

# The Vanderbilt Hustler

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010 • 122<sup>ND</sup> YEAR, NO. 8 • THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

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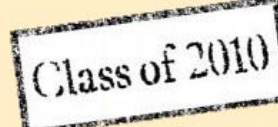
**Red-hot women's basketball beats Florida 66-58.**

**Go to InsideVandy.com**

## CALENDAR

### TODAY

**• Senior Night at the Pub (class of 2010 logo)**  
Seniors can come to the Pub from 7 to 9 p.m. for free food, soft drinks and live music, sponsored by the Senior Class Fund 2010.



### • Golden Ticket Ball

The Commons presents The Golden Ticket Ball in The Commons Center from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. with music, dance, games and dessert. The event is a meal or flex meal on the Commodore Card or \$12.95 at the door.

### SATURDAY, FEB. 6

#### • Best Buddies Gala (best buddies logo)

Best Buddies presents the Best Buddies Gala from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the Parthenon at Centennial Park. Tickets are on sale for \$10 on the Wall or from any member. Dress in semi-formal attire and come listen to the Taylor Gerber Band perform.

#### BEST BUDDIES



### • Masquerade Ball

The Multicultural Leadership Council hosts their re-scheduled annual winter semi-formal. The event is from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Cellar One on 2nd Avenue. Tickets cost \$10 and include transportation. Buses leave Branscomb every 30 minutes.

### SUNDAY, FEB. 7

**• Chinese New Year**  
Vanderbilt University Chinese Students and Scholars Association hosts a Chinese New Year Celebration in the Student Life Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. with dinner and a performance. Tickets are \$7.

## IN THIS ISSUE

### OPINION:

**The Rant: Vanderbilt sucks at getting rid of the snow, and VSG elections could not end soon enough.**  
page 4

### OPINION:

**The life lessons of "Lost."**  
See page 4

## WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

### TODAY



**HIGH 42, LOW 34**  
Showers

# Murphy-Pedinoff win bid for VSG presidency

by SARA GAST  
Senior Reporter



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Lori Murphy and Lee Pedinoff are the next Vanderbilt Student Government president and vice president after winning 53.8 percent of the 3,543 votes cast by undergraduates this week.

First, lunch and a nap. Then, "we get started." Those were the plans of Lori Murphy and Lee Pedinoff on Thursday afternoon after the two were elected to be the fourth Vanderbilt Student Government president and vice president, defeating contenders Aysha Malik and Theo Samets.

Murphy and Pedinoff won by 325 votes out of 3,543 cast over the one-and-a-half day voting period, VSG Attorney General Tyler Boyd announced on Sarratt Promenade. The winning team received 1,908 votes (53.8 percent) compared to Malik's and Samets' 1,583 (44.7 percent).

Murphy, the current VSG vice president, and Pedinoff, who is treasurer, were "incredibly excited, relieved, a little tired ... and so grateful for everyone's help" after their win, Murphy said.

"It's not just the two of us. There are people who made this possible for us, and that's what we're really thankful for," Pedinoff said. "We're both — I know I speak for Lori, too — so humbled by this opportunity to be able to give back after all that we've received from Vanderbilt and really make a positive impact here."

Please see **VSG**, page 3

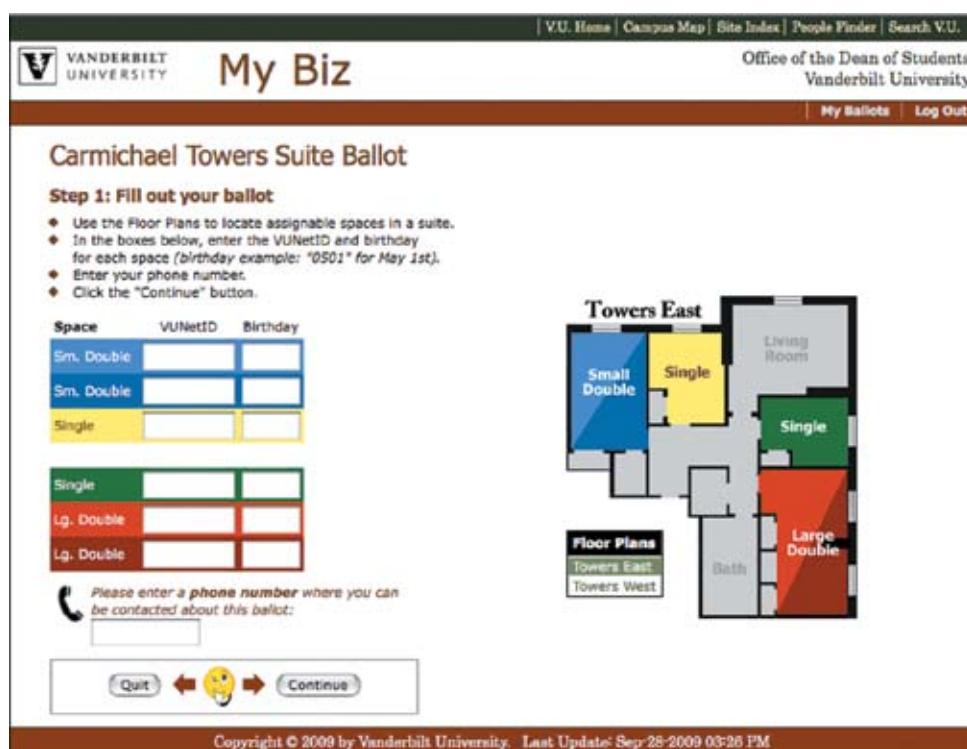


ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Aysha Malik and Theo Samets stand with their supporters before Attorney General Tyler Boyd announced the results of the fourth VSG presidential election.

**MORE ON** InsideVandy.com To watch video of the announcement, go to [www.INSIDEVANDY.COM](http://www.INSIDEVANDY.COM)

## New housing ballot system resembles Facebook



The online registration process for housing for the 2010-2011 year will begin Feb. 8. Students will later be able to register for specific living arrangements using the new online ballot system.

by IMANI ELLIS  
Staff Reporter

With the housing lottery approaching, the Office of Housing and Residential Education and Vanderbilt Student Government have announced major changes to the ballot process, which will take much of the process online.

"We listened to the students. We wanted to reduce stress and anxiety because we know students are very busy, and the last thing we want to do is take time away from academics," said Director of Housing Assignments Jason Jakubowski.

Jakubowski explained how the new system will work. Once a group of students has discussed living arrangements for the fall, one person will be responsible for plugging in the key information for all those interested in living together and inviting others to cohabitate. Virtual invitations are then sent via e-mail to all those who hope to live together. Once a student received an invitation to live with his or her friends, he or she can either accept or decline,

keeping in mind that if one person declines to live with the other individuals, the whole application is voided. If all the students on the ballot accept the invitation, the ballot is successfully submitted for the lottery.

