

# The Vanderbilt Hustler

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009 • 121<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, NO. 54 • THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

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# 25%

of respondents consider taking Adderall without a prescription to be cheating.

# 50%

do not consider it to be cheating.

# 18.3%

are unsure and

# 6.7%

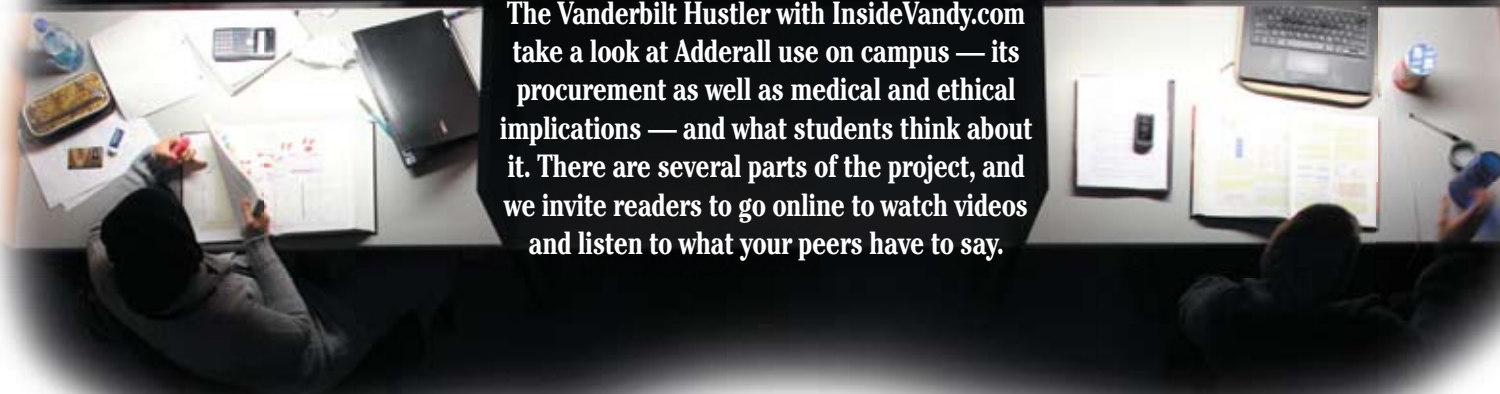
have no opinion



# 79.4%

of all respondents know people who take Adderall without a prescription. 91.7% of Greeks know people who do.

## Adderall



The Vanderbilt Hustler with InsideVandy.com take a look at Adderall use on campus — its procurement as well as medical and ethical implications — and what students think about it. There are several parts of the project, and we invite readers to go online to watch videos and listen to what your peers have to say.

# 20%

of students who have not been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD have taken Adderall to study.

# 49.3%

of respondents would not consider taking Adderall to study.

28.0% of men reported taking Adderall to study.  
5.6% of men have been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD.

42.7% of Greek respondents have taken Adderall to study. 40.6% of Greeks would consider taking it.

# 56.0%

of men don't consider taking Adderall without a prescription to be cheating, compared to

# 44.4%

of women

If **20.0%** of undergraduate students have taken Adderall illegally, then that's **1,359** students. If each one of those students bought one pill for **\$5** this semester, that would be **\$6,795** changing hands.

The data came from a poll conducted by The Vanderbilt Hustler and InsideVandy.com from Nov. 19 through Nov. 25. Of 500 randomly selected students e-mailed the closed online survey, 268 responded.

photo by ZACHARY HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

## Adderall: Buying, selling and using at Vanderbilt

Survey shows drug use is prevalent on campus, reflective of national trends; students detail experiences.

by **JOSLIN WOODS**  
Asst News Editor

Editor's note: Student names have been changed to protect students' identities.

Patrick Griffin is a senior in the School of Engineering and he's Greek. He takes Adderall, legally, for his ADD. He's also sold Adderall to friends.

Griffin estimates 10 percent of the undergraduate population at Vanderbilt take Adderall illegally on a regularly basis — and he may be underestimating. In a survey conducted by The Vanderbilt Hustler and InsideVandy.com, exactly 20.0 percent of 268 randomly selected respondents said they had taken Adderall illegally.

Vanderbilt is not alone. Using data collected from the 2001 Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study, University of Michigan researcher Dr. Sean McCabe estimated 4 percent of college students had used Adderall or Ritalin to study. The rates rose into double digits at competitive schools.

Many college students' familiarity with the drug started years before now, back in middle school when many children are prescribed the medication for ADD and ADHD.

Griffin received his first Adderall prescription in the seventh grade at age 13.

"I went through a bunch of testing, and they said that my IQ was higher than I was performing and that I was ADHD," he said. "The doctors said (Adderall) would help."

Jeff Wherry, a transfer sophomore who, like Griffin, has sold Adderall to friends, received his ADD diagnosis in the first grade.

"I was a typical hyperactive kid who was crawling under desks and talking to other students, and that was weird, apparently, and they weren't tolerant of it," Wherry said. "My parents, being responsible parents, had me tested, and I was put on Ritalin and have since been on a variety of stimulant medications throughout my life."

Although Michael Schaefer has now legally been prescribed Adderall, he first used the drug illegally before he pursued medical testing to obtain a prescription. Schaefer is a junior in the College of Arts and Science and is Greek.

Though they carry the diagnosis for

problems with concentration, Griffin and Schaefer match the larger profile of an Adderall user. In their research, McCabe's team also compiled an average profile of the Adderall user: male, white, Greek and earning a GPA of 3.0 or lower at a competitive college. The Adderall user was much more likely to smoke cigarettes, smoke marijuana and 20 times as likely to report past-year cocaine abuse compared to non-Adderall users.

"I have always thought I had ADD, so I thought I would give it an experimental shot to see if it helped me, and that prompted me to go get testing," Schaefer said. He first tried the drug his freshman year of college during exam time.

Please see **PROCUREMENT**, page 3



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Relations

## The medical facts behind Adderall



**Q&A WITH LOUISE HANSON, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

### What does Adderall do?

There's a class of stimulant drugs, amphetamines mainly, that helps people with ADD or ADHD focus their attention more appropriately. So when you think of amphetamines, you think of drugs that sort of rev people up, but ... for people that have been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD, it tends to help them focus. It's a pretty effective medicine for people that have that diagnosis — and that's the key piece.

The reality is, for any stimulants — caffeine, nicotine, Ritalin, Adderall, anything that's prescription or non-prescription — the reality is, we will all focus better, to some extent, with those medicines. I mean, that's why we use it, right? To help wake us up, to help us focus. So a lot of students will say, "Well, no I was never tested, but when I take it, I seem to perform better and do better." Well, we all would, really, in theory.

### You mentioned the side effects, especially with large doses. What are those exactly?

The main one (would be) insomnia and anxiety. The physical ones associated with those things would be a high heart rate, high blood pressure, palpitations — feeling your heart flutter really fast — really the same thing as if you've ever had too much caffeine, right? Those sorts of (same) things, but in a more intense way.

### Is cardiac safety the long-term safety problem?

Yes. Arrhythmias, heart-valve problems and abnormalities. If we think of heart disease and how we treat adults, we try to slow the heart rates down and lower the blood pressure, all the things you think of that an amphetamine does the opposite of. We want to slow things down.

### Apparently some people are using it to party. What would that do?

That sounds (like an awful idea). I guess it might make you more able to stay awake and stay drunk longer, smoke pot longer. ... That is a very dangerous combination, combining a stimulant — whether it's a medication or something like Red Bull — with a downer like alcohol. The stimulant sort of masks how drunk someone's getting; they can drink and drink and stay kind of awake, because of the stimulant, and then really crash. Their friends won't necessarily see how drunk they are, given the stimulant. There have been a lot of deaths nationwide associated with that combination. I haven't heard it so much with Adderall, though.

insideVANDY

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# Page Two

compiled by LAURA DOLBOW

## WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

### TODAY



**HIGH 44, LOW 28**  
Partly Cloudy

### SATURDAY



**HIGH 41, LOW 24**  
A.M. Clouds/P.M. Sun

### SUNDAY



**HIGH 46, LOW 35**  
A.M. Clouds/P.M. Sun

## SERVICE GUIDE

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

The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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## LOCATION

The Hustler offices are in 130 Sarratt Student Center on the Vanderbilt University Campus. Address postal mail to 2301 Vanderbilt Place, VU Station B 351504, Nashville, Tenn. 37235-1504.

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## CORRECTIONS

The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

## PRINTER

The Hustler is printed at Franklin Web Printing Company in Franklin, Tenn.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Subscriptions are available for \$125 per semester or \$200 per year. Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler. A pdf subscription order form is available at <http://www.vsc-media.org/hustler.html>

## BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

## CRIME LOG

**Monday, Nov. 30, 4:55 p.m.** — A license plate was stolen in Kensington Place, Lot No. 29.

**Sunday, Nov. 29, 1:21 p.m.** — A person broke into the post office at Rand.

**Friday, Nov. 27, 10:30 p.m.** — A bicycle was stolen from McTyeire Hall.

**Wednesday, Nov. 25, 4:30 p.m.** — Shoes, change and a sweatshirt were stolen from Langford Hall.

**Monday, Nov. 23, 1:45 p.m.** — Drinks and candy were stolen from Vanderbilt Law School.

**Friday, Nov. 20, 6:20 p.m.** — A stereo was stolen from Phi Delta Theta house.

## PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT

interview by HELEN LI

### Malcolm Getz Economics Department



STEVE GREEN / VU Media Relations

Professor Malcolm Getz, the director of undergraduate studies in economics, won numerous teaching awards during his 36 years at Vanderbilt, including the Jeffrey Nordhaus Prize for Teaching in the College of Arts and Science in 1998, the Ernest A. Jones Prize for Faculty Advising in 1998 and the Madison Sarratt Prize for Undergraduate Teaching at Vanderbilt in 2000.

