



SPORTS:
Vanderbilt
manhandles
Arkansas.
See page 8

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 1

• Candlelight Vigil
The Lambda Theta Alpha sorority will hold a candlelight vigil on Rand Terrace at 6:30 p.m. for the victims of the Haiti earthquake.



• Israeli Folk Dancing
Israeli folk dancing will be held at the Schulman Center for Jewish Life. From 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., warm-up and beginner dances will be held, and from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., intermediate-advanced and request dancing will take place. The event is open to the public.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

• Preacher as DJ?
John S. McClure, chair of the graduate department of religion, will present a special lecture at 10:10 a.m. in the Arts Room on the ground floor of the Divinity School titled "Preacher as DJ? Sampling, Re-mixing and the Art of Homiletical Protest."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

• "The Princess and the Warrior"
The International Lens film series will present the 2000 German film "Der Krieger und die Kaiserin" or "The Princess and the Warrior," at 7 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3 TO THURSDAY, MARCH 4



• VSG general elections
Vote for next year's Vanderbilt Student Government senators from 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday. Results will be announced in Sarratt Promenade Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

IN THIS ISSUE

OPINION:

Costantino: Rep your state.
See page 6



INSIDEVANDY:
Hear each of the VSG candidates discuss their platforms. Go to InsideVandy.com

WEATHER

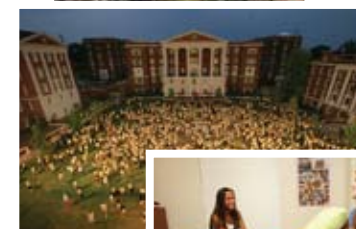
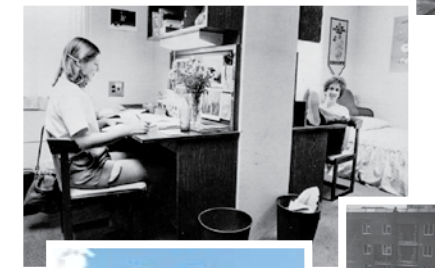
WEATHER.COM

TODAY



HIGH **44**, LOW **31**
Cloudy

A history of housing



Housing by the numbers

PRICE: \$8,200 PER YEAR

KISSAM QUADRANGLE

- Completed: 1957
- Number of residents (approx.): 582
- Upperclassmen
- Single rooms
- Hall bathroom

BRANSCOMB QUADRANGLE

- Completed: 1962
- Number of residents (approx.): 680
- Upperclassmen
- Double rooms
- Hall bathrooms in Lupton and Stapleton
- Suite arrangement in Scales and Vaughn with shared half-baths

MORGAN/LEWIS HOUSES

- Completed: 1962
- Number of residents (approx.): 660
- Upperclassmen
- Apartment-style: studios and one-bedroom apartments for double occupancy
- Two-bedroom apartments with common areas for triple occupancy

CARMICHAEL TOWERS

- Completed: 1966 (Towers I & II), 1970 (Towers III & IV)
- Number of residents (approx.): 992
- Upperclassmen
- Singles and doubles with a communal bathroom in Towers I & II
- Six-person suites with two single rooms, two double rooms, private bathroom, common area in Towers I, III & IV

THE COMMONS

- Completed: 2008
- Number of residents (approx.): 1,570
- Freshmen
- Double rooms
- Hall bathrooms
- Each resident lives in one of 10 houses as part of The Commons First-Year Experience

In anticipation of the housing application process, The Vanderbilt Hustler with InsideVandy.com investigated the issue of on-campus housing. We took a look at the history and how Vanderbilt's system compares to other schools. We invite you to browse InsideVandy.com for an even more in-depth view, with 360-degree views of student rooms and a comprehensive interactive timeline.

Stacking up: A comparative look at college housing

by **ALLIE MORRIS**
Asst News Editor

To get some perspective on Vanderbilt's system, The Hustler took a look at housing for four other private institutions: Duke, Emory, Rice and Northwestern. These schools were chosen based on similarities in size and, apart from Duke, their urban settings.

DUKE UNIVERSITY

Vanderbilt seems to have taken a page from Duke's housing plan book in regard to the freshman campus.

Duke has housed freshmen on a common campus since 1994. Their "Commons," called East Campus, has been one of Duke's "greatest housing successes," said junior Stephen Temple, president of Duke's Campus Council. "It allows for the ability to have class unity. ... Having everyone there together their first year and having them going through the same experience, it does bring the entire class together."

Unlike Vanderbilt's first-year meal plan, Duke, through its meal plan, encourages freshmen to eat only on East Campus. Meal plan swipes only work at dining facilities on East Campus, and students must use a form of meal money at campus dining facilities located on other campuses.

Duke works on a three-year residency plan, according to Joe Gonzalez of Duke housing services, so after freshman year most sophomores move to West Campus, the campus that sports Duke's characteristic neo-Gothic architecture. This campus is favored by upperclassmen, and junior-year students are housed either on West Campus or Central Campus, which primarily consists of apartment-style housing.

The housing facilities on Central were built in the 1970s as temporary housing. In order to make Central Campus more desirable to undergraduates, Duke recently updated Central campus, like Vanderbilt enhanced Kissam Quad facilities, by adding a restaurant, a common area, a gym and a small grocery store.

Looking to the future, Duke and Vanderbilt share similar building plans and goals. Duke is preparing to start a building project this summer that will add 150 beds to West Campus. Within the next five years Duke hopes to begin construction on a new campus that will replace Central Campus. New Campus will combine residential and academic facilities to house undergraduates, while Central will become professional and graduate student housing.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Emory seems to be following the first-year housing example set by Duke and Vanderbilt. The university has plans to begin construction on the final building within its new freshman quad later this year. Emory has built the new freshman quad according to LEED standards, a set of environmental sustainability standards Vanderbilt also followed while building The Commons.

"The freshmen who live in the already completed dorms of the quad really love it; the rooms are big and clean," said Kate Berger, news editor of Emory's student newspaper, The Wheel.

