

The Slant

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Pope Ascends To Heaven

Overstaying our welcome... since 1886

INSIDETHISSUE

Culture Of Life Accidentally Dropped On Floor Of Bio Lab

Thundercats Always 6 Seconds Per Mile Behind Lightning Cats

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...And More Make-Believe Stuff



Wilson Hall Monkeys Demand Interhall Representation

The monkeys in the Wilson Hall primate laboratory began flinging their own feces in

protest Monday to demand dorm improvements from recently empowered Interhall President, Kyle Southern. The monkeys cited their cages as being cramped and "Kissam-like," despite the fact that many of the apes have been at Vanderbilt several years and should have enough points for a Towers suite. "I'm not sure they deserve any improvements," said primate researcher and R.A. Dr. Michael Pollard. "I've had to write them up for behavior violations 37 times, not to mention that one alcohol violation. I still don't know how they got it in. Although," Pollard admitted, "both their self-control and their intelligence surpass that of Branscomb residents."

Prince Charles Marries, Atones For Bad Taste

On Saturday, Charles, Prince of Wales, finally married his longtime love, Camilla Parker Bowles, now called the Duchess of Cornwall. The wedding was postponed one day so that the prince could attend the funeral of Pope John Paul II, but the delay in no way put a damper on his love of dog-faced, poorly aging women. "It's true," said Charles, clutching the hand of his shriveled shrew of a bride. "I have poor taste in women." In addition to the public admission of his "sins and wickedness" for his and Bowles' past acts of adultery, Charles was also forced to show penitence for his "sinfully wicked" taste in women. Charles was previously married to the gorgeous and glamorous late Princess of Wales, Diana, and cheated on her with the basset hound-faced Camilla. According to the House of Windsor, if Charles becomes king, Camilla will be referred to as the "Princess Consort," and be required to wear a paper bag over her head at all times.



Body Found In Bag Of Popcorn

Freshman Amanda Jenkins discovered a human corpse in her bag of popcorn, yesterday, while dining at the Ro-Tiki restaurant within the Branscomb Varsity Market. "The bag was really oddly shaped and smelled pretty bad," Jenkins remembers. "Also, it weighed about 200 pounds. I couldn't believe that much popcorn counted as a side on the meal plan!" When Amanda opened the bag, however, she found a decomposing human body resting on top of the popcorn. "I tried to push the body cadaver back in the bag with my pen, but it was too heavy," a friend said. Dining director Frank "X" Xavier Gladu vowed to figure out where the body came from or add bodies to the meal plan.

Branscomb Janitors Throw 'One Hell Of A Party'

The janitors and maintenance staff of Branscomb Quadrangle threw what participants described as, "one hell of a party," last Saturday. Raiding the confiscated alcohol closet, as well as using a large amount of confiscated marijuana, the janitors reveled until the early hours of Sunday morning, filling Branscomb with the sounds of their shouting and the smell of their ganja. Drunken freshmen, returning from a night of fratting, joined in the festivities. Several were so impressed that they tried to get the janitors to pledge them and ended up cleaning toilets in Lupton. Following the raucous party, the janitors simply destroyed the security tape of the incident. Said one spoiled Branscomber, "Finally! Those janitors did something I can appreciate."



Jerry Falwell



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Number of complaints received about not changing this space.



Balls Stuck To Leg Herald Return Of Spring

Males across the South confirmed the arrival of spring with reports that their testicles had begun to stick to their legs once again. Like firsts of the seasons - the first robin of spring and the first birds migrating south before winter - nuts clinging to one's leg due to increased heat and humidity is a telltale sign that spring has come at last. The experience was accompanied for many by a feeling of "ballstalgia," a remembering of good times had while suffering with their junk affixed to their leg. Also a sure sign of the changing seasons, Gold Bond sales have gone through the roof.

Broccoli Monster Much Scarier than Cookie Monster, According to Children's Poll

Despite his many primetime appearances and years of experience on Sesame Street, the Cookie Monster has yet again failed to establish himself as a terrifying force among the nation's children. In a recent poll conducted on behalf of USA Today, 72% rated the Broccoli Monster as "much scarier" than the lovable blue furball. In response, producers at Sesame Street have decided to toughen up the Cookie Monster's image by making him endorse cookies only as a "sometimes food" and warn children that if they eat too many of them they will end up like Oscar the High-Cholesterol Grouch.



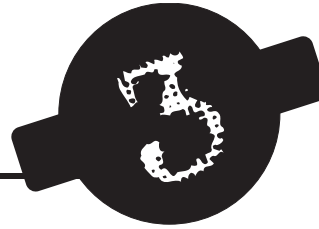
RELIGIOUS DEATHS



Jealous Protestants Waiting for Falwell to Die

After having to watch wall-to-wall coverage of the death and funeral of Pope John Paul II, America's Protestant community has been growing increasingly jealous of the attention focused on the Catholic Church. The news of Jerry Falwell's recent illness has therefore heartened Protestants of all denominations that they too might have a fallen spiritual leader to mourn. Surprisingly, Falwell's status as martyr-to-be has united conservatives and liberals in the church community. The former intend to "commemorate the passing of a great leader," the latter "can't wait for that self-important bigot to hurry up and die."

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BASEBALL ABUSE SPACE



Fans now realize why their tickets were so cheap.