#### 1. What classes do you teach?

Urban Economics, which is about why cities grow and the shapes of land use patterns of cities, suburbs and central cities. There are associated policy issues: commuter transportation, housing, local government, property taxes, schools, poverty. And I also teach the basic Economic Statistics course in the spring.

#### 2. Where did you go to undergraduate and graduate school?

I went to Williams College in Massachusetts, majored in economics and went to Yale for graduate school.

#### 3. Why did you decide to become a professor?

Well, I began taking economics my first year in college. I fell in love with it, and I'm still doing it. I like the issues economics deals with. I like the tools that economists use to understand things. I still get a thrill out of it.

#### 4. What is your favorite food?

When I was a kid, we put water on the stove to boil and then picked the sweet corn. It was maybe a minute or two from the time that corn left the stalk until it hit the boiling water. It was quite a wonderful food. It's been a long time since I've had corn that sweet.

#### 5. What was your first job?

I taught economics at Spellman College for two and a half years in the middle of my graduate program. And when I was young, I grew up on a farm, so I had farm chores.

#### 6. If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive, who would it be?

Jim Tobin. He was a Nobel Laureate in economics, (and) my professor at Yale. I enjoyed him very much, and would welcome the opportunity to have dinner with him. He was a wonderful, engaging person. Probably the smartest person I've ever encountered.

#### 7. What do you like to do in your free time?

I do some woodworking and make some furniture. I grew up with tools. On a farm, you develop a lot of skills that are no longer all that valuable. But I enjoy them. Part of it is, I like collecting tools, so woodworking is an excuse to do just that.

#### 8. What advice would you give students to make the most of their four years at Vanderbilt?

Make friends. Developing acquaintances with faculty members is a good idea. I still have contact with one of the faculty members who taught Principles of Economics at Williams more than 40 years ago.

## CALENDAR

### THE WEEKEND

#### FRIDAY, DEC. 4

##### • 19th annual Sarratt Holiday Arts Festival

The annual Holiday Arts Festival, which is held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Sarratt Student Center Gallery, is hosted by Sarratt Art Studios and features the artwork from the faculty, student and invited guest artists from the Nashville area.

##### • Alternative Gift Fair

Students from Vanderbilt's Presbyterian Student Fellowship and Vanderbilt Student Government will host the second annual Alternative Gift Fair from 3-7 p.m. in Saint Augustine's Chapel. This event will offer the opportunity to be a local and global community-change agent with the purchase of an "alternative gift," which allows a gift to be purchased in someone's honor. The money raised will go to charities throughout Nashville and the world.

##### • Mega Stress Fest

This yearly stress-reliever event for the student body offers a study break with games, food, fun and warm beverages in the Student Life Center from 7 p.m. to midnight.

##### • VU women's basketball vs. Bowling Green

Come support the Commodores at 7 p.m. in Memorial Gymnasium.

##### • The Original Cast presents: "Someday Just Began"

Vanderbilt's premier Broadway revenue troupe presents its fall show from 8-10 p.m. in Ingram Hall on Dec. 4 and 5. The shows this year include "Wicked," "Gypsy," "Merrily We Roll Along" and "Pippin."

## SNAPSHOT

### Madness in Memorial



ZACHARY HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students crowded Memorial Gym on Wednesday night for Madness, the celebratory kickoff sponsored by Vanderbilt Student Government and Vandy Fanatics. The event gave away No. 0 jerseys to the first 500 fans.



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PM	12 <sup>W</sup>	12 <sup>W</sup>	12 <sup>W</sup>	12 <sup>W</sup>	12 <sup>W</sup>	12 <sup>W</sup>	
	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>	4:30 <sup>F</sup>
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# A Look at the Ethics of Adderall

## Steroid vs. study aid: Faculty, staff say drug offers unfair advantage

by SYDNEY WILMER  
Multimedia Editor

Is using Adderall illegally cheating? It's not a question Daniel Swinton, director of student conduct, struggles to answer.

"You almost want to equate it to steroid usage," said Swinton, who advises the Honor Council. "Some students say, 'This is coffee.' Well, coffee isn't a prescription drug. In my opinion, it is an improper use of the drug that could constitute cheating."

E. Bronson Ingram Professor of Neuroscience Jeffrey D. Schall, who taught a class on Neuro Ethics two years ago, said the drug is like a steroid, in theory. But he is not convinced.

Schall also said he is not certain the drug helps students in the way they think it does. Students can study longer, but he doesn't believe they necessarily do so more effectively.

"We should not take for granted that it has the effect it is supposed to have. I don't know if there have been enough studies yet to determine if it has," Schall said.

This distinction between steroid or study aid is less clear to students, according to data obtained by InsideVandy.com and The Hustler.

Of the 268 randomly selected respondents, exactly 50.0 percent said they did not think using Adderall without a prescription was cheating, and 18.3 percent of students polled said they were unsure.

"We know we have a problem," Swinton said. Part of the problem, he believes, is that the drug seems harmless and is so readily available. "We don't see it. It is a little, tiny pill that changes hands, and it is fairly quick."

"We see students when they are drunk," he said, but Adderall is different. Use of the drug is discreet and the outward symptoms of Adderall use can be harder to spot than other substances abused on college campuses.

Swinton also said students may perceive the drug to be less dangerous. Dr. Louise Hanson, medical director of student health services, said taking the drug has minor side effects for students who do not have ADHD or ADD. When taken in low doses, the drug can have the same benefits, regardless of a student's medical need.

"You take a person who doesn't have the diagnosis and give them the medicine, and they'd probably focus even a little better than they might normally," Hanson said.

Of students polled by The Hustler, 25.4 percent reported they had taken Adderall to study. Exactly 20.0 percent of students who had never been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD said they had taken the drug for that purpose.

"A lot of students will say, 'Well, no, I was never tested, but when I take it, I seem to perform better and do better,'" Hanson said. "We all would really, in theory, do better with those medicines, and that's not to say we should all take them."

There is no explicit language about the use of drugs like Adderall in the Honor

**Is non-prescription Adderall use ethical or not? Campus experts speak out about the implications.**

**Dr. Louise Hanson**  
Medical Director of Student Health

"The act of sharing it is illegal. ... Selling it would be ... dealing drugs."



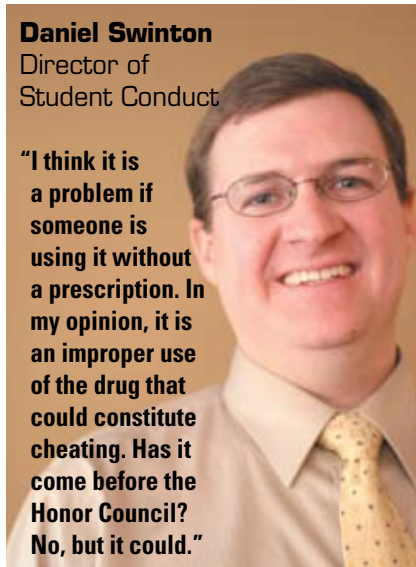
**Jeffrey Schall**  
E. Bronson Ingram Professor of Neuroscience

"I think it says something that there has not been an Honor Council case about Adderall usage (in terms of academic integrity). If a poor student started taking Adderall illegally and suddenly started making A's, it seems other students would turn them in if they knew about it. To me, this says it is not the miracle drug some students think it is."



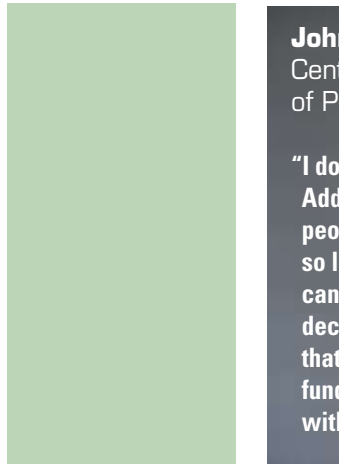
**Dorothy Gager**  
Alcohol and Drug Counselor

"You could only get so much out of Adderall before you'd start looking at other substances. Like cocaine would do the same thing, only better. As people develop a tolerance for Adderall, they move on to a stronger stimulant."



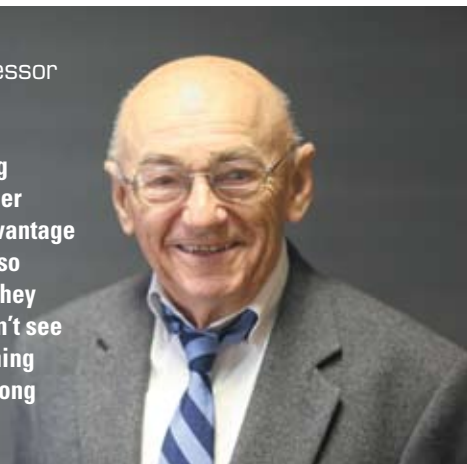
**Daniel Swinton**  
Director of Student Conduct

"I think it is a problem if someone is using it without a prescription. In my opinion, it is an improper use of the drug that could constitute cheating. Has it come before the Honor Council? No, but it could."



**John Lachs**  
Centennial Professor of Philosophy

"I don't think (using Adderall) puts other people at a disadvantage so long as they also can do it, should they decide to. So I don't see that there is anything fundamentally wrong with this."



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Relations

Code, and Swinton said he does not expect the need for a change.

"I don't know if the Honor Code needs to be amended to a trend as much as I think the Honor Code can encompass the issue," he said. "Something like this could fall underneath attempting to get an unfair advantage. You are using means other than what some higher being — nature or some deity — gave you."

Centennial Professor of Philosophy John Lachs said he believes if all students had full access to the drug, the issue of academic integrity would be less controversial.

