



OPINION: Costantino moves to Opinion and defends the honor of 'She' and what was said. SEE PAGE 4

SPORTS: Baseball team takes final game of SEC opening series with Ole Miss, 7-6. SEE PAGE 6

Students called to save lives at Marrowthon

by SARAH BILSKY
News Reporter

Angel Chittaphong is like most typical 7-year-old girls. She loves the color pink, dressing up and playing princess.

Unlike most girls her age, however, Angel was born with alpha thalassemia, a rare blood disorder associated with anemia that requires her to undergo blood transfusions every month.

In 2003, Angel received a stem cell transplant with hopes of curing her disease. Unfortunately, the procedure was unsuccessful, and Angel is in need of a bone marrow transplant. She has been unable to find a donor from within her family, so she and her parents have turned to the National Marrow Donor Program to find a donor.

To help Angel and others like her in need of a bone marrow transplant, this year's Marrowthon, a blood and bone marrow drive, will be held Thursday and Friday.

Cam Chittaphong, Angel's mother, said the family has been searching for a match for Angel for a while.

"We tested everyone in the family ... but no one's marrow matches enough for a transplant. We are looking for someone with an 80-85 percent match," Chittaphong said. "We are reaching out to everyone now to see if we can find someone who is a match."

Chittaphong said finding a donor will save

Angel's life.

"A transplant would cure Angel's disease. This means that she can live a normal life, without having to get the monthly blood transfusions she does now. Also she takes daily medication ... so finding a donor would make her day-to-day life better," she said.

Marrowthon is both a blood and a bone marrow drive. There will be free food, giveaways, Derby Days points and a grand prize drawing for an X-box 360.

Please see **MARROWTHON**, page 3

MARROWTHON

To donate blood or a saliva sample for a possible marrow match go to Sarratt 220 Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Photo Courtesy of Chittaphong family



NIKKY OKORO / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students living in Mayfield Place, which is adjacent to the construction site for the new Highland Quad garage, were denied their request for additional points in the housing lottery.

Mayfield point petition denied

by CHRYSTEL MARINCICH
News Reporter

Vanderbilt Student Government denied Mayfield Place request for compensation despite the on-going construction of the parking garage in Highland Quad.

Mayfield residents requested an extra quarter of a point in the next housing lottery as compensation for the blasting noises that have occurred since the beginning of the academic year. VSG rejected their proposal after deciding it would give Mayfield residents an unfair advantage.

"VSG talked over the Mayfield petition, and they understand the challenge of the construction and the noise. The Mayfield council brought forward credible arguments," said junior Wyatt Smith, VSG president-elect. "It

was a unique year since many sophomores were residing two years in a row in Kissam and Vandy/Barnard, and VSG didn't want to be unfair by giving advantage to a large population of sophomores."

"The idea was to provide compensation through points to people that live in a Mayfield because knowledge of the construction wasn't communicated to them effectively, especially after it was such a competitive process which is why they were hoping for an extra quarter of a point," said junior Fabiani Duarte, speaker of the senate. "Many arguments for and against it came up, and basically in the end, the majority of the senate — I think it was 8 to 1 — said that the compensation of quarter of a point wasn't fair for a number of reasons. People

Please see **HOUSING**, page 3

YAT to connect students, administration

by LAUREN KOENIG
Senior Reporter

Vanderbilt's administration strives to maintain a strong connection to the study body through the four Young Alumni Trustees who serve on the Board of Trust.

"The Young Alumni Trustee is someone who is serious about keeping himself in touch with and informed about students and young alumni issues," said Christina Barnes, the student alumni program coordinator.

According to the Board's Code of Bylaws, the YAT's role is to "forward the knowledge of young alumni concerning the university and their

participation in its activities and service and to bring the viewpoints of current and recent students to the deliberations of the Board."

Barnes said YATs must be dedicated to their position.

"The YAT position is not a 'resume-filler' but rather is a full Board commitment complete with Board committee work and requirements. They are full voting members of the Board," Barnes said.

The current YATs are Elizabeth Bennett ('08), Andrew Wilson ('07), Alice Ji ('06) and Carrie Colvin Alling ('05).

A rigorous selection process determines potential YAT candidates. This year, members

of the Class of 2009 nominated themselves and their peers to be considered by the nominating committee for the YAT slate. The committee, consisting of individuals from the Classes of 2008 and 2010 who were recommended by faculty and staff, then met for four hours in February to narrow the nominees down to three candidates. Finally, the Classes of 2008, 2009 and 2010 will vote this week to determine the 2009 YAT.

According to Barnes, this process is designed to ensure that the YAT isn't chosen randomly.

"In an effort to elect someone truly based upon their character and

Please see **YAT**, page 3

Dance concert



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt Dance Theater's spring concert held Thursday night in Ingram Hall featured works rooted in history as well as contemporary movement. Works were also featured from the student-run Momentum Dance Group and the community.

Calorie bill encourages healthy eating

by KRISTIN PARK
News Reporter

Health-conscious Nashville residents may delight at a new bill which aims to make dining out with awareness even easier.

The Nashville Metro health board passed a new regulation March 5 requiring restaurants with more than 15 locations nationwide (one or more of which is located in Davidson

County) to clearly post calorie information on their menus. The regulation excludes entertainment venues, like movie theaters and lodging facilities.

According to The Tennessean, Nashville, along with New York City and Seattle, is one of the first cities in the country to take action against the growing trend of obesity.

"I don't think it will have as dramatic an impact as some may

hope," said Jamie Pope, lecturer in the School of Nursing, who in the early '90s wrote a book on nutrition called "Low Fat Fast Food Guide."

Pope said she thinks it will mostly affect people who are already health-conscious, pointing out that many people make food choices based on convenience, taste and availability. The system could have unforeseen repercussions, though. Harvard

Please see **CALORIE BILL**, page 3

NEWS INSIDE: Vanderbilt professor appears on History Channel's archeological series 'Warriors'. SEE PAGE 3



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SNAPSHOTS

compiled by CALLIE JONES

WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

TODAY



HIGH **61**, LOW **42**
A.M. showers

TUESDAY



HIGH **69**, LOW **43**
Sunny

WEDNESDAY



HIGH **71**, LOW **47**
Partly cloudy

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SERVICE GUIDE

The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday and Friday during the academic year except for during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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LOCATION

The Hustler offices are in 130 Sarratt Student Center on the Vanderbilt University Campus. Address postal mail to 2301 Vanderbilt Place, VU Station B 351504, Nashville, Tenn. 37235-1504.

AFFILIATIONS

The Hustler is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers, Southern University Newspapers and the Southeastern Journalism Conference and is an associate member of the Associated Press.

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CORRECTIONS

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PRINTER

The Hustler is printed at Franklin Web Printing Company in Franklin, Tenn.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Subscriptions are available for \$125 per semester or \$200 per year. Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler. A pdf subscription order form is available at <http://www.vscmedia.org/hustler.html>

BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Law school dean steps down after 'measurable' success says Zeppos

Vanderbilt News Source—Dean of Vanderbilt Law School, Edward Rubin, is stepping down from his position effective June 30. He will remain on faculty as a teacher and writer.

"Ed came to Vanderbilt with a very clear and bold vision of what he wanted to accomplish, and his success is evident and measurable," said Chancellor Zeppos.

Rubin has had many accomplishments since the beginning of his tenure in July 2005. He has established several new courses, reorganized the curriculum and launched the Ph.D. program in law and economics.

