

**LACROSSE
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#6, JENNIFER TAPSCOTT

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The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2007 • 119TH YEAR, NO. 40

THE WALL

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

TODAY

Vanderbilt shows support for victims at Virginia Tech

Vanderbilt Student Government will have a book at Sarratt Student Center where members of the community can write messages and express their support for Virginia Tech. The table will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday.

TODAY

Bookstore's 30th annual Crazy Sale

Save an additional 25 percent off all clearance merchandise at the 30th annual bookstore Crazy Sale in the tent outside the Rand Hall Bookstore. The sale will last from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some restrictions apply.

TODAY

'Mechanisms and Consequences of Embryonic Exposure to MDMA'

Jack W. Lipton, professor of psychiatry and director of developmental neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati, will speak on the widely abused club drug MDMA. The event, a Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Special Lecture, will occur at the Kennedy Center/MRL Building, Room 241 at noon.

TODAY AND SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Rites of Spring

Rites of Spring will be held on Alumni Lawn; tickets for undergrads can be purchased on the card for \$10. Gates will open at 3 p.m., with the final stage time being 11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Vanderbilt Orchestra performance

Robin Fountain will conduct the Vanderbilt Orchestra at 8 p.m. in Mahler's "Symphony No. 4," featuring Gayle Shay as a mezzo soprano soloist. The performance is free and open to the public.

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

Rites of Spring begins today



The Wickersham Brothers perform at Battle of the Bands Thursday evening. VC Strut Band and The Bluff won the annual competition.

by NIKKI BOGOPOLSKAYA
Staff Reporter

The winners of the Battle of the Bands competition will kick off the annual Rites of Spring festival today at 4 p.m. The two-day concert on Alumni Lawn will run until 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Grammy-winning hard rock trio Wolfmother and rock 'n' roll and hip-hop fusion band The Roots will headline the show.

Other artists in the lineup include Amos Lee, Bang Bang Bang, Brett Dennen, Drive By Truckers, JYPSI, Keller Williams, Mat Kearney, Naughty By Nature, Rocco DeLuca and The Burden, Sons of William, The Dynamites, The Old Silver Band and The Whigs.

"The highlight of this year's Rites is the eclectic lineup that ranges from old-school hip-hop to hard rock," said Music Group Chair Wesley Hodges. "There is truly something for everyone at this festival."

The Music Group expects a huge crowd this year, due to the expected sunny and warm weather and the promise of this year's artists.

"People should definitely come because Rites is the one time during second semester where the entire Vanderbilt community can come together and take a break from the day-to-day struggle with homework and classes and just have a good time," said VPB President Mark Mason.

Hodges said he is confident in all the artists and bands performing at Rites.

"Old Silver Band's fast-paced brand of jamgrass is Americana at its finest," Hodges said. "And Wolfmother won a Grammy this year for their hit single 'Woman,' which is also featured on Guitar Hero 2. Their potential is limitless. One day you will be able to tell your kids that you saw Wolfmother when you were in college. That's kind of the idea of Rites, to bring great bands as they will undoubtedly ascend to the pantheon of rock 'n' roll stardom."

"I make a point to go listen to artists that I don't know when the lineup is released, and I am never sorry because the Music Group committee does a great job of choosing talent," Mason said.

Previous Rites of Spring headliners have included Red Hot Chili Peppers, Green Day, My Morning Jacket and Hootie & the Blowfish.

"I've been waiting for Rites since I saw the lineup," said freshman Caitlin Chagan. "This will definitely be the high point of my weekend."

This year's Rites is receiving more positive press than ever, Hodges said. It has already been featured in online publications like JamBase and Pollstar, as well as MTV and VH1.

"Toyota Scion is sponsoring the event and is bringing a multi-media tent complete with flat-screens and couches for patrons who want to chill," Hodges said. ■

RITES OF SPRING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS			
FRIDAY, APRIL 20		SATURDAY, APRIL 21	
ARTIST	TIME	ARTIST	TIME
VC Strut Band/The Bluff	4:00-4:35	VC Strut Band/The Bluff	3:30-3:50
JYPSI	4:55-5:25	The Old Silver Band	4:10-4:40
The Dynamites feat. Charles Walker	5:55-6:25	Sons Of William	5:00-5:30
Brett Dennen	6:45-7:25	Naughty By Nature	5:50-6:50
The Whigs	7:45-8:25	BANG BANG BANG	7:10-7:50
Keller Williams	8:45-9:45	Rocco DeLuca & The Burden	8:10-8:50
Drive-By Truckers	10:15-11:15	Amos Lee	9:10-9:55
Wolfmother	11:45-1 a.m.	Mat Kearney	10:15-11:15
		The Roots	11:45-1 a.m.

Students question emergency preparedness

by NICOLE FLOYD
Staff Reporter

In the wake of the tragedy at Virginia Tech, some Vanderbilt students have begun to question the plans the university has in place to deal with a similar crisis situation.

Resident adviser Kelson Bohnet said in a mandatory RA meeting held Tuesday he was given the impression that a specific plan does not exist on what to do if a gunman enters his residence hall.

"The policy as I understand it is to deal with situations on a case-by-case basis and to wait for instructions from the administration," Bohnet said.

According to Dean of Students Mark Bandas, the university does not have any general protocols in place, but it does have an emergency planning team.

"Our approach is that we respond to situations by pulling the right people together and coming up with creative solutions," Bandas said. "Part of what is difficult for people to grasp is that general protocols are rarely helpful when you are dealing with a very specific kind of situation."

Bandas said he is much more interested in having communication systems that would provide students with situation specific information than with developing general protocols.

Students, however, are concerned this might not be the best method.

"I don't think anyone is to blame for whatever went wrong at Virginia Tech, but I do think that in its aftermath all schools have a responsibility to create a concrete

plan," said senior David Scott.

Senior Leah Lewis said there should be plans in place and she was surprised protocols had not already been developed on what to do if a gunman entered a residence hall, as Vanderbilt dealt with a shooting in one of its own dorms in the fall of 2005.

Freshman Chisato Nishikawa agreed. "I would like to see the administration develop protocols for what to do in a situation like that to give us a heads up," Nishikawa said. "I think they should have developed protocols after the Morgan shooting."

Lewis also described the university's current approach as "general" and "vague."

"It sounds like a very diplomatic answer," Lewis said. "What he's really saying is that we'll deal with it when it happens."

Bandas explained that issues of liability must be taken into account in the development of university protocols as well.

"Liability is an issue in almost every decision made at a university," Bandas said. "What we want to do is give people correct information, and so there are always going to be liability issues in giving people incorrect information."

While the university does not have any specific protocols in place, the Vanderbilt University Police Department has compiled a list of actions that are recommended in the event of an armed gunman entering a building. These recommendations are posted on their Web site, but no student The Hustler spoke with had ever seen or heard of this emergency response plan.



Members of the Middle Tennessee chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association sign memorial cards in Benton Chapel.

"If this exists and no one knows about it, what's the point of it existing?" Lewis asked. "They need to let people know about it."

The shootings at Virginia Tech have also spurred members of the residential life staff to revisit the role RAs play in responding to crisis situations.

"One of the victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy was a residential adviser who apparently was responding to what he took to be trouble in the hall, and we thought that residential advisers would have feelings about that issue in relation to their own roles," Bandas said.

During Tuesday's meeting, RAs were told to call VUPD in the event of an emergency.

"Our job as RAs is not to really try to address physical altercations, but to call

on resources at hand, such as VUPD and administration," said Justin Gonzales, an RA in Mims Hall.

"They don't ask us to put ourselves in harm's way, but as RAs we feel we owe our residents some sort of protection," Gonzales said. "I feel that a lot of the RAs would have tried to investigate just as the RA who got shot at Virginia Tech did."

According to Gonzales, RAs have not been trained on what to do in the event that an armed gunman enters their hall, but they have been trained in general crisis situations.

Despite this training, Gonzales said he is unsure the residential life staff would have been prepared to handle a situation similar to the one that plagued Virginia Tech's campus. ■

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WEATHER
compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

TODAY



Sunny, 73/46

SATURDAY



Sunny, 78/51

SUNDAY



Mostly Sunny, 78/51

VUPD CRIME LOG

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

April 17, 3:35 a.m. — An arrest was made for drunkenness and trespass of property after a suspect was found smoking on campus after being advised to leave.

April 18, 2 a.m. — Person was found stumbling up the stairs in Cohen Hall and was charged with illegal consumption.

April 18, 3 a.m. — An arrest was made for drunkenness, disorderly conduct, liquor law violations and other offenses at Branscomb when an intoxicated person refused to cooperate with police.

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

SERVICE GUIDE

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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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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.

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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

European Union nations agree to new rules to combat racism, hate crimes

European Union members agreed Thursday to new rules to combat racism and hate crimes across the 27-nation bloc, including setting jail sentences against those who deny or trivialize the Holocaust.

A compromise deal on the rules was reached by EU justice and interior ministers after nearly six years of negotiations, officials said. Achieving agreement has been difficult amid vastly different legal and cultural traditions in how each nation combats racism.

SOURCE: AP

Romanian parliament suspends popular president for alleged constitutional abuses

Romania's parliament voted Thursday to suspend the popular president who ushered in economic and social reforms to help the country join the European Union, accusing him of abusing his constitutional powers.