"I don't find it a problem to use external

means to improve concentration," he said.

"The truth is, we have been using drugs to help us for some time," he said. He doesn't believe what the "purists" have to say, explaining that what he considers to be unfair is that the drug is not accessible to everyone.

But if everyone is able to take the drug, Schall said he does not see any real benefit anymore.

"Assume it could make you and everyone else 10 percent smarter. It remains the case that if everyone takes it and everyone succeeds, you still have some level of competition. What is the point?" Schall said. ■

## Around the Loop

compiled by LAURA DOLBOW, SAMANTHA SMITH AND HANNAH TWILLMAN

**1. Do you consider taking Adderall without a prescription to be cheating?**  
**2. We did a poll and asked students, "Do you consider taking Adderall without a prescription to be cheating?" 50 percent said they didn't and about 20 percent said they weren't sure. Does this surprise you?**

**1.** I find it unhealthy, immoral and unnecessary. I also think it should be controlled more for people who actually have ADD.

**2.** No, because it's done beforehand, and most people consider cheating to be things that are actually done during tests.

— Stefanie Herrmann, 2013

**1.** Yes.

**2.** Yes, I believe students should have integrity and not use academic-performance enhancers.

— Megan Gornet, 2012

**1.** No, because it's not sports performance. There's a chemical difference in your body, but you're not learning anything new.

**2.** No, not at all.

— Kathryn Battle, 2013

**1.** No. It does the same thing like caffeine or having a lot of sugar. Whether or not it's with a prescription is an ethical/moral question.

**2.** No. Probably because those 50 percent take it or know someone who does.

— Yerey Krivoshey, 2010

**1.** Yeah, I don't think it benefits you in the long run.

**2.** Not here because it's so competitive and so many people have access to Adderall.

— Michelle Goodman, 2013

**1.** No.

**2.** It doesn't surprise me.

— Whitney Wallace, 2011

**1.** I don't think so. Every person has a different form of getting focused.

**2.** I would think it would be higher.

— Max Freedman, 2013

**1.** It's like taking steroids at sports.

**2.** No, they're the ones who are doing it.

— Drew Korneig, 2013

**1.** No, I don't. If you don't care about your body, more power to you. I would never do that to my body because I consider it a temple.

**2.** No.

— Brent Spradling, 2011

**1.** Absolutely not. It may be wrong, but it's not cheating.

**2.** Not really.

— Robert Senseman, 2013

## PROCUREMENT: Adderall accessible through students

From **PROCUREMENT**, page 1

After noticing an improvement in his school performance, Schaefer went to the Opportunity Development Center and started medical testing for ADD and ADHD. "They said I needed more testing because they thought I had it, so I went home over the summer and saw my doctor and he gave me a prescription," Schaefer said.

### SELLING THE DRUG

Griffin, Schaefer and Wherry have all sold Adderall, usually to friends.

"I have given it to other students, but I'm reluctant to do that because I grew up with the drug, and I don't like the idea of it," Wherry said. "I don't like the idea of people getting stuff that they don't need; they think this will solve their problems, and

they get in the habit of doing it." He can count on one hand how many people he has illegally given the drug to over the past four years.

Griffin expressed similar restraint.

"I only do it for friends who I feel like I'm helping out," he said, "I don't sell it to people who have never taken it before — I would instruct them to go somewhere else. So I sell it to very few people, probably the same group of five people."

"When people come to me and ask me about Adderall," Griffin added, "I always tell them that it's really stupid to take for the first time for a test, because there is a very good chance you will blow that test because you will have very negative side effects and won't be able to study."

"I don't make money off of

it," Schaefer said. "It's just to subsidize the cost of the drug." He said he has only sold the drug a few times and only to very close friends.

Griffin said he doesn't think most students realize the consequences of selling the drug, even the students who actively engage in illegal exchanges.

"Adderall is a class II drug, which means it is the same as cocaine, and selling Adderall can have the same punishments as selling cocaine, and it is punished with a felony," he said.

Legal obtainment can be difficult because of the drug's classification. The Zerfoss Student Health Center, like student health centers nationwide, tightly controls prescriptions for Adderall, according to Dr. Louise Hanson, medical director of student health services.

Prescriptions cannot be called or faxed into a pharmacy, and refills cannot be written by doctors at the health center.

"We make people jump through hoops, not because we're trying to be difficult, but because we want to make sure we appropriately prescribe," Hanson said. "I think we're just a lot more worried about it, because we see the abuse side of things more than a pediatrician would."

Even still, illegal exchanges are happening all over campus.

"People pretty much know who has prescriptions. You usually know a friend or one of your friends knows a friend, and that's how you find it," Schaefer said.

Griffin agreed. He thinks most students have at least one friend who takes it — usually the source

of illegal procurement. He said some people are more willing to give or sell pills to friends, usually depending on how much of the prescription they use. "I'm sure there are people out there who get a prescription just to sell it," he said.

There appears to be somewhat uniform pricing for the drug on campus. According to Griffin, street prices range from 20 cents a milligram to 40 cents a milligram, the latter being a price during a period of high demand, such as finals week.

"Twenty-five cents per milligram is pretty normal," Griffin said. "I have prescriptions for 20 milligrams, so that's \$5 per pill. Pills will go anywhere from \$3-10 here."

"I know kids who have bottles of this stuff in their room," Wherry said. In his experience,

Adderall pills generally sell for \$10 a pill, but kids who are over-prescribed the drug may sell it cheaper, like for \$3-5 a pill. Wherry also observed price increases during finals, or small spikes for individuals whose grades will be determined by a single paper or final.

"I don't think (students) really go looking for it on a day-to-day basis," he said, "but during exam time when they have neglected two or three weeks worth of reading and studying and feel the need to cram."

"It's definitely prevalent," Wherry said. "Prevalent to the point where I don't have to go out of my way to know kids exchange it amongst each other and buy it from each other."

—Katherine Miller contributed reporting to this article.

# Opinion

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## EDITORIAL

# Students taking Adderall without a prescription are breaking the law and gaining an unfair advantage. Taking Adderall illegally is a violation of the Honor Code, even if only 25.0 percent of Vanderbilt students agree.

## Adderall: Multiple perspectives on student use of the study drug

### It is a matter of personal choice



**THOMAS SHATTUCK**  
Columnist

Adderall is not a fun drug. Sure, you can crush it up and snort it, but cocaine is better and meth is cheaper. These days, Adderall is used to study just like Dexedrine in the days of old, which isn't surprising since the two drugs are related. Admittedly, I've never wanted to take Adderall or its cousins — I have enough trouble sleeping as it is — so it's a little hard to judge anyone who does. Go ahead and knock yourself out; or maybe not. Whatever.

There are a few things to consider before you do take it. The side effects vary in occurrence, severity and duration. The usual suspects are there, like headaches, insomnia and increased aggression, but there are a few more unusual ones such as hallucinations, forced movement (tics), suicidal thoughts, depressions and seizures. The last few unsurprising are relatively rare but pretty serious if you take Adderall just to help you study.

The real question is really a moral one. I don't mean morality in the sense of absolute right or wrong. Right and wrong in the real world are almost applicable as up and down is in zero gravity. That kind of moral system is no longer applicable. I mean morality as a set of personal judgments; what you will and will not do. So taking the drug for doing schoolwork makes a few statements about the user's values.

First there are some self-confidence issues. Taking Adderall to finish your work implies you don't think you could get it done as well as you would like. It's a crutch. There's nothing necessarily wrong with this, but you have to be careful. When a temporary crutch becomes permanent, you start to risk your long-term health for short-term objectives.

And secondly, taking Adderall also makes it appear users believe their grades supercede their health. Yet again, this isn't necessarily a bad thing. I smoke, so I can't tell someone to stop doing anything based on long-term health concerns. But I'll be honest; Vanderbilt is probably not worth it. I don't smoke because I want to get an A in a Vandy seminar. I smoke because I'm an idiot.

In the less-than-stellar film "The Girl Next Door," the protagonist asks the question, "Is the juice worth the squeeze?" That's the fundamental question. Are your grades that important to you? Are you unable to achieve your goals any other way? If the answer is yes, then pop pills like popcorn. Sometimes drugs are the answer. But if you aren't sure how you'd respond to those questions, if you might say no, remember what Hunter S. Thompson once said: "I wouldn't recommend sex, drugs or insanity for everyone, but they've always worked for me."

—Thomas Shattuck is junior in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at [thomas.u.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:thomas.u.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu).

### Overused and over-prescribed



**KATIE DES PREZ**  
Columnist

For me, the question of whether students without an ADD or ADHD diagnosis should be using Adderall as a study aid is a fairly straightforward no. Is it cheating? Probably not. It's just a stupid idea. Adderall might improve your concentration so that you are better at cramming or cranking out a last-minute paper, but it won't improve your basic ability to think about problems or express yourself clearly. Maybe you can

write a terrible paper faster on Adderall, but it will still be terrible. Adderall doesn't make you a better student any more than using steroids makes professional sports players better athletes. Steroids make sports players better competitors, but competition and athleticism are two different things. If Adderall is used in small doses, it's probably not that harmful, but using too much can addle students' brains and body in all sorts of crazy ways. Even if it posed no physical threat, though, using non-prescription Adderall would still be absurd.

Why do students without ADD/ADHD feel like they have to use prescription drugs in order to get their work done? If you pop stimulants to do well in school you either: A) need to suck it up and stop going out so much so you can do your work, which, believe it or not, is what you came here for (and what you are paying for), or b) need to stop taking too many classes and chill out a little. Take a deep breath or go for a jog, and please put down the pills. I'm in college too, and I know it can be stressful, but if you actually need to jack yourself up on drugs to get through your assignments, something is wrong.

