

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

SGA candidates ready for Tuesday elections

Weimar, Lancaster make final appearances.

BY SEAN SEELINGER
HUSTLER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Government Association presidential and vice presidential candidates said they were confident heading into Tuesday's election.

Juniors Bill Weimar and running mate Brennan McMahon, and junior Boone Lancaster and running

mate Cara Bilotta continued speaking to numerous student organizations in an attempt to gather every vote after Weimar won the primary election by only 44 votes.

Weimar, SGA A&S senator and vice president of student affairs, said that experience and the strength of the platform were the top reasons to

SGA General Election

When: Tuesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
How: Voting booths on the Sarratt Promenade or <http://www.vanderbilt.studentvoting.net>

vote for his ticket.
Lancaster, SGA A&S senator and vice president of community affairs,

said that "our understanding of the structure of SGA" was the top reason to vote for his ticket.

Bilotta, co-chair of the SGA Student Services, Security and Technology Committee challenged McMahon's lack of SGA experience during last week's debate.

McMahon has served on Interhall, most recently as Peabody Area Coordinator.

However, Weimar said, "people who we have met with have been supportive of Brennan's Interhall experience on the ticket. Most students understand we are moving to Residential Colleges...and understand that Brennan's experience will be an asset."

Bilotta disagreed and along with Lancaster pointed out the importance of SGA committees.

"While I was not an elected member of SGA, you don't have to be elected to make a real difference," Bilotta said. "Yes, the elected leadership does a lot but the committee system

is essential within SGA."
Lancaster as vice president of community affairs worked with the Athletic Affairs, Community Affairs,
Please see SGA, page 4

SERVICE

MTV show features Vanderbilt ASB site

BY MONIKA BLACKWELL
HUSTLER REPORTER

This past Saturday, MTV's program "The Amazing Break" featured Vanderbilt's own Alternative Spring Break, now in its 19th year.

Emphasizing that spring break doesn't always mean beach relaxation and partying until dawn, the program described spring break options dedicated to service and education.

As the founder of Alternative Spring Break, Vanderbilt attracted the attention of MTV. Megan Desales, a MTV executive and Vanderbilt class of 1995 alumnus, contacted the ASB board about possible sites for the show.

The board decided that "Brick House," a site in Zellwood, Florida, fit the bill.

When freshman Walter Menjivar first told the ASB board that he wanted to establish a new site in Zellwood, a city outside of Orlando, and be one of the leaders at the site he was initially told that ASB does not typically allow freshmen to be site leaders.

With persistence and dedication, however, Menjivar convinced the board of 12 upperclassmen that he was capable and deserving of the position.

Over break, 11 students made the 12-hour drive down to Florida ready to work at Anthony House, a homeless center that provides transitional housing to 75 guests.

Two MTV representatives were driving right behind them.

Menjivar, who had spent much of his high school career volunteering at the Anthony House, was already familiar with the people there and the specifics of the site.

"At the Anthony House we focus on building a person from the ground up," he said. Under the leadership of Menjivar and four-year ASB participant Alice Ji, the group painted, scrubbed walls, mowed lawns, dug trenches and even installed computers.

A mural with the words "Dreams are renewable;"
Please see ASB, page 2

Games honor John Conway



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARK RAFALKO

Sorority members square off in a flag football match for ZBT's second annual Conway Kickoff, which benefits the American Heart Association in memory of former student John Conway who passed away in January 2004.

ADMINISTRATION

Young alumni trustee to be announced April 22

Students can vote online for one of three candidates.

BY LISA GUO
HUSTLER ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

As graduation draws nearer, the Board of Trust is looking for one senior to serve on the Board of Trust for the next four years.

Three seniors have been chosen as the candidates for this Board position: Lisa Bryington, Alice Ji and Ryan Webb.

One of the three will be selected by peers to spend four years on the Board of Trust as a full member of the board.

Students from the classes of 2005, 2006, and 2007 can currently read about the candidates and cast their vote at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/yat-vote.php>.

Votes will be tallied after the deadline at midnight for April 16, and this year's young alumnus/a will be announced on April 22.

"The Young Alumni Trustees' purpose is to bring knowledge and insight, specifically with regards to young alumni issues and viewpoints, to the deliberations of the Board of Trust," said Emily Hicks, director of student and young alumni relations.

"Our role is definitely to offer our counsel
Please see TRUSTEES, page 3



Alice Ji



Lisa Bryington



Ryan Webb

ACTIVITIES

Finance Committee begins deliberations

SGA defends confidentiality of hearings.

BY TANYA ALVAREZ
HUSTLER REPORTER

The Student Finance Committee, a subcommittee of the Student Government Association, will begin closed deliberations today to decide which organizations will receive Student Activity Fee funding next year.

Almost 100 student organizations, 30 fewer than last year, applied for the funds, including Dance Marathon, Homecoming Committee and Show Choir.

Though the exact amount to be allocated is still unknown, it is likely to be similar to last year's \$1.2 million dollars, SGA president Kate Morgan said.

Organizations at Vanderbilt are funded in several ways, such as local and national dues, Student Activity Fees, fundraising, donations and through university allocation. Many organizations, however, are ineligible to receive Ac Fee funding. The purpose of the Student
Please see FINANCE, page 5

HISTORY 101



PHOTO PROVIDED

Members of the Vanderbilt Rowing Club prepare to launch at a regatta in Gainesville. As one of the 39 club sports sponsored by the Student Recreation center, crew team members say the support of the rec center is invaluable.

Students build recreation center

Project shows strength of student support.

BY BEN SWEET
HUSTLER NEWS EDITOR

Before 1990, if a Vanderbilt student wanted to work out, play basketball, or do any number of other physical activities, the only venue at his disposal was Memorial Gymnasium.

If there was an event gym, that student was out of luck.

In fact, before the Student Recreation Center was

completed in January 1990, students had little choice for recreational events.

Memorial, as is immediately obvious, is host to two varsity basketball teams as well as a number of other concerts and special events.

Because of this, in 1988, students decided it was time for something to change, and passed an entirely student-led
Please see HISTORY, page 2



OUR VIEW

Read why we feel that the AcFee allocation process should be more transparent by either allowing for public deliberations or by having the committee provide explanations with their decisions.
See Page 6

COLUMN

Read Opinion editor Reeve Hamilton's column on why, contrary to what Republicans say, the media shouldn't be blamed for waning support of the war in Iraq.
See Page 7

BASEBALL

The Commodores are off to the best start in conference play since 1980. Read how their starting pitchers have contributed to the team's success.
See Page 8

QUOTABLE

"I was deeply shocked that a Frenchman would speak at the council table in English. That's the reason why the French delegation and myself left so as not to have to listen to that."

—French President Jacques Chirac, defending his exit from an EU summit session, accusing the French head of Europe's employer union of piquing French pride by daring to speak in English.



POLL

51%

Percentage of Americans who oppose gay marriage, down from 63 percent in February 2004.

WEATHER

63 49
HI LO
» Extended forecast on page 2

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PAGE 2

Today is Monday, March 27, 2006

IT IS THE	THERE ARE		
48th	26	24	46
day of classes	class days until exams	class days until Rites of Spring	calendar days to commencement

WORD OF THE DAY

CON·SPEC·TUS

- n. 1. general survey of a subject
2. outline

Source: Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1513 Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon sighted Florida.
- 1625 Charles I ascended the English throne upon the death of James I.
- 1836 The first Mormon temple was dedicated in Kirtland, Ohio.
- 1964 Alaska was rocked by a powerful earthquake that killed 114 people.
- 1968 Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man to orbit the earth, died in a plane crash.
- 1977 582 people were killed when a KLM Boeing 747, attempting to take off, crashed into a Pan Am 747 on the Canary Island of Tenerife.

Compiled by the Associated Press

FORECAST

- TUESDAY**
Morning Showers
High: 63
Low: 40
- WEDNESDAY**
Partly Cloudy
High: 68
Low: 52
- THURSDAY**
Showers, Wind
High: 73
Low: 57

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Lisa Guo

Intramural tennis doubles registration

Registration is March 27-31. Sign up in the OCR, Student Recreation Center, Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Vanderbilt students, faculty and staff are eligible. Levels of Play: A=highly skilled, B=average, C=less skilled. \$20 Forfeit Fee (cash only) due at time of registration. For more information about this event, please call 343-6627 or visit our web site at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/campusrecreation>.

Marowthon

A marrow registry drive will be held in the Student Life Center from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. where volunteers can give a small blood sample to be entered in an international registry of potential bone marrow donors. The chances of matching and becoming a potential bone marrow donor are 1 in 20,000, so we need as many people as possible on the registry as possible.

Lotus Eaters Sophomore Honorary applications

Are you in the class of 2009? Do you have a 3.5 GPA or higher? If so, Lotus Eaters may be right for you. Applications are evaluated based on overall leadership ability, attributes you can bring to the society, and the quality and effort shown on the application. For dedicated, motivated, service-oriented leaders, Lotus Eaters is a great way to get more involved on campus. Applications are available now at <https://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/form/i3uXSw> and are due March 31.

