MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 120th YEAR, NO. 55

www.insidevandy.com

ACADEMICS: Are poli sci students missing out on mock legislature program? SEE PAGE 3

BOYLE: Whoopi Goldberg has a distorted "View" of the Constitution. SEE PAGE 4



VANDY GAMEDAY: VANDERBILT 23 OLE MISS 17

COMMODORES RANKED NO. 21 AFTER WIN OVER REBELS

by ADAM WEINSTEIN

Sports Contributor

The Commodores came to Oxford on Saturday an undefeated team, on the verge of their first top-25 ranking since 1984.

Sixty minutes later, Vanderbilt emerged with a 23-17 win over the Ole Miss Rebels (2-2, 0-1 SEC), having proven once again that, this year, the second half is their time to shine. Now Vanderbilt stands at the No. 21 spot in Week 4's Associated Press poll, ranked for the first time in 24 years.

Nothing came easily in this victory though, as quarterback Chris Nickson left the game injured in the third quarter, giving junior Mackenzi Adams his first crunch time minutes of the year.

"I was ready, felt prepared and I came in the game looking to make something happen," Adams said.

In this one, Vanderbilt fell behind early yet again. Following an Ole Miss field goal, Vanderbilt lost two straight fumbles, the first of which was recovered and returned for a touchdown. The second fumble gave Ole Miss the ball on the Vanderbilt 20, but redshirt junior safety Ryan Hamilton stepped in front of a Jevon Snead pass for his first of a school record-tying three interceptions in the night and brought it back for a touchdown.

Ole Miss struck back immediately on a 98-yard kickoff return by Mike Wallace, bringing the score to 17-7.

Vanderbilt was quick to recover touchdown pass to Jared Hawkins

and a 34-yard field goal.

The second half, though, was decidedly defined by the defense and Vanderbilt (4-0, 2-0 SEC) had key stops at the goal line twice. Once again, Hamilton made his presence felt, with a big tackle of Snead on 4th and goal from the 1-yard line in the third quarter. Then in the fourth quarter, redshirt freshman linebacker Chris Marve forced a fumble at Vanderbilt's 2-yard line, which junior D.J. Moore recovered and ultimately sealed the game.

Coach Bobby Johnson was again impressed by the team's play down the stetch.

"It speaks to our conditioning. We are very thin. We are not making a lot of substitutions," Johnson said. "We just keep playing no matter what happens."

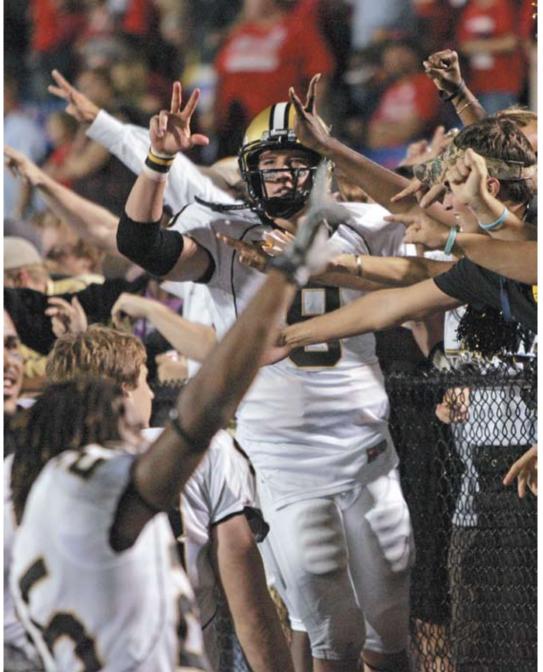
Hamilton had an unbelieveable game totaling three interceptions, a fumble recovery and six tackles, receiving the Defensive Player of the Week award from the Walter Camp Football Foundation.

"I'm honored that people felt that I deserved the award, and I'm going to try play like that every week," Hamilton said.

"It's just a different vibe from this team," Adams said. "There's something a little different about this one. We had some bad things happen to us in the beginning of the game, but no one really freaked out, and we just expected to come back and win this game."

Vanderbilt has an upcoming bye week before playing Auburn.

As the Hamilton put it, going though, tying the game on a 4-0 means a lot, but, of course, "5-0 is looking good too." ■



Vanderbilt quarterback Mackenzi Adams celebrates with fans following Vanderbilt's 23-17 victory over Ole Miss on Saturday. Adams replaced an injured Chris Nickson and came away with another huge road victory. The win improved Vanderbilt's record to 4-0 and kept the team atop the SEC East, and the Associated Press voters rewarded the team's start with a No. 21 ranking, the team's first ranking in 24 years.

LEADERSHIP **AcFee**

resolution still in process

by LILY CHEN

Leadership Specialist

The restructuring effort for the Student Finance Committee and AcFee allocation process continued as Vanderbilt Student Government held forums on Sept. 17 and 18 where students were invited to make suggestions for improving the AcFee system.

According Organizational Relations Co-Chair Jess Cohen, student turnout between the two nights was around 20 people. Student suggestions included setting up a Google group to keep record of all previous AcFee applications and creating a loan process so AcFee money can be used to buy material goods since AcFee does not fund material goods.