Lawmakers have accused President Traian Basescu of 19 counts of constitutional abuses, including usurping the Cabinet from the prime minister, criticizing judges and ordering the tapping of the minister's telephone calls. The Constitutional Court, however, found no such evidence to back the charges.

Basescu had earlier vowed to resign "within five minutes" if lawmakers voted to suspend him. His resignation would prompt a new election within three months, and he has said he would run again for office.

Parliament only retains the power to suspend the president for 30 days, in which time a referendum supported by half of all voting-age Romanians must be gathered. However, this referendum would be virtually impossible to obtain, given Basescu's popularity and the usually low turnout of Romanian ballots.

Chairman of the Senate, Nicolae Vacaroiu, is to assume the president's duties during his suspension.

SOURCE: AP

NATION

Virginia Tech awards posthumous degrees to 32 shooting victims

Virginia Tech University officials announced Thursday that the 32 victims of the tragic shooting would be awarded degrees posthumously, and that other students terrorized by the shootings might be allowed to end the semester immediately without consequences.

The disturbing manifesto and videos of Cho Seung-Hui delivering a snarling tirade about rich "brats" and their "hedonistic needs" had only marginal value to police investigating his deadly attack on the Virginia Tech campus, officials said, containing little they did not already know.

Cho's self-made video and photos of himself pointing guns were mailed to NBC on Monday, the morning of the massacre.

NBC said the package contained a rambling and often incoherent 23-page written statement, 28 video clips and 43 photos. A Postal Service stamp on the package reads 9:01 a.m., between the 7:15 a.m. shootings at a campus dormitory and the shooting that started around 9:45 a.m. in a classroom building where Cho eventually killed himself.

Questions linger over whether campus police should have issued an immediate campus-wide warning and locked down campus after the first attack. Two students died in that attack, but police have said at the time they believed it was a domestic dispute and the gunman had fled the campus.

Cho repeatedly suggests he was picked on or otherwise hurt.

"You have vandalized my heart, raped my soul and torched my conscience," he says, apparently reading from his manifesto. "You thought it was one pathetic boy's life you were extinguishing. Thanks to you, I die like Jesus Christ, to inspire generations of the weak and the defenseless people."

More than a year before the massacre, Cho had been accused of sending unwanted messages to two women. Upon psychiatric examination, he was pronounced a danger to himself but was released with orders to undergo outpatient treatment.

Among other things, Cho's twisted, violence-filled writings and sullen, vacant-eyed demeanor had disturbed professors and students so much that he was removed from one English class and was repeatedly urged to get counseling.

SOURCE: AP

CAMPUS

Vanderbilt expert discusses Supreme Court's decision on late-term abortions

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court voted 5-4 to uphold a ban on a type of late-term abortion, not finding the national Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, passed in 2003, in violation of a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.

Vanderbilt Professor of Law Suzanna Sherry said the Supreme Court had two main issues to deal with in this ruling. First, it had to determine whether the federal law can be distinguished from a Nebraska law the court struck down in 2000. In holding the new law constitutional, the court found that, unlike the Nebraska law, the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act clearly explains what procedures are prohibited, so doctors know what they are not allowed to do.

Sherry said the Supreme Court also held that because the act explained precisely what type of late-term abortion is prohibited, it allowed other second-trimester abortions to remain legal, again unlike the Nebraska law.

The Supreme Court also considered whether the law was unconstitutional because it did not have an exception allowing for the procedure to be performed in order to save the health of the woman.

Sherry said the Supreme Court held that there was no medical consensus on whether this type of late-term abortion is necessary, so Congress didn't have to put in an exception.

"But the court left the door open for future challenges," Sherry said. "The Supreme Court says the ruling can be challenged if that specific type of abortion is determined to be the safest medical option for particular medical circumstances."

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

Latin honors requirements change to reflect grade inflation issues

Variations within schools further complicates problem.

by EVE ATTERMANN
Asst News Editor

The Class of 2009 Latin honors requirements have changed in response to an unusually large number of students receiving honors degrees, said Associate Dean of Academic Affairs M. Francille Bergquist.

"That defeats the purpose, and it takes away the honor," Bergquist said. "It used to be that only one Summa Cum Laude was given and that was the Founder's Medalist."

Instead of grade point average, a student's percentile ranking and comparison to other students' performance in past years will determine Latin honors for that class.

Grade inflation has become a cause for concern within each undergraduate school, as the average GPA has steadily increased over the past 20 years.

University officials said they were not able to release specific GPAs for each undergraduate school, however.

Dean of the College of Arts and Science Richard McCarty said differences between classes and majors within particular schools further complicates the issue of grade inflation.

"The complication in Arts and Science is that GPAs vary within just the majors," McCarty said. "One of the principle factors of this is average class size. If you look at the German major, it's a terrific department with very small classes, and the grades tend to be higher because it is more individualized and students are engaged and self-selected. In economics, the largest major, there are also the largest classes and therefore the average grade is somewhat below that of German."

Bergquist also said grade differences exist between introductory and upper-level classes.

"All students are experimenting in the introductory classes," Bergquist said.

"Grades will be lower because students have never studied the subject before or in that degree of depth."

McCarty said he knows the fact that Vanderbilt's average GPA is lower than Washington University in St. Louis concerns students, but said Vanderbilt is well known enough that future employers would understand the grades in context.

Bergquist agreed, saying a Vanderbilt degree comes with a positive reputation.

"Earning an honest 3.2 at Vanderbilt means you've worked very hard, competed against the best of the best and learned something," Bergquist said. "Vanderbilt has a reputation as not being as grade inflationary as our competitors, like Harvard."

McCarty said the administration will attempt to find a way to fairly assess Vanderbilt students that does not involve grade caps or Bell curves.

"We need to talk about how we can recognize truly extraordinary accomplishments," McCarty said. "This is a very touchy issue with students."

Associate Provost of Undergraduate Education Lucius Outlaw said it was important to define and understand grade inflation before determining the best ways to stop it.

"If grades are higher, why is that being called inflated?" Outlaw said. "Is that in any way correlated with relation to the student body? Every year we see increases in the test scores of incoming students, and those get praised. If we have a really competitive student body, how can we expect a normal bell curve, if this is not a normal population?"

Outlaw also said he wondered if professors graded higher and harder because they knew the school was getting more competitive.

"Our students are getting better and better, so do we grade accordingly?" Outlaw said. ■

SPEAR wraps up Earth Week on the Wall



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Candice Gay and junior Aarika Patel promote Earth Week on the Wall by giving out environmentally friendly mugs to students such as freshman Tanmay Saha Thursday afternoon. SPEAR will wrap up their week of promotions Friday.

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QA
& Awith
John Halperin

English professor John Halperin will retire at the end of this semester after 24 years at Vanderbilt.

Halperin's main area of focus has been 18th and 19th century literature. He has published numerous books, the most notable being an extensive and revealing biography of Jane Austen that garnered him a Nobel Prize nomination.

Halperin has won both the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award and the Outstanding Educator Award at Vanderbilt. Currently, he teaches classes on the 19th century novel, major figures of the 19th century and aspects of Victorian culture.

Before he finishing his time here, he chatted with student and Hustler columnist Andrew Solomon and reflected on the changing culture of the English department and university governance.

VANDERBILT HUSTLER: So how did you get started at Vandy?
JOHN HALPERIN: I was teaching at Southern Cal and then got offered more money to come here. Plus they promised me more vacation time.

VH: I hear the hazing rituals in the English department were tough back then.

JH: Vanderbilt was behind a lot of the rest of the country in terms of acknowledging the idea that it was time to hire a faculty that didn't look all alike. But since then we've come a long way. I love the fact that I have a diversified faculty to work with and that the student body is headed in the same direction.

VH: Do you think that since '83 we've come to a place where we need to be?

JH: I feel we've actually gone past the place we need to be. We've gone so overboard for multiculturalism and curriculum changes so that we can seem fashionable to the rest of the country. For example, look at the literature courses offered next semester. There are no courses in 18th or 19th century literature. Period. Except for several Shakespeare courses and a few modern lit offerings, there's no focus on what is undeniably one of the most important eras of human literature. What do we get? We have film courses, Black Multiculturalism, Islam in Literature, America the First Empire, Pacific Island Literature, Women of the U.S. So where are the courses in Medieval Lit, Shakespeare or Renaissance Drama? We're catering to political correctness, and the students are the ones that suffer.

VH: But I love Nancy Drew.

JH: I'm not saying we shouldn't have courses about women novelists. My main work focuses on Jane Austen. And I'm glad there are courses focused on writing of different cultures. I'm just in favor of literature. What is being taught now is politics. These political attitudes have taken over and pushed out the courses that anyone else would offer as a given.

VH: So what can we learn from these classic lit studies?

JH: Literature is not just a way to learn but a way to understand life. Through the greatest minds history has yet to produce, we can learn so much. For example, when I was your age, I was petrified of death. And now, after all these years of teaching, reading and learning, I'm not scared of dying anymore. Something about reading has taught me that there is nothing to be afraid of. Death itself holds no terror for me. And it's my reading that has taught this to me. Reading good literature prepares you to live your life.

VH: How could we take what we learn from literature and bring Vandy to a place where students, alumni and the administration can be satisfied with what we are?

