**Rain**, 29 / 21



**SPORTS** 

**Asst. Sports Editor Eric Single** sits down for a Q&A with basketball players Kyle Fuller and Rod Odom

**SEE PAGE 5** 



# THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011

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123RD YEAR, No. 5

■ CAMPUS NEWS

# **Vanderbilt** receives high ranking in student leadership

**LUCAS LOFFREDO** Staff Writer

Vanderbilt's leadership development placed 12th in ranking released by Leadership Excellence magazine.

The university placed above Yale's Leadership Institute and Stanford's Graduate School of Business Leadership.

"We have worked very hard to provide effective programs that would be helpful and relevant to our students," Office of Leadership Development and Intercultural Affairs Senior Director Lori Groves-White said in an email. "This is not our first year being recognized but this is our highest ranking yet."

According to Groves-White, the high ranking is partially due to the many leadership-promoting programs that the LDIA offers at Vanderbilt.

The new Preparing for Leadership and Service in a Diverse Society (PREP) program is one example of the leadership development programs Vanderbilt.

"(PREP is a) year-long program that engages emerging leaders in small group discussions of relevant issues pertaining to leadership in society, cultural diversity, social justice, civic engagement and professional development," Groves-White said. "During the fall semester, Vanderbilt faculty leads the small group discussions. In the spring semester, participants have service internships with non-profit, educational and government agencies."

Students' leadership experience in student organizations also contributed to the ranking.

"I think that VSG has afforded me and the rest of its members a lot of different opportunities for leadership development by allowing us to work with upperclassmen, student leaders and university administrators more broadly," said VSG President Lori Murphy.

Student leaders can also choose to apply for residence Leadership Hall, described by Groves-White as a living/learning program that focuses on interpersonal leadership.

"I think that one of the unique things about the way that Vanderbilt University develops its student leaders is that students are really treated like equals and like adults," Murphy said. "Students are given more responsibilities and are able to further develop themselves and their managementability." ■

# Snowstorm paints campus white



**OLIVER WOLFE/** The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students walk through snow late Thursday afternoon. Weather forecasts predict a wintry mix every day for the next week.

■ CAMPUS NEWS

# Study shows little learning occurs in college

**LIZ FURLOW** 

Staff Writer

A new study provides disturbing answers to questions about how much students actually learn in college—for many, not much—and has inflamed a debate about the value of an American higher education.

The research of more than 2,300 undergraduates found 45 percent of students show no significant improvement in the key measures of critical thinking, complex reasoning and writing by the end of their sophomore years. After four years, 36 percent of students did not demonstrate significant improvement.

With the estimated average cost of attendance for full-time undergraduate Vanderbilt students totaling over \$56,000, the value of an education gains

further importance in the minds of undergraduate students.

Students such as Parker Dabbs, junior, see the value of education not in terms of skills gained but in facts learned.

"You get into college based on critical thinking and writing skills, but in college, you gain specialized knowledge. You're not supposed to learn to be better at critical thinking, you're supposed to learn your specific courses," Dabbs said. "The most important part of college is getting a major and learning about that subject. I'm a biology major, and I probably haven't improved my writing skills, but that's not the point."

Juliane McGee, senior, said he believes that an education is less tangible than facts learned in class.

"I learned how to learn, but I haven't learned specific applicable skills," Please see **STUDYING**, page 2



**OLIVER WOLFE/** The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Molly Ross studies in front of a fire in Rand Thursday afternoon while the

■ CAMPUS NEWS

# **C-SPAN** Bus makes stop on campus

**KATIE KROG** 

Staff Writer

Vanderbilt became the latest stop on the national tour of the C-SPAN bus thursday afternoon. The bright blue charter bus, designed to educate and connect with the public, is part of a bus program that has existed since 1993.

"The purpose of the bus program is twofold," said Doug Hemmig, a C-SPAN Community Relations Representative. "First, (we're focusing on) educational outreach; we want to show teachers and

students how they can use our resources in the classroom. Second, (we want) to connect with viewers and spread awareness about all that C-SPAN has to

On the bus, students can find computers showcasing C-SPAN's resources. One of these resources is the C-SPAN video library, an online archive of everything that has appeared on C-SPAN since 1987.

"There are so many resources to keep you informed about Washington," said Hemmig. "It's all online, at your fingertips."