"The big changes we're proposing, appointing a student from an umbrella organization and changing the application to Excel, are there to try to make the AcFee process easier and to increase communication," Cohen said.

The resolution to change the structure has been postponed until the House meeting this Wednesday. If the House approves, then the resolution will be passed on to the Senate for

SCIENCE & MEDICINE

Vanderbilt assists in international research

by ALLIE MORRIS

Science & Medicine Specialist

Two teams from Vanderbilt have joined in an international experiment that could prove the existence of black holes and dark matter. The experiments are being conducted at CERN lab on the border of Switzerland and France in the biggest particle accelerator in the world, the Large Hadron Collider.

The main job of the Vanderbilt team is to write and adapt computer code in order to provide an analysis of the particle collisions.

"Collisions happen (in the accelerator) ... at a high energy and stuff comes out. Our job is to take that stuff that comes out and work backwards ... to reconstruct what happened and to see if some new particle

is being created," said Eduardo Luiggi, a doctoral student and member of the Vanderbilt Particle Physics department working with the LHC.

Researchers are hoping to use the LHC to prove physics theories essential to explaining how the universe functions.

"There are a few things we know. There is dark matter, it is present, but we don't have any idea what it is. At LHC, we hope to create it," said Professor of Physics Paul Sheldon. "We may produce miniature black holes that will evaporate away. These (black holes) can't be produced unless there are extra dimensions in space."

EventhoughSheldonisexcited about the potential creation of black holes, he is skeptical about the truth in the popular "doomsday" theory surrounding is not enough energy in these collisions to create a black hole that would have enough mass to keep growing and take in half the earth," Sheldon said.

He said roughly 2000 researchers from institutions all over the world are working at CERN each day.

"Once you are onsite, you can meet someone from anywhere, every place around the world. It is a real international experience," said Andres Rojas, a second-year graduate student who spent the past summer at CERN.

"If you have a good idea, Vanderbilt will help you find support for it ... Vandy does a good job of enabling good ideas and this kind of attitude makes this a great place for research," Sheldon said. ■

CAMPUS LIVING

Varsity Markets leave students unsatisfied

by JENNIFER DENNARD

News Contributor

Vanderbilt was the first school in the country to have 24-hour dining locations and is still the only school to actually accept a meal plan swipe in a market, according to General Manager of Varsity Markets Spiros Vergatos. Despite these perks, many students are not completely satisfied with the Munchie Marts this year.

There are several markets open 24 hours every day, but those with more limited hours have given students cause for complaint. Varsity Morgan is open from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m., but junior Camille Brandon doesn't think that is long enough.

"When I'm going to class at 9 (a.m.), I can't take advantage of what the mart does offer because it's not open yet," said Brandon. She and others have also had problems on the weekends when students are up later but the



Thu Truong (senior) helps himself to some frozen yogurt at Varsity Marketplace

Branscomb, an improvement since last year.

markets are not open.

"Hours of operation are determined by location based on years of statistical information," said Vergatos. Some locations, he explained, were previously open 24 hours but didn't receive enough business.

"Morgan started out last year closing at 11 p.m., and based on requests and a test pilot last spring semester, we are now open until 1 a.m.," Vergatos said. He also described how

throughout campus to provide easy access - these include Branscomb, Towers, Commons and sometimes Hemingway. The meal plan has also been a source of frustration for students.

24-hour locations are spread

"There is little variety in what you can get on meal plan in the marts," said junior Lucas Deloach.

This year, several items, including ice cream, have lost their entree eligibility according to new meal plan guidelines. However, there have been several new options added, such as tuna kits, kosher meals and Campbell's soups. But despite the new additions, "There are not a lot of healthy options," Deloach

Positive additions to the marts include the new frozen yogurt machine in Branscomb and the possibility of getting three sides as a meal instead of the traditional two sides and an entree. ■

SPORTS: Women's soccer continues success with win over UAB Blazers. SEE PAGE 6



APSHOI

TODAY



HIGH **85**, LOW **60** Sunny

TUESDAY



HIGH **86**, LOW **60** Sunny

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

CORRECTION

Friday's story, "New environmental graduate program to be added," incorrectly identified the new Vanderbilt program as a graduate program. The Vanderbilt Institute for Energy and Environment will be an institute, not a program.

NEWS BRIEFS

Pakistan Marriott blast shows signs of al-Qaida, Taliban involvement

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Taliban militants based near the Afghan border and their al-Qaida allies are the most likely suspects behind a massive truck bombing at Islamabad's Marriott Hotel, officials and experts said Sunday. At least 53 died in the explosion, including two U.S. Defense Department employees and the Czech ambassador.

The truck sat burning and disabled at the hotel gate for at least 3 1/2 minutes as nervous guards tried to douse the flames before they, the truck and much of the hotel forecourt vanished in a fearsome fireball on Saturday night, according to dramatic surveillance footage released Sunday.

The attack on the American hotel chain during Ramadan, among the deadliest terrorist strikes in Pakistan, will test the resolve of its pro-Western civilian rulers to crack down on growing violent extremism which many here blame on the country's role in the U.S.-

While no group has claimed responsibility, the scale of the blast and its high-profile target were seen by many as the signature of media-savvy al-Qaida.

