



For the top world, national and campus news briefs check out our **'Starting 9'**  
For more, see **News, page 2**

It's tournament time. Find out which Commodore athlete comes out on top...  
For more, see **Sports, page 6**

The Vanderbilt Hustler presents:  
**WHO'S NOW?**

Should Iowa and New Hampshire be so important?  
For more, see **Opinion, page 4**



**TODAY'S WEATHER**  
  
Mostly Sunny, 54/45  
Extended forecast, page 2

# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2008 • 120<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 1

## THE WALL

compiled by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS

### TODAY

**Memorial Madness**  
Kick off the start of the SEC basketball season with the rest of the Commodore faithful before the South Carolina game. There will be food, contests and giveaways. The madness begins at 5 p.m. at Memorial Gymnasium; doors open at 4:15.

### TODAY AND THURSDAY

**VU Theatre auditions and crew sign-up: 'The Last Five Years' by Jason Robert Brown**

Auditions and crew positions are open to any student on campus. Scripts are available in Neely Auditorium, Room 207, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday. Today's auditions are from 4-6 p.m., and Thursday's are from 7-9 p.m. in Neely.

### TODAY AND THURSDAY

**VU Theatre auditions and crew sign-up: 'Misalliance' by George Bernard Shaw**

Auditions and crew positions are open to any student on campus. Scripts are available in Neely Auditorium, Room 207, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday. Today's auditions are from 7-9 p.m., and Thursday's are from 4-6 p.m. in Neely Auditorium.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 10

**Spring registration change period begins**  
Students can begin to change their spring semester courses on OASIS.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 10

**Discovery Lecture Series**  
Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn, a professor of biology and physiology at the University of California, San Francisco, will speak on "Telomeres and Telomerase in Health and Disease." The lecture will take place in Light Hall, Room 208 at 4 p.m. and is open to the public.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 11

**Original Cast auditions**  
Vanderbilt's premiere Broadway revue troupe will hold auditions from 7-9 p.m. in the Branscomb recreation room.

See <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.

## Campaigning for change



STEPHANIE FREEMAN / Photo provided

JUDY WANG / The Vanderbilt Hustler

*Students spend part of winter break at Iowa caucuses as part of Election Alliance '08.*

by JUDY WANG  
Staff Reporter

Once every four years, the peaceful Iowan winter is disturbed by a political frenzy that shoves the state in the national spotlight.

This fourth winter, of course, was no exception.

As the nation heads into one of its most momentous presidential elections, 59 students directly experienced the first-in-the-nation Iowa caucus as part of Election Alliance '08, trading a traditional New Year's celebration for a countdown party in Branscomb Quad before a 12-hour bus trip to Iowa, political movies and all.

### DAY ONE, JAN. 1

The bus pulled into the hotel in Des Moines at about 2 p.m., and almost immediately the students headed to their respective headquarters to begin working on the grassroots campaigns.

Of the participants, 44 students campaigned for Democratic candidates and 15 for Republican. Experiences varied, depending on the size and organization of each campaign and amount of effort each candidate had devoted to Iowa.

"I have been getting out in the neighborhoods, trying to get more supporters for Hillary to their caucuses," said Medora Brown, an extended volunteer for Sen. Clinton, D-N.Y., and supervising copy editor for The Hustler. "It's so amazing though, because I get a chance to know these voters, their issues, and what's most important to them. I think that's incredibly important."

Students also attended an informal question-and-answer session with top Republican contender Mike Huckabee. Actor Chuck Norris, who endorses the former Arkansas governor, made a guest appearance and answered questions.

"I had absolutely no idea we would

be so close to a candidate," said freshman Ravi Singh, a volunteer for Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. "Huckabee came up to us, shook our hands and asked us where we were from. It was a very intimate, nice meeting."

### DAY TWO, JAN. 2

The second day offered opportunities for the Election Alliance participants to meet the candidates. By the evening, students had shaken hands with Obama, rallied with Hillary, former President Bill and daughter Chelsea Clinton, attended a Caucus Eve Bash with former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, and supported former North

Please see **IOWA CAUCUSES**, page 3

—To listen to a backstory about the Iowa caucuses, go to:



## Greeks adjust to class size increase

by JARRED AMATO  
Editor in Chief

SARA GAST  
News Editor

Greek life took its turn at handling the large freshman class on Monday as Panhellenic recruitment began with more prospective members than ever.

Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey said 547 women started the week as potential new members and, if history is any indication, "between 85 and 90 percent" of that number will join a chapter Sunday.

Although the number reflects a usual percentage of the freshman class, it is an increase of 39 women from the 508 who participated in recruitment last year, and the additional freshmen and sophomores going through the process forced the Office of Greek Life to add a party to the first two rounds and increase the number



LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Members of Kappa Delta sorority send off sophomore Katie Priest with a cheer Tuesday during philanthropy rounds. Panhellenic recruitment has seemed to adjust well to an increase of 39 potential new members from last year.

of women in each group, Torrey said.

"There will be more people in the rounds," she said. "(Monday), for example, we had more rounds than we did last year to accommodate having more potential new numbers."

Torrey said chapters needed to make adjustments to handle the amount of

women going through each party.

"When a recruitment chair has created a plan based upon, 'I think only 40 people are going to come to this round,' and instead 47 are going to come, that certainly can be a little stressful," Torrey said, "but I think that everyone will make the arrangements and

make it happen."

Kappa Delta sorority Recruitment Chair Renee Langston said her chapter was doing just that.

Please see **SORORITIES**, page 3

—To view a slideshow of sorority rounds, go to:



## Clinton, McCain capture New Hampshire primaries

by JARRED AMATO  
Editor in Chief

Oh, how quickly things can change.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton captured New Hampshire's Democratic primary Tuesday night in a shocking upset, defeating Sen. Barack Obama by 2 percentage points and resurrecting her bid for White House.

After finishing third in the Iowa caucuses five days earlier, Clinton was projected to lose even more ground to Obama in the nation's first primary, but that was far from the case. Now it appears as though Clinton and Obama could be in a long battle for the party nomination.

The Republican race was not nearly as close, as Arizona Sen. John McCain beat former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney by 5 percentage points to further muddle an already wide-open field.

"We showed the people of this country what a real comeback looks like," McCain said. "We're going to move on to Michigan and South Carolina and win the nomination."

The fact that both races remain so close coupled with dissatisfaction with the status quo has led to strong voter turnout in the early states, said Marc Hetherington, associate professor of political science at Vanderbilt.