The economic crisis has only slowed construction slightly, according to Berger, since housing is a priority for Emory. However, construction has created other problems at the university.

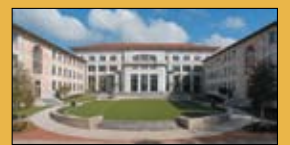
"The biggest problem is a lack of housing on campus, because



• Price range:
\$4,910-8,770 per year

• Years required to live on campus:
Three years, seniors can live off campus

• Freshman experience:
Yes



• Price range:
\$6,800-11,188 per year

• Years required to live on campus:
Three years, can apply to live off campus senior year

• Freshman experience:
Developing

Q&A with Jim Kramka: the future of Vanderbilt housing

The Hustler, with InsideVandy.com, sat down with Jim Kramka, senior director of housing operations, to get answers to some of the common questions students have about housing.

Q: When will the college halls come to fruition?

Kramka stressed that the college halls is an overarching plan that emerged in discussion about a decade ago. The plan is to gradually transform all of the residential system into a college halls system. The system would resemble The Commons, but would not be identical. At the moment, he can only estimate as to when the project will be fully realized.

Please see **KRAMKA**, page 4



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Page Two

CRIME LOG

compiled by JUSTIN TARDIFF

Thursday, Feb. 25, midnight

A person gained entry into a secured room not designed for the public at the Hotel Indigo on West End Avenue; he was living inside the room. He was also in possession of stolen items.

Thursday, Feb. 25, between midnight and noon

A couch, table, a trophy and a plaque were stolen from the Kappa Alpha fraternity house on 24th Ave.

Friday, Feb. 26, 2:51 a.m.

A person was found passed out. The officer had a hard time waking her up; she was very intoxicated.

Around the Loop

compiled by ADRIANA SALINAS

WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED DURING YOUR TIME AT VANDERBILT AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE HOUSING SYSTEM?



"I've lived in Branscomb, a Mayfield, a Towers suite and now I live in a fraternity house. Housing here is all right. Even though I live in a fraternity house now, it would have frustrated me if I wouldn't have been able to find off-campus housing because of how expensive on-campus housing is."

—**Scott Wardlaw, Class of 2010**



"I've lived in Branscomb, McTyeire on the Spanish floor, and now I live in Towers. The housing here is terrible because this year I applied to live off campus with two of my friends, and I got it, but neither of them did. It is very frustrating. And last year I applied for a Morgan/Lewis suite and couldn't even get it as a(n incoming) junior."

—**Brandon Lindsay, Class of 2011**



"I lived in North House and now Cole Hall. I had a single in both, which I think is the best way to go. I'm pretty satisfied with housing here so far."

—**Rene Quigeley, Class of 2012**



"I've only lived in Gillette on The Commons. It's very nice, and I'm satisfied."

—**Charlie Xie, Class of 2013**

SERVICE GUIDE

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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: MARK WOLLAEGER

POSITION: Professor of English

ATTENDED: Stanford University (B.A. in English), Yale University (Ph.D in English)

WHAT CLASSES DO YOU TEACH?

I teach 20th-century British literature, modernism in particular (James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, T. S. Eliot, Joseph Conrad, etc.), typically from a cultural-historical perspective, and also writing-intensive introductions to poetry, and a survey of modern British fiction. Lately, I've been doing comparative modernisms classes, in which I teach Anglophone literature in relation to French and Japanese lit; in my current grad class we're also going to do some Turkish and African fiction.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I used to paint houses, interior and exterior, during the summer (high school and college): if you make a good estimate and work fast, there's serious money to be made for admittedly hard work. Make a bad estimate, and you have to hope for the mercy of the homeowner, who might add some extra money to your agreement if the job takes longer than expected; or you can threaten to burn down their house. Rarely came to that, though.

WHAT'S ONE THING STUDENTS WOULD BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOU?

I probably got lower SAT scores than 80 percent of you; I had killer extracurriculars, though.

compiled by JUSTIN TARDIFF

SNAPSHOT

Different campuses, same cause



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Catherine Lynn and Jay Ramsey, students at Lipscomb University, converse at the Nashville Intercollegiate Activism Conference's Political Activism Fair on Saturday afternoon, organized by The Vanderbilt Political Review. Check out a full story about the conference online at InsideVandy.com.

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Students, community members to use Petraeus presentation to demonstrate against war

by **KYLE BLAINE**
Asst News Editor

Students and community members will gather Monday afternoon on Olin Lawn to demonstrate against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan before General David H. Petraeus is scheduled to speak in the Student Life Center. Vanderbilt Students of Nonviolence, Nashville Peace Coalition and Veterans for Peace are among the organizations that will be represented.

Petraeus, a four-star general and current commander of U.S. Central Command, will discuss his role as commander of the surge in Iraq and U.S. involvement internationally. It is the nature of this involvement with which junior Benjamin Eagles, president of VSN, disagrees.

"We are not going to protest the university's hosting of Petraeus because I think we all think it is positive that the university continue to bring in speakers of his caliber," Eagles said, "but we are demonstrating against the gross militarization of our society and our continued participation in two wars that have no end in sight."

Eric Schechter, an organizer on behalf of the Nashville Peace Coalition and an associate professor of mathematics at Vanderbilt, will hold a "vigil for peace" before and during the speech while handing out leaflets with statements including "NEGOTIATE

NOW!" and "CANCEL THE CONTRACTORS!"

"The reason we're going to protest outside the building where Petraeus is speaking is because he's going to be there, and that looks like a good chance for us to get some publicity," Schechter said. "And the reason we want the publicity is to try to get our message across because we don't think our message is getting heard enough."

Veterans for Peace has written an open letter addressed to Petraeus that calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We, the undersigned military veterans, are here to express our continued opposition to both the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since you are one of the architects of U.S. policy in both those countries, and since you will use this gathering to promote those policies, it is only right that we choose your visit here as an opportunity to express our opposition," the letter states.

