

Versus

The Vanderbilt Hustler's Arts & Entertainment Magazine

FEBRUARY 11—FEBRUARY 17, 2009 VOL. 47, No. 5

Valentine's Day

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR.
Let's DTR. Don't worry — we'll help you out.
We've got the advice on breaking up,
getting out and getting back together.

A romantic Valentine's playlist awaits your download (and viewing, on page 4).

The lighter side of life can be found on page 2. Horoscopes, haiku and overheards—oh my!

A Vandy girl's perfect date is outlined page 3. Pay attention, fellas.

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Kirsten Price with Andrew Ripp and Audrey Spillman — 12th and Porter

After debuting in 2008 with her acclaimed album "Guts & Garbage," British soul artist Kirsten Price has continued to tour across the United States. Her sensuous and eclectic music, a mix of classical, jazz and R&B, has attracted a strong fan base on both sides of the pond. (Tickets TBA, 9 p.m.)

Damien Horne — B.B. King's Blues Club and Restaurant

As a member of the infamous MuzikMafia artist collaborative (which has turned out such artists as Big & Rich and Gretchen Wilson), Damien Horne has the support of some of the music industry's most prominent figures. His relationships have allowed him to perform with a broad variety of artists: Horne has shared the stage with Kid Rock, Velvet Revolver, Keith Urban and many more. (\$10 in advance/\$15 day of show, 5 p.m.)

Chicks with Picks — Edgehill Studios Cafe

All-ladies writers' night Chicks with Picks showcases some of Nashville's best singer-songwriters — all of whom happen to be female. The event takes place once a month and has become one of the best places to check out Music City's most talented. The shows are all performed acoustically and feature three up-and-coming artists. (Free, 6:30 p.m., 1201 Villa Place)

Jason Boland and The Stragglers — Exit/In

Jason Boland and The Stragglers derive their musical influences from the traditional Americana music of the Dust Bowl. The group is inspired by common America and the common man; paying their respects to the area that gave birth to many musical greats, including Woody Guthrie and Bob Childers. (\$8 in advance/\$10 day of show, 10 p.m.)

Dailey and Vincent — Station Inn

Dailey and Vincent have been playing music since ages 9 and 6, respectively, and have been involved with the bluegrass tradition practically their entire lives. Both gentlemen went on to wildly successful careers as members of two of the world's most respected bluegrass bands. Now performing together, Dailey and Vincent each bring unique aspects of the genre to the pairing. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Pat Bergeson — 12 South Taproom and Grill

Mentored by Chet Atkins and Jerry Reed, guitarist and harmonica player Pat Bergeson has made a career out of his love for music. (Free, 9 p.m., 2312 12th Ave. South)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Panty Raid! — Exit/In

Internationally popular, the ladies of Nashville's burlesque revue, Panty Raid!, want to infuse some vaudevillian excitement into your Friday night. Join them at Exit/In for a special Valentine's Day show, filled with all the belly dancing and cancons you've been craving! (\$15, 9 p.m.)

Space Capone and Tommy and the Whale — The Mercy Lounge/Cannery Ballroom

Join the good people at The Mercy Lounge/Cannery Ballroom for an evening jam packed with great performances from a slew of acts. Bobbypaloosa (the evening's enticing moniker) features Space Capone and Tommy and the Whale, among others, who are sure to excite with their unique brands of smooth tunes. (\$5, 9 p.m.)

The Four Kicks, Whip and John Davis — The Rutledge

With a great line-up on Friday night, The Rutledge is sure to be packed as usual with music listeners with good taste, just like you! Preceded by quality acts Whip and John Davis, The Four Kicks are sure to give your ears an aural ride, bringing their harmonious classic rock sound to the stage. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Fisk Jubilee Singers — Christ Church Cathedral

For a change of pace, enjoy an evening of loud, spiritual rejoicing with the Fisk Jubilee Singers as part of the Sacred Space for the City Arts series. In their only public performance of 2009, the choir celebrates black history month with unique, uplifting renditions of favorite songs. (\$10, 7:30 p.m., 900 Broadway)

Jim Lauderdale — Station Inn

Renowned domestically and abroad, Jim Lauderdale brings his admirable singer-songwriter talents to Station Inn for your enjoyment. One of Nashville's best songwriters, he has hosted the Americana Music Awards for the past two years and has honed his style of country and bluegrass for decades. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

Rick Springfield — Wildhorse Saloon

The man, the myth, the legend, Rick Springfield, blows into town for a couple rockin' and rollin' Valentine's weekend performances. Springfield has brought over 16 Top 40 hits into existence, and has moved many a crowd with his catchy songs and wild antics. By the end of the night, you'll be wishing you were "Jessie's Girl" too. (\$25, 6 p.m., 120 2nd Ave. North)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Rick Springfield — Wildhorse Saloon

Remember that song "Jessie's Girl?" Rick Springfield wants to remind you that that hasn't been his only hit. Just because you can't name another one doesn't mean you won't enjoy the high-energy show. Just don't sing along too loud. (\$25-\$175, 6 p.m., 120 Second Ave. North)

David Mead and Swan Dive — The Basement

After the release of what he describes as his "most intimate work to date," David Mead will be putting on a tranquil show at The Basement. Although his new songs deal primarily with life after marriage, we college folk can still identify with many of the major themes. (\$7, 9 p.m.)

Little Richard — Grand Ole Opry

Good Golly Miss Molly, how could you miss a show like this? The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer leads the '70s Rock and Soul Valentines Classic at the Opry. Also playing will be Little Anthony and The Imperials. If you want to be somewhere where there's a whole lotta shakin' goin' on, this can't be beat. (\$60, 8 p.m., 2812 Opryland Drive)

Itzhak Perlman — Nashville Symphony

With a special Valentine's Day performance led by Itzhak Perlman, violinist and conductor, the Nashville Symphony will be performing classical music with a romantic flavor for the occasion. Beethoven, Brahms, Haydn, Tchaikovsky — oh, and Cupid. Can't be beat. (STBD, 8 p.m., 1 Symphony Place)

The FAB and Jonell Mosser — 3rd and Lindsley

If you want to hold someone's hand, or just saw them standing there, maybe you should invite them to see this Beatles tribute band with you on Valentine's Day. And afterward, Jonell Mosser, who sang with Ringo Starr, comes on. It's a Beatles-packed evening — leave Yoko at home. (STBD, 7 p.m.)

Nashville Bluegrass Band — Station Inn

An amazing bluegrass band with two Grammy Awards and twice-named Entertainer of the Year from the International Bluegrass Music Association, this is a must-see show for bluegrass fans. They have performed with major stars like Lyle Lovett, Mary Chapin Carpenter and have even performed at Carnegie Hall. And for only \$10, it can't be beat. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Gary Louris and Mark Olsen — Exit/In

Supposedly defining modern Americana, these two artists claim to have impeccable playing and honeyed harmonies. Blending country, folk and bar-band rock, these gifted songwriters should make for a marvelous show. (\$20, 9 p.m.)