"I want to thank our faculty, staff and alumni for their part in making Vanderbilt the wonderful place it is today and will be in the future," Rubin said. "It's been my pleasure to work with such a talented group and engage in the law school's initiatives."

Chief information security officer named Security Professional of the Year

Vanderbilt News Source—The Information Systems Security Association named Vanderbilt's Chief Information Security Officer, Mark Johnson, Security Professional of the Year.

The ISSA seeks to promote management practices that will ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information resources. Johnson has been in the information security field for more than 16 years and has been at Vanderbilt since August 2004. In 2007, he won the Executive Alliance National Information Security Executive of the Year award in the academic category. He will accept his award at a ceremony on April 22.

VPB brings Chicago comedy group Second City to Vanderbilt March 20

Vanderbilt News Source—Nationally famous comedy act Second City is performing at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Friday, March 20, at Sarratt Cinema. The Chicago-based comedy theater is known for training some of the leaders in comedy, including Chris Farley, Tina Fey, Steve Carell and Stephen Colbert.

The event is sponsored by the VenUe and will feature sketches, songs and improvisations. Tickets are available at the Sarratt Box Office and are free for students and \$15 for faculty, staff and the general public.

Passenger on Frankfurt-to-Detroit flight had TB according to CDC

ROMULUS, Mich. (AP)—The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says a passenger on a Northwest Airlines flight from Frankfurt, Germany, to Detroit has been diagnosed with tuberculosis.

Northwest says the passenger was on Tuesday's Flight 51 to Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

CDC spokeswoman Shelly Diaz tells The Associated Press the risk is low that other passengers might contract tuberculosis. She said Sunday that health officials were seeking to contact 17 passengers seated near the sick passenger so they can be tested for tuberculosis as a "cautionary move."

Space shuttle Discovery blasts off to international station with crew of 7

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Space shuttle Discovery is rocketing toward the international space station after more than a month of delays.

The space shuttle and its crew of seven blasted off Sunday just as the sun was setting. The shuttle is carrying a final set of solar wings for the space station that the astronauts will install.

NASA is thrilled to see Discovery finally on its way. A hydrogen leak Wednesday scrapped the first launch attempt. Before that, valve concerns kept postponing the flight that was originally scheduled to launch in mid-February.

Because of the delays, the mission has been shortened by a day and one of four spacewalks has been dropped. That's because Discovery needs to be gone from the space station before a Russian rocket lifts off to put a fresh crew at the space station March 26.

Recession could 'probably' end this year according to Bernanke

WASHINGTON (AP)—America's recession "probably" will end this year if the government succeeds in bolstering the banking system, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said Sunday in a rare television interview.

Still, Bernanke stressed — as he did to Congress last month — that the prospects for the recession ending this year and a recovery taking root next year hinge on a difficult task: getting banks to lend more freely again and getting the financial markets to work more normally.

"We've seen some progress in the financial markets, absolutely," Bernanke said. "But until we get that stabilized and working normally, we're not going to see recovery."

"But we do have a plan. We're working on it. And, I do think that we will get it stabilized, and we'll see the recession coming to an end probably this year."

Bomb kills 4 US soldiers in eastern Afghanistan, sign of surge in violence

KABUL (AP)—A roadside bomb killed four American soldiers in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday — new evidence of rising violence in a region where clashes and attacks in the first two months of 2009 more than doubled from the same period a year ago.

The spike in violence along the border is an early indication that roadside bombs and other ambushes are likely to surge as thousands of new U.S. forces arrive in Afghanistan this year.

Brig. Gen. Richard Blanchette, a spokesman for the NATO-led force here, confirmed that a roadside bomb killed four U.S. troops in eastern Afghanistan. A U.S. statement indicated the troops were based in Jalalabad.

A suicide bomber, meanwhile, attacked a NATO convoy in Kabul on Sunday but instead killed two passers-by — among 18 people killed Sunday, officials said.

Clashes and attacks in the eastern province of Kunar surged 131 percent in January and February from the same period in 2008, said Lt. Col. Rumi Nielson-Green, a U.S. spokeswoman.

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, MARCH 16- FRIDAY, MARCH 20

• Young Alumni Trustee election

Vote to elect the Vanderbilt Board of Trust's next Young Alumni Trustee. Voting will be held online.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

• Free screening of Oscar-winning film 'Milk'

To celebrate the start of Rainbow ReVU, Lambda is sponsoring a free screening of "Milk." Winner of the Academy Awards for Best Screen Play and Best Actor (Sean Penn), "Milk" follows the story of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay politician. Following the film will be a discussion led by members of the political science department. The film will be shown in Sarratt Cinema at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

• Baseball: Vanderbilt vs. South Alabama

Starting at 4 p.m., watch the Commodores battle the South Alabama Jaguars on Hawkins Baseball Field.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

• Baseball: Vanderbilt vs. Belmont

Starting at 6 p.m., the Commodores play their neighbors, the Belmont Bruins.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

• Vanderbilt Red Cross blood drive

From 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., donate blood in the First Tennessee Theater of the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. Appointments are strongly recommended and can be made at www.givelife.org by logging in and entering the sponsor code "vandy19."

SNAPSHOT

KD SHAMROCK: DODGEBALL FOR A CAUSE



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

First-year student Elise Sarda, member of Kappa Delta sorority competes during the Kappa Delta Shamrock dodgeball tournament. Sigma Chi fraternity won the event, which benefitted Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee.

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MARROWTHON: Painless test may lead to match

From **MARROWTHON**, page 1
Students interested in signing up for the registry will need to fill out some paperwork and give a cheek swab that will be typed and tested. Once entered into the National Marrow Donor Program, the student may be called within days, months, years or never called at all with a match.

seniors Charles Clark and Rebecca Kastan said they want to encourage as many students as possible to sign up for the registry, especially since the process takes only a few minutes.
"We get DNA from a mouth swab; there are no needles, and it is painless, easy," Clark said.
Kastan registered as a donor at a previous Marrowthon and

several months later found she was match for a young man in Australia. She said it was one of the best things she has done at Vanderbilt.
"I got a call about a year and a half ago that I was a match for a boy with acute lymphatic leukemia, and I had the opportunity to save his life," Kastan said. "Signing up for the registry makes you a lifelong

member of a hero list for a lot of people. It gives you the opportunity to save a life."
Chittaphong said she hopes many students will sign up for the bone marrow registry.
"We would appreciate everyone coming out, not just to help Angel, but everyone else who is waiting with a life-threatening disease, so just please come on out, and get

into the registry, so you can save someone's life. Also if you donate blood, I know there is a shortage with the Red Cross, and you can help not only us, but also the whole community," Chittaphong said.
Marrowthon 2009 will be held in Sarratt Student Center Room 220 on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. ■

HOUSING: Extra point request rejected

From **HOUSING**, page 1
living in Morgan and Lewis, who are closer to the construction, wouldn't get compensation and also because of historic reasons where other students that complained didn't receive compensation."

In the past, Memorial Hall residents who lived near construction requested compensation, but they were denied for the same reasons.

Both Smith and Duarte said that the administration and Mayfield residents could have approached the situation in a more efficient way but at the same time acknowledged that there were some additional factors influencing the process.

"VSG representatives didn't hear about their concerns until last month and it is possible that we could have done other allowances for the students, but I understand that they were busy talking with housing," Smith said.

"I know there was an article about the construction last spring, but one article isn't enough. I think it could have been helpful if the administration had communicated about the construction a little bit more," Duarte said.

Many Mayfield residents expressed both disappointment and understanding regarding the VSG resolution.

