly with alarms going off in the middle of the night, an overbearing and creepy RA and a bad-smelling hallway carpet. My freshman room in Vanderbilt Hall was marginally better, but I still had to suffer the indignity of sleeping in a bunk bed, among other problems.

I am currently enrolled in a class that visits

prisons periodically, and I have discovered a Towers single is about the same size as a death row inmate's prison cell (and they even have their own toilets). Of all the colleges I have visited, Vanderbilt housing is by far the most cramped. This includes housing at metropolitan schools with a tenth of the budget Vanderbilt enjoys. I do not understand why Vanderbilt has such substandard housing and why the administration thinks everyone will be happier if they force everyone to live in it.

Unless Vanderbilt plans to drastically improve on-campus housing, it is terribly unfair to force everyone to live on campus. Living off-campus is much cheaper and more comfortable, and I believe it is a valuable experience in managing one's own bills and living space. Forcing all students to live on campus is part of Vanderbilt's master plan to "improve" campus life through the residential college system. The entire idea is an affront to student rights, and I have been against it from the start. Mandatory and unreasonable involvement in campus programs will only create resentment among the student body and will do nothing to foster independence. I am graduating having escaped the incoming Vanderbilt prison system, but I urge all underclassmen to let the administration hear your complaints loud and clear.

Grainger Greene
Senior, Engineering

LETTER

RIAA possesses right and means to protect copyrights

To the Editor:

As music librarians at Vanderbilt University, we feel compelled to respond to the March 26 "Our View," "Students Must Be More Wary of Technology." Rather than reminding fellow students of the ample legal resources for downloading music and video, the Hustler staff instead chided the student body for failing to learn how to "circumvent the RIAA's measures." Although The Hustler claims it does not condone copyright infringement, suggesting students should find ways to download illegally without getting caught really does promote such infringement and is a stance not likely to be supported by the university's legal counsel.

Whether you agree or disagree with the RIAA's practices is moot. When you download a commercial audio or video file you have not paid for, you are stealing. We doubt that any Vanderbilt student would walk into a record store and steal a CD or DVD, yet there seems to be little acknowledgement that the theft of a physical object carrying digital content and the downloading of that digital content over the Internet are one and the same. Just because it is easier to do doesn't make it less of a crime.

The penalties for copyright infringement can be serious indeed. According to the RIAA, "The online infringement of copyrighted music can be punished by up to 3 years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. Repeat offenders can be imprisoned up to 6 years. Individuals also may be held civilly liable, regardless of whether the activity is for profit, for actual damages or lost profits, or for statutory damages up to \$150,000 per infringed copyright." The RIAA has the legal right to protect content from copyright infringers, and it does so aggressively. You should also be aware the RIAA is continually developing new technologies for detecting illegal downloads and file sharing. The RIAA is not nearly as far behind the curve as your editorial suggests.

An important aspect that is often lost in the debate about file sharing is the rights of the creator of the content. The RIAA is not just protecting its profits, but the rights of its artists as well. Copyright legislation was enacted to give authors and artists the right to control how their works are used. When you acquire this content illegally, you deny the artist his or her legal right to designate how his or her work will be distributed. As students, you are taught by your professors the importance of respecting intellectual property rights by using written information legally and ethically. Audio and video are also intellectual property, and you have the same responsibility to use it appropriately.

If you disagree with the RIAA's activities, further illegal downloading is certainly not a logical choice for promoting change. As we have seen with the recent issue of pre-litigation letters to 20 Vanderbilt students, if you participate in this illegal activity, you run the risk of being prosecuted no matter how carefully you think you have covered your tracks. If you believe the RIAA is too restrictive over the intellectual content of the artists that they represent, you should get involved and advocate for changes to existing copyright law.

Sara J. Beutter, Music Librarian for Public Services
Steven Nordstrom, Music Librarian/Cataloger
Holling Smith-Borne, Director of the Music Library

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.

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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.

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COLUMN

Important issues thrive on Vanderbilt's campus

ANDREW SOLOMON

Columnist

I've been getting quite a large number of complaints recently relating to the subject matter of my articles. Apparently there are bigger, more important things happening on this campus than me blacking out and waking up on a bed of tulips (RIDICULOUS).

So in an effort to peer through the tequila and write about some hard-hitting issues for one, I give you the Top Ten Most Important Issues at Vanderbilt.

At first I tried asking people here on campus what they feel are the relevant issues. But after about 10 minutes of that, I realized I didn't care and made up my own anyway. So without further ado, the list:

10. (The Ex-) Constance Gee's Phone Number: Everyone is so up in arms about her use of illicit drugs within the sacred confines of the Gee mansion. But all I really want is the hook up. Plus, she's back on the market.

9. Rain Boots: The last time someone wore a knee-high pair of boots with ribbons on them, I didn't get slapped when I asked for a lap dance.

8. UGG Boots: The last time someone wore a pair of knee-high UGG boots in 70-degree weather, I didn't get slapped when I asked for an autographed copy of "Backdoor Whores 7."

7. Drugs: This campus blows through more coke than a heroin-chic D&G model. The only thing preventing it from becoming a full-blown epidemic is that it apparently can mess up nose jobs.

6. The Housing Situation: You can tell this is important because there have

been roughly 30 articles on the topic so far this year. And none of them have made a difference. But I sympathize with the university: It's tough to design dorms with enough room to hold all those 42-inch plasmas.

5. Rites of Spring: No O.A.R?! No DMB?! No Hootie?! Now what excuse am I going to use to play Crash for every girl that walks by my dorm room? It's the only song I know!

4. The Topsider-Croakie Combo: Let's try a little experiment. Stand up if you are currently wearing Sperrys and Croakies. Remain standing if you own a boat. Remain standing if you are currently on that boat. That's what I thought.

3. Who Are You Going to Take to Formal?: It's that magical time of year again. Spring is in the air, flowers are in bloom, and fraternity guys get romantic and ask themselves, "Who is most likely to sleep with me in a motel room?" Don't worry; judging by the Playboy turnout you should have lots of options.