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

WORLD

Yanukovich calls election a victory for opposition

BY MARA D. BELLABY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KIEV, Ukraine — A pro-Russia party won the largest chunk of votes in Ukraine's parliamentary elections Sunday, nationwide exit polls indicated, dealing a stinging rebuke to President Viktor Yushchenko's West-leaning administration.

Polling stations shut after 15 hours, but voters who had waited in long lines and managed to get inside before the official closing time were allowed to cast ballots, choosing from more than 45 parties that sought seats in the 450-member parliament.

Viktor Yanukovich, a pro-Moscow opposition leader who lost to Yushchenko in the 2004 presidential election forced by the Orange Revolution street protests, declared his party the winner on Sunday.

"The Party of the Regions has won a convincing victory," Yanukovich said after three exit polls put his party in a comfortable

first place. "We are ready to undertake responsibility for forming the Cabinet and we are calling on everyone to join us."

The polls gave Yanukovich's party anywhere from 27.5 percent to 33 percent, followed by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's bloc with about 23 percent, and Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc with between 14 percent and 16 percent.

Yushchenko's job was not at stake, but the vote was the first since constitutional reforms trimmed presidential powers and gave broader authority to parliament, including the right to name the prime minister and much of the Cabinet.

The victory by Yanukovich's party could potentially give him say over those choices, although he would not have the majority needed to act without parliamentary allies.

Yushchenko also seemed to hint he might even consider working with Yanukovich. ■

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Lisa Guo

March 22, 10 p.m. — A license plate was stolen from a vehicle parked at 30th Avenue South and Vanderbilt Place. There are no suspects and the investigation remains active.

For complete listings visit <http://police.vanderbilt.edu>.



JONATHAN DIETZ / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The soft-hitting boxing ring was a big hit at Dance Marathon last year. The annual event, which raised more than \$100,000 in 2005 and \$110,000 this year, calls the Student Recreation Center home, utilizing all of the hardwood space as well as the racquetball courts and most other open spaces.

History: Center serves 2000 each day

From HISTORY, page 1
referendum to build the current Student Recreation Center.

This move has been described by Assistant Vice Chancellor Brock Williams as a bold one, since students were willing to commit millions of dollars to a project that they wouldn't even necessarily get to use.

"We had to sell students a product unseen," Williams said. "Many of those folks in the mid-1980s who never got to use the gym have children here now."

And so, after the earmarking of a significant amount of Student Activity Fee money, the Student Recreation Center became a reality.

Almost 2000 students and faculty members enter the center each day, and 39 different intramural

sports teams look to the facility and its staff members for support and guidance. During the summer months when student use is light, the facility hosts camps for young children.

Because the center is defined as a "student center," Sam Hirt, who has served as the director of campus recreation since 1963, said that strides are always made to balance student events and overall recreation goals.

For example, even during intramural tournaments, efforts are made to keep courts free for general student use.

One thing that Hirt emphasizes about the whole process of building the Student Recreation Center is the power of the student body on their campus. The push to create

the center came from student leaders, not the administrators.

He cites that power when he points to things the Student Recreation Center has been able to provide since 1990 including the construction of additional practice fields or the Outdoor Recreation Center, which cost a \$1 million.

Now, with the offerings of anything from scuba and golf lessons to Jujitsu classes and tips on health and wellness, the Student Recreation Center has come a long way from its humble beginnings.

By voting to build the facility 18 years ago, former students may have helped themselves in another way as well.

Studies have consistently shown that the quality of campus recreation facilities has a large impact

on the prospective student decision process.

That is, just like dining and housing, recreational facilities have the ability to persuade or dissuade students from choosing Vanderbilt, which may explain why the facility enjoys such support from the university.

Though no projects are currently underway, Hirt and Williams both say they would like to see the building expand to allow for a larger weight room and more hardwood floor space.

Like before, however, Hirt stresses that students will ultimately decide what direction campus recreation will head, and if history has shown anything, it's that enough student support is a powerful thing. ■

ASB: After 19 years, Alternative Spring Break is still growing

From ASB, page 1

no matter what our age or condition there are still untapped possibilities within us and new beauty waiting to be born" now greets visitors.

Though at first, site leaders and board members say they were worried about how the presence of an MTV cameraman and producer would affect the group dynamics, they soon realized that the publicity would benefit ASB.

Alice Ji called the segment "short and sweet" and said that she believes "it was a very good overall representation of what we did throughout the week ... It balanced out the service, the reflec-

tion, and the fun of ASB."

Ji also noted that the representatives from MTV who came along immersed themselves in the program and even became participants in the process during the four days they stayed with the group.

Karl Richardson, one of the two co-chairs on the ASB board, noted the value of the special for its emphasis on educational enrichment.

"I think that publicity is very good for ASB," Richardson said. "It let's people know that this is not something that is just a serve and forget kind of thing ... It lets people ask all those important


'why' questions."

This reflection shows most clearly in the words of the participants.

"There's a lot of things you don't understand (about people who are homeless) until you really listen to their stories," Ji said.

"I feel like we broke a lot of our stereotypes about homelessness just seeing how people at the Anthony House really do come from all walks of life," said sophomore Misha Kotov, describing what he called, "the best thing that ever happened" to him.

The clip can be found on MTV's website and



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SERVICE GUIDE

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Trustees: Students serve four years

From TRUSTEES, page 1

and provide stewardship for the university," said Marissa Shrum, a Young Alumni Trustee who graduated from Vanderbilt spring 2003 with a degree in English and sociology. "Any board is usually comprised of people with different skill sets. The expertise of the Young Alumni Trustee is to recently have been a student."

Four Young Alumni Trustees serve on the Board of Trust representing the four most recently graduated classes.

The three finalists for this year's position have all shown commitment to Vanderbilt through their involvement in the past years.

Bryington has been extensively involved with SGA as a Blair Senator, chaired Great Performances and worked on the Vanderbilt Programming Board.

She cites her experience with SGA and her involvement with the Young Alumni Trustee Forums as reasons why she wants to become more involved with the Board of Trust.

"Through student government and being

involved in the forums, I have an understanding of what the Young Alumni Trustees do," Bryington said. "I really think that I can take the knowledge I've gained through my three years here and use it as a Young Alumni Trustee."

Additionally, in her role is the chair of the SGA Student Finance Committee last year, "I have already made a presentation to the Board," Bryington said. "I've already had experience speaking with the Board, and that has helped me feel like this is something I'd definitely be capable of."

Webb, who served as president of the Honor Council his junior year, cites his experience working with the council in a committee setting and with administration as a reason why he would be qualified to become the Young Alumni Trustee.

"More than any other board member, (the young alumni) have a responsibility to the students," Webb said. "I'm really excited about the chance to work for the Vanderbilt community even more."

Meanwhile, Ji said she has "dedicated time toward a diverse group of organizations. Alternative Spring Break, Asian American Student Association, VUcept, and Alpha Chi Omega have had the biggest effect on my life here. Throughout my time at Vanderbilt I have made every effort to give what I can to the Vanderbilt community and the world we live in."

Asked why she would be most qualified to serve as the Young Alumni Trustee, Ji said, "I just have a genuine love and appreciation for the school, and I want what's best for the students. It'll be hard for me to step off this campus."

She added that, regardless of who is chosen, "I feel like a good decision will have been made. I am truly honored to have been nominated by my peers and to be finalist along with two of my fellow students who I admire and respect for all they've done."

The Board of Trust, the university's general government, meets twice annually in Nashville. The Board currently has 45 members. The other trustees serve five-year terms. ■

STUDENT LIFE

Junior Caucasian Tyler True runs for AASA president

BY RYAN FARHA
HUSTLER FEATURES REPORTER

Junior Tyler True, a Caucasian, was nominated president in the Asian American Student Association election for the upcoming year but lost to Zhou Zhang, a Chinese American.

True, a junior in the Blair School of Music, is an active member of several multicultural organizations on campus, including AASA, South Asian Cultural Exchange, Muslim Student Association and the Middle Eastern Students Association.

This year, he served on the Executive Board of AASA and was responsible for the group's communications. He chose to run for president because of the high level of involvement of the position.

"The president oversees and ties everyone's efforts together," he said. "I could give AASA a kind of respect that it doesn't have. It's not just the Asian club."

AASA has no regulations prohibiting non-Asian students from serving as president and non-Asians have run for the position in the past.

However, True's opponent Zhang notes the difficulties facing a non-Asian candidate.

"There is concern that because he's white, he may not have that inherent cultural identity," she said. "People wonder how he can run an organization that focuses on Asian American heritage and culture when he's not Asian American."

Zhang believes True's involvement in AASA is beneficial for

the organization.

"In a sense, its kind of good that he's white," she said. "It's actually a strength that he's on the board. It really opens AASA up to the community and people aren't as scared to come."

True attributes his participation in multicultural organizations to a desire to learn.

"Multiculturalism matters a lot to me because America's supposed to be this great, diverse place, and if you never know anything except your own heritage, then you're not really contributing to that, you're taking away from it," he said.

True said that he believes that racial issues are present at Vanderbilt University and awareness of these issues needs to be improved.

He cited the recent incident in which a pig's head was placed in front of the Schulman Center for Jewish Life as an example.