"I think some sort of recognition would have been nice, since we were very inconvenienced by the construction... I understand VSG's resolution and maybe we should have asked for another sort of compensation," said sophomore Mark Nordby, a Mayfield resident. ■

First-year seminar makes contribution to green effort

by **HAYLEY KARLAN**
News Reporter

Few undergraduates can say they are published authors, and even fewer can claim the accomplishment as first-year students.



AYERS

But after writing the 64-page "Future Trends: How to Live Sustainably," the 16 students of Earth and Environmental Sciences Professor John Ayers' first-year seminar can.

After looking on Amazon.com for books on sustainable living and not

finding many titles, Ayers decided to have his students write one as a unique and useful class project. The students picked their own topics and wrote 6-8 page papers that served as their first term papers as well as the chapters of the book. The guide explains what living sustainably means and how to overcome the challenges it presents.

"Sustainability is by definition the ability of an ecosystem to maintain ecological processes and functions, biological diversity and productivity. ... It is the ability of a system to function without destroying itself," wrote first-year student Jack McCallum in the first

chapter of the book.

The chapters cover everything from how to become a vegetarian to how to build a green city. One chapter contains an overview of sustainability efforts at Vanderbilt, highlighting the efforts of SustainVU to make campus eco-friendly. Ayers said the students had a lot of flexibility in choosing and researching their topics and were genuinely interested in what they wrote about.

"It's nice to have something concrete that others can read. Maybe it will make a difference," Ayers said, also adding that the students are proud of the work they have produced.

Whether or not the guide will get the attention of students on campus is hard to know. Even students who try to live sustainably may not know about the guide or feel the need to read it.

"I do care about sustainable living. I always turn out my lights and things like that, but I wouldn't read a freshman class's guide to sustainable living," said first-year student Sarah Walker. "What authority does a freshman class at Vanderbilt have that I couldn't get from a more academic source?"

The guide can be viewed online at <http://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/page/h5dg6A>. ■

Vanderbilt program to make appearance on History Channel

by **TAYLOR DAVIS**
News Reporter

The Vanderbilt Research Program in Guatemala is attracting national media attention after being featured on an episode of the History Channel's series "Warriors."

Each episode of "Warriors," hosted by Terry Schappert, examines the rituals, technology and strategies of a different warrior group, including the Spartans, Vikings and Samurai. "Maya Armageddon" first airs this weekend and includes commentary from anthropology professor Arthur Demarest. He speaks about the history of the Mayan collapse and his

research done in the ancient Maya capital city of Cancun, Guatemala.

"(Programs like "Warriors") are important because academics need to reach out to the public. It's a major part of our job," Demarest said.

Demarest has contributed to over 200 articles and chapters in books on pre-Columbian archaeology, anthropology and religion. He has previously been featured on the History Channel, the Discovery Channel and in National Geographic.

Demarest is now in his 28th field



DEMAREST

season and has been researching the Mayan collapse since 1986. He spends around 8 months of the year on archaeological digs in Central America and has recently worked to develop the first school and clinic in the capital city. He was also a part of the Vanderbilt Research Program's decision to purchase a park site to be managed by Mayan people.

In addition to digging in Cancun, Demarest and other researchers further examine artifacts such as ceramics and jade in laboratories in Guatemala City. Guatemala City is one of the richest cities in the country and is home to the largest source of jade in the world.

"Maya Armageddon" focuses on a battle that occurred around 800 A.D. in the city of Dos Pilas during which unknown invaders attacked the city and executed the royal family in Cancun. This battle changed the Mayans' approach to warfare, and some historians believe it was a reason for the disappearance of the civilization.

"Students should tune in because the program talks about the collapse in a real way and provides a good angle on understanding warriors," Demarest said.

"Maya Armageddon" aired on Sunday at 11 p.m. and will air again today at 3 a.m. ■

YAT: Juniors, seniors vote this week

From **YAT**, page 1
commitment to Vanderbilt, as opposed to mere name recognition, the classes most immediately surrounding the YAT slate vote," Barnes said.
Voting for the 2009 Young

Alumni Trustee will take place online from March 16 to 20. Juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to place their votes on iMacs set up in the Sarratt Promenade during the Grad Fair on

Wednesday and Thursday or vote online. Alumni can also vote online.

The votes will be recorded on March 23 and the results will be announced no later than March 25. ■



ERIC GLASSER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

A proposed Nashville Metro bill would require local chain restaurants to post calorie contents next to food items on menus.

CALORIE BILL: Nutrition facts may encourage healthier choices

From **CALORIE BILL**, page 1
University posted calories in their dining establishments on campus for a period of time but desisted when they discovered a link between the system and disordered eating among students.

"People need to be educated about how these 'numbers' for calories fit into their daily needs — a 500-calorie sandwich may sound like a lot, but when it constitutes lunch within a 2000-calorie diet, it can certainly fit," Pope said.

Pope said there are certainly fast food options with almost astronomically high calorie counts which may be more unhealthy than people imagine.

"A Monster Burger at Hardees weighs in at 1,100 to

1,300 calories," Pope said.
Some of the larger national chain restaurants already have nutritional information, Pope said. Based on reactions to the recent trans fat labeling requirement, she predicts that as a result of the new regulation, restaurants will make efforts to make high-calorie best sellers healthier and offer more low-calorie options. Until then, she suggested that when eating at a fast food chain, avoid the fried items and be aware of how much cheese, mayonnaise and other such condiments are added.
"Subway has some great options, and I love all the options at Cheeseburger Charley's," Pope said.

Restaurant industry

representatives, concerned about costs of menu changes, appealed to the Metro Board to wait for the results of the ensuing vote on the federal Labeling Education and Nutrition Act of 2008 so it would not be necessary to change their menus twice to make up for any disparities between regulations.

The LEAN Act is a bill much like the one passed in Nashville, but at the national level. It incorporates restaurants with over 20 locations and specifies different places the new caloric information should be posted along with other small differences. It also reserves the right to add requirements to those already listed should it be in the interest of the public. ■

March 18
Four-person (Chaffin)
apartment doubles ballots (BLUE) due

March 20
Two-person apartment
(Morgan / Lewis)
(PINK) ballots due

March 23
Three-person apartment
(Morgan / Lewis)
(GOLD) ballots due

March 26
Four-person (Scales\Vaughn)
suite doubles ballots (GREEN) due

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What's in a name?



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

This past Friday, the Justice Department introduced a court filing for federal judges seeking clarity on the U.S. government's justification for holding the remaining 241 detainees at Guantanamo Bay. It was announced that the Gitmo detainees would no longer be termed as "enemy combatants." At this point, the Obama administration still legally claims the right to hold detainees without criminal charges. The definition of who and what these detainees are has just undergone a slight change.

The Obama administration declared that the "president has the authority to detain persons ... who were part of, or substantially supported, Taliban or Al Qaeda forces." The big difference between that and the definition provided by the Bush administration is the word "substantially," leaving the clarification only a little less broad than before. It seems that the addition of one word is symbolic of the Obama administration's direction of change, but it really holds no significance in policy whatsoever. Some believe that within the broad realm of interpretation, though, over half of the prisoners detained in Gitmo could possibly be set free.

President Barack Obama made many promises regarding Guantanamo Bay throughout his campaign, and his initial moves as president do not seem to be following up. He has taken action when it comes to the detainees and their rights, but he has not done much when it comes to actually shutting down the prison. It is all still talk right now. I find it hard to understand why closing the prison would still be the ideal move, especially after Attorney General Eric Holder's visit to Gitmo last month. He declared it is "well run," and a Pentagon report was issued saying the detention camp meets the requirements of the Geneva conventions.