2. My Personal Struggle with Binge Drinking: I think I'm going to go make myself a gin and tonic.

1. Your Personal Struggle with Binge Drinking: Should I make it two?

There you have it. I can't wait for the next time someone complains about my subject matter.

Hater: "You never write about anything important."

Me (pointing to article): "Wow! You're dumber than the cast of Laguna Beach!"

I can't wait for these e-mails.

—Andrew Solomon is a senior in the School of Engineering.

THE RANT



What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. Send in your rants with the subject "Rant" to: opinion@vanderbilthustler.com

Compiled by Ceaf Lewis

"This may be rude, but why are all charities going to Africa? Please, pick somewhere else; the world is a needy place."

"Will someone please mop up the puddle in the laundry room in Vandy-Barnard? It has been there all year, and I have dropped countless numbers of freshly dried socks into it."

"Has anyone else noticed since Anna Nicole died, suddenly she's the only thing on the news? I mean, come on, the woman died of a butt problem. Let it go."

"Housing blows."

"I hate bugs and bug bites and itchiness."

"Why is it that since Bilotta and Gragg took office they have failed to extend winter break and disbanded VSG's only security program, DoreWalks, when these were two of the biggest issues of their campaign? On that note, what has VSG done since the election?"

"Why is Michael Wilt still here? Shouldn't he have graduated by now? I was looking forward to a year of The Hustler with no ridiculous, stupid and intellectually uninspiring articles by Wilt tainting the opinion section, but I guess that dream will never be realized. Go away, Wilt!"

"It's just a hat, people."

"I'm sick of hearing about Derby Days. I hate Greek organizations."

"Housing sucks."

"Nothing bothers me anymore."

"My friend burped the other day and after that you could smell noodles in the air. It was disgusting."

"I'm tired of writing papers."

"I would like to fight a member of the Hustler staff."

"Death to formals."

"I wish my chapter had found the derby."

"I don't have time to drink these days and I think I may be going insane."

"I think my adviser secretly hates me."

SEEKING STUDENT MEDIA LEADERS



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

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ORBIS

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

THE SLANT

Division Head (2007-08 Academic Year)

TALENTED TENTH

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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

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Applications available at 2 p.m., Monday, April 2 on

www.vscmedia.org

APPLICATIONS DUE: Friday, April 6 at Noon

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

SPORTS

WHAT 2
WATCH 4

Upcoming Events

Baseball
No. 3 Vanderbilt at
No. 1 South Carolina
Friday-Sunday
Columbia, S.C.

The Commodores' schedule gets even more brutal this weekend as they head to Columbia for a three-game series with the Gamecocks. David Price throws in the opener tonight at 6 p.m. CDT, freshman Mike Minor will start his first conference game tomorrow at 3 p.m. CDT and sophomore Nick Christiani will get the nod in the finale at 12:30 p.m. CDT. Offensively, Pedro Alvarez leads the league with 10 homers, while South Carolina's Justin Smoak is one behind. *Prediction: Vandy wins two of three*

Women's tennis
No. 21 Vanderbilt at
No. 26 Tennessee/
No. 5 Georgia
Friday, Sunday

The Commodores (13-5, 6-0 SEC) look to extend their 11-match win streak this weekend, but it won't be easy. *Prediction: Vandy wins both*

Men's Tennis
Vanderbilt vs. No.
22 Tennessee / No. 1
Georgia
Friday, Sunday
Currey Tennis Center

The Commodores (8-8, 2-4 SEC) face a tall task this weekend as they host the Vols today at 2 p.m. CDT and the Bulldogs Sunday at 1 p.m. CDT. *Prediction: Vandy splits*

Women's Lacrosse
Vanderbilt vs.
Stanford
Saturday
Noon
VU Lacrosse Complex

Leading scorer Margie Curran and the rest of the Commodores look to extend its two-game winning streak Saturday against the Cardinal. *Prediction: Vandy 10, Stanford 6*

Men's Basketball
No. 2 Georgetown
vs. No. 1 Ohio State
Saturday
5:07 p.m. CDT
CBS

Jeff Green and the Hoyas' lucky run will end as they square off against Greg Oden's Buckeyes in the first Final Four contest Saturday night. *Prediction: Ohio State 72, Georgetown 66*

Men's Basketball
No. 1 Florida vs. No.
2 UCLA
Saturday
7:47 p.m. CDT
CBS

The Gators face the Bruins in a rematch of last season's national championship game. UCLA is better than it was a year ago, but so is Florida. *Prediction: Florida 80, UCLA 70*

Commodores smash Blue Raiders

by ROBERT WYNKOOP
Sports Reporter

The No. 3 baseball team didn't let its two weekend losses to Arkansas affect its return to Hawkins Field on Wednesday. Led by third baseman Pedro Alvarez's three hits and five RBIs, the Commodores (24-3, 3-3 Southeastern Conference) blasted nearby Middle Tennessee State 14-2.

After the Blue Raiders scored two runs in the top of the first, the game was decisively all Commodores as the hosts scored early and often, starting with a Dominic de la Osa double and an opposite field, two-run homer to left center by Alvarez. The blast was the sophomore's 10th round-tripper of the season.

"I thought I saw the ball pretty well today," Alvarez said. "In terms of power the other way ... I'm not trying to put more power on it, I'm just trying to lay back on it as much as I can."

Coach Tim Corbin's squad also proved it could play "small ball," as the home run was followed by a successful bunt single to third by shortstop Ryan Flaherty, who then stole two bases and scored on a sacrifice fly from Andrew Giobbi.

From the second inning on, sophomore Brett Jacobson looked sharp as he struck out five while walking one in five innings before giving way to Stephen Shao. Corbin said he



Vanderbilt catcher Andrew Giobbi looks to apply a tag in the Commodores' 14-2 victory over Middle Tennessee State Wednesday at Hawkins Field.

will look for Jacobson, who was moved from the weekend rotation after struggling last weekend against the Razorbacks, to provide depth in the bullpen.