"Oftentimes there is an incumbent president running or his vice president, and it's really a formality, but both (parties) have wide open, competitive election processes, and that's one of the big reasons for the jump in turnout in Iowa and New Hampshire," he said. "Also, when people are upset, that's when they participate. They think, 'I can't afford to sit it out.'"

It is important for Vanderbilt students to take an interest in this nomination process and ensuing election, Hetherington added.

"One of the things that I always share with my students on the first and last day of class is that the political system, at least over the course of your lifetimes, has been so close that involvement by any group can be decisive," he said. "Politics is uniquely one of those things that allows you to potentially remake the world in a way that you want it to be remade."

McCain defeated Romney, who intends to move on to Michigan and battle McCain there in next week's primary despite failing to win either state.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee finished third and was followed by former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Texas Rep. Ron Paul.

Independents played a crucial role in the primary, accounting for four of every 10 Democratic votes and about a third of Republican ballots, according to a survey conducted for The Associated Press and the television networks. Obama and McCain benefited the most, winning the votes of independents by significant margins over their closest competitors, Clinton and Romney, according to exit polls.

Clinton, meanwhile, won handily among registered Democrats, according to preliminary results of a survey of voters as they left their polling place, and turned in a strong performance that surprised even her own inner circle. ■

—The Associated Press contributed reporting to this article.

—Jarred Amato can be reached at [jarred.s.amato@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jarred.s.amato@vanderbilt.edu)

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# ODDS & ENDS

**WEATHER**  
compiled by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS

**THURSDAY**



Few Showers, 62/42

**FRIDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 47/34

**SATURDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 50/35

**VUPD CRIME LOG**  
compiled by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS

There is no crime to report.

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

**SERVICE GUIDE**

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**BACK ISSUES**  
Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

## THE 123456789 STARTING 9

compiled by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS

### 1 Vanderbilt professor nominated to Humanities Council

**VANDERBILT** — President George W. Bush has nominated Vanderbilt professor Carol M. Swain to the National Council on the Humanities. Swain, a professor of political science, will serve a six-year term if the appointment is confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

The council is the advisory board of the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent grant-making agency of the U.S. government that supports research, education, preservation and public programs in the humanities.

Swain teaches at the Law School and directs the Veritas Institute for Justice and Reconciliation. She recently edited a book of essays called *Debating Immigration*.

### 2 Suicide bombings kill al-Qaida opponent in latest extremist backlash

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — The head of a key U.S.-backed Sunni group was killed Monday in a double suicide bombing in Baghdad that also killed at least 11 others, The Associated Press reported.

The main target, a former police colonel who led resistance to al-Qaida in one of its former Baghdad strongholds, was first embraced by a bomber posing as a friend. Seconds later, the attacker stepped back and triggered an explosion, a witness said.

A suicide car bomber then struck as rescuers tried to evacuate the wounded. At least 28 people were injured in the blasts.

### 3 Thompson skips NH to focus on SC

**SOUTH CAROLINA** — Republican White House hopeful Fred Thompson skipped the New Hampshire primary and its cold weather to campaign in South Carolina, The Associated Press reported.

The Jan. 19 South Carolina primary is the first in the South and considered critical to Thompson's campaign.

Analysts and even Thompson supporters say he must do well in the primary in South Carolina to continue a viable campaign through the Feb. 5 Super Tuesday voting.

### 4 Immigration raids hit Springfield hard

**TENNESSEE** — An estimated 1,000 Hispanic residents of Springfield fled the city or went into hiding after several immigration raids in the area, The Tennessean reported Monday.

By the end of last year, Spanish-speaking residents accounted for 3,000 to 4,000 of the city's total population of about 17,000, according to an estimate by City Manager Paul Nutting.

Springfield's population of illegal immigrants drew attention after Electrolux Home Products was spotlighted as using hiring practices that would allow illegal immigrants into the work force.

### 5 FBI reports drops in violent crime after 2 years of increases

**UNITED STATES** — Crime dipped slightly for the first half of 2007, the FBI reported Monday, signaling a stop to a 2-year increase in violence nationwide, according to The Associated Press.

Violent crime, including murders, rapes and robberies, dropped by 1.8 percent between January and June last year, the FBI's preliminary data show.

The data appears to end two years of rising violent crime rates, which increased by 2.3 percent in 2005 and 1.9 percent in 2006.

### 6 Gas prices again rise above \$3

**NASHVILLE** — Gas prices in Nashville topped \$3 a gallon over the weekend, as crude oil prices remained near \$100 a barrel, The Tennessean reported.

The local average price for regular rose to \$3.02, according to AAA and Oil Price Information Service — up from \$2.94 just a week ago. In November, the local average was \$3.04, but a drop in the price of crude oil lowered gas price to about \$2.88 around Christmas.

AAA Auto Club South attributed the run-up to higher crude prices and low crude oil inventories.

### 7 Green effort at Vanderbilt extends into virtual world

**VANDERBILT** — At Vanderbilt, officials with Information Technology Services are using a "server virtualization" strategy to reduce the rising energy demands caused by the computing needs of the school.

With server virtualization, one physical server hosts several virtual machines, resulting in reduced heating and power costs. It also puts servers in a secure, highly maintained environment less vulnerable to sabotage.

Through the sharing of servers maintained by ITS, parts of campus are increasing the security of their data and helping Vanderbilt lower energy costs.

### 8 Kenyan rivals agree to talk in election dispute

**NAIROBI, Kenya** — Under U.S. pressure, Kenya's president and his chief rival agreed to enter talks to end their deadly election dispute, The Associated Press reported.

The top American envoy to Africa said the vote count at the heart of the dispute was tampered with but that both sides could have been involved. The Dec. 27 election returned President Mwai Kibaki to power for another five-year term.