One of the reasons why talk of removing the camp has been quieted may be the lack of good alternatives. Even if over half of the detainees were sent home because they had not "substantially" supported Al-Qaeda or the Taliban, there would still be dangerous war criminals remaining. Human rights advocates should not forget that some of the prisoners they are supporting were the same ones who knew about Sept. 11 and other terrible terrorist attacks. They are the same ones who were caught right before individual suicide bombing attacks or in groups that trained and funded other terrorists and their activities. According to Pentagon reports, 12 percent of those already released have re-engaged in terrorist activities.

One of the suggested alternatives is sending the prisoners back to their own countries to be prosecuted and held. This is hard when countries like Saudi Arabia and Yemen have terrible records at keeping track of prisoners that the U.S. has sent back in the past. Some have also suggested that the U.S. open up a detention center on home soil, but the Senate voted this suggestion down, and who can blame them? Not many voters would re-elect a senator who allowed terrorist war criminals to be harbored in their own state. The only place for these types of criminals would probably be on a secluded island somewhere far away from civilians and any means of escape. Guantanamo Bay provides for this, and oh, three meals a day, a library, means to pray and exercise whenever inmates would like, and other luxuries POWs could never dream of having in most other countries throughout the world.

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

EDITORIAL

New restaurant bill lacks effectiveness

Legislatures across the country have recently tried to pass bills requiring various types of restaurants to post the calorie counts on their menu. New York was one of the first cities to pass such regulations, though it is limited to restaurants with more than 15 locations nationwide. After the restaurants failed in repealing the ordinance, Los Angeles and Nashville followed.

The new bill of course brings up certain important questions. First of all, will posting the calories actually reduce the consumption of unhealthy foods, and secondly, does the government have a right to control citizen's personal habits?

Jamie Pope, a lecturer in the School of Nursing, claimed the calorie lists would only affect those who are already health-conscious, citing that most people base their decisions of taste and convenience and not just nutrition content. Furthermore, there is some confusion to what constitutes a healthy meal both calorie and nutrition content-wise.

More importantly, however, does Nashville Metro really have the right (or need) to pass just such legislation? It is true large fast food chains are notorious for deceptive marketing. For example, McDonald's salads — when combined with the dressing — become one of the most heavily caloric items on the menu. While some consumers were not aware, it is safe to say most diners are aware of the health hazards presented by such chains.

The government should play a role in protecting citizens from bad business practices, but personal responsibility is equally important. Nashville Metro attempts to protect people from themselves, justifying their actions by citing public health concerns. It is true obesity is a rising problem, and heart disease and diabetes are developing into major issues facing the American public, but in the end, people should be relied on to make correct decisions for themselves.

A player 'Wirth' noting



NEILY TODD
Columnist

Jay Cutler, David Price, Shan Foster — names of great Vanderbilt athletes from the recent past roll off the tongue fairly easily. After our women's basketball team rocked North Little Rock March 8 and claimed the Southeastern Conference Championship, the name Christina Wirth has to be added to the list. Wirth poured in 20 points and the Commodores knocked out Auburn 61-54 to win the SEC Tournament title.

Rarely has a single Vanderbilt athlete brought such acclaim to our school. The Commodores just won their second SEC tournament title in the last three years, and Wirth led the Commodores in scoring for all three SEC tournament games and was named the tournament's most valuable player. Like a throwback to the "Iron Man" days of Cal Ripken, Wirth played every minute of the SEC tournament for Vanderbilt. She is a two-year team captain and was named a unanimous All-SEC selection by the league's coaches.

But there is much more to Wirth than her success on the court, and that is why her contributions to Vanderbilt go beyond the sports page. During the fall 2008 semester, Wirth achieved a 4.0 grade point average while also beginning to work toward a graduate degree from Vanderbilt's School of Nursing. She is a five-time honoree on the Vanderbilt Dean's List, and she has made the SEC academic honor roll in every year of her career.

As a result of her lofty academic credentials, Wirth was recently named to the 2009 ESPN The

Magazine Academic All-America third team. She was named the SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year and is a finalist for the prestigious Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, which is the same award Shan Foster won last year. Vanderbilt has long prided itself on being a university that places stringent academic standards on its athletes. These standards are often criticized by those who complain about Vanderbilt's ability to compete against other schools while recruiting players. Wirth is truly the embodiment of the scholar-athlete ideal and proves that athletes can be as successful in the classroom as they are on the court or field.

During her four years at Vanderbilt, Wirth has been a tremendous role model for the hundreds of elementary and junior high school girls who attend Vanderbilt basketball games. She spends countless hours signing autographs and her many contributions to the community don't slow her commitment to both schoolwork and basketball. For example, she was named to the 2009 SEC Community Service Team.

Recently, Vanderbilt has been blessed with its share of great players like Matt Freije, Brandt Snedeker, Earl Bennett and Pedro Alvarez, but any list of great Vanderbilt student athletes has to include Wirth. Next up for the Commodores — a little March Madness and the NCAA tournament. Vanderbilt couldn't ask for a better face on this national stage.

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

A moral argument



CAROLYN PIPPEN
Columnist

Last week, President Barack Obama signed an executive order overturning a Bush-era restriction on the federal funding of stem cell research. As the easiest way to gain public favor these days is to sign anything that includes the terms "Bush-era" and "overturn," the decision was quickly and eagerly applauded by our nation's liberal base, as well as by The Hustler. While I agree the decision shows a promising amount of proactivity on the part of our new leader and opens doors to significant scientific advancement, it is important that we take the time to completely dissect this issue before jumping to dramatic conclusions.

First of all, scientists have not been living in a "dark period" over the last eight years. Bush's 2001 policy did not stop research using adult stem cells, and it did not stop the use of the 60 pre-existing lines of embryonic stem cells; it simply denied federal funding to the development of new lines. In other words, it temporarily removed the governmental stamp of approval from the expansion of that particular subset of research to which a large portion of our country has strong moral objections.

Oh, crap. I wasn't supposed to use that word. "Moral." According to Aimee Sobhani's column, the government should not hold the right to ban things on the grounds that they are inherently "immoral." You know, things like thief and murder. The fact is the vast majority of our nation's legal policies have grounds in human morality, which is why anytime I see the word "immoral" in quotes like that, I get nervous. The ability of our nation's citizens to determine right from wrong makes up the very foundation of our democracy, and that power cannot and should not be invalidated.

For the record, the destruction of human embryos, and thereby the destruction of human life, is not an "extreme" form of the pro-life movement, it's pretty much right smack in the center of it. As Sobhani pointed out, however, even some of us stubborn, ignorant "anti-abortion people" understand the complexities of such a debate. Personally, I agree the cost of an embryo that will most likely go unused in exchange for invaluable scientific discovery is an admissible one, but it wasn't an easy decision to make, and quite frankly I'm tired of people acting like I just showed up late to the party where everyone else was smart enough to get to first.

The expansion of stem cell research is not a black and white issue, and the reason I know this is because Obama promised his decision would not lead to human cloning, a process Sobhani deemed "obviously immoral." Laying aside the sheer hypocrisy of that statement, this consensus tells me all of us have a sort of moral breaking point at which we decide the costs have outweighed the benefits, and the inherent respect for human life wins out. This point comes at different times for everyone, and we will most likely never all agree, which is why I thank God for the two-party system in moments like this.

