

tunnelvision

A publication for alumni of student media at Vanderbilt University



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FRED BUC
CLASS OF '79

TERRY EASTLAND
CLASS OF '71

FRYE GAILLARD
CLASS OF '68

TYLER KEPNER
CLASS OF '97

NEIL SKENE
CLASS OF '73

THE 2011 CLASS



Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame's 2011 class named

by **Ann Marie Deer Owens**, Class of 1976 · Hall of Fame Committee · Senior Public Affairs Officer, Vanderbilt News Service

Five Vanderbilt University alumni who made their mark as student journalists and distinguished themselves through professions that include author, baseball writer, legal counsel, publisher and radio executive will be inducted Oct. 21 into the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame.

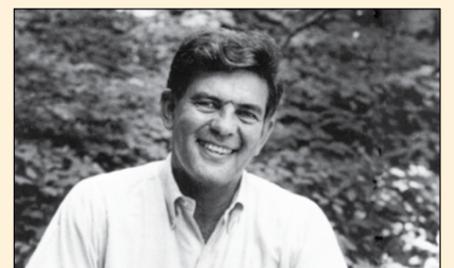
Those selected for the 2011 class are Frye Gaillard, writer-in-residence at the University of South Alabama who has written extensively on Southern race relations, politics and culture; Terry Eastland, publisher of The Weekly Standard and political writer; Neil Skene, vice chairman and legal counsel for MedAffinity Corporation and historical writer; Fred Buc, general manager for WRLT-FM, Lightning 100; and Tyler Kepner, national baseball writer for The New York Times.

A ceremony and reception to honor the third class of inductees is scheduled from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Vanderbilt Student Life Center's Ballroom B. The event, which will be held in conjunction with Vanderbilt's Homecoming/Reunion weekend, will include an announcement about the creation of the Jim Leeson Award to recognize excellent student journalists. Leeson was a longtime adviser at Vanderbilt Student Communications who forged lasting relationships with many students.

The Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame was established in 2009 to honor Vanderbilt University alumni who have achieved outstanding personal or professional accomplishments and/or have made

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JIM LEESON AWARD



Jim Leeson, photo by Thomas Rushton

This year's Hall of Fame induction will include the announcement of the creation of the Jim Leeson Award for excellence in student journalism. Leeson, who died in May 2010, served as consulting journalist to VSC for approximately 10 years from 1974-'84.

Radio license sale starts endowment

WRVU programming to continue online and on new HD channel.

The Board of Directors of Vanderbilt Student Communications and the Board of Directors of Nashville Public Radio agreed June 7 to the transfer of the license of WRVU 91.1FM to Nashville Public Radio.

The station's new call letters will be WFCL, and its mission will be to showcase classical music and the arts and promote local performances and events. The change in format was effective midnight, June 7.

WRVU's eclectic programming format continues without interruption as an online

service and will resume over-the-air broadcast service on WPLN's HD3 channel beginning in the fall of 2011.

The agreement calls for a payment of \$3,350,000 from Nashville Public Radio to Vanderbilt Student Communications, gives WRVU the use of WPLN HD3 and guarantees internship opportunities for Vanderbilt students in Nashville Public Radio's award-winning news department.

After careful deliberation, which included a nine-month public exploration, the VSC Board concluded the creation of an endowment was critical to ensuring student media's ability to service the information and cultural needs of the Vanderbilt student population.

"The media industry is changing dramatically, a fact nowhere more obvious than on a college campus where younger consumers and content producers are gravitating to innovative technologies," said Mark Wollaeger, Vanderbilt University English professor and chair of the VSC Board of Directors. "This agreement will help ensure for our students the opportunity to shape the future of media for years to come."

"Students and faculty members representing VSC researched various options privately and publicly for two years and ultimately concluded the sale to Nashville Public Radio

WRVU, continued on page 7

bright lights *an alumni column...*

The Hustler's peculiar place in Vanderbilt baseball history

The editor from '68 tells the story...

by **Chuck Offenburger**, Class of '69



Chuck Offenburger (left) and Doug Bates at a Vandy game.

Editor's note: At press time, the baseball team was for the first time hosting a "Super Regional" playoff, with the winner of the 3-game series with Oregon State advancing to the College World Series in Omaha.

Forty-six years ago, when I started as a student at Vanderbilt University, almost no one on campus ever attended a home

baseball game, except for the 15 to 18 players on the Commodores' squad and maybe a few of their parents. They hadn't had a winning season in more than 10 years. They seldom ever won more than one or two Southeastern Conference games in a season.

In March of 1969, *The Vanderbilt Hustler* described what the '68 team had been like: "...the program was less organized than those of most high schools. The players wore uniforms of dime store quality and the athletic department was staging a minor holding action on equipment. It turned out ultimately that the Commodores of '68 didn't even deserve the wares they were getting, as the shoddy outfit fanned, erred and laughed its way to an 8-19 record and a 2-14 finish in the SEC..."

The thought back then that an alumnus might ever fly back to the campus in Nashville, to watch the ol' alma mater play baseball? Hah! Preposterous!

But that's exactly what I did in late April this year, to watch a 3-game series against archrival Tennessee at Hawkins Field.