"He threw 29 pitches on Sunday, so we didn't want to go really, really deep with him. We've got limitations with right-handed pitchers in the bullpen, and I think he gives us another option," Corbin said. "I know he was stung a little bit (against Arkansas), and all I really did was want him to overcome that, and I think he did in innings two, three and four."

The Commodores fired on all cylinders in the bottom of

the fifth as they lit up three different Blue Raider pitchers to the tune of six runs on seven hits, including an Alvarez double that scored de la Osa.

"They know (Alvarez) is strong," Corbin said. "And they know if they make a mistake he's going to punish it ... I think the home run and the double the other way were good at bats for him."

Alvarez was not the only player making contact, however, as the Commodores collected a season-high 22 hits. Additionally, every starter recorded at least one hit. Second baseman Brian Harris, who went two for four to go along with a RBI and two

runs scored, is now batting over .400 on the season in limited action. Backup catcher Carter Hawkins also got his first RBI of the season.

Relief pitcher Josh Zeid pitched a scoreless seventh with one strikeout, Cameron Betourne held the Blue Raiders at bay in the eighth and Casey Weathers fanned two to seal the victory.

According to Corbin, non-conference games like Wednesday's are important when it comes to RPI rankings.

"To get up and play well in the mid-week is very tough to do, but you don't want to lose (these) games," he said. ■

Gamecocks
up next for
Commodores

by JARRED AMATO
Sports Editor

No. 3 Vanderbilt (24-3, 3-3 Southeastern Conference) travels to Columbia, S.C., to face the No. 1 Gamecocks (22-4, 4-2 SEC) in one of college baseball's best series of the season.

Commodore ace David Price (5-0, 2.79 ERA) squares off against right-hander Harris Honeycutt (6-0, 1.42 ERA) tonight at 6 p.m. CDT. Freshman southpaw Mike Minor (3-0, 2.35 ERA) will make his first career SEC start Saturday against South Carolina's Mike Cisco at 3 p.m. CDT, and sophomore Nick Christiani (4-1, 3.18 ERA) will take the hill in Sunday's finale at 12:30 p.m. CDT.

This weekend's matchup also features two of the nation's best sophomores in third baseman Pedro Alvarez and first baseman Justin Smoak.

"They're two accomplished hitters that stepped right into their ball clubs in year one and just hit," said Vanderbilt coach Tim Corbin. "Even though there were scouting reports that were displaying ways to pitch to them, they never faltered. I just think they're very strong. If you make mistakes, they're going to really, really hurt you — not just doubles, but home runs."

friday
conversation
MARCUS
BUGGS

With spring practice underway, Commodore linebacker Marcus Buggs took some time to talk to The Vanderbilt Hustler about topics ranging from the return of Jonathan Goff to his favorite movie, "300." Buggs recorded a team-high 10.5 tackles for loss in 2006. He and the rest of the Commodores will be in action Saturday in the Black & Gold scrimmage at 10 a.m. CDT.

VANDERBILT HUSTLER: How excited are you to be out on the field again this spring?

MARCUS BUGGS: It's always good to get back out here and get a little contact going.

VH: What areas of your game did you work on during the off-season?

MB: Just improving on the little things, like my technique, my speed and overall knowledge of the defense.

VH: How does having a year under your belt in the SEC prepare you for this year?

MB: I think it's all going to be a great help to me. I've got playing experience now, and I think all the guys are ready to play and ready to come out and win games next year.

VH: How excited were you when you found out fellow linebacker Jonathan Goff was coming back for his final season?

MB: It was cool. I was happy that he came back. I know he had a chance to leave and do some things on the next level, but he cares about us. We're like a family.

VH: While his talent is obvious, what are the things that Goff does for the defense that people might not necessarily see?

MB: Countless things. His overall knowledge of the defense, lining people, telling people what to do at all positions, not just his own; all the way from the secondary to the d-line, he knows it all.

VH: How will you guys replace weakside linebacker Kevin Joyce?

MB: KJ brought a lot of intensity to the game. He helped make it fun out there for everybody, but I think the two young guys that we've got coming up behind him can help bring the same things.

VH: You think Brandon Bryant is ready to step into that role?

MB: I definitely think he's ready for it. He's been showing a lot of good things out here this spring.

VH: With nine starters returning, how good does this defense have the potential to be?

MB: Potential is limitless. If we go out and do what we know we can do, we can take it all.

VH: What kind of music are you listening to right now?

MB: A lot of rap, a lot of Lil Wayne, Jay-Z, Jeezy and The Game — the usual.

VH: Favorite movie?

MB: "300."

VH: Player you model your game after?

MB: I don't really model myself after nobody. I just go out there and try to do me.

VH: Favorite player?

MB: I'm a big fan of Shawn Merriman, Ray Lewis, high-intensity guys.

VH: Funniest player on the team?

MB: Kikko Logan.

VH: Best player on the team nobody knows about?

MB: We got a lot of good guys that people really don't know too much about, so I'm just gonna leave it at that.

VH: Hardest hitter?

MB: Brandon Bryant.

VH: Faster player?

MB: Sean Walker.

VH: One word to describe coach Johnson?

MB: He cool.

—Listen to Buggs' interview
with sports editor Jarred Amato
on:

InsideVandy.com

SEC NOTEBOOK
News and notes from the SEC and Vanderbilt sports

by JARRED AMATO
Sports Editor

• FOOTBALL RETURNS:

Get an early look at the 2007 football team as it holds its annual Black & Gold scrimmage Saturday at Vanderbilt Stadium at 10 a.m.

• TO THE LEAGUE:

With their Vanderbilt careers over, seniors Dee Davis and Carla Thomas have shifted their thoughts to the next level. The two have been invited to participate in the 2007 WNBA Pre-Draft Camp this week at Cleveland State University. The camp offers coaches and general managers from all 13 WNBA teams an opportunity to evaluate the top young players in advance of the 2007 WNBA Draft on April 4. The prospects will showcase their skills and compete against one another in drills, half-court scenarios and full-court scrimmages during three on-court sessions.