The changes, however, will place an added importance on students checking their e-mail accounts.

"Because this system is very technologically dependent, it is imperative that students check their emails daily and pay close attention to the deadlines," said Jim Kramka, senior director of Housing Facilities Operation & Management.

Another change to the new housing ballot system is the process of room selection. After students have been approved to live in the building of their choice, they will be given a specific time to choose which room they would like.

Although selecting rooms will still be done in person, assigned time slots will minimize attendance to 25 to 30 minutes versus the hours spent waiting in the past. ■

## WHERE TO WATCH



**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS VS. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS**  
SUNDAY, FEB. 7  
5:25 CST  
CBS



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compiled by CHRIS MCDONALD, LIFE EDITOR

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# Page Two

## CRIME LOG

compiled by AMANDA NIEMAN

**Saturday, Jan. 30, 2:50 a.m.**

A vehicle at 31st Avenue and Vanderbilt Place was driving too fast for the weather conditions, and a taillight was out. The person had a strong odor of alcohol coming from her. Her eyes were red and watery, and her speech was slurred. She performed poorly on standardized field sobriety tests.

**Sunday, Jan. 31, 3 a.m.**

A person fell at an off-campus location and hit her head. Her roommates were concerned and called Vanderbilt Police Department and Nashville Fire Department. She was coherent and very cooperative.

**Tuesday, Feb. 2, 11:01 p.m.**

A person was passed out in a stairwell in Memorial House. He was very intoxicated and admitted to drinking.

**Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2:25 a.m.**

A person was very unsteady on his feet, almost falling down on 21st Avenue. He admitted to drinking at a bar.

## Around the Loop

compiled by ADRIANA SALINAS

### WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE NEXT YEAR?



"Definitely off campus, somewhere nearby."  
—Dean Pierce, first-year graduate student



"I'm trying to get into a Mayfield."  
—Andrew Han, Class of 2013



"In an apartment on campus, like Morgan or Lewis."  
—Kate Stidham, Class of 2012



"I'm hopefully doing a Mayfield."  
—Kevin Bell, Class of 2013



"Vandy/Barnard; it's where I live now, and I like it."  
—Keisha White, Class of 2012

## 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 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, available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

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## BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.



## Who is: ELIZABETH SCUTCHFIELD

**STAFF POSITION:** Career adviser to undergraduates interested in internships and opportunities in health care

**ATTENDED:** Furman University (B.A. in political science)  
Vanderbilt University (M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration)

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

My first job out of college, I worked on a guest ranch in Durango, Colo., in order to get a little fresh air and perspective after four years of living the life of the mind. We hosted families and other guests who wanted a little taste of the rugged outdoors through horseback riding, hiking and fly-fishing.

### IF YOU WEREN'T A CAREER ADVISER, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

I would love to own a bakery/coffee shop that served as a community gathering place where people could cozy up with a book and a warm beverage.

### IF YOU DIDN'T LIVE IN NASHVILLE, WHERE WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE?

My dream would be to live in the Pacific Northwest — plenty of opportunities to get outdoors, a fairly laid back pace of life and a smorgasbord of coffee shops.

compiled by AMANDA NIEMAN

## SNAPSHOT

### Engineering their future



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore engineers Michelle Grossman and Annette Fleishman talk to Jim Zeigler from Neel-Schaffer, Inc., at an internship fair on Thursday in Featheringill Hall organized to expose engineering students to potential job and internship opportunities.

## Do it for Mom!



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Vanderbilt Commodore  
**PORTRAITS**

# VUPD duties extend beyond campus limits

by **CONRAD GOERINGER**  
Staff Reporter

Despite what its name may suggest, the Vanderbilt University Police Department's duties often extend to responding to off-campus concerns.

"In the past, the myth may have been that VUPD is Vandy Security, but it's a full-fledged police department," said VUPD Lieutenant of Investigations Greg Robinson. VUPD is one of only 47 university police departments that are nationally accredited.

"We have a memorandum of understanding with the Nashville Metro Police, and that's what gives us our jurisdiction," said VUPD Commander Jason Goodrich. Many times when Metro police are incapable of getting to an off-campus situation quickly, they contact VUPD.

"Metro might call us and say, 'Hey, we've got a situation three or four blocks away from campus, and it's going to take one of our guys 10 minutes to get there; can you guys handle it?' Of course we will because it's an issue of public safety," Goodrich said.

Because many businesses are interspersed with campus, it is impractical for VUPD not to assist during crimes.

"It is our people that are driving up and down 21st (Avenue)," said Goodrich, who said although VUPD's time is predominately spent on campus patrolling areas such as The Commons and the Medical Center, it is important to make sure that Vanderbilt students and staff are safe.

"Vanderbilt has such a strong commitment to the safety of the community, and that's one of the reasons we don't mind helping out places like



MURPHY BYRNE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt Police Department Master Police Officer Horace Linire directs traffic out of the University School of Nashville parking lot between the school and the CVS on 21st Avenue on Thursday afternoon.

the University School of Nashville," said Goodrich. "We consider all those places to be connected with the Vanderbilt community."

"When an emergency occurs, Metro Nashville police dispatches VUPD first, and they are here within minutes," said Charles Manmus, director of operations for the University School. "The VUPD know our campus and personnel, which makes our dealings all the better."

Aside from a monthly fee USN pays VUPD to direct traffic during school release times, all of VUPD's off-campus activities are funded exclusively through Vanderbilt, rather than by the government or the

establishments themselves. But Goodrich said this situation benefits students either way.

"Consider McDonald's on West End or Wendy's on 21st (Avenue)... It's (Vanderbilt students) who are hitting those places up," he said. Goodrich also explained that if there is an armed robbery at Suntrust Bank or Wendy's, which recently occurred, VUPD has the skills, ability and authority to handle the situation.

"Our arresting powers and authority are the same as Metro's," said Robinson. "When one considers the amount of crime in urban areas like Nashville, this authority is comforting." ■



## Heightened security at Gen. Petraeus event

Tickets to the March 1 conversation featuring Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander of U.S. Central Command, sold out two hours after they went on sale Monday morning. However, for students who were unable to claim tickets, the event will be stream live on Vanderbilt's Web site.

For students who did receive tickets, Senior Public Affairs Officer Princine Lewis offers the following tips about what can and cannot be brought into the venue:

- No food, drinks, backpacks or bags will be permitted in the Student Life Center ballroom
- Attendees are subject to pat-downs and/or searches before entering the ballroom
- Attendees can be refused entrance without explanation

## VSG: Voter turnout at 56 percent

From **VSG**, page 1

Malik, current speaker of the Senate, voiced her gratefulness as well to everyone who helped her and Samets' campaign.