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FROM THE EDITOR



Have you ever just had one of those days?

Christian Bale sure has. If you haven't seen it yet, go to YouTube and search "Bale Out." You're looking for a clip a little over two minutes long with pictures of Bale. What's the soundtrack for it? Oh, it's just Bale's absolute tirade at a worker on the set of "Terminator Salvation" (if you're squeamish around strong language, don't check this out). Apparently, a composer who calls himself RevoLucian (get it?) found the audio and decided to make it into something. Oh yeah, it's remixed to techno music. NO JOKE. Pretty sweet, right? The Dark Knight has a dark side after all ...

It got me thinking, though. What would it be like if a soundtrack just picked up while you were going about your normal life? You've done it ... you're performing some mundane task and you begin to sing to yourself or just beat box some sick rhythms (yeah, I'm super white).

But what if you had accompanying music for every moment in your life? "Hey, I'm gonna go make some copies" could go from being a mundane waste of time to a dance party with some kicking percussion and a banjo. Think about it: mellow, heartfelt strings when you're sad, some montage music (if you can't picture this, watch any movie from the '80s) when you're studying, or even some Taylor Swift or whatever when you are with your sweetheart for Valentine's Day this weekend (y'know, whatever ... touchy subject?).

Speaking of Valentine's Day, our issue this week is chock full of ideas of what you can do with your sweetheart. On page 3, we've got a Vandy girl's ideal date (guys, you should read this), or if you need last-minute gift ideas for your sweetie ... try page 6. Need a good movie to watch (or not watch) on Saturday night? Some of our suggestions adorn page 3 (try "Love Actually," best romantic comedy ever never misses). Reviews of the latest and greatest in music and a Grammy wrap-up can be found in our music section (pages 4 and 5). However, the real glory lies on page 7 with our dual sides of relationships: How to fall further in love or how to end it. Check it out, it's what all the pros use.

Stay Legendary,
Chris Gearing

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PIC OF THE WEEK



NICOLE MANDEL / VERSUS MAGAZINE

BITS & PIECES



AS YOU ENTER POSITIONS OF TRUST AND POWER, DREAM A LITTLE BEFORE YOU THINK.

— TONI MORRISON

HOROSCOPES



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18: There's still time to order gifts for yourself for Valentine's Day. My girlfriend who lives in Canada is sending me some candy, for example.



PISCES 2/19-3/20: Since you're only feeling kind of bad, I'd just say you're just suffering from clinical recession.



ARIES 3/21-4/19: This horoscope is really just a less-fattening version of a fortune cookie. In bed.



TAURUS 4/20-5/20: Soon, someone will make a pronunciation error while reading "organism." Hilarity ensues.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21: If you have to be convinced, it probably isn't a good idea. If I'm convincing you, it's a great idea.



CANCER 6/22-7/22: If you happen to be in the Munchie Mart, I recommend getting the "String With a Stick." SUCH A GOOD IDEA!



LEO 7/23-8/22: Take this week to contemplate the merits of elementary school humor. Poo. Hehe.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22: If you believe in horoscopes, then your sign is not Virgo. It's Heathen.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22: I can't wait for the green movement to reach newspapers, because then I can recycle jokes and feel good about it. Also, you'll have a good day.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21: Did you know that salmon doesn't carry salmonella, like, ever? Maybe you should start calling it peanut butter-ella. Or Nutella. Wait a minute ...



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21: Did you know that "no" means "no" in more than 10 languages? Now you do, sketchball.



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19: It is never appropriate, under any circumstances and for any reason, to liken a girl to a walrus. Even if she happens to be wearing a walrus costume.

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Premature frating
Will lead to disappointment
When it's cold again.

It is not hazing!
After all, my Towers suite
Will not clean itself.

OVERHEARD

Some people on this campus just don't think before they speak. Sometimes we are lucky enough to overhear what they say.

Compiled from the Facebook group "Overheard at Vanderbilt"



Girl: "You think you're God's gift to the world — well, you sure as hell aren't God's gift to women!"

Girl: "I can't eat tonight until after I have sex."

Girl: "Yeah, there were so many randos there last night! AND I talked to a midget there for a while!"



Guy: "Dude, she was too young to get pregnant anyway."

Girl: "She's probably just one of those aggressive lesbians who doesn't shave her legs."



Girl (to a copy machine): "Why are you upset with me? I haven't gotten anything stuck in you yet today!"

PHOTOS: flickr.com

ENTERTAINMENT

The perfect Valentine's Day Date: A Vandy girl's perspective

HOLLY MEEHL
Culture Editor

So although my ideal Valentine's date would involve Robert Pattinson, chocolate-covered strawberries and a bottle of Dom Perignon, there are other, more feasible options on the table. Planning the perfect Valentine's date is a challenge — it's expected to be special and not just the typical semi-romantic dinner at Cabana. Here's my idea of a V-Day date that would make any girl swoon and possibly even make me reconsider flying out to L.A. for my date at the Ivy with Pattinson.

We definitely have some great restaurants in Nashville, but nothing says you really care like a home-cooked meal. So take out those pots and pans your mom made you buy at Target that you've never used before, Google some Martha Stewart recipes, and



Flickr.com

treat your girl to the ultimate culinary experience. I know you think you can't cook, but you really can. It's not that hard to read a recipe, and even if the results are foul, your girl will appreciate the effort.

Cooking is also something you can do together that is personal and romantic. Light some candles, pour a glass of wine, set out those rose pedals and have

her come over as you're sauteing those onions or stirring some pasta sauce. The smells will be heavenly and she'll see you in action, master of the kitchen. Chefs are hot. Despite Tom Colicchio's shiny baldhead and short stature, I'm undeniably attracted to him due to the power he holds in the kitchen.

OK, so I know this date idea is a little unfair if you

don't live in a suite with some type of kitchen. So here's another option that can allow for a romantic evening in with some savory dinner selections. Provence Cafe is having a Valentine's special in which you can pre-order a scrumptious dinner for two to pick up the day of. Some of their dinner options include shrimp bisque and a roasted hen stuffed with figs. Plus they have some sinful dessert options such as chocolate heart cake shaped like the candies that are inscribed with messages like "I Love You" and "Be Mine." Your girl will be smitten and her taste buds will be tingling.

So skip the restaurant crowd this year and have a quiet night in with a memorable feast that you can either create yourself or have ordered in. Eat up, pop in "The Notebook" and have a cozy night together on this oh-so-romantic (yes, I said "romantic") evening. ☾

Top 5 Valentine's Day movies

EVERY CARPENTER
Staff Writer

Everyone deserves a love story this Feb. 14, or at least deserves some carbs and freedom to watch one unfold. Here are the top 10 movies you should be watching this week.