The first round of the 2007 WNBA Draft will air at noon CT on ESPN2. Rounds two and three will be shown on ESPNU and NBA TV. In addition, WNBA.com will cover all three rounds, providing complete analysis and comprehensive information on all 13 teams' selections.

• BOWLIN':

The Commodores have been invited to compete in an eight-team field for the 2007 NCAA Bowling Championship in Orlando next month.

The Commodores were 70-14 and rated among the top three teams in the nation for a large portion of the season. As a result, earning a trip to the Big Dance did not come as a surprise.

"One of our goals at the beginning of the season was to get back to the NCAA Championship," said coach John Williamson.

The other seven teams include defending champion Fairleigh Dickinson, New Jersey City University, Nebraska, Sacred Heart, Maryland-Eastern Shore, Central Missouri State and Minnesota State-Mankato. Freshman Josie Earnest leads the team with a 197 average over 66 games while All-American Michelle Peloquin is right behind at 193 and Tara Kane checks in at 192.

"Over the course of this year, everyone on our tournament roster has made a significant contribution," Williamson said.

The tournament will be played at the Brunswick Wekiva Lanes in the Orlando suburb of Apopka over several days beginning April 12.

• CUSTOM MAGAZINE COVER:

Vanderbilt football fans have stared at SEC preseason college football magazines that feature covers with too much orange. Athlon Sports is looking to change that. For the first time in the magazine's 39-year history, Athlon is offering a limited edition Vanderbilt custom cover on its 2007 Preseason College Football Magazine.

Athlon's plan to print the Commodore custom covers requires that at least 1,000 magazines are purchased prior to the April 5 deadline, so order yours today.

Vandy conquers Cal



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Vanderbilt senior Kendall Thrift scored two key goals in the second half in the Commodores' 9-6 victory over California on Wednesday.

by JARRED AMATO
Sports Editor

There was no letdown for the Vanderbilt women's lacrosse team Wednesday.

After upsetting No. 6 Penn State over the weekend, junior Margie Curran scored three goals to lead the No. 15 Commodores (6-3) past California (5-2) 9-6 at the VU Lacrosse Complex. It was Curran's fifth hat trick of the season.

"I think that we maybe came down a little bit coming off such a big win on Sunday, but the key is that we did come up with the win," said Vanderbilt coach Cathy Swezey.

Although the Bears scored two goals late in the first half to even the score at four, the Commodores were not fazed a bit.

"One of the things we learned on Sunday is that

we can maintain a certain calmness about us and not get rattled when things aren't going our way," Swezey said.

Vanderbilt started the second half strong as senior Jennifer Tapscott gave Vanderbilt a 5-4 lead. Classmate Kendall Thrift, who finished with four points, followed with two quick goals of her own to put the home team up by three.

California managed to cut the deficit to one with 9:40 remaining, but Curran spun away from a defender and found the back of the net minutes later to secure the victory.

"We knew we had to make things happen out there," Curran said. "We remained positive and said, 'We've got this, we've got this.'"

Sophomore Cara Giordano capped the scoring with a goal in the closing seconds.

Leading the Commodores on the defensive end was junior Sasha Cielak, who forced four Cal turnovers and scooped a game-high six ground balls. "Sasha Cielak just played a heck of a game," Swezey said.

Goalkeeper Brooke Shinaberry continued her solid play, stopping seven shots, while California's Hilary Lynch had 13 saves in the losing effort.

With Stanford coming to Nashville on Saturday, Swezey said it was critical for Vanderbilt to build off the momentum from its victory over the Nittany Lions.

"It's not going to let up either," she said. "We really have a tight schedule, and we've got to be able to turn around and play every day."

On Wednesday, that's exactly what the Commodores did. ■

friday conversation

AMANDA TAYLOR



Entering the season with high expectations, it would have been easy for the Vanderbilt women's tennis team to panic after losing five of its first seven matches. However, the Commodores chose to persevere and now find themselves in the middle of an 11-match winning streak.

Before playing Southeastern Conference Eastern Division foes Tennessee and Georgia this weekend, junior Amanda Taylor sat down with The Vanderbilt Hustler.

VANDERBILT HUSTLER: Returning the top five starters from last year's squad and adding two quality freshmen, the team justifiably had high expectations. What went wrong early on?

AMANDA TAYLOR: I think in some ways although we were a year older, and have two outstanding freshmen that have been nothing short of amazing so far, we were still a little inexperienced; I think we had the talent but needed to learn how to utilize it a little better.

VH: Much like the men's basketball team, you had a disappointing start and then made a complete turnaround. Coach Kevin Stallings classified their early problems as a lack of identity. Is there any truth to that in your opinion?

AT: Coach Stallings is an incredible coach, and the basketball team served, I think, as an inspiration to every sport on campus this year. I agree that a team needs to know who they are, what they stand for and how they are going to achieve the goals they've set for themselves, and perhaps we hadn't truly answered these questions in the early part of this season.

VH: How did Amanda Fish's injury affect the team?

AT: I truly believe that the ankle sprain, along with the abundance of injuries and illness we experienced so early on, was a real blessing. It forced others to step up and lead.

VH: Were you guys expecting her to return as soon as she did?

AT: Amanda Fish worked harder than I've ever seen anyone work to get back on the court, spending countless hours in the training room to rehab her ankle and stay fit and prepared to get back. She recovered much quicker than anyone expected, and her work ethic, drive and amazing example served as a reminder of what it means to care about the team more than yourself.

VH: During the five-match losing streak early on, was there ever a sense of desperation that maybe this wasn't going to end, that you were never going to get back on track?

AT: I think we look back at those matches, particularly indoors, and chuckle a little bit at how exasperating those situations seemed at the time. There was never a sense, however, of desperation so crushing that we felt we couldn't crawl out of it — we just knew it was time to go back to the drawing board and work harder while we waited for what our coach called "the perfect storm" of hardships to subside. And they did.

VH: You're now on an 11-match winning streak and just finished a complete sweep of the SEC West. How does the team feel now heading into the final five matches?

AT: I think excitement is brewing stronger than anything else. ... I feel really lucky to be on a team with this kind of chemistry.

VH: What is the biggest thing this season has taught you personally and as a team?