JH: Forty years ago, faculties ran universities. They hired administrators, set curriculum, everything. But now, raising money has become the most important focus of the campus. Nowadays, the average faculty member has almost no say about university policy. The administrators run the universities, not just Vanderbilt. And because of their job description, they are less concerned with education than the bottom line. We've become plantations. The administrators run things, and the people below them just come and go.

VH: Is the faculty anywhere to blame for this?

JH: Yes. We have given up far too easily. We LET them make the decisions, and we're not a collected political force here. And nothing is happening. We let the administration deal with the day-to-day running of the institution, and this is what has happened.

VH: You feel like we're misguided.

JH: When professors come up for tenure, the quality of your teaching is of no interest to anyone. Vanderbilt will say they reward teaching, but whether or not you get a raise is solely dependent on how much you've published in the previous year. Not even the quality of publication is taken into account. It's all volume. They won't admit it, but I know. I can't complain, because I publish a lot. But, I put a lot of energy into teaching. And none of us are ever rewarded for it.

VH: But the deans won't be able to pay for the Dom and the \$400 haircuts if there is no money.

JH: That's how universities are rated. It's not about the teaching; it's about the endowment, how many Nobel Prize winners you have. They look for stars, not teaching. If your Nobel Prize winner drools in front of your class for an hour, no one cares.

VH: How could we go about fixing the problem?

JH: We would have to force deans to pay attention to the teaching quality of professors up for raises. And, quite frankly, I don't see how that's going to happen.

Sheryl Crow performs at global warming event



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sheryl Crow performs Wednesday night in the Student Life Center as a part of a concert tour aimed at raising awareness of the potential negative effects of coal plants. Activist Laurie David also spoke about the threats of global warming at the event. —View a slideshow of the Wednesday performance on:

[insidevandy.com](http://www.insidevandy.com)

Stop Global Warming Campaign encourages students to be ecologically friendly.

by EVE ATTERMANN
Asst News Editor

by CHRISTINE BROWN
Contributing Reporter

Sheryl Crow and Laurie David spoke Wednesday night at the Student Life Center about the threat of global warming.

David briefly lectured on global warming and then Crow performed four songs. The event ended with a question-and-answer section. In an effort to promote personal change, every student was then given an energy-conserving light bulb.

"Hurricane Katrina is just a taste of what's to come if we don't stop global warming," David said.

The event was a part of the Stop Global Warming Campaign, which encourages

students to make their schools more ecologically friendly as well as sign an online petition that will be given to Congress to lobby for environmental conservation.

David says she hopes to get a million signatures before she appears before Congress in 10 days.

"Government doesn't change until people demand it," David said. "People build movements and movements build mountains, and this mountain needs to be moved."

"It's not about politics," Crow said. "It's a humanitarian and moral issue. We live on a planet that is a human organism, and when it gets sick we need to help it."

The event was coordinated by the Vanderbilt Programming Board Music Group, which was approached by the Stop Global Warming Campaign when it began its college tour.

"It's pretty rare for a tour to contact us," said Music Group Chair Wesley Hodges.

Music Group member Eric Magidson said the event was a good way to begin the Rites of Spring weekend, a festival the group also sponsors.

"We looked at this like it was our philanthropy event to kick off Rites of Spring," Magidson said.

"It's a great service we can provide to get the word out," Hodges said. ■

Navy ROTC celebrates seniors with end-of-year ceremony



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The entire brigade of Navy ROTC students gathered Thursday afternoon on Wilson Lawn for the last time this semester. —View a slideshow of this year's change of command on:

[insidevandy.com](http://www.insidevandy.com)

Former NASA astronaut to speak of profession

by EMILY SILVER
Contributing Reporter

Charles F. Bolden Jr., former NASA astronaut, will share his professional experience today at 1 p.m. in the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center.



BOLDEN

Bolden was recruited to the organization by Rick Chappell, now director of the Dyer Observatory. Chappell served under Bolden's command within NASA in the 1990s.

Bolden, who was selected by NASA to become an astronaut in 1980, has flown four space shuttle missions, piloting the Columbia and Discovery space shuttles and commanding the Atlantis and Discovery space shuttles. After his career with NASA, he entered the U.S. Marine Corps as a major general and retired in 2004.

Chappell said he remains confident in Bolden's ability to attract an audience.

"(Bolden is) a tremendous leader, an incredibly talented person and an accomplished African-American role model for students," Chappell said.

Chappell said he encourages students to attend the event because they "will enjoy learning about (Bolden's) life, the struggles he experienced and what got him interested in space flight initially."

Sophomore Nikolas Nordendale said he looks forward to attending Bolden's presentation.

"When you can talk to a person who has done so much with his life, it does spark some level of confidence knowing that he was where we are at one time," he said.

Frank Dobson, director of the BCC, said he hopes to find such enthusiasm among other Vanderbilt students.

"Coming from the segregated South and becoming one of the first black astronauts, he is an inspiration to all who aspire to such a lofty position in any field," he said. ■

OPINION

THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER Editorial Board

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OUR VIEW

Administration treats crisis planning irresponsibly

To plan for an unexpected future event is a difficult endeavor under the best of circumstances. A campus shooting, however, is neither “future” nor “unexpected.” While Vanderbilt has not suffered a tragedy similar to that in Blacksburg, there was a shooting on campus in 2005 and the administration bore the responsibility of planning for disaster immediately afterward.

The administration, however, has not done so. Dean of Students Mark Bandas explained issues of liabilities and the dangers of giving people incorrect information in times of crisis and described the problem of shoehorning specific incidents into inappropriate general protocols developed before the fact.

The current plan is to “respond to situations by pulling the right people together and coming up with creative solutions.” This is a fantastic plan if one wishes to expand Ro-Tiki, but it is a terrible idea when lives are hanging in the balance. Simply pulling the right people together will take time and formulating a response on the spot will take even longer. The fact most people plan poorly in times of great personal stress only compounds the problem.

In addition, residential advisers have been trained to deal with “general crisis situations.” A “general crisis” could be anything from a drunk freshman passing out in the hallway to a plague of locusts, so it is clear we must have another line of defense or another plan of action; undoubtedly the RAs at Virginia Tech were trained to respond to general crisis situations, and one of them died this week.

Certainly a one-size-fits-all plan will not work in every conceivable situation. Even a general plan, however, is better than what we have now, which is no plan at all. To refuse to adjust Vanderbilt policies in the face of tragedy because of some nebulous fear of liability is nothing less than irresponsible. The administration owes the community more than assurances “the right people” will have everything under control should we find ourselves in a time of crisis. “We’ll deal with it when it happens” is not an acceptable response when your study group hasn’t prepared for a difficult test, and it should not be an acceptable response to potential tragedy.



Wayne Stayskal—MCT

LETTER

Tragedies must make us stronger, better, kinder

To the Editor:

Monday afternoon I realized the weather was beautiful here, almost as beautiful as it was Sept. 11 in Washington, D.C. And just like then, I’m not really sure what to say.

I know a lot of people who go to Virginia Tech — probably more than 50 — but I’m only good friends with half a dozen or so. I only know 0.2 percent of the Tech undergrad population. They are all healthy and safe and alive. They all know people who aren’t.

My friend, Caitlin, sat in lockdown for two hours in French class in a building connected to Norris Hall and heard the gunshots. Nobody could find Mike, an engineering student, for several hours. Abby’s and Ryan’s friend, Heidi, was shot in the leg. Kelly’s RA is dead.

Our parents faced tragedy, too. From Vietnam to JFK, MLK, RFK — the letters begin to run together. Now, they face the paralyzing fear of getting the horrible call 33 families got Monday.

Our pain is different. We saw Columbine at age 11, Sept. 11 at 13, the sniper at 14, Katrina at 17. We saw bombings in Kenya, London and Madrid; we saw the tsunami. We have grown up with the idea that it could be us — it could be Nick’s UNC, Lauren’s Mizzou, my Virginia Tech, our Vanderbilt. We’re not desensitized to this — at least I don’t think we are — but we’re not surprised either.

The moment I knew my friends were fine, I knew someone else was finding out their friends weren’t, someone’s parents were finding out their child was not coming home. How many more of these days will we see? How many more of us will die? Why us?

Those who died weren’t perfect;

Please see **MILLER**, page 5

LETTER

Alumni Association seeks to continue graduate connections with Vanderbilt

To the Editor:

As president of our Alumni Association — and on behalf of 120,000 Vanderbilt alumni — it is my pleasure to officially congratulate you, the Class of 2007, on your graduation and welcome you into the Alumni Association.

All members of the Alumni Association share a strong common bond: the Vanderbilt experience. Your education, experiences and friendships are the foundation of your lifelong connection with Vanderbilt. As you graduate, I encourage you to look back upon the memories of this wonderful place, but to look forward as well. You’ll be pleased at how the exceptional and generous network of Vanderbilt alumni can support you, as you begin life beyond the gates of our university.

Anywhere you go, there will be an opportunity to connect to the Vanderbilt network.

Enjoy taking part in this uniquely

accomplished community. You have earned it!

The Alumni Association can help you maintain these valuable connections, serving as a resource in a new city, network for your career or way to connect with classmates.

Continue the connection by updating your e-mail at www.Dore2Dore.net, by visiting www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni for information on events and by volunteering your most valuable asset: your time.