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MASTHEAD



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188 Madison Sarratt Student Center

2301 Vanderbilt Place
VU# 351669 Station B
Nashville, TN 37235

Phone (615)322-3291
Fax (615)-343-2756
website www.theslant.net

STAFF

<i>Editor-in-Chief</i>	Colin Dinsmore
<i>Managing Editor</i>	David Barzelay
<i>Editors</i>	Tim Boyd
Ceaf Lewis	Robert Saunders
<i>Copy Editor</i>	Melanie Siemens
<i>Cartoonist</i>	Jason Carpentier
<i>Distribution Manager</i>	Andrew Collazzi
<i>Contributing Writers</i>	
Evan Alston	Chris Bellande
Thomas Broderick	Jason Blatt
Greg Champoux	Bridget Cornett
Nash Cummins	Claibe Deming
Tim Flerlage	Amy Fruehwald
Charlie Fu	Bobby Gambrel
Patrick Gentry	Parker Gray
Richard Green	Justin Gregg
Matthew Lavery	Heather Miliman
Sarah Salter	Beth Steedley
Rachel Unger	Liz Vennum
<i>Alumni Contributors</i>	
Andrew Banecker	Jacob Grier
Ben Stark	Jeff Woodhead
<i>Editors Emeritus</i>	
Joe Wong	Mike Mott
David Barzelay	Meredith Gray

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Corrections:

In the last issue, we mistakenly ran our paper under the title, *The Belmont Sir Laff-A-Lot*. Not only was this Arthurian pun lost on most of our readership, but it turns out that isn't the name of our paper at all. This issue has been corrected to reflect the true title, *The Slant*.

A special apology for this error goes to Thaddeus Meng, editor of the *Laff-A-Lot*, as he spent countless hours on the phone correcting the error with their readers.

In addition, the last issue had a picture of a sign that said, "Jokes 4 Donations. Dirty or clean." Much to our dismay, we found ourselves unable to come up with any clean jokes when asked, and have therefore been sued for false advertising. We apologize.

FROM THE EDITOR



COLIN DINSMORE

Well, this is the final *Slant* of the year. It's the last time you'll have to read through my hard, tasteless, editor's column in order to get to the soft gooey center of the issue, and the last chance you'll have to laugh before finals.

All in all, I think the year has been a success. We destroyed *Spoon*, which was our number one goal. We also dodged several lawsuits and came out alive. In addition, we emerged with only a few scratches from a vicious philosophical battle with ITS. To be more specific, we belonged to the school of thought that a wireless router in the office would kick ass, whereas ITS was of the opinion that since said router fucked with the wireless in half of Sarratt, it needed to be smashed.

Throughout all of these trials and tribulations, we even managed to fulfill one of our minor goals; namely, to be funny (though this remains open to debate). Some of my favorite articles included "Lance Armstrong Bracelets Found To Cause Cancer," "Nashville Prepares For Natty Light Shortage," "Everett Moran Makes Homecoming Court," and pretty much every one of the editor's columns. The clever among you must realize that I am the author of all these. Very good. You will simply have to trust me when I say I'm not full of myself; I'm just the funniest guy here at Vanderbilt.

The editor-in-chief next year is going to be Ceaf Lewis. He is the author of such best-selling columns as "#1 Grandma Actually Ranked 37,304,032nd," "Average Frat House Deemed More Sanitary Than Rand," and "Freshman Puts Black Sock Over Doorknob So Hallmates Will Think He's Having Sex." His work ethic, knowledge of Arabic, and ability not to be distracted by shiny objects is unrivaled among *Slant* staff. I have full confidence that *The Slant* will not suck ass next year, at least until I go to Germany second semester.

I would like to thank everyone who told me how much we rule this year, as well as those who restrained themselves from telling us how much we sucked. A special thanks goes out to anyone we made fun of and were able to laugh at themselves and not throw rocks at me when they saw me around campus. I bid you all a fond farewell. Keep reading.

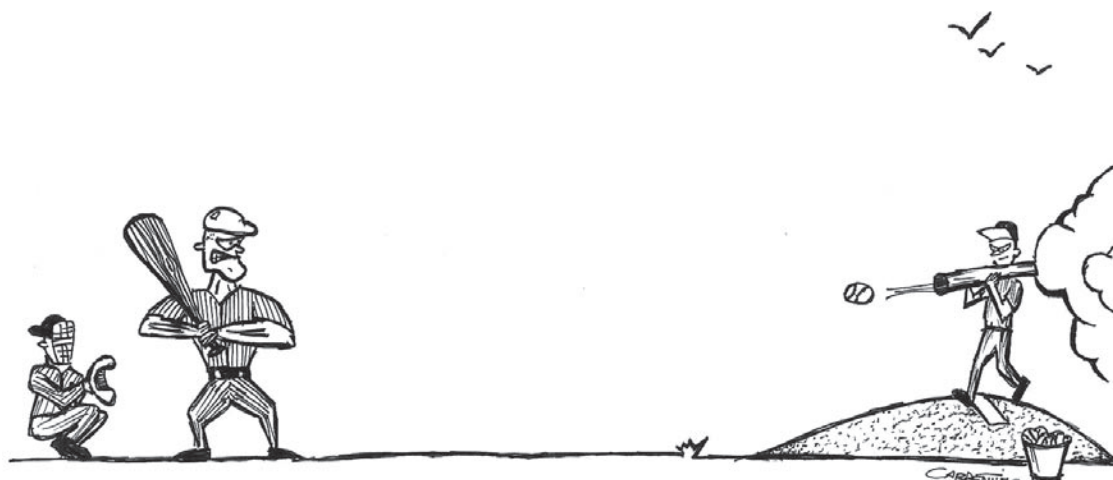
Oh, one last thing. Tiger Woods just won his fourth green jacket at The Masters. My prediction is that when it's all said and done, he will have seven of them to his name, beating out Jack by one. You can all congratulate me on the keen prediction at our class reunion. Finally, go Cubs! 🍌



Fucked Image

Chancellor Gee, don't pick your nose in public!