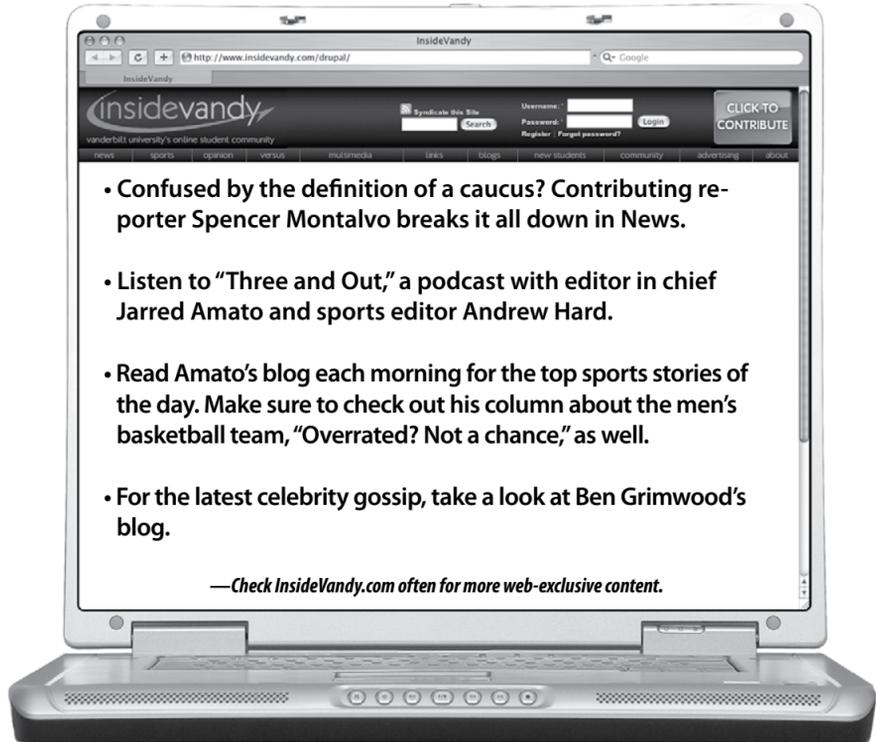
### 9 Appeals court rules on rock, throws out murder conviction

**TENNESSEE** — The Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals ruled Monday a 10-pound rock that killed a woman passenger is not a "destructive device" under the law, throwing out a first-degree murder conviction, The Associated Press reported.

Alford Lee Morgan and three friends had been out for a night of what they termed "redneck fun," tossing bricks, rocks and chunks of wood at cars and buildings when Morgan heaved a large rock from the Brushy Valley overpass to Interstate 75 in May 2004.

Knox County District Attorney Randy Nichols' office charged Morgan with both traditional first-degree murder and the rarely used murder by destructive device statute.

## WHAT'S NEW ON INSIDEVANDY.COM



- Confused by the definition of a caucus? Contributing reporter Spencer Montalvo breaks it all down in News.
- Listen to "Three and Out," a podcast with editor in chief Jarred Amato and sports editor Andrew Hard.
- Read Amato's blog each morning for the top sports stories of the day. Make sure to check out his column about the men's basketball team, "Overrated? Not a chance," as well.
- For the latest celebrity gossip, take a look at Ben Grimwood's blog.

—Check InsideVandy.com often for more web-exclusive content.

**SNAPSHOT**

### THE GLOVE GETS SOME LOVE



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

While students were away for winter break, new tables and chairs were added to the Baseball Glove Lounge. The new furniture will come in handy now that classes are under way, providing students with additional study space.

## BEGIN THE TRADITION



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# SORORITIES: Chapters prepare for potentially larger pledge classes

From **SORORITIES**, page 1

"When you get to that many rounds, it doesn't really make a difference as long as you keep your energy up," Langston said, although she said she thought it would have been difficult to manage the number of women in each round if her chapter had fewer members.

Alpha Chi Omega sorority Recruitment Chair Katy Caudle echoed that sentiment.

"Having more potential new members come through has not

really been a strain on Alpha Chi," Caudle said. "It's great to see that so many girls are interested in becoming part of our Greek community, and it's been easy to make room for all of them in our parties each day."

Chapters will likely need to make permanent adjustments to accommodate a larger pledge class, Torrey said.

"They're going to have more people in their pledge classes, but (issues arising from the increase are) all things that we

can handle," she said. "It's a matter of finding a big sister for all of them, making sure that we have enough chairs for every round — all things that we can accommodate."

Torrey said the size of a pledge class adjusts based on how many women are participating in recruitment.

"There is a quota that each chapter takes to be fair and equitable, but what we're doing is essentially creating a home in our community for each

potential new member," she said. "If there are more people that want to join, then there will be more spaces."

Langston said the idea of more new members motivates chapters to do their best throughout the week.

"I think it's exciting to have such a large pool of girls to choose from and to ultimately welcome such a large pledge class," Langston said.

The goal remains to help each woman find the best chapter for her, Torrey said, despite the hectic

atmosphere that can develop from the large amount of prospectives going through the process.

"For the potential new members, I think they will still have a great experience," Torrey said. "Hopefully they will have a good opportunity to see what

our chapters have to offer to make a decision about where they fit best." ■

—Jarred Amato can be reached at [jarred.s.amato@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jarred.s.amato@vanderbilt.edu). Sara Gast can be reached at [sara.m.gast@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sara.m.gast@vanderbilt.edu).

# IOWA CAUCUSES: Experiences, politics varied among student campaign volunteers

From **IOWA CAUCUSES**, page 1

Carolina Sen. John Edwards at a John Mellencamp concert.

"It was crazy — their hands were out there, they're very willing, they're looking you in the eye and saying 'thank you' directly," said senior Breanne Hataway, a volunteer for Clinton.

It was also a unique experience for faculty members who traveled with the group.

"I met with Barack Obama, shook his hand, and he signed one of my books. Then later I saw Madeleine Albright and shook hands with former President Bill Clinton," said Lori Groves-White, the director of the Office of Leadership Development & Intercultural Affairs.

**DAY THREE, JAN. 3**

On the day of the caucus, students witnessed last-minute efforts from the candidates, celebrities like "Desperate Housewives" actor and Edwards supporter James Denton, and even zealous motorists, one of whom drove a Cadillac with the word "Obamalac" painted on

the side.

The caucuses started at 6:30 p.m., and the chaotic politicking lasted until 8.

Edwards supporter Lucas Hunt, a sophomore, phone banked next to a precinct captain who offered him dinner and drove him and another Vanderbilt student to a large, downtown caucus, where they were able to meet the governor and first lady of Iowa.

For sophomore Wyatt Smith, a supporter of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the evening was drastically different. As part of a smaller, skeletal campaign, Smith acted as a surrogate speaker for McCain.

"We went to caucus in a rural, southern part of Iowa, and I got up and talked about McCain's positions and campaigned for him," Smith said. "It was really cool because I got such a hands-on experience, and after I gave my speech, all of these old women patted me on the back and said 'good job.'"

Junior Annabel Gould and Hataway actually led a caucus themselves.

"We got to the precinct in Des Moines, and our precinct captain didn't show up. So what ended up happening was we had to guide the Iowans through the process," Gould said. "We advised them on the strategy on how to gain the most delegates from the precinct. Some of them who understood the process were appreciative, but some who didn't were actually spiteful."

After the caucuses ended, participants attended after-parties where they waited for the results.