Over 40,000 teachers use the C-SPAN archive as a standard component of their classroom instruction.

"I didn't realize that it was everything," junior Travis Snyder said of the C-SPAN archive. "That's very cool."

In addition to being an outreach program, the bus doubles as a production vehicle with plenty of room for interviews

Hemmig said he is pleased with the attention the program has received so

"We work closely with universities, so

we always get pretty good turnouts," said Hemmig. "At Vanderbilt, there is a lot of curiosity, a lot of interested students."

"I had no idea what to expect coming aboard," said Snyder. "It's very lavish and high-tech."

"We want people to know that there's a lot more to the network than meets the eye," said Hemmig. "Thanks to Vanderbilt for bringing us to campus. We love to talk

For more information and to access the C-SPAN online archive, go to insidevandy.



Through your words, actions and choice in any given moment, you can help and violence... one green dot at a time.

What's your green dot?



# Need to Know Vanderbilt

A brief look at the news stories happening on campus, in the Vanderbilt community and in the world of higher education.

#### Public lecture series at Vanderbilt features renowned Civil War scholars

U.S. Civil War scholars from across the nation will speak at Vanderbilt University in a series of public lectures this spring on a variety of themes, including the war's impact on Nashville.

The talks, sponsored by the university's College of Arts and Science, will take place during the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War and the presidential inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. The lectures are in conjunction with an interdisciplinary undergraduate course on the Civil War cotaught by Richard Blackett, the Andrew Jackson Professor of History, and Michael Kreyling, the Gertrude Conway Vanderbilt Professor of English.

#### Free performance of "Women of Will" at Vanderbilt Feb. 3

Vanderbilt will host performances of Women of Will, a two-person show that examines the evolution of the heroine in Shakespeare's writing. The show will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 3, at the Ingram Hall, Blair School of Music, on the Vanderbilt campus and is free and open to the public.



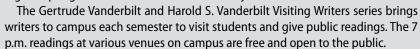
#### Vanderbilt professor wins award for book about tours of Israel

Shaul Kelner, assistant professor of sociology and Jewish studies, was presented the 2010 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award last month at the AJS conference in Boston for Tours That Bind: Diaspora, Pilgrimage and Israeli Birthright Tourism. The award was for the social science, anthropology and folklore category.



### Mason, Jarman among authors appearing at Vanderbilt this

Novelists Bobbie Ann Mason and Tom Perrotta and poets Mark Jarman, Ciaran Carson and Frank Bidart are among the writers who will read from their work during the spring semester at Vanderbilt University.





Source: Vanderbilt News Service, http://news.vanderbilt.edu/

#### ADMINISTRATION

# A Letter from **Provost McCarty** about budgets

In a letter released Jan. 18, Provost McCarty asked his colleagues to continue to reduce spending in this uncertain economic climate. The Hustler has printed an excerpt of the letter to inform our readers of the budget concerns facing the university. The full letter can be found online at InsideVandy.com.



Info about Inside-Vandy content goes here, please. You can mention videos, photos, special

#### **Dear Colleagues:**

As we begin the spring semester, I write to thank you for your ongoing commitment to Vanderbilt University.

Together we have confronted significant challenges over the past two and one-half years, from the onset of the financial crisis in 2008 and through the historic floods in Nashville in May 2010. As an academic community, we have come through this period of turmoil and change by closing ranks and focusing our energies on our tripartite mission of teaching, discovery, and service. Our many successes to this point would not have been possible without the dedication, civility, and innovative spirit of our faculty and

Our budget planning for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2011 (FY12), is already underway. For the past three years, we have known that FY12 was going to be a challenging budget year because of a significant 6% decrease in endowment payout from FY11, based upon our computation of a three-year trailing average of endowment returns. Additionally, as the 112th Congress begins its work in Washington, D.C., we can also expect decreases for the years ahead in federal funding for research through the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Departments of Defense, Education, and Energy. We expect these, and other discretionary areas of the federal budget, will be reduced substantially as the Congress confronts the challenge of managing the federal budget deficit.

We have made a series of fiscal adjustments, beginning in the fall semester 2008, when the global economy dropped precipitously, along with the value of Vanderbilt's endowment. Because everyone in the Vanderbilt community joined together to steward our financial resources, we have continued to move forward as a university and maintain our significant

We successfully launched the final phase of our enhanced undergraduate aid program, Opportunity Vanderbilt, which eliminated debt as a portion of our student financial aid awards. With the opening of The Commons in August 2008, combined with Opportunity Vanderbilt, we have seen unprecedented increases in applications for admission to our four undergraduate schools. Applications to our graduate and professional schools are also at record levels.