AT: As a team, I think we've learned how to work together and feed off one another for support, enthusiasm and determination. For me, I came into this season determined to have fun and to not allow the pressure of competing in the hardest conference to take away from enjoying the process of getting better, learning and just playing.

What I can accomplish personally means nothing when I compare it to what we hope to do as a unit, together. Focusing on this helps in every way to win on an individual level, and the support from everyone, and the support I try to reciprocate, is what I'll remember most about this season, more than any wins, losses or sprained ankles.

—Read Taylor's conversation with sports reporter Franklin Petr in its entirety on:

InsideVandy.com

great PERFORMANCES AT VANDERBILT

JOE GOODE PERFORMANCE GROUP

Stay Together
Wednesday, April 4
7:30 p.m. • Ingram Hall

Joe Goode presents an intriguing marriage of text, song, multimedia, and high-velocity movement in a collaborative new piece with Director of the San Francisco Symphony, Michael Tilson Thomas.

MASTER CLASS
Tuesday, April 3
Memorial Gymnasium

For information, call 615.322.2471
Tickets are available at Sarratt Box Office.

ADULT CONTENT

"wickedly funny"
New York Times

www.vanderbilt.edu/greatperformances

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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where form meets expression

DANCE VIBE

MOMENTUM DANCE GROUP

SPRING Concert

Saturday, April 7
7:30 p.m.
Ingram Center

Tickets:
\$5 students;
\$8 general public

Tickets available at the Sarratt Box Office; all Ticketmaster outlets—www.ticketmaster.com or call 255-9600, or you can purchase tickets at the door.

Call 615.6400 for more information
www.vanderbilt.edu/dance

LIFE

INDEX

The Week Ahead

If last week was about Nashville's musical diversity, this week is about getting back to the city's roots — with some cartoons and indie rock thrown in.

FRIDAY 3/30



WILLIAMS

Louisiana blues crooner Lucinda Williams plays songs from her new disc "West" tonight at the Ryman. The show starts at 8 p.m. with tickets ranging from \$27.50 to \$37.50 at ticketmaster.com.

SATURDAY 3/31

Go see "The Animation Show," an annual feature-length compilation of the best animated short films from around the world, exclusively curated by Mike Judge ("Office Space," "King of the Hill") and Academy Award-nominated animator Don Hertzfeldt ("Rejected," "The Meaning of Life") at the Belcourt. Shows are at 12:20, 2:20, 4:10, 8:20 and 10:10 p.m.

SUNDAY 4/1

Be altruistic and entertained at the same time! Check out Momentum Dance Group's spring performance at 3 p.m. in the Student Life Center Ballroom. Proceeds go to the Marian Chace Foundation of the American Dance Therapy Association. Tickets are \$5.

MONDAY 4/2

Darla Farmer is a seven-piece local act who features guitar, bass, drums, piano, violin, trumpet and trombone — whew. See this feat of instrumentation at Exit/In tonight at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY 4/3

Singer-songwriter Eric Church plays at the Grand Ole Opry tonight. With soulful, straightforward lyrics and titles like Terri Clark's "The World Needs A Drink" and his own "Two Pink Lines," Church is not one to miss. Call 889-3060 for details.

WEDNESDAY 4/4



GILL

Head back to the Ryman tonight for a two-night show with country music legend Vince Gill. Vince Gill — 'nough said. Call 889-3060 for more info.

THURSDAY 4/5

Hit up City Hall tonight for a performance by up-and-coming indie band The Decemberists. A group that embraces klezmer, Irish jig, sea chantey and prog rock (not to mention Japanese folk tales), The Decemberists are bound to have something for everyone. The doors open at 7 p.m. for this 18+ show. Tickets are \$20 from ticketmaster.com.

Q & A WITH HILLARY SWANK



Last week, resident movie aficionado Alex Chrisope participated in a conference call with Academy Award-winner Hilary Swank to talk about her latest film "The Reaping." In the film, Swank plays a former Christian missionary investigating a small Louisiana town that suffers from what appears to be Biblical plagues. In the interview, Swank answers questions about her decision to do this project, her take on the film, and how it was to shoot in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.



Vanderbilt Hustler: As a two-time **OSCAR WINNER**, I'm guessing that you're now afforded a greater opportunity to choose your own roles. I was wondering how your decision-making process works.

Hilary Swank: I simply go by the script. If I loved the script — just my reaction to the script. It doesn't matter what genre it is, it's just what's on the page. I just try and find something when I'm reading it that moves me or scares me some way but ultimately challenges me.

VH: When you were filming, did you know which parts would be scary or were you surprised when you saw the final product?

HS: Even though I read the script and obviously acted in the movie, when I watched the movie I got scared at certain points and all my friends looked at me like, "You know what happens," and yet I forgot that some of those things happened.

VH: What did you do to prepare for your role? Did you have to go back and read parts of the Bible or anything along those lines?

HS: Because I played a person who was a missionary and had faith in the beginning and then loses her faith and becomes a professor of debunking miracles and myths, there's a lot of books out there; there's this thing called the Skeptic (sic) Enquirer, which is this magazine our director Stephen Hopkins had me read, and the **PARTS OF THE BIBLE** I read were just about the plagues. But I actually did a lot of reading just because I had never really heard of anything like these skeptic enquirers, and it was really interesting that these people believe that there's a scientific answer for everything, so it's great to see all your different outlooks.



VH: The shooting around **BATON ROUGE** got delayed because of Katrina, and I was wondering what that experience was like, if you saw any of the aftermath firsthand.

HS: Yeah, being down there we did. I was really grateful to Joel Silver and the studio because we easily could have finished shooting somewhere else. But they really wanted to stay there and make sure the people who lost their homes didn't also lose their jobs, and it's a big-budget movie, so hopefully a lot of the money went into rebuilding their state. We were just glad to be able to go back down; it's a wonderful state, and I met a lot of great people down there.



VH: The press release sort of talks about faith and science wholly in opposition. Does the movie present them in the same way, or does it suggest that there can be reconciliation of the two ideas?