ReelLifeWisdom.com

2. "The Notebook"

This tearjerker follows the romantic saga of Noah and Allie from childhood up until old age. The chemistry between Rachel McAdams and Ryan Gosling threatens to burn a hole through the television screen and reminds us all that true love really does exist (not just in the movies — they were dating during filming!). If you watch this movie as a couple be warned: bring a box of tissues for the guy and a stack of towels for the girl. Yes, the floodgates really will be opened with that much force.

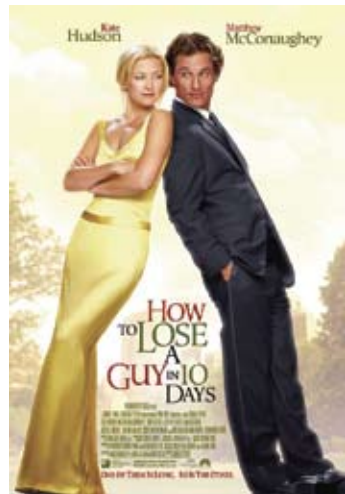


Wordpress.com

3. "The Princess Bride"

Make Valentine's Day a true journey and transport yourself to another land

with this romantic fairytale. "The Princess Bride" tells the love story of Princess Buttercup and her slave, Westley. Robin Wright Penn delivers a stunning performance, but it is the fantastical nature of this film that makes it so timeless. Buttercup and Westley move through fire swamps, cliffs, torture chambers and castles. They encounter both giants and giant rodents, and pirates and pissed off princes — but eventually love conquers all.



impawards.com

4. "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days"

Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey star as Andie Anderson and Benjamin Barry. Ben is an advertising executive competing for a major campaign — he bets

his competitors that he can make a woman fall in love with him in 10 days. In comes Andie Anderson, who, in turn, is writing a story for a magazine on "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days." In other words, they are harboring opposing hidden agendas. Andie's antics go from slightly strange to unbelievably bizarre.



image.guardian.co.uk

5. "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

No Feb. 14 is complete without some bling. If your man isn't following through with a little blue box, give him a hint and pop in this classic Audrey Hepburn film. In it, she stars as Holly Golightly, a charming and eccentric socialite living in New York City in the 1960s. Many men woo her, but the only one to make a true impression is Paul Varjek, her neighbor. Close quarters are explored and boundaries are broken as these two engage in a whirlwind romance. ☾



AllMoviePhoto.com

1. "Titanic"

Don't be fooled by the fact that this movie is about a tragic boat crash. It's really just about Jack and Rose, "I'll never let go" and Leonardo DiCaprio's smoldering eyes. Set on the Titanic (shocker) in 1912, this movie has it all when it comes to romance: forbidden love (a la Romeo and Juliet), Celine Dion music, ballroom dancing, ship deck frolicking and declarations of unparalleled affection. What more could you need?

Connecting with your Roots

ADRIAN RIPPY
Staff Writer

The Rhythm & Roots Performance Company's presentation of "Through the Walls" tells the history of African Americans as told from the perspective of the buildings that have witnessed it.

The performance revolves around the story of people trying to keep their historic community center from being destroyed. Their chants of "No Justice, No Peace!" go unheard by the man in charge of destroying it. From here, we are thrust back in time to the tragic events of the transatlantic slave trade. Images of the over-packed slave ships and the lynching of slaves are projected in the background while



ADRIAN RIPPY / Versus Magazine

interpretive dancers perform. Others recited spoken word such as "Whispers from the Sea" with a powerful, emotional tone.

From there, we are brought into the Harlem Renaissance. Though there is an upbeat

spirit about the time, a singer explains how she has come out with a record but the record company will not put her face on the record. She goes unrecognized because of the looming cloud of segregation.

From the Renaissance, we go into World War 2 with the black army men hoping that they will go home with their double "V," which are victories for not only their country but their race. Then, we march into the civil rights movement with the Montgomery bus boycott and the rise and fall of one of the most influential names in history, Martin Luther King Jr. After the movement, we dance down the soul train line with songs like "The Hustle."

"Through the Walls" was an artistic way of retelling black history. The fluidity of the movements by the dancers, the inspirational lyrics of the spoken word and the realization that change is possible created a beautiful performance. ☾

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12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	
4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30
6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15			6:15
7:45	7:45	7:45				

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MUSIC

"I want people to be ecstatic but to cry at the same time."

— Wayne Coyne of The Flaming Lips

SETLIST

TODAY

Take a trip off campus tonight to check out Nashville native **Kelleigh Bannen** performing her country-esque blend of eclectic influences. Having released her debut album last year, Bannen will hit the stage at The Basement tonight ready to wow the crowd. It will cost you \$5 to get through the doors at 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

You don't have to walk too far to see the top-20 **Lady Commodores** take on SEC powerhouse Florida in what's sure to be a rabble-rouser Thursday night. Mark your calendar — Memorial Gym is the place to be at 7 p.m. It's free for students, \$10 otherwise.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

Start Valentine's Day early with a romantic evening aboard the **General Jackson Showboat**, including an appetizing dinner and open dance floor vibrating with the music of a live band. Just don't fall overboard! That's enough drama to ruin any date. Tier 2 costs a reasonable \$78.95 per person and boarding begins at 6:15 p.m.

Top 10 love songs

CHRIS MCDONALD
Staff Writer

10. The Darkness — "I Believe In A Thing Called Love"

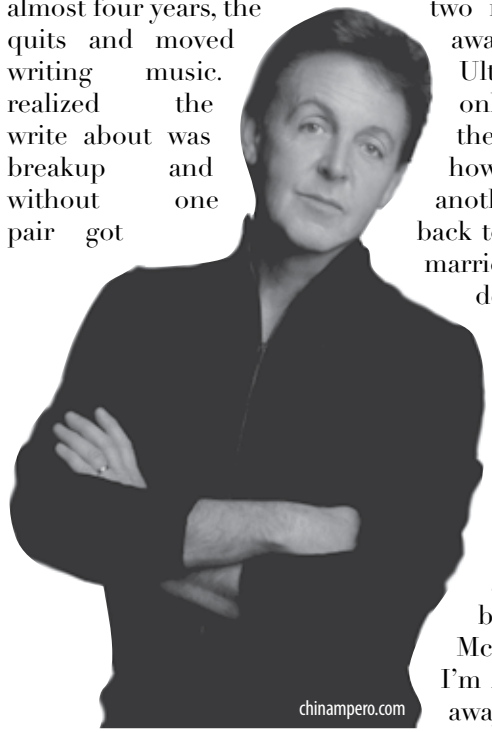
Written about anyone in particular? Probably not. Any real depth of meaning behind the lyrics? Unlikely. But one thing is for certain — despite the corny, over-the-top lyrics, singer Justin Hawkins' piercing falsetto makes the listener truly believe in the awesome power of love.