"That was really bad, but the issue was that a lot of people didn't realize how bad it was," he said. "That stuff shouldn't happen. More education and awareness needs to happen to take care of that."

Zhang, who says she has never personally felt discriminated against, still agrees that awareness needs to be improved. She cites the Tiananmen Square filler advertisement that appeared in the March 17 issue of The Vanderbilt Hustler.

"Whoever made that ad wasn't aware that it's a very sensitive issue for Asian Americans and Chinese people," she said. ■

NATION

Immigration reforms protested

BY NEDRA PICKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Founded by immigrants and praised as a haven for the oppressed, the United States now is struggling to decide the fate of as many as 12 million people living in the country illegally.

The Senate takes up the emotional debate on the heels of weekend rallies that drew hundreds of thousands of people protesting attempts to toughen laws against immigrants. Among the ideas that President Bush and members of Congress are considering:

- Erecting a fence on the Mexico border to deter illegal immigration.
- Treating people who sneak across the border as felons to be deported.
- Allowing foreigners to stay in the country legally as custodians, dish washers, construction workers and other low-paid employees.
- Allowing those working in the U.S. a path to citizenship.
- Requiring them to get in line behind every-

one else back in their home countries who want to become Americans.

On Monday, the Senate Judiciary Committee takes up the issue and Bush headlines a naturalization ceremony for 30 new citizens at Constitution Hall. Demonstrations are planned near the Capitol, including a prayer service with immigration advocates and clergy who plan to wear handcuffs to demonstrate the criminalization of immigration violations.

Bush is going to Mexico this week for a meeting with the leaders of Mexico and Canada. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday it's important that Mexico "recognize the importance of defense of the borders and of American laws."

Protests raged across the country over the weekend, led by more than 500,000 people who marched through downtown Los Angeles on Saturday in one of the largest demonstrations for any cause in recent U.S. history. Marchers also took to the streets in Phoenix, Milwaukee, Dallas and Columbus, Ohio.

Demonstrations continued Sunday, when nearly 3,000 people, many wrapped in Mexican flags, rallied at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus and an estimated 3,500 United Farm Workers members and their supporters protested in Los Angeles.

The president, working hand-in-hand with the business community that relies on cheap labor, is pressuring Congress to allow immigrants to stay in the country legally if they take a job that Americans are unwilling to do.

Judiciary Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., also supports the idea and has vowed that his committee will advance a bill to the full Senate on Monday, even if they have to work "very, very late into the night."

"If they're prepared to work to become American citizens in the long line traditionally of immigrants who have helped make this country, we can have both a nation of laws and a welcoming nation of workers who do some very, very important jobs for our economy," Specter said Sunday on ABC's "This Week." ■

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HENRY MANICE/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Boone Lancaster listens to running mate Cara Bilotta at an Asian American Student Association meeting last night. The two have cited involvement and willingness to gather input from various student organizations as one of their strengths.



HENRY MANICE/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Bill Weimar and running mate Brennan McMahon respond to questions in the Asian American Student Association meeting last night. Weimar, who won the primaries by a narrow margin, is hoping to defeat fellow SGA vice president Boone Lancaster Tuesday.

SGA: Weimar, Lancaster differ on experience, details of past record

From SGA, page 1
Multicultural Affairs and Organizational Relations committees.

"We doubled the programming because we were in constant communication," Lancaster said citing his decision to increase the number of meetings.

Lancaster said that one of the questions he received frequently while speaking to Greek groups was that of his status as a non-Greek.

"I have too many friends, a sister and a running mate who are Greek

for me not to care," he said.

Lancaster said that he has added Greek representation from each one of the Greek councils at the monthly meeting of all Community Affairs co-chairs.

"This highlights what Cara and I are trying to do by connecting through community by making sure (all campus groups) are represented in ways beyond their elected representation," Lancaster said.

Weimar, however, continued to emphasize his focus on the student

body. "I think that within my experience in SGA you have seen a list of resolutions which have been proactive and look to change things on campus and challenge unpopular administrative decisions," Weimar said.

He has previously cited his sponsorship of a resolution calling for the restoration of a king and queen at Homecoming and work with the DoreWalks program as examples of his commitment to students.

However, Bilotta noted dur-

ing the debate and in an interview with The Hustler that not only did Weimar campaign on behalf of last year's presidential candidate senior David Darwin and his parking plan to add 250 spots for students, but Weimar sponsored a resolution that passed, adding 50 student spots. Those spots were never added.

"We have serious concerns when promises are made to students and not followed up on," Lancaster said.

Weimar offered a defense to the allegations.

"That was an opportunity for a short term fix to an F-spot problem," he said. "We followed through on that. Those spots were initially promised to us from the medical center and they reneged on their promise. This shows that I was interested in finding solutions to problems on campus rather than just dolling out money to student groups."

Weimar went on to criticize Lancaster and Bilotta for negative campaigning.

"At no point during this campaign have Brennan and I gone negative," Weimar said. "We are confident in our support and platform and experience will carry us to victory on election day."

Elections will be held Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Students can vote at voting booths on the Sarratt Promenade or online at www.vanderbilt.studentvoting.net. The Vanderbilt Computer Society oversees the integrity of the voting process. ■

Write
for
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Elections

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Information is available at www.vscmedia.org



• Applications and position descriptions are available at www.vscmedia.org or in the VSC offices located in Sarratt 135.

• All applications must be turned in by **Noon, Thursday, March 30** to Sarratt 135 or via campus mail at Station B, Box 1669.

• Interviews and elections for these positions will be held at **4:00 p.m., Monday, April 3** at the regular VSC, Inc. Board of Directors meeting to be held in **Sarratt 363**.

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Finance: Closed-door policy questioned

From FINANCE, page 1
Finance Committee is to allocate funding from Student

Activity Fees to campus organizations and also to decide the eligibility of organizations for activity funding. How much money is to be allocated and to whom is decided in deliberations.

"Sometimes it has taken several days to work out the process, and sometimes it has only taken about ten to twelve hours," said senior Mary Ellen Neighbors, chair of the Student Finance Committee.

Neighbors also said that part of the reasoning behind the lengthy deliberations process is to protect student funds from groups that will not use them to benefit the entire student body.

"Since this is a pool of all student

funds, a lot of the criteria for funding is designed to protect Vanderbilt students from having their funds given to organizations that they may not be allowed to join," Neighbors said.

"Everything we do is meant to benefit the entire Vanderbilt community, and not just an individual group. Every student gives a part of their tuition for this fund and Ac Fee is responsible in making sure that the funds are used wisely."

However, the deliberations are closed to the general public, including students and student media, which some have voiced concern about. Past committee chairs have been unwilling to answer questions about their decisions.

"They [SGA] claim that their excuse for the closed door policy is to make bet-

ter decisions without having to worry about how they will be judged," said Joseph Hills, who ran for SGA president this year.

"There are legitimate reasons not to give groups the money that they ask for, but we have no way of knowing whether the SGA is following through on that or not."

However, Neighbors said that the decision to keep things confidential has been respected for years, and that it isn't a new decision.

"The constitution states that our deliberations must be held closed-door, this is not a policy we decided to enact," Neighbors said.

Though the SGA president is intentionally kept distant from the finance

committee and the allocation process, Morgan explained that people not serving on the committee are barred from the proceedings for several reasons.

"There are close to 80 hours of deliberation that go into these decisions, and it's unlikely that a reporter is going to be able to be there for all that time," Morgan said.

"But, if you're not present at all the deliberations, then can you properly relay the message? It also protects the confidentiality of the people submitting requests for funds as well as the individuals who are on the committee who are deciding who is going to get funding. So it's meant to protect the student organizations and the committee."

The decision process, which should be

finished in the next few weeks, focuses on student groups who will be able to get their funds to stretch the farthest, providing the most for the student body that foots the bill.

"People get confused about the process. So we reevaluated the applications so that we can understand how organizations are spending their money," Neighbors said.

"We want to give money to organizations which spend their money diligently, and to those that are a big part of what makes Vanderbilt what it is."

Neither Bill Weimar nor Boone Lancaster, the two candidates for SGA president, support open deliberations for ac fee allocations. ■

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Wednesday, March 29

The general random selections for apartments will be held March 29 in the Student Life Center Ballroom. Currently enrolled, returning, single undergraduates can participate in the general random selection process for housing for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Apartment Selection
Wednesday, March 29
Commodore Ballroom, Student Life Center
5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Schedule of Events

- Chaffin Place: Groups of four will be assigned beginning no earlier than 5:30 PM.
- Morgan and Lewis Apartments: Groups of three, then two, will be assigned beginning no earlier than 6:30 PM.

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OPINION

SEAN SEELINGER, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

GLENNa DERoy, MANAGING EDITOR

JORDAN MAMORSKY, MANAGING EDITOR

RACHEL STEVENS, EXECUTIVE NEWS EDITOR

DAN ROSS, ADVERTISING MANAGER

OUR VIEW

AcFee process should be more transparent

We believe that the process in which the Student Finance Committee allocates Student Activity Fee money to student organizations needs to be more transparent.