Disagreement is good, it means we're asking the hard questions, and changing policies is even better; it means we will never move too far too fast in one direction. Was I excited when I saw Obama had finally reopened the gates to new and unprecedented medical advancements? Of course. But my excitement was cautious, and yours should be too.

—Carolyn Phippen is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at carolyn.m.pippen@vanderbilt.edu.

THE VERDICT		
Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff. Compiled by Thomas Shattuck		
Washing machines		L'Observatore Romano, the semi-official Vatican newspaper, says the washing machine perhaps did more to liberate women in the 20th century than the pill or the right to work. And I was going to guess the iron.
Cameroon		Cameroonian security forces have smashed up the street stalls, where thousands of people earn a living, to give the capital Yaounde a face-lift for a visit by Pope Benedict next week.
Kangaroos		An Australian couple thought they were being attacked by an intruder when a kangaroo crashed through their bedroom window then jumped on top of them, gouging holes in the furniture and smearing blood all over the walls.
GEZ		A German mathematician who died 450 years ago was sent a letter demanding he pay overdue television license fees. GEZ broadcast fee collection office sent the bill to the last home address of Adam Ries, an algebra expert who bought the house in 1525.
Salt		Alarmed by high death rates from strokes in Portugal, deputies from the ruling Socialist party submitted a bill to Parliament to slash the use of salt in bread, blamed for many blood pressure problems.
Canada		Six high-risk prisoners escaped a Canadian jail last summer after spending four months chipping a path to freedom with nail clippers. The prisoners, four of whom faced murder charges, used their tools to break through a brick exterior wall.
Society		German 20-somethings would ditch their spouses and do without a car in a heartbeat if they had to choose between having them, Internet access or a mobile phone, according to an industry study.

OPINION POLICY

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

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com. Letters via e-mail must come from

a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well 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 hustler.newseditor@gmail.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

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

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A girl's defense of 'What she said'

CLAIRE CONSTANTINO
Columnist

My mother always told me that if I couldn't say something nice about a person, then I shouldn't say anything at all. Boy, I have been breaking that rule a lot whenever I talk about She.

But don't get all high-and-mighty on me, readers, because you have broken the rule too! By She, of course I mean that poor girl whose sex life we're always talking about. In case you have forgotten your participation in her character assassination, maybe this typical example will jog your memory: Just the other day my friend was doing some engineering homework and said, "This is really hard!" Instead of responding with sympathy or offering to help her, I simply replied, "That's what She said." You and I both know you've done that before as well.

How do I know what She is saying all the time? I've never spoken to, or even met, this girl. In no other part of my life do I exhibit such clairvoyant tendencies. In fact, my logic professor is lecturing, right at me twice a week, and I hardly ever know what he's trying to tell me.

I wish my weird comprehension of She's thoughts and feelings translated to my professors' rambling lectures and potential love interests' cryptic communications. And why is She such a slutty person? While I am not a psychology major, I have watched Oprah before, so I feel qualified to guess at the underlying reasons for She's promiscuity. Clearly, She and her father had a troubled relationship that she is working out through reckless encounters with other men. I would also presume that She does not have a strong support network of friends and family to bolster her confidence, so She thinks

these weird situations we're all talking about are what she deserves. If only She's mother would have hugged her more.

If those guesses are true, then perhaps we should all try to encourage She to think more of herself and start saying "That's what She said" after positive things like, "I made an A on that test — I must be pretty smart after all!" But while we're on the topic of improving She's character, maybe She should take some responsibility for the world's low opinion of her and make some personal changes. Keep your dang pants on, She! Or at least learn a little tact and keep your freaky sexcapades to yourself every once in a while! Pardon my passion, but I'm just so worried that She is getting herself stuck on a path to dysfunction. Although I've never met this She, I do feel somewhat responsible for her happiness because she is an undeniable part of my life. On the other hand, it's possible I'm just trying to build up some good karma after spreading such kinky stories about her love life.

I think if I had one suggestion Vanderbilt students could easily incorporate into their lives to help save She's reputation, it would be to simply quit saying "That's what She said." Don't misunderstand me, I would never suggest we should all grow up and quit laughing at sexual innuendos. Instead, I propose that we popularize a coded substitute for the phrase in order to save any shred of dignity She may have left. I would suggest "ding," a word my friends and I find a perfect substitute because it's faster and you can do it in public. Ding! See? Its genius is obvious and it's nicer to She.

—Claire Costantino is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at claire.v.costantino@vanderbilt.edu.

Fraternal physics

PHIL INGRAM
Guest Columnist

Contrary to popular belief, the first fraternities were formed as a way to assist those struggling in physics. It was discovered that at prestigious universities around the world, students were having difficulty not with the mathematics behind physics, but with the memorization of all the Greek letters. Students could not keep their omegas and thetas separate until one day, two identical twins known only as "the brothers" organized a house in which they could practice physics.

Due to their intimate knowledge of the Greek lettering system and the practice they received on the side, the brothers quickly became the top of their class in physics. Others wondered how they had become so knowledgeable, but the brothers decided previously not to divulge their secrets to those who were not worthy. To become worthy, other students needed to accomplish such physics-related tasks such as memorizing the house's song (the study of wavelengths), submitting to paddling (the study of collisions), and running naked through the lawns (the study of aerodynamics). Only once these tasks were accomplished could the so-called "pledges" become brothers as well.

When women first started attending universities en masse in the late 1800s and early 1900s, they fell behind in physics without an institution to help them. They asked the brothers if they too could become members, but the brothers were reluctant to admit them. Admitting women into the fraternity meant they could no longer call each other brothers and would have to instead refer to each other as members — a step they were convinced required too much effort to be practical. Also, the women were not white males who were well-off, a prerequisite for admittance. Instead, the brothers helped the ladies form houses of their own, which they called sororities. In a spurt of genius, the two original brothers came up with a spectacularly innovative and original name for the women at these houses: "sisters."

While sororities have been around for some time now, the attention of most is still focused on the frat houses because that is where the most intensive study of physics occurs. Some of the houses are even referred to as "dry houses," which may seem unappealing to those who are unenlightened, but it is in these houses that the best work is accomplished. One must note that the term "dry" here means dull or boring, referring to what most students study in physics.

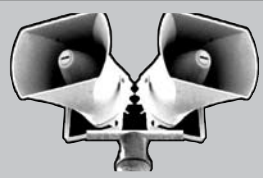
Dry physics is simply the unrealistic, frictionless approach to physics as a whole. Because of this reason, in these dry houses students dump liters upon liters of beer on the floor in an effort to remove friction. One should not make the common mistake of associating dry fraternities with a lack of alcohol.

However, the studying does not end there. Every couple of weekends, a fraternity will host a study party in which students and brothers alike give up their weekend evenings to study physics (one should note that in the words "study party," the "study" part is silent). In preparation for these study parties, the brothers buy tons of beer to be dumped on the floor (true physics students only go to those fraternity houses where they know there will be lots of beer and therefore very low friction). Once the study parties begin, guys grind with girls in an attempt to master not only translational motion but also rotational motion. The guys who excel most at this sometimes even bring their study partners back to their dorm rooms for an extended study session into other subjects such as chemistry and anatomy (these are the type of students who love knowledge so much they desire to be experts in multiple subjects). Alas, all good things must end. The evening comes to a close and the students go back to classes until the next eagerly-anticipated study party.