There is a bigger issue at hand here, though. There are way too many ADD/ADHD drugs out there to begin with. The trend of using Adderall to get basic studying done is a reflection of a larger national anxiety about constantly having to enhance and streamline ourselves. This same anxiety in parents gives us kindergarten classes full of Ritalin-rattled six-year-old boys. Can people please stop feeding speed to their children? Kids are hyper! Let them run it out. If it's the norm to medicate every time a child is disruptive or doesn't want to read a book, no wonder college students think using Adderall to help them study is perfectly acceptable. I understand that some people literally cannot concentrate on their work unmedicated, and if that is the case for you, great. Eat Adderall like it's Pez, but just know you will be less fun at parties. However, using Adderall and other prescription stimulants to stay up to study all night is not okay. College is a challenge. That's the point. The fact that college kids feel as if they have to use Adderall to study is just depressing.

—Katie Des Prez is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at [Katherine.e.des.prez@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:Katherine.e.des.prez@vanderbilt.edu).

### Don't take the easy way out



**FRANNIE BOYLE**  
Columnist

When I first heard students used Adderall to get them through the finals season, I was in the middle of cramming for my first Vanderbilt exam late one night in Lupton Lounge. At first I was totally against the idea, but as the night went on and the effects of my second Diet Coke wore off, I reconsidered the Adderall situation and thought, "Jeez! Why didn't I think of that?"

I bet most kids who have had a few late-nighters have probably asked themselves the same question. Yes, selling and consuming a drug you don't have a prescription for is totally illegal, but who can really judge a person's moral compass at 3 a.m. with 10 pages to go? I know I'm not thinking about rights and wrongs at that point. Of course, most people prone to all-nighters like me are hitting up five-hour energy shots, Red Bull or another pot of coffee, but when one desperate individual hears a guy over in Chaffin has an extra prescription, salvation immediately comes in the form of a magic, \$10 pill.

We all know it's wrong, and we don't condone it, but with the unearthly pressures we experience at a top-20 school with one reading day and too many professors who have no concept of how many other classes we are each enrolled in, sometimes it's just easier to give in to the pill.

So the weak part of me says, "Adderall will help me to focus, stay awake and maybe shed a few pounds? Brilliant!" Well the strong, "Fourth Grade Hardest Worker Award" part of me wants to say, "Seriously, you guys?"

First of all, it's an Honor Code violation. Yeah, you aren't actually looking off someone's paper or copying facts off of Wikipedia, but you're giving yourself an unfair edge over other students in your class. Yeah ... that's cheating.

If you haven't already rolled your eyes, get ready: Not only are you cheating others, but you are also cheating yourself by using Adderall as a study-supplement. According to the Hustler poll, 25.6 percent of respondents have taken Adderall to study even though only 8.6 percent have been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD. This means approximately 20 percent of the students graduating from Vanderbilt aren't going to know how to handle things when pressure gets tough in the real world or even in some grad schools, where competition is intense and classmates have no problem calling each other out for cheating. Adderall isn't always going to be down the hall folks, so it might be a good idea to practice handling some pressure without it.

Well, the realistic part of me is saying, "Those moral arguments are great, but I'd take advantage of it, too, if it wasn't for the heart-stopping side affects." Even those haven't stopped students on campus, and they aren't going to stop any time soon, just like underage drinking and widespread drug abuse won't stop until Vanderbilt begins to enforce the rules.

—Frannie Boyle is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at [mary.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:mary.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu).

# At a Glance: InsideVandy Blogs

Read blogs and more on [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com)

### E-mails reveal lack of transparency

BY THOMAS SHATTUCK

Recently some e-mails have been leaked from a climate research in East Anglia, U.K. The correspondence repeatedly referenced blocking articles from dissenting opinions and try to gloss over contradictory data samples.

While pundits left and right are crying fraud or corruption, that's a political issue, not a climate one. The primary scientific problem is the apparent difference from measured temperatures and those recorded in tree rings and ice samples.

### Weird Parisian sites

BY CLAIRE CONSTANTINO

In my last post, I referenced seeing some fire-breathing Parisians on Saturday night in Paris. In the dark and mind-boggling cold on our way to the Eiffel Tower, it looked like these young freaks were messing around with fire in front of some sort of defunct "age of -isms" structure. I thought it looked like the Fascists' had built it, and Lauren was reminded of Berlin. Clearly drawn to the scene by fire and totalitarian vibes, I shot a video!

#### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion page aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument to back their views. Unreasonable arguments, arguments in bad faith or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in The Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on InsideVandy.com.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to [opinion@insidevandy.com](mailto:opinion@insidevandy.com). Letters via e-mail must come from

a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on 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.

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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 [hustler.news@insidevandy.com](mailto:hustler.news@insidevandy.com). You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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## Going rogue in the free world

**VICTOR STEPIEN**  
Guest Columnist

Every day, millions of individuals throughout the world are told what to do, what to say and how to act. While it would be jejune to assume there is no such thing going on in the free world, when it does happen, we are fortunate enough to have the power — and the responsibility — to say no, stand up and go rogue.

It is my belief that Sarah Palin's rugged individualism shall resonate with many citizens of the free world. Whether you are from North America, Europe or down under, whether you agree with her political stances or not, it is an undeniable fact that Palin's memoir delves into human nature and some of its fundamental struggles, revealing in the process that we all face similar issues. From the vista of the last American frontier, Alaska, flanked by caribou, moose and snow caps, Palin recounts an ordinary childhood in small-town America, raised by regular folks. After paying her way through college, getting married and having her first child, Palin claims God opened up an avenue of opportunities for her to join the political realm. In a melange of serendipity and hard work, Sarah Palin first served as a council member of Wasilla, then as mayor, until she became the first female governor of the biggest state of the union in 2006. Two years later, she ran for vice president alongside John McCain.

A female politician, if not a feminist, Sarah Palin takes on the Washington establishment

in the same way she took on the oil bigwigs in Alaska a few years ago. A champion of free-market capitalism, she ushers in a breeze of common sense characterized by a belief in small businesses and the man on the streets. Yet I argue that despite her political views, one can sympathize, if not empathize, with her. Undaunted by what she specifically calls "harassment," she shakes off the "packaging" that comes from the "headquarters" of contemporary politics and lets the "maverick" in her come out. While this means stepping out as governor to spare Alaska the cost of frivolous ethics complaints, her attitude remains a winning one. In spite of the media coverage of her whining over inconsiderate staffers, Palin shows a great deal of understanding and forgiveness, couched in her faith in God and matter-of-fact reality. For some people, as she explains, this is a business. Should poor performance reflect badly on them, strategists launch a smear campaign and place the blame on others.

Ultimately, Palin's message seems to echo Ronald Reagan's conservative common sense. With faith in God, she urges the ordinary individual to let the maverick inside come out and go rogue. Although this is not a negligible feat by any means, more should be expected of Palin. After all, if you ask Grandpa Palin, "Sarah's not retreating; she's reloading!"

—Victor Stepien is a graduate student in the Graduate School. He can be reached at victor.r.stepien@vanderbilt.edu.

## THE RANT



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

Compiled by Ryan Sullivan

"Dear girl at Commons: I can think of a number of things that I would prefer to look at while eating dinner other than your ... ahem. Wear some underwear with that skirt next time."

"Hey, Vanderbilt Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Office: Why don't you stop the people from smoking weed on my floor instead of stopping tobacco smoking."

"Dear M.O.V.: Your 'raps' suck. 'VandyVans' had a good hook, but that was it. None of your new songs are good. Accept your one-hit-wonderness and quit it."

"The idiot who wants Stallings fired needs to throttle back. He deserves to stay until such time as he no longer wishes to coach basketball. He has built a great program and deserves our patience, especially after one early season game."

"Tips for Vandy guys:

- 1) Open the door for your girl.
- 2) While we're at it: Open the car door for your girl.
- 3) Stand up at the table when a girl comes/goes.
- 4) Reap the benefits of these time-tested manners."

"Umm Vandy hillbillies, can you read? Emergency exits are just that. The rest of the residence hall population appreciates our sleep."

## Xenophobic lunacy over illegal immigration



**JESSE JONES**  
Columnist

America was built on the backs of immigrants, and we continue to have one of the most welcoming immigration systems in the world. So long as America stands as a shining beacon of economic opportunity, immigrants will continue to come to our shores, legally or illegally. We could do more to make them feel welcome, and if I were a nicer person, I would give out hugs and volunteer as an ESL teacher, but that is not really where my strengths lie. Instead, I intend to rip open a few new holes in xenophobes' anti-immigration arguments wider than the Texas border.

Far from being one homogenous group, xenophobes come in all shapes and sizes. Some feel immigration threatens America's "cultural unity," as if previous waves of immigrants got off

the boat speaking fluent English. Others resent immigrants for the jobs they "take" and the wealth they "leach" back home. Illegals only "take" these jobs because their status makes them eligible to work below minimum wage, a price at which most Americans cannot compete. Legalize them and this wage differential will disappear. The remittances immigrants send to their families back at home is not "lost wealth," but helps to develop their countries' economies, resulting in new markets to which we can export — and giving their citizens less incentive to come here!

Others point to elevated crime rates in areas where many immigrants live. But what about homegrown gangs, and what about the Italian mafia? Ah, but these groups contribute to America's cultural unity! "Gangsta" rap, "The Godfather," "Scarface" ... oh, wait. Al Pacino was Cuban in that movie, wasn't he? Never mind.