Professional Baseball's Solution To The Steriod Abuse Problem



Carpentooning by Jason Carpentier

Papal Election Marked By Mudslinging And Partisanship

Bitter Name-Calling Continues Amidst Conclave Controversy

by **DAVID BARZELAY**

VATICAN CITY--On the eve of the first papal election conclave in nearly twenty-six years, the campaign, say some, is turning dirty. Accusations are coming from all sides, as word reaches the media of rampant partisanship and mudslinging. Even in this modern era, it appears this papal election is going to turn out like just like they all do: with bickering and name-calling dominating the Vatican.

The big controversy is over whether the papacy should be returned to an Italian, as it has been for the last half-millennium until John Paul II, or whether it should be given to a foreigner in order to solidify support from new groups in the church such as Africans and Latin-Americans. Explained leading hispanic Cardinal Nicolas de Jesus Lopez Rodriguez of the Dominican Republic, "Haven't we had enough of the greasy wop gangster spaghetti-Catholics?"

But many say they have not had enough. A number of Catholics feel the need for broad changes to choir-boy traditions in the wake of a decade of sex scandals involving priests, and think the Polish John Paul II didn't do enough to effect those changes. It seems obvious to all that mistakes have been made at the highest levels of the Church, but no one wants to admit guilt for fear of seeming fallible and therefore, un-Pope-like.

"Everyone is pointing fingers," said Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi. "Everyone is pointing to someone else and saying, 'He, he was the liar who started all this.'" Cardinal Tettamanzi

himself has been the subject of a lot of blame, but he refuses to admit any wrong-doing. "As the rightful heir to the holy throne, I am by nature infallible and therefore could not have made any mistakes."

Vatican spokespeople seem to agree that the low-blows started with the bloggers. This is the first papal election in history in which the internet is having an effect on the results. Liberal Belgian Cardinal Godfried Danneels struck out with an early lead in the conclave polls, after a grassroots swell spurred largely by blog rings and internet mailing lists. That lead turned to a deficit, however, after it was discovered that the Belgian yells really loudly when he gets excited or is speaking over a crowd.

Speaking to a packed convention, Danneels was heard becoming gradually more animated, saying, "We're gonna take the London Archdiocese, and the Berlin Archdiocese, and Havana, and New York, yeeee-aaaahhhh!" The clip aired on closed circuit Vatican TV for days, and was extremely damaging to Danneels.

But bloggers and grassroots support aren't the only changes. Though the media has largely been silent on the issue, this conclave will cast their votes by electronic ballot. The new electronic voting machines, provided by the Diebold Corporation of America, were heavily criticized by the more tech-savvy church members for their lack of a voter-verified paper trail. Arguments against the electronic voting machines were silenced,

though, when pro-electronic voting Cardinals pointed out the excellent deal they'd gotten on them--the machines were given free by Diebold in exchange for "unspecified future considerations and indulgences."

Even so, nearly all agree on the need for election reform. During the last election cycle, there were widespread accounts of African and Latino members of the College of Cardinals being disenfranchised. There is also a question regarding whether provisional papal ballots will be counted, as well as absentee ballots for Cardinals who are overseas. Said Cardinal Francis Arinze of Eziowelle, Africa, "They tryin' to take the vote from the black man. Me and the other African Cardinals is just tryin' to keep it real in the Vatican, and they be treating us like new slaves and shit."

Other things that are new this election season include the power of so-called political action organizations. Completely unheard of in the last election, political non-profits funded by the donations of private citizens are drastically changing the election climate this year. Groups such as www.movepope.org, and the Stigmata Veterans For Truth, are airing commercials from each side accusing the other side's leaders of various wrongdoings. The groups get by without having pay tithes by remaining officially unaffiliated with the candidates they advocate, despite their candidates messages of approval at the end of each spot.

One notable example, from the

Stigmata Veterans For Truth, asks voters, "Cardinal Hume deserted his parish when they needed him most. Is that the kind of man you want as leader of your Holy See?" After a short pause, a handsome and well-dressed Cardinal Toppo appears on screen next to a picture of a ragged Cardinal Hume, saying, "Hi. I'm Cardinal Telesphore P. Toppo, and I approve this message."

These commercials are all part of what has, by all account, been a rough year for the church. The release of a scathing, tell-all documentary rocked the church. The movie, by rogue Canadian Bishop Michaelo Moran, was titled Fahrenheit 666: The Temperature At Which Non-Catholics Burn, and featured footage of Moran attempting to convince Bishops and Cardinals to send their children to secular schools. Another documentary sought to expose what it considered the bias of Vatican TV Closed Circuit News Channel, but the film, OutVaticanTVed, failed to be seen by most of the College of Cardinals.

The televised papal debates have made little headway in the bitter election battle. Each of the debates so far has simply devolved into a bunch of obscene shouting in twelve different languages. It is extremely unclear at this point what will happen, but all of the College agrees on one thing: unless Gabriel Byrne shows up to save the church from internal corruption and an election subplot involving demons and the antichrist, one side will have to give up ground. ●

Kurd Elected First President Of Iraq To Be Assassinated

by **TIM BOYD**

On April 6th, the members of the Iraqi National Assembly elected Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani to be the first post-Saddam President of Iraq. Talabani is scheduled to assume official duties as President in the coming weeks, after which he is widely expected to become the first democratically elected leader of a free Iraq to be assassinated.