Paulson resists Democratic calls for added help in financial bailout

WASHINGTON (AP)—Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson is resisting a Democratic push to add additional help for households to the \$700 billion bailout bill.

Paulson said Sunday that because financial markets remain under severe stress there is an urgent need for Congress to act quickly without adding other measures that could slow down passage.

"We need this to be clean and to be quick," Paulson said in an interview on ABC's "This Week."

Paulson resisted suggestions being made by Democrats that the program be changed to include further relief for homeowners facing mortgage foreclosures and to include an additional \$50 billion stimulus effort. Some Democrats have also suggested capping compensation of executives at firms who get the bailout help.

Israel's Olmert hands in formal resignation, Livni likely successor

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has formally resigned.

He handed a letter of resignation to President Shimon Peres. Earlier, he told his Cabinet that he was stepping down. Channel 10 TV broadcast a government picture of Olmert reading

his letter of resignation to Peres Sunday evening. Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni is already meeting with party leaders to set up a new coalition government. Peres is meeting with party leaders to decide on Olmert's successor, but Livni is the obvious choice. She supports Olmert's efforts toward a peace accord with

the Palestinians. She won a party primary election last week. Olmert decided to step down because of several corruption cases against him.

Class of 2012 most prepared and diverse say university admins

The Class of 2012 is the most academically prepared class in the history of Vanderbilt University by all measures, including high school ranking, numbers of National Merit scholars, leadership potential and test scores. It is also the most ethnically and geographically diverse, and its selection was the most competitive, with 16,944 students vying for the 1,569 slots in the entering class.

"Vanderbilt is a wonderful choice for students who are academically talented and who thrive in an active and engaging learning community," said Douglas Christiansen, associate provost for enrollment and dean of admissions. "We are thrilled to have this high caliber of student engaging in our innovative undergraduate learning environment.

More than 84 percent of the first-year students were in the top 10 percent of their high school class and more than 130 were valedictorians or salutatorians. There are 170 National Merit scholars in the entering class, and eight National Achievement

Vanderbilt's SAT scores have increased dramatically as well. The average SAT score for the 2008 entering class is 1400, with 25 percent of the class scoring 1500 or higher. This year's average is a 21-point increase over 2007's. In 2000, the average was 1313.

The class also boasts exceptional and wide-ranging leadership experience, Christiansen said. "This year it is amazing the number of students who have held significant leadership roles on the national and regional level as well as within their communities and high

In recent years, the university has also experienced significant increases in diversity. Minority students make up 23.3 percent of the entering class, compared to 17.4 percent in 2000. The entering class is also more geographically diverse. The most dramatic change in the past five years is in the number of students coming from the Northeast, up to 25.3 percent from 18.6 in 2003.

Source: Vanderbilt News Service

Feds say doomed SC jet crew thought tire blew out, under investigation

WEST COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—Federal officials say the doomed crew of a Learjet that crashed in South Carolina thought a tire on the plane blew as they started down the runway.

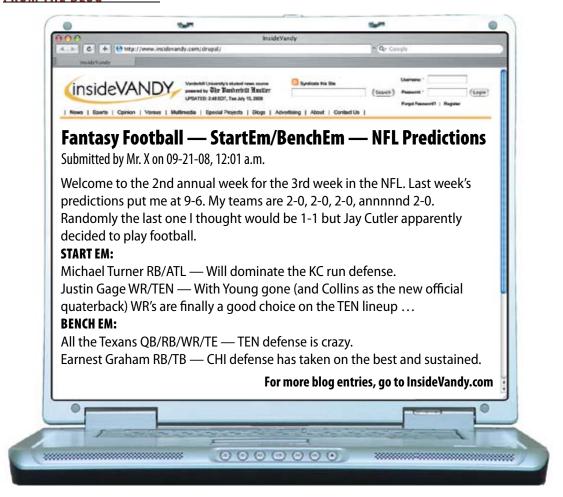
National Transportation Safety Board member Debbie Hersman said Sunday that crew members told air traffic controllers they heard a tire burst and tried to abort the takeoff Friday night.

Former Blink-182 drummer Travis Barker and celebrity disc jockey DJ AM were injured in the crash that killed four other people on

Hersman says the conversation between the plane's crew and the air traffic controllers is captured on a cockpit voice recorder that was recovered from the wreckage. She says the cause of the crash is being investigated.

The Learjet crashed through a fence and shot over a highway before stopping on an embankment.

FROM THE BLOG



SNAPSHOT

ARCADE NIGHT



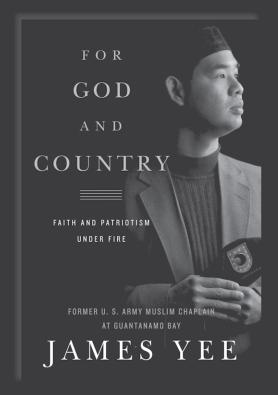
7AC HARDY / The Vanderhilt Hustler Juniors Jessie Zhao and Michael Young play Skee Ball at Friday night's Arcade Night, hosted by the VenUE in Sarratt Student Center.