Xenophobes are not totally divorced from reality. Sensing that a Hitler-style roundup of 12 to 20 million people is logistically unfeasible, xenophobes have devised a number of common-sense proposals for "the problem" to magically fix itself, free-market style, like enforcing the law. Lock up a few, and the rest will return on their own. Just one snag — this modest proposal is also mathematically absurd. According to the Bureau of Justice, in 2008 there were over 2.3 million prisoners serving sentences in America's notoriously overcrowded prisons. So just how many more are they proposing to add? Even a modest 10 percent of the estimated illegals amounts to an additional 1.2 to 2 million. Then the other 90 percent of illegals, rather than fleeing for home, could stay without worry, since our prisons would be stuffed up to the roof and down to the sewers. Think "The Shawshank Redemption," only grosser. Another proposal of theirs is to prosecute

employers of illegal immigrants. So after that evil, job-creating employer is put away, what do you suspect these newly unemployed illegals will do to feed themselves? If you answered "pillage and plunder," move to the front of the class.

And don't even get me started on the Berlin Wall ... erm, I mean, "border fence."

"So, what would you do, wise guy?" First, we should stop being so modest and admit we have a totally awesome country in which folks all around the world really want to live. Then we should extend a path to U.S. citizenship for all illegals (barring criminals) residing in America. If that amounts to "amnesty," then call me the biggest bleeding heart, Ronald Reagan liberal in the country.

—Jesse Jones is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at jesse.g.jones@vanderbilt.edu.

Was that you with your friends supporting Dance Marathon?

... Take a peek at p. 219

Were you wearing black and gold at ESPN's GameDay?

... See p. 230

Did you hang out in front of the Rites of Spring stage?

... Flip to p. 249

HOLIDAY  
GIFT  
IDEA!

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Vanderbilt Commodore  
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# Sports

## What a difference a year makes

*The Hustler sports staff discusses.*

The memorable 2008 season culminated in a 7-6 record, including a bowl win and thrilling upsets over South Carolina and Auburn. One year later, Vanderbilt finds itself with a dismal 2-10 finish fans would like to forget. What went wrong in 2009?



FRANCIS SIMPSON/The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Commodores celebrate after rallying to defeat Auburn 14-13 on ESPN last season to move to 5-0.



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Almost one year after beating Auburn, Vanderbilt players walk away dejected after losing to Ole Miss, 23-7.

### Coaching staff conservative to a fault

by DANIEL MARKS  
Sports Reporter

Bobby Johnson has done a remarkable job turning the Vanderbilt football program around, and part of his success has been due to the continuity of his staff as only three coaching changes have been made since he took over eight seasons ago. While this continuity has helped the Commodore program, it is time for Johnson to bring in some new offensive staff because Ted Cain and the play callers did an awful job this year.

During the off-season, Vanderbilt adopted the no-huddle offense, which at the time seemed like a good move to try to ignite one of the weaker offenses in Division 1 last year. However the no-huddle failed to ignite the offense, as the Commodore offense is still ranked toward the bottom of all Football Bowl Subdivision schools, and the coaching staff should have gotten rid of it halfway through the season.

Not only did the no-huddle not provide a spark for the offense but it also killed the defense. Vanderbilt's longest possession of the year was a mere 4:37, and they had the fourth lowest time of possession of FBS teams. This meant the defense was on the field an incredible amount of time and every game the defense would keep the game close until the fourth quarter when they would wear down and give up points putting the game out of reach. A no-huddle offense that isn't successful does not wear out the opposing defense, it wears out your own defense. Additionally, the play calling was incredibly conservative and predictable throughout the entire season and the staff refused to use tight ends Brandon Barden and Austin Monahan until late in the year. ■

### Mental errors plagued Commodores

by ERIC SINGLE  
Sports Reporter

In Bobby Johnson's tenure as head coach at Vanderbilt, only once — in 2002, his first season in Nashville — had the Commodores finished the season outside of the top 10 in the nation in least yards penalized per game. After this year's egregious 48th-best effort, make it twice.

Both teams finished with 2-10 records. The pattern here is not complex.

Penalties haunted the Commodores in all 12 games: on offense and defense, at home and on the road, early and late in games.

Some of them put close games out of reach for good, like the Chris Marve holding call in the LSU game that negated the Joel Caldwell interception that would've given the Commodores the chance at a long game-tying drive midway through the fourth quarter in Baton Rouge. Some of them took points off of the scoreboard, like the pass interference call on Udom Umoh that negated the go-ahead touchdown pass to Alex Washington on the last drive of regulation in the Army game. And others violated cardinal rules of football discipline, rules like "don't jump offside on fourth-and-short," that bore swift punishments during pivotal Georgia Tech and Army drives.

It's all a disturbing digression from one of the cornerstones of the identity of Vanderbilt's football program: The Commodores play smart football, and they may get beat, but they do not beat themselves. Here's to hoping the 2009 season was a bad dream instead of the early symptoms of an identity crisis. ■

### Youth and inexperience slowed Vanderbilt

by GEOFF HUTCHINSON  
Sports Reporter

When the season started for Vanderbilt, the offense started a quarterback with one career start, a running back who had just graduated from high school in May, and various other players at skill positions that had close to no experience in collegiate play. Combine this, along with the implementation of a new no-huddle spread offense, and what do you get?

A disastrous 2-10 season in which the offense failed to score more than 10 points seven times. While many may solely blame this anemic offensive output to coaching or player personnel, you must also factor into this youth and inexperience. Last season, Vanderbilt started a senior quarterback in Chris Nickson and various other playmakers who had plenty of experience, which helped the Commodores secure their first bowl bid in 26 years. That team focused on making sure to limit turnovers, as a way to rest its defense. This year, quarterbacks Larry Smith and Mackenzi Adams combined to throw six touchdown passes and 10 interceptions. Some of those interceptions can be attributed to poor offensive line play and key drops by some receivers.

There is much reason for hope, though. Both the leading rusher and receiver from this year were freshmen, and running back Warren Norman broke Herschel Walker's all-purpose yardage record as a freshman and tied the record for most return touchdowns in a career, with three. Hopefully, the young players will learn from the experience they gained this year and will use it to improve next season. If not, expect another long year in Nashville, as the Commodores lose Mississippi State, Georgia Tech, Rice and Western Carolina on their schedule and gain the resurgent Arkansas Razorbacks, along with Northwestern, Connecticut and Wake Forest. ■

## Who will win the SEC Championship?

### Alabama Crimson Tide



ALEX GILBERT/University of Alabama

Mark Ingram (22) appears to be fully healthy for the Crimson Tide after suffering a hip pointer against Auburn.

by GEOFF HUTCHINSON  
Sports Reporter

Saturday will mark the second straight year in which Florida and Alabama will square off in the Southeastern Conference Championship Game. It will also mark the second straight year in which I will predict an Alabama victory over the Gators. While the Gators have yet to lose since the infamous Tim Tebow speech, this current Gator team is not dominating competition the same way as last season. The Gators have struggled at times on the offensive end, especially with their pass protection for Tebow. Florida is the third-worst in the SEC in terms of giving up sacks, and Alabama is amongst the best at getting pressure on the quarterback.

Alabama will have the ability to put pressure on Tebow because the Tide has arguably the best secondary in the SEC. It will be tough for Tebow and the Florida running backs to establish an efficient running game, as teams have averaged just 78 yards a game on the ground against the Tide. Alabama coach Nick Saban has had a year to

gameplan against Tebow, so expect complex blitz packages led by All-American linebacker Rolando McClain that will stifle Tebow's ability to pick up yards in short yardage situations.

Offensively, Greg McElroy has shown the ability to win close games this season, especially in the fourth quarter, with his performances against Virginia Tech and Auburn. This is something Alabama did not have last year with John Parker Wilson at the helm. While Florida's cornerbacks have been playing at all pro levels this season, it will be hard for the smaller corners to match up with Julio Jones, especially on short routes across the field. Finally, let's not forget about Heisman favorite Mark Ingram, who has been dominant all season, and carrying the Tide offense. Even if he is not performing at 100 percent, the Tide running attack will not falter, as freshman Trent Richardson has shown the ability to run the ball effectively, without much drop-off. All facets of the game have been running smoothly for the Crimson Tide, so expect a 23-16 Alabama victory over the Florida Gators. ■

### Florida Gators



CHRIS PHARE/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Florida's Tim Tebow (15) will try to lead the Gators to their third SEC Championship title in four seasons.

by ALEX WALDER  
Sports Reporter

In terms of winning a big game, the Florida Gators' biggest advantage is in their experience. When looking for experience on the roster, you need not look farther than No. 15. Many of the contributing players on the Gators' roster have not been through both of the two national championship runs Florida has had in the last four years, but Tim Tebow and Urban Meyer have.

It may seem as if the Gators, with considerable help from Tebow, have accomplished everything they could want in a four-year span, but the team is far from ready to give up the Southeastern Conference title to Alabama. Though the team had locked up their spot in the SEC championship game four weeks ago, the Gators continued their winning ways against lesser opponents and earned a 12-0 record. However, they can't overlook Alabama, as the Tide has rolled to 12-0 in a similarly dominant season of SEC football.

The similarities make it seem like this game will be one that comes down to the wire, and it very well may.

However, the team that will end up in the national championship game will be the Florida Gators. Close games, such as the one projected, are often won by ball control and special teams. Ball control is well within the range of Tim Tebow's arsenal, as he will run the spread option to death with sophomore running back Jeffrey Demps. However, the big play for this game may be coming from senior running back and return specialist Brandon James, who will likely have some big opportunities that he normally doesn't get as Florida blew out lower level teams throughout the year.

So, while both teams have made their cases throughout the regular season to be not only SEC champions but also national champions, the Florida Gators have too much experience and consistency on the offensive end to be shut down by a defense, even one as good as Alabama's. All the speculation about the future of the stars of the Gators, including Urban Meyer potentially leaving for Notre Dame, and the talks of Tebow's certain NFL failures, will be put on hold for yet another week as Florida rolls right through the Tide this Saturday. ■

# Free throws, rebounding earn Vandy win

by PETER NYGAARD  
Sports Reporter

It wasn't perfect, and it wasn't pretty, but Vanderbilt got it done against Missouri.