The public not only does not get to listen in on the deliberations but committee members never answer questions as to their decision-making rationale.

Students deserve to know why their money, well over \$1 million dollars annually, is spent the way it is.

SGA President Kate Morgan cites confidentiality in defending the closed nature of the proceedings. However, why should an organization that is requesting student's money be allowed to shield their AcFee proposal from the public? That suggests that groups may be proposing expenditures which they want to hide.

Furthermore, why should members of committee be able to make decisions with no check to their power? This suggests that they may want to make allocations that are in their best interest rather than in the best interest of the student body as a whole.

Former SGA presidential candidate Joe Hills also pointed out on several occasions that members of the committee are elected and appointed from within SGA. SGA Presidential Candidate Bill Weimar said during last week's debate that if students are unhappy with the allocations they can vote for other candidates next year. However, students would not be able to tell which committee members were instrumental in that particular decision. Furthermore, one year is an unnecessarily long time for students to wait to voice their opinion on a ballot.

Morgan also noted the length of the deliberations and said that a *Hustler* reporter would unlikely be able to attend all of the deliberations. However, we were never asked whether we could send a reporter for the entire time. We were simply told we could not attend.

We appreciate the hard work and dedication of the committee members. It is an arduous task to make such difficult decisions especially when organizations request more money than there is to be allocated.

However, we nevertheless feel that increased transparency and accountability is necessary. At the very least, committee members should issue explanations as to why organizations did not receive their full requested amount.

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 or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in *The Hustler* and will not be published. *The Vanderbilt 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 editor@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 Vanderbilt Hustler* and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which *The Hustler* is a division.

CORRECTION POLICY

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

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

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

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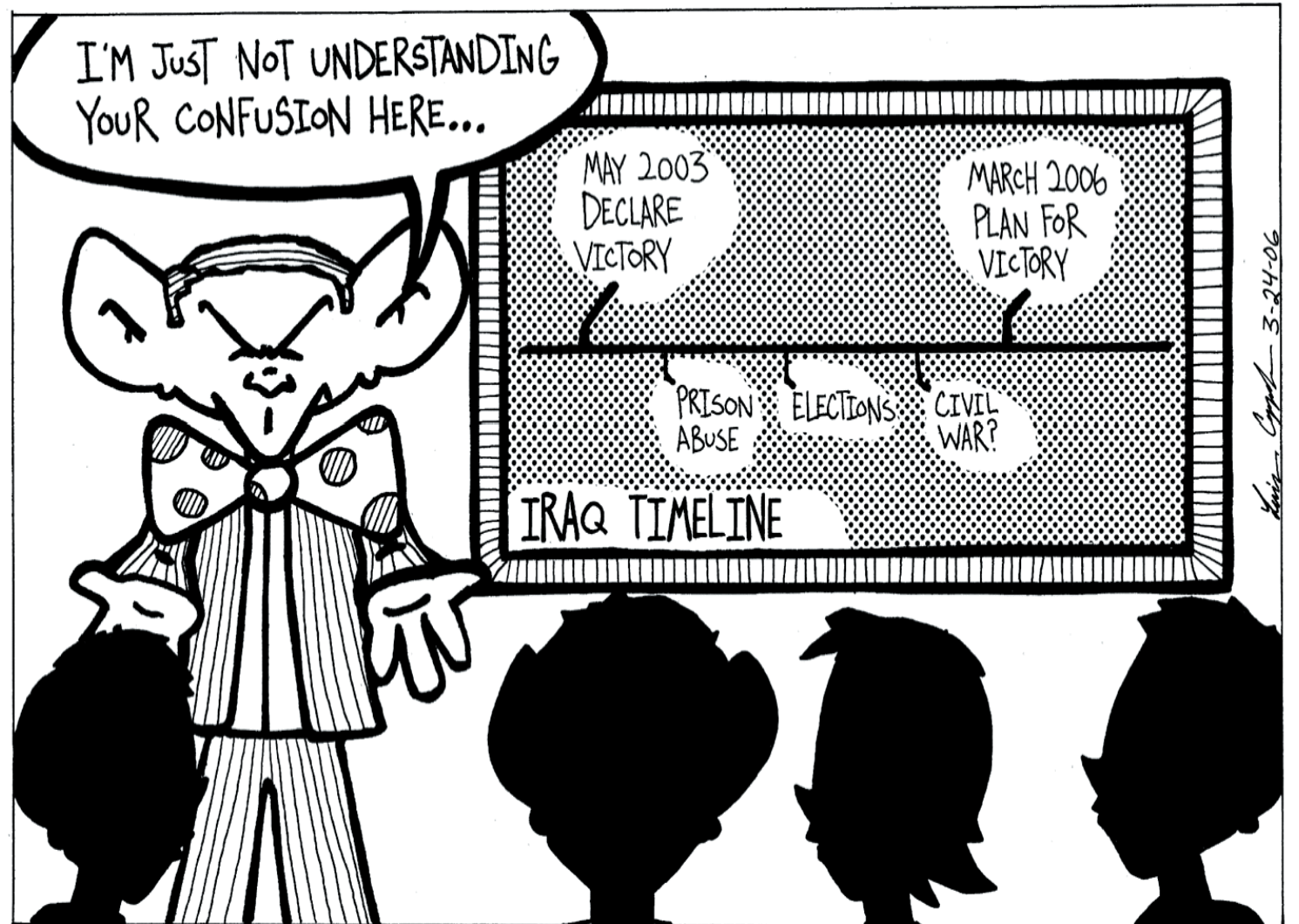
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Nashville, TN 37212
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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

EDITORIAL CARTOON



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Students voice support for Weimar

We are writing in support of *The Vanderbilt Hustler's* endorsement of Bill Weimar and Brennan McMahon for SGA president and vice president.

The recent debate between the presidential tickets offered several reasons to justify the editorial decision. After winning first place in the primary election, Bill and Brennan prepared for the televised debate by talking with undecided voters who cast ballots for more than one presidential ticket. They won their personal trust by talking about campus issues and listening to new perspectives.

Rival candidates argued they did not need to speak with Vanderbilt students, however, and criticized Bill and Brennan for holding community forums prior to the debate. We are puzzled that Boone Lancaster and Cara Bilotta did not seek out the good advice of student leaders, particularly when Bill and Brennan talked about the relevance of their platform issues with great success after those conversations.

We strongly disagree with the criticism of Brennan's prior experience as an elected leader in the Interhall Residential Life Government. After witnessing major problems for residential life and campus safety during the past year, we believe there has never been a stronger case for student leaders with past experience in both student governments.

It is not fair to criticize the capacity of a dedicated leader with previous experience as the elected president for two residential halls and current responsibility for the Peabody College campus. We are confident that Brennan will bring a helpful perspective from three years of Interhall experience to reshape the campus dialogue.

Over the past week, Bill and Brennan made a persuasive case about the close relationship of their personal values and campaign themes. Rather than proposing a disjointed set of platform issues to secure the votes of a restricted group of students, we believe they created their broad platform ideas with clear reference to the need for academic and social balance.

It is easy to see why most students concerned about Vanderbilt's future want a secure campus, fiscal responsibility, better technology options, stronger academic opportunities, and passionate student representation. We think Bill and Brennan won the debate by focusing on major concerns, sharing an opening and closing message that resonated with student values, and defending their platform.

Their positive campaign and pragmatic vision represent a new standard of civility and responsibility in student government elections that future candidates must follow to win. *The Hustler's* endorsement on the basis of past accomplishments and elected service reinforces their candidacy as the best presidential ticket for the Vanderbilt campus.

Will Hubbard
Sophomore A&S Senator
Attorney General and Communications Director, Interhall

Bryan Acklin
Vice President, Vanderbilt Association for Hispanic Students

Hunter Jean Gilpin
President, Vanderbuddies

Caroline Holland
Junior Peabody Senator
Vice President of Finance, Vanderbilt SGA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Former candidate questions *Hustler* endorsement

To the Editor:

Your endorsement of Bill Weimar and Brennan McMahon for SGA presidential team is troubling in that it is based on only two points: Weimar's "passion" and McMahon's Interhall experience, both of which are suspect.

In your endorsement, you cite "Weimar's relentless and somewhat infamous passion for fighting for what students want." This appears to be a stark contrast to Lancaster's leadership style, which you described in another article as "more diplomatic," quoting Lancaster as saying "leadership style is about building consensus, not conflict." However, you fail to mention Weimar's comments during the debate, constantly calling for dialog, rather than action, and his open mockery of the Living Wage protesters who were willing to rally on campus and even dress up in costumes to make their points.

What points has Weimar made? Yes, he submitted and passed a resolution to "strongly urge the (VPB) to re-evaluate Vanderbilt's traditional Homecoming Court Selection," but only while also resolving that the SGA "fully supports the (VPB) in their endeavors for Homecoming 2005." Which was it, Bill? If they were wrong, why support them in their failure? Where's the tough love from the passionate candidate?

Another fine example of his "willingness to advocate students' desires" is his Dec. 8, 2004, resolution to free up 50 parking spots for students - 50 parking spots the student body has yet to see. Three years of experience

passionately pushing resolutions that lead nowhere are three years of experience that will lead our student government nowhere.