HS: It's a place for both to be seen: there's room for both of them, and one person isn't going to think, "It's more one way than the other." It definitely makes you think about it, but I think more than anything it's an entertaining movie.

VH: Of all the plagues you saw come to life in the film, which was your favorite?

HS: I think the locusts, just because it was fun to film. When you see the movie **THE LOCUST SCENE** is really — it's just interesting.



VH: Stephen Hopkins has recently done a lot of television work; was the way he worked any different than some of the other directors you've worked with?

HS: No. You know, I've been a fan of Stephen's for a long time, and I became a fan of his after seeing his work on "24," (the pilot and the first few episodes). I just thought he's visually strong, and I felt that this movie really needed that. I really went out and (sought) Stephen out; I think he has a lot of talent, and he did a really good job bringing this movie to life.

EAT
HERE

...IF YOU CRAVE THE BEST THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER

by ELLIE MIX, Life Staff Writer

If this weekend you can't make it to Japan for the ahi tuna, or Australia seems a bit far away for a great steak, then save your frequent flyer miles and stroll down to the corner of 20th and Grand Avenues for tastes of the world from the North, South, East and West in one fabulously eclectic restaurant: Bound'ry.

The restaurant's outward appearance rivals the trendiest of those in Miami Beach — upon entering, one already feels far away amidst the crimson-lit dining area, furnished with exotic murals, sculptures and lighting fixtures. Meanwhile, the chicest of European techno plays in the background.

The international wait staff gives the restaurant an even more unique and cosmopolitan flair. They are particularly helpful in suggesting the most extravagant martinis the world knows, so go ahead and take a dare with the Japanese-inspired Saketini. Where else would you try it?

The recommended appetizers for the night included a cool and refreshing gazpacho soup that was perfectly suited for the recent warm weather, followed by a classic Caesar salad that was anything but standard. Leafy lettuce, evenly tossed dressing and cheese piled high on the plate made the salad ideal; this may be the best Caesar salad I've tasted in Nashville.

One unusual but remarkable aspect of Bound'ry is, despite its elegant and trendy atmosphere, the entree portions are actually large enough to constitute a real meal. You definitely get your money's worth at Bound'ry and will leave contentedly full.

If you want to leave with your palate satisfied and your stomach full, order the grilled swordfish (\$24), the current special. The fish was brilliantly grilled

and savory, making it by far the winner of the evening. Another good choice would be the Australian ostrich (\$24), an exciting and noteworthy dish; however, the meat was slightly undercooked, which did not do justice to its unusual but very tasty flavor. Other favorites recommended by the staff include the double pork chop (\$22) and the vegetarian panella (\$15).

For dessert, I recommend you forego the standard cheesecake and creme brulee and go for the Mexican cherry chimichangas and berries. They were sweet, glazed and crunchy, and complemented with just the right amount of cream. This dish was the perfect way to end a spectacular meal.

All in all, Bound'ry is a great escape from the typical Nashville cuisine. Go there for a special occasion, or simply if you have a bad case of culinary wanderlust. ■

Bound'ry
Address: 911 20th Ave. South
Phone: (615) 321-3043

Dinner hours:
Open at 5 p.m. seven days a week

Late-night menu:
Sunday-Thursday: 11 p.m.-12 a.m.
Friday and Saturday: 11 p.m.-1 a.m.

Mat Kearney's down-to-earth style will send you to musical heaven

Kearney to bring his unique acoustic brand of music to this year's Rites of Spring.

by CHRIS GEARING
Life Staff Writer

Mat Kearney writes extremely personal and intimate lyrics that are rife with multiple layers. Growing up in Oregon, he listened to



KEARNEY

an extremely diverse group of artists, from the folk musings of Bob Dylan to the lyrical intensity of A Tribe Called Quest. He began writing songs with an acoustic guitar while in college majoring in English literature at Chico State University in California. His literary heroes Flannery O'Connor and William Faulkner inspired him to pursue writing lyrics and poetry. When he helped move a friend to Nashville seven years ago, he knew that he wanted to pursue his craft for a living. He called his parents to let them know he would not be coming home.

This singer-songwriter began writing and performing at open-mic nights for established artists like Nickel Creek and Duncan Sheik. Kearney had discovered a "community of writers and singers that was ridiculous" and found the support and direction he needed to develop his songwriting ability. He came to Nashville with only three songs, and he labored to develop his songwriting skills while working odd jobs to pay his rent.

Even when he was offered developmental record deals, he declined in an effort to continue to get the experience and guidance that would take his music to the next level.

After four years in Nashville, Kearney recorded his first album, "Bullet," with his own money, which led him to limited success and sold about 40,000 copies. He was soon signed to Aware/Columbia Records and began work on his latest album, the critically acclaimed "Nothing Left To Lose."

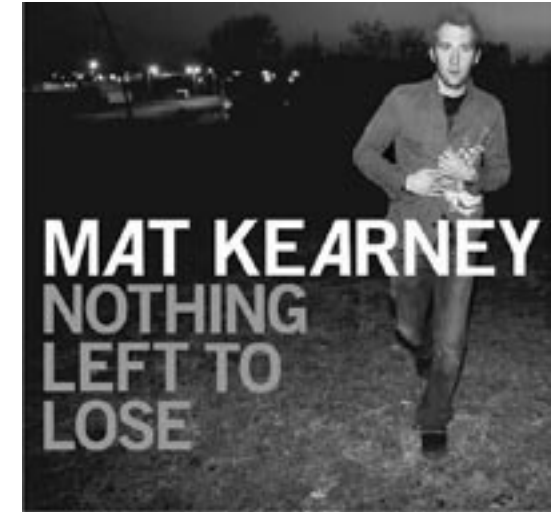
Mat Kearney writes about what he knows, and he knows all about his own journey, both literal and existential. This singer-songwriter's journey is reflected in his lyrics and by a feeling that he describes as "desperation and excitement — it's about looking for something without knowing the ending. They are still literal songs about my move from California, but they also focus on my transition to music and trying to make art for a living."