By 10 p.m., the winners and losers were projected, and candidates arrived at the parties to either deliver victory speeches or concede.

Huckabee expressed his gratitude and love for the state of Iowa.

"There was tons of excitement there, the speech was fantastic, and I felt like the things he stressed really resonated with me," said Divinity School student James Seales.

Thousands of supporters attended the Obama after-party, chanting the senator's name as

he delivered a speech calling for hope and change.

"The rally totally changed my mind about the power of the younger generation," said sophomore Tanmoy Saha, a volunteer for Obama. "I had been skeptical about them getting out to vote, but everyone at the event was crazy about him."

With the experience and knowledge gained from the trip, participants are excited about becoming more politically active on campus and in the community.

"I'm actually going to the Nashville headquarters tomorrow to start phone banking. I really just want to jump right into it," said Ashley Rhae Oliver, a volunteer for Obama. "I want to be the best student and political activist I can be." ■

—Judy Wang attended the Iowa caucuses with Election Alliance '08 and campaigned for Clinton. She can be reached at [zhu.wang@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:zhu.wang@vanderbilt.edu).

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# OPINION

## THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

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### OUR VIEW

## Political participation more important than ever

Much has been said about the sheer diversity within this field of presidential candidates. One of the de facto barriers to the presidency — race, gender or religion — could be broken permanently this November.

Beyond this surface diversity, though, there exists an incredible ideological diversity among the candidates. As we face critical issues at home and abroad, from the environment to Iran, a multitude of solutions can be found within either party. Given this, any person should be able to find a candidate to identify with and support.

Critically, this election may alter the direction of the two parties for decades to come. While the Republicans must face

the future of the increasingly strained Reagan Coalition, the Democrats must reconcile the disparity between Obama's bipartisanship, Hillary's centrism and the more liberal Congressional platform. From defining the relationship between populism and social conservatism, to dictating the national approach to healthcare, our votes matter.

With experts predicting the nominations, particularly the Republican nomination, might still be undecided even after Super Tuesday, every state is important, and many candidates still have a legitimate chance for the nomination. This is a radical departure from the majority of our political lives, which have been dominated by two

political families and few genuine candidates for the party nominations.

Primaries have notoriously low participation, and they tend to bring out voters who are zealously devoted to one issue. By not participating in the primaries, people allow these special interests to set the agenda for political discussion and action. For both parties, this myopic voter participation does a disservice to the political process.

Even though getting an absentee ballot or registering in Tennessee might seem like a hassle, every vote and every state count too much to be ignored. As members of the Vanderbilt community, we have an obligation to educate ourselves about this critical election and participate.

### COLUMN

# Iowa caucus: message greater than money



**STEPHANIE FREEMAN**  
Guest Columnist

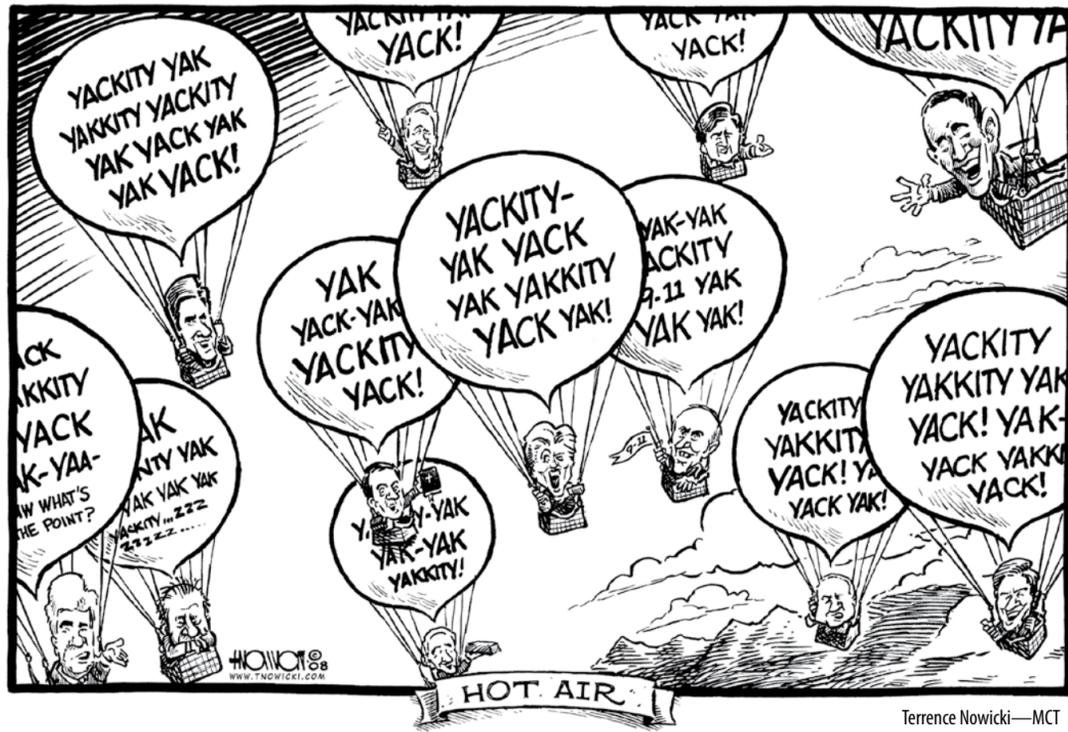
It was the win that was never supposed to happen. A Southern Baptist preacher turned politician named Mike Huckabee, who was outspent 20 to 1 in Iowa by former Massachusetts governor and political rival Mitt Romney, gained the support of 34% of the state's Republicans last Thursday to finish in first place in the Iowa caucus. For a candidate who was short on both money and full-time political staffers, this win showed that, as Huckabee said in his victory speech, "people really are more important than the purse."

I was lucky enough to be a part of this grassroots effort in Iowa, as I traveled to Des Moines on New Year's Day with about 60 other Vanderbilt students to take part in a rolling seminar that was sponsored by the 2008 Election Alliance. Each of the students on the trip volunteered for a presidential candidate of his or her choosing and attended various speeches and political rallies in and around Des Moines. As a member of the Huckabee campaign, I made phone calls to residents across the state urging them to support Governor Huckabee and served as a precinct captain, offering caucus-goers some last minute information on Huckabee's political viewpoints and goals before they voted.