Facing a team known for running "the Fastest 40 Minutes in Basketball" under coach Mike Anderson, the maturing Commodores (5-1) found success in unexpected places: free throw shooting and rebounding, and earned an 89-83 victory.

Competing against a quicker Missouri (4-2) team, Vanderbilt balanced out an abnormally high 24 turnovers by dominating the paint and out-rebounding the Tigers 45-24, including 14 offensive rebounds. Second chances often led to easy tip-ins and free throws, and the Commodores made the most of their trips to the line, shooting 26-31 from the charity stripe.

Junior center A.J. Ogilvy

rebounded from a horrid shooting performance from the line against Arizona (just 2-8) by converting on 11 of 12 free throws to finish with a game-high 25 points.

No free throws were bigger than the four made by highly-touted freshman guard John Jenkins who stretched the lead from 1 to 5 in the final minute.

"We had guys like John (Jenkins) step up in the last few minutes and knock down free throws," Ogilvy said. "It ended up winning us the game, so obviously, that was real important for us tonight."

For a while, it looked as though Vanderbilt was going to coast to victory on the strength of a 14-point lead with just over five minutes remaining. However, complacent play on both ends of the court led to multiple 3-pointers in transition for the Tigers, helping them cut the lead to 1 with 1:06 left in the game.

"It's a credit to Mizzou's defense," said Vanderbilt head coach Kevin Stallings. "They just came and turned us over a couple times. We just tried to force the ball in. ... Early games, they'll trick you."

From the tip-off, the Commodores played with emotion. The first two shots of the game were kindly redirected away from the basket by sophomore forward Jeffery Taylor. Fueled by a raucous crowd, Vandy took a 39-33 lead into the half.

Every time Vanderbilt seemed to be pulling away though, the Tigers would hit a timely 3-pointer, usually by all-everything senior point guard Zaire Taylor. Taylor finished with 17 points and five steals, while sophomore guard Kim English led the Tigers with 20 points.

For Vanderbilt, it was a step in the right direction after an underwhelming performance at the Maui

Invitational. A win over the Tigers, who returned the majority of a team that went to the Elite Eight last year, may be enough to vault the Commodores back into the top 25.

The Commodores also got the win without center Festus Ezeli who was held out by Stallings because of potential match-up difficulties. Taylor and sophomore forward Andre Walker picked up some of the slack on the boards, combining for 23 rebounds.

Behind the stat line, Taylor and Walker both added valuable hustle plays. Most notably, Taylor drew a charge in a critical situation, up 3 with 23 seconds left. Walker controlled the interior on defense, blocking three shots. When asked for his favorite moment from the game, though, Walker's answer was simple.

"I'm most proud of the win." ■



ZAC HARDY/The Vanderbilt Hustler

A.J. Ogilvy finished with 25 points on Wednesday to help Vandy past the Tigers.

## Hot shooting has Marsh confident



FRANCIS SIMPSON/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Named SEC Player of the Week on Nov. 30, Merideth Marsh then led Vandy past Wright State on Wednesday with a 21-point performance.

by DAVID RUTZ  
Sports Editor

Vanderbilt senior guard Merideth Marsh isn't a ball hog and never has been. But when she's burning up the nets the way she has this season, it isn't too surprising she's getting a lot of touches on offense.

"Coach (Melanie Balcomb) just keeps telling me to be more aggressive and have this mentality of attack," Marsh said. "And just look for my shot more and look to be aggressive because we need that within our offense. It's not a selfish attitude. If my shot's there, I have to take it. I can't second guess it."

The way her shots have been falling, she'd be a fool to doubt herself right now.

Marsh led the Commodores with 21 points in Wednesday night's 63-46 victory over Wright State, knocking down three 3-pointers, and that followed up a 25-point performance in a 77-71 win over North Carolina State in the Thanksgiving Tournament championship game on Nov. 28. She knocked down 5-6 shots from beyond the arc in that game, and overall, she has hit 11 of her last 19 attempts from long distance.

"What she's done well is getting her feet set ready to shoot, instead of catching it and then making decisions," Balcomb said.

Don't mistake her for one-dimensional either; Marsh also attacked the rim for four lay-ups in the win over Wright State.

"I need to have the ball in my hands in order for our offense to be productive," Marsh said. "I guess it's the mentality of being more aggressive."

She was named the Southeastern Conference Player of the Week on Nov. 30 for her performances against the Wolfpack and Austin Peay in the tournament after totaling 37 points and 10 assists.

Marsh is more aware about seizing opportunities on the court than she is about receiving accolades off of it. An assistant coach texted her about the honor, and it was the first she had heard about it.

"It's a pretty big honor," she said. "But I didn't even think they did awards until SEC play started. (Coach) was like, 'You don't know?' I don't pay attention to any of that stuff."

Given her lack of height, Marsh has to employ more court savvy than most to find shooting opportunities, a challenge Balcomb thinks Marsh has been able to overcome.

"I think she has a really good understanding of the game," Balcomb said. "She came in with one, and she has to play smart to be good."

Marsh's deep threat gives Vanderbilt a more open offensive set, as defenses have lost track of her on the floor at their own peril.

"If I'm getting opportunities to shoot at least five 3-pointers a game, if I can knock down two or three of those, that's good because that's going to open up the floor for Jess (Mooney) and Jence (Rhoads) to drive more so they can get on the scoring board," Marsh said, "and it's going to allow Hannah (Tuomi) and Lauren (Lueders) and Jordan (Coleman) to work down low so they won't get doubled. Balanced scoring is what we need." ■

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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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Level:

- 1  2
- 3  4

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

12/2/09 SOLUTIONS

6	8	1	3	4	5	2	9	7
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7	2	6	5	8	1	9	3	4

12/4/09

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## CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Afternoon break
- 7 City on the Cauca River
- 11 Monastic title
- 14 Many a marigold
- 15 Juice letters?
- 16 VCR button
- 17 Takedown by Tinker Bell?
- 19 "Little" 1960s singer
- 20 Former Spanish queen
- 21 "The A-Team" actor
- 22 Vile smile
- 24 Reaction to an amusing porcelain?
- 29 Sought a seat
- 30 Limoges-born impressionist
- 31 Parsley piece
- 34 Mideast carrier
- 36 USSR successor
- 38 Symptom of poor lighting?
- 42 NASDAQ listings
- 43 Military station
- 44 Western prop
- 45 Out in the open
- 48 Title for Roger Moore
- 49 Supermarket group taking a coffee break, perhaps?
- 53 Jersey groups
- 54 Super Bowl played in MMVII
- 55 Expression of satisfaction
- 58 Sporty truck, for short

- 59 Store-brand dill?
- 64 MC's aid
- 65 First name in architecture
- 66 Block
- 67 Pie chart fig.
- 68 Inert gas
- 69 Like some foot bones

DOWN

- 1 Place for gems or instant
- 2 Words with uproar or instant
- 3 Massive old computer
- 4 Baja California \_\_\_, Mexican state
- 5 Scotland's longest river
- 6 "Gosford Park" director
- 7 Saguaro, e.g.
- 8 Comics cry of disgust
- 9 Cholesterol initials
- 10 Strands at the ski resort, perhaps
- 11 Consequences of some soccer fouls
- 12 Big-time parties
- 13 With it
- 18 Shirt part
- 23 31-Down, e.g.
- 25 La Salle of "ER"
- 26 Pizza Quick sauce maker
- 27 Scrapbooking, e.g.
- 28 Recount
- 31 Army E-7: Abbr.
- 32 Like some visions
- 33 Bring back into practice
- 34 Cain's eldest son
- 35 Kojak and Crocker: Abbr.
- 37 Sign of a big hit
- 39 Majestic
- 40 Nastase of tennis
- 41 "It Must Be Him" singer Vikki
- 46 Breakfast companion?
- 47 Ease
- 48 "Never mind"
- 49 Haunted house sound
- 50 Former pen pal? Abbr.
- 51 Court recordkeeper: Abbr.
- 52 "Land \_\_\_!"
- 56 "The West Wing" Emmy winner
- 57 Achilles' weakness
- 60 Place to start a hole
- 61 Pizarro's quest
- 62 The Monkees' "\_\_\_ Believer"
- 63 "Kiss of life," briefly

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12/4/09

12/2/09 Solutions

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Student Media is seeking an editor for arts and entertainment publication Versus. Apply by noon on Monday, Dec. 7.

The position is open for the spring semester term. Versus is published and distributed weekly on Wednesdays. The Vanderbilt Student Communications board of directors will consider applications and conduct interviews as part of the hiring process.

Details and application available at [www.vscmedia.org](http://www.vscmedia.org).