Talabani's election and imminent martyrdom was greeted with jubilation in the Kurdish city of Sulamaniya in northern Iraq. "It is a moment of great pride for us," said local businessman Hasham Surif. "We have suffered several generations of oppression and attempts to wipe out our cultural identity, but to be able to present this new nation with its first martyr, what an honor! Think of the great American Presidents who were assassinated: Lincoln, Kennedy, Garfield. Talabani will one day be mentioned in those

same circles."

Even before the vote on the new President was held, it was widely acknowledged that he would be taken out by one of the insurgent groups. The leader of the Islamic Fundamentalist Sadr Army, loyal to the radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, expressed surprise that a Kurd was chosen, but said it added to the excitement of the task.

"This gives the insurgency a whole new dimension," said Elahi Dergham. "I mean, killing a Kurd, that's nothing new, but killing a Kurd who's actually in a position of power, hey, that's going to be a whole new feeling."

Even the Kurdish resistance group, the Pesh Murga, who might have been concerned at having to go after one of their own, said they were actually delighted at the way things had turned out. "This is beyond our wild-

est dreams," said guerilla leader Hakim Hammadi. "Not only will Kurdistan be producing our first martyr as a free nation, but we also stand a chance of producing the first infamous political assassin. What more of a contribution could we hope to make?"



Jalal Talabani

The intended victim of the assassination, President Talabani himself, said this act of political violence was the perfect way to cap a career of resistance and activism on behalf of democracy.

"Even as a young teenager, when I was helping establish a secret society of students vowing to resist Saddam's regime, and in later life when I was fighting against his Army, I never thought I would one day be in the position to accept a glorious death on behalf of my cause," the new President told reporters. "This truly will be a great honor."

G. Gordon Liddy, crazy talk radio host and former CIA agent for covert operations, enthused over the possibilities the likely assassination presented. "There's nothing like killing your democratically elected leader to get international attention," Liddy told his audience. "Let's just hope they know to do it in a way that will garner maximum attention. A nice big car bomb in a public parade, or blowing the guy's brains out at a military review - not just poisoning him in his palace or something mundane like that."

Upon the news of Talabani's election, the White House cabled the new President with a congratulatory message from George Bush. "I warmly welcome the historic day that has occurred in Iraq," the US President told his Iraqi counterpart. "I congratulate you on this historic honor, and hope you enjoy it for the precious few days you still have on this earth. I look forward to meeting your wife and family at your funeral." ●

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Vanderbilt Variations

CO-Ed A Cappella Group

Spring Concert
Live in Sarratt Cinema

Sunday April 17

7 pm

\$5

with special guest
Tonguencheek

Fire Safety Modules Prohibit Students' Graduation

Hundreds of Students Accused Of 'Fire-Related Incompetence'

by CHARLIE FU

The festivities for the class of 2005's graduation were abruptly halted last Thursday with an announcement from Vanderbilt's administration, which detailed the prohibited graduation of several hundred students who had failed to complete the crucial fire safety modules assigned to them at the beginning of their college career.

The official release claims that withholding under-

graduate degrees "was justifiable in the face of the deadly hazards with which these [offending] students have infected our lives."

It seems that, since these students' educations have taken place "lacking the context of fire safety considerations and the blatantly obvious,"

everything such students have been taught remains largely invalid. After all, you haven't really learned about isomorphisms and weak hyperbolicity unless you've thought about it in the larger perspective of whether a toaster could kill you—and more importantly, whether you're capable of evading the perils of all such toasters.

"I really don't care if you've completed all of your core requirements, or how many areas you happened to major in," said Vanderbilt Chancellor E. Gordon Gee in a formal statement. "If you can't demonstrate to us your ability to identify caricatures of fire hazards in a crummy Java™ applet, you aren't ready for the real world. Trust me."

Housing director Mark Bandis defended the decision to punish the nonconformists of this year's graduating class. "Back in 1924 there was

a fire and thirty-two students lost their lives. Upon surveying the damage, it was found that - not one of the students had completed an Internet based fire safety module. And you know what? They all got what was coming to them. Serves them right. Well, it just so happens that no one who ignored the module this year died in a fire. Obviously, they're going to have to suffer some loss other than their lives - hence, holding them back for four more years."



Result of Module Failures

Fire safety has been a growing concern as of late. According to Vanderbilt's own records, the dearth of uncontrollable building fires on campus over the past twenty-five years "indicates that one is extremely likely to happen soon," said University historian

Stephen Parker. "It's

imperative for students to know what to do in the event of a fire," he added, since both the hospital and fire station located next to campus are there "primarily to provide students with irritating sirens and other disturbing noise pollution."

"This is so bogus," one of the students who will no longer graduate said. "I didn't go through all the work of cheating my way through Vanderbilt only to be stopped by a technicality. Besides, I already knew what to do if there was a fire: get away from it."

In response to the controversial decision, the students in question have petitioned for their graduation to proceed as scheduled under the grounds that "people whose lives are pathetic enough to be affected by a fire safety module deserve to burn to death anyway." ●

St. Louis Cardinals Anticipate Papal Selection

by ALEX CHRISOPE

Despite struggling with a losing record, a shut-out at the World Series, and the recent loss of one of their best players, there was finally some good news for the St. Louis Cardinals this week, when they were selected to take part in the conclave in Rome to select the successor to Pope John Paul II. The conclave will begin on April 18th, and preparations are underway in St. Louis to make sure that the needs of the team will be taken into account when the selection process begins. Hopes are high that a new leader will help take the Cardinals in a new direction, and hopefully do some good for the Catholic Church in his spare time.