Michael Newton, professor of the practice of law, and Katherine Carroll, associate professor of political science, invited Petraeus to speak as a capstone to Humanities 161: The War in Iraq.

"My only issue is that I hope it will be polite and informative and that it won't be disruptive, but otherwise I think it's great," Carroll said in reaction to the planned demonstrations. "Especially if they are handing

out a sheet of paper with their views on it that people can take home and then think about after they've heard the presentation, I think it will be more meaningful for people."

There will be heightened security at the event due to the general's high profile. As a result, anyone can be refused entry without explanation, and no bags or backpacks will be permitted in the SLC ballroom, according to the event Web site. In addition, demonstrations have been restricted to a designated area.

"We understand that, with a high-profile event like this, there may be people who want to demonstrate both in support of and against the individual speaking, and in the past we have accommodated these types of demonstrations and plan to do so for this event. There will be an area near the event site — on

Olin Lawn at 25th and Garland avenues — where campus and Nashville community members may gather during the event," said Beth Fortune, vice chancellor for public affairs.

Some of the demonstrators expressed discontent that their display has been restricted to a designated area removed from the Student Life Center, where they think their message is less likely to be heard.

"I think that they (Vanderbilt) have a lot of interest in General Petraeus coming and being very peaceful and him feeling welcome, it's kind of like 'we want to kiss up to the big guy,' and my personal motive is to avoid that happening," said junior Daniel Cunningham. "I want him to feel like that this isn't just friendly, happy land for him and that there are a lot of people who disagree with the things that he stands for." ■



PETRAEUS COMES TO CAMPUS

- When: Monday, March 1 at 5 p.m.
- Where: Student Life Center Ballroom
- Tickets were free but have been sold out
- The event will be streamed live at www.vanderbilt.edu/news



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PM	9:12 w	9:12 w	9:12 w	9:12 w	9:12 w	9:12 w	
	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 w
	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w			6:15 z
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UNIVERSITY COMPARISONS: Housing differences explored at Vandy's rivals

From UNIVERSITY COMPARISONS, page 1

the administration is tearing down buildings to create new ones," Borger said. "It is kind of a struggle to get housing because they do it on a random lottery system."

After freshman year, many sophomores live in Greek housing, which, unlike Vanderbilt Greek houses, holds as many as 60 students per house.

Most juniors move to the Claremont Campus, nicknamed the "Claremont Country Club." Although Claremont is farther away — roughly 10 minutes walking — shuttles run frequently both day and night. Seniors choose whether they want to live on or off campus.

"A lot of seniors live on campus at Claremont just because it is so convenient and close. People choose off campus housing so that they can have their own space and no RA, but at Claremont it is convenient because you can call in maintenance problems," Borger said.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Unlike Vanderbilt's common first-year experience philosophy, Northwestern does not guarantee housing for incoming freshmen.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors are assigned housing even before freshmen can apply, said Mark D'Arienzo, associate director of university housing. If freshmen forget to apply, they may not have housing on campus when they arrive.

Northwestern houses roughly 4,250 students, 2,100 of whom are freshmen. The remaining spots are divvied out among upperclassmen using a lottery system that gives priority to seniors. A freshman quad houses 350 freshmen, with the remaining scattered throughout campus dorms.

D'Arienzo said the system is beneficial to freshman integration. "Freshmen have the opportunity to interact with upperclassmen," D'Arienzo said. "There is a large exchange of informal information."

After freshman year, roughly 1,000 students elect to live in Greek houses. For those students who live on campus, the cost depends on room setup — single rooms cost more than doubles.

"NU charges different rates for different dorms — so even if you can get a housing number good enough to live in the apartment-

style dorm, you might not be able to afford it," Northwestern senior Carissa Black wrote in an e-mail. Financial aid is computed by the average dorm and average meal plan price, so if students live in a dorm more expensive than the average, they have to pay the difference.

Northwestern recently released a 50-year plan that calls for the demolition of some buildings and the construction of a new student center. These future buildings will incorporate environmental standards.

RICE UNIVERSITY

Students at Rice are required to live on campus all four years, living in one dorm for the entirety of their time at the university. Incoming freshmen are randomly placed in the dorm — called a college — where they remain for the duration of their college experience.

"Students become more affiliated with the college than with the university itself usually," said Mark Chaszar, housing operations manager at Rice. "(There is a) higher level of satisfaction with the colleges, they're very social and have worked for years now."

The colleges all run independently so each college has its own system. In some of the colleges there is a lack of space, so sophomores or juniors are forced to live off campus for one of their four years. The displaced group is usually small and remains affiliated with their college while off campus, according to Chaszar.

Each college houses roughly 229 to 300 students, who share a common eating area, kitchens and living facilities. The colleges vary in style and room options, from a building constructed in 1912 to dorms built in the past five years, from suite-style with a shared bathroom to eight singles sharing a common room.

"I would change the inconsistency between the quality of rooms in the residential college," said Rice junior Elena White. "Since our ResEd system restricts to living in one college all four years, you get the luck of the draw in terms of housing."

Like Vanderbilt, Rice charges a flat rate for housing despite differences in options and quality. ■



- Price range: **\$5,688-8,483 per year**
- Years required to live on campus: **Not required for any year**
- Freshman experience: **No; freshmen not required to live on campus**



- Price range: **\$7,880 per year**
- Years required to live on campus: **Students live all four years in their college, but some might have to live off campus for sophomore or junior year due to space constraints**
- Freshman experience: **Four-year residential college system**

KRAMKA: Housing operations head explains the future

From KRAMKA, page 1

Q: What is the next step in the process?

Kramka believes the next step, after The Commons, is the reconstruction of Kissam Quadrangle.

Q: Who will pay for the new dorms on campus?