The Alumni Association is here to help you continue your connection with Vanderbilt and other alumni. Keep in touch, and we’ll keep you connected.

Congratulations Class of 2007 and welcome! We’re proud to have you!

Karen Thomas Fesmire, A&S ’80
President, Vanderbilt Alumni Association

LETTER

Campus power plant must continue to explore technology

To the Editor:

The campus power plant is a symbol of Vanderbilt’s innovation and even represents the university’s earliest steps towards sustainability. But if it doesn’t continue to progress along with society’s increasing understanding of and capabilities for sustainability, the power plant will stagnate into a symbol of social and environmental irresponsibility.

The power plant is both a smart investment made by the university and an important teaching tool. It has saved the university millions of dollars over the years and has demonstrated innovative business, engineering and management practices. Just in the last few decades, many innovative strategies have been integrated into its operation to harvest energy that is typically wasted. Thus, the university has saved millions of dollars by reducing the amount of

electricity we buy from Nashville Electric Service. In energy production, when costs fall due to increased efficiency and harvested energy, pollution also decreases. Therefore, the progress of the power plant is significant both because of its financial gains and its role in reducing Vanderbilt’s ecological footprint.

However, Vanderbilt still purchases 83 percent of its electricity from NES, which means we are supporting less efficient coal plants at the Tennessee Valley Authority. While coal is currently the cheapest way to produce electricity, it also produces greenhouse gases, increased mercury levels and air pollution, which correlates with increased occurrences of asthma and cancer. These side effects are unacceptable in a society with any moral conscience, and we must seek better ways to secure our

Please see **CLONE**, page 5

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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CIONE: Vanderbilt cannot afford stagnant generation technology

From CIONE, page 4

luxury of electricity. From demanding a more benign means of coal extraction to investing in cleaner energies, we need to be taking steps toward actively demonstrating our commitment to the health and well-being of our communities. We are shooting ourselves in the foot if, while trying to fight cancer at the medical center, we are emitting carcinogens into the environment in our daily operations.

Though TVA offers the option for consumers to purchase wind and solar energy, Vanderbilt does not take advantage of this opportunity to support clean energy. In fact, all other major universities in Tennessee purchase wind and solar energy from TVA, leaving Vanderbilt in the coal dust in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing the issue of global warming.

In order to continue the financial success and progress the power plant has previously demonstrated, Vanderbilt must continue to invest in

new technologies. Purchasing wind and solar energy from TVA is an obvious first step, but another important step is to expand the power plant by integrating more renewable energies such as solar cells or fuel cells into our own power production. However, while we have the infrastructure to integrate more renewable energy production methods, we have not yet invested in those endeavors. By investing in gas turbines, we diversified our fuel sources, but with the world moving away from fossil fuels, we now need to seek innovative solutions to energy conversion. As a leading research university, our academics could benefit from these investments as undergraduate and graduate research projects could be coupled with the technologies that produce our energy. It is my hope that the university will begin to invest in more renewable energies and not let the innovation of the power plant stagnate.

Angeline Cione
Graduate School

MILLER: Acts of kindness and gratitude affect everything around us

From MILLER, page 4

they were just like us. They went to class and parties. They had career goals and doubts. They succeeded and they failed. They were us. That's the real horror in this awful massacre. We're not perfect, but we don't deserve this. No one does. We don't have to be valiant heroes, saints or anything like that. We're going to disagree and going make plenty of mistakes. I don't think tragedies like these can be left aside; we need to be stronger, better, kinder after this because we have to make this mean something. The fallen deserve better. We have to stick together, for them and for ourselves.

All we can do is remember this life is what we have together — with our friends and our families. It's not grand gestures that keep us together; it's every day. Small acts of kindness, short prayers and simple words of gratitude can change a lot. We're not all the same, and that makes us stronger, but we do share a country, a past and — God willing — a future together. We can't forget to love each other because, if we don't, we may regret it later.

We lost too many of us the other day. So, for Monday, this week, next week, next month, next year, we'll all Hokies.

Katherine Miller
Freshman, A&S

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

"Who cares about bowling? I want a men's soccer team."

"With regard to the Don Imus incident, when will people get over the fact that certain people can just say things that others can't? Certain double standards are natural, logical and OK. Of course, Imus got fired for saying essentially the same thing that rappers say. The rappers' race wasn't oppressing a group of people for hundreds of years. It's less sensitive. Get over it."

"I hope one day Andrew Solomon is run over by a fleet of Cadillac Escalades — with custom stripper poles in the trunk — driven by a lawyer, investment banker and scuba instructor who aren't paying attention because they are watching Dustin Diamond's sex tape while listening to Fat Joe's "Make It Rain" so that at his funeral Jack Nicholson can give the eulogy and conclude by instructing everyone to pour a little Dom on the ground in honor of our lost arrogant, pretentious, judgmental and self-loathing 'columnist.'"

"Joshua Melton needs to get over it. The bowling team is awesome, and he's just jealous."

"Burning jet fuel to tell me coal is dirty makes a lot of sense, Sheryl Crow."

"Did anyone else find it ironic that the 'Face It: Coal Is Filthy' campaign was flying their sign behind an airplane today? I bet that helped the environment."

"What clown decided it was a good idea to have the first Hustler issue printed after the Virginia Tech tragedy have a picture of a kid eating ice cream on the front page?"

"Stop arguing about campus food, idiots!"

"Why aren't all the Munchie Mart ladies as nice as the ones in Towers?"

Compiled by Ceaf Lewis

Missed the chance to write for us this year?
E-mail editor@vanderbilthustler.com for information about next fall.



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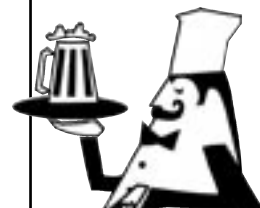
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SPORTS

WHAT 2
WATCH 4

Upcoming Events

Baseball
Tennessee at No. 1
Vanderbilt
Today-Sunday
Hawkins Field

The Commodores (32-8, 9-6 SEC) look to rebound from two midweek losses. David Price, the school's all-time strikeout leader, will start tonight's game (7 p.m.). While he will be followed by freshman southpaw Mike Minor on Saturday, the Sunday starter is still up in the air. On Saturday (6 p.m.), the 2007 NCAA champion Vanderbilt bowling team will throw out the honorary first pitch. The Commodores will also give away 200 rally towels at the gates. On the field, it will be interesting to see how the team reacts after losing three straight games. *Prediction: Vandy wins two of three*

Women's Tennis
SEC Tournament
Today-Sunday
Lexington, Ky.

After earning a bye, the Commodores play Kentucky in today's second-round contest. Vanderbilt beat the Wildcats 6-1 during the regular season, although the match was much closer than the score indicated. If senior Amanda Fish and company win, they will play either Louisiana State or Florida in the semifinals on Saturday.

Women's Golf
SEC Championship
Today-Sunday
West Point, Miss.

Jacqui Concolino and the No. 7 Commodores look to take home their first league title since 2004.

Men's Golf
SEC Championship
Today-Sunday
Sea Island

Coach Tom Shaw makes his first SEC Tournament appearance, and senior Luke List seeks to record his fourth top-20 finish at the event, which is being held at Sea Island for the seventh consecutive year.

Women's Track
Vanderbilt
Invitational
Today-Saturday

The Vanderbilt Invitational field includes athletes from more than 30 universities. The top Vanderbilt entrants are Garnetta Holloway, the 2006 SEC heptathlon champion who could compete in the hurdles, high jump and long jump, and distance runners Erika Schneble, Brittany Sizer and Carmen Mims. Coach Lori Shepard said she expects more than 1,200 athletes to compete, many of whom will be trying meet NCAA regional qualifying standards.

Vandy upsets Irish on Senior Day

by ALEKSEY DUBROVENSKY
Sports Reporter

When the current group of seniors on the women's lacrosse team were freshman, they had the privilege of advancing to the NCAA Final Four. That recruiting class — consisting of Kendall Thrift, Jennifer Tapscott, Nicole Pugno, Molly Frew, Ali Lemons and Brooke Shinaberry — is well aware of the level of play necessary to put together a magical tournament run.

The No. 14 Commodores (10-4) helped put a stamp on their own lacrosse legacy as they soundly defeated No. 6 Notre Dame 13-9 on Wednesday, which was Senior Day.

"This team reminds me of that Final Four team," Thrift said. "We're so much more mature and confident this year than last."

These Commodores thoroughly outplayed the perennial-powerhouse Irish, who went to the Final Four last season. They never allowed the Irish to take the lead and relied on a patient but relentless offensive attack to setup dozens of solid scoring opportunities. For the game, they out-shot Notre

Dame 34-16.

Additionally, their defense stepped up in a big way, shutting out the Irish during the final 15 minutes of the game.

"What a great way for our seniors to finish their home campaign," said coach Cathy Swezey. "Our team maintained our demeanor. There have been a couple of games this year when I felt that we got a bit rattled, but they kept their cool today."

After jumping out to a 4-1 lead midway through the first period, the Dores surrendered four of the next five goals to the Irish. Just as the momentum appeared to be swinging away from them, Vanderbilt freshman Anastasia Adam put one in the back of the net after a fancy assist from sophomore Cara Giordano to reclaim the lead for the Dores.