The most recent set of canonical rules, adopted in the last papacy, require the attendance of all Cardinals under the age of 80 and batting over .200, all of whom are then eligible to be elected as Pope; the most likely candidates from the "Gateway of the West" include Ozzie Smith, Albert Pujols, and Jim Edmonds. Iconic slugger Mark McGwire had long been considered in the running until recent allegations of illegal abuse of rookies which were uncovered during the Congressional hearings on steroids led him to withdraw.

Cardinals' general manager and theological expert Tony La Russa has frankly expressed his resentment over the prominence of former Boston Archdiocese Cardinal Bernard Law in John Paul II's Vatican. Cardinal Law resigned in 2003 after protecting priests accused of sexually abusing children. Then in 2004, Law played third base for the Boston Red Sox in the World Series and forced out St. Louis pitcher Jeff

Suppan in a contentious play. At the time, a furious La Russa told reporters that while he could forgive Law for his lapse of judgement on child abuse, "the way Suppan fucked up that play just made my heart sick." La Russa and others were therefore understandably angered when the Pope appointed Law archpriest of St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome.

Some more traditional Catholics are concerned about the influence a St. Louis Cardinal would have on the papacy. Some changes would be small: the "arch" term in front of certain titles would be expanded to

"Gateway Arch."

This would mean that, for example, the new Pope will be known as the "Gateway Archbishop of Rome." Also, rather than beginning mass with Kyrie Eleison, holy services will now be started with the congregation singing "Take me out to the Ball Game, O Lord." Other



Cardinal in New Garb

alterations are likely to be more controversial, none more so than the proposal to replace the traditional Eucharist with local St. Louis mystery delicacy toasted ravioli and Ted Drewes' Frozen Custard. Besides the perceived assault on the Church's most holy Sacrament, many are simply confused by the notion of toasted ravioli. "Toasted ravioli? That's the stupidest fuckin' thing I've ever heard! How the fuck do you toast it?" asked Cardinal Edward Egan of New York.

The Cardinals are members of the St. Louis Archdiocese, whose patron saint, Louis, was canonized by Boniface VIII for qualities still evident among the Cardinals, including mercy, charity, self-denial, strong pitching, flawless fielding, and a consistently effective batting lineup. ●

Re-Marriage Proposed For Formerly Separated Powers

Congress wants to re-ignite affair with Supreme Court

by **TIM BOYD**

While much of the world was riveted to the medieval pageantry surrounding the wedding of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles this past weekend, rumors began circling around Washington DC that an even bigger, and more controversial wedding could soon take place between two branches of the US government. Recent disputes over the issue of gay marriage, the Pledge of Allegiance,

and the Terri Schiavo case have led many in Congress to decide that a "Just Good Friends" relationship isn't working out; rather, it would be better, in the words of House Majority Leader, channeller of God's most holy and divine purpose, and spokesman for Congress, Tom DeLay, for "two to become one."

It was Congress that first mooted the suggestion of re-marriage, suggesting that misunderstandings and miscommunication had come about as a result of the separation of the legislative and the judicial. "Sometimes it's difficult when you live apart to realise that we actually all want the same thing," Congress wrote to the Supreme Court. "Why don't we go back to mak-

ing sweet, sweet law together? It'll be great, I promise."

The Legislature also appealed in a more romantic vein to the Court's remembrance of times past, when the two had shared an intimate relationship over the course of centuries. "Do you remembear how happy we were back in England all those years ago?" Congress asked wistfully. "When we would wonder alone through the corridors of power at night and stare up at the twinkling Courts of Star Chamber above us? Or the fun we had talking all night about which of the people we didn't like to whom we were going to issue general warrants? We made a great team."

The once strong bond between the two powers first began to weaken during the eighteenth century, as the judiciary began to complain that legislatures were becoming too possessive. Especially after reading several popular self-help books by Rousseau, Montesquieu and Locke, the courts began to assert that they were in need of their own space in order to develop their independence and grow into maturity.

The final split occurred in 1803 over a multitude of problems which had been brewing for some time. In that year, a third-party spat involv-

ing the Executive and a mysterious "Marbury," led the Supreme Court to declare that it had the sole authority to decide what the groundrules of the relationship were. Then spokesman for the Courts, Chief Justice John Marshall, said that the "limited interaction" favored by the Jeffersonian legislature of the time was "unfulfilling" and that "was way too frigid and uptight" for a meaningful relationship to work.

Over the past 200 years, the separated, though never formally divorced, powers had largely respected each others' boundaries. In light of this, the courts are said to be skeptical of Congress' re-discovery of interest in a mutual long-term commitment. Several circuits of the Federal Bench have been muttering to appellate courts that they suspect that Congress has just been getting prerogatively frustrated. One un-named section of the judicial system said it suspected that Congress "only cares about our jurisdiction, and wasn't interested at all in our deeper needs. Legislatures are all the same - always so incredibly shallow."

The Supreme Court has also complained about other destructive behavior that would make a marriage

unworkable. "Congress has no sense of commitment; every few elections you have to cope with a change in personality. They have also never been concerned with our happiness. They only ever call when they want a favor, and then they throw a tantrum if we refuse to help out. And how hard can it be to show you care once in a while? How about some flowers or chocolates, or maybe confirming some judicial nominees who aren't retarded?"

Reports of the courts' unease has not gone down well with Congress. In a late-night drinking session with the Corporate sector, the legislature was heard to growl, "They better play along if they know what's good for

them. We only asked to be polite; everyone knows that the Bill of Rights was our part of the settlement. We've got the right to bear arms, and we're not afraid to use it against that jurisprudential whore." Then, chuckling quietly to itself, Congress remarked, "I guess you could say we're willing to consider having a shotgun marriage - literally." ●



Legislature, Wants To Get With Courts Again



Legislature, Wants To Get With Courts Again

Gender Wage Gap, My Ass!