Throughout my volunteer experience, I was constantly impressed by the passion of the volunteers inside Huckabee's Des Moines headquarters. Everyone was ready to offer the campaign whatever help it needed, which primarily translated into phone banking. Completing call sheets quickly became a race, as volunteers were eager to ensure everyone in the state of Iowa had heard about Mike Huckabee and why he should be the country's next president. Whether it was the college professor from New York who traveled to Des Moines after hearing the Huckabee campaign was still in need of help just days before the caucus, the many volunteers who were not even old enough to vote, or even the enthusiastic group from Vanderbilt, everyone had a story to tell about why and how they came to Des Moines. In his book "From Hope to Higher Ground," Huckabee wrote, "The true greatness of America is in its everyday people." These campaign volunteers proved this sentiment to be true; as they showed that ordinary people can still make a difference.

Huckabee's victory in Iowa also showed that a candidate's message is more important than the amount of money he or she has to spend on a presidential bid. Huckabee said this himself in New Hampshire on Friday, asking his audience, "Isn't it nice to know that a person can be elected president not because he has more money but because he has more of a message that connects with everyday Americans?" Like Senator Barack Obama, who won the Democratic Iowa caucus, Huckabee has advocated change, urging Americans to evaluate political solutions not in terms of left or right, but by whether they move America forward.

—Stephanie Freeman is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.



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**America loves irrationality!**  
Katherine Miller, Opinion Editor

Who doesn't love arbitrary national traditions?

Ours is placing an unjustified amount of political importance on two states most people cannot locate on a map. It's just our thing. Just like how all Germans wear lederhosen and the Japanese give out Wiis, we have irrational election processes.

Sure, the Iowa caucus sounds like a complex game of charades within a small group of white, middle-aged populists. But that's entirely what America's about!

Besides, what other option is there? Every time you and your sensibility suggest a national primary, somewhere, a lonely corn farmer weeps. He weeps for you and me.

Just think what turmoil a national primary would cause. No overzealous use of the word caucus! No more strange home school advocates! No grueling two-year series of debates designed to torture voters into just accepting cruel fate!

Without Iowa and New Hampshire, we would be left with nothing but our common sense.



**Early states unrepresentative but key**  
Jarred Amato, Editor in Chief

The fact that Iowa and New Hampshire have received so much media attention makes sense.

The fact that the two states hold so much importance in the election, however, does not.

In Iowa, not only were the caucus-goers unrepresentative of their state, but also Iowa is highly unrepresentative of the country. I understand the value of momentum, but I find it problematic that such meaningless states have now become make-or-break for some candidates (Rudy Giuliani hopes he's not one of them).

With that said, the early primaries are still extremely significant.

The fact that newcomer Barack Obama defeated Hillary Clinton in a state that is almost all white and Chuck Norris' good friend Mike Huckabee won despite being vastly outspent show the United States is in search of change.

One more thing: While it becomes easy to jump on bandwagons, let's hope they take the time to study platforms and make an informed decision.

## QUICK SHOTS

One Issue, Four Responses

### Should Iowa and New Hampshire be this important to the election?



**Election as a whole should be concern of voters**  
Elizabeth Middlebrooks, Managing Editor

Although the results of the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary can be good indicators for the rest of the election, they should not necessarily be taken as predictors of the presidency. These states land in the spotlight because many of the candidates are in the same place at the same time, not because the states are truly representative of the entire country.

The media storm that surrounds these states every fourth January serves to highlight the outcomes, but voters ought to take the results with a grain of salt. Just because a candidate wins one state or another does not necessarily mean he or she will take the White House.

Voters ought to remain informed of candidates' progress and not withdraw support just because their candidate of choice did not do well in Iowa or New Hampshire. Every primary is important, especially in a race as monumental as this one, and the first two should not determine the outcome of the entire contest.



**Super Tuesday more important than Iowa, NH**  
Spencer Montalvo, Asst. Opinion Editor

The media has transformed victory in the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary into essential components of a successful campaign; however, the reality is that these two states represent a small fraction of the delegate pool at the nominating convention.

While a good showing in these two races can provide momentum to propel candidates to victory, losing does not necessarily eliminate them from the race.

This notwithstanding, success does make it far easier to rally valuable supporters and funds to win the crucial Super Tuesday primaries Feb. 5 when 24 states will participate in primary elections. If a candidate wants to remain viable, he or she must do well on Super Tuesday.

—Interested in writing a Quick Shot? To suggest an issue or question, e-mail [opinion@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:opinion@vanderbilthustler.com)

### OPINION POLICY

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

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

from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

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

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

### CORRECTION POLICY

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

Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at [editor@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto: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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COLUMN

# Huckabee, McCain wins do not represent conservative vote



**MIKE WARREN**  
Guest Columnist

Tuesday's New Hampshire primary presented a different political picture than the Iowa caucuses of last week. For the Republicans, this meant different winners and losers and a chance for a candidate to see new hope in what was once a dying campaign.

If Iowa was about getting the undecided voter, New Hampshire was about the political "independent," a soft euphemism for voters who vote for the candidate rather than the political philosophy.

The GOP primary results present not much in the way of surprises. John McCain, Republican darling of the mainstream media and independents alike, won over Mitt Romney, partly because of his image as a maverick within the party, and partly because McCain's victory in the same primary eight years ago gives him the name recognition advantage. McCain, whose campaign was all but dead as late as this past fall, saw a surge in popularity with his fourth place finish in Iowa. He was certainly helped by the positive news coming out of Iraq, an effort McCain has supported from the beginning and has made a central part of his campaign. Exit polls show that behind the economy, the war in Iraq was the second most important issue in the New Hampshire GOP primary, whereas illegal immigration ranked somewhere around fourth.

The most interesting aspect of the Republican primary is that it really does nothing but introduce yet another viable candidate for the nomination. The quick ascents of McCain and Mike Huckabee simply add more uncertainty as the Republicans try to figure out what brand of Republicanism they support. Despite what

some analysts claim, Huckabee's victory in Iowa is probably due more to his populist economic agenda, which resonates well in an agricultural economy, than his evangelical base, which also voted for Romney, McCain and Fred Thompson. McCain, again, saw victory in New Hampshire from a more liberal Republican electorate who respond to his softer immigration stance and his consistent support of the Iraq war, but the more conservative Republicans in states like South Carolina, where closing the border is a rallying cry, the rhetoric of Romney or Thompson sounds better to the voters.

**The most interesting aspect of the Republican primary is that it really does nothing but introduce yet another viable candidate for the nomination.**

After being declared the winner early in the night, McCain took to the stage at his headquarters in Nashua to claim victory and thank his supporters. His speech sounded more like the convention speech of a new nominee rather than that of the winner of the New Hampshire primary, carrying with it a message of service to his country and highlighting McCain's tough stance on Islamic terrorism and winning the war in Iraq. This is a wave of an issue that McCain can really ride on with his record of voting support in the Senate for aggressive security policies.