Adam would finish with two points, one goal and one assist, and Giordano had four points, tied for the game-high, with three goals and one assist.

"Our strategy was to run a settled attack," Tapscott said. "We wanted to use the open space on the field when we had some time and attack the goal. If we didn't score, we wanted to pull the ball back

out of the zone and settle down and reset our attack."

After Notre Dame knotted the game at nine with 15:40 remaining, it was all Commodores. Unsurprisingly, the seniors led the charge.

Tapscott wound through the Irish defense, raced behind the net and fed the ball to Giordano, who fired it past Notre Dame goalkeeper Erin Goodman. Just a minute later, Thrift found junior Margie Curran for her second goal of the game.

Goalkeeper Shinaberry, who redshirted her freshman year and will play another season, along with defenders Frew and junior Sasha Cielak, held firm against a hurried and increasingly desperate Notre Dame offense.

"We needed everyone to be on the same page (on defense) and take away their cutters," Frew said. "So we stuck tight to our assigned girls and kept our eyes open for where help was needed."

The victory continues the upward swing of momentum for the Dores who have now won three straight and six of their last seven games. They close out their regular season on April 29 as they travel to Ithaca, N.Y., for a match with Cornell. ■



NEIL BRAKE / VU Media Relations

Vanderbilt sophomore Cara Giordano (9) and freshman Anastasia Adam (33) celebrate during the Commodores' 13-9 victory over No. 6 Notre Dame on Wednesday, which was Senior Day.

friday conversation KAITLIN REYNOLDS

After winning Vanderbilt's first national title last Saturday against Maryland Eastern Shore, sophomore Kaitlin Reynolds took some time to talk to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

VANDERBILT HUSTLER: It's been almost a week since you guys won the school's first national title. Has it all sunk in yet?

KAITLIN REYNOLDS: I still can't believe it, to be honest. I walk around and see my face on a big poster — who would've ever dreamed of that? We're still enjoying all of this.

VH: When you arrived here two years ago, did you ever expect this program to accomplish so much so soon?

KR: For me, it was a goal from the start. I guess didn't really expect it to happen my second year, but I hoped for it.

VH: Describe the thrill of bowling on national television.

KR: It was really surreal. They have monitors on the lanes so you can see what will be on TV. We tried not to look up at them ... Those were some of the hardest shots I've ever thrown in my entire life.

VH: What was the feeling as Josie Earnest stepped up to the lane in the 10th frame with the title on the line?

KR: I'm really glad that she struck. After her first strike she actually came back and she went to give me a high-five and hit me in the face. There was a lot of emotion. It was just crazy — like a dream.

VH: I saw that you guys recently shaved coach John Williamson's head. What was the explanation for that?

KR: It actually started last year. Mandy Keily had a bet that if she got 11 strikes in a row in any game he would have to shave his head. At nationals, we changed it to if we win, he would have to shave a star on his head. He was a really good sport about it.

VH: Speaking of coach Williamson, how instrumental has he been in your success?

KR: For me personally, he's helped me through a lot this year because I had a lot of struggles. He's not only been supportive, but he's also helped from a technical standpoint. A lot of people don't give him the credit that he deserves. He's worked very hard to get as much knowledge as possible to help us and done an amazing job.

VH: What do you say to the people who claim that bowling not a sport?

KR: I know personally how much work I've put in. From a very young age, I've worked to get better, and I think people don't necessarily understand the sport at a competitive level. I try to be understanding when people make that argument, but at the same time, our trainer has even said that we can compete with some of her other athletes in different sports.

VH: What advice would you give to the recreational bowler so that he or she can improve their score?

KR: Depending on the kind of bowler you are, I look at the arrows when I throw a ball, and I actually look at a specific board on the lane and try to hit the board every time.

VH: What's your best score of all-time?

KR: I actually shot a 299 in our host tournament last year. I had 11 strikes in a row before I threw a nine count. I wanted the 300 bad.

VH: Favorite bowling movie of all-time?

KR: I'd go with "The Big Lebowski."

VH: Good choice. Other favorite movie?

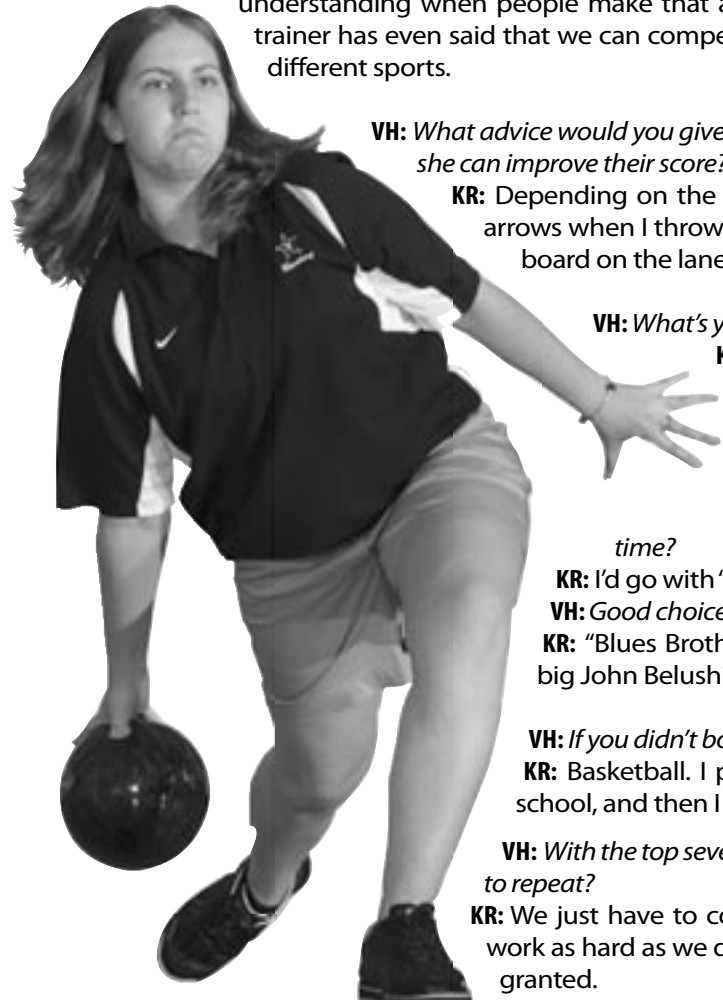
KR: "Blues Brothers." I'm from close to Chicago and a big John Belushi fan.

VH: If you didn't bowl, what other sport would you play?

KR: Basketball. I played it in grade school and middle school, and then I bowled in high school.

VH: With the top seven bowlers all returning, what will it take to repeat?

KR: We just have to come back and refocus next year and work as hard as we did this year and not take anything for granted.



Dores drop two midweek games

by PETE MADDEN
Sports Reporter

While the Vanderbilt baseball team came into this week a perfect 23-0 against non-league opponents, the Commodores took down the Blue Raiders did not take much notice. After the Bisons took down the Commodores 5-3 on Tuesday, the Blue Raiders did the same thing on Wednesday, beating Tim Corbin's squad 11-8.

If anything is clear, it's that no game is easy, especially when one considers how geared up midweek opponents get to face the Commodores, now 32-8 overall and 9-6 in the Southeastern Conference.

"A lot of times when you get ready for a conference opponent, you get to see them on TV, or you've played with them before," Corbin said. "With midweek games you've had less time to prepare, and a lot of time they're against neighboring teams. They look at it as a chance to prove themselves."

MTSU 11, Vandy 8

Trailing 8-5 in the top of the sixth, Vanderbilt rallied for three runs, highlighted by David Macias' RBI double. The Blue Raiders came back with a run in the seventh when Grant Box ripped an RBI double down the left field line and added two more insurance runs in the eighth off reliever Josh Zeid.

"They hit some hard hit balls, and every time we tried to score some runs and come back we couldn't stop them," Corbin said. "It was frustrating."

Commodore starter Ty Davis surrendered eight runs in four and one-third innings of work before handing the ball to reliever Cody Crowell in the fifth, who pitched effectively until the seventh.

Lipscomb 5, Vandy 3

Caleb Joseph's game-winning two-run homer in bottom of the seventh lifted the Bisons over the Commodores.

Vanderbilt starter Brett Jacobson held the Bisons scoreless before running into trouble in the sixth, when a leadoff single and two consecutive RBI doubles tied the game at two. Stephen Shao was able to pitch out of the jam in the sixth in relief of Jacobson, but an infield single in the seventh followed by Joseph's two-run blast to left put the Bisons on top for good.

"I want to give all the credit to Lipscomb tonight," Corbin said. "They beat us in every phase of the game. They had 13 hits and had chances to run up the score even more. Lipscomb just outplayed us and had the better team tonight, no question about it."

Moving forward

The Commodores will look to shake off their midweek blues quickly as they welcome the intrastate rivals from Knoxville for a three-game series.

The Volunteers (22-14, 6-7 SEC) are anchored by three juniors listed as potential first-round picks in the upcoming Major League Baseball Draft: pitcher James Adkins, catcher J.P. Arencibia and outfielder Julio Borbon. They have also won their last six series against SECEasternDivision opponents, including last year's 2-1 series victory over the Commodores.

Tonight's contest will feature two lefty superstars, as Adkins (4-5, 3.11 ERA) will square off against Commodore ace David Price (6-0, 3.03 ERA).