"Theo and I might have our names on the signs, but there are so many more people behind the scenes," said Malik, who added that she believes Murphy "will do an excellent job leading the university and advocating on behalf of students ... which is what it's all about."

Approximately 56 percent of students voted in the election, compared to 70 percent last year. The senior class, as it did in the primary, led all classes at 69 percent turnout. Sophomores trailed at 41 percent turnout; 55 percent of juniors and 59 percent of freshmen voted.

VSG President Wyatt Smith said he was "impressed by the turnout levels across the student body."

"I think both sides ran energetic, dynamic campaigns," said Smith, who added that he knew it would be close.

Samets said the race was "a lot of fun."

"I'm excited for Lee and Lori," Samets said. "They're good people, and they're going to do a great job."

Murphy said it was important to build on the momentum they have right now, mentioning that finishing current projects, like the Vandy Van GPS system, and reaching out to student groups are key priorities.

"Here are all these people who are very invested, who are very excited, and we want to now go sit down with those student leaders again and say, 'OK, what do you think was most important,'" Murphy said. "We should do that now and not just make that a campaign-season thing," Pedinoff said. "It needs to be a continual discussion all year with VSG and these other student groups. We have been talking for the last several weeks, but now that needs to continue through the next 365 days."

Murphy said she starts her role as president-elect immediately, attending meetings with Smith and talking to campus leaders.

"I think not taking a moment's pause but really hitting the ground running will be the best thing for us, especially during turnover ... to provide some continuity," Murphy said. "We're just so excited." ■



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# Opinion

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## Moral relativity tempting, but wrong



FRANNIE BOYLE  
Columnist

As university students, we are often asked to step out of our own worlds and understand different historical, cultural and religious attitudes. Just because we are asked to remove our biases when doing scholarly work doesn't mean we must accept these attitudes. It was common in the 1800s to think people of different races were inferior, but that doesn't mean we have to agree with them when trying to understand them. Just because it is common practice within some Islamic societies to flog women who dress inappropriately doesn't mean it's right.

Many of us can't help but judge the racists and the floggers with our own set of personal values, but there is another part of us that says, "Well, what's true for me may not be true for them." This way of thinking has grown popular with more recent generations. Our own president is guilty of it himself. When asked to define the word "sin" he responded: "It's being out of alignment with my values."

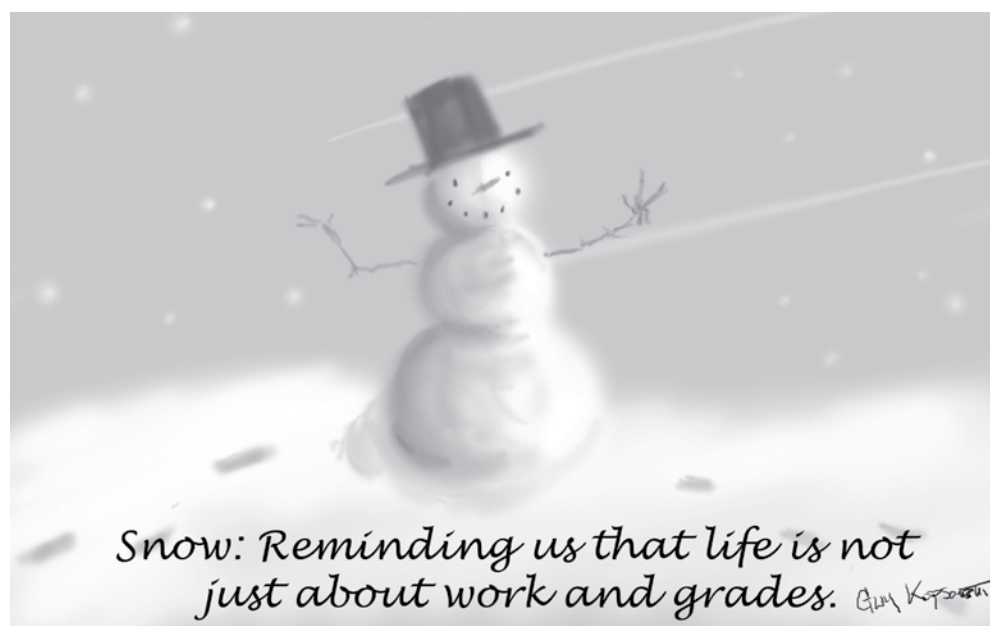
That response is the mark of a moral relativist, and our world is trapped into this way of thinking. Scientific facts are true, but everything else is relative — there is no binding truth between alternative lifestyles. If you even hint that your moral values are more in line than another's, you are automatically marked as close-minded and intolerant.

Well, bigotry is one thing. We should all respect each other as human beings of equal worthiness and value. But isn't it dangerous to acknowledge that everyone has their own way of looking at things? Wouldn't that mean that there is no right way of looking at things? Relativism takes the meaning out of faith, and it makes morals a matter of personal taste — kind of like changing the yellow lines of the highway to suit one's own needs. What if someone says to you, "It is in my line of thinking to throw a brick at your head?" This may sound ridiculous, but the line must be drawn somewhere, and relativist thinking doesn't allow for that. In fact, relativism is kind of absolutism in itself: "It is true for everyone that nothing is true for everyone." Sounds like a self-contradictory proposition to me.

I'm not supporting closed-minded bigotry, but I am suggesting that our generation should focus on guidance by a particular set of values. Some sort of truth our yearning minds can grasp on to. Personally, I love to hear "anything goes" when it's time to write an essay, but when I'm going through a hard time or have a tough decision to make, things would be much more difficult if I didn't have central values to hold on to. And I know it's not just me.

If you haven't been convinced, look at the current suicide rate.

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



### LETTER

## Through a different lens

To the Editor:

I was interested to read Mike Warren's recent analysis of the failings of the British education system ("People deserve better history," Feb. 1). As an unmistakably "pasty Brit" who learned British history through 13 years of school and three years of college, I was stunned to find out that I had not, in fact, been learning about the Tudors and Stuarts, or Gladstone and Disraeli, or spent a whole semester on Britain's experience of World War II. Instead, I — a middle-class, white male — was apparently being "primed to hate (my) civilization" by focusing on the evils of British history. And yet, I'm not racked with guilt at being British. I must have been a terrible student.

What is more, evidently my Muslim classmates were not simply writing papers on the wives of Henry VIII but were also internalizing the message that only mass murder in the name of religious extremism could avenge the wrongs done to Catherine of Aragon by her elite, white male husband (although, come to think of it, while I have heard of terrorists ascribing their actions to religious fanaticism, anti-Semitism, the Iraq War or even the World Bank, I've never yet noticed any terrorist citing Mr. Rowland's sixth grade history class as their motivation).