Vanderbilt University Speakers Committee presents:

MES YEE

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Lieutenant General: Lessons learned from Katrina

by CHRYSTEL MARINCICH News Contributor

"How you survive a disaster is directly proportional to how you prepare yourself before that disaster," said Lt. Gen. Russel L. Honore. "Earthquakes, hurricanes tornadoes are going to happen. How we take care of people before the disaster makes a difference on how you are going to treat them after it."

Honore, who led the Joint Task Force Katrina three years ago during the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, opened the Centennial Lecture Series on Thursday, Sept. 18. The lecture series is part of the celebration for the 100th anniversary of the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and will feature several guest

speakers throughout the school year. After an emotional eight-minute documentary about the courage of nurses during Katrina, Honore explained through jokes and an interactive speech how we should prevent the results of disasters like



He stressed the importance of having a weather radio to stay informed of a possible hurricane. Honore emphasized this could be the difference between life and death, explaining how many people

Katrina and Rita.

the night. "Prepare yourself. Have an emergency kit, three days of food and water and an evacuation plan. Take cash, you'll need it. Have you ever been able to get money out of an ATM during a disaster? No," Honore

and their families have died when a

hurricane hit during the middle of

said. "Go get your grandma a weather radio and a backpack full with DVDs with her favorite family pictures. That is what you want to take in an evacuation."

Honore also said politicians need to create policies to guarantee that drug stores, gas stations and hospitals will have a generator. Many problems during Katrina were caused by a lack of these pieces of equipment, since people could not leave without getting gas or their medicines. Honore criticized the government for the lack of preparation for disasters like hurricanes.

"There wasn't a lot of news about a hurricane coming so we didn't keep track of Katrina until a few days earlier before it hit," said sophomore Lily Chen, originally from New Orleans and a survivor of Hurricane Katrina.

Honore concluded his lecture by giving students a mission.

"How do we evacuate? Who should lead?" he asked. "College students of today have the answer to these questions. We need you to create the policies and technologies. Do what you do when you are pissed off: start sending e-mails." ■

ACADEMICS

TISL seeks students to engage in the legislative process

by JANELLE STOKES Greek Specialist

Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature's (TISL) history at Vanderbilt began 35 years ago when one student decided he wanted to take an active role in the national government. In the last decade, however, Vanderbilt students have not participated in TISL.

Wilson, executive director for TISL and a program alumnus, is surprised Vanderbilt students haven't attended the program in years despite their active participation in political organizations.

"(I want people to realize that) next to registering to vote, this is your best opportunity to be involved in the political process," said Wilson. "You can help elect a candidate and that's hugely



TENNESSEE STATE CAPITOL

important. But this is a case where you get to sit in the state Capitol, you get to engage directly with state officials (and) state officials pay attention to what (you) do."

TISL is an organization that allows students from colleges in Tennessee to participate in a mock assembly at the Capitol more than one choice (of

where they act as the Senate and House of Representatives.

This year's 39th assembly will take place Nov. 13 to 16 and will give students a chance to draft, debate and vote on several bills and issues. These bills are passed onto members of Tennessee legislature and are often considered for voting.

In an effort to get students involved, Wilson asked Professor of Political Science and Director of Graduate Studies in the Political Science Department Bruce Oppenheimer to serve as the adviser for the Vanderbilt chapter and get more students involved.

Oppenheimer thinks the program will have to compete with other student organizations and is unsure of its chance.

"It's the problem of having

activity)," said Oppenheimer. "(TISL) is going really well on a bunch of other campuses in the state. Is Vanderbilt one of them, or is it different?"

Philip Stoecklein, a senior at Tennessee State University, has been involved with TISL for two years and is surprised by Vanderbilt's absence. Stoecklein thinks students are missing out on learning about legislation and networking opportunities.

"You learn firsthand how the State of Tennessee government truly works and how the legislative process really works," said Stoecklein. "If you have any interest in politics or how government works, this is the one program that you should be involved in."

For more information about TISL contact Professor Bruce Oppenheimer.

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9:30	9:30	9:30	9 :30	9:30	9:30	9:30
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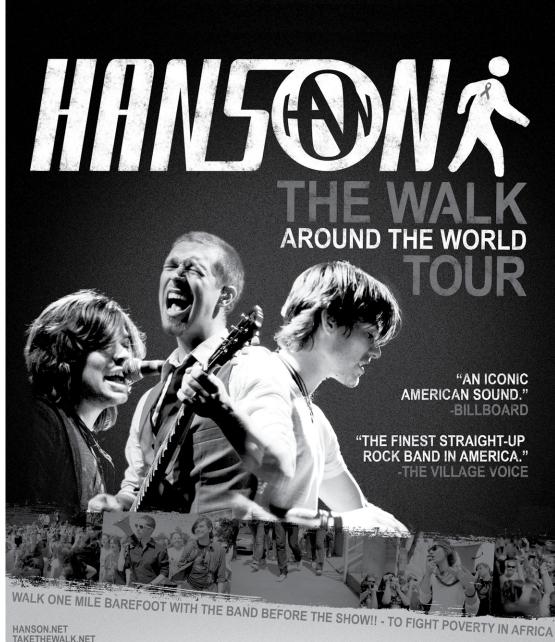
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OPINION

Nashville needs teachers

NEILY TODD

Change isn't just for Washington anymore. The Metro Nashville public school system is on the brink of its own changes, thanks to Mayor Karl Dean's new education reform plan. Public schools across the country are failing to meet their potential. This news is neither shocking nor new. What is new, however, is the strong movement of independent organizations across the country taking the matter into their own hands. The most well-known of these organizations, especially on the Vanderbilt campus, is Teach for America, and if Dean's efforts succeed, Teach for America will announce at the end of this month its plan to add Nashville to its ever-expanding list of locations for the 2009-2010 school year.