Freshman Mike Minor will take the mound for the Commodores on Saturday, while Corbin has yet to announce his Sunday starter. ■

TOP 10 SOLO PERFORMANCES OF 2006-07

The Vanderbilt Hustler honored teams for their accomplishments this Wednesday, and today it recognizes the individuals who came up with big-time performances.



#01 'We ain't going home!'

Derrick Byars didn't want his college career to end, and it showed. The senior poured in 27 points, including five-for-nine from 3-point range, and came up with a huge block against Washington State to send the Commodores to the Sweet 16.

#02 Flaherty calls his shot

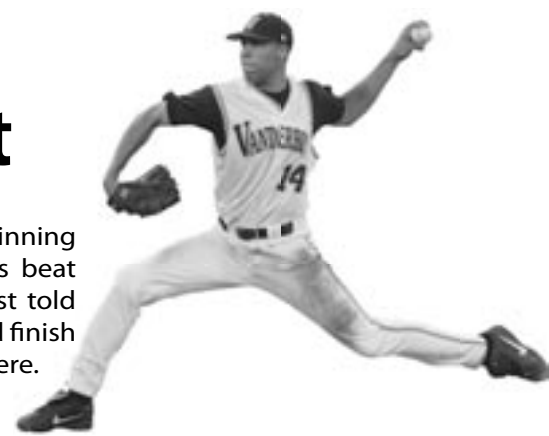
"Are you guys ready to win the game?" That's what Ryan Flaherty asked his teammates as he stepped to the plate with two outs in the bottom of ninth. The sophomore followed through on his word, blasting a two-run homer to lift Vandy past Boston College 7-6. Minutes later the basketball team came back to beat Kentucky to complete its second straight sweep of the Wildcats.

#03 Davis comes up clutch

While Dee Davis loves getting the ball to her teammates, the school's all-time leader in assists also knows how to score a little bit. Davis poured in 19 points, including a key breakaway layup with 23 seconds remaining, to lift the Dores to a 51-45 victory over LSU in the SEC title game.

#04 Price is right

David Price struck out 14 in a 10-inning complete game as the Commodores beat Ole Miss 3-2 in the SEC opener. "I just told coach (Corbin), I wanted to go out and finish the game," Price said. No objections here.



#05 Unstoppable



Leaping with three Florida defenders, Earl Bennett somehow managed to come down with the pass. As No. 10 got up and returned to huddle, two of the three defensive backs involved in the play remained on the ground in pain. Bennett finished with 13 catches for 157 yards and a touchdown in the team's 25-19 loss to the eventual national champions.

#06 Bowling for title

Freshman Josie Earnest calmly iced Vandy's first national title by bowling two strikes in the 10th and final frame. "I knew that I had wanted to be in that moment the entire season," Earnest said, "and when I got there I focused on making good throws and then just hoped and prayed those pins would fall."

#07 Multi-talented

Garnetta Holloway finished third in the pentathlon at the SEC Indoor Track and Field Championships. The senior finished with 3,832 points after producing solid performances in the high jump, shot put, long jump and 800-meter run.

#08 In Goff we trust

The Commodore linebacker was an absolute monster in the first two games of the season, recording 27 tackles, forcing two fumbles and blocking one field goal.



#09 Fish dominates

Vanderbilt senior Amanda Fish had a great final home weekend, winning both of her matches over ranked opponents, including a thrilling super-tiebreaker victory to help the Commodores defeat South Carolina.



#10 Dynamic duo

Kendall Thrift (2 goals, 3 assists) and Margie Curran (4 goals, 1 assist) combined for 10 points in the Commodores' crucial 11-10 victory over Johns Hopkins.

Dores ready to make tourney run

Women's tennis seeks to avenge last year's loss to Kentucky.

by FRANKLIN PETR
Sports Reporter

The women's tennis team is searching for a title. And while they'd certainly be happy following in the bowling team's footsteps, right now the Commodores are focused on goals a little closer to home.

Today marks Vanderbilt's latest attempt at securing a Southeastern Conference championship, a prize that has recently remained just out of its grasp.

Despite two trips to the NCAA semifinals in the past seven years and continued regular season success, the Commodores have not been unable to clinch a conference title.

But even though the drought has continued for so long, this may very well be the year it turns around.

Vanderbilt will face Kentucky in the opening round, and even though Vanderbilt handled the Wildcats easily during the regular season, this should be one of the most intense matches all season.

Last year Vanderbilt faced a similar situation, squaring off against Kentucky in the second round. The second-seeded Commodores were upstaged, however, and the Wildcats sent Vanderbilt home early.

But this is a different Vanderbilt team this year. Despite losing five matches in a row in February (more than they lost all of last season), the team's top



After earning a bye in the first round, the Vanderbilt women's tennis team faces Kentucky today in the Southeastern Conference Tournament.

four players earned All-SEC honors.

In addition, Vanderbilt was extremely close to taking both conference and freshman player of the year honors.

Junior Amanda Taylor has played lights out the entire season, posting a 10-1 conference record at the No. 2 spot.

Taylor would have been a lock for conference player of the year save for a tremendous showing by Louisiana State senior Megan Falcon, who has posted a remarkable 29-2 record since August.

Catherine Newman

could be the difference maker for Vanderbilt this year. The freshman from North Carolina has made an immediate impact for the Commodores at No. 3 singles.

She posted 9-2 conference records in both doubles and singles. Newman also managed fall season victories over fourth-ranked Jenna Long from North Carolina and SEC Freshman of the Year Yvette Hyndman.

After Kentucky, Vanderbilt will have the ability to avenge its only two conference losses of the season. Assuming no

upsets occur, Vanderbilt has the possibility of facing Florida in the semifinals and Georgia for the championship. The Commodores lost close 4-3 decisions in both matches. So the time has come for the Vanderbilt women's tennis team.

Despite strong showings in both the regular season and the NCAA Tournament over the past decade, this group of Commodores has been unable to secure its conference title.

Perhaps this is the year their search finally comes to an end. ■

SPORTS BRIEFS

Women's golf competes at SEC Championship

The seventh-ranked Vanderbilt women's golf team competes in the opening round of the Southeastern Conference Women's Golf Championship today at the Old Waverly Golf Club.

Considered one of the most challenging women's golf conferences in the nation, the SEC features nine teams ranked in the latest Golfweek and Golfstat computer polls, including No. 3 Georgia and No. 5 Auburn.

In addition, seven players currently listed in the top 25 of the Golfweek rankings will be challenging for medalist honors, including seventh-ranked Jacqui Concolino of Vanderbilt and fourth-ranked Sandra Gal of Florida.

"We're in a good place entering this tournament," said Vanderbilt coach Martha Richards. "Everyone has prepared well for what should be a very competitive event."

Concolino has posted seven top-10 finishes in 12 events this season for Vanderbilt and enters the weekend with a 72.56 stroke average.

Vanderbilt played host to the SEC Championship last season at the Vanderbilt Legends Club in Franklin, Tenn., and finished fourth in the team standings. Concolino shot a 2-over par 216 to take fourth place individually. The three-day, 54-hole event is being hosted by Mississippi State University.

Men's tennis ousted in first round

The eighth-seeded Vanderbilt men's tennis team was upset 4-0 by ninth-seeded Mississippi State in the opening round of the SEC tournament Thursday. The Commodores (10-12, 4-8 SEC) surrendered the doubles point to the Bulldogs (7-12, 4-8) and never recovered.

Coach Ian Duvenhage said SEC despite the tournament loss, he thinks that his 37th-ranked Commodores will still earn an invitation to the NCAA tournament, set to begin in mid-May.

Vanderbilt to host cycling event

Vanderbilt is hosting the South Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference Championships this weekend. The races will take place in Franklin starting at Hillsboro Elementary School Saturday at 9 a.m. On Sunday, a criterium will take place at LP Field beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Last weekend, two members of the cycling team won every event they participated in at a race hosted by Lees McRae College. Barrett Krei won the men's C category criterium (a highly technical race making loops for 30 minutes around a mile course) as well as the 20.6 mile road race up the mountain. Similarly, Jordan Arnot won the same races in the women's B category.

The Vanderbilt cycling team as a whole is currently in third place in the SECCC behind Cumberland University and Furman.

LIFE

INDEX

The Week Ahead

This week Music City comes to Vandy, instead of the other way around. Check out Rites, then use the rest of your week to procrastinate studying for finals and writing those pesky papers.

FRIDAY 4/20

It's Friday, so you know what that means — relaxing to the groovy tunes of bands like Keller Williams, Wolfmother and Drive-By Truckers at Rites of Spring. If you haven't already heard, tickets are \$10 on the card for any Vandy student.

SATURDAY 4/21

Rites continues to jam tonight with The Roots, Mat Kearney and Naughty By Nature on Alumni Lawn. Get ready for the last party before finals.

SUNDAY 4/22

If you have a moment in between writing final papers and squeezing in time with friends, head over to the Belcourt for the Second Annual Samurai Film Festival. Large, naked men wrestling accompanied by sake from the bar make for an interesting evening. Catch "Yojimbo" at 7 p.m., or check the schedule for other films.

MONDAY 4/23



Who cares what work you have tonight — The Killers are coming to town! The band that brought cigarette pants to the mainstream plays at the renowned Ryman Auditorium tonight. Call 889-3060 for details.