Kearney plays and records his tunes in an acoustic style because it is not only what he likes and how he started on that porch in California, but also, "some songs need to be stripped down to their core and be raw." This album features emotionally charged work, and his prose speaks with a familiarity and clarity that will take hold of your heartstrings and not let go.

Whatever you may think about the

modern singer-songwriter or even acoustic music in general, Mat Kearney may surprise you at Rites of Spring with music that is not only authentic but also contains that certain something you will not forget anytime soon. ■

Download Mat Kearney:
What You Have: "Nothing Left To Lose," "All I Need" (recently featured on "Grey's Anatomy")
What You Need: "Where We Gonna Go from Here"



'9000°' relaxes listeners with its funk and hip-hop blend

VC Strut Band's album combines soothing funk with spicy rap for fresh tones, attitude.

by MICHAEL YOUNG
Life Staff Writer

"9000°," the first real album from VC Strut Band, feels fresh beyond belief. Part of that freshness comes from the group's unique blend of tone and attitude. On the one hand they've got traditional funk instruments putting out a casual beat, and on the other they have rap vocals that add a touch of urgency to the otherwise easy-going drums and horn-based rhythm.

This diversity of sound may come from their array of instrumentation (including a trombone, sax, trumpet and flute) as well as their own diversity: The band features eight musicians that differ in everything from hometown, background and race.

Yet, if you do not consider yourself to be a true hip-hop fanatic, don't be driven away, because the band provides something for everyone. VCSB is definitely rap, but more along the lines of Black Eyed Peas than 50 Cent. You won't find anything "gangsta" here, and the music is much better because of it. Admittedly, there is not a whole lot of substance in what VCSB does say, but the rap is voiced in such a smooth and laid-back manner that it's tempting to remove the label of "rap" altogether and instead refer to it as "urban poetry."

Honestly though, VCSB would probably not approve of the "poetry" title, as it implies a sense of rigidity or formality which couldn't be farther from the truth. When trying to describe VCSB's songs, the words "kind" and "warm-hearted" come to mind. Listening to their music is like talking to someone you just met but can already tell has really

good people skills; you're in new territory, but instantly at ease, and you want that feeling of relaxation to continue. If you were talking to someone like this, you'd do whatever was necessary to keep up the conversation. With "9000°," you just let the tracks keep playing until the CD stops spinning.

When talking with Kyhil, VCSB's vocalist, he made sure to say their lyrics "just come upon dealing with everyday life and the substance that it is." Finding that substance and communicating it through funk is what "9000°" does best, and Kyhil believes "waking up everybody else around" is what gives VCSB's music the spark so many other bands cannot seem to find.

"Funk is What it is," the first track on the CD, is a perfect example of the group's "substance," and one simple listen should let you know whether or not VCSB is for you. Its combination of funk and randomly enthusiastic vocals typifies the type of music found throughout "9000°." Any band that can find a way to put a line about Nicholas Cage in a song about funk clearly does not take itself too seriously, and what is so great is VCSB uses that attitude to their advantage.

Other standout tracks include "Section Eight" and "American Dream," but it is unfair to try to pick and pry at the album to find the gems. VCSB's smooth-flowing attitude is everywhere on this disc; each track deserves multiple listens, and maybe even a spot or two on your favorite playlists.

The best part about all of this is that VCSB will be performing at The Rutledge on 4th Avenue on April 20th. Tickets are cheap at under \$10, and you will be sorry to miss the opportunity to hear this interesting group live. ■

Vega4 outdoes headlining Augustana at City Hall

Opening act dominates main performance in energy and style.

by DARCY NEWELL
Life Editor

The other day, my friend Brad shared with me his theory about rising musicians and their concerts' atmospheres. He said that when he goes to concerts, he always arrives in time to see the opening act because their performances are often very energetic and memorable, likely because they are struggling to find their big break. I wasn't sure whether or not I agreed — surely I had seen some great opening acts, but is this general rule really true?

However, after Wednesday night's concert at City Hall, in which Vega4 opened for Southern California rockers Augustana, I think I may be a believer.

I arrived at the venue 30 minutes late, worried I had missed Vega4's much-anticipated performance. I had been listening to the band's latest album, "You and Others," for a week now, and I must say I had become a bit obsessed — the entire album was quickly climbing in my iTunes' most-played list.

However, at 8:30 p.m., the band had yet to go on. The crowd was an eclectic mix of Vandy students and alternatively dressed Nashville music aficionados. Surprisingly, there was a sizable number of older fans in the audience, milling around the spacious venue, sitting at the large round tables to the side, and eating the hot dogs from the peculiar stand in the corner.

Finally, Vega4 came on. The four members were all dressed in simple black or white t-shirts and, surprisingly, didn't have that "try to look like a musician" outward appearance. They were friendly and smiling, waving back to energetic girls in the front row. The band was extremely energetic throughout the show, even though at the beginning, the audience seemed reluctant to give them a chance. Very few people knew the lyrics or the songs at all, and though I was chanting the lyrics myself, I was conscious of the rest of the audience's reaction. It seemed that most of the people in the audience were Augustana fans, and were just patiently waiting for their band to come on.

However, no one could keep up the front for long. Vega4 won over the audience with their appealing and interesting songs and the sheer energy of their performance. They introduced themselves, making the audience laugh with their jokes about their hometowns (none of them are from the U.S., but instead come from Ireland, Canada and New Zealand). During the final song, lead singer Johnny McDaid put down his guitar and brought his microphone into crowd, walking around in the front and interacting with the now-fans. Needless to say, the audience went crazy. Not wanting

to neglect the sides of the audience, he jumped on huge amplifiers, clapping over his head and grinning like crazy. When the band's finale finally closed, there were shouts for an encore, and I'm sure hundreds of new fans were born.