Your endorsement also cites McMahon's Interhall experience as a "valuable resource" in dealing with the impending issues of Freshman Commons. First, I contend that her experience in Interhall as cited on BillandBrennan.com is clearly limited. She only mentions two issues: the controversial quarter-point for half a dorm, and an as of yet unseen Battle of the Bands. Second, almost none of Weimar's campaign issues are related to Interhall, and McMahon's experience would be of relatively little use in addressing them. Third, even if one assumes that her experience is so valuable, voting her into the position of SGA Executive Vice President would only deprive Interhall, whose role is far more involved with the Freshman Commons than SGAs, of an experienced member at a time when she is most needed.

The Hustler has chosen to endorse a presidential candidate with passion that has led him nowhere and a running mate whose experience will possibly be both useless to SGA and better employed by Interhall. But that doesn't make it too late for students to research the candidates themselves. I encourage all students to not only vote but to question everything and to talk to the candidates themselves.

Joe Hills
A&S Sophomore
Former SGA Presidential Candidate

COLUMN

Right for living wage celebrated on campus

This week, campus labor activist groups nationwide are celebrating what we've come to call the Student Labor Week of Action. This is a week in which

GUEST COLUMNIST
ELLEN McSWEENEY

college labor-rights campaigns work together to bring national attention to questions of economic justice in the United States and abroad. Students will hold events and actions at numerous schools, including Georgetown,

Harvard, Swarthmore, Washington University in St. Louis, UNC-Chapel Hill, UC-San Diego, and yes - right here at Vanderbilt.

The Student Labor Week of Action ends on April 4, which happens to be the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination. This anniversary gives us a special opportunity to reflect on Dr. King's legacy of working not only to end racial injustice, but to end economic injustice. For King, the two were inextricably tied. When King was killed in 1968, he was in Memphis,

Please see MCSWEENEY, page 7

COLUMN

Media is not to blame for Iraq

The war in Iraq has been the deadliest war for journalists since World War II. According to Reporters Without Borders, 86 journalists and media assistants have been killed, and 38 have been

OPINION EDITOR
REEVE HAMILTON

kidnapped since the war began three years ago. This is, in large part, what makes the latest Republican talking point – that the media's coverage is to blame for low support of the war – so offensive.

Conservative radio host Laura Ingraham appeared on "The Today Show" last week, echoing sentiments popping up in recent remarks from President Bush, Vice President Cheney and first lady Laura Bush. Ingraham said that the mainstream media merely covers news of destruction from hotel balconies instead of reporting the positive progress of the reconstruction, thus undermining the war effort and giving the public a distorted view of the conflict. This argument is offensive, paper thin and intentionally misleading. However, since the mainstream media is certainly strong enough to defend itself, you don't have to take my word for it.

"That hotel balcony crack was unforgivable. It was unforgivable to the memory of David Bloom. It was unforgivable in consideration of Bob Woodruff and Doug Vought, unforgivable in light of what happened to Michael Kelly and what happened to Michael Weiskopf. It was unforgivable with Jill Carroll still a hostage in Iraq. And it was not only unforgivable of her, it was desperate, and it was stupid," said MSNBC host Keith Olbermann of Ingraham's comments.

On CNN's "The Situation Room," Jack Cafferty outlined the argument's weakness. "This is nonsense that it's the media's fault. The news isn't good in Iraq. There's violence in Iraq. People are found dead every day in the streets of Baghdad. This didn't turn out the way the politicians told us it would. And it's our fault? I beg to differ."

Bush and his associates are trying to paint themselves as champions of truth and full disclosure. This is patently misleading. "You really can't count on the administration to tell you what is going on. That is just the fact. You've got to check it out," said "Hardball" host Chris Matthews, citing the pre-war rhetoric of weapons of mass destruction, the insistence that we would be greeted as liberators, and

Cheney's 10-month-old comment that the insurgency is in its last throws. "The president said this week that he wants the whole truth about what is going on in Iraq, the whole truth and that the media isn't telling the whole story. I'll tell you what we are not telling. We are not showing pictures of the twenty-five hundred bodies coming back because they won't let us show the pictures. They don't want the whole truth out, and that's the fact," Matthews said.

It was not really a shock when thesmokinggun.com revealed that Cheney requires every television in his hotel rooms be pre-tuned to FOX News, Rupert Murdoch's notoriously skewed network. "Because God forbid he walks into a hotel room and the TV is on another channel, and he finds out what a shit job he's been doing," said "The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart.

This recent rhetoric is just part of Bush's ongoing war with reality. Instead of taking responsibility or acknowledging problems with the administration's policies, the blame gets passed from one target to the next. It is easy to see why they would think the media would be an easy candidate for this week's scapegoat. After all, the news on the mainstream media often feels negative, and it can become grating. However, that is because of the news available, not the media covering it. "We've reported on reconstruction stories over and over again, but ... only 49 of well over 100 planned electricity projects happened. So, we can't keep doing the same stories over and over again. When a police station's attacked, that's something new that happened this week... I mean, security dominates every single thing that happens in this country ... So how is it that security issues should not then dominate the media coverage coming out of here?" Said Lara Logan of CBS News. In part, it is because this ongoing violence is so inconsistent with the government's public assessment of the situation that makes it news. Journalists have been putting their lives on the line every day to cover this war. The violence there is no more journalists' fault than it is the fault of the soldiers sent there on assignment. They should all be commended.

Of course, no one should rely on only one source. Everyone, including the vice president, should get news from multiple sources. But the administration should not be blaming the messengers because it does not like the message.

—Reeve Hamilton is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.

AROUND THE LOOP

How are you feeling with just a month of classes left?



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SADIKI ETIENNE Senior



"Really good."

ZHOU ZHANG Junior



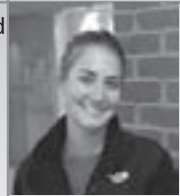
"I'm ready for the summer sun."

KRISTEN MCNUTT Freshman



"I'm just excited to be done."

MIKAYLA JORDAN Sophomore



"Could be better."

BRENNAN SHAFFNER Senior

Compiled by Allison Malone

McSweeney: Living wage is a necessity

From MCSWEENEY, page 6

campaigning with sanitation workers for fair wages and better working conditions.

Dr. King's incredible vision of justice continues to challenge and to inspire all of us. And perhaps the most important way to honor Dr. King's work is to examine closely our own community – the Vanderbilt campus – and ask ourselves how successful we have been in striving toward the world that King envisioned. This week, we focus on an issue of deep importance to him: fair wages.

In King's 1967 book *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*, he made a bold case for the living wage: "There is nothing but a lack of social vision," King wrote, "to prevent us from paying an adequate wage to every American citizen whether he be a hospital worker, laundry worker, maid, or day laborer. There is nothing except shortsightedness to prevent us from guaranteeing an annual minimum and livable income for every American family. There is nothing, except a tragic death wish, to prevent us from reordering our priorities."

But here on our own campus,

the lowest-paid workers – the people who clean our toilets, cook and serve our food, and maintain our beautiful grounds – are certainly not making a living wage. So what does this mean? This means that, working full-time, year-round, they still cannot afford basic necessities like health care, child care, food, housing, and transportation. This means they make a wage so low that they must take second and third jobs simply to make ends meet. This means they have little time to spend with their families and to care for their children (who, as members of low-income households, are already at risk).

Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees, LIVE, is a student group that has worked since May 2002 to bring this issue to the attention of our administrators. But, there has been little serious response to the issues that LIVE has risen. We have many questions: What, exactly, is stopping Vanderbilt from dealing openly and seriously with the issue of fair wages? Why can we spend a million dollars on the Branscomb nail salon, but not on a living wage for our employees? Why, despite a \$34 million budget surplus in fiscal

year 2004, did Michael Schoenfeld assert last November that the funding for a living wage doesn't exist?

After years of frustrating interactions with our administrators, the students of LIVE are asking a simple question: Why not a living wage? Our community deserves answers. On Wednesday at 12 on the Sarratt Terrace, students, workers and community members will come together to demand that the decision-makers of our University – including Chancellor Gordon Gee, Vice Chancellor Kevin Myatt, and CFO Lauren Brisky – outline both their moral and financial position on the living wage.

We insist that our administrators deal with the living wage question not only as a fiscal question, but as a moral question. Fair wages are a serious issue for every working family, and those of Vanderbilt employees are no exception. I hope you will join LIVE in doing what Dr. King did in 1967: seriously question our priorities.

—Ellen McSweeney is a junior in Blair School of Music and a member of LIVE.

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If you complete the Commodore Card and VU Meal Plan selections process by March 31 you could win one of two iPod Nanos! Log into the housing web site from <http://thecard.vanderbilt.edu> to make your selection for 2006/2007.

By making no selection or if you do not complete the online selection process you will not be able to make online additions to your Commodore Card between July 15, 2006 AND September 30, 2006 and again between December 15, 2006 AND January 31, 2007. A check will be required for all additions.