Kramka said the general goal is to raise funds. He thinks it will be paid for through funds from philanthropic giving. The Commons project cost approximately \$150 million. The university already has debt associated with some part of the project and incurs more when they renovate buildings. It cannot, though, take on enough debt to replace Kissam.

Q: How will the university deal with lack of accommodations during the construction process?

During construction, Kramka said he anticipates working closely with landlords to help more students find off-campus housing. Also, the situation should be ameliorated as students will know well ahead of time what buildings are going down.

Q: What housing will be renovated or replaced after Kissam?

While the exact answer is not known, Kramka explained that a lot of major infrastructure projects are taking place in Towers East and West as part of a 10-year plan. While Kissam is still planned, an exact time frame is not known.

Q: Does the university have enough land to construct all of the housing needed to keep Vanderbilt a residential college?

Kramka said that campus architect Judson Newburn is working to make upcoming buildings denser to allow the university to still maintain green space. In one Kissam proposal, housing 585 students in six-story buildings instead of four-story buildings will use less land. ■

For in-depth, multimedia coverage of The Hustler's housing story, go to www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

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EDITORIAL

Housing needs attention

Housing woes are a common complaint on Vanderbilt's campus, and as housing selection nears, problems are going to flare up with alarming frequency. The oft-touted Commons experience has been successful, providing the past two freshman classes with comfortable room and board.

Many upperclassmen do, however, feel slighted. Students have a reason to respond negatively to the current housing situation. The number of students who receive off-campus approval has decreased over the years, and it is becoming increasingly difficult for sophomores and juniors to get a suite-style dorm. And even if you live in a Towers suite, you still have to deal with the problems of aging infrastructure and an out-of-date kitchen.

These issues are complicated by the fact that, for the most part, housing on main campus has not changed in several decades. Places like the Towers study lounges and Kissam Quad have received little attention since the 1970s. Most improvements made since that time have been minor and cosmetic, not substantially improving the overall living experience.

The schizophrenic nature of Vanderbilt housing looks better in comparison to systems at equivalent institutions. Other universities, including Rice, provide flat-rate housing like Vanderbilt, but they provide students with vastly dissimilar dorm styles. And while Highland Quad does seem far from Wilson Hall, Emory's Claremont campus is not even contiguous to the main campus. And while the

current housing lottery seems somewhat arbitrary, it seems to function better than Emory's random lottery system. Despite differences between residence systems, dissatisfaction with housing is nearly universal among college students.

Just because Vanderbilt provides housing on par with many of the nation's top universities does not mean there is not substantial room for improvement. Dorm buildings that have been standing for multiple decades should have undergone renovations or replacement long ago. A coat of paint and new carpeting does not fix the underlying design issues and technical problems that plague dorms like Kissam. In addition to providing accommodations, residential halls need to be social spaces that provide an environment relevant for 21st-century living. Otherwise, students are far better off living in state-of-the-art off-campus apartment buildings than in campus facilities that resemble glorified public housing.

Renovating The Commons was a strong first step, but nearly all other residence halls on campus require long-overdue attention. If Vanderbilt intends to be a true world-class academic institution, it must focus on more than just the quality of the professors or energy-efficient common-use buildings. The administration needs to realize that most students spend the majority of their four years within the confines of their dorm room and that these rooms have significant impact on the student's well-being, happiness and overall quality of life.

CARTOON



Good, old-fashioned statewide pride



CLAIRE COSTANTINO
Columnist

I am a proud Texan. Most Texans are. Part of the reason we're proud is because our state is totally boss, but we have also created a culture of pride within the state. Last Friday was Go Texan Day. This means rodeo season is approaching, elementary school kids are having square dances, offices are going to have a weekend barbeque, and seventh-graders are doing projects on the Battle of San Jacinto. I celebrated by eating Tex-Mex and Bluebell ice cream, drinking a Shiner Bock and listening to George Strait. It's an even more magical time to be a Texan than the normally awesome circumstances we find ourselves in every other day of the year. Perhaps you and your home state should consider holding a day of pride. I'm sure every state has great things to be proud of — heck, even the loathsome state of Louisiana could probably think of something.

If you're from a boring place that doesn't usually feel proud of itself, you probably think this is a silly idea. What good can state pride do? Does state pride lead to tangible results like jobs or good schools? As they would say in the rural parts of Texas, darn-tootin' it does! People in Texas care about the state and take measures to preserve and enhance its greatness. The University of Texas has archives and special collections bigger and more exhaustive than that of Vanderbilt of the North, Harvard. We are really good at sports at every level, and we're constantly working (read:

jacking kids up with steroids and faking their passing grades) to be better. We have the second highest population of millionaires in the country, and people working in the oil or ranching industry work hard to become that next millionaire and push Texas into first place. We're also the second largest state in the union, and I've often thought about moving the "Welcome to Texas!" signs on our borders a little further into our neighboring states to get some extra area. So, naysayer, do you still feel comfortable saying pride can't motivate a state to improve itself?

Some states are well on their way to Texas-sized pride. People from Ohio are nuts for The Ohio State University. Everyone from Illinois is in love with Chicago. And people from New Jersey are quickly developing that statewide sense of defensiveness that can easily morph into pride. Californians ... well, I don't know what to say about them other than that they all seem, like, totally down with their state, bro. These places have the crucial first seed of state pride, their one claim to fame, that can grow into a multi-pronged argument for their state's supremacy. Texans were once proud because the state was large and full of opportunity, and now we're proud of just about everything about it (except George W. Bush). If Texas can do it, your state can probably do it almost as well as we have. Everyone get excited for Go Wyoming Day!