The important point is that the two major primary elections have been in states where conservative Republicans are outnumbered by their hometown varieties. The race for the Republican nomination is still wide open among the big five of McCain, Huckabee, Romney, Thompson and Giuliani, and we might even be seeing the chance of a brokered convention this summer. In the meantime, the Republican voters will have the chance in the next few weeks to decide how their party will be defined in 2008.

—Mike Warren is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He is the associate editor of the Vanderbilt Torch.

## THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!  
Compiled by Katherine Miller

|                  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hillary Clinton  |  | Lessons from New Hampshire: if you cry in a diner, the people of the Granite State will vote for you to become president.                                                                    |
| Polls            |  | Apparently, nobody knows what the hell's going on anymore. Turns out Hilary won't go away just yet.                                                                                          |
| Vandy Basketball |  | Shan Foster, the Awesome Aussie and the rest of No. 12 Commodores are still undefeated heading into SEC play. We think it's time for a little 'Beal Bounce.'                                 |
| Kelly Tilghmann  |  | Golf Channel commentator casually suggests that young PGA players "lynch Tiger Woods in a back alley." The Golf Channel: dispelling racist stereotypes about golf, one tournament at a time. |
| Writers Guild    |  | Picket lines save us from having to watch the Golden Globes.                                                                                                                                 |
| John Edwards     |  | I don't know if you've heard, but John Edwards is the son of a mill worker and also the next president of the United States. Oh, wait.                                                       |
| Nicolas Sarkozy  |  | Things are getting pretty "serious" for Sarko and his lady friend. The Most Important Thing Happening in France: the president <i>likes</i> a girl.                                          |



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| JAN 20                      | <i>Sick of Sarah</i>                                       |  |
| JAN 22                      | <b>LIGION</b>                                              |  |
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# SPORTS

**OVER** the next month, The Vanderbilt Hustler will run "Who's Now?," a series in which fans and *InsideVandy.com* users will determine precisely that — which Commodore athlete is most now? It's a 32-athlete, single-elimination tournament in the same format as March Madness.

Defining "now" is kind of tricky, so we've come up with a list of criteria that should make it easier to decide who you believe is Vanderbilt's biggest star. For starters, you have to consider both on-field success and off-field buzz. Then, you have to take a look at the athletes' individual accolades, team success, national exposure, fan appeal and, of course, their "it" factor.

The tournament will begin Friday with the first round of the Derrick Byars Regional and will continue until the Feb. 8 championship round. Remember, *fans must go to InsideVandy.com/sports and vote* to ensure their favorite

athletes advance to the next round. The champion will be revealed on the front page of the Feb. 11 edition of The Vanderbilt Hustler. Who's it going to be?

**CRITERIA**

- **Individual accolades**  
How big is your trophy room? Have you broken any school records, earned All-SEC honors or taken home any big-time awards?
- **Team success**  
You may be talented, but remember the name on the front of the jersey is more important than the one on the back. Have you led your team to the Big Dance or won an SEC title?
- **National exposure**  
You may be a hero in Nashville, but do people around the country even know you exist? Have you earned All-American status or appeared on Mel Kiper's Draft Board?
- **Fan appeal**  
You may be big-time, but when you walk around campus, can fans even recognize you? Do they wear your jersey, cheer for you at games and friend (maybe even poke) you on Facebook?
- **"It" factor**  
It's hard to quantify, but do you have the intangibles every star needs?

The Vanderbilt Hustler presents

# WHO'S NOW?

## JAY CUTLER REGIONAL

- 1  **Earl Bennett**  
Junior, Football
- 8  **Leigh-Ann Axt**  
Freshman, Swimming
- 4  **Ross Neltner**  
Senior, Basketball
- 5  **Sarah Dennis**  
Senior, Soccer
- 2  **A.J. Ogilvy**  
Freshman, Basketball
- 7  **Margie Curran**  
Senior, Lacrosse
- 3  **Jacqui Concolino**  
Junior, Golf
- 6  **Ryan Preston**  
Senior, Tennis



**SCHEDULE**

**FIRST ROUND**  
1/11: Derrick Byars Regional  
1/14: Jay Cutler Regional  
1/16: David Price Regional  
1/18: Dee Davis Regional

**SECOND ROUND**  
1/21: Byars Regional  
1/23: Cutler Regional  
1/25: Price Regional  
1/28: Davis Regional

**QUARTERFINALS**  
1/30: Byars and Cutler Regionals  
2/1: Price and Davis Regionals

**SEMIFINALS**  
2/4: Byars Winner vs. Davis Winner  
2/6: Cutler Winner vs. Price Winner

**FINALS**  
2/8: Byars/Davis Winner vs. Cutler/Price Winner

**REVEAL CHAMPION**  
2/11

# WHO'S NOW?

**DON'T FORGET TO CAST YOUR VOTE ON**

**INSIDEVANDY.COM**

**Shan Foster**  
Senior, Basketball

**Josie Earnest**  
Sophomore, Bowling

**Mikie Minor**  
Sophomore, Baseball

**Chris Williams**  
Senior, Football

**Ryan Flaherty**  
Junior, Baseball

**Rita Jorgensen**  
Freshman, Cross country

**Mackenzi Adams**  
Junior, Football

**Jen Risper**  
Junior, Basketball

## DERRICK BYARS REGIONAL

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



## DAVID PRICE REGIONAL

- 1  **Pedro Alvarez**  
Junior, Baseball
- 8  **Jon Curran**  
Junior, Golf
- 4  **Mr. C**  
Traditional Mascot
- 5  **Big C**  
Inflatable Mascot
- 2  **Alex Gordon**  
Senior, Basketball
- 7  **Vijay Paul**  
Sophomore, Tennis
- 3  **D.J. Moore**  
Sophomore, Football
- 6  **Katie Schulz**  
Junior, Soccer



**Liz Sherwood**  
Senior, Basketball

**Austin Williamson**  
Junior, Cross country

**Dominic de la Osa**  
Senior, Baseball

**Christina Wirth**  
Junior, Basketball

**Jonathan Goff**  
Senior, Football

**Karen Grygiel**  
Junior, Bowling

**Jermaine Beal**  
Sophomore, Basketball

**Catherine Newman**  
Sophomore, Tennis

## DEE DAVIS REGIONAL

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



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# Second season begins tonight

Streking Commodores begin SEC play against Gamecocks.

by ADAM WEINSTEIN  
Sports Reporter

When Vanderbilt enters Southeastern Conference play tonight against the South Carolina Gamecocks, it will do so with a perfect 15-0 record and No. 12 ranking in the Associated Press Poll.