We are nearing completion of a long-overdue \$6 million dollar renovation to the Heard Central Library. We have also made important investments in our graduate programs by providing recruitment funds, adding new lines, and increasing annual stipends and lengths of financial guarantees. As Chancellor Zeppos announced in his August 2010 speech to the Fall Faculty Assembly, we are in the process of awarding 60 endowed chairs across the university over the next year.

Sincerely, **Richard McCarty Provost and Vice Chancellor** for Academic Affairs

# **STUDYING:** greater learning gains at more selective schools

From **STUDYING**, page 1

McGee said. "As for the test they performed in the study, you can do better on the SATs the second time without having learned anything, I'm not sure if that's the best way of getting the statistics."

Mary Beth Harding, 2010 alumna, said course selection played a great part in an individual's

"I think it depends on the class you take," Harding said. "If you take writing classes, you'll learn writing. A single test like the one in the study

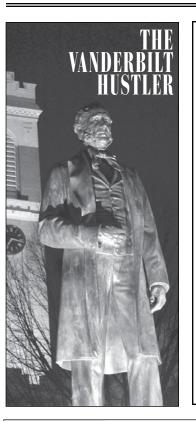
Among the findings outlined in the book and report, students who studied alone, read and

wrote more, attended more selective schools and majored in traditional arts and sciences major posted greater learning gains than students who

Freshman David Dipanfilo believed class selection influenced learning.

"It depends on the professor and the class," Dipanfilo said. "It's a way of thinking. Although I wouldn't remember rote facts, I would learn to think more. There are some classes that might be a waste—but definitely not all of them." ■

-The Associated Press contributed reporting to

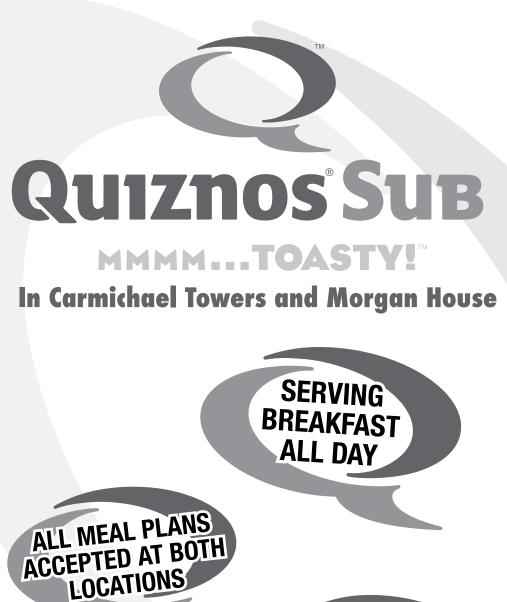




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The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the academic year except for during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

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

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#### LOCATION

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

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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.

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

#### **BACK ISSUES**

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during busi-

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

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COLUMN

# Philanthropic fun



KATIE **DES PREZ** 

in the past. I think fraternities and sororities could be replaced by a less indulgent, less uniform and essentially nicer system—although sizable alumni donations make this unrealistic. After reading Matt Popkin's Monday column, though, I'm feeling defensive of the new

I have been harsh on the Greeks

Columnist sorority members. I understand that the piece was mostly in jest, but the biting undertone didn't sit well with me. I don't really know where this impulse to defend the Greeks came from; it's not my M.O., but I think we should be more understanding of those who were disappointed on Sunday night because sororities do mean a lot to a lot of people.

The Greek system gives a lot of people a place to feel like part of a group of their peers, which is something we all look for (well, mostly) when we come to college. After one semester at Vanderbilt, many of the freshmen are having the transfer blues. It's easy to feel as if a college experience that isn't *perfect* from the outset is just hopeless if all you've heard before arriving is that you'll have the best time of your life. Despite The Commons' efforts to change this dynamic, I know plenty of people who have said they were ready to transfer before they joined a certain organization, often a

Going Greek can also give a new rushee an avenue for service and outreach. Often, the philanthropies of Greek organizations seem to be outreach in name only, but there are exceptions to this rule. I remember meeting one sorority member whose house had put on an event for the Children's Hospital where she became involved in volunteering and which eventually became an integral part of her motivation to go to medical school. Even though community service may not be every new member's top priority when deciding which house to join, it is true that a Greek philanthropy can open doors to other service and leadership opportunities.