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

THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff. Compiled by Peter Nygaard

Chile		So, for those playing at home, the earthquake that hit Haiti was a 7.0 on the MMS scale and had roughly 230,000 casualties. The earthquake that hit Chile was an 8.8 and had only 708 casualties. How do you say "Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-chin" in Spanish?
Roiders		Many athletes are about to receive grand jury subpoenas in connection to the investigation of Anthony Galea, who has been accused of smuggling performance-enhancing drugs from Canada to the U.S. and supplying them to athletes. Some of the athletes in question include golfer Tiger Woods, Mets shortstop Jose Reyes and Broncos backup QB Chris Simms. As a Broncos fan, I have to ask ... "Are you sure those drugs are actually working?"
Shamu		An orca at SeaWorld named Tilikum claimed its third victim in two decades after it pulled its trainer into the tank by her ponytail and drowned her. I don't know which was more of a red flag: the fact that Tilikum had killed two people before or the fact that we're talking about a KILLER whale.
Norovirus		The Celebrity Mercury cruise ship docked in South Carolina after an 11-day cruise during which many passengers came down with a bad stomach virus for a 24-hour period. I guess that's the last time we ever put a Chipotle on a cruise ship.

POLL

Where do you want to live next year?
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Branscomb



Greek housing



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Towers



Vandy/Barnard



Off campus



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.

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

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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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COLUMN

A few common misconceptions

Feel free to have an opinion, but remember some issues are too complex to be encapsulated by an overly simplistic political view.



THOMAS SHATTUCK
Opinion Editor

Most people have some kind of opinion on almost everything. If you've ever taken an English class at Vandy, you know what I'm talking about. This isn't necessarily a bad thing; it's just a human thing. People evolved to be curious and, more importantly, to make judgment calls. You know, along the lines of "Will that saber-tooth tiger eat me?" or "Are those berries poisonous?" Furthermore, we not only have strong opinions, but we're also hardwired to believe we're right.

Sure, this doesn't cause much of a problem in a class. Even if anyone is listening, they'll just sneer at you with vaguely concealed ire. But this problem is not only relegated to academia; it comes up in politics and science. And by that, I mean it comes up all the time.

Think of the climate debate. Have you got an image in your head? Does it involve shouting? It probably should. Global warming is one of the most contentious things to occur to science since Galileo forgot to keep his mouth shut. Everyone is arguing whether or not the atmosphere is warming and, if so, is the source anthropogenic. Hell, some people even debate if warming is even a bad thing.

What do these great debaters have in common? Most of them don't even have a rudimentary background in the general sciences. The senator that's telling you his state's logging industry isn't posing an environmental threat probably hasn't taken biology since he was in high school. And then there's the blogger fury that was "Climategate." You know, because the guy who writes political commentary when he gets off work is qualified to tell me about the weather.

It's true that certain groups and scientific

journals may have violated certain ethical principles, and perhaps the scientific method may not have been rigidly followed. But you know what, most of the people chastising the research staff at the University of East Anglia do not even know what they scientific method is. Sure — they believe they do, but there's a difference between the chart you had to memorize in middle school and the principles used to design a statistically relevant experiment. And climate's not the only subject that the uninformed inexplicably love to discuss.

And then there's the public option. Nothing seems to piss off the common man more than poor people receiving medical treatment courtesy of the government. God forbid trillions of dollars are used to treat the sick instead of killing people who live unfortunately close to the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Oh, that and supporting the nascent poppy industry in Afghanistan.

Politics aside, people will tell you that this will cost too much and it will hurt the economy. The tax system will not be able to handle it, and we couldn't raise taxes; that'd crash the economy. I'm not even going to point out that even with a Ph.D., most people still couldn't understand the U.S. economy or the current tax system. All I am going to point out is that 60 percent of Americans use some kind of tax preparer and another 20 percent use computer programs like Quicken. In other words, if you don't do your own taxes, your opinion on the national budget is probably only loosely based on reality.

Everyone has a right to an opinion; not everyone who has an opinion is right. Admittedly, not every column I have written was based on a logical organization of facts. Most of the time, I'm not sure if they would be considered entirely lucid. That being said, I rarely get up on my national policy high horse and "tell it like it is." I leave that to Glenn Beck on TV and Charlton Heston in "The Ten Commandments."

—Thomas Shattuck is a junior in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at thomas.u.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu.

At a Glance: InsideVandy Blogs

VANDY ABROAD

Hey Juliet!

BY COURTNEY ROGERS

Ciao readers! Last night I left you in Venice when Bronwyn and I were getting ready to leave for the next stop on our journey.

We hopped on the train and were in Verona in about two hours. Weather: overcast, high 40s, but no rain, hooray! In the train station, we decided to buy something called a Verona Card for 10 euro. It's a little card that you show at Verona's main attractions to get in without paying their admission fee.

Read blogs and more on InsideVandy.com

LETTER

Individual expression is beneficial

To the Editor:

While I do believe that individual expression has boundaries, Johnny Weir's performance at the Olympics is in bounds. First, one issue is that his style draws criticism. He likes to wear pink. So what? Mr. Weir is entitled to express himself however he feels is appropriate. Also, Johnny Weir has never stated that he is gay. He always says his sexual orientation is no one else's concern; he says, "Who I sleep with does not have anything to do with my performances on the ice." While I find that statement problematic, the way he dresses on the ice should not be criticized because it is effeminate or because it makes people realize that there are gay people in the world. People do not mind that there are gay people in the world; they do not want to see men who act gay.

As I watched the men's skating competition, I could not help but notice the concern that many had with making the sport more macho. As long as the men are macho and uphold gender

norms in our society, then their expression is acceptable. When that expression is outside or goes against gender norms, then that behavior is unacceptable.

Thus, the problem with saying that the focus is on Weir's sexuality is that this statement is not completely true. They just want him to be more macho. Self-expression is one of the most important aspects of an individual and of our society. Some of his style choices may grab attention. But that doesn't matter! Many people seek to grab the headlines and fail. As long as one is being true to whom one is and seeks to hurt no one, then we should look on and learn from that person. We should not criticize him or her because that person is a "bad example" for other figure skaters. The "bad example" is the one who attempts to be just like everyone else. Each individual is a being made in God's image. We should let each person express that image!