As such, my recollections are clearly at

odds with Mr. Warren's experience of learning history in Britain — though as I have my doubts that he was actually raised there (he looks far too happy in his photo), it is possible that he has no real idea what he's talking about and instead is simply repeating an incredibly simplistic explanation for the presence of radical Islam within a portion of the British population.

Still, one part of Mr. Warren's indictment of history in the U.K. confused me: He suggests that we should downplay the oppressive tendencies of the British Empire. Presumably, then, it was a mistake for us to study the Declaration of Independence in school? I ask only because he seems quite keen on teaching the Declaration in general, but now I'm worried about future generations of British schoolchildren being filled with self-loathing after having to read such a searing indictment of their country's past actions. Or is it OK for us to learn at length about why our wealthy North American colonists resented our presence, but a mortal danger to the future of our society if we learn about why the rest of our subjects weren't too thrilled at being colonized either?

Tim Boyd  
Senior Lecturer  
Department of American Studies



What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. To submit to The Rant, e-mail opinion@insidevandy.com or go to the opinion page on InsideVandy.com.

Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

This whole notion of "VSG endorsements" is laughable. Really, people? You're not running for the ACTUAL presidency.

If your own frat doesn't endorse you ... that's a bad sign.

Shovel the sidewalks, Vanderbilt!!! The government did it for the VA, and they're the government.

To the maintenance guy carrying a snow shovel and slipping down the steps of FGH: Please take three seconds and clear some snow.

Come on, Vanderbilt. For the love of my uncracked skull, throw us a bone so we don't break one and shovel our sidewalks!

So I'm pretty sure the 40-year-old Nashtash man behind me in the library's incessant search of porn is a learning barrier.

Can VSG just go away already ... no one cares.

Can someone please shovel the snow? PLEASE?

To the freshman I am forced to share a mailbox with, PICK UP YOUR MAIL.

### COLUMN

## The world, as told by J.J. Abrams



ALLENA BERRY  
Columnist

There was no way I was going to let one of the most monumental moments of my life thus far pass by and not comment. Yes, I am talking about the premiere of the final season of "Lost." For those of you who have been living under a rock for the past six years or have refused to watch the show because you think its believability is questionable (and yet will watch "Jersey Shore" — you think THAT'S real?), "Lost" is the story of the survivors of the crashed Oceanic Flight 815 on a mysterious island. J.J. Abrams is one of the brains behind the operation (other credits include "Star Trek"): The man is either a genius or completely insane — it's hard to tell.

After watching the opening episode, however, I began seeing life differently. I asked myself the question "WWJAD?" (What Would J.J. Abrams Do?); and the answer to that question is far more applicable than one might think. Well, as applicable as a fictional story of time travel and alternate realities can be.

Looking through the news and experiencing life through a "Lost" lens, I have come up with some words of wisdom that I think would please ole Abrams.

1. The ability to time travel would be SWEET. We have all wished this were possible after a night of reckless abandon (or so I have heard). I don't think anyone is wishing he could go back in time as much as Colin Powell this week, however; after adamantly opposing an openly gay lifestyle in the military and finally compromising for the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Act of

1993, Mr. Powell is recanting his former position. If Abrams ruled the world, such political faux pas would be totally fixable; the time-space continuum is frequently breached by the cast of "Lost."

2. Good and evil is not so black and white. If there has been one thing that has irritated me the most about "Lost," it is that you can never tell who the bad guy is. Eerily applicable to the real world. More often than not, there isn't really a "bad guy"; more often a "misguided guy who thought he was doing the right thing." Real world application? Health care reform. When it comes down to it, no one wants people walking around uninsured. But how we go about it, and what side we happen to fall on, can change "misguided guy" into "bad guy" surprisingly fast.

3. Life is a matter of faith. At the risk of sounding too "we are the world" here, half of life's battles come down to the amount of faith we put in each other and ourselves. Abrams has shown me many things, but, most importantly, he has effectively demonstrated the battle between rationality and faith, and, in the end, faith wins out.

As enlightened as these assumptions may be, the fact remains that they are based on a TV show. Abrams may be master of his own dominion on ABC, but for the time being, the free world remains devoid of "Lost"-esque encounters. I, however, remain hopeful, with fingers crossed and flotation device ready.

—Allena Berry is a sophomore in Peabody College. She can be reached at allena.g.berry@vanderbilt.edu.

### 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@insidevandy.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.

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### 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.news@insidevandy.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

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President Wyatt Smith  
Vanderbilt Student Government  
2446 Station B  
wyatt.smith@vanderbilt.edu  
Sarratt 355  
(615) 322-8742

U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4944  
(615) 736-5129

U.S. Sen. Bob Corker  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3344  
(615) 279-9488

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

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

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

Council Member  
Kristine LaLonde  
2005 20th Avenue South  
Nashville, TN 37212  
(615) 522-7319

## COLUMN

## IMPACT ambivalence

HUDSON TODD  
Columnist

The topic for IMPACT speakers this year, "The Future of Capitalism," is interesting; the chosen speakers are not. The speakers are Mitt Romney (Republican), John Stossel (libertarian) and Ralph Nader (Green). Nope, there is nothing missing from this picture.

We are presented with three perspectives, all of which happen to be wrong. Stossel is a radical libertarian who one day had an epiphany: "I really woke up to the fact that almost everything government attempts to do, it makes worse." Nader, diametrically opposed to Stossel, believes, "The only difference between the Republican and Democratic parties is the velocities with which their knees hit the floor when corporations knock on their door." Romney, who dropped \$43 million of his own money in a failed presidential election attempt against a 72-year-old who didn't know how to use a computer, is apparently going to explain to us the future of American capitalism.

The students who attend will hopefully have the privilege of hearing Stossel explain to us how global warming is either a hoax or it is true but actually a boon to humanity. Of course, he argues, it couldn't be true and have adverse consequences, because that would call for government intervention. Because the government should not intervene in anything, a problem that's only solution is government intervention, by definition, cannot exist.

Nader, who, along with the Supreme Court, stole the 2000 election from Al Gore, is under the delusion that Republicans vote for him: "Let's not just look at it as taking votes away from Gore. Our support comes from a lot of people." Perhaps he has confused votes with donations. In the 2004 presidential election, one in 10 of Nader's big donors (\$1,000 or more)

also contributed heavily to Bush's campaign. As Republicans all know, a vote for Nader is a vote for the Republicans. But who can really blame him for siphoning votes from Democrats? After all, according to Nader, Obama isn't black enough (but Nader, a Caucasian, is).