Another important aspect of Greekdom that many people are still searching for by the second semester of college is a network of support, and becoming a sorority member might even extend this network from a college campus during one's undergrad years to whatever city she chooses to live in after graduation. Whatever the nature of the bond, sharing a Greek organization does create a connection between people in much the same way that graduating from the same school does. Even if this is just a starting point, it can be a helpful safety net when needed. This and other benefits that sororities offer can be found in other places, but there is a certain appeal in having them all present in one organization.

Even so, if I could do the whole undergraduate experience over again, I wouldn't choose to be in a sorority. In some ways, I'm just a snob about it—but I also don't think I could handle it. There's no denying that the selection process is shallow, but I can understand the sense of rejection that someone might feel if her sights were set on being included in a group that decided she was n't good enough. Despite my many problems with the system itself, I think I'll go easy on the new Greeks-and those who didn't get to be in a house—for now.

- Katie Des Prez is a senior in the College of Arts & Science. She can be reached at katherine.e.des. prez@vanderbilt.edu.

COLUMN

# Blue Monday is coming, so watch out!



**TODD** Columnist

This coming Monday is arguably the most depressing day of the year. No, it isn't due to recent events in the news. According to a mathematical calculation by psychologist Cliff Arnall, who devised a formula since Christmas, the likelihood

of violating our New Year's

resolutions and other factors, mid-January is the most depressing part of the year. In particular, Jan. 24 of this year, known as Blue Monday, is the single-most depressing day of the year. Arnall's equation is questionable, though, to say the least. As Ben Goldacre of The Guardian succinctly put it, the equation is "stupid" and "fails to make mathematical sense." However, anecdotal evidence does suggest that people typically feel down in the dumps during mid-January, and, at any rate, the discussion gets us talking.

What can we do to improve our mood on this most arduous day? Fortunately, we have many options. An iPhone app titled "Track Your Happiness" had people report what they were doing at random points during the day and rate how happy they felt at the time. To everyone's complete shock and awe, it turns out that people having sex reported being significantly happier than people doing any other activity. Who would have guessed that? A distant second was exercise, followed by conversation and listening to music. Toward the bottom were commuting, personal grooming and working. Also, people who were highly focused on a task reported being happier than people whose minds were wandering. Yes, paying attention in class will not only improve your grades but will also improve your mood as well.

However, it would be wrong to conclude that happiness in the moment is of ultimate importance. For instance, after analyzing 30 years of data, Maryland researchers concluded that television, while fun in the short run, correlates negatively with happiness. As time

spent watching television per day increases, reported happiness decreases. One would think that the same logic would apply to consuming junk food, as people who are obese report being more depressed. Amazingly, though, children ages 2 to 12 who regularly eat fast food actually report being happier that incorporates weather, time than those who do not. Perhaps the free toy explains that...

> There are still other ways to improve your happiness on this most dark of days. People who drink moderate amounts of alcohol are more likely to report being happy, have better health and even live longer than abstainers. There are, admittedly, a number of potentially confounding variables, such as drinkers having better social lives, but these findings certainly fly in the face of much conventional wisdom. Getting adequate sleep also appears to be critical. According to a study by psychologist Norbert Schwarz, one additional hour of sleep a night does more for happiness than a \$60,000

Some of this may seem obvious, but how many of us actually adhere to a rigorous work outroutine or ensure we get enough sleep? The most important part is actually doing what the data suggests and not just dismissing it. I once sat through a lecture at this university where a professor said that actively trying to improve your happiness is frivolous. That is garbage. If you exercise, read and socialize, you will, in all likelihood, be happier. If you isolate yourself, eat Doritos all day and stare at the television, you are probably not going to be a very sunny person. So, this Monday, if you don't want to be depressed on the most depressing day of the year, run a bit, drink a bit, make a little love, socialize and minimize your workload. In other words, head over to one of those creepy Monday night frat parties. You won't regret it.

— Hudson Todd is a sophomore in the College of Arts & Science. He can be reached at hudson.o.todd@vanderbilt.edu.

### THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff! Compiled by the staff of The Vanderbilt Hustler

**Real life** Frogger



significantly in 2010, reversing a trend that had lasted several years. Who's to blame? According to the Governors Highway Safety Administration, it might be Michelle Obama's fault. That's because Mrs. Obama has started a wildly successful — but devious program to reduce obesity. So, basically, because more people are out on the street exercising, more people are getting hit by cars. It's so logical that it must be true.

Pedestrian road deaths increased

The iPad



Just when you thought Apple couldn't get any more popular, the medical center at the University of Arizona announced that the company that essentially controls the technology world has a new fan. Yes, that's right, Gabrielle Giffords is using an iPad. It's a Steve Jobs-induced miracle!

American Idol



The tenth season of American Idol premiered Wednesday night. Most disappointed that the reality show would be back for another year were boyfriends nationwide, few of whom were looking forward to cuddling up on the couch to watch a litany of bad singers break into tears. Even the announcement that Jennifer Lopez was one of the new judges on the show was not enough to stop protests from these well-meaning young men.

Republican presidential candidates' racial sensistivity



Many Republicans protest that the liberal media consistently claims that the right-wing party is racist. Their ability to deny those charges has gotten much harder recently. First it was Haley Barbour, Mississippi governor and likely presidential candidate, who is quoted as praising the Citizens' Council, which had advocated segregation during Barbour's youth. Now, it's former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, also planning a run for the presidency, who said in an interview that he found it "remarkable for a black man" like Barack Obama to be pro-choice.

**■** LETTER

# Is Hate Speech Really Bad?

To the Editor:

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Professor Donna Ford presented a lecture on "Hate Crimes vs. Freedom of Speech." Passionate about eliminating and addressing "cyber hate," Ford recently came across a lengthy blog post expressing racist viewpoints that was purportedly written by a Vanderbilt student. The professor stated that this blog caused her such emotional distress that she experienced problems sleeping at night.

Ford noted in her presentation that while hate speech is not in itself illegal, she supports instituting policies that would prohibit students, faculty, and staff from using university resources, such as Vanderbilt computers or internet access, to express hate speech. In an interview, Ford later clarified that she wanted a policy of "zero tolerance for racist expression and behaviors" and that, "There should be no forums for any type of verbal racial comments, statements, etc. because it incites or angers and misinforms people."

In a later interview, Ford stated that if she was an administrator she would not allow speakers on campus who could feed stereotypes and biases; the need for students to have accurate information was an important reason for this belief. But the free and open exchange of ideas requires that speech not be censored merely because it disrupts the sense of community for a

If a viewpoint is correct, attempting to censor it deprives individuals of the opportunity to see why it is correct. Even something that is objectively offensive can contribute positively to campus debate; attempting to censor it deprives individuals of the opportunity to strengthen their justifications for their beliefs. And in the case of partial truths, it is especially important that both sides are given fair opportunity for debate so that the full truth

The hate speech policies that Ford proposes could be used to punish a student every time another student feels offended. Simply claiming to be offended is not sufficient evidence to restrict expression; it must, to start with, be based upon a reasonable person standard to prevent being abused by oversensitive individuals. Adding additional regulations to students' rights will diminish rather than expand the diversity of views on campus and only add to the chilling effect of existing policies interfering with free speech.

> **Kenny Tan** Class of 2014 **College of Engineering**

#### **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

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

#### **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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# Belcourt selected for Sundance screening

BENJAMIN RIES

The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Belcourt Theatre, located in Hillsboro Village, will provide a rare opportunity to experience the Sundance Film Festival with the screening and world premiere of "Letters from the Big Man" on Thursday, Jan. 27. The Sundance Institute selected the Belcourt to be one of nine venues nationwide to host films as part of the "Sundance Film Festival USA," a program designed to expose the festival to moviegoers across the nation and to foster interaction between filmmakers and audiences.

The annual Sundance Film Festival in Utah has served for decades as the leading venue for the premiere of independent films. The largest independent film festival in the United States, Sundance has helped popularize dozens of low-budget classics like "Reservoir Dogs" (1992), "Primer" (2004) and "Little Miss Sunshine" (2006).