### Interested in other opportunities in Student Media?

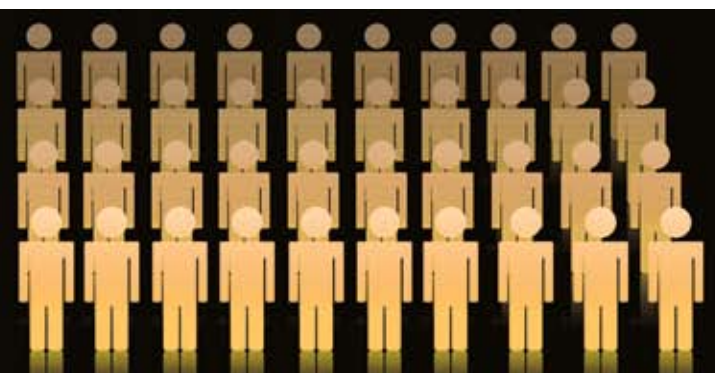
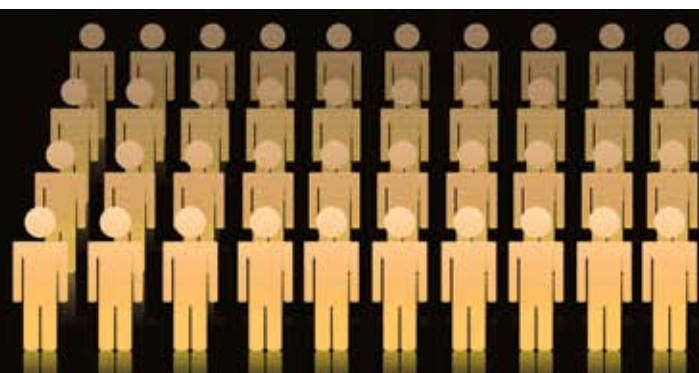
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# The Vanderbilt Hustler's

## Holiday Gift Guide 2009

Gift ideas for your family and friends plus some holiday events you don't want to miss!

### Nashville Holiday Entertainment

#### Nashville Area Events

Nashville has a number of things to do this holiday season. Below, we have highlighted just a few. Even though you may need transportation to get to some of these, they are definitely worth the trip.

##### 57TH ANNUAL NASHVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Tonight at 7 p.m. the Nashville Christmas Parade kicks off at 6th and Broadway and marches east to 2nd Avenue before crossing the Woodland Street Bridge to LP field. This year's Grand Marshal will be the great country-recording star, John Rich. All entry proceeds for the parade will be put toward Share the Warmth, an energy assistance program helping those who struggle to pay their home energy bills. Come enjoy floats, music and holiday cheer at the parade. And don't forget to get there early to watch Mayor Karl Dean light the Nashville Christmas Tree at the public square located at 2nd Avenue and Union.

##### WILSON COUNTY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

This festival is a driving tour, including thousands of Christmas lights, holiday scenes and a variety of other displays that will make your family "ooh and aah." Throughout the tour, you visit more than 40 village houses all decked out in holiday cheer. Don't miss this 12-year tradition, which runs every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 5-9 p.m. in December.

For information call: (615) 443-2626

##### A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Venture to Riverview Mounds Country Farm in Clarksville to experience their first Christmas celebration. Enjoy the beautifully lit holiday displays, get your picture taken with Santa, meet his famous reindeer, Rudolph, and take a hayride with Santa's elves. Riverview Mounds is your perfect Christmas destination with a variety of pre-cut trees to choose from as well as a selection of holiday treats. Plus, don't forget to bring your Christmas list as Rudolph will be bringing letters to the North Pole every weekend.

For dates, hours, and prices, visit <http://riverviewmoundsfarm.com/Winter.aspx>.

##### THE NUTCRACKER

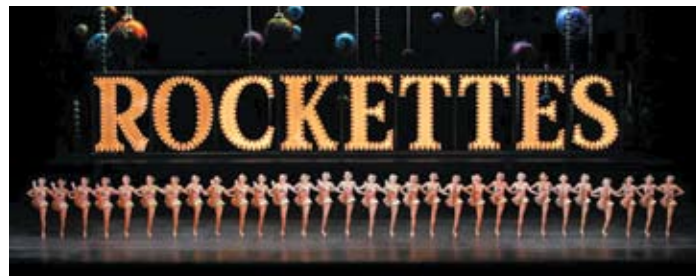
The Tennessee Performing Arts Center puts on a beautiful Christmas classic with its presentation of "The Nutcracker." More than 150 talented dancers perform this elegant ballet, awing you with their beautiful depiction of this traditional Christmas tale. Complete with enchanted toys, evil mice and the magical Land of Sweets and the Snow Kingdom, this show will get you ready for the holiday season.

#### Opryland Festivities

Site of the annual display of more than 2 million Christmas lights, the Gaylord Opryland Hotel has even more events throughout the holiday season to get you in a festive mood.

##### ICE! FEATURING "A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS" BY CHARLES SHULTZ

Global warming won't stop this gang from having their holiday fun. Come see Charlie and all his schoolyard pals frozen in some of your favorite scenes from the classic animated film. Carved from 2 million pounds of ice, the awesome display has the potential to melt your face. Watch as Chuck picks out his tree, Snoopy shows off his decorated doghouse and more at Gaslight Theatre in the Opry Plaza for only \$24, from now until Jan. 2.



##### THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

And I didn't think Christmas could get any more spectacular. Come watch as the world-renowned Rockettes and nearly 100 cast and crew members unwrap the gift of dance right before your eyes. Including the awe-inspiring routines "12 Days of Christmas," "Parade of Wooden Soldiers" and "Living Nativity" (I sure hope the baby Jesus has a number), the performance will rock the Grand Ole Opry House to its core until Dec. 27. Tickets start at \$35.

##### LOUISE MANDRELL'S "JOY TO THE WORLD" CHRISTMAS DINNER AND SHOW

Throw your partisan grumblings about globalization to the wind for an evening. Enjoy Mandrell and friends' instrumental journey around the world, served as a side of entertainment to a delicious holiday meal. The show also includes singing, dancing and comedy, three things that also compliment family-style dining quite well. The experience, hosted in the Tennessee Ballroom until Christmas Day, costs \$67. Bon appetit! For information on more upcoming holiday special events, go to <http://www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-opryland/special-events/>.

Are you ready for Christmas? Well, if you're not, Nashville is and it's ready to get you in the spirit. Parades, light shows, meetings with Santa and Rudolph, ice sculptures, restaurants and more, Music City and its surrounding areas will help you fill this December with plenty of holiday wonders. Go with friends, take a kid to see Santa or simply enjoy the magic yourself, but don't miss Nashville's plentiful holiday entertainment.

#### Holiday Restaurant Guide

One of the best parts the holidays is no doubt the food. Nashville's grand assortment of cafes, bakeries and restaurants offers you plenty of holiday specials to fulfill your lust for holiday cuisine.

##### PROVENCE BREADS AND CAFE

This bakery, with its several locations across Nashville, offers a holiday catering menu with an assortment of mouth-watering treats. In need of a great dessert that will fill you with yuletide cheer? Order Provence's decadent Gingerbread Bombe or Chocolate Peppermint Gateau. If you're throwing a festive party, Provence can supply you with a variety of hors d'oeuvres such as savory mini roasted pork tenderloin sandwiches or tasty bacon-wrapped scallops. Plus they have a great selection of platters and spreads that will surely satisfy your guests.

Visit <http://www.provencebreads.com> for more information.

##### WATERMARK

This chic restaurant, complete with view of the Nashville skyline, welcomes you for several elegant holiday events. On Dec. 16, Watermark will be offering its Holiday Wine Tasting for \$30 including tax and gratuity. Space is limited to 25 guests, so make your reservations soon. And if you don't have New Years plans, reserve a table at Watermark and enjoy a delicious four-course, prix fixe menu for \$75 as well as an optional \$40 wine pairing. The event may be pricey, but the food is sure to please and will feature a live jazz duo from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Visit <http://www.watermark-restaurant.com/events> for more information

##### MARCHE ARTISAN FOODS

Travel to East Nashville and stop in Marche for some delightful holiday theater. Throughout December, four local actors will be presenting Charles Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol." All shows start at 6 p.m. and run for approximately one hour. During the performance you have the option to enjoy a delicious dinner, pastry or sip on hot chocolate, all available for purchase. Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are recommended.

Visit <http://www.marcheartisanfoods.com> for more information

##### MONELL'S

Not looking to cook on Christmas but still want that homey holiday meal? Monell's has got you covered with their festive Victorian Christmas. This event features a four-course feast featuring appetizers from 6:30-7 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. As decadent dishes round Monell's family-style tables, you'll be entertained by the soft sound of carolers. And the restaurant will be fully decorated in Christmas splendor to further the evening's merriment. Spots sell out every year, so call soon to make your reservations.

Visit <http://monellsdining.ypguides.net/> for more information.

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# Visions of sugar plums, in HD of course

DVDs of favorite movies and TV series are always a hit at the holidays. But what should you choose for that enigmatic person on your shopping list? Well, we're here to help. Here is a list of suggestions ranging from classic favorites to new releases. Happy shopping!

**HOLLY MEEHL**  
Versus Culture Editor

**MATT SHELTON**  
Versus Writer

**JOE AGUIRRE**  
Versus Writer

**COURTNEY ROGERS**  
Versus Editor-in-Chief

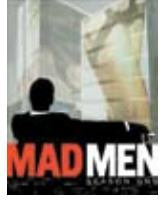
## For the gentlemen

## For the ladies

## For the kid at heart

### Mad Men

(Seasons 1 and 2)



Set amongst the New York City backdrop, the audience delves deeper into the advertising agency guru Don Draper. Even with the world ahead of him, Draper cannot get over his dark past.

### Californication

(Seasons 1 and 2)



David Duchovny stars as the elusive sex-driven Hank Moody, a writer, lothario and critique wrapped up into one cynic character. The show follows his escapades in an over-sexed L.A. scene, balancing his career and family, but never turning down a good time.

### Eastbound and Down

(Seasons 1 and 2)



Kenny Powers, a down and out former pitching all-star finds himself teaching (what else?) high school gym. But he fails to see his own downfall, and attempts to chase his former stardom. Hilarity ensues.

### The Hangover



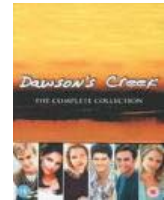
This comedy compiles a motley crew of guy's guys looking for a fun time in Vegas, which they hysterically do not receive. Finding Mike Tyson's tiger in your bathroom may not be your ideal situation, but it's sure funny to watch.