And yet, the Commodores are still looking to step their game up.

"It's a great honor and a great privilege to be up there and ranked No. 12, but we realize that we still haven't played our best basketball," said senior Shan Foster, who currently leads the SEC in scoring with 21.1 points per game. "That's very humbling, but it gives us something to work toward."

With coach Kevin Stallings calling Vanderbilt the most overrated team in the nation, it's clear the Dores still feel they have something to prove. As their come-from-behind 97-88 victory against UMass on Saturday proved, they have begun to do just that.

"People didn't think we were going to beat UMass because they're a great team," said freshman Keegan Bell. "We're just going to keep trying to prove people wrong and prove

ourselves out there every game."

Despite their 8-6 record, South Carolina is not a team to be taken lightly. Led by point guard Devan Downey, averaging 18.6 points and 5.4 assists a game, the Gamecocks are shooting 42 percent from 3-point range, trailing only Vanderbilt in the SEC.

"South Carolina is always an athletic team, and they have a tremendous team right now," Bell said. "Their record is 8-6, but they've played some really tough teams, so I think it's going to be another fast-paced game, which we love, and it's probably going to be a lot more physical."

The Commodores won both meetings against the Gamecocks last year, including an overtime victory in Columbia.

Vanderbilt enters the game averaging 19.1 assists per contest, the second highest total in the SEC, and a sure sign of a team that has meshed together.

"Our team chemistry is great," Foster said with a smile. "Guys have great attitudes, coming into practice to get better everyday. It's making a difference, and it's showing up in games." ■



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Led by senior Shan Foster, the 15-0 Commodores are one of six remaining undefeated teams in Division I basketball.

## SEC POWER RANKINGS Compiled by Eric Silver

|                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <b>1. Vanderbilt (15-0)</b><br>The Commodores are incredibly balanced, with the depth to win the SEC and play deep into March. With Vanderbilt led by do-it-all senior Shan Foster and stud freshman A.J. Ogilvy, let's hope the unblemished non-conference record translates into a stellar postseason run. |
|    | <b>2. Tennessee (12-1)</b><br>Who would have ever thought Chris Lofton would be scoring less than 15 points a game and the Vols would still be ranked in the top 10?                                                                                                                                         |
|    | <b>3. Ole Miss (13-0)</b><br>This isn't football season, as the basketball Rebels are still undefeated. Led by Chris Warren and Dwayne Curtis, Ole Miss will be a force to be reckoned with.                                                                                                                 |
|    | <b>4. Florida (13-2)</b><br>Despite the departure of ball-stealer Joakim Noah and 10 of his teammates, Billy Donovan's club is in the hunt for an upset bid at the SEC title.                                                                                                                                |
|    | <b>5. Arkansas (11-3)</b><br>Okay, so the Razorbacks are 11-3, but they've beaten "powerhouses" such as Wofford and Louisiana-Monroe.                                                                                                                                                                        |
|    | <b>6. Alabama (11-4)</b><br>Except for a loss to Vandy's cross-town rival Belmont, Bama has only dropped games to ranked opponents.                                                                                                                                                                          |
|  | <b>7. Mississippi State (9-5)</b><br>A rocky start has the Bulldogs, led by Nashville native Jamont Gordon, in prime position to stage a few upsets.                                                                                                                                                         |
|  | <b>8. Auburn (9-3)</b><br>The Tigers are sporting a glistening record, but blowout losses to their only three legitimate opponents put a damper on that 9-3 record.                                                                                                                                          |
|  | <b>9. South Carolina (8-6)</b><br>The Gamecocks have played some top teams very tightly but haven't been able to squeeze out a win in the end. However, a loss to UNC-Asheville is just inexcusable.                                                                                                         |
|  | <b>10. Georgia (8-4)</b><br>Turmoil has rocked Athens, with four starters suspended at various times for different reasons. At least coach Dennis Felton is trying to run a tight ship.                                                                                                                      |
|  | <b>11. LSU (7-7)</b><br>This DEFINITELY isn't football. Those Tigers just won the national championship. The basketball version isn't even the best team in the state of Louisiana (that's Tulane).                                                                                                          |
|  | <b>12. Kentucky (6-7)</b><br>Two tickets to a Kentucky basketball game: \$100. One replica royal blue jersey: \$70. One parking spot at Rupp Arena: \$7. The look on a Wildcat fan's face after seeing them lose to Gardner-Webb, UAB, Houston, San Diego and Louisville: Priceless.                         |

# Memorial Madness should be big hit

by JARRED AMATO  
Editor in Chief

In case students need another incentive to watch the undefeated men's basketball team, they've got a good one tonight.

Vandy Fanatics and Vanderbilt Student Government are co-sponsoring Memorial Madness, an unprecedented pep rally that will begin at 5 p.m. in Memorial Gym, two hours before the No. 12 Commodores (15-0) host South Carolina.

"It couldn't have been a better set up," said senior George Huddleston, who teamed with fellow Fanatics Doug BeCraft and Kate Corvese and VSG athletics co-chair Marc Levit to organize the event. "We planned Memorial Madness with the hope of raising hype for the season, but the season has really raised hype for the event."

Doors open at 4:15 p.m. for the event, a modified version of a more typical Midnight Madness that other teams hold to kick off the season. Jensen Lewis, a Cleveland Indians pitcher and former Vanderbilt great, is the host, and the first 500 students receive free Shan Foster replica jerseys, but the giveaways don't stop there:

- One student will have a chance to make a half-court shot for \$30,000.
- One student group will win 20 Southwest Airlines vouchers.
- Three students will compete in a 3-point shooting contest, with the winner receiving free books for a semester.
- Three students will take part in a hula-hoop contest, with the winner receiving a free year of tanning from SunTan City.
- Free pizza.

Vanderbilt hosted a similar pep rally prior to the 2005-06 season called DoreJam, but it failed to generate much student interest. This time should be different. Huddleston said he has "no doubt that the student section is going to be rocking," and both he and Levit said they are confident Memorial Madness will become an annual tradition.