"Letters from the Big Man" stars Lily Rabe as a hydrologist who embarks alone on an excursion deep into the forests of Oregon, where she encounters the ape-creature known as the Sasquatch. What follows is not a horror film but an unusual love story



LETTERS FROM THE BIG MAN / Photo Provided

that explores themes of privacy and communication with nature. Director and screenwriter Christopher Munchhasdirectedahandful critically acclaimed independent films and is known for his minimalist filmmaking style. His 1996 film, "Color of a Brisk and Leaping Day," starring R.E.M. singer Michael Stipe won the Sundance prize for Best Cinematography.

"We're so honored to have been selected by the Sundance Film Festival to participate in the Sundance USA program," says Stephanie Silverman, managing director of the Belcourt Theatre. "We're big fans of Christopher Munch's

work, and there's great buzz about "Letters From The Big Man" at Sundance, so we're thrilled Nashville audiences will be some of the first to see the film." Silverman is currently in Utah attending the Sundance Film Festival, which began Jan. 16 and concludes Jan. 30.

"Letters from the Big Man" will screen at the Belcourt Theatre at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27. Director Christopher Munch will be in attendance. The film will be preceded by an introduction video featuring Robert Redford and followed by a Q&A session with Munch. Tickets cost \$15. For more information see belcourt. org.

■ COLLEGE CULTURE

# What to drink this weekend

OLIVIA KUPFER Life Editor

There's snow on the ground, salt on the roads and a chill in the air. How to spend a bleak winter evening? Drinking with friends,

Stephanie Burden, who bartends at Jackson's Bar & Bistro, lent her expertise and provided three winter-themed cocktail recipes to warm the core and lift spirits. Stephanie even provided a traditional German winter cocktail recipe for a diverse, international twist to drinking. Prost!

#### JACKSON'S ROOT BEER FLOAT

- 2 oz Three Olives Root Beer Vodka
- 4 oz Coca-Cola
- Homemade Vanilla Cream

Add 2 oz Three Olives Root Beer flavored vodka to 4 oz of Coca-Cola. It's preferable to use a highball glass, but a red solo cup will suffice. In place of Jackson's homemade vanilla cream, opt for Reddi-wip garnish.

#### THE "CLASSIC" WHITE RUSSIAN

- 1 1/2 oz vodka
- 3/4 oz Kahlua
- 3 half & half creamers

Add the 1 1/2 oz vodka (any brand of vodka will suffice) and 3/4 oz Kahlua (delicioso) with 3 half & half creamers in a lowball or rocks glass. Add ice, and you're ready to drink. A tip gleaned from experience drinking: freeze milk to make milk ice cubes and your drink will never get watered down.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NICOLE MANDEL/ The Vanderbilt Hustler

#### **GROG: GERMANY'S TRADITIONAL WINTER DRINK**

- 8 oz water
- 1 1/2 oz rum
- 2 lemon slices

Boil 8 oz of water (either in your microwave or on the stove). Put hot water in a mug and add 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz of rum then garnish with 2 lemon slices.

# Congratulations to Our New Baby Angels

# Pi Beta Phi Pledge Class 2011

Carla Altaras Ariel Altman Leia Andrew Amanda Ayers Alyssa Birbach Laetizia Bizzari Sarah Capelouto Emma Colonna Katie Dalldorf Carey Davis Emily Frost Ellie Gravenhorst Julie Hagan Madi Holtzman Alexis Jacobson Emily Jones Sommers Kline

Anna Kluger Maddie Larson Jenna Lesser Lauren Lichtenberg Amy Lin Annie Lindsley Kate Lintel Alex Lovely Lauren Martin Hannah McCloskey Lulu Mejer Paris Nelson Kate Norton Anna O'Neal Cecily Parker Sage Pickren Olivia Pucci

Rian Rabinowitz Alia Reid Lauren Reiser Alex Rogers Melinda Roy Hannah Rutcofsky Alex Scavone Amy Scheuer Jessica Siegel Georgina Sillem Haley Singleton Miranda Smith Gretchen Spanel Olivia Steinberg Olivia Van Iderstine Kristin Vargas Christina Zeppos