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SPORTS

MEN'S BASEBALL

Dores tame Tigers, earn sweep



NEIL BRAKE/VU Media Relations

Rightfielder Parker Hanks went 3-for-3 and drove in four runs in Saturday's 9-1 victory over Auburn. The Commodores completed their first ever three-game sweep of the Tigers and improved to 5-1 in conference play.

Pitching shines as team gets off to best conference start since 1980.

BY JARRED AMATO
HUSTLER ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The way Vanderbilt has been pitching, you just knew that after it scored three runs in the bottom of the first inning against Auburn yesterday, it was going to be enough.

While Cody Crowell may not have been able to match the performances from starters David Price and Matt Buschmann in the first two games, he certainly pitched well enough in the Commodores' 5-2 victory and first ever series sweep of the Tigers.

"We have some inter-team competition," Crowell said. "Price and Buschmann had outstanding performances and I just wanted to come out here and finish the deal."

Crowell gave up two runs, one earned, in eight and one third innings of work as Vanderbilt improved to 17-7 overall and 5-1 in the Southeastern Conference, its best conference start since 1980.

"I couldn't have predicted this," said head coach Tim Corbin, who's team has won 11 of its last 12 games. "When you're 6-6, you're just trying to win a game and (even) now I don't think we're close to being the team we're capable of being down the road."

The Commodores played small ball to jump out to an early 3-0 lead yesterday.

After David Macias walked and Alex Feinberg reached on a bunt single, Brian Hernandez recorded a textbook hit-and-run, shooting the ball through the hole between first and second to score Macias. Dominic de la Osa followed with an RBI double and Ryan Flaherty capped the scoring with an RBI single.

"It's very nice to get early run support," Crowell said. "You can just come after the batters and stay aggressive the whole time because a hit here and a hit there doesn't mean anything."

Leading 3-1 in the top of the fourth, Crowell (3-0) surrendered a double and hit two batters to load the bases. However, the southpaw responded by striking out Philip Stringer and forcing Bruce Edwards to ground out to end the inning.

"Spotting the fastball was the main thing and I didn't get that going until about the fifth inning," Crowell said.

The Commodore offense gave Crowell breathing room in the bottom of the seventh after an RBI single by Pedro Alvarez

and an RBI double by Hernandez, who was 4-for-4 on the day.

Crowell had few difficulties until the ninth, but Ty Davis came on to strike out the final two batters to record his first save.

After Crowell pitched a two-hit shutout last weekend against Ole Miss, the Commodore pitchers have been striving to top that.

"(Crowell) set the bar at Ole Miss so then Price wanted to out-do him. Buschmann tried to out-do him and Cody tried to out-do himself," Corbin said.

In the Commodores 2-0 victory Friday, Price pitched a complete game one-hit shutout, with 11 strikeouts and only two walks. No Auburn runners advanced past first base after the first inning.

"David Price was outstanding, that was the best pitcher we have seen all year," said Auburn coach Tom Slater. "I thought our kids battled their hearts out. We hit a lot of balls hard, but you have to credit Vanderbilt because when we did it hit it hard, they played good defense. And when Price needed a strikeout, he was able to

reach back and get a little more. That ball was exploding the last ten feet."

Vanderbilt scored runs in the sixth and seventh innings on RBI singles by Macias and Flaherty.

Buschmann gave up one run on five hits in seven and a third innings with 13 strikeouts and two walks in Vanderbilt's 9-1 victory Saturday.

"I went into the game with the same mentality that David (Price) had (Friday) and that was to command my fastball from both sides of the plate with some velocity," Buschmann said. "I thought if I did that I was going to have a good day."

Parker Hanks went 3-for-3 with four RBIs, Alvarez had three hits and de la Osa and Robin added two each.

Vanderbilt travels to Western Kentucky tomorrow and to Gainesville Friday for a three-game series with SEC East opponent Florida.

"Confidence is huge especially with a young team," Hernandez said. "Having two good SEC weekends back-to-back is going to be good for us heading to Florida next weekend." ■

4 with a Dore

Margie Curran

Women's Lacrosse



VH: The team played No. 16 Cornell and at No. 2 Duke last week, and you visit No. 3 Johns Hopkins next week. How does the team go into all of these tough matches against ranked opponents?

Margie Curran: We definitely have one of the toughest schedules in all of division I college lacrosse. We know that the other team has all the pressure on them, and we just say that we have nothing to lose, and that we're coming in as the underdog. They have to justify their ranking, and all we have to do is play lacrosse.

VH: The team has lost two straight games to fall to 4-5 on the season, and the schedule doesn't get any easier. What does the team have to do to make a run toward an NCAA tournament berth?

MC: We need to work on playing as a team all over the field. In our last few games, there were some lapses in our fundamentals, but we need to be there for each other. We have to keep working on our passing, our catching, our ground ball play, and our defense.

VH: Are there any athletes that you really look up to and admire?

MC: Someone that keeps me motivated is my dad. He taught me almost everything I know about sports. And I really look up to him. When he talks to me, I really listen. Mia Hamm is also an inspiration. I haven't met her, but I've read that she's an amazing person and amazing athlete. Everything she's done as an athlete and for women's sports has helped to inspire me.

VH: What is your fondest memory from college so far off the field?

MC: Whenever we hang out as a team, we have the best times of our lives. We're pretty close as a team and we have so much fun together. Football tailgating is especially fun, and we usually have a theme, such as a weird costume theme or an 80's theme, and we all come dressed up.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Women notch two road wins, off to fast start in league play

BY FRANKLIN PETR
HUSTLER SPORTS REPORTER

The Vanderbilt women's tennis team had a successful weekend in conference play, defeating both no. 52 Ole Miss and Mississippi State in road matches.

Against the Bulldogs, the Dores swept the competition 7-0, their third sweep this season.

In doubles action Vanderbilt (14-2, 5-0 Southeastern Conference) took all three sets to win the first point of the match. The first two pairs won their matches 8-4, 8-5 respectively, while the freshman duo of Liberty Sveke and Courtney Ulery dominated their opponents in the third set by a score of 8-2.

The onslaught continued in singles play with all but one match decided in straight sets.

Amanda Fish wrapped up first, easily downing her opponent 6-1, 6-1. Taka Bertrand finished next posting a 6-1, 6-3 victory over Mississippi State's Martina Barnikova. Maggie Yahner clinched the match for the Commodores when she posted a 6-2, 6-1 win in her first action of the weekend. Sveke defeated Daniela Juskova 6-3, 6-1, and Ulery overcame Polina Kokoulina 7-5, 6-1, to give the team a 6-0 advantage. In the match's only three-set finish, sophomore Amanda Taylor bounced back from a 6-3 first set loss and claimed the next two sets to win the final point for the Commodores.

"Taka and Amanda just took care of business," said Vanderbilt assistant coach Meike Babel. "Amanda has been

working so hard during practice, it's really starting to show in her playing. And Taka is just Miss Reliable as always."

Last Friday, the Commodores won their first match of the weekend by defeating the Mississippi 4-3 in Oxford.

The Commodores won the doubles point 2-1 as coach Geoff Macdonald's revised pairings from a week ago overcame a tough Rebel squad to win the first point of the match.

"We were pretty happy to take the doubles point with the new changes," Babel said.

Vanderbilt's No. 3 duo of Sveke and Ulery was the first to finish. The freshman pair easily defeated the Ole Miss pairing of Preethi Subramanian and Mimi Renaudin to give Vanderbilt a 1-0 lead in doubles play. The Commodores clinched the doubles point moments later with a win by Bertrand and Caroline Ferrell in the No. 2 seed. The pair handed the Rebel's Nika Koukhartchouk and Kseniia Tokarieva only their second doubles loss of the season with an 8-5 victory on Court No. 2. The Rebels were able to salvage a point in the top pairing when Vanderbilt's Fish and Taylor lost 8-7 in a very close match.

Ulery was the first to finish in singles play defeating Renaudin. The freshman bounced back from a disappointing showing in last week's match against Texas and held her opponent scoreless as she won 6-0, 6-0.

"Courtney played really well," Babel said. "(It was) one heck of a match."

Please see WOMEN, page 10

MEN'S TENNIS

Commodores salvage weekend split against conference opponents

BY JAMBU PALANIAPPAN
HUSTLER SPORTS REPORTER

After a tough loss Friday to no. 13 Ole Miss, the Vanderbilt men's tennis team rebounded yesterday by defeating no. 55 Mississippi State 4-3 at the Curry Tennis Center.

Sophomore Ryan Preston led the way for the Commodores by overcoming his opponent's match point in the second set and defeating No. 1 Pierre Mouillon (4-6, 7-6, 6-3).

"Ryan played very well," said head coach Ian Duvenhage. "He came back from being down match point to winning the match. That was very impressive."

Vanderbilt was forced to rely on a string of the doubles matches and strong performances from Andy Mack and Nathan Sachs in order to escape with their first victory in the Southeastern Conference. Sachs

made quick work of the Bulldog's Philippe Frayssinoux (6-4, 6-2) and won his doubles match with Preston.

"I'm very happy for our guys," Duvenhage said. "They worked very hard and overcame a lot of injuries. We only have six players and that leaves no margin for error."

Andy Mack's 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 singles victory clinched the match for the Commodores.