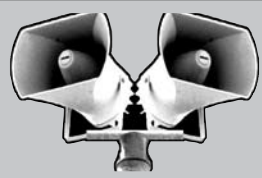
As it is easy to see, the Greek community is essential to the survival of young physicists. Without Greek Life, the Vanderbilt physics department would have closed down decades ago. Instead, new physicists are leaving Vanderbilt every year to practice the extremely dry subject of string theory (it is so dry one cannot even perform observable experiments that relate to it). Some people wonder how Vanderbilt does it, and the answer is clear: Greek life. Thank God for the Greeks.

—Phil Ingram is a first-year student in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at philip.d.ingram@vanderbilt.edu.

As it is easy to see, the Greek community is essential to the survival of young physicists. Without Greek Life, the Vanderbilt Physics department would have closed down decades ago.



Annoyed?
Need to rant?



Have an issue you'd like to voice your opinion on?

E-mail the Opinion Page at
opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com

The Office of Active Citizenship and Service (OACS) recognizes Vanderbilt students for their tremendous service to the local, national, and global community.

In the fall 2008 semester, 41 OACS-advised service organizations provided 2,124 students with opportunities to serve.

In four months, these students invested 17,578 hours of service in the community!

These student organizations also donated \$25,825 to charitable organizations.

Their service and donations benefited child advocacy, AIDS care, affordable housing, education, global health, cancer research, senior citizens, Special Olympics, animal rescue, environmental protection, human rights, and college scholarships among others.

Service Matters at Vanderbilt!

Learn how you can get involved at the Service Org Fair
Thurs., March 26th, 3-5pm on Stambaugh Lawn (Commons)

Co-Sponsored by The Commons & The Office of Active Citizenship and Service

Service organizations referenced in this data include: Alpha Phi Omega, Alternative Spring Break, Alternative Summer Break, Alternative Winter Break, American Red Cross, AMIGOS, Amnesty International, Are You MAD?, Best Buddies, Circle K, Connecting Hearts, Connect-Now, LEAD, Engineers Without Borders, Face AIDS, Fashion for a Cause, FREE, Glamour Gals, Global Health Council, Habitat for Humanity, Invisible Children, Manna Project, Operation Smile, Pencil Projects, RADR, Sierra Club, Small Gestures, STAND, Students for a Free Tibet, Students for Kenya, Students for Students, SYNERGY, The LIFE Project, Unite for Sight, Vanderbilt Cancer Society, Vandy CARES, Vanderbilt EMS, Vanderbilt Loves Animals, Vanderbilt Students for Nonviolence, Vanderbuddies, & WishMakers.

SPORTS

COLUMN

Commodores deserve a No. 3 seed

by GEOFF HUTCHINSON
Sports Reporter

It's already a foregone conclusion — the 2008-2009 Vanderbilt Commodores women's basketball team will be the team cutting down the nets in St. Louis when the NCAA women's basketball tournament is finished. The question is: What is the path they will take to get there?

Based on their performance this season, the women should be a No. 3 seed in the tournament, preferably in the Raleigh Regional, so they can play closer to home and avoid the undefeated and odds-on favorites to win the championship, the Connecticut Huskies. Currently, the Commodores are projected to be slotted as a No. 4 seed in the Raleigh Regional, according to ESPN. However, that clearly is too low of a seeding, as the No. 15 Commodores are a team much better than a 4 seed in the tournament. In some projections, the Commodores are even seeded lower than

the Lady Volunteers, a team the Commodores had a better record than in conference play and overall during the season.

The women finished second in the Southeastern Conference during the regular season and finished the season off with a great performance in the SEC Tournament, defeating SEC champion and probable No. 2-seed Auburn; LSU, a lock for the tournament as well; and Georgia, a team currently on the bubble for the tournament, to win the tournament title for the second time in three years, and third time since 2004. The team went 4-3 against teams ranked in the top 25 in terms of RPI, so they have shown up to play against the quality teams. Two of those three losses came earlier in the year before the team found the cohesion that they have shown as of late, winning seven of their last nine.

The one negative on their resume are some bad losses to Michigan and Mississippi. Both teams have RPIs that are below 100 and were games that the Commodores should have



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler
The Vanderbilt women's basketball team has compiled a 24-8 record, including a 4-0 mark against top-10 opponents, and an SEC Tournament title in the 2008-2009 season. Geoff Hutchinson writes that the Commodores deserve a No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

won. However, you cannot single out individual games and judge the Commodores on those; you have to look at the whole profile of Vanderbilt, and from there, you can see

the team is deserving of a high seed in the tournament. Their RPI is currently 24, so they pass the eye test of what a top team in the tournament should look like.

Come later tonight, we will find out what the selection committee has in store for Vandy, but hopefully they are fair in their assessment of the girls and their play this season. ■

SEC champs await their NCAA seeding

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

The Vanderbilt women's basketball team won't have to hold its breath on Selection Monday.

The 15th-ranked Commodores will learn their seeding and first-round match-up opponent and location tonight on ESPN's NCAA Selection Show at 6 p.m. They earned an automatic bid and 10th consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament when they won the Southeastern Conference Tournament on March 8, their third title since 2004 and second in the last three years.

The team invites Commodore fans to join them for a special viewing of the show in the Admiral Room in Memorial Gym, starting this evening at 5:30 p.m.

"We're excited," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "It's changed. It used to be Sunday with the men, and now it's separate Monday. We'll just be watching and having a good meal together and enjoying it together as a team."

Defense steps up

The Commodores were hard to beat during the regular season. They were impossible to beat if they scored at least 70 points, as they notched an 18-0 record when they reached that mark. Vanderbilt went just 3-8 during the regular season when they failed to reach 70.

Yet in their run to the SEC title, the Commodores never scored more than 69 points in wins over Georgia, LSU and Auburn, all teams Vanderbilt had met before this season. This didn't concern Balcomb.

"I think by the time you're playing people for a second and third time this late in the SEC — and we have a lot of returning players from last year — everybody knows what we do so they take your strengths away," she said. "Those games, you're going to have to win on defense."

The Commodores never shot better than 40.7 percent in any of the three games but won the turnover battle every time. They also held Auburn to 54 points, its lowest point total of the season, and LSU to just 47, its second lowest total.

"You watch every SEC



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Hannah Tuomi (15), pictured here while being defended by Auburn's Kiki Carrier (33), is still recovering from a stress fracture in her left ankle. Tuomi leads the team in rebounding.

tournament that we've won games are in the 40s and the (and) by that last game, the 50s and you're not shooting

as well," Balcomb said. "That's just because each other's team knows each other so well."

Despite their offensive struggles in the tournament, the Commodores are still 14th in the country in field goal percentage (45.4).

Tuomi's status unknown

Sophomore forward Hannah Tuomi's availability for the NCAA Tournament is still unknown as she continues to recover from a stress fracture in her left ankle.

"That's day to day. We'll certainly keep looking at it," Balcomb said. "Hopefully we'll get her back."

Tuomi has missed the past four games with the injury, including Vanderbilt's regular season finale 75-66 loss to Tennessee. The Commodores' leading rebounder at 5.9 per game, Tuomi was sorely missed as the Lady Volunteers dominated the glass, 48-31.

She played just 14 minutes in her last game against Ole Miss, a 71-69 loss on Feb. 22.

Tuomi also leads the team in field goal percentage (.565). Her scoring average of 11.4 points per game is second behind senior Christina Wirth's 15.8. ■

Men's basketball doesn't receive NIT bid

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

The NCAA Tournament bracket was announced Sunday and, as expected, Vanderbilt didn't hear its name called. The National Invitational Tournament bracket was also announced Sunday, and less expectedly, Vanderbilt was left out of it, too.