Princeton graduate Wendy Kopp founded Teach for America in 1990 to recruit top-notch, recent college graduates to teach for two years in America's lower-income schools. Today, the organization is the No. 1 provider of teachers to the country's failing schools. According to their Web site, "Our mission is to build the movement to eliminate educational inequity by enlisting our nation's most promising future leaders in the effort. Our vision is that one day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education." They seem to be well on their way to achieving that mission, as the 20,000 people who have joined the program to date have touched the lives of over 3 million students nationwide from New York City to Houston, Honolulu to rural South Dakota.

Nashville needs to be on that list. With a failing public school system on the verge of a state takeover and a teacher turnover of 500 to 600 teachers per year, the Metro Nashville public school system must look beyond traditional means of teacher recruitment to meet the needs of our most vulnerable citizens. A fifthgrader at Cameron Middle School may not tell you the reason he doesn't do his homework is because he is too embarrassed to admit he cannot read many of the words. A senior at Whites Creek High School may only be blowing off writing college application essays because she doesn't want to be made fun of when her friends are all going out instead. The students of Nashville need to be inspired. They need to be told, and shown, they are smart. They need teachers with the passion and patience to push them to success.

Nashville already has many incredible teachers who unflinchingly take on this task every day, but as a city, our goal is to give every student a teacher who can fulfill this mission. As Dean said earlier this month in a speech to the Downtown Rotary Club, "We have to do everything we can to get the very best teachers to the schools that need them the most." "Everything we can" means pursuing every resource and opening every door. Teach for America attracts many of the brightest college graduates this country has to offer. We see proof of that each spring on the Vanderbilt campus as dozens of our smartest and most actively involved seniors choose Teach for America as the way for them to use and share

Nashville needs Teach for America, but it won't be easy. By the end of September, Dean will need to have raised \$1 million dollars. He is actively seeking private donations from Nashville businesses and members of the community to help make this goal a reality. In addition, the city will need to raise another \$1 million each year for the next two years. It's an ambitious, yet admirable and achievable, goal. I commend Dean for facing this need, and look forward to the day his plan is brought to fruition.

-Neily Todd is a senior in the Collge of Arts and Science. She can be reached at neily.p.todd@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL

University values competition on, off field

Saturday's victory over cross-division rival Ole Miss means a great deal for fans throughout the small but energetic Commodore Nation. The inevitable national ranking, the recurring number four (4-0 for the fourth time since the '40s), and the general excitement surrounding our scrappy but successful football team may be the beginning of a resurgence in school spirit.

It is tempting to get ahead of ourselves and declare this past weekend the beginning of the road to a bowl game. Indeed, the bowl drought that has dehydrated Commodore fans for so many years may very well extend itself another season. With tough games against tough teams in the toughest conference in the country, the outcome will be in the hands of coach Bobby Johnson and his team. Still, in a part of the country where football is king, the team's record thus far is something all members of the Vanderbilt community can stand up and be

Academics, it will come as no surprise, are another reason for Vanderbilt community members to beam. The selectivity of the current freshmen class, evidenced by the university's claim that it is "the most academically prepared ... in history," translates into a more prestigious degree for both current and future graduates.

Increased visibility to the rest of the world has resulted from recent research on every subject from energy to early childhood and special education and a slew of Nobel Prize laureates among our alumni and faculty. The Vanderbilt name is well-respected statewide, regionally and nationally for medical education and research.

What is the common thread among these sources of pride? From research to academics to athletics, Vanderbilt is proving to be an environment that encourages competition. The university promotes a competitive spirit that is healthy, vibrant, fair and meaningful.

The research base that drives Vanderbilt University continues to operate based on the American conception of innovation and technological progress to improve the lives of others. This is not research for the sake of research; to compete, our researchers are looking for the most efficient and innovative solutions to

Similarly, the scholarship valued by Vanderbilt goes beyond the mere quest for knowledge. Our undergraduate students seek knowledge in order to become more competitive in the job market. From financial economics to civil engineering, the degree programs are oriented toward the very real and very noble goal of making Vanderbilt graduates the most prepared for the globalized workforce. It is small wonder that the Arabic and Chinese language programs are growing.

Finally, the position our Commodores take in the powerful Southeastern Conference as the presumed underdogs teach students and student-athletes alike that being competitive means working hard even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. Perhaps the football team's recent success is simply reflective of a group of athletes and coaches working hard. It is much more inspiring to think that the Commodores embody a competitive spirit that has come to define our institution.