Jamie Seales
Divinity School

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Sports

Commodores hogtie Razorbacks on the road

by GEOFF HUTCHINSON
Sports Reporter

Bud Walton Arena has been traditionally a house of horrors for the Vanderbilt men's basketball team, especially under coach Kevin Stallings.

However, on Saturday the Commodores felt right at home in Fayetteville.

Stallings notched his first career road win over Arkansas as Vanderbilt (22-6, 11-3 Southeastern Conference) beat the Razorbacks (14-15, 7-7) with a final score of 89-72 on Saturday afternoon. The win was only the second time in Vanderbilt's history the Commodores notched a victory over the Razorbacks in Bud Walton Arena.

"I asked them if they'd get me off the schneide here, and they did it," Stallings said about his team after another impressive performance against a Southeastern Conference foe.

The Commodores overwhelmed the Razorbacks with a balanced offensive attack early on, sparked by the brilliant play of Jeffery Taylor and A.J. Ogilvy. Vanderbilt finished the game with five players in double figures, led by the high-rising sophomore Taylor, who finished the game with 18 points. Ogilvy contributed 14, guards Brad Tinsley and John Jenkins added 13, and junior forward Darshawn McClellan scored 11 off the bench for the Commodores.

Arkansas was able to keep the game relatively close up until halftime, trailing 45-35 at the midway point behind 21 first-half points from forward Marshawn Powell. However, after the half, Vanderbilt limited Powell's opportunities to score and held him to only six points for the rest of the game.

The Razorback guards were unable to get going overall, as guards Courtney Fortson and Rotnei Clarke were held to 22 points combined on a paltry 8-29 shooting. Vanderbilt limited Fortson to a season-low eight points, as Arkansas shot 37.8 percent from the field and missed a number of contested shots.

In order to provide a spark to their lineup, Vanderbilt came out Saturday with a different starting five, as Jenkins replaced Tinsley at the shooting guard position in his second start of the year. Jenkins and Tinsley both benefitted from the move, with Tinsley proving a formidable presence in the sixth-man role and Jenkins putting together his most consistent performance in several games. The new lineup seemed to improve the Vanderbilt offense immediately, as the team hit 13 of their first 20 shots and shot 65.4 percent in the first half.

"Offensively I thought we seemed very in sync, very together and very purposeful," Stallings said. "We were able to get baskets inside early, and

that opened up some things from the perimeter. I thought we played really well offensively and followed the game plan."

With the win, the Commodores moved one game closer to clinching a first round bye in the upcoming SEC Tournament. If Vanderbilt defeats either Florida or South Carolina, they will be assured a first-round bye in the tournament.

Up next for the Commodores will be the aforementioned Florida Gators (20-9, 9-5) on Tuesday night down in Gainesville. The Gators are coming off a heartbreaking 78-76 loss to last-place Georgia after defeating No. 17 Tennessee earlier in the week.

The Commodores won the first contest against the Gators here in Nashville, 95-87, behind a strong 24-point outing from Ogilvy. Vanderbilt must contend with the Gators' balanced scoring attack, as they have five scorers that average double figures, led by freshman guard Kenny Boynton. Even so, the Commodores are prepared for their next test after finally breaking out in Fayetteville.

"It's going to be nice to not have to come over here and wonder if I'll ever get a win," Stallings said. "But if my teams had played like this before, we would've won here before."

The Florida matchup will be televised nationally on ESPN, with tipoff for the game at 6 p.m. CST. ■



BECK FRIEDMAN / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jermaine Beal (0) is helping Vanderbilt finish SEC play strong. The Commodores defeated Arkansas 89-72 on Saturday.

COLUMN

Another pass falls incomplete



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Mackenzi Adams succumbs to UK defenders at the home game against the University of Kentucky on Nov. 14, 2009. The Commodores lost 24-13, one of many suspect offensive performances.

by DANIEL MARKS
Sports Reporter

Earlier this month, head coach Bobby Johnson reshuffled his offensive staff. He promoted Jimmy Kiser — formerly co-passing game coordinator — to offensive coordinator, demoted former coordinator Ted Cain to tight ends coach and special teams coordinator, made Charlie Fisher the passing game coordinator and added running game coordinator to running back coach Des Kitchings' responsibilities. While the official titles have changed amongst the current staff, no new blood was brought in, and therein lies the problem.

Vanderbilt's offense has been meager at best and awful at worst the past two seasons. The Commodores have finished in the bottom 10 in offensive production for Football Bowl Subdivision teams in that time and finished in the bottom five in FBS for time of possession this past season. In addition, the offensive play-calling has been way too conservative and becoming the butt of many jokes in the media and around campus. Johnson's loyalty to his staff is admirable in some respects but also destructive to the team. He can't have a successful offense with the current brain trust in place.

That is why hiring Kiser as the team's offensive coordinator is, like Vanderbilt's play-calling, conservative and questionable. Kiser has been in charge of quarterbacks and became co-passing game coordinator last season. Since Jay Cutler graduated, the Commodores have struggled mightily to find consistency at quarterback. They have shuffled between Chris Nickson, Mackenzi Adams and Larry Smith, with Jordan Rodgers now added to the hodgepodge. None of these quarterbacks has performed well enough to warrant the full-time job without having to look over his shoulder; however, the responsibility

for this inconsistency rests partially with Kiser.

In addition, Kiser did a horrific job orchestrating a nonexistent passing game last year. He failed to use his two sure-handed tight ends (Austin Monahan and Brandon Barden) adequately; he didn't capitalize on Smith's accuracy underneath; and he blatantly underused the running backs as a safety valve in the passing game. Consequently, Vanderbilt's aerial attack was marred by inefficacy throughout 2009.

The second and most important reason why this offensive staff cannot succeed is because of their inability to adjust their game plan and to recognize their strategic errors. Last year's porous attempts at the no-huddle offense provide a perfect example. In order for this to work, the offense needs to move the ball and wear down opposing defenses while keeping its own defense well-rested. The Commodores' longest possession of the year was 4:37, with far too many of their possessions lasting under a minute. The offense's inability to stay on the field for long stretches forced the defense to take on an incredible workload that noticeably wore them down as the season progressed.