9. Aqualung — "Brighter Than Sunshine"

Under the pseudonym Aqualung, British singer-songwriter Matthew Hales crafted an unbelievably catchy, heart-warming song in "Brighter Than Sunshine." Featured in the Ashton Kutcher-Amanda Peet romantic comedy "A Lot Like Love," the song will be remembered as one of the greatest love songs of our generation.

8. The Submarines — "Peace and Hate"

Indie-pop duo The Submarines are a love story in the making. After being romantically involved for almost four years, the two musicians called it quits and moved away but continued writing music. Ultimately, both realized the only thing they could do was write about the breakup and without one pair got



chinampero.com

back together, fell in love, married and put out their debut album. This song chronicles the ups and downs of the relationship.

7. Paul McCartney — "Maybe I'm Amazed"

Written just after the Beatles' breakup, Paul McCartney's "Maybe I'm Amazed" is far and away his most popular

and arguably best love song to date. Originally dedicated to his wife for all of her support after the band split, the song describes a confused young man, stuck in the middle of a situation he doesn't really comprehend. But despite all of this uncertainty, his love is always there for him and with him.

6. Marvin Gaye — "Let's Get It On"/"Sexual Healing"

These two songs alone are great, but together they are a veritable tour de force. A bit more forward than some of the other songs listed, Gaye's "Let's Get It On" and "Sexual Healing" encourage us to skip the pleasantries and get down to business. And c'mon ... who can really say no to the Prince of Soul.

5. The Avett Brothers — "Ballad of Love And Hate"

This moving acoustic ballad by folk/rock group The Avett Brothers chronicles the hard relationship between Love and Hate (referred to as actual characters rather than feelings). Seth Avett softly sings of the hardships between the two and the subsequent hurt felt by both but reveals that at the end of it all, the two need each other to survive.

4. The Beatles — "Here, There, and Everywhere"

Curiously enough, one of the Beatles' all-time most straight-forward, romantic songs is found on their album "Revolver," an LP heralded as one of the very first psychedelic albums of all time. LSD influences aside, "Here" is a quiet, delicate and bittersweet song with unabashedly charming lyrics.

3. Eric Clapton — "Wonderful Tonight"

Clapton really slows things down



with this gem off his album

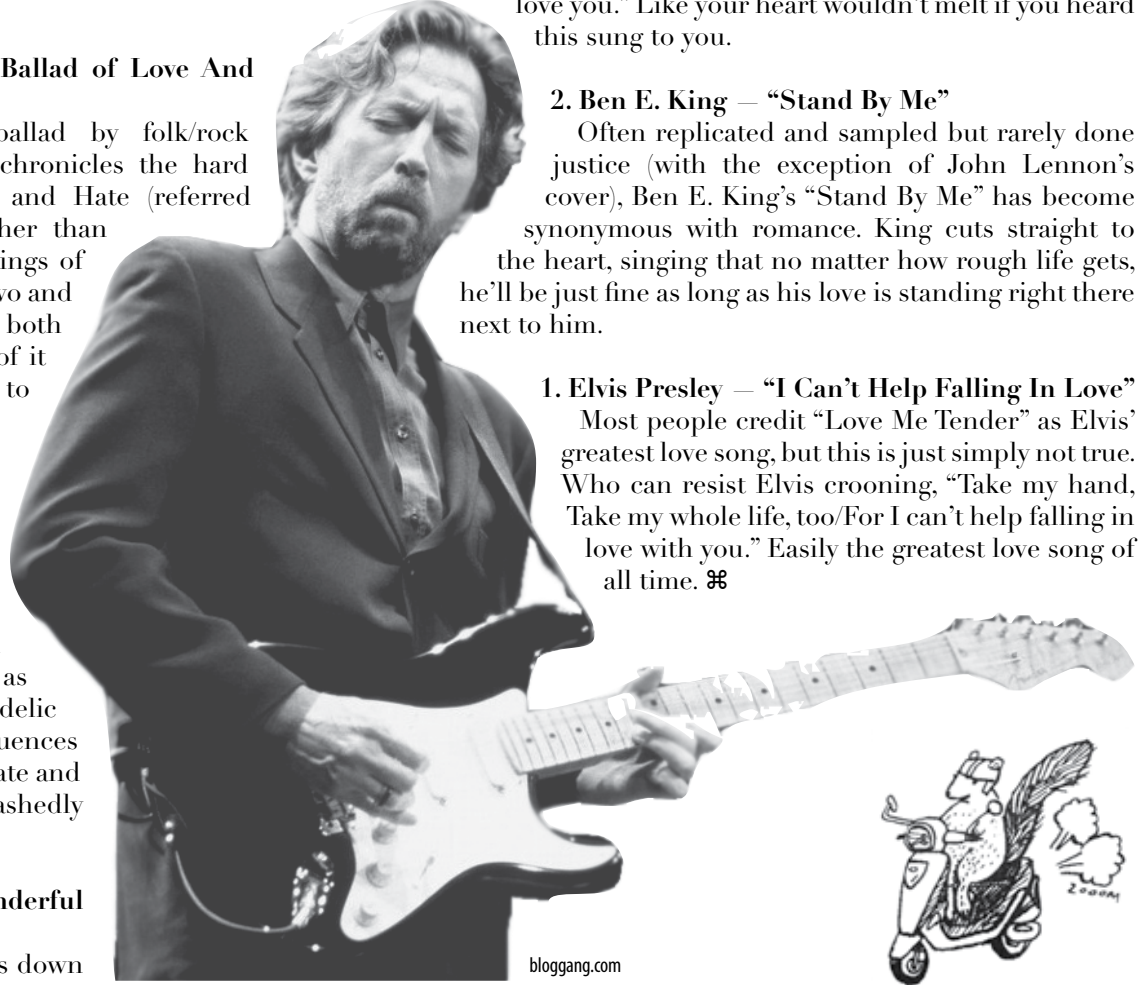
"Slowhand." On top of his signature guitar playing, Clapton soothingly sings "I feel wonderful because I see/The love light in your eyes/And the wonder of it all/Is that you just don't realize how much I love you." Like your heart wouldn't melt if you heard this sung to you.

2. Ben E. King — "Stand By Me"

Often replicated and sampled but rarely done justice (with the exception of John Lennon's cover), Ben E. King's "Stand By Me" has become synonymous with romance. King cuts straight to the heart, singing that no matter how rough life gets, he'll be just fine as long as his love is standing right there next to him.

1. Elvis Presley — "I Can't Help Falling In Love"

Most people credit "Love Me Tender" as Elvis' greatest love song, but this is just simply not true. Who can resist Elvis crooning, "Take my hand, Take my whole life, too/For I can't help falling in love with you." Easily the greatest love song of all time. ☼



bloggang.com



Men of Paws deliver an unforgettable performance

AVERY SPOFFORD
Music Editor

A typical Vanderbilt weekend got off to an exceptional start last Friday night when the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house band, Men of Paws, took the stage. Opening for headlining group Groove Addiction, Men of Paws performed a set during the first night of the fraternity's annual "Pike's Peak" party.