### (500) Days of Summer



This "anti-romantic comedy" is cute and quirky, putting a different spin on a love story. Adorable Joseph Gordon-Levitt gets kicked around by his ideas of fate and destiny, but despite his mopey demeanor, the dialogue in this film holds up and keeps you laughing.

### Dawson's Creek: The Complete Series.



Ah, the teen angst of Dawson's Creek. Let's face it, any series with the quote, "The night is young," "So are we," is going to be perfect for the person on your list who craves hours of unrequited love and teenage drama. Will Joey end up with Dawson or Pacey? There's only one way to find out.

### Keeping up with the Kardashians

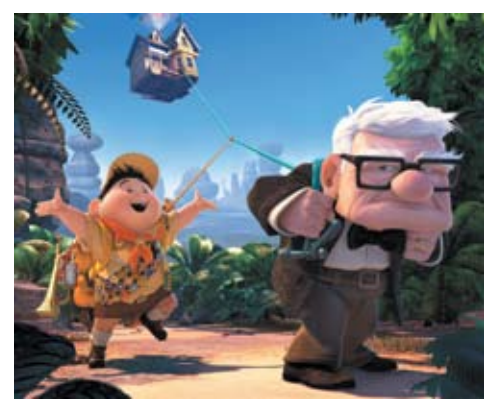


For a family that seems to be famous for being famous, there is actually a lot to keep up with when it comes to the Kardashians. Season 2 is now out on DVD, a great gift for any aspiring Perez Hilton or Gossip Girl.

### Grey's Anatomy: The Complete Fifth Season



One word: McDreamy. While the Twister game of relationships on that show never fails to captivate, it's really Patrick Dempsey who steals the show with his perfect hair and amazing ability to put up with one Meredith Grey crisis after another.



### Up

Whether you're five or 50, this is a DVD the whole family can enjoy. Disney and Pixar unite to create yet another heart-warming story complete with flying houses, talking dogs and a loveable bird named Kevin.



### Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

This magical DVD is sure to hold oodles of wicked special features for our Muggle eyes. Add this to your Harry Potter DVD collection to get one step closer to the wizarding world.

# All I want for the holidays

**NIKKY OKORO**  
Versus Fashion Editor

**SARAH RUSSELL**  
Versus Writer

Sometimes all you need to know for the upcoming holidays is what you actually want for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or any other holiday you may celebrate. With whichever you may partake in, a list serves to be the most beneficial method. So we decided to ask those around campus: "What's on the top of your holiday wish list?"



**"Peace on Earth."**  
—Emily Romero, Class of 2010

**"A radio that goes in the shower because I get bored in the shower."**  
—Ashley Burges, Class of 2012



**"A trip to London and a Marc Jacobs watch."**  
—Allison Johnston, Class of 2013

**"An external hard drive, because the music and the pictures on my laptop have gotten out of hand."**  
—Ning Foncham, Class of 2011



**"I have a list that includes an acre of the moon from Lunar Real-Estate (www.lunarland.com), matching sorority gear for me and my little to-be next semester and a deluxe version of Britney Spears's new singles collection."**  
—Mary Lu Noah, Class of 2012

**"A nice bottle of wine."**  
—Betsy Isaacs, Class of 2010



**"I'd like to have the iPhone for mobile Facebook stalking."**  
—Jase Chandler, Class of 2011

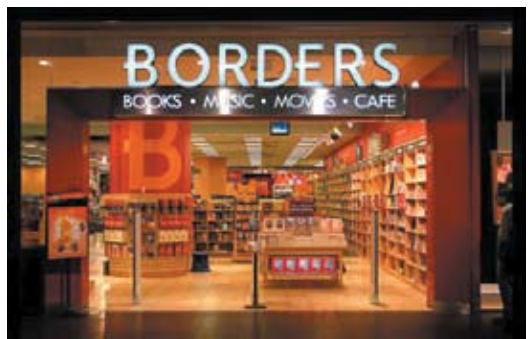
**"A Eurorail because I'm studying abroad in Denmark next semester."**  
—Jessica Morse, Class of 2011

# Finding the right gifts for the family

**NIKKY OKORO**  
Versus Fashion Editor

When it comes to the holidays, it's important to find the right present for the right person, especially when it comes to family members. Even better, it's the perfect season to be able to put your styling skills to work and gift items tailoring to specific family roles. Check out this gift guide, which will provide you with some local Nashville stores for you to hit up before the flood of finals. And feel free to also indulge yourself in a little personal shopping, as well.

### Father:



Give your dad a break and stay away from another patterned tie. Instead, try Franklin Covey on West End Avenue. This store has a great variety of nice planners and office accessories perfect for work. If you'd rather try a more scholarly route, then Border's is an excellent option for a simple read for Dad.

### Mother:



Though Mom always seems to only want your "love and care" as a gift, try to spoil her a little with products she'd love to unwrap. Posh in Hillsboro Village also has a partner boutique full of chic home accents. Stay safe with more

simple accessories and pieces that would work well in any of her favorite rooms. If you'd rather have a gift with a more holiday feel, then check out Williams-Sonoma in Green Hills. They carry great food gifts and stocking stuffers.

### Sister:

No matter the ups, downs and drama you may have in your relationship, your sister still deserves a great gift during this holiday time. United Apparel Liquidators, also known as UAL, on West End Avenue features a myriad of great products. It would be better to stay away from clothing pieces and steer more toward the accessories section, which includes great necklaces, bracelets and more. Nashville's own Pangaea and Posh also carry great statement necklaces and scarves at great prices.



### Brother:



We all know brothers seem to be a bit obsessed with gaming, whether it be Madden Football or Mario Kart. As an easy idea, and be sure to know which console he has, buy a bundle of games that will be sure to keep him busy over break. And to make sure he will keep track of the amount of time he spends and wastes, maybe also pick up a watch from any department store at the Mall at Green Hills.

### Emergency, Last Minute Ideas

And if you seem to slip-up this year and forget to go gift shopping, there's no need to worry! Vanderbilt Bookstore has your back and any type of Vanderbilt pride gift possible. Which family member wouldn't want his or her 50th pair of Vandy Dores socks?

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# 5 gifts for that special someone

COURTNEY ROGERS  
Versus Editor-in-Chief

Although we love them, significant others aren't always the easiest to buy for at Christmas. If you're having qualms about choosing the right gift, here are a few ideas to get you started.

## For your girlfriend

1. **Proper Pearls (\$100, southernproper.com):** The perfect strand of pearls is as classic and beautiful as a Vandy girl herself. This cultured strand with a sterling silver clasp is a great pick for the girl who is both classy and sassy.
2. **Big Apple Hi 5 Mittens (\$65, katespade.com):** Outerwear doesn't have to be as dull and dreary as the frightful weather. Brighten her winter days with playful mittens and she'll definitely want to hold your hand.
3. **Duwop Lip Venom (\$16, Sephora.com):** No one wants chapped lips, but pamper her with more than just Chapstick. Lip Venom is a spicy concoction with cinnamon and ginger, definitely an easy way to spice things up for the holidays. If she's a Twilight fan, pick up the Twilight edition and she'll forget all about Edward and Jacob.
4. **Personalized photo book (snapfish.com):** We all enjoy browsing through Facebook pictures, but a photo album of the two of you is infinitely better and will make you the envy of all her friends. Photo sites like Snapfish have easy-to-follow steps, and no matter what style you choose, this is a truly thoughtful gift.
5. **Deluxe fragrance sampler for her (\$50, Sephora.com):** Perfume seems like a simple gift solution but which scent should you choose? Leave the guesswork behind with this sampler from Sephora. It includes 12 sample fragrances and gift certificate. Once she samples all 12, she can fill out the certificate, bring it to Sephora and redeem it for a full-sized bottle of her favorite.



## For your boyfriend

1. **Nike + iPod Sport Kit (\$29, sportsauthority.com):** If your main man is a workout buff, here's something that will keep him in top shape. The sport kit keeps track of his workout and even gives you messages like "Halfway there," to keep him motivated when the going gets tough.
2. **A volume of the James Bond Ultimate Edition (\$27.99, amazon.com):** James Bond is the man. He gets to travel all over the world, drive the best cars and always gets the girl. If you find you're always dragging your guy to romantic comedies, treat him to a night of Bond and serve up martinis, shaken not stirred.
3. **The perfect flannel shirt (\$29.50, lbean.com):** Even if your sweetheart is from a warm locale, he's going to need something warm for next semester. No matter what his style tendencies, you'll be hard-pressed to find a guy who doesn't appreciate flannel. The best part: borrowing it from his closet.
4. **A great leather wallet (\$115, ralphlauren.com):** Simple, classic and practical, you can't go wrong with a leather wallet. Personalize it with a photo of you two or a goofy photo of him in the license pocket.
5. **"The Bro Code" by Barney Stinson (\$13, amazon.com):** Written by Barney Stinson, the womanizing cad of "How I Met Your Mother," this book is more than just Barney's one-liners from the show. We won't ruin the surprise, but with 150 codes, diagrams and more, it's basically destined to be legendary.

## CHRISTMAS PLAYLIST



Nothing gets you in the holiday spirit like a few classic Christmas tunes. Below is a list of some our editors' favorites.

1. **"SANTA BABY"**  
Eartha Kitt
2. **"MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS"**  
\*NSYNC
3. **"BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE"**  
Doris Day & Bing Crosby
4. **"ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU"**  
Mariah Carey
5. **"WONDERFUL CHRISTMASTIME"**  
Paul McCartney
6. **"IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR"**  
Andy Williams
7. **"HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS"**  
Frank Sinatra
8. **"JINGLE BELL ROCK"**  
Bobby Helms
9. **"I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"**  
Bing Crosby
10. **"DANCE OF THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRY"**  
Tchaikovsky



Not sure? Give a Merrell gift card.



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