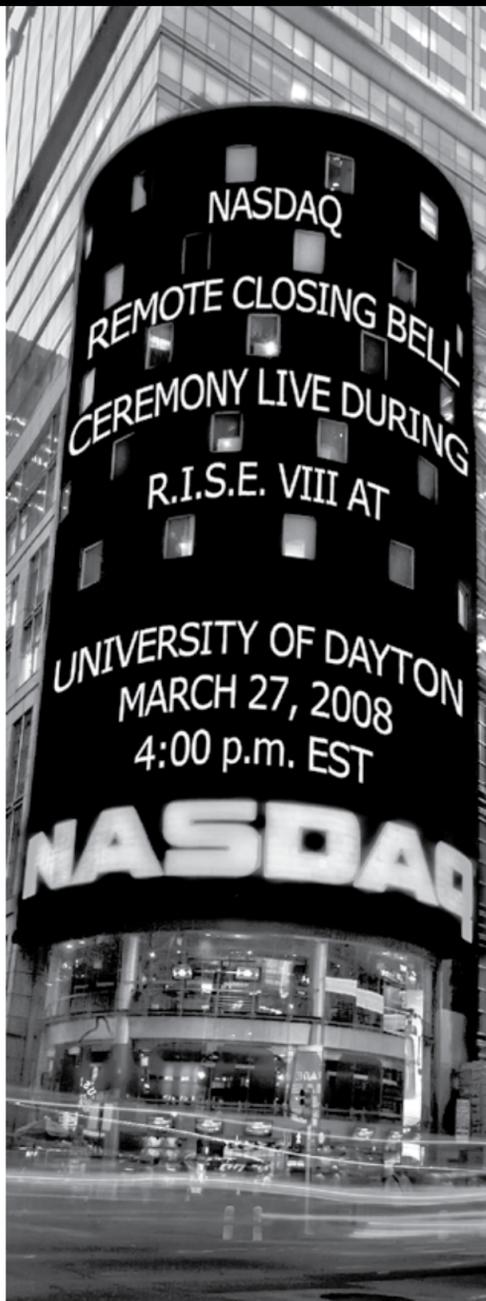
"We are looking to establish Memorial Madness as a yearly spirit event celebrating men's and women's basketball, as well as Vanderbilt athletics as a whole," Levit said. "A properly run Memorial Madness will increase spirit, improve recruitment and solidify Memorial Gymnasium as the best college basketball experience in the nation." ■

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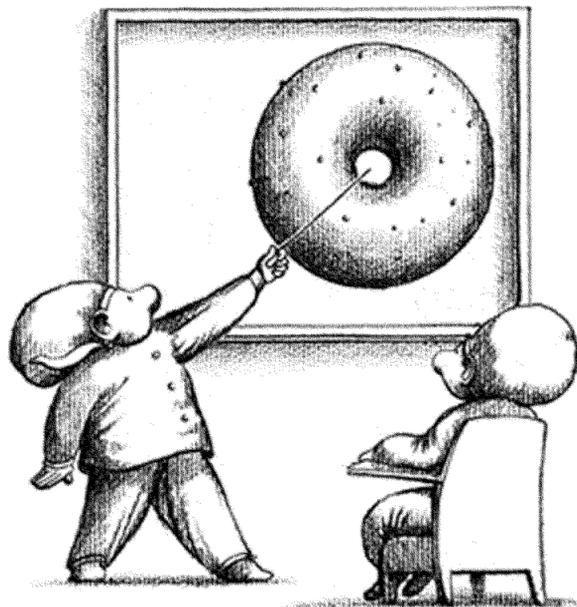
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**SUDOKU:** To solve, fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

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

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Proclamation
  - 6 Huff and puff
  - 10 Church part
  - 14 Fictional swordsman
  - 15 Body or knock lead-in
  - 16 Left dreamland
  - 17 Director Polanski
  - 18 Metal fastener
  - 19 Make sound
  - 20 Language of Lebanon
  - 22 Puts up a fight
  - 24 Mortifying
  - 27 Egyptian cobras
  - 31 Actress Lupino
  - 32 Overtunes
  - 36 Ring of monoliths
  - 39 100 square meters
  - 40 Gene or Grace
  - 41 Memorable time
  - 42 Change color again
  - 44 First lady?
  - 45 Balanced state
  - 48 "I Love Lucy" studio
  - 50 Ernie of the PGA
  - 51 Knocks
  - 52 Decree again
  - 55 Jana of tennis
  - 58 Thoroughly wet
  - 63 Abreast of
  - 64 Entree
  - 67 Of an arm bone
  - 68 Fishing action
  - 69 On the briny
  - 70 Hangman's knot
  - 71 Potential plant
  - 72 Cry like a kitten
  - 73 Stitched

- DOWN**
- 1 Poet Pound
  - 2 Entrance
  - 3 "My Friend \_"
  - 4 Fiddler or hermit
  - 5 Tennille and Morrison
  - 6 Helium or argon
  - 7 Actress Blyth
  - 8 Fix one's gaze

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |    |
| 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    |    |
| 20 |    |    |    |    | 21 |    | 22 |    | 23 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 24 |    | 25 | 26 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    | 31 |    |    | 32 |    | 33 | 34 | 35 |    |
| 36 |    |    |    | 37 |    |    | 38 |    |    | 39 |    |    |    |
| 40 |    |    |    |    | 41 |    |    | 42 | 43 |    |    |    |    |
| 44 |    |    |    | 45 | 46 |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 48 |    |    | 49 |    |    | 50 |    |    |    | 51 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 52 |    |    | 53 |    |    | 54 |    |    |    |    |
| 55 | 56 | 57 |    |    |    |    |    | 58 |    | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 |
| 63 |    |    |    |    | 64 | 65 | 66 |    | 67 |    |    |    |    |
| 68 |    |    |    |    | 69 |    |    |    | 70 |    |    |    |    |
| 71 |    |    |    |    | 72 |    |    |    | 73 |    |    |    |    |

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1/9/08

- 9 Quantity of tobacco
- 10 Some time
- 11 Edgar Allan and others
- 12 Card game for three
- 13 Sushi fish
- 21 In vogue
- 23 Splendiferous
- 25 Farewell in Rouen
- 26 Wed
- 27 Inquired
- 28 Comic Martin
- 29 Ends of the Earth?
- 30 NBC classic
- 33 Gymnast Comaneci
- 34 Wither
- 35 Looks like
- 37 Grommet
- 38 Showy lily
- 43 Make a mistake
- 46 One-time
- 47 Fertility goddess

- 49 Pressed
- 53 Poker action
- 54 Parts of speech
- 55 Essences
- 56 Mayberry boy
- 57 Cast ballots
- 59 \_ vera
- 60 Be sure of
- 61 Lessen
- 62 The \_ Scott Case
- 65 Stitch up
- 66 Actor Linden

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