"During the last three games I just liked the frame of mind he was in, I wasn't really worried. I just knew he was going to win based on his demeanor. He won by being aggressive," Duvenhage said.

The win came after the Commodores fell at home to Ole Miss 6-1 on Friday.

"I was very hard on our players on Saturday after the loss, and it showed in their efforts," Duven-

Please see TENNIS, page 10

During the last three games I just liked the frame of mind he was in, I wasn't really worried. I just knew he was going to win based on his demeanor. He won by being aggressive.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Women bedeviled by Duke, lose second straight

BY ALEKSEY DUBROVNSKY
HUSTLER SPORTS REPORTER

The Vanderbilt lacrosse team lost a tough road match against the No. 2 Duke Blue Devils 15-11 in Durham, North Carolina, yesterday. Despite a valiant comeback effort that followed a hotly contested first half of play, the Commodores dropped their second consecutive match and fell to 4-5 on the season.

"Against one of the best teams in the nation, we really came out and showed what we're capable of when we put up a fight," said Head Coach Cathy Swezey.

The Blue Devils improved to 9-0 on the season and showed the Commodores why they are ranked so high during a key stretch in the second half.

Jennifer Tapscott and Ashley Paschall scored back-to-back goals near the end of the first half to cut the Blue Devils' lead to 8-7, which seemed to turn the momentum of the game in the Commodores' favor.

Duke, however, responded less than a minute later as Leigh Jester ripped one past Vanderbilt goaltender Brooke Shinaberry to make the halftime score 9-7.

That goal was the first of several in a row for Duke, as they scored seven of eight goals to take a 15-8 lead with 13:48 left in the game. The Commodores did not give up, however, as Margie Curran assisted on goals by Kendall Thrift and Kate Hickman, and Nicole Pugno blasted one past Duke net-minder Megan Huether to make the final four goal margin. For a while, it looked as if the Dores could weather the storm and make a run at the undefeated Blue Devils.

Hickman, the team's captain and the team's leading scorer heading into the game, was the focal point of the Blue Devil defense and wasn't allowed many good scoring opportunities in either half. Much of that was also due to an injury she sustained in pre-game warm-ups. Her limited playing ability allowed other players

to step up, and a total of six Commodores recorded their names in the box score.

Thrift had an especially good offensive showing, putting three of her four shots on goal past Huether to lead the team in scoring. Thrift combined with sophomore striker Margie Curran to keep the game close in the first half.

Curran opened the scoring with a goal in the third minute of play, and Thrift gave the Commodores a short-lived 2-1 lead. Curran would tie the game at 3-3 with a timely score in the 11th minute, and Cara Giordano's back-to-back goals gave the Dores a 5-3 lead.

Five consecutive unassisted Blue Devil goals scored by four different players then gave Duke a sizeable 8-5 lead, and they would not relinquish it. Despite the loss, Swezey was not overly discouraged and is looking forward to the rest of the Commodores schedule.

"We kept it close and made it an exciting game. We're looking forward to our next couple of contests," Swezey said.

This loss follows a difficult home loss to No. 16 Cornell University. The Big Red had two four-goal runs on the Commodores and went on to win 14-8, and this loss was eerily similar to the last one. The Commodores, despite a solid effort, appeared to have untimely defensive lapses when the momentum of the game shifted away from them, and they could not recover quickly enough to make the match closer.

Despite the consecutive setbacks, the Dores still have plenty of opportunities to get in position for an NCAA tournament run. Their schedule does not let up, however, as they travel to Baltimore to face the No. 3 Johns Hopkins Blue Jays at noon Sunday, April 1, their third consecutive match against a ranked opponent. ■



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BOWLING

Bowlers aspire for postseason after finishing fourth in Chicago

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

Coming off an upset of top-ranked Nebraska last weekend, Vanderbilt finished in fourth place at the Brunswick Fountain Square Zone Sunday, beating Farleigh Dickinson in the first contest of the day but losing a competitive match against New Jersey City. The tournament was the finale of the regular season.

The last loss ousted Vanderbilt from the double-elimination event, but Coach John Williamson said there was much more good that emerged from this tournament.

Since the event closed out the regular season, the Commodores will now wait for postseason plans, as invites to the NCAA Championship are given Wednesday.

"Getting to Houston and the NCAA Championship in April has been one of our primary goals, and this tournament was ideal for our team right now," Williamson said. "First off, we think we have proven to the committee that selects the NCAA field of eight that we belong. We finished ahead of Farleigh Dickinson here and Farleigh is considered a lock, for instance."

On the tournament bubble, the Dores feel that

their quality of competition should qualify them for the postseason. Sophomore Amanda Keily has also been injured for much of the season.

"We have spent our entire season competing in the top tournaments against the best teams in the NCAA -- 40% of that time without the services of Mandy Keily," Williamson said. "We think that when the committee looks at the quality of our competition and particularly our success since Jan. 1 we should be one of those eight teams in Houston."

Williamson also noted that the Brunswick tournament has a similar format to the NCAA Championship and was proud of his team's performance.

"It was our first experience at qualifying for a seed and then getting into Baker Games with a double-elimination system," Williamson said. "I thought we competed very well. We came out strong today and beat Farleigh Dickinson three straight Baker Games and had a close match with New Jersey City. The experience we will take from here should really pay off when we see the same format in a few weeks."

The committee votes on Wednesday, and Vanderbilt will know its postseason plans then. ■

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I came to Vanderbilt not even knowing about managerial studies, but this choice for a minor was one of the best decisions I made during my time here. I know I will take what I have learned in my marketing, finance and entrepreneurship classes into my future career. I also know that I will always remember the professors in the Managerial Studies Department and the important roles they had in my Vanderbilt experience. Think about your Vanderbilt experience and decide where you want your \$20.06 to go.

Addie Sherwood, Senior Class Officer

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Women: Changes to doubles pairs proving to help Commodores

From WOMEN, page 8

Junior Amanda Fish gave the Commodores a 3-0 point advantage when she took the No. 1 match 6-2, 6-2, from Mississippi's Virginia Tomatis. The No. 20 Fish improved her singles record to 13-3 on the season.

Vanderbilt was able to clinch their fifth conference win with a Bertrand victory in the No. 2 spot. The 43rd nationally ranked player fought back from an early 3-0 deficit to take the match 7-6, 6-3, from the Rebel's Ilona Somers. Bertrand's record stands at a team-high 15-1 on the season.

"I'm never worried about (Bertrand)," Babel said. "She was down three-love but I wasn't even worried about it. She just needed to warm up a little bit."

After winning their first three singles matches, Vanderbilt dropped the rest, ending in a 4-3 victory for the Commodores.

Ferrell, Sveke and Taylor all lost in three sets. Ferrell's opponent, freshman Kseniia Tokarieva, is undefeated on the season in the No. 4 spot.

"Caroline played really well, but lost against a tough player," Babel said.

The team returns home to face No. 2 Notre Dame on Wednesday.

The Commodores resume conference play on Friday against the University of Tennessee in Nashville. Both matches begin at 2:30 in the afternoon. ■

Tennis: Mack wins pivotal match to defeat Bulldogs 4-3



NEIL BRAKE/VU Media Relations

Andy Mack's singles win over Mississippi State's Jose Carlos Pinto clinched a 4-3 victory on Sunday for Vanderbilt, marking their first in conference play this season.

From TENNIS, page 8

hage said. "They really picked it up and worked."

The team's only win Friday came from Preston who defeated Erling Tveit at No. 1 in a straight set victory (6-1, 7-5). Preston ended Tveit's nine match winning streak, and with the win defeated the nation's 16th ranked collegiate player.

In singles play, the Commodores were unable to keep the pressure on the Rebels that they had throughout doubles.

The Rebels top 15 talent simply overpowered the Dores and peppered Vanderbilt with a wide array of commanding ground strokes and strong net play.

Junior Andy Mack made a comeback in his second set after falling 6-2 against Bram ten Berge in the first. Mack and ten Berge exchanged points throughout the contest, but Bram edged ahead to close out the win 6-2, 6-4.

Duvenhage was pleased with the teams result from Sunday, and hopes that the Dores can carry some momentum into the final stretches of SEC play.

"We have no margin for error for the rest of the season," Duvenhage said. "We need to play well all the way down the line-up and we need to build on this weekend."