TUESDAY 4/24



Continue procrastinating and head down to Exit/In to catch Partice. In 2003, the techno/electronic band played a five-hour set at 3 a.m. If that doesn't scream "energy," then what does? The show starts at 8 p.m., and tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

WEDNESDAY 4/25

If you're feeling low about all the productivity you've missed by now, go find some company for your misery with rock band My Chemical Romance. The show is at the Municipal Auditorium; call 862-6395 for details.

THURSDAY 4/26

Now that you're past the anger stage, get sentimental with singer-songwriter Norah Jones. Head back to the Ryman at 7:30 p.m. for the show, but bring your wallet — tickets start at \$47.

Q & A WITH JOE ROGAN



Comedian-turned-actor-turned-comedian Joe Rogan chats with Life staff writer Michael Young about his new comedy CD "Shiny Happy Jihad." He also dishes about his past career stunts and what he thinks is funny.

Vanderbilt Hustler: A lot of people don't know it, but you're not just *THE HOST OF "FEAR FACTOR."* You're a comedian too, right?

Joe Rogan: I think probably 30 percent of the people who know who I am also know that I'm a comedian. I've been doing comedy since the beginning, but "Fear Factor" is what everyone remembers.

VH: But you were on a couple episodes of "*CHAPPELLE'S SHOW*" awhile back. Was that just for fun, or were you trying to remind people that you're a comedian?

JR: One was totally by accident. I was just walking down the street. I've known Dave from years and years ago. I just saw him with a fake mustache on, handing out medals for New York boobs. He asked me to join him, and I said sure.

VH: You also used to act. Back in the mid-1990s you were on "*NEWSRADIO*" for a few seasons. What was the reason you switched to acting?

JR: Money. That was really it. I never had any aspirations to be on a sitcom. It was completely by chance. They just offered me a development deal. They noticed me from when I had done a half-hour comedy (show) on Comedy Central. They gave me a ton of money and asked me if I wanted to do a sitcom. I went from being really broke, and suddenly networks were giving me money. They flew me out to California, and I did a show called "Hardball." It was dumb.

VH: How would you describe your comedic style?

JR: *UNCENSORED IS A GOOD WORD*, but it's used a lot. My comedy is a view into the way I look at life. Here's the world through my eyes. It's basically just like a distorted version of how I communicate with my friends. You talk honestly and openly with your friends, and this is what I think about things.

VH: What comedians have influenced you?

JR: *RICHARD PRYOR, LENNY BRUCE, BILL HICKS*, a lot of guys. I always liked comedy because all these guys are doing is talking, and it's making everyone crack up. Them talking is funnier than any movie I've seen in my life.

VH: What's your favorite segment on your new CD? What would you recommend new listeners listen to first?

JR: The part about "Dumb People Out-Breeding Smart People" and how it explains the pyramids is a good one. It's funny, and it has some of those social ideas from earlier.

VH: Final question: Would you actually eat a cow penis?

JR: Definitely. If I was broke, *FOR \$50,000*, of course.

Fear factor



UNCENSORED



Joe Rogan's return to comedy will leave you smiling all over

by MICHAEL YOUNG
Life Staff Writer

Joe Rogan's latest stand-up CD, "Shiny Happy Jihad," is a comedic masterwork, an uncensored verbal sprint that will leave your chest aching from the laughter.

"Who is this Joe Rogan?" you might be asking. "Is he the guy from 'Fear Factor'?" In short, yes, but those who only know Rogan from the show where people eat animal entrails before jumping off a cliff are really missing out. Rogan has been a comedian since the beginning of his career, but he also played the role of Joe Garelli on "NewsRadio," one of the mid-90s most entertaining sitcoms. Apart from comedy, he has also won the U.S. Open Tae Kwon Do Championship, and is an Ultimate Fighting Championship commentator.

It's this long, twisty career that has provided Rogan with the necessary background to be a comedian who can appeal on multiple levels. Unlike a lot of comedians out there who explicitly say they specialize in one field or another, Rogan tackles every field of subject matter. It's like he is not even worried whether or not he can make something funny; when he says it, it just is.

What differentiates Rogan's style from most comedians is his ability to find



humor in real-life problems and events. Of course he's got some traditional material for easy laughs, like segments about how guys become "whipped," and how one can recognize the warning signs. But he also deals with issues that even the most rhetorically skilled politicians are afraid to approach.

If you listen to this CD, you'll hear everything from Rogan calling out suicide bombers for their ignorance to railing on the Catholic Church for its shortcomings in the modern era. And then there's his segment on how dumb people out-breeding smart people spells doom for society, and there's even a funny link to the creation of Egypt's pyramids. Is he crazy? Maybe a little, but

read any scholarly article on the issue of overpopulation and you'll find similar theories about breeding patterns, albeit in far less obscene and entertaining terms.

This subtext of sincerity isn't surprising given Rogan's real-life crusades. Most comedians tell their jokes and leave, but not this guy. Rogan has been one of the leading voices in the effort against plagiarizing comedians. Just two months ago he argued on-stage with Carlos Mencia until the audience booed Mencia off the stage for his joke-stealing hypocrisy.

A lot of comedians rely on live performance to be funny, but not Rogan. You don't have to see the routine or his facial expressions to laugh heartily at his jokes. His material is good enough to stand on its own as a CD, and it will have you laughing from the opening seconds to the final joke.

Good stand-up like this is rare, and if you can stomach the explicit language (and if you can't, why are you listening to stand-up?), "Shiny Happy Jihad" is worth every penny. It's one of the funniest routines to come out in the past few years, and a must-buy for every true fan of comedy. ■

RATING: ★★★★★

STRAIGHT UP and SLIGHTLY CHILLED

by KATIE DePAOLA
Advice Columnist

Q Lately, my boyfriend wants to hook up every minute of the day — when we wake up in the morning, between classes and of course, before we go to bed. I love him and enjoy the physical aspect of our relationship, but sometimes I just need a little space! Any advice?

A Straight up, it sounds like you two need to have an honest chat about your sex life. I really believe that every aspect of a relationship — even the physical part — requires ongoing compromise and conversation, so let's start there.

First of all, it's completely OK that you're feeling a little overwhelmed with your situation. It's normal that you want some space every now and then, and it's good you don't feel completely dependent upon this relationship.

Still, it's obvious you love your boyfriend, and it sounds like you want to be careful about how you approach this situation. Unless he's being forceful in any way (in which case you should contact Project Safe or visit the Women's Center immediately), you could begin by scheduling a specific time to talk about this issue with him. It's best to talk about it when it's fresh on your mind.

When you sit down to talk, you might want to do it in a place where you can't just launch into hook-up mode on the spot. I understand if you don't want to do it while you're out at dinner to avoid awkward run-ins with your great-aunt or Bible study leader, but what about the Peabody lawn, Fido in Hillsboro Village or just on a walk around Centennial Park? Trust me, if you try to have a "sex talk" in bed, you're going to end up, well, having sex.

Also, you need to be honest with him about your feelings. Give him some credit and tell him you enjoy the physical aspect of your relationship and it makes you happy to know he enjoys it too. Then, break the news. Tell him you know he likes quantity, but sometimes you prefer quality. Ask him if there's room for compromise in the physical component of physical relationship. Maybe if you hook up a lot one night, the next day you can cool off a bit. A lot of people find comfort in a trusting, sexual relationship, but it's important to spend real time together too.

To contact the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, call 322-4843 or visit www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter/index.htm

To contact Project Safe, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/ProjectSafe/dating.html

Denitia Odigie searches for 'Good Causes'

Odigie's first studio album is a mismatch of style and substance.

by CHRIS GEARING
Life Staff Writer

Every artist has to pay his or her dues in the beginning. They have to find their place in the world and their own unique voice and style of music. Sadly, Denitia Odigie's new EP, "Good Causes," places her in the category of a burgeoning artist still searching for her place in a massive music market.

Her album displays her creative ability, but she seems to lack a suitable direction to take herself and her music. It almost seems as though her music and lyrics were arbitrarily thrown together since they portray such polar musical styles. Odigie is an acoustic folk artist trapped in a grungy jam-band body.

Odigie has been playing in Nashville for years and recently found success on the road. Her talent has been displayed to thousands, and she was even described as "this year's find of the fest!" at the most recent POP Montreal festival. With the release of her EP, Odigie has taken her first step toward commercial success in the uber-competitive Nashville music scene.

This record gives a sampling of Odigie's style and promising songwriting ability but is also marred by many technical and musical flaws, the most glaring of which is the actual recording of the music. The reverb is high, the audio is crackling and the equipment can barely handle Odigie's voice at a few points along the way. Admittedly, this may be Odigie's own stylistic choice since she co-produced the album, but this misguided attempt at a "stripped-down" or "low-production-value" sound falls flat and instead makes the album a chore to sit through.

The other failing of "Good Causes" is the previously described mismatch of the feathery lyrics and the heavy sounds of grunge music. Odigie's prose describes

scenes of misguided love and late-night hookups but takes a random turn into abstract in songs such as "Fire and Smoke" and "Satisfied." The lead track, "5 Minutes," is a flowery tale of falling in and losing love set to a frenetic and often chaotic guitar riff that throws off the entire sound and meaning of the ballad. It is hard to make heads or tails of the meaning of these songs upon repeated listening and will likely turn off the casual listener.