Thus, the offense was poor, the defense was gassed, and it showed on the scoreboard. The no-huddle offense needs to be discarded because it doesn't wear out the opposing defense — it wears out the Vanderbilt defense. So far, there has been no indication that the no-huddle will be either dropped or modified, and that is a problem.

After two years of being carried by the defense, the offense needs to step up in 2010. With many offensive skills players returning and a strong recruiting class coming in, this squad seems ripe for improvement; however, in order to maximize their talents, they needed some new blood on offense. This coaching decision fell short in that regard, and, as a result, the offense may once again follow suit.

Senior day disappointment

by PETER NYGAARD
Sports Reporter

The No. 22 Commodores were looking to send their seniors out in style on Sunday. Instead, they sent themselves into the Southeastern Conference Tournament as the sixth seed after falling to South Carolina (14-14, 7-9), 73-70. Without a first-round bye, Vanderbilt (20-9, 9-7) will have to win four games in four days to win the SEC Tournament, a feat they last accomplished in 2004.

"We've won four games (in the SEC Tournament) before, so it's something we've done," coach Melanie Balcomb said. "But we just take one game at a time, so whoever we're set up with, it won't matter what round it is. We're just trying to get wins at this point."

The game was very nearly sent to overtime when senior Merideth Marsh got an open look as the clock was winding down, but the shot drew back iron and bounced out. Marsh finished with a game-high of 27 points, one

short of her career high.

"I got a good look, and to be completely honest, it felt good," Marsh said. "I think it's just upsetting that in a game like this, we just didn't fight back, and that's what it had to come down to: one shot, on Senior Day."

The primary reason the Commodores were in that position to begin with was frontcourt dominance on the offensive side for South Carolina. The Gamecocks came away with 19 offensive rebounds, including seven by junior Jewel May, providing them with numerous second-chance opportunities. The Gamecocks were led by junior Valerie Nainima's team-high of 23 points, matching Marsh shot-for-shot for most of the game.

It was an especially tough loss for the Commodores given that they limited their turnovers, only coughing the ball up 12 times. However, South Carolina seized control of their possessions in coming away with this one, taking 12 more shots than Vanderbilt and making more than 43 percent of them.

"We just had mental lapses defensively," said senior Lauren Lueders. "We would score and then come right back down and miss defensive opportunities."

Vanderbilt led for most of the first half but was never able to push the lead to double digits. The Commodores had a 51-46 lead with just over 10 minutes remaining when South Carolina went on a 16-4 run to swing momentum in their favor. The lead change coincided with junior forward Hannah Tuomi fouling out, opening the door to more second-chance points for the Gamecocks.

"Hannah's fouls definitely hurt us," Balcomb said. "She was playing well tonight, and they were having trouble guarding us inside, and it hurt to have her out that long."

The Commodores will open tournament play next Thursday in Duluth, Ga. While the extra game means less rest, it may also throw some coals on Vanderbilt's fire.

"I like the challenge because we can use this as motivation to come out and play," said senior Jessica Mooney. "If we come out and play in the tournament, and play like we did today, we're losing in the first round. Maybe this (loss) is a blessing in disguise." ■



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jence Rhoads (22) and the Commodores were stopped by South Carolina 73-70 Sunday afternoon. Rhoads finished with nine points and nine assists.

The quintessential Commodore

by **ERIC SINGLE**
Asst Sports Editor

When asked about her emotions heading into her final home basketball game at Vanderbilt on Sunday, Merideth Marsh gave a response befitting a do-it-all leader.

"In a sense it's a little different because it's my last game here," she said. "But then at the same time it's just like any other SEC game: (I'm) focused on what the game plan is and getting a win. Once the game's over, then it'll probably hit me, when they're doing all the senior stuff.

"But up until game time, nothing (matters) but a win."

All season, Marsh's focus has been strictly on winning. Whether it was the 12 points and five assists she tallied in Vanderbilt's 66-44 victory over then-undefeated Georgia or the 67 threes she has hit as the Commodores' primary outside threat, Marsh has succeeded in any role the Commodores have needed her to fill. Her versatility has proved vital to Vanderbilt's late-season rally, as they have won six of their past

nine conference games heading into the Southeastern Conference Tournament.

However, the fruits of Marsh's contributions may not be fully realized until next year, when the evidence of her great leadership — like her play — will speak for itself. When the accomplished senior class of Marsh, Jessica Mooney, Lauren Lueders and Ashlee Bridge departs, players like Jence Rhoads, Hannah Tuomi, Elan Brown and Tiffany Clarke can use Marsh's exemplary leadership and resolve to take Vanderbilt's success into their own hands.

"This year I've really had the opportunity to take the freshmen under my wing, and that's something I enjoy doing," Marsh said. "In the years past we've had one or two people who have been the strong leader, and I think this year we have several leaders. Each night we have people stepping up in different ways, and I think that's crucial and has been very vital to our success so far this season."

Rhoads in particular has emerged as an offensive, defensive and

emotional leader for next year's team. The junior from Slippery Rock, Pa., is averaging 13.8 points in 36 minutes per game and has patrolled the backcourt along with Marsh in the final weeks despite playing with a broken hand since Jan. 10.

"She's taken on more of a take-charge attitude, which is great," Marsh said of her emerging teammate. "She's a point guard, so she has the ball in her hands 95 percent of the time. She must be a leader to function properly on the offensive end because you have to communicate. She's definitely done a lot better job doing that, and I think a lot of people have started to respect her and look up to her in that sense. It's helped us tremendously."

As Vanderbilt heads into Southeastern Conference and NCAA Tournament play, the Commodores' playmakers of the future will look to Marsh for a few final flashes of the leadership she has developed and projected in her four years in Nashville.