Of course, after having the luxury of listening to two radicals duke it out, we get to listen to the reasonable, middle-of-the-road Romney, who explains in his new book "No Apology: The Case for American Greatness" that because America is "Great" it should not apologize for anything it does wrong. He attacks Obama's "Apology Tour" in which Obama told other nations that Americans are sorry for all of the things we have done wrong in the past and that we will do better in the future. Obama's strategy was ineffective, according to Romney, despite the fact 87 percent of Europeans and Asians view Obama positively. More than four in five foreigners would rather see Obama president than Bush. Overall, foreigners view Americans in general much more favorably than they did just over one year ago.

Anyway, I intend to go to this, if only to acquire a free copy of Romney's book (it will look good next to "A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity" on my bookshelf). I will be rooting for Nader in the debate, despite his insanity. Hopefully he doesn't do too well though, or he might actually convince some of the students to vote for him when he inevitably decides to run again in 2012. As The Hustler randomly pointed out on Monday, Nader appeared in a 1988 episode of Sesame Street. Stossel, however, wants to end the public funding of PBS: "But 'Sesame Street' is big business and would survive in any environment." This is going to be intense.

—Hudson Todd is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at [HUDSON.O.TODD@VANDERBILT.EDU](mailto:HUDSON.O.TODD@VANDERBILT.EDU).

## COLUMN

## Snows of change have arrived in US

PHIL INGRAM  
Columnist

changes.

When the American populace elected Obama for office, everyone thought, "Here comes change." Some even felt it was necessary to move to Canada in order to avoid the oncoming slough of socialism (ironically, Canada is and will always be more socialistic in policy than the U.S.). Others, however, recognized the truly deliberate pace of change and were neither alarmed nor excited.

The failure of the health care bill to pass the Senate is not surprising, either. The question of national health care has been debated for over a decade. While many say they would like health care insurance provided by the government in some form or another, somehow a Republican won the seat of deceased Ted Kennedy, the senator who pushed the most for a national health care bill. The future of the health care bill has become even more unsure since some voters in Massachusetts decided they might not be entirely into billions of dollars a year being spent on health care.

As a libertarian, I myself do not know exactly what to think on the issue. No doubt I believe

health care for all is a much-needed commodity; however, the question of the practicality arises. While we could put an end to not only uninsured Americans but also poor, homeless, hungry and (importantly) TV-less Americans if everyone donated for the good of others their extra income they did not need, we are selfish and prefer to help in smaller ways.

The true problem I see with a solution to health care now is the cost. Obama just announced his budget for the following year: a whopping \$3.72 billion. This will amount to about 25 percent of

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**The true problem I see with a solution to health care now is the cost. Obama just announced his budget for the following year: a whopping \$3.72 billion. This will amount to about 25 percent of the GDP for the year, the largest percentage value since World War II. While I love receiving goodies from the government, the question of where this money comes from arises.**

the GDP for the year, the largest percentage value since World War II. While I love receiving goodies from the government, the question of where this money comes from arises.

Taxes will rise along with the deficit the government will incur. Granted, no one likes taxes, but they are a necessary measure; however, they may soon spike too high. Apart from being a nuisance and

sucking up our disposable income, high taxes could stifle the nascent economic recovery. High taxes will induce people to spend less, corporations to produce less and companies to lay off more people. Health care for all Americans is a great aspiration; however, for the present we need to focus on the economy, as forestalling a recovery will only lead to more dire problems than an issue that has gone unresolved for years.

—Phil Ingram is a sophomore in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at [phil.d.ingram@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:phil.d.ingram@vanderbilt.edu).

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**Office of Housing Assignments**

**Important Information**

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All Undergraduates eligible to return for Fall 2010 must register for the Housing Assignment Process for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Register online at [www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) and follow the link to the upperclass housing application anytime between Monday, February 8, and 12 Midnight, Sunday, February 14. Your VuNetID and password are required for logging into the application process.

Students who apply after the deadline of 12 midnight on Sunday, February 14 will (1) not be allowed to reserve their current space and/or (2) lose a point of seniority for the housing assignment process

Only students entering their 4th or greater year of study and students currently off campus will be able to apply for off campus authorization. All students that currently have off campus authorization must apply for re-authorization each year.

**Deadline to register is February 14 at 12 midnight.**

Office of Housing and Residential Education  
4113 Branscomb Quadrangle  
Phone: (615) 322-2591  
Website: [www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd)

## Sports

## Dores bite Bulldogs, get shot at Georgia Saturday

## Vanderbilt v. Georgia

SATURDAY, FEB. 6

ATHENS, GA

TIPOFF IS AT 7 P.M. CST

TV: FSN

RADIO: 104.5 FM



After sweating out a last minute charge from Mississippi State on Wednesday night to escape with a 75-72 victory, the Commodores (17-4, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) head to Athens on Saturday to take on the Georgia Bulldogs (9-11, 1-6) at Stegeman Coliseum. Despite their dismal conference record, the Bulldogs have lost only one SEC game by double digits this year and led by as much as 24 in their lone victory, a dominating 78-63 performance over then eighth-ranked Tennessee. Sophomores Trey Thompkins and Travis Leslie have combined to account for nearly half of Georgia's offensive production so far this season.

by DAVID NAMM

Sports Editor

The Vanderbilt Commodores (17-4, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) displayed equal amounts of excellence and ineptitude Wednesday night, but the flashes of brilliance won out.

Barely. Led by another sterling effort from senior guard Jermaine Beal (team-high 17 points), the Commodores squeaked out a 75-72 victory over a hungry Mississippi State team (16-6, 4-3) looking for a signature conference road victory. Vanderbilt certainly tried their best to hand this one to the Bulldogs, with sloppy play, poor time management and mind-boggling mistakes allowing their SEC West foe to sneak to within one in the closing minutes after the Commodores blew two 14-point leads.

"That was a little bit interesting at the end," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings. "We played well defensively throughout the game ... (but) our end of game execution was poor. We made a number of bad decisions."

Even so, the Commodores were able to dominate stretches of the game, which allowed them to establish an advantage that proved insurmountable. With the score tied at 29 with 4:03 left in the first

half, Vanderbilt went into the locker room on a 9-2 run with Beal scoring the last five points of the frame. With 12 first-half points, Beal was well on his way to leading the Commodores in scoring for the third straight game.

"My teammates are looking for me," Beal said. "I'm making shots right now, and my hand is hot. Hopefully we can keep winning and having everyone contribute."

Among the Vanderbilt contributors was freshman standout John Jenkins, who was able to ice this one by hitting two crucial free throws with six seconds remaining. However, the sharp-shooting guard was quick to point out his error on the play — one of many by the Commodores in the closing seconds — as he took the ball inside when Vanderbilt had the chance to continue running out the clock.