ODIGIE

Photo by Jeremy Myers

The lyrics are also delivered to the often chaotic and confusing grunge melodies from her backup band, and this mismatch of lyrical intent and musical canvas paints a very confusing and eccentric scene. These same lyrics set to an acoustic guitar would seem reminiscent of other big-name acts such as The Wreckers or the unorthodox Tori Amos. It seems as

though Odigie may have been trying a bit too hard to be that "revolutionary voice" in today's music scene.

That said, Odigie's breakout EP has praiseworthy aspects as well. There is no denying that Odigie is a talented writer. Her lyrics speak with a strong voice, and her interesting ideas should not be ignored. This is where her spark and lure lies. She has an amazing ability to project an image in the listener's head and can tell a story that will take her fans to another place.

Again, every artist has to start somewhere, and the growing pains of an early act can be testing and especially painful. Although this original EP has clear production and musical blemishes, keep your eye on the songwriting and growing talent of Odigie. You may see that name on the marquee sooner than you think. ■

RATING: ★★☆☆

HUSTLER PICKS

Each week the Hustler staff will weigh in on a certain subject pertaining to arts and entertainment. This week, staffers and students choose the band they are most looking forward to seeing at Rites.



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Amos Lee

JARRED AMATO
Sports Editor
Vandy Baseball Game

ALLISON SMITH
News Editor
Mat Kearney

DARCY NEWELL
Life Editor
Naughty By Nature

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Focus Editor
The Roots

READER PICKS

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Senior
Mat Kearney

JESSICA KEENER
Sophomore
Naughty By Nature

AMBER CURTIS
Sophomore
The Roots

PAUL SPARKS
Junior
The Roots

This is the last edition of Hustler Picks; thank you to everyone who participated in our various topics!

Hustler Picks will be back in the fall with a host of new subjects to weigh in on. Happy summer!

You don't have to wager with 'La Bete'

The Cripple Lilies' first studio album proves to be one of the most unique and promising releases of the year.

by DARCY NEWELL
Life Editor

Listening to The Cripple Lilies' first studio album "La Bete" is an endless guessing game of whom exactly the band sounds like. With its layers of diverse instrumentation (nylon-string guitar, electric bass, flute, organ and a lap steel guitar, to name a few) and the various qualities of the two predominant vocalists Chad Bishop and Elizabeth Lopiccolo, the band hearkens to artists as diverse as Burt Bacharach, The Mamas & The Papas, Phil Collins, Belle and Sebastian, and Modest Mouse. Yet, while this may seem to be a daunting and overly complex mixture, the result is strangely soothing and melodic, and it's definitely unlike anything out on the market today.

Prior to this release (which will be available in stores May 1), The Cripple Lilies have only produced one live album, which was well received for its energetic and vivacious sound. Thus, the mellow nature of "La Bete" may prove to be a shock for seasoned listeners. However, as is stated in a press release from their Los Angeles-based label Infectious, "La Bete" is a different creature altogether, a siren's call, to be sure, but emerging gently, wistfully, as if from a deep well."

For this record, Bishop and Lopiccolo team up with long-time friend Aaron Finley, as well as musicians Sean Peterson and Brandon Warren. Thus, there are five voices present on this album, but they blend superbly; while you can tell there are numerous voices layered on top of one another, none of them stand out to be different.

The album only has nine tracks, but because each song is so unique and explores such different subject matter, there seems to be many more. The distinctive subjects can be seen in titles, like "The Charred Heart of the Tin Woodman," "Left Over Legs" and "Henry Darger Fights the Weatherman." Yet, that is not to say the song lyrics are obscure and hard to relate to — instead, they, like many of their indie contemporaries, focus on describing



Nate Beeler—MCT

normal situations and feelings in a novel way. Yet, what sets them apart is they accomplish this feat, and the result is a subtle message that entrances the listener. The opening track, "The Charred Heart of the Tin Woodman" has a chorus that plainly states "And all I have is half a heart / Full of love."

Yet, the best news of all is that The Cripple Lilies are bringing their intriguing sound to Nashville, and more specifically, to the stage at the underground (literally) club The Basement, which sits beneath Grimey's New and Preloved Music record store, which, if you haven't explored yet, is a haven for music lovers of all walks of life. The group will be here May 8, so if you are haven't gone home for finals yet or live locally, I highly recommend you attend. If not, you can hear their music at www.myspace.com/thecripplelilies or www.thecripplelilies.com. Pick up "La Bete" if you crave something truly unique; an escape from the ordinary to someplace completely new. ■

RATING: ★★★★★

'The Real Wedding Crashers' lacks the fun of the movie

NBC's new Monday night reality show isn't all it's 'crashed' up to be.

by MICHAEL YOUNG
Life Staff Writer

NBC's new Monday night show, "The Real Wedding Crashers," is a stab at reality-based genius — one that completely and totally misses the mark.

"Wait," you might say. "It says 'Wedding Crashers.' Shouldn't it be hilarious like the Vince Vaughn movie?" You might think so, and the show's logo invites the comparison, with its font of all capital-red letters that is almost a perfect copy of the movie poster. But the similarities end there.

This isn't even a pseudo-sequel in the form of a television program. "The Real Wedding Crashers" is a reality show, one where a cast of pranksters, designated on-screen as "crashers" (to go along with the oh-so-clever theme), find ways to irritate and disrupt one of the most important days of people's lives.

Call me sadistic, but even that could be funny if done well. After all, a show from the producers of "Punk'd" would surely be able to make the whole thing funny without hurting anyone too badly, but "Crashers" doesn't even try to do that. The twist in this show is that the bride and groom are in on the joke. The only people being fooled are those in attendance, and unless my personal observations are off, many of those people go to weddings out of obligation (and if you women out there don't believe it, trust me, guys hate weddings). In the end, the joke only works on people sitting idly in the audience, and since a prank show relies on the reactions of specific individuals to achieve its affect, "The Real Wedding Crashers" lacks any true comic punch.

The pranks themselves aren't even

very good. Each episode includes shots from about three different weddings to provide some variety, and the jokes range from a priest answering his cell phone during vows to intentionally catching a wedding dress in a car door. That's about as epic as it gets. There was nothing in the first episode that caught me off guard or made me recoil at the creators' inventiveness.

As the show draws to a close and the pranks start to die down, the crashers try their best at a dramatic reveal where one of them will grab a microphone and shout to the stunned attendees that their wedding "has been crashed!" But instead of everyone laughing and slapping each other on the back as often happens in "Punk'd," most people just sit there wondering what's going on, and viewers quickly grow bored. See, the reveals work in "Punk'd" because it deals with celebrities who have an image to protect and are quick to show off how playful they are on camera. But regular people don't care, and the result is a show that falls flat and bores viewers with its lack of intensity.

Granted, "The Real Wedding Crashers" is a fun concept. If it had some genuinely clever ideas and maybe a few cameos from the cast of the movie "Wedding Crashers," it might be worth watching. But for the moment, you'd be better off attending a real wedding than watching this mess. ■

RATING: ★☆☆☆

—To hear about the show straight from producer Ashton Kutcher, see [Life](#) on:

FUN & GAMES

SUDOKU

TO SOLVE:
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4/18/07 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
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 - Stitched connection
 - Draw out
 - Daffy bird?
 - Senate gofer
 - Copier brand
 - Facilitates
 - Chaplain
 - Blight on the landscape
 - Delays
 - Metallic element
 - Female deer
 - Two-point score
 - No big deal
 - One more time
 - Small silvery food fish
 - Equal score
 - Pinball violation
 - Spread on
 - Nap locale
 - Urwell
 - Leghorn location
 - "Guys and ___"
 - Linchpin
 - Soldier's lodging
 - Skirt's edge
 - 12/25
 - In the beginning
 - Game areas
 - Dishes
 - Space traveler
 - Religious principle
 - Garden labyrinth
 - By way of, briefly
 - Intuit
 - Word with jacket or collar
 - Careless eater

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4/20/07

4/18/07 SOLUTIONS

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- DOWN**
- Out of the wind
 - Subtly clever
 - Early Hitchcock movie
 - Singles
 - Incorporeal consciousness
 - Consumed
 - Grow older
 - Webwork
 - Heroic deed
 - Muffle
 - Pakistani tongue
 - Part of FDIC
 - Previous partners
 - 13, for a baker
 - In a weird way
 - Intricate
 - Dyeing method using wax
 - Nimble
 - "When Harry Met ___"
 - Baby fox
 - Count (on)
 - Bikini, for one
 - Doughboy's weapon
 - Brewer's ingredient
 - Cross over
 - Tiny particles
 - Fifth note
 - Repeat
 - "Saturday Night Fever" craze
 - Polishes
 - Lacking vegetation
 - Passover cracker
 - Play parts
 - "Of ___ I Sing"
 - Huckleberry of fiction
 - Mild
 - Aardvark snack
 - Willie Wonka's creator
 - Continental bill
 - Torn ticket
 - Posed

YOU IN THE YEARBOOK

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



Submitted by **Lucile Rich**
Amy Thannisch, Campbell Glenn, Cate Blankenship and Sarah Leggett shopping in the Seaside boutiques during spring break.

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!

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