Marsh will look right back at them and deliver, focused on nothing but a win. ■



CHRIS PHARE/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Merideth Marsh (23) spurs the Commodore attack on both ends of the floor. Her presence and senior leadership have driven Vanderbilt to a late-season hot streak.

This weekend in Vanderbilt sports

by **PETER NYGAARD**
Sports Reporter

Baseball

A West Coast trip yielded two wins and a loss for the Commodores, who moved to 6-1 on the season. Friday, the Commodores dropped their first game of the young season against No. 23 UCLA by a score of 9-2. A six-run fifth inning spelled disaster for Vanderbilt, who was unable to get on the scoreboard until the sixth. On Saturday, the Commodores were paced by junior Bryan Johns' 4-5, four RBI performance as they defeated USC 10-1. Sophomore Jason Esposito hit a ball in the seventh that reportedly landed somewhere in the San Jose area, his second home run of the season. Sunday afternoon, Vanderbilt took on Oklahoma State at Dodger Stadium, a game the Commodores won 7-6. An eighth inning rally by OSU cut their lead to one run, but junior Russell Brewer earned his first save of the season, pitching a scoreless 1.1 innings to close out the Vanderbilt win.

Women's Track

Sophomore Louise Hannallah scored Vandy's only points in the first two days of competition, placing seventh in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 9:59.36. Sophomore Alexa Rogers finished just off her pace in 10th place at 10:05.48. Junior Rita Jorgenson qualified for the finals in the one-mile run after placing seventh in the preliminaries. Junior Katherine Hendricks set a new school record in the indoor pole vault at a height of 12-2 3/4, breaking the mark she shared with sophomore Meagan Martin.

Women's Swimming

Senior Jessica Cohen and freshman Sarah Lynch were Vanderbilt's only competitors at the Last Chance Meet on Friday. Cohen finished 14th in the finals of the 50-yard freestyle, and Lynch finished 11th in the finals of the 100-yard butterfly.

Bowling

Vanderbilt finished fourth at the Holiday Classic in Bessemer, Ala., on Sunday after going unbeaten prior to the Baker matches. In their matchup against Maryland-Eastern Shore, it came down to the final frame. UMES anchor Maria Rodriguez needed a strike to beat the Commodores, and she delivered, leading the Hawks to a 17-pin victory. The loss put Vanderbilt into the consolation bracket, where they fell to Alabama A&M by a count of 227-168.

Women's Lacrosse

Sophomore Hannah Clark scored a career-high five goals off the bench as No. 13 Vanderbilt earned its first win of the season over UMBC in Baltimore with a final score of 17-10. Senior standouts Carter Foote and Sarah Downing had four and three goals, respectively, while junior Katherine Denkler added a pair. Sophomore Natalie Wills turned away 10 of the 20 shots she faced.



ZACHARY HARDY/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Men's Tennis

Vanderbilt swept the doubles matches, and juniors Alex Zotov and Adam Baker continued their unbeaten seasons in singles play as the Commodores beat Middle Tennessee State 5-2. Senior Vijay Paul and junior Bryant Salcedo shouldered some of the load for Vanderbilt as well, both scoring points for the Commodores in the victory.

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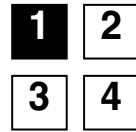
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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

Level:



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

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

3/1/10

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Word-of-mouth brand
- 5 Plastic clog footwear brand
- 10 Before: Pref.
- 13 Quash, as a bill
- 14 Fathered
- 15 Monopoly card with a mortgage value
- 16 Mary Kay rival
- 17 Alabama march city
- 18 Sea eagle
- 19 Breathing organs
- 21 Finely sharpened
- 22 Long, long time
- 23 Playground piece that has its ups and downs
- 25 Caught 40 winks
- 27 Relieved end-of-the-week cry
- 29 Country west of Botswana
- 33 Jackson 5 brother
- 36 Musher's transport
- 38 Traffic tangle
- 39 Cold War empire: Abbr.
- 40 Compulsive fire starters, informally
- 42 Lobster catcher
- 43 Has (an audience) rolling in the aisles
- 45 Wail
- 46 Coop group
- 47 Provider of kisses?
- 49 Cyrano had a big one
- 51 Reddish-orange dye
- 53 Hit with a paddle
- 57 Stereotypical dog name

- 60 ___ the lily; overem-bellish
- 62 International Court of Justice site, with "The"
- 63 Allege as fact
- 64 Radiant
- 66 Word after duct or ticker
- 67 Time for fasting
- 68 Ivory Coast neighbor
- 69 Bad to the bone
- 70 D-Day craft
- 71 Early anesthetic
- 72 Cincinnati team

DOWN

- 1 Egg shapes
- 2 Variety show
- 3 Make amends (for)
- 4 "Cutting to the chase ..."
- 5 "The Amazing Race" network
- 6 Smell really bad
- 7 Leered at
- 8 "The Price Is Right" signature phrase
- 9 Poem part
- 10 Pierre's pop
- 11 "The Biggest Little City in the World"
- 12 Notable 57-Down site
- 15 Going nowhere
- 20 Drop in the middle
- 24 Thin smoke trail
- 26 There are three in "mommy"
- 28 Like here-today-gone-tomorrow businesses

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			

3/1/10

- 30 In the buff
- 31 Shah's land, once
- 32 Swiss peaks
- 33 Buttocks, in slang
- 34 Bermuda, e.g.
- 35 Old Russian despot
- 37 Pitching stat
- 41 11-Down machine
- 44 Ship, to its captain
- 48 Interlock, as gears
- 50 "Quiet!"
- 52 Koran deity
- 54 Tequila source
- 55 Deity with a bow and arrow
- 56 Topples (over)
- 57 Drop down, and apt word that can follow the last words of 4-, 8-, 15- and 28-Down
- 58 Singer Burl
- 59 Fender ding
- 61 Finished
- 65 Original Cabinet department renamed Defense in 1949

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

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