"I made a freshman mistake," Jenkins said. "It won't happen again. I was confident I was going to make the free throws, though."

Jenkins finished with 12 points, one of four Commodores who scored in double figures, along with junior center A.J. Ogilvy (16 points and seven rebounds) and sophomore guard Brad Tinsley (11 points). Nevertheless, Stallings was quick to highlight the team's late mistakes and their consequent need to correct them as they move forward in SEC play.

"We got tentative with the ball, were careless with the ball and turned it over," Stallings said. "We had no flow on offense at the end of the game. ... We were not aggressive and were aggressive at times we shouldn't have been."

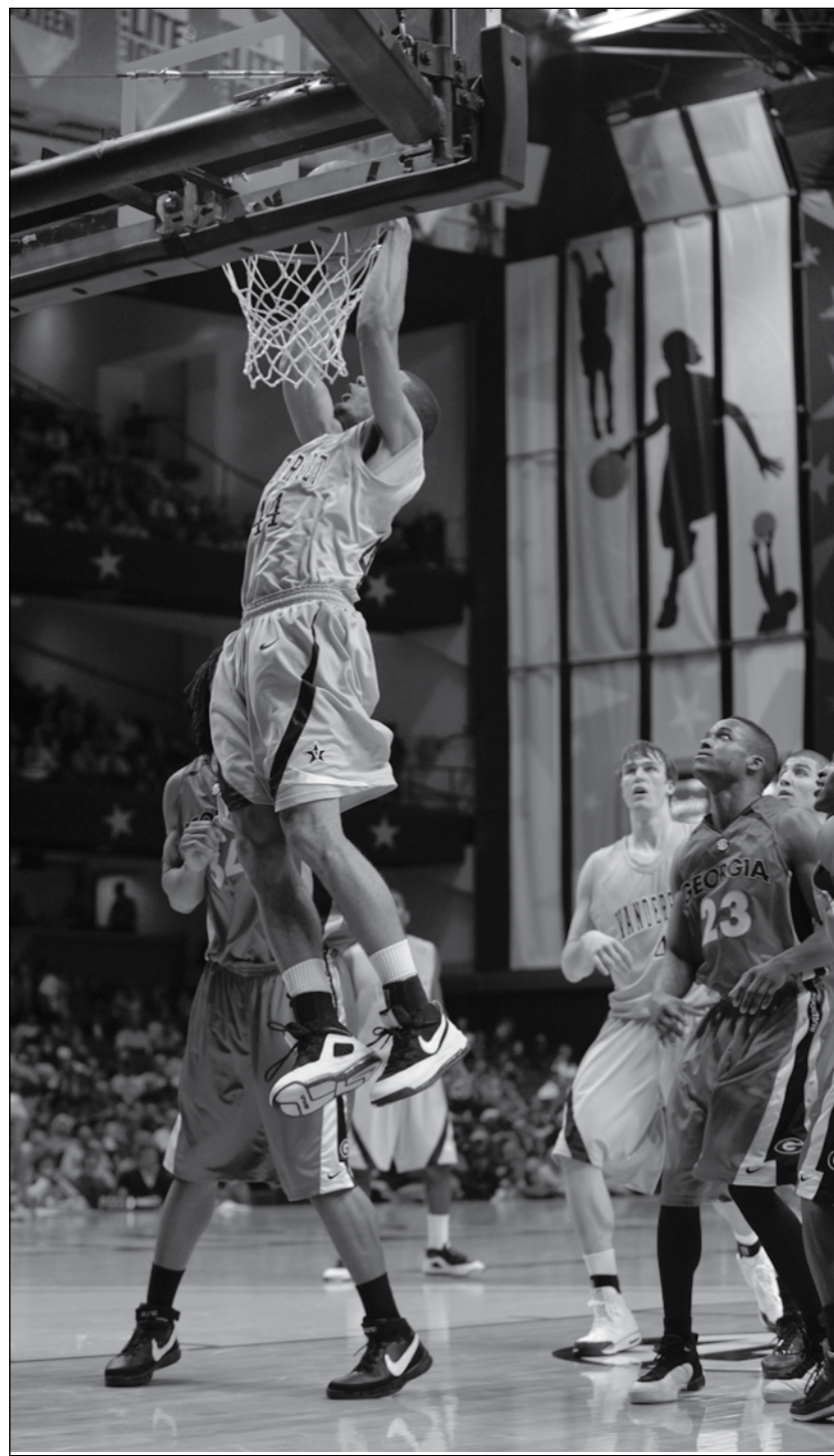
"(But) we beat a good basketball team, and we're excited to have won the game."

Up next for the Commodores is a Saturday trip to Athens, Ga., where a talent-laden — if disappointing — Georgia squad (9-11, 1-6) is eager for an upset after a crushing 72-68 loss to Arkansas Wednesday night. Though they have yet to put the pieces together so far in SEC play, the Bulldogs are led by two sophomores — forward Trey Thompkins (17.6 ppg, 7.8 rpg) and guard Travis Leslie (14.2 ppg, 6.5 rpg) — who present serious threats to a Vanderbilt team that has, at times, shown susceptibility on the boards.

At the same time, the Commodores have already left six SEC opponents in the dust and have impressed them along the way.

"It's never easy when you come into (Memorial Gym)," said Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury. "There's no question this is one of the better Vanderbilt basketball teams that I've seen here in a long time."

"They'll be hard to beat for anybody." ■

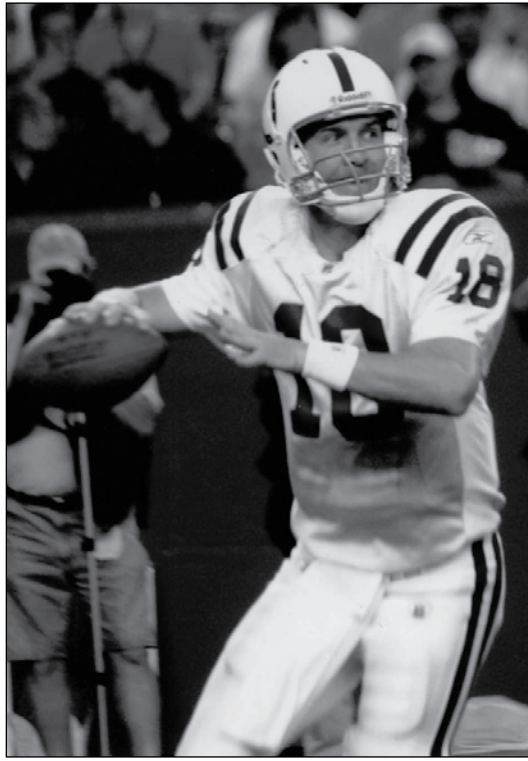


FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jeff Taylor (44) hopes to power the Commodores past Georgia this weekend. The Commodores defeated Georgia 50-40 last season in their first SEC win.