Members of the Vanderbilt community should remember this aspect of our university when the detractors, from within and out, look to criticize. The administration may fault, the student government may be inefficient, and housing may cause headaches, but our school spirit prevails.

Whoopi's belief leaves much to be desired



FRANNIE BOYLE

Sen. John McCain did not quite know how to handle his recent visit to "The View." During the show, he was asked a series of interesting questions, but the topic of discussion that topped it all was McCain's view in regards to the Supreme Court, and more specifically, to Roe v. Wade. The senator addressed his support for justices who strictly adhere to the original interpretation of the Constitution. He said he would rather Supreme Court justices interpret the Constitution in the way our Founding Fathers meant it to be rather than make

He said he

Supreme

would rather

Court justices

interpret the

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our Founding

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it to be rather

alterations as

than make

in the way

alterations as they see fit. The changes should be left up to the people.

"My interpretation of the Constitution enforces the Constitution of the United States and does not legislate nor invent areas that are responsibilities, according to the Constitution, of the legislative branch," said McCain. In other words, leave major changes up to Congress.

Well, this got Whoopi Goldberg started. She made

cheered her on straight.

they see fit. the point that "certain things happened in the Constitution that had to change," which is true, and McCain agreed this was a wonderful point. Then she proceeded to ask something only Whoopi Goldberg would ask: Would she have to "worry about becoming a slave again?" Unfortunately, McCain did not get much of an opportunity to respond to this ridiculous question, but he really should have been given

First of all, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution clearly states, "Neither slavery nor involuntary solitude, except as a punishment for crime where of the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." So if Goldberg were to strictly interpret that, she would have nothing to worry about.

a chance to set her and the audience who

Second, there is the matter of how the 13th Amendment got there. Yes, the Founding Fathers' original intentions were altered, but it was not done at the hands of the Supreme Court. The 13th Amendment was passed by the Senate in April 1864, the House of Representatives in January 1865 and signed by President Abraham Lincoln in February 1865. The Supreme Court did not have any part in this monumental decision that affected so many lives in the United States. In Roe v. Wade, on the other hand, abortion was legalized at the whim of the Supreme Court

Goldberg's obnoxious statement was not only irrelevant, but it actually serves to prove the purpose of McCain's argument for a strict interpretation of the Constitution. If we had not played it like the Founding Fathers' originally intended it to be, who knows when slavery might have actually been abolished?

-Frannie Boyle is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at marf.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu.

Let Troy Davis live

To the editor:

This coming Tuesday, Troy Davis will be executed. Six days later, the Supreme Court will decide whether to hear his appeal. People across the country and around the world, from the Libertarian candidate for president and former Georgia congressman Bob Barr to Pope Benedict XVI, are calling for a stay of execution. As Barr put it in his letter to the parole board: "The doubts about the Davis case have not been resolved, and fears that Georgia might execute an innocent man have not been allayed."

This is certainly true. Of the nine witnesses who testified at trial, seven have recanted. No murder weapon has ever been found. Several witnesses

have now said another man has admitted to being the actual killer. Interestingly, this man, who was at the scene and is one of only two witnesses not recanting his story, is said to have been seen with the same caliber gun used to murder Officer Mark Allen MacPhail minutes before the shooting.

In order to be sentenced in this country, a person must be guilty beyond all reasonable doubt. The standard when the irreversible death penalty is applied should be higher, not lower.

Paul Fleming Ph.D. candidate **Electrical Engineering**

THE VERDICT Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff! Compiled by Thomas Shattuck Canada According to Reuters, Canada's farm minister has apologized for making tasteless jokes about a fatal listeriosis outbreak and saying he hoped it had killed off his main political rival. I hope he's right. George Michael George Michael once again finds himself in trouble because of a public restroom. The star promised to "sort (himself) out" after he was arrested on charges of possession in a public toilet on Friday. The drugs were thought to include crack cocaine. Miley and Billy Ray Cyrus want off "Hannah Montana," and their conduct has triggered a Miley Cyrus war on the set. Miley has bragged that she will get fired, making it clear she wants to focus on singing and not the show. On the plus side, this is her second time on the Verdict. Samuel L. Jackson Not only a complete hard ass, Jackson ruled the weekend box office in North America for the second time this year with his crazy cop thriller "Lakeview Terrace," while moviegoers largely ignored three other new releases. The Commodores beat Ole Miss this weekend, bringing the total up to an impressive 4-0. The Commodores While surprising, I doubt anyone is disappointed (except for Ole Miss of course). Also, Vanderbilt was rewarded with a national ranking for the first time in, like, forever. Sometimes things just happen. There doesn't always have to be a reason. Archaeology Opera productions have increasingly showcased risk-taking and good-looking singers in **Opera** bold, sexy and explicit productions. Karita Mattila will shed her clothes in the upcoming "Dance of Seven Veils." Way to go, opera.