The band's widespread appeal was clear with one look at the crowd that turned out to see the Men of Paws' debut. While Groove Addiction brought in a fairly solid audience and certainly did not disappoint, delivering high-energy covers and a professional performance, the Pike house basement

reached a new level of energy when Men of Paws began their set.

Vocalists Nick Berini and Anson Wilks didn't hold back, belting out the lyrics of set opener "Take Your Mama Out" with the passion and drive of seasoned performers. Frontman and lead guitarist Taylor Gerber captivated the crowd with face-melting guitar solos, while the pandemonium that was Pete Wild on the drums anchored the group. The band breezed through their mid-set song choices, Phish's "Character Zero" and "Billie Jean" by Michael Jackson, as more and more students flowed into the basement to witness the phenomenon that is Men of Paws. As promised, the band closed their

set with the widely beloved college anthem, "Because I Got High." While Men of Paws did not perform any original material, sticking to already-established covers, fans are hopeful that drummer Wild's rock opera piece, "Put Deez Nuts In Yo Mouf," may make a debut at later performances.

In spite of Vanderbilt's cynics and critics, who doubted Men of Paws' commitment to their music, the group's concert on Friday showcased their love for performance and dedication to the band. At future shows, fans can expect more of the same: after Friday night's performance, our campus will be looking for great things from Men of Paws. ☼



Calie Traver

We review, so you can enjoy

The Fray drops seminal second disc

Beyonce creates a 'Fierce' album

CHRIS GEARING
Editor in Chief

Anybody who owns a radio or some kind of music player knows The Fray. They're the guys who know how to save a life? Remember? It has been a few years since this group of musical virtuosos made it into a studio to record, but let me tell you — it was worth the wait.

I don't know about you, but their first album was much too slow for my tastes. The first four songs were a rollicking exercise in piano-driven rock, but it seemed as though the fast-and-furious



wikipedia.org

tempo dropped off after the fourth track, "How to Save a Life." However, the band has returned and their self-titled new album is chock-full of up-tempo ballads with inspired lyrics focusing on the only matter worth focusing on (for musicians) — love.

You've most likely heard front man Isaac Slade's conversation with God entitled "You Found Me." Although it is quite good,

do not think that it is fully indicative of the album. It's a little heavier and whinier than the rest of the tracks. Don't let it dissuade you from picking up this album. The CD kicks off with "Syndicate" which is by far its best track. The guitar riff at

the beginning sets the mood of the piece and is followed by signature piano licks. The sixth track, "Where the Story Ends," has some of the best lyrics that Isaac Slade has ever written and really captures what a long-distance relationship is like. Other highlights include "Absolute" and "Never Say Never."

Did I mention how good the lyrics are on the entire album? Not only did The Fray bring the musical fire and fury, but they really brought their A-game in terms of lyrics and singing. The Fray certainly dodged a sophomore slump and released an excellent follow up to their debut, "How to Save a Life." The entire self-titled album is well written and well performed with excellent music to back it up. What else could you ask for? ☼

SARA GAST
Managing Editor

If you needed another reason to support the breakup of Destiny's Child, Beyonce provides about seven on her latest album, "I am ... Sasha Fierce." I'll admit, the ellipses threw me off, too, but after I moved past the unnecessary punctuation and into the music, I found all the soul-grooving jams my white heart could want.

First act of greatness: "I am" is actually two CDs. As if one Beyonce disk couldn't provide enough No. 1s, she thought she'd toss in a few extra hits for her fans.

Second: the deluxe edition. I'm not really sure why someone would skip out and just buy the "regular edition" when they could get five more songs for practically the same price. While the regular edition has all the tunes you already know from the radio waves and Greek parties, if you're spending the money on the real record, do it right.

My all-time favorite hit on her album is undeniably "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)." It's a girl anthem that comes complete with dance moves. "Radio" and "Halo" are danceable, if slightly weird when it

comes to the lyrics ("I think I'm in love with my radio/ Because it never lets me down?"). She slows it down (in a good way) on "Broken-Hearted Girl," "Ego" and "If I Were a Boy," and Beyonce adds a splash of techno-something on "Sweet Dreams." Arguably one of the better aspects of this album, though, is when she experiments with

her sound. You'll probably either love or hate "Smash Into You" and "That's Why You're Beautiful." While I gave a thumbs-up for those two, the songs "Video Phone" and "Diva" are probably my least favorites on record.

"I am" ultimately will be remembered for its big hits, but it has other tracks that are at least worth a listen on YouTube, if not a download. ☼



rapidwarez.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

Take your someone special to something special: a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend an evening listening to a live **Rick Springfield** within the walls of the Wildhorse Saloon. If you're single and looking to mingle, this would be a great way to forget your worries! Tickets start at \$25 and doors open at 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

Enjoy a belated celebration of V-Day by attending a performance of **"The Vagina Monologues,"** renowned for its hilarity and insight into the intricacies that define female sexuality. Your \$15 will go to a great cause: the Project Safe Violence Against Women Hardship Fund. The show starts at 7 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema.

MONDAY, FEB. 16

Join the crew at The Rutledge as they celebrate the release of **Charlie Harden** and **Seth Woods's** seminal CD, Abraham. These boys will be joined by **Mikky Ekko** for what's sure to be an invigorating night of music. Tickets start at \$5 and doors open at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

Get in some belly laughs before over-the-hump day. Check out **Jeff Dyes** performance at Zanies Comedy Night Club for a trip into the mind of a rising comedy star. Tickets are \$15 a pop for the 7:30 p.m. show.

SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE



We at Versus have excellent taste in music. Below, the editors share what tracks we've been spinning as we create the glory you're holding in your hands.