## COLUMN

## Colts have Super edge



GERALD MELLMAN / InterMountain Jewish News

On arguably the biggest stage in all of sport, Peyton Manning (18) leads the Colts against the inspired New Orleans Saints.

by ALEX WALDER

Sports Reporter

After a season consisting of failure for many, disappointments for most and tailgating for all, we have finally arrived in South Florida for that final game — the Super Bowl between the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints. Whether you are watching the Super Bowl for the action on the field, the enthralling commercials or just because there is literally nothing else to watch on Super Bowl Sunday, you will certainly be focused on the CBS programming for a couple of hours this Sunday. While the commercials are bound to be excellent, my focus will be on the game and most likely a Colts victory.

When looking at this game, the first thing that stands out is certainly the matchup between the signal callers for the respective teams. Drew Brees vs. Peyton Manning is about as good of a matchup at quarterback seen in a Super Bowl in recent history.

While it is hard to say you could go wrong with either of these superstars, the real separating factor between the two is experience. Peyton Manning has played in every big game situation imaginable, and he has already gone through the process of transforming his reputation from playoff loser

to champion.

On the other hand, Brees is a newcomer to such a high level and will undoubtedly be feeling the pressure of the big stage. Even though I can do little to knock either quarterback, I am going to have to go with Peyton Manning's squad.

Though quarterback play is the hottest topic for this particular contest, the other skill positions on the offense are where the Colts really gain their biggest advantage in the game. In terms of consistency, you cannot beat the one-two punch of wide receiver Reggie Wayne and tight end Dallas Clark. They each racked up 100 regular season receptions and are bound to cause matchup problems for the Saints, and young receivers Austin Collie and Pierre Garcon are ready to take advantage of the opportunities that come their way.

In addition, with the amount of offensive firepower in this game, there is no doubt that defense is on the backburner for a game that should be a complete shootout. It is hard to argue with this logic given that the Saints led the league in offense, and the Colts have been consistently known as an offense-first team.

While this is the case, I would not be surprised if the Colts defense comes up with a few big stops, especially early in the game to help set the tone and give Manning a chance to get out to an early lead. On the other hand, the New Orleans defense has been nearly impossible to predict, as they looked excellent against the Cardinals in the divisional round while letting up big numbers to the Vikings in the National Football Conference championship. The Saints defense did, however, keep their team in the game with five turnovers, though these will be much harder to come by against the patient Peyton Manning, rather than the self-proclaimed "gunslinger" Brett Favre.

Considering both teams have relied on turnovers throughout the playoffs, it is very hard to make a call on which defense will show up. With this being said, the two are equal defensively — with one outside factor: The Colts have a better opportunity to force turnovers against a less experienced Saints team.

Overall, then, there is no doubt in my mind that the Colts will win this game, in spite of the Saints' talent and overall resiliency. This is a team that could have gone undefeated if they wanted to, but instead chose the route of winning a Super Bowl. Peyton Manning and his team have had one goal since day one: Win a Super Bowl.

Sunday night, the Indianapolis Colts will achieve that goal.

## COLUMN

## Recruiting class best ever

by PETER NYGAARD

Sports Reporter

As National Signing Day came to an end Wednesday, Vanderbilt had added 24 new members to its football squad. The 2010 class is headlined on offense by junior college transfer quarterback Jordan Rodgers and running back Rajaan Bennett. Also, the Commodores shored up on their defensive line and secondary by adding numerous three-star prospects. Most notable among them are defensive backs Andre Simmons and Kenneth Ladler and defensive tackles Jared Morse and Kyle Woestmann.

While this recruiting class is one of Vandy's strongest ever, the signing coup is Bennett. A four-star product of McEachern High School in Powder Springs, Ga., Bennett rushed for 1,857 yards and 27 touchdowns this past year, garnering attention from top recruiting sites as well as other Southeastern Conference teams. The No. 19 running back in this year's class, according to recruiting site Rivals.com, Bennett received offers from nine other schools, including University of Tennessee and University of Kentucky.



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Standout running back Warren Norman (27) will have a talented cast of newcomers to help him and the Commodores rebound after a disappointing 2-10 season in 2009.

Though Bennett may be the Commodores' highest-rated prospect, Rodgers is the most intriguing. If Rodgers' last name sounds at all familiar, it is because he is the younger brother of current Green Bay Packers starting quarterback and Pro Bowler Aaron Rodgers. And because Rodgers enrolled early, he will be eligible to participate in the spring game, which should certainly heat up the competition between him and the incumbent, Larry Smith.

To ease some of the team's offensive woes, Vanderbilt also added a trio of three-star receivers and a pair of three-star linemen. If all else fails, the Dores will be able to turn to Carey Spear, the No. 6 kicker in the nation, according to ESPN.

There was little in the way of surprises for the Commodores, who had already received verbal commitments from many members of the new class. However, verbal commitments don't necessarily serve as guarantees, as three-star athlete Jerrell Priestler, who had committed to the Commodores, ended up signing with Kentucky.

On the other side of the ball, the Commodores added depth to their front line, adding five three-star defensive linemen. All five have displayed the versatility to potentially play on either the edge or the interior, so it would not be a surprise to see a few different looks on the line when the freshmen are on the field. Woestmann, a 6-foot-3-inch, 250-pound defensive tackle from Marietta, Ga., is the headliner of the defensive liners. Although a bit undersized, Woestmann may remind some of Adam Smotherman once he fills out.

Cornerbacks Andre Hal and Karl Butler and safety Andre Simmons join Ladler as heirs apparent to Vandy's recent legacy of producing talented defensive backs. Like Rodgers, Ladler enrolled early at Vanderbilt, so he will be able to partake in all of the spring practices and gain some valuable experience before he hits the field. This may prove to be key, as the Commodores look to replace a trio of talented departing seniors in the secondary.

While one chapter of Vanderbilt football comes to an end, a new one is being written. If this recruiting upturn can continue, this new chapter may appear more often on the front page than page six.

## This weekend in sports



NICOLE MANDEL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

**Friday, Feb. 5**

**Men's tennis vs. Northwestern**  
2 p.m. CST

After splitting a pair of dual matches last weekend at an International Tennis Association Kick-Off Classic regional in Los Angeles, the Commodores return home to take on Northwestern on Friday afternoon at the Currey Tennis Center. The 36th-ranked Wildcats come into Nashville looking to get back on track after losing matches to Georgia and Miami last weekend at their own ITA regional in Athens, Ga.