OPINION POLICY

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

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com. Letters via e-mail must come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of the Hustler and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which the Hustler is a

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.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS 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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Rep. Jim Cooper U.S. House of Rep. Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4311 (615) 736-5295

Rep. Brenda Gilmore Tenn. District 54 P.O. Box 281934 Nashville, TN 37228 (615) 876-3665

Sen. Douglas Henry Jr. Tenn. District 21 11 Legislative Plaza Nashville, TN 37243-0021 (615) 741-2380

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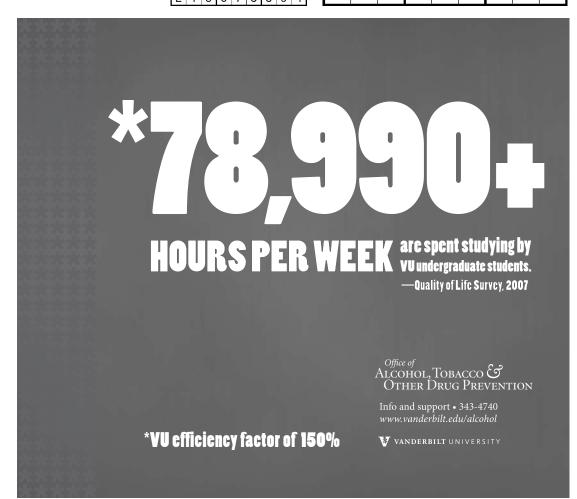
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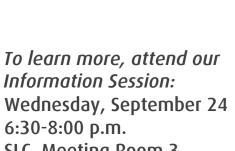
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You can also sign up on our Web site: www.vanderbilt.edu/seniorclassfund. Sign-up deadline is September 30.

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To find out more, contact us at



Senior Class Fund 2009

SPORTS

OLE MISS REPORT CARD



Chris Marve strips Ole Miss' Dexter McCluster of the ball at Vanderbilt's 2-yard line late in the fourth guarter, D.J. Moore recovered the fumble in the end zone for a touchback. It was the play of the game, as Ole Miss would have taken the lead with a touchdown.

QUARTERBACKS, B

Chris Nickson and Mackenzi Adams were a combined 9-12 for 71 yards on the night. Nickson's fumble on Vanderbilt's second possession was costly as Ole Miss would run it in for a touchdown, but Nickson redeemed himself with a touchdown pass to Jared Hawkins. Adams did a great job of managing the game late.

RUNNING BACKS, B

After a bad start with a fumble, Jared Hawkins rebounded and would end the game with 72 yards rushing and a touchdown reception. Hawkins also continued his hard running in the fourth guarter as he broke a 40-yard run with a little under three minutes left to help Vanderbilt get in scoring position and run some clock.

WIDE RECEIVERS, B

Once again, the unit did not have many balls thrown to them in the game. However, Sean Walker and Jamie Graham made some big plays with their feet, and the unit did a good job of running their routes and blocking. Tight end Austin Monahan was the team's leading receiver with two catches for 22 yards.

OFFENSIVE LINE, IB

The line did a good job of protecting their quarterbacks as they allowed only one sack and allowed them time in the pocket. They mostly blocked well in the running game, but the lack thereof late in the fourth quarter almost proved to be costly.

DEFENSIVE LINE, A-

This group did a great job of pressuring Jevan Snead all night and causing havoc in the Ole Miss backfield which helped the secondary to make big plays. The standout was Steven Stone who recorded seven tackles, two tackles for losses, and a sack.

LINEBACKERS, A

Chris Marve ended the game with 11 total tackles including a touchdown-saving one. Marve had the biggest play of the game when he forced Dexter McCluster to fumble on the two yard-line with 2:40 leftt. Patrick Benoist had seven tackles .

DEFENSIVE BACKS, A+

What didn't this group do? Safety Ryan Hamilton should garner every national defensive player of the week honor as he recorded six tackles including a huge stop on Ole Miss' 4th and goal rush, three interceptions, a fumble recovery and a touchdown. Reshard Langford recorded an acrobatic interception and five tackles.

SPECIAL TEAMS, A-

The kickoff coverage was mostly abysmal and even gave up a touchdown; however, Casey Hayward did force a fumble on a punt return. Brett Upson averaged 44 yards per punt and four punts were downed inside the Rebel 20. Bryant Hahnfeldt kicked three field goals to stay perfect on the season and provide the winning points.

COACHING, B

Defensive coordinator Bruce Fowler did a great job of confusing Ole Miss' offense with his blitz packages and created enough pressure in their backfield to force four picks. Offensive coordinator Ted Cain did a decent job of mixing up the play calling but still seems to think that the QB sneak works against SEC teams, and it doesn't.

Women's soccer wins again, ready for SEC play

by MEGHAN ROSE

Sports Contributor

As the women's soccer team transitions into Southeastern Conference play, the Commodores (6-1-1) are not taking any team for granted. Vanderbilt's focus proved successful as they beat UAB 4-1 in Nashville on Sunday afternoon. The squad dominated the Blazers early, accruing a 3-1 halftime lead. From that point on, there was no looking back.

"We approach every game in the same manner. Every game is important and every team deserves respect," said Coach Ronnie Coveleskie, currently in her eighth season with the Commodores. "Each time we step out on the field, we are going to play to win."

Vanderbilt began its offensive surge with an early goal from senior forward Amy Wilcox 17 minutes into the contest. Wilcox converted from 12 yards out with a shot off the crossbars, assisted by sophomores Megan Kinsella and Molly Kinsella.