By **JACK ANDERSON**
Unemployed PhD in Economics



I just don't see what all the fuss is about. Do you know how much an executive assistant makes? Okay, neither do I, but I'll tell you how much my three

advanced degrees are earning me right now: a fat zero. If they'd told me the secret, it would have been a whole different ballgame - or at least I wouldn't have wasted my time examining advanced concepts to the tune of \$150,000 in debt.

Wait, have they told you the secret? No? Well let me fill you in.

Screw the glass ceiling for women, cause there's a much bigger problem out there: a glass floor for men. I've applied for over a hundred jobs this spring and scored quite a few interviews, but I'll tell you who gets the job every time: blonde hair, great legs, nice rack. Thanks to equal opportunity employment, every woman who applies for the same job as me has twice my chance of getting it before she walks into the room. Add leaning over the desk just seductively enough to make the recruiter think he's got a 0.03% chance of sleeping with her, and you might as well take my doctorate and light it on fire.

When the parties were arguing about the unemployment rate in last year's election, there's one statistic nobody bothered to talk about; the unemployment rate for gorgeous young pieces of ass willing to work entry-level jobs is precisely jack-shit nothing. Oh sure, most employers have a literacy test called a "resume," but by and large the women with employable bodies who couldn't put together a resume figured it out in high school, spending their money

on tanning beds instead of tutors and scoring themselves professional football players long before reading and writing mattered.

So it's clear. Once the minimum standard of competency has been reached, it's a race for the nicest piece of T&A. It's the perfect heist: an amazing hottie in an entry-level position that even fills the equal opportunity quota! Ever wonder why it's mostly below-average women (read: dog-ugly and/or won't put out) who complain about the gender wage gap? It's because they never get to see the glorious benefits being a woman gets you in the workplace. Well, unless they score maternity leave, that is.

Affirmative action was the greatest coup the white man ever pulled. He built himself a financial empire on the backs of his less-fortunate brethren, then became so hated that the women and minorities revolted to box out all potential male challengers. The result? An upper echelon of old white guys, a middle tier of voyeuristic men and men-hating women, and an entry-level white collar army of sizzling, eager-to-please hotties. Hence, poor, über-intelligent, hardworking post-doctorate men like myself are kept oppressed beneath a glass floor. And just so you know, while I think the gender wage gap is nothing but the bullshit propaganda of the uglies, I do believe in the glass ceiling for women. It is located precisely where the number of hot women exceeds the number of male supervisors looking for a piece of eye-candy.

Elite private institutions are getting uglier and uglier these days, as women who've got what it takes choose to study the more career-advancing arts of sunbathing, pre-gaming, and sleeping around at state schools. My advice to you female post-docs out there: cash in your degree because plastic surgery is a much better investment. And to the men: unless Stephen Hawking becomes the new sex symbol, you'd better get real good at pumping gasoline. ●

Vanderbilt SGA Was Right To Reject Darwin And Evolution

Dores Boldly Said No To Sin

By **RICHARD GREEN**
Faux-Black Fundamentalist



Greetings, fellow fundamentalists. Recently, there was another attempt by atheist, hell-bound liberals to try to convince us that Darwin has a place

in our educational system, even in a great Southern university like ours. Well, I think I speak for myself, my peers, and God when I say that we here at Vanderbilt were right to have given a resounding "Hell No" to that infamous false prophet of irreligion. That's right, Darwin's defeat in the SGA election was another victory for God, righteousness and homemade apple pie.

Behind his campaign promises to promote better understanding of residential colleges and lobby Traffic & Parking for more F-permit spots, we all know what Darwin's true agenda was: the desire to have science taught in our classrooms. Darwin has always stood four-square with scientists, who of course are the chief supporters of the evil doctrine of evolution, and against religion.

Just the idea of bringing science to a place like a research university is deplorable. Science has always been used to pollute the minds of our intellectually eager youth with outlandish

and sacreligious ideas. Ideas like medicine being useful and practical, the earth being round, or that we evolved from lower animals. Surely only such "lower animals" would believe that gibberish, not men created in God's image.

When this was initially decided right here in Tennessee in 1925, it was a great victory for God and Darwin was officially kicked out of our educational system (we thought) forever. We probably would have been fine, but for a ruling by those damned activist judges on the Supreme Court in 1968 who said that it was legitimate to teach a rigorously researched and empirically proven theory to our children. Things have pretty much gone to hell since then. It starts with the support of Darwin, and it will finish with gay marriage and legalized bestiality.

Since that infamous day in 1968, we have had trouble keeping Darwin and his science out of our school. Dear God, we even offer a major in Evolution. Evolution majors! More like majoring in going to hell and taking other young minds with you! We had to take a stand against this, and by voting the Morgan-Frazier ticket, we did.

I am proud to uphold the Tennessee tradition of the Scopes Trial and to have voted against Darwin. At best, this is the first step towards completing the process of taking back religion from those heathen scientists. That may yet take a long time to achieve, of course, but in the very least, I'm glad he wasn't able to make a monkey out of me. ●

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Bridget Cornett's Spring Movie Preview

XXX: State of the Union

April 29. Directed by Lee Tamahori and starring Ice Cube, Samuel L. Jackson, and Willem Dafoe.