The Commodores take their 6-8 (1-5) record on the road to Knoxville on Friday to face Tennessee. Then on Sunday, April 2, they face the Georgia Bulldogs in Athens. ■

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Grand Opening Celebration March 27 - March 30, 2006

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Join us for an evening of live readings of original work by members of Vanderbilt's creative writing community.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
117 Alumni Hall

Tuesday, March 28 Panel Discussion: Writing Across the Curriculum

Panelists: Dan Cornfield, Department of Sociology; Vivien Fryd, Department of Art and Art History; and Kevin Leander, Department of Teaching and Learning

Panelists will compare writing practices particular to their fields of study.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
117 Alumni Hall

Wednesday, March 29 How I Write

Featuring Paul Young, Department of English, Director of Film Studies

This conversation will focus primarily on work styles, such as where, when, and how a writer composes.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
117 Alumni Hall

Thursday, March 30 Keynote Address: "Strategies to Help Students Grow as Writers"

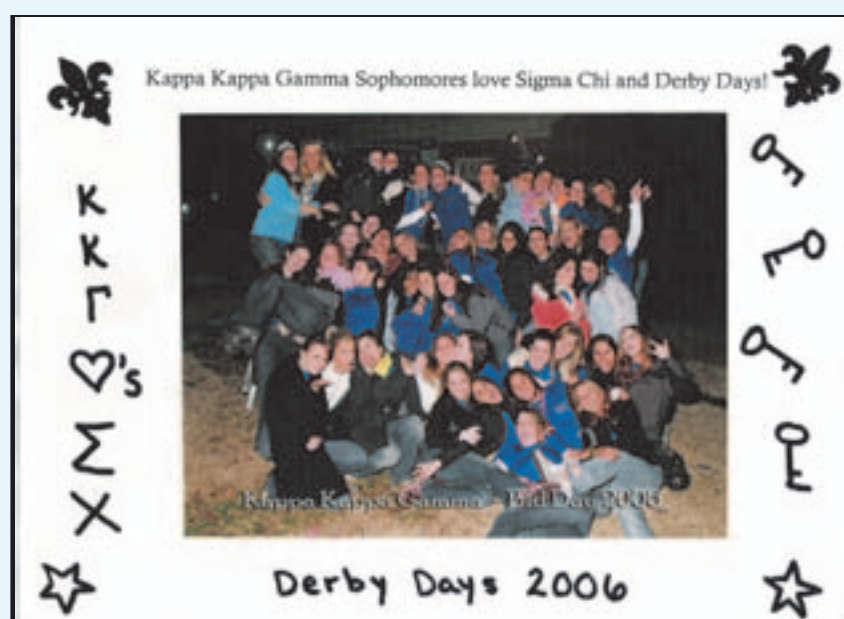
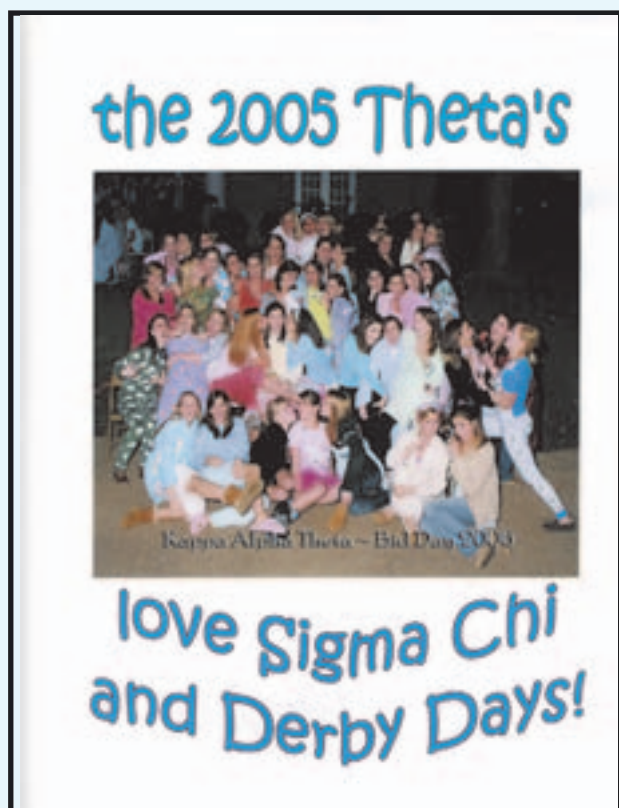
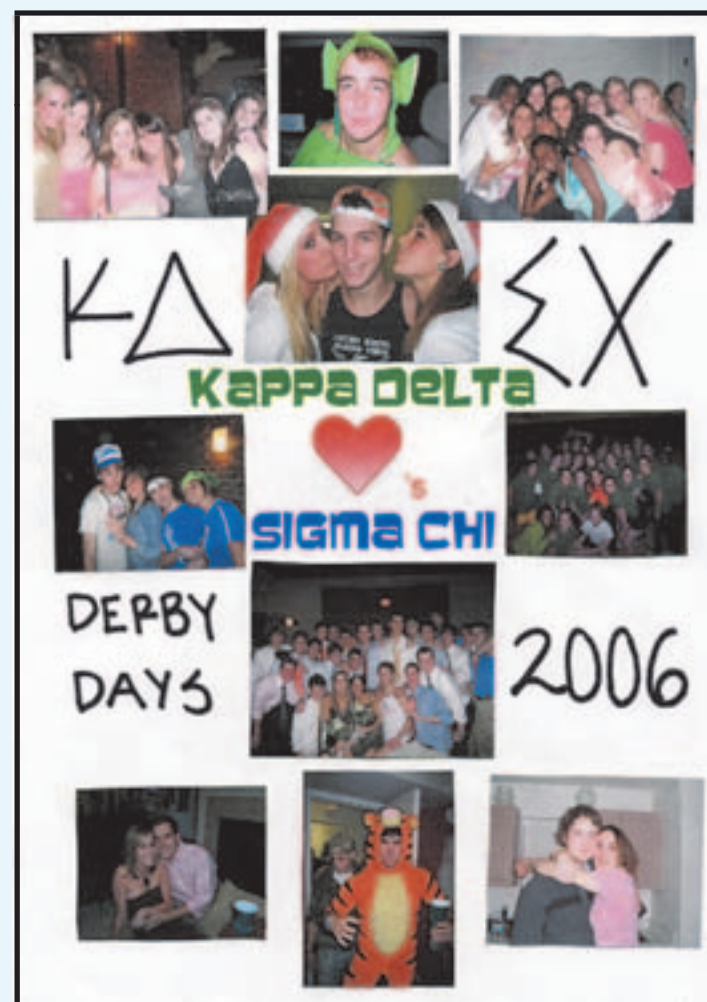
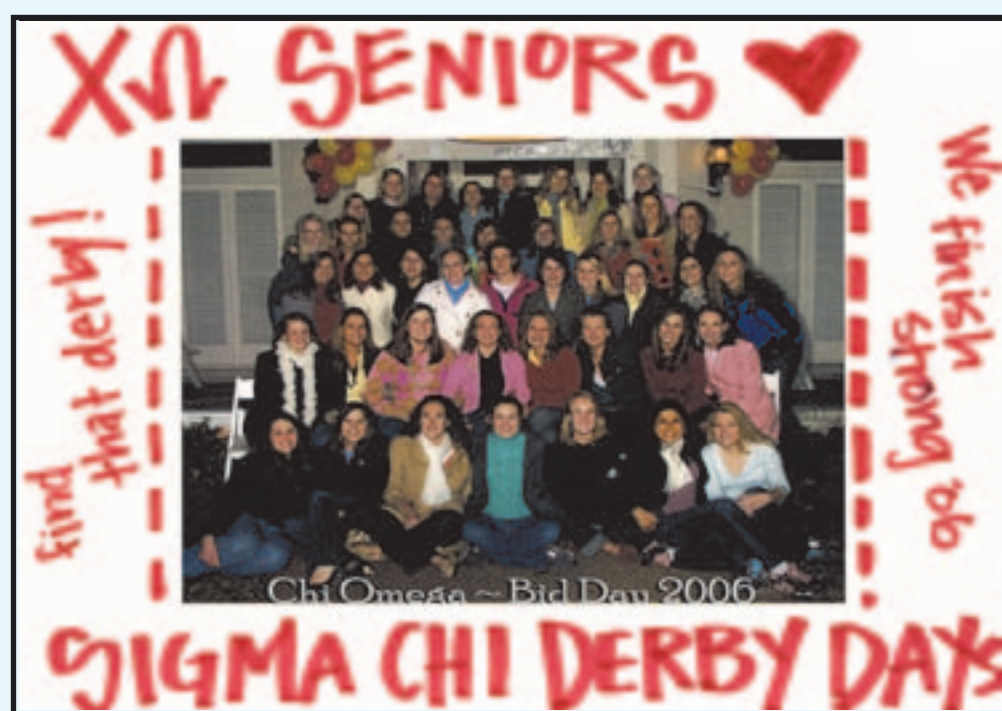
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By Buddy Hickerson — KRT



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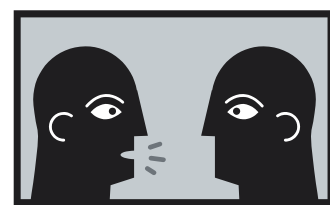
Rand - March 30th

Walker Texas Hold'em Tourney
sign up by emailing brandy.r.sherwood@vanderbilt.edu

Chuck Norris Look-A-Like Contest
PRIZES! Judging at 7pm

Tae Kwon Do Demo "Chuck Wagon" dishes

Chuck's Movies and More!



FOCUS GROUP Participants Needed

Give us some feedback on Vanderbilt Dining & we'll give you \$10 on your card!

INTERESTED? Arrive the evening of the Focus Group

TOPIC: Food we serve on campus

DATE: March 28 or 29

TIME: 4-5 pm

WHERE: Rand Balcony