About an hour later, Augustana came



VEGA4

onto the stage. If Vega4's appearance was simple and understated, Augustana's was anything but. They all sported Jesse Camp-esque haircuts, with asymmetrical lines and unnatural colors. The bass player wore a t-shirt made to look like a newspaper article reporting the death of Sex Pistol front man Sid Vicious. While this may be how the band truly likes to look, I felt it was a bit forced. Their concert was entertaining, but I got the feeling that if you didn't know the songs beforehand (which I didn't) it wouldn't be nearly as much fun than if you did — which is a standard I hold to all my concerts. Would you like this music if you didn't know the words? In this case, I'm not sure. While the band seemed to enjoy the jam session, they definitely lacked the energy of their predecessors.

Thus, in this case, my friend Brad's theory holds true: the opening act did give more to its performance than the main event. With this in mind, I strongly encourage you to download some of Vega4's tracks, pick up the album or catch them on tour because neither the band nor their latest album "You and Others" is to be missed. ■



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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3/28/07 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Clammy
 - 5 Goons
 - 10 Obi-Wan, for one
 - 14 Object of devotion
 - 15 Ford or Clay
 - 16 WWII losers
 - 17 Writer Ephron
 - 18 Shady bower
 - 19 Pocket-sized
 - 20 Cheesy crust
 - 22 Discomposes
 - 24 Spectator
 - 26 Jackie's second
 - 27 Cameo stone
 - 28 Horse with a horn
 - 32 Denver or Ireland
 - 35 Make the first bid
 - 37 Machine shop machine
 - 38 Raw mineral
 - 39 Spat
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 - 44 Catch dead to rights
 - 45 Gravy holder
 - 46 Put in office
 - 48 Destitute
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 - 51 Has need of
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 - 59 Needing fast attention
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 - 3 Lesson from Aesop
 - 4 Oliver Stone Oscar-winner
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 - 6 Of a female
 - 7 Lift the latch
 - 8 Sailor's rum drink
 - 9 Damascus resident
 - 10 West Indies republic
 - 11 Way out
 - 12 Enjoy a repast
 - 13 Nile goddess
 - 21 Charged atom
 - 23 Vocal quaver
 - 25 Spread out
 - 28 Still green
 - 29 Milanese eight
 - 30 Periman of "Cheers"
 - 31 Audition call
 - 32 Punch line antecedent
 - 33 For the mouth
 - 34 Roll-call call
 - 36 Time period
 - 39 Doha's land
 - 40 Silver-tongued
 - 43 Playwright

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3/30/07

3/28/07 SOLUTIONS

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ALGA	CHINA	PONE										
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YOU IN THE YEARBOOK

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



Submitted by **Rekha Anjali Kumbha**, Anju Mammen, Disha Kumar, Anjali Kumbha, Sonal Patel, Sarah Yusuf and Leah Lewis at Masala SACE, AASA, MSA Multicultural Semiformal at Wolfy's Den in January.

It's easy to submit your favorite photos from this year at Vandy: Just visit 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!



Half Page 11.63" x 10.5" \$850	Full Page 11.63" x 21" \$1600
Quarter Page 5.75" x 10.5" \$475	

Full Back Page, including full color \$2000

COLOR
Spot Color is available for \$100 per color

Full Color is available for \$300 per ad

DEADLINES
Space Reservation and Art Submission Deadline May 25.

Distribution Begins June 1

The Vanderbilt Hustler's "Welcome to Nashville" issue will provide incoming students and parents a comprehensive look at what the Vanderbilt campus and the surrounding community has to offer. In an attempt to expose new students to "life beyond the bubble," the issue will include an overview of attractions, dining and shopping options around the city and other areas of interest. It will also serve as a valuable resource guide, addressing the students' most frequently asked questions.

Many of our new students will be unfamiliar with Nashville. They will need to know where to shop for a variety of goods and services including but not limited to school supplies, furnishings for their rooms, restaurants and clubs, clothing stores, area malls, auto maintenance, banks and much more.

We will print 10,000 copies for our normal campus distribution sites (4000 more than our regular newspaper). "Welcome to Nashville" will be available for the six new student and parent orientation periods during the month of June and again for about a week, beginning with move in day on August 18.

The "Welcome to Nashville" issue will have considerably more readers and a much longer "shelf life" than our normal newspaper publications, adding greatly to the value of your advertisement.

Make a lasting impression on our student body by advertising in our "Welcome to Nashville" issue, and dramatically increase your market share by advertising often in The Vanderbilt Hustler throughout each academic year. Frequency is the key to successful advertising.

Contact George Fischer at 615.322.1884

YEAR IN REVIEW ISSUE



Half Page 11.63" x 10.5" \$850	Full Page 11.63" x 21" \$1600
Quarter Page 5.75" x 10.5" \$475	

Full Back Page, including full color \$2000

COLOR
Spot Color is available for \$100 per color

Full Color is available for \$300 per ad

DEADLINES
Space Reservation and Art Submission Deadline April 18.

Distribution Begins April 23

The Vanderbilt Hustler's "Year in Review" issue will provide a comprehensive look back at the most important stories that shaped the 2006-2007 school year. Vanderbilt is in the midst of change, and the year was filled with triumphs, disappointments and controversies. "The Year in Review" issue will provide all students a nostalgic look back at this monumental year and give parents a glimpse of the events that helped define the future of Vanderbilt.

This special supplement to our final paper of the academic year will be distributed as part of our April 23 Vanderbilt Hustler (6000 issues). The paper will stay on the racks for about a week. We will print an additional 4000 supplements (10,000 total) to be redistributed on our racks as a keepsake for graduating seniors and their parents a few days prior to graduation on May 11. The "Year in Review" offers 66% more readers than our regular paper.

Parents will want to reward their graduates with commemorative gifts (new cars, business wardrobes, jewelry, and other gifts of distinction are popular). Other popular advertising categories for graduates and returning students will be banks and financial institutions, restaurants for celebrating, storage facilities, local wine and spirits stores, and apartment complexes just to name a few. **This keepsake edition will give your advertising message a shelf life that could be measured in years!**

Make a lasting impression on the Vanderbilt students and their parents by advertising in The Vanderbilt Hustler's Year In Review, and dramatically increase your market share by advertising often in The Vanderbilt Hustler throughout each academic year. Frequency is the key to successful advertising.

Contact George Fischer at 615.322.1884