Finally, Revolution Studios have released the long-awaited sequel to 2002's Oscar-worthy XXX, which starred Vin Diesel as special agent Xander Cage, an extreme stunt bad-boy recruited by the NSA to help out on a top secret mission. In XXX 2, Ice Cube plays Darius Stone, another bad-boy NSA recruit who must dismantle a terrorist group's plans to overthrow the United States government.

In his best performance since *Friday After Next*, Cube picks up where Diesel left off, delivering an emotionally-taut performance that exhibits a depth and mastery of the craft only seen in the greats of the industry. Not only will this performance generate Oscar-buzz, but it could catapult Cube into the ranks of superstar veteran actors such as Laurence Olivier, Anthony Hopkins, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Keanu Reeves, and Chris Kattan. Cube balances the masculinity of special agent Darius Stone with an innocent sensitivity and previously reticent homoeroticism that adds considerable depth to a screenplay of rich dialogue and character development. Bottom Line: XXX gon' give it to ya. 5 thumbs up.

House of Wax

May 6. Directed by Jaume Collet-Serra and starring Elisha Cuthbert, Chad Michael Murray, and Paris Hilton.

Twin brothers Chad and Carey Hayes, the acclaimed screenwriters who wowed critics worldwide with their *Baywatch Hawai'i* and *Baywatch Nights* television series, have teamed again to produce the brilliant and profound script for May's *House of Wax*. Just like its David-Hasselhoff-in-a-swimsuit antecedents, *House of Wax* is a program rich with witty repartee, neck breaking plot twists, and lots of wet and scantily-clad bouncing boobies.

Elisha Cuthbert (*24*, *The Girl Next Door*) and Paris Hilton (*The Cat in the Hat*, ubiquitous porno) head up a cast of young up-and-comers playing a group of college-age friends whose car troubles land them in "a town not listed on any map." Here, they encounter two crazy brothers who want the kids to play with them in their cute life-size doll house. Unfortunately, the visitors do not share the brothers' enthusiasm for playing house with wax-covered corpses, and thus, conflict, terror, screaming, bloody deaths, and cheerful musical numbers ensue. Bottom Line: This movie is no *Baywatch Nights*, but Paris Hilton's hot. 4 thumbs up.

Monster-in-Law

May 13. Directed by Robert Luketic and starring Jennifer Lopez, Michael Vartan, Jane Fonda, and Wanda Sykes.

Fly Girl Jennifer "J.Lo" Lopez is back on the big screen as Charlie, a beautiful woman who has given up on love until she meets Kevin Fields (Michael Vartan, pedophilic teacher in *Never Been Kissed*), the perfect man. Unfortunately for J.Lo, Kevin's mom (Jane Fonda, gulf) is not very receptive to the match, and thus tries to poison, maim, and generally embarrass and kill J.Lo. Wanda Sykes livens up an occasionally dull script with her quick-witted humor and sass and uppity attitude in the role of the film's token black person.

(*Spoiler alert!*) Unfortunately for the world, Jane Fonda is not successful in her efforts to assassinate J.Lo (no pun intended) and the two ultimately become friends, then illicit lovers. Although the stunts, fight scenes, and martial arts action in this film are somewhat sub-par if not wholly lacking in entertainment value of any kind, J.Lo pulls out a performance nothing short of Gigli to keep the movie afloat. The Bottom Line: With lines like, "Come and get it, grandma," this movie definitely going to be one for the ages. 2 thumbs up, one thumb down, and a crayon.

Madagascar

May 27. Directed by Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath and starring the voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, Jada Pinkett-Smith, and David Schwimmer.

From DreamWorks Studios, the mediocre Pixar wannabes behind *Shark Tale* and *Shrek*, comes 2005's animated feature-length film, *Madagascar*. The film centers around four animal friends who have been living comfortably in the New York Zoo all their lives. With the help of some genius penguins and without the help of any opposable thumbs, the animals escape. Things go wrong for the group, however, as some are recaptured and sent off to Africa. While on the ship, devoid of hope, Gloria the Hippo gets suicidally depressed and starts chain-smoking while Melman the Giraffe begins exploring the world of recreational drug abuse.

While the film's gritty underside is certainly emotional and jarring, the scenes of Gloria's self-mutilation and Melman's needle work seem to be needless departures from an otherwise straightforward plot. However, a happy ending keeps children of all ages optimistic about the benefits of psychiatric help and rehab centers. The Bottom Line: This film lacks realism, but is a cartoon, so that's ostensibly okay. 1 hand. ●

Bastard Confession



"She wasn't *that* great."

-Catherine The Great's Horse

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AROUNDTHELOOP

What do you think is the Answer to the Question About Life, the Universe and Everything?

Jack Lee, Sophomore



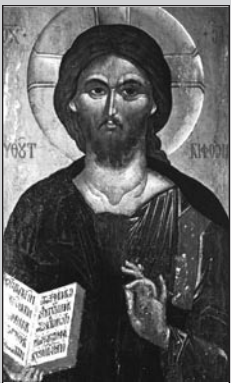
“However many licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Roll Pop. Because, I mean hey man, the world may never know.”

Bob, Annoying Quizno’s Baby



“To create the best tasting toasted sub ever.”

Jesus Christ, Savior



“You’ll find out when you’re dead.”

Melanie Siemens, Caffeine Addict



“Coffee, books, and coffee books.”

Joe Hernandez, Smart-aleck Nerd



“42!”

Bob Dylan, Washed-Up Drug Addict



“The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind.”

SLANTHOROSCOPES

Aries: (March 21—April 19)

You will continue to be laughed at for that time you showed up at what you thought was a “Furby Days” party.