1. "JESUS, ETC." **Wilco**
2. "TRIPOLI" **Pinback**
3. "DO YOU REALIZE" **The Flaming Lips**
4. "GOODNIGHT DIXIE GOOD-NIGHT" **The National Trust**
5. "L.E.S. ARTISTES" **Santogold**
6. "MURDERERS" **John Frusciante**
7. "LITTLE MOTEL" **Modest Mouse**
8. "THREE SEED" **Silversun Pickups**
9. "METAL HEART" **Cat Power**
10. "HELPLESSLY HOPING" **Crosby Stills Nash & Young**

THE 2009 GRAMMY AWARDS

Record of the Year

"Please Read the Letter," Robert Plant and Alison Krauss

Album of the Year

"Raising Sand," Robert Plant and Alison Krauss

Song of the Year

"Viva La Vida," Coldplay

Best Male Pop Vocal Performance

John Mayer, "Say"

Best Female Pop Vocal Performance

Adele, "Chasing Pavements"

Best New Artist

Adele

Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals

Coldplay, "Viva La Vida"

Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals

Robert Plant and Alison Krauss, "Rich Woman"

Best Pop Instrumental Album

"Jingle All The Way," Bela Fleck & The Flecktones

Best Pop Instrumental Performance

Eagles, "I Dreamed There Was No War"

Best Pop Vocal Album

"Rockferry," Duffy

Best Dance Recording

"Harder Better Faster Stronger," Daft Punk

Best Electronic or Dance Album

"Alive 2007," Daft Punk

Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album

"Still Unforgettable," Natalie Cole

Best Solo Rock Vocal Performance

John Mayer, "Gravity"

Best Metal Performance

Metallica, "My Apocalypse"

Best Rock Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals

Kings of Leon, "Sex on Fire"

Best Hard Rock Performance

The Mars Volta, "Wax Simulacra"

Best Rock Instrumental Performance

Zappa Plays Zappa, "Peaches En Regalia"

Best Rock Song

"Girls in Their Summer Clothes," Bruce Springsteen

Best Rock Album

"Viva La Vida Or Death And All His Friends," Coldplay

Best Alternative Music Album

"In Rainbows," Radiohead

Best Urban/Alternative Performance

Chrisette Michele feat. will.i.am, "Be OK"

Best R&B Song

"Miss Independent," Ne-Yo

Best R&B Album

"Jennifer Hudson," Jennifer Hudson

Best Contemporary R&B Album

"Growing Pains," Mary J. Blige

Best Male R&B Vocal Performance

Ne-Yo, "Miss Independent"

Best Female R&B Vocal Performance

Alicia Keys, "Superwoman"

Best R&B Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals

Al Green feat. John Legend, "Stay With Me (By The Sea)"

Best Traditional R&B Vocal Performance

Al Green feat. Anthony Hamilton, "You've Got The Love I Need"

Best Rap Solo Performance

Lil' Wayne, "A Milli"

Best Rap Performance By A Duo Or Group

Jay-Z & T.I. feat. Kanye West & Lil Wayne, "Swagga Like Us"

Best Rap/Sung Collaboration

Estelle feat. Kanye West, "American Boy"

Best Rap Song

"Lollipop," Lil' Wayne feat. Static Major

Best Rap Album

"Tha Carter III," Lil' Wayne

Best Female Country Vocal Performance

Carrie Underwood, "Last Name"

Best Male Country Vocal Performance

Brad Paisley, "Letter To Me"

Best Country Album

"Troubadour," George Strait

Best Country Song

"Stay," Sugarland



Kristian Bush (right) and Jennifer Nettles form the country duo Sugarland. emilyrios.info.com

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OF VANDERBILT MEN agreed that being drunk is NO EXCUSE for forcing a woman to have sex.

—Lynette Jacobs-Priche, dissertation, 2006

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VALENTINE'S DAY

Some advice: Here's what NOT to do

FRANNIE BOYLE
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is key in many relationships. It's definitely not as significant as The Anniversary, but messing up the second most important day of the year would be hard for any guy to bounce back from.

It's getting down to the wire, and it is safe to assume that most guys have not even thought about what they are going to do for



israelity.com

their girlfriends. The state of the economy takes away the option of blowing your girlfriend away with how much money you are willing to spend on her, so it's time to get creative.

Here are few things that you should probably avoid:

Do not give her a heart-shaped box of chocolate because, really, no one likes those. If you want to go cliché, think about a stuffed animal (not from Rite Aid, though).

On the topic of recognizable gifts, **do not** get her anything from the bookstore.

If you decide to take her out, **do not** take her to a restaurant on the Card. That just makes things awkward in the end.

Do not get her any gifts that are "health" related. She may have said something about joining a class at the Rec, or about how worn out her yoga

mat is getting. She may even talk about the Facebook ads for Opera's acai berry slim down package. Don't fall into that trap, because you never know how a girl is going to take it. Oh yeah, and be careful about fat-free chocolate. No matter how many times you say you were not paying attention, it probably won't go over well.

Do not surprise her with a trip to Vanderbilt's production of "The Vagina Monologues" this weekend.

Do not give her anything from Victoria's Secret. Even if you know you are getting some tonight, there is no



fashiontribes.com

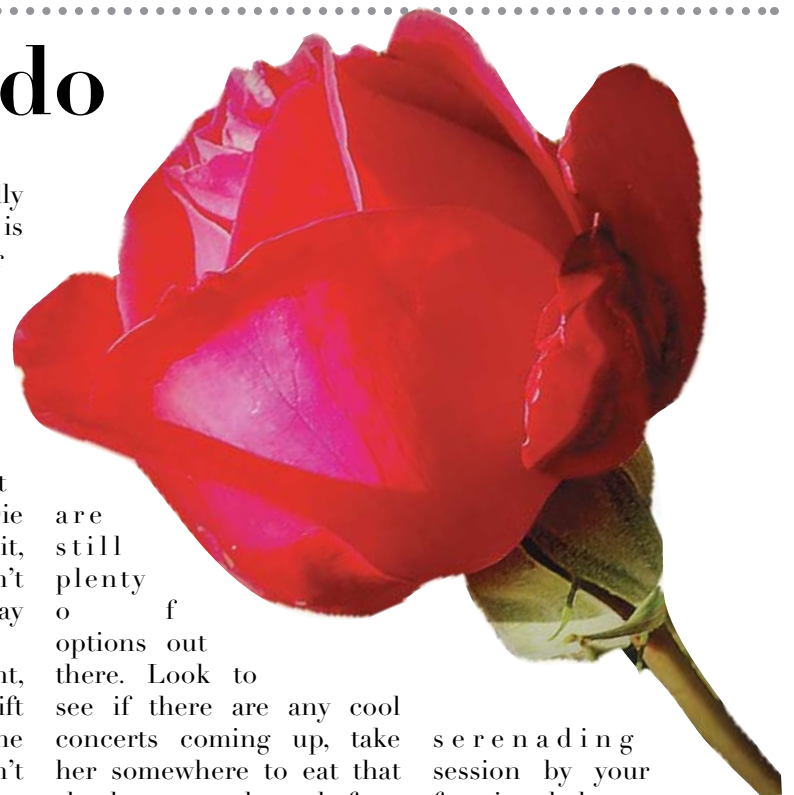
need to push it.

Unless she has specifically indicated what she is interested in, **do not** get her any jewelry. No offense, but that is one field that many guys just don't understand.

Do not pick out the wrong movie for your romantic evening. I know it stinks, but "Live Free or Die Hard" probably won't cut it, or at least it probably won't get you as far as you may have hoped.

I know they are convenient, but **do not** get her any gift cards, because everyone knows that those really don't come from the heart. Those homemade gift cards are cute, but nothing screams last minute like a gift made out of printer paper and a highlighter.