**Saturday, Feb. 6**

**Women's swimming at Tulane**  
10 a.m. CST

The Commodores enter the pool this weekend for their final dual meet of the season before the Southeastern Conference Championships in Athens, Ga. Stepping up to the blocks alongside the Commodores this week is another team struggling to come out on the right end of its recent meets, the Tulane Green Wave. Sophomore Laura Dillon will be looking to continue some of the momentum from her victory in the 200-meter backstroke last weekend and carry a strong performance in New Orleans into tournament play later this month.

**Women's bowling at McKendree Baker Challenge**

After a disappointing ninth-place finish at the Kutztown Invitational last weekend, the top-ranked women's bowling team will look to get back into a rhythm as its spring schedule heats up over the next few weeks, starting with this weekend's two-day, 24-team McKendree Baker Challenge in Fairview Heights, Ill.

**Sunday, Feb. 7**

**Men's tennis vs. Purdue**  
12 p.m. CST

The Commodores conclude their weekend home stand with a dual match against Purdue at the Currey Tennis Center in Nashville. Junior Alex Zotov, the lone Vanderbilt singles winner in the Commodores' loss at No. 1 USC this past weekend, will look to continue a six-game singles win streak with another set of strong performances this weekend.

—Compiled by Eric Single

# He said She said

The Hustler sat down with sophomore ace Sonny Gray and junior runner Rita Jorgensen for this Friday's edition of "He Said/She Said." The Tennessee natives talked about the impact of last week's rare snowfall, their exciting fall seasons and the hype surrounding their teams this spring.

by MEGHAN ROSE  
Asst Sports Editor

## SONNY GRAY



JOHN RUSSELL / VU Media Relations

**1. How would you describe your training regimen so far this semester?**

Training has been long and tiring so far this spring, but a lot of this is because of our trip to Japan. We didn't get to do a lot of conditioning in the fall, so we just finished making up for it. Now we start practice, which everyone is looking forward to.

**2. Did the snow change any of your practice plans?**

Being from Tennessee, this is the most snow I have ever seen. At first I was excited to see all of the snow, but then we missed our first day of practice on the field. We had to spend the whole time shoveling the snow off of the infield tarp, so I was tired of it after a day.

**3. How would your teammates describe you?**

I think my teammates would describe me as an energetic person (who) gets along with everyone.

**4. What are your pre-game/pre-meet routines?**

Before I pitch, I like to kind of try and clear my head. I go about my normal day in school and all, but then I get to the field and listen to some music. Everything stays normal until about an hour before the game, when I feel like I turn into a different person.

**5. Highlight of your career with the team so far?**

I would have to say the trip to Japan by far. Hopefully we can make some more memories this year by making it to Omaha.

**6. Hype for the 2010 season?**

I think we have a very legit team that can have a lot of success. We have to stay together and just win one game at a time.



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

## RITA JORGENSEN

I am just coming off a foot injury I got over winter break. I have been doing a lot of cross training, but I just began doing track workouts last week, and I am planning to start competing in indoor track next week.

The snow was awesome; however, it did change my practice plans. I couldn't run outside for a few days because I didn't want to slip, so I ran inside on the treadmills instead.

My teammates would probably describe me as pretty easygoing, but serious when it matters. Also they would describe me as a leader and a team player.

I talk to Coach about my race goals and then visualize my races the night before, focusing on time, place and attitude goals. Then I wake up, eat breakfast, drink some coffee and race.

This past cross-country season was a breakthrough season for our team. Everyone came together as a team to realize and achieve our goals. By working together and pushing each other, we were able to achieve fifth place in (the Southeastern Conference meet) and regionals, tying Vanderbilt's best-ever places in both meets.

We are in the midst of indoor track season where we have already set many personal records. Outdoor track in the spring should be exciting because if we continue to see the same improvement and teamwork that we had during cross country, we will set lots of personal records and be a strong competitor in the SEC meet.




**Music  
Games  
Food  
and  
Plenty of FUN!!**

# REC FEST

## Vanderbilt Student Recreation Center

**Feb. 5, 2010**

**4:00PM - 11:00PM**





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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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7		5					3	

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at [www.INSIDEVANDY.COM](http://www.INSIDEVANDY.COM)

2/5/10

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## CROSSWORD

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- 5 Drift
- 9 Caught on video
- 14 \*First family member
- 15 Muppet who testified before Congress
- 16 Spry
- 17 \*Old street corner singer
- 19 Director De Mille
- 20 Keys
- 21 \*Arthur in a dress
- 23 Orkan sign-off word
- 24 Express gratitude to
- 25 \*Receptacle for choice slips
- 27 Publisher often seen in PJs
- 28 Park, in NYC
- 30 Cpl.'s superior
- 31 Valuable rock
- 32 Mine entrance
- 34 Cover letter letters
- 36 Diamond stat
- 38 Demonstrate effectiveness, and a literal hint to the puzzle theme found in the answers to starred clues
- 42 Farm dweller
- 43 Musical ability
- 44 D.C. fundraisers
- 47 \*Brit. award
- 50 Summa \_\_\_ laude
- 52 Eastern principle
- 54 \*Murder, \_\_\_ Wrote
- 55 \*Danseur noble's partner

### DOWN

- 60 Culinary author Rombauer
- 61 63-Across hdg.
- 62 \*Ball honoree
- 63 Besiege
- 65 \*Southwestern horseman
- 67 Musher's wear
- 68 Abbr. that shortens text
- 69 Gossip columnist Cassini
- 70 Extra large?
- 71 Con
- 72 Three-part nos.

### DOWN

- 1 "Bewitched" role
- 2 Hangdog
- 3 Lie
- 4 Actress Barkin
- 5 Ruby and others
- 6 65-Across's "Bravo!"
- 7 Microscopic organism
- 8 Provençal cuisine delicacies
- 9 Middle x
- 10 One taking a little off the top?
- 11 Street going downhill?
- 12 Emma's "Sense and Sensibility" role
- 13 Ritzy
- 18 Aleutian island
- 22 Course with x's
- 25 Inclination
- 26 Other, in Spain
- 29 Risky undertaking

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

2/5/10

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at [www.INSIDEVANDY.COM](http://www.INSIDEVANDY.COM)

Was that you with your friends supporting Dance Marathon?

... Take a peek at p. 219

Were you wearing black and gold at ESPN's GameDay?

... See p. 230

Did you hang out in front of the Rites of Spring stage?

... Flip to p. 249

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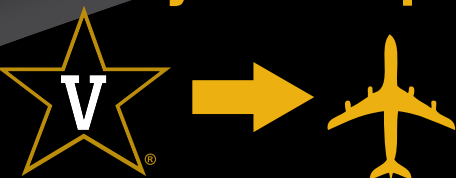
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