Taurus: (April. 20—May 20)

You will fail your Criminology final after giving up studying in favor of trying to learn by watching CSI.

Gemini: (May 21—June 21)

The Constitution prohibits cruel and unusual punishment, which you will take to mean it consents to punishment that is only cruel or unusual, but not both.

Cancer: (June 22—July 22)

Sun-tzu may have said, “Spies are a key element in warfare,” but your goal of hooking up with that girl in your math class can hardly be considered warfare.

Leo: (July 23—Aug. 22)

You will revolutionize the world of science when you are awarded the first PhD in orgasmic chemistry.

Virgo: (Aug. 23—Sept. 22)

Sure the ol’ bucket-on-top-of-the-door is a great practical joke, but you should have thought twice before filling it with hydrochloric acid.

Libra: (Sept. 23—Oct. 23)

Your sorority sisters will make you an appointment with someone called “Yayo.” Hope he’s cute!

Scorpio: (Oct. 24—Nov. 21)

It is a rule of etiquette that “hey” is for horses, but there aren’t any rules regarding the “shut the fuck up” that normally follows it

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22—Dec. 21)

You will face a difficult decision when you win a lifetime’s supply of condoms, as it conflicts with your goal of becoming a castrati singer.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22—Jan. 19)

Although a movie called “Pulp Non-Fiction” about the juice industry sounds like a good idea, none of the major studios will go for it.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20—Feb. 18)

You won’t be sure whether to feel lucky or insulted when you receive the free vasectomy “in the interest of mankind.”

Pisces: (Feb. 19—March 20)

You’re not going to get that job you wanted because you used “loan” as a verb during your interview.

Top Ten Accusations Against Michael Jackson

- 10** Allegedly Billie Jean's baby daddy, fondling of said son
- 9** Attacking Roy Horn in Las Vegas show with giant saber teeth
- 8** Garish taste in decorating
- 7** Providing unnecessary competition to Disney Land
- 6** Being smooth criminal
- 5** Molesting before completing Seminary
- 4** Allowing children not as tall as the sign to ride his roller-coaster
- 3** Sneak attack on Pearl Harbor
- 2** Molesting Macauley Culkin, flushing evidence and Culkin's career
- 1** Being really fucking creepy

Ask The 7th-Grade Version Of Yourself



Dear 7th-Grade Version of Me,
Hey, how have you been? Don't worry, the acne gets better. Well, just a little. But here's what I want to know. Do you remember where all those pogs are? Because I think they might be worth quite a bit of money at this point.

Nostalgic in North

Dear Older Me,

God, leave me alone! I'm not here to be your personal servant. Take your pogs and shove them. I'll be listening to NIN and making a sweet-ass baking soda volcano.

SGVY

Dear 7GVY,

Have you found out about your penis yet? From what I remember, it started to get interesting around about this time. Man, it's going to be a lot of fun, I can tell you. Keep playing!

Current-Day Colin in Chemistry Lab

Dear Colin,

Heh, heh... penis... heh, heh.

SGVY

Dear Secondary-School-Year-8 version of me,

You know that Ken Burn's series on the Civil War they're showing on BBC? For God's sake, don't watch it! It'll seem fun at first, but when you then end up committing the best years of your life to studying US history in the state that evolution forgot, you'll regret it. Can't you get interested in international finance instead?

Graduate Student in Despair

Dear Grad Student,

International Finance? During the cricket season? You must be joking. England are playing Pakistan at Lord's; I'll worry about US history later.

SGVY

Dear 7GVY,

Why are you so Goddamned fat? Sure, you think you'll be able to lose it in the future, but those four summers at fat camp aren't going to be any fun and you've really screwed me up for getting girls. Do me a favor and lay off the White Castle!

Self-Loathing in Stapleton

Dear Self-Loathing,

Get off my back! Mom says I'm just big-boned and not to let people bully me about it. And what are girls anyway?

SGVY

Dear Junior High You,

This is Mr. McAvoy, your high school guidance counselor. Do you realize that if you continue on the path that you are taking, you're going to end up where you are now: at Vanderbilt instead of Duke? Are you listening to me, young man? Spit out that gum; I know it's not good for your braces.

Your Guidance Counselor, Past, Present and Future

Dear Mr. Mac-a-boy,

Jesus, I'm only in 7th grade! I have bigger things to worry about. I'll get all that crap together in high school. No way I'm going to a 4th-choice school like Vanderbilt. Now leave me alone. This new show called "Friends" is on.

SGVY

Hey 7th-Grade Version of Me,

You worthless sack of shit. How about going outside and learning to play baseball better instead of playing Shadows of the Empire all day? Oh, and could you break that trumpet over that SOB director's head when you get to get to high school? He's a real asshole, trust me.

Collazzi in Chaffin

Dear Future-Collazzi,

Shadows of the Empire is rad, man - don't make me use my TIE-Fighter on you, Go Yankees!

SGVY

It is time to take to the hustings! Anthony Charles Lynton Blair has called for all loyal subjects of the Queen to vote for a new Parliament on May 5th, and you lucky *Slant* readers have the chance to decide how I cast my ballot in the contest. Simply complete the sentence below with one of the four possible options, then mail your entries post haste to *The Slant*, c/o Sarratt 315 and visit us there on Tuesday at 6.30 to find out if you won.

~Tim, Electoral Fraudster

The American Revolution was about:

- a) The triumph of freedom over oppression
- b) The fusion of Lockian philosophy with the economic doctrines of Adam Smith
- c) Taxation without Representation!
- d) A bunch of stropky and ungrateful colonists deciding they would ally with the Frogs and strike a blow against civilization from which the world has yet to recover