# PIcked the PHInest!

# **SPORTS**



CHRIS PHARE/ The Vanderbilt Hustler

		CHAIS PHANE/ THE Validerbill Hustle
QUESTION	KYLE FULLER	ROD ODOM
How do you guys feel about the decent amount of playing time you both have seen so far, especially as freshmen?	We feel like beasts. We feel good about ourselves.	It's good getting a lot of experience as freshmen. We get a chance to grow up faster than most freshmen would.
Talk about the older players at your positions and what they've meant to you this year.	Brad [Tinsley], he really teaches me a lot because some things I would do that worked in high school really don't work here. So, basically just learning off of him.	Andre [Walker] and Lance [Goulbourne] have definitely helped me be a tougher player. That's the main thing I needed to do, and they definitely helped me a lot with that.
What has been the biggest adjustment you have had to make moving up to college ball from high school?	Usually, fast is my thing, so there aren't that many people who are faster than me. But (getting) bigger, though, and stronger, that's definitely what I have to work on.	Probably just understanding the game and what to do at what time is probably the biggest adjustment.
What have you learned from the team's recent close losses on the road?	Every possession counts. Usually, in high school, you could turn it over a couple of times, and it doesn't mean that much. But, like in the South Carolina game, every possession counts.	Same thing as Kyle. Every possession counts.
Talk about Memorial and the kind of experience you guys have had playing in front of the home fans so far.	It's actually kind of crazy. I got my real first glance at the Marquette game when the crowd really started going crazy and then my heart started pounding, and I was like 'Uh-oh, I'm really in this now.'	It's crazy. I've never played in front of this many people before. It's definitely a great experience. (To) see all our classmates out there cheering is really cool.
What's the chemistry like on this team, and how does it compare with what you guys had on your high school teams?	(In) high school, it was like: just get it done and go home. Here, your home is with your family. You kick it with them 24/7, they're basically your brothers.	I'd say the same thing. We're all real close; we all joke around; we all hang out, eat together, all that. We're like a family.
What are you guys looking forward to most as the team heads into the thick of conference play and keeps working	To be honest, I feel like we're good enough to win the SEC Championship. That's definitely our goal.	I'm just looking forward to getting some Ws.

■ BASKETBALL

# Men's team plays through injuries

**REID HARRIS** 

Asst. Sports Editor

Between an improperly purchased parking mononucleosis and a variety of injuries, Vanderbilt's basketball team has had to deal with more than its share of problems. Earlier this week, Coach Kevin Stallings expressed his frustration with his team's situation.

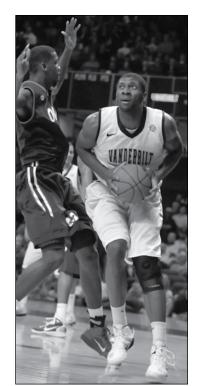
"Every time I turn around, it seems like one of them is hurt," Stallings said. "It would be nice if they start ignoring some of the pains and playing through a little more of them."

One of those injured players is junior center Festus Ezeli, who aggravated a lingering knee injury in the early minutes of Wednesday night's victory over Ole Miss. After a scary fall and a quick trip back to the locker room, Ezeli played a crucial role, scoring 16 points in 26 minutes.

"Festus — that joker is a warrior," said Stallings following the game. "He was in pain, [but] I loved how he played. I just can't say enough about all of those kids. They played their hearts out."

Junior forward Andre Walker has been sidelined since Jan. 2 after suffering a sprained ankle in practice. Although Walker is slowly improving, he is not expected to return to the court soon — Coach Stallings called Walker's injury the worst sprained ankle he had ever

Aside from these two starters. junior forward Steve Tchiengang has also struggled with injuries — he has been held scoreless rest for the injury-plagued during 35 minutes on the court Commodores, who host No. 22 over the last three games. Tchiengang has not been able travelling to Starkville, Miss., to fully practice since Saturday's Tennessee game and did not Thursday. ■



**MURPHY BYRNE** The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior center Festus Ezeli is one of many Commodores battling lingering injuries on the court for Vanderbilt this season.

play at all in the second half of Wednesday's game against Ole

These injuries to Vanderbilt's frontcourt have forced Stallings to experiment with different lineups, and he may alter his strategy going forward. While speaking to the media Wednesday night, he mentioned that he might spend more time in a zone defense to preserve the players he has on the court.

In the midst of all his team's distractions, Coach Stallings makes no excuses.

"It's part of it. You have to find a way to overcome it."

There is little time to St. Mary's this weekend before to face Mississippi State on

# SEC MEN'S BASKETBALL POWER RANKINGS by Amit Chakraborty



toward a postseason berth?