Those may seem like some harsh guidelines, but there



are still plenty of options out there. Look to see if there are any cool concerts coming up, take her somewhere to eat that she has never been before, or even flowers and a nice bottle of wine will do the trick (**do not** get her Andre). The element of surprise always works too; you could go with a gift on her pillow, dinner in a secret location or even a

serenading session by your favorite pledges.

Even if you think that your girlfriend won't get that into it, it would still be safe to try and rock this Valentine's Day, because deep down, every girl cares. ☾

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Five ideas sure to succeed on V-Day

MATT SHELTON
Staff Writer

One of the most dreaded days of the year, Valentine's Day is an annual staple of every relationship, in which guys try to express their feelings with expensive, impersonal gifts in lieu of telling their significant other how they really feel. Instead of shelling out dough for the trite chocolate and flowers their father delivers to them anyway, try something new this year:

1. A massage.

Valentine's Day falls in the two-week midterm period, and no doubt she has been studying and stressing inside a book for the past couple of weeks. If not, consider the fact that with Spring Break coming so early this year, girls are already clogging the estro-gym attempting to reclaim the bikini-bod they came to school with. Either way, help calm the muscles and mind with a trip to the massage parlor. Nashville's best include: Adagio Therapy Co. & Spa and Balance Bodywork LLC. Trust me; it's just what they "knead."



victorialodging.com

2. Make her something.

Nothing says "I love you" like presenting her with burnt bread pudding or chocolate soufflé that didn't seem to rise. Instead of buying her chocolates from Russell Stover or Godiva this year, download your own chocolate recipe and make your own brand. This personal way proves to her you are more than just a deep wallet.



hipgirlie.com



images.google.com

3. Engrave her iPod.

While she's at class have her roommate steal her iPod and get it engraved. Enscribe the chorus of "your song" or a quote that always makes her giggle. Whenever she pulls out her music-maker, she'll have something that reminds her of you.



nonstopmac.com

4. Digital picture frame.

Pick out those "Facebook worthy" photos and load them onto a digital frame. This way, images of you and her together are always flashing through her room, even if they aren't in her mind.



laptop-battery.com

5. Flowers.

Do not just order roses and expect her to be wowed. Find out her favorite flowers beyond red roses and intersperse them into your bouquet. Then pull out those crafting skills and see if you can personalize the vase for an extra touch. ☾



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It's that time of year... Let's DTR

Just in case you didn't check out our slang definitions last week, DTR is short for define the relationship and down to rage. If you're single, by all means use this weekend to be DTR in the latter sense. But if you're in some kind of quasi-hookup-dating-exclusive situation, Feb. 14 is good way to figure out where things are headed. If defining your fling is more confusing than finding a review session in Stevenson, take our quiz and see where your "relationship" falls.

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

1. When do you see this person?

Only after midnight Friday and Saturday Daytime or anytime

2. Be honest: when you watch a movie, do you actually watch a movie?

Nope Yes, at least enough of it that I could summarize

2. If you meet up for a meal, where do they usually suggest?

Rand. Always Rand. On and off the Card options.

HOOK UP

Ah, the way all great romances start. Well maybe not but at college, this seems to be one of the more common starting points. Whether this has been on and off thing since before break or a more recent development, there is a way to tune into Valentine's Day without making things weird. Our suggestion: Friday or Saturday night, actually borrow or rent a movie that you want to watch and get together some popcorn and candy from the Munchie Mart. This is not the Valentine's Day for the grand gesture, but if you want to get out of the hookup category, try some kind of activity like this rather than the activities you normally engage in. Chances are, how they react to this will tell you a lot about where you stand. If you want to keep things how they are, a text message is all you need to send.

IT'S FUZZY

Probably not what you wanted to hear, since we promised you help with this whole relationship definition thing, but guess what? You're not in a definable relationship right now. It is probably a better use of your time to count to infinity than attempt to categorize this any more than we already have. Though this has advanced beyond the mere hookup, it's still advisable to tread lightly when making Valentine's plans. If you want to try something slightly more romantic than Rand, pick an option like Tangredi's or Sunset Grill. By using a Card option, you're switching to a nicer setting but keeping things budget friendly and low key. If you don't want to rock the boat, casually say "Happy Valentine's Day" when you see them and follow their lead for this holiday.

GETTING RELATIVELY SERIOUS

By the sound of it, you two are headed for the elusive land of a relationship. Since you've already done some culinary exploration, book a table for two at your favorite restaurant. It doesn't matter if it's fancy or casual — it will mean more if you remember how much they like the place than if you just pick a random restaurant. This next suggestion is highly dependent on the couple, but you might try giving them (or making them) a card. It's easy, it's thoughtful and they're sold at the Bookstore. In terms of gifts, go with something personal or an inside joke instead of breaking the bank. Or, if you're feeling industrious, bake cookies. Again, they're easy, thoughtful and on the Card. Good luck! ☿

A breakup breakdown

CHRIS GEARING
Editor-in-Chief

We've all had to do it. Sometimes its because you're not happy and sometimes you do it to avoid buying that special someone a Valentine's Day gift (don't do that). But we've all wondered what exactly you should do for a break up and what is expected for certain stages of a relationship. Don't fret, Versus readers. We're here with the answers ...

TEXTING AND FLIRTING IN CLASS

Are you serious? Just stop texting and flirting. This can barely be called romance ... just cut it out. That's it. Nothing else. You honestly wanted advice for what to do?

HOOKING UP

Now hooking up is a relatively nebulous phase in a relationship. (Or if you're classy, just skip to the "dating" section below. Hey — don't look at us like that, you snob.) A hook up can be a way into a relationship, but it can also be as far as a relationship can go. Just the physical, no talking (that sounded better in my head). Since these events are usually accomplished by a lingering glance across the Beirut table or a late-night text message, you should likely just avoid the person or don't hit "send" on that text message. Just put the phone down and back away ... slowly.

EXCLUSIVE "DATING"

The murky place between wanting to be exclusive and wanting to be in a relationship — don't you just cringe thinking about this awkward space? Well you definitely owe your paramour a little more than a text message or the silent treatment, and many would argue for some face-to-face time for the bad news. With that said, be sure not to do it in a public place like Rand, at a party, a bar on Thursday night, a Greek swap and/or the Munchie Mart (I have heard of each one of those happening). Beyond the incredible embarrassment, you're also robbing your ex the chance to yell at you (which they may deserve). But seriously Casanova, give them some time in a private place for this prickly issue. Anything less is just pathetic. (Especially in Rand. What do you say after? "Well, I'm glad we had that talk. I'm going to check out the cold options over at Chef James. Later." Good luck ever getting a date again.)

RELATIONSHIP TIME

Ah, so I see you've abandoned the couple life and all chance of happiness ... just kidding! Sort of. If you are going to end it, end it right. Budget a few hours in a private place to talk to them about it. A letter or a phone call is not cool. A relationship is something to be treasured and you shouldn't be a dick just because it's not working out anymore. Accept what's coming your way, because its exactly what you'd expect if you were in the same situation — time, answers and compassion.