For the first time since 2003, the Commodores (19-12, 8-8 Southeastern Conference) will not be participating in either the NIT or the NCAA Tournament. Seven wins in their last 10 regular season games was not enough; Vanderbilt could have helped its case by going deep in the SEC tournament but was bounced in the first round by Alabama.

It was not known at press time whether Vanderbilt had been invited to two of the more recently introduced postseason college basketball tournaments: the College Basketball Invitational or the National Collegiate Basketball Tournament.

It was a down year for the SEC as only three teams got NCAA bids: 20th-ranked LSU, Tennessee and Mississippi State. The Bulldogs got an automatic bid by virtue of winning the SEC Tournament on Sunday.

Auburn, Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina all received NIT bids, with the Tigers and Gators both receiving No. 1 seeds after barely missing out on the NAAs. Kentucky, who lost five of its last six games, had its 17-year NCAA bid streak snapped. ■

Women's tennis falls in close match at Arkansas

by TRAVIS YOUNG
For the Hustler

Vanderbilt freshmen Jackie Wu, Chelsea Preeg and Heather Steinbauer registered singles wins, but in the end, it wasn't enough as the Commodores fell 4-3 to 29th-ranked Arkansas at the George M. Billingsley Tennis Center Sunday. The loss drops Vanderbilt to 4-3 overall and 1-2 in the Southeastern Conference while Arkansas improves to 8-3 and 3-1 in the SEC.

Arkansas got on the board first as they captured the doubles point en route to taking all three doubles matches from the Commodores. The doubles point proved to be key in the end as the Razorbacks held off the Commodore comeback.

Vanderbilt quickly tied the match up at 1-1, as Preeg cruised through Emily Carbone in the No. 4 singles spot,

winning in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1. The win moved Preeg's record to a team-best 19-6 overall and 5-1 in dual season. The Razorbacks would regain the lead as Nanar Airapetian defeated Vanderbilt's Courtney Ulerly in No. 5 singles.

Trailing 3-1 with three singles matches yet to be determined, the Commodores rallied to take two of the last three matches. Vanderbilt cut the Arkansas lead back to one with Steinbauer's straight set win over Kate Lukomskaya, 6-2, 7-5, pushing her winning streak to five matches and her overall record to 13-4.

Following Steinbauer's match, the Razorbacks were able to clinch the overall match when 97th-ranked Anouk Tigu defeated Vanderbilt's Keilly Ulerly, 6-4, 6-4 in No. 2 singles.

Wu closed out the meet with a straight set (7-5, 6-1) victory



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Chelsea Preeg won again Sunday to improve her record to a team-best 19-6.

over Ela Kaluder at the No. 3 singles slot. Wu improved to 18-7 overall and 3-3 in dual play. ■

COLUMN

Mannish boys

by MATT POPKIN
Sports Columnist

A few years ago, it was hard to miss the clip of Oklahoma State head football coach Mike Gundy screaming at the top of his lungs at a press conference, "Come after me! I'm a man! I'm 40!" as it was soon on loop on the ESPN family of networks and parodied across the Internet.

But lost in the spectacle created by Gundy was what caused it. A reporter had written a story critical of the recently benched quarterback, Bobby Reid, painting him as a momma's boy who was too scared to play.

Here at Vanderbilt, it's not uncommon to hear such comments. Certain graduating quarterbacks and 7-foot-tall Australians have taken an unfair amount of grief on campus for being "soft" as injuries and sickness made it hard for them to perform. But I'll be damned if I know two kids at this school who would handle the pressure of being the face of a program any better.

I'd love to see those who rag on these athletes stand up to that type of scrutiny. I know I wouldn't last more than five minutes. If you want to use the flawed idea that athletes are just in school for sports as an excuse to personally criticize them then fine, the rest of us students are just here for school. So every time you blow a Spanish pop quiz or save a paper for the last minute and mail it in, think of that as dropping a conference game because you went 1-8 from the field and pulled down only three boards.

And if you want, I'll be in your face screaming, my face turning red just like Coach Gundy's. Too bad then no one would hear a word I was saying, just like no one heard the rest of the coach's speech.

"Here's all that (Bobby Reid) did. He goes to class. He's respectful to the media. He's respectful to the public. And he's a good kid, and he's not a professional athlete, and he doesn't deserve to be kicked when he's down.

"If you want to go at an athlete, one of my athletes, you go after one that doesn't do the right things. You don't downgrade him because he does everything right and may not play as well on Saturday," Gundy said.

But no sports fan has memorized those two paragraphs like they will the recruit rankings for the next crop of 18-year-old high school seniors. Those rankings include hyped Vanderbilt commit John Jenkins, touted as perhaps the best shooting guard in the country, who somehow in the next year, at an age when most kids have trouble merely functioning on their own, will have the world put on his shoulders.

Know the name Lenny Cooke? He was rated the second best small forward in the nation out of high school in 2002, right behind future All-Everything and gold medal winner, Carmelo Anthony, and six spots ahead of future NBA All-Star, Brandon Roy.

Know what Lenny Cooke does now? He works for a food company in Virginia as an order selector. He never even went to college.

But no one remembers that or the plain fact that a kid is still a kid, no matter what uniform or ankle brace or sneakers you dress him in. I guess I'm trying to say I think it's about time we did. ■

LAX trounces Bearcats



ZACH HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The 10th-ranked Vanderbilt women's lacrosse team listens to coach Cathy Swezey before a match. The Commodores won their second match in three games Sunday at Cincinnati to improve to 3-3 on the season.

No. 10 Vanderbilt routed Cincinnati 19-7 to improve to 3-3 on the year. The Commodores got three goals each from Sarah Downing, Katherine Denkler and Ally Carey in the win.

Vanderbilt salvages last game of rainy weekend

by MEGHAN ROSE
Sports Reporter

As the rain cleared out of Nashville over the latter part of the weekend, the Commodores attempted to shake off Friday night's tough 9-3 loss to Ole Miss with doubleheader action on Sunday afternoon. While the Rebels (11-4, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) captured game one of Sunday's doubleheader, defeating the Commodores 6-1, Vanderbilt answered in the final game of the series with a 7-6 win.

As Saturday's game was postponed due to inclement weather and rescheduled as part of a doubleheader, consisting of two seven-inning contests, coach Tim Corbin and the Commodores (11-6, 1-2) understood the vital importance of a win during the series.

"Every time you have an inexperienced group that drops a game, their confidence drops a little bit, too," Corbin said.

The Commodores were sure not to let their confidence waver as they took the field in the final game of the series.

Taking control of the game with an explosive offense from the early innings, Vanderbilt was able to edge Ole Miss and hold onto the win with sound pitching from sophomore right-hander Nick Christiani and freshman standout Sonny Gray.

Shortstop Brian Harris led off for the Commodores with a game-opening double down the left-field line. Second baseman Riley Reynolds followed by doubling down the opposite line, allowing Harris to score easily. Reynolds was then able to score off of back-to-back singles by Steven Liddle and Curt Casali.

Vanderbilt widened its lead to 5-3 in the bottom of the second inning, as freshman designated hitter Joe Loftus singled to right. Loftus advanced on Jason Esposito's hit and



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Joe Loftus (7) rounds third on his way to score on a single by Brian Harris in the second inning of Vanderbilt's 7-6 win over Ole Miss Sunday. The Commodores earned their first SEC victory of the season.

scored on Harris' single to center. defense holding the Rebels scoreless for the final three innings of the game, it was the offense's turn to answer one final time. They were able to do that to break the tie.