Freshman Candace West followed,

notching her third goal of the season, assisted again by Molly Kinsella.

UAB responded only minutes later with their first and only goal of the game, a converted penalty kick.

However, Vanderbilt was not to be discouraged. Redshirt sophomore forward Nicole Lukens pushed a deflected shot past the Blazers' goalkeeper to give the Commodores a 3-1 advantage going into the locker room at halftime.

After coming out of the locker room, Wilcox scored again, off of a successful penalty kick, giving the Commodores their final goal of the game and a 4-1 lead over the Blazers.

With a solid effort from sophomore goalkeepers Rachel Bachtel and Devan Council and the rest of the Vanderbilt defense, the Commodores were able to hold off any late offensive threats from UAB.

"I am extremely proud of our effort as a team. To be 6-1-1 going into conference play at the moment — it's just been tremendous," Coveleskie said. "I can't say enough positive things about the team.

They are a joy to coach, they work so hard, and they are absorbing the opportunity to get out there and compete all the time."

After notching a win against UAB, the Commodores look to better their impressiverecord with a four-game home stand against fellow SEC contenders. In the next two weeks, the squad will face Alabama, Auburn, Florida and South Carolina.

"There are a lot of really good teams in our conference," Wilcox said. "Each team is going to be better than the rest of the teams we've played so far this season, and we're going to have to pick up our game even

"I'm confident that the same confident mentality will stick for the rest of the conference games throughout the season," Coveleskie said. "We make sure that we pay attention to details each time we step out onto the field."

With a positive outlook, confidence and determination, the Commodores look to build upon their successes as they begin this season's play in the SEC. ■

Anything you can do, I can do better



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler



The men's and women's cross country teams were in action on Saturday at the Commodore Classic in Percy Warner Park. The men's team ran first in the 8K race and took first place as five of their runners, including senior Michael Nordlund (pictured), finished in the top 12. Not to be outdone, the women's team, led by race winner Rita Jorgensen, also won first place in the Classic in their 5K race an hour later.

Around the SEC: Tennessee humiliated at home

by MIKE KRANZLER

Sports Contributor

The No. 4 Florida Gators took care of business on Saturday against the Tennessee Volunteers, winning 30-6 in Knoxville. In the week leading up to the game, Florida players were quoted saying the Vols quit in the middle of last season's 59-20 thrashing, which provided bulletin board material for Tennessee as they prepared for this game. However, Florida came out strong and dominated from the opening whistle as reigning

Heisman Trophy-winner Tim Tebow threw two touchdown passes and Brandon James was electric in returning a punt 78 yards for a score. The Gators forced two turnovers inside their own red zone in keeping the Vols out of the end zone until the fourth quarter. **ROAD WELL-TRAVELED:**

Heisman-hopeful Knowshon Moreno and true freshman A.J. Green were dominant as No. 3 Georgia traveled to Tempe and defeated Arizona State 27-10. Georgia head coach Mark Richt promised to get the talented Green more touches this week, and Green responded with a breakout game in catching eight balls for 159 yards and touchdown. Moreno paced the ground game with 149 yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries, including a jawdropping end zone leap over a defender that would have made Superman proud. The Dawgs held the Sun Devils to four total yards rushing as they continued to make their case for being one of the best teams in the country.

LSU WINS TIGER BOWL:

No. 6 LSU and No. 10 Auburn met on Saturday night in a clash of two of the best He threw for 182 yards and defenses in the country, with LSU coming out on top by the score of 26-21. Both teams' offenses had struggled mightily behind erratic quarterback play coming into the "Tiger Bowl," and it was a backup who had the biggest impact on the game. After LSU starter Andrew Hatch left the game with a neck injury in the third quarter with Auburn leading 14-3, redshirt freshman Jarrett Lee shook off a rough start to march LSU down the field time and time again to orchestrate the come-from-behind victory.

two touchdowns, including the game-winner to Brandon LaFell with 1:03 left in the fourth quarter.

DID YOU KNOW?

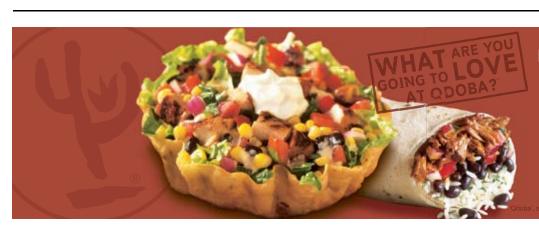
Mississippi State's offense had gone eight consecutive quarters without scoring on offense before a fourth-quarter touchdown in a 38-7 loss to Georgia Tech.

Alabama's John Parker Wilson set a school record for touchdown passes with his 42nd as the Crimson Tide rolled over the Arkansas Razorbacks 49-14.

Georgia is a perfect 15-for-15 in scoring opportunities in the red zone this season as they have outscored their first four opponents by a combined score of 142-55.

The SEC currently has the most teams in the Associated Press and USA Today Top 25 polls with six. The Big 12 Conference is second with

Vanderbilt has forced 14 turnovers while only giving up five in jumping out to a 4-0 start and its first national ranking since 1984. ■



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