Breaking up is hard to do, and hopefully you have a better idea of when, where and how to do it. A final tip — don't break up on Valentine's Day or their birthday unless you want to be beaten up. For real.



LETTER FROM AN ANGRY WASP

Each week, our resident Angry WASP sounds off on things that make him buzz. (see what we did there?)



Dear Mickey Angela,

Oh, mail room notification guru, what a love-hate relationship I have with you. On one hand, I love your little emails popping up and letting me know that I have something waiting for me. It really brightens my day! You could also make that stupid freshman who shares my box pick up her damn mail and get it out of my way (but we won't delve into that again).

On the other hand, sometimes you really piss me off. If your package window hours end at 4, what's the sense in sending me notification of it at 3:58? Do you really mean to tantalize me all night, anticipating what may or may not be a super sweet package? Would it really be that difficult to send it out at, oh I don't know, 3:30? Or even 3:45? Is the truck REALLY just dropping it off right then? I didn't think so.

Especially on Fridays! You give me this horrible Catch 22 of a decision: Would I rather suffer through not knowing what my package is all weekend, or suffer through getting up on Saturday and stumbling over to the package window by noon?

Honestly, the anticipation kills me. So quit sending out those stupid notifications when it's ridiculously impossible to get in on time and pick up our stuff.

Oh, but go ahead and keep doing it to Ms. I-Can't-Pick-Up-My-Mail-Regularly.

Sincerely,
An Angry WASP

FLIP SIDE

Hustler and Versus can be read online at InsideVandy.com



Click the gold Hustler/Versus button at the bottom right of the home page



WHO SEES THIS AD?
11,500 STUDENTS
and many faculty/staff,
parents and alumni

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	7			
2								1
	8	9					3	
		1		9		5	7	
			4	7	2			
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2/9/09 SOLUTIONS

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

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The House at ___ Corner"
 - 5 Solemn promises
 - 10 Rise on hind legs
 - 14 Can do
 - 15 Murdered
 - 16 Contemporary of Agatha
 - 17 Ovid's outfit
 - 18 Carver's choice
 - 20 Bowler's target, perhaps
 - 22 Dines sumptuously
 - 23 Grafton of mysteries
 - 24 Stick on
 - 26 Glide on ice
 - 29 Pie-cooling ledge
 - 30 Employ
 - 33 Fragrant conifer
 - 34 Timber borders
 - 37 Not hidden
 - 38 Make free
 - 39 Gives off
 - 40 Puusyfooting
 - 42 Get all melodramatic
 - 43 Letters that blast
 - 44 Transition point
 - 45 Talk continuously
 - 46 Stable mothers
 - 48 Manger morsel
 - 49 Scale notes
 - 52 Power gaps
 - 56 No matter what
- DOWN**
- 1 Maze solution
 - 2 Slender instrument
 - 3 Gymnast Korbut
 - 4 Early advantage
 - 5 Actor Davis
 - 6 Actor Bates
 - 7 Soak up rays
 - 8 Concealed
 - 9 Bit for a horse
 - 10 Polish again
 - 11 Cupid
 - 12 Plenty
 - 13 Cerise and crimson
 - 19 Ring of flowers
 - 21 ___ Vallarta, Mexico
 - 24 Exposures for drying
 - 25 Grow feathers
 - 26 Randolph or Zachary
 - 27 Actor Bacon
 - 28 Thoroughly proficient
 - 29 Long step
 - 30 Labor or student follower
 - 31 Fracas
 - 32 German city
 - 35 Eye maliciously

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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2/11/09

2/9/09 SOLUTIONS

DEMO	PIEP	VACATE										
EVAN	USA	IRONER										
BEGS	LAS	STIGMA										
TRIADS	TEA	FOPS										
	LEANER	ROE										
GREEN	THUMB	MASS										
ITE	OIL	PALMS										
LEGATO		AUGERS										
	GENETICS	GUT										
MADE	STICKING	BY										
APPE	ANYWAY											
DOVE	ELS	ILLEST										
CLIMAX	TED	OREO										
ALLURE	AGO	NICE										
POSSES	ROW	SETS										

SCOOTER GIVEAWAY

CONTEST: East Side Scooters will be giving away one Buddy 50 scooter (valued at \$2,000) to one current Vanderbilt undergraduate or graduate student. To enter, find "Scamper the Scooter Squirrel," who will be hidden in every Vanderbilt Hustler and Vanderbilt Versus from now until Feb. 23, complete that issue's entry form and turn it in. There are two places where you can turn in entry forms: on The Wall (11 a.m. — 1 p.m. on Wednesdays Feb. 11 & 18) or at East Side Scooters (718 Gallatin Ave., from now until Feb. 24). Entry forms received on The Wall count once, and entry forms received at East Side Scooters count five times. Students can only turn in entry forms for themselves and in person at East Side Scooters. One entry form per issue date per student allowed. The scooter will be given away on Wednesday Feb. 25, 2009.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM Feb. 11
brought to you by
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NASHVILLE, TN

Name _____

Vanderbilt e-mail address _____

Contact number _____

Page number Scamper the Scooter Squirrel was found on _____

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from **East Side Scooters**
(valued at \$2,000) and a Scooter Safety Class (courtesy of LearnToRide.org)

HERE'S HOW:

1. Find Scamper the Scooter Squirrel hidden somewhere in this issue.
2. Fill out the entry form on the back page of this issue.
3. Turn in the entry form either by dropping it off on The Wall (11 a.m. — 1 p.m. on Wednesdays Feb. 11 & 18) or anytime during business hours at East Side Scooters (718 Gallatin Ave., from now until Feb. 24). Entry forms received on The Wall count once, and entry forms received at East Side Scooters count five times.

The contest is only open to Vanderbilt undergraduate and graduate students, and the scooter will be given away on

Wednesday, February 25

East Side Scooters
NASHVILLE, TN

718 Gallatin Ave. • 226-1100 • www.eastsidescooters.com
Open Tuesday to Friday from 11-6 and Saturday from 11-4

LearnToRide.org

LAST CHANCE!

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR PORTRAIT TAKEN YET?

Friday is the last day to have your portrait included in the 2009 Commodore yearbook

Yearbook portrait photographers are on campus now for their final week in Sarratt 112, behind the Baseball Glove Lounge

It only takes a few minutes, and there is no cost to sit for your portrait

Seniors: Make your Senior Portrait appointment now at VanderbiltCommodore.com

Non-seniors: Drop by Sarratt 112 anytime between 9-1 p.m. or 2-6 p.m., today through Friday

2009 Commodore Yearbook details at VanderbiltCommodore.com

Over 35,000 unique visitors and hundreds of thousands of ad impressions each month.