#### 1. No. 12 Kentucky (14-4, 2-2 SEC)

Even after reducing a 20-point deficit down to a couple of points, the Wildcats couldn't pull through with a win at Alabama. The Wildcats have yet to win a road game in the SEC, so look for a close game between the 'Cats and Gamecocks at South Carolina.



#### 7. Arkansas (12-5, 2-2 SEC)

The Razorbacks lost a tough game against South Carolina in overtime on Wednesday and another close one against LSU last week. The road does not get any easier for them, as they face the Gators in Gainesville this weekend.



#### 2. Florida (13-4 overall, 2-1 Southeastern Conference)

Despite a tough loss to South Carolina at home, the Gators have notched some impressive wins, including one in Knoxville against the Volunteers. Look for a strong performance by the Gators against Arkansas this weekend.



#### 8. Mississippi State (10-7, 2-1 SEC)

Some of the earlier season losses against teams like Virginia Tech and East Tennessee State have hurt this team's image; however, they can redeem themselves with a tough victory in Athens over Trey Thompkins and the Georgia Bulldogs this Saturday. Keep a watch on Ravern Johnson, who is one of the SEC's leading scorers (18.5 ppg).



#### 3. Vanderbilt (12-4, 2-2 SEC)

Even after a heartbreaking loss to Tennessee in Knoxville this past weekend, the Commodores bounced back to defeat Ole Miss during the annual Memorial Madness event. SEC leading scorer John Jenkins (18.6 ppg) and the Commodores will have a challenge on their hands this weekend against No. 21 Saint Mary's.



#### 9. Alabama (11-7, 3-1 SEC)

With a stunning upset of the No. 12 Kentucky Wildcats in Tuscaloosa, Ala. is looking strong in conference play despite a loss to Arkansas this past weekend. Alabama will match up against a struggling Auburn team Saturday. Look for the Tide to continue to improve their record in the SEC.



#### 4. Georgia (13-4, 2-2 SEC)

With some earlier impressive wins, including then-No. 11 Kentucky, Georgia looks to stay close to the top of the SEC. However, after a buzzer beater loss to the Volunteers, the Bulldogs are hoping to bounce back against Mississippi State.



#### 10. Ole Miss (12-7, 0-4 SEC)

After dropping four straight games in the SEC, the only thing holding Ole Miss up is a set of early nonconference victories. The positive side to all of this: the Rebels will play a struggling LSU team this weekend and hope to earn their first SEC win this year.



#### 5. Tennessee (12-6, 2-2 SEC)

With a buzzer beater win over a strong Georgia team in Athens and an impressive comeback victory against the Commodores, Tennessee doesn't seem to be affected by the suspension of Bruce Pearl. Expect a great nonconference game against Kemba Walker and the No. 8 Huskies this weekend.



#### 11. LSU (10-8, 2-1 SEC)

There isn't much to be said about the struggling Tigers this year. Despite holding Auburn to single digit points in the first half, they won by only seven points. Not to mention how No. 12 Kentucky blew them out at Rupp Arena. The Tigers are hoping to turn their luck around against an Ole Miss team that has yet to win a conference game.



#### 6. South Carolina (12-5, 3-1 SEC)

Accumulating some key losses in nonconference play has hurt the Gamecocks' standing, but they seem to be picking it up in SEC play with close wins over Arkansas and Florida in the past week. This team will be a challenge for No. 12 Kentucky this weekend, as it looks to hold its lead in the SEC standings.



#### 12. Auburn (7-10, 0-3 SEC)

Speaking of struggling Tigers, Auburn is currently the only SEC team with a losing record, and not surprisingly, they have yet to win a conference game. An equally struggling LSU team held Auburn to six first half points at Auburn. Don't expect too much from the Tigers as they play Alabama this weekend.

# BACK PAGE

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THE SAMURAL OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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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

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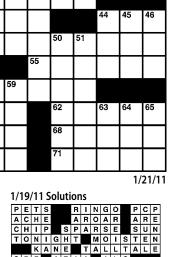
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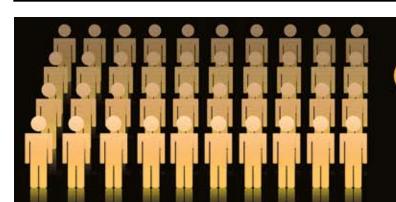
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