While Harris went 2-for-3 in the first game of the afternoon, scoring the Commodores' sole run, his hitting proved most vital in Vanderbilt's final game. Harris again went 2-for-3, this time scoring two runs with three RBIs. The junior shortstop's leadership and confidence in his timely hitting was most evident, however, as Harris drove in Loftus with a sacrifice fly to right field in the bottom of the fifth for the winning run.

"When I went up to (Harris) in the on-deck circle, I said, 'You know what you have to do here,' and he said, 'I'll get it done,'" Corbin said. "He's just a kid that's been around the program for a while."

Despite finishing the series 1-2 against Ole Miss, the final Sunday afternoon win provided the team an important confidence boost.

"We as a team came together, and we were able to get the win," Gray said. "We were able to build some confidence going into these next two midweek games." ■

SEC tennis woes continue



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Nick Cromydas stretches for a shot during his No. 1 singles match against Arkansas. Cromydas pushed his match to three sets but came up just short.

The 39th-ranked Vanderbilt men's tennis team lost another tough match Sunday, falling 4-3 to No. 53 Arkansas for its eighth consecutive defeat.

The Commodores (4-10, 0-4 Southeastern Conference) remained winless in SEC play after also falling 4-3 to LSU in their home conference opener on Friday.

Freshman Charlie Jones, sophomore Alex Zotov and freshman Alex DiValerio won at the No. 4, 5 and 6 singles positions, respectively, for the Commodores. It was Jones' first career victory, while DiValerio won his first-ever SEC match.

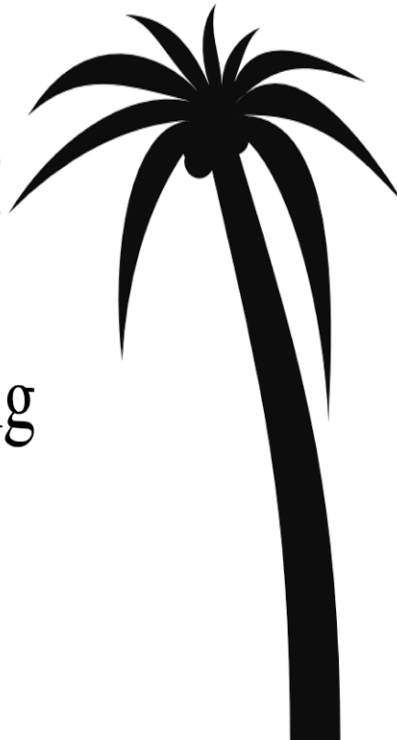
Vanderbilt senior Nick Cromydas battled 15th-ranked Blake Strode to three sets at No. 1 singles but wound up falling 6-2, 0-6, 6-3 to even the match for the Razorbacks. Arkansas (7-7, 1-3) clinched the win with a victory at No. 3 singles.

Cast a WIDER net!



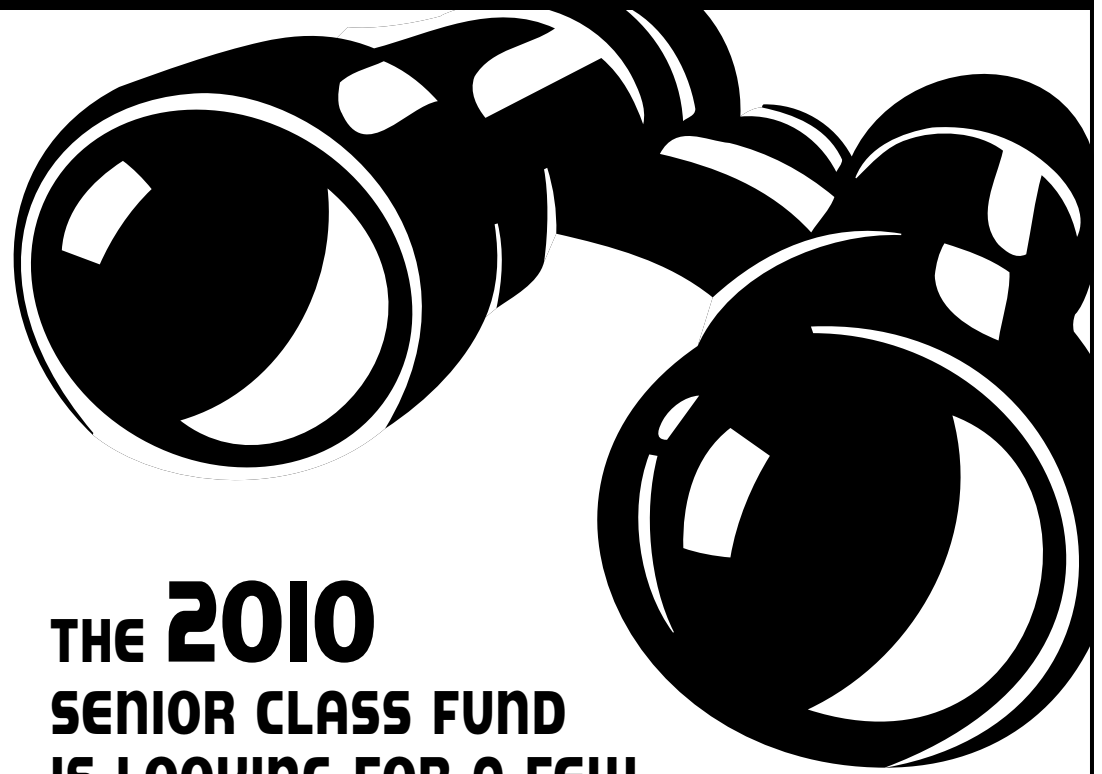
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3/13/09 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Practice punches
 - 5 Oral vaccine developer
 - 10 Canine tooth
 - 14 Rob of "St. Elmo's Fire"
 - 15 Singer Lena
 - 16 Inland Asian sea
 - 17 Corrida shouts
 - 18 Beside
 - 19 Full-grown
 - 20 Isolated, unimportant town
 - 22 Pack in a carton
 - 24 Peruses
 - 28 December VIP
 - 31 Australian bird
 - 32 Lawman Earp
 - 36 Id's relative
 - 37 Makes
 - 40 Bikini top
 - 41 Serving of corn
 - 42 Require
 - 43 CA airport
 - 44 Slow-witted
 - 45 Like a translucent gemstone
 - 46 Cote mama
 - 47 Mil. mess
 - 49 Fetch
 - 50 Noblemen
 - 52 Downplay
 - 55 Type of daisy
 - 58 Nod of the head
 - 62 Cleveland team, to fans
 - 63 Stories
 - 67 State as fact
 - 68 Soothing substance
 - 69 Napoleon's fate
 - 70 Quote an example
 - 71 Sawbucks
 - 72 Appears
 - 73 Different
- DOWN**
- 1 Swill
 - 2 Game divided into chukkers
 - 3 Overwhelmed
 - 4 Outcome
 - 5 Military hat
 - 6 Internet letters
 - 7 Sis's sib
 - 8 Quaint quarters
 - 9 Israeli desert
 - 10 Long way
 - 11 "O don fatale," e.g.
 - 12 Snoozes
 - 13 Frivolity
 - 21 Loafer
 - 23 Old-time info sources
 - 25 Port duty
 - 26 Not as sizable
 - 27 Sets of clothing
 - 28 Burpee products
 - 29 Anew
 - 30 ___ Jeane Baker
 - 33 More competent
 - 34 Fish with a net
 - 35 Levies
 - 38 Harsh criticism
 - 39 Very long period

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3/16/09

3/13/09 SOLUTIONS

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