Strange as it frequently seems to me, Vanderbilt now has one of the best college baseball programs in the nation. Crowds for home games now can approach 5,000. Nearly all games are televised or streamed. For six straight years, they've made the NCAA playoffs. Twice in the last five years, they've wound up only a game or two short of qualifying for the College World Series in Omaha. Several former Commodores have gone on to play Major League Baseball. Maybe most impressive of all is that Vanderbilt has played at a very high level of college baseball, and done so consistently, since the early 1970s.

This season's team has a Yastrzemski playing rightfield - Mike, the grandson of baseball Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski of Boston Red Sox fame. They have a pitcher named Jack Armstrong, just like the "All-American Boy" in the syndicated radio show that kids loved 60 years ago. This Armstrong is just one of a half-dozen quality pitchers on this year's staff. And these Vanderbilt players today can hit the ball. Around the horn, their names even sound like a real ball club - Gray, Casali, Westlake, Gomez, Esposito, Kemp, Loftus, Yaz. Meanwhile, we alumni and other fans worry constantly that our head coach Tim Corbin, now in his ninth year, is going to be stolen away by one of the perennially elite college baseball programs.

Now, I don't know whether to be thrilled or embarrassed to report that I have a niche in the story of the renaissance and current golden age of Commodore baseball. How?

Well, I was involved in what surely must have been one of the all-time low points - if not the very nadir - of Vandy baseball.

It happened in the spring of 1966 when I was the third string catcher on the freshman team, and we were playing in Pulaski, Tennessee, against a fine team from Martin Methodist Junior College there. In fact, we were getting clobbered. Our coach, Sam Hirt, had been growling all evening at the home plate umpire, and suddenly Hirt seemed to snap. He called me to his corner of the dugout, told me to get in the game as catcher, "and I want you to raise so much hell

Alumni Column, continued on page 7

tunnel vision

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MEDIA LEADERS

The VSC Board of Directors selected the following media leaders for the 2011-12 academic year:



WRVU
Robert Ackley
Station Manager



INSIDEVANDY.COM
Peter Nygaard
Director



THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER
Chris Honiball
Editor-in-Chief



VANDERBILT TELEVISION
Andrew Kirkman
Station Manager



THE SLANT
Dan King
Editor-in-Chief



THE TORCH
Valerie Hsu
Editor-in-Chief



THE VANDERBILT REVIEW
Ariel Mason
Editor-in-Chief



ORBIS
Andri Alexandrou
Editor-in-Chief



POLITICAL REVIEW
Matthew Taylor
Division Head



NEWS EDITOR
Liz Furlow



SPORTS EDITOR
Meghan Rose



OPINION EDITOR
Matt Scarano



LIFE EDITOR
Kristen Webb



MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Grace Aviles



WEB DEVELOPER
Max Gillett

NOT PICTURED:

CHIEF COPY EDITOR
Zach Fisch

WRVU PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Scott Cardone

VANDERBILT TELEVISION PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Rachel Abeshouse

And the awards go to ...

Vanderbilt Student Media hosted its annual year-end awards ceremony on April 27, and Mark Wollaeger, VSC board chair and English professor, presented the following awards:

Alexander Award

The Charles Forrest Alexander Award in Journalism was given to graduating senior Hannah Twillman. This prestigious award is presented annually to a student who has achieved distinction in



Hannah Twillman

Vanderbilt student journalistic projects. The award's selection criteria include: the degree of active participation in student journalism projects and activities, objectivity and thoroughness expressed in material or work, regard

for journalistic and personal ethics, and impact of journalistic activities on student life at Vanderbilt. Twillman worked in Student Media throughout her career at Vanderbilt. She began as a copy editor at *The Hustler* and became the paper's editor-in-chief in her junior year. She spent the spring semester helping out in the Newsroom, chasing down news stories, writing and editing, and mentoring her fellow student journalists. Her role as

a mentor is fitting - Hannah plans to work as an elementary school teacher.

WRVU Award

The WRVU Award for Dedication to Excellence in Radio was given to rising junior Emily Foster. The award was endowed in 2007 by former WRVU general manager Dr. Jamie Noble and is presented annually to an undergraduate Vanderbilt student who is a current WRVU DJ, a member of the executive staff, and one who has shown excellence



Emily Foster

beyond expectations for their position in their dedication to WRVU either in listener-ship, programming, music education of the public, engineering, or financial support. Foster served as the training director, and her enthusiasm for the position and WRVU helped to attract a record number of new student trainees to the station in the fall. She also co-hosts the show "91 Across," and has been integral in other station activities such as "WRVU on the Wall," Parent's Weekend broadcasts from Studio C, and the WRVU charity CD sale.

★★★

Hall of Fame: third class of honorees to be inducted Oct. 21 during Homecoming

Hall of Fame, continued from page 1

distinguished and lasting contributions to their field and/or to society in general. Induction into the Hall of Fame is the highest honor Vanderbilt Student Media can bestow on its former students. To be eligible for recognition, alumni must have worked as a student staff member at least 10 years prior to the Hall of Fame induction date.

Kepner, who was born in Philadelphia, knew before he enrolled at Vanderbilt that he wanted to write about baseball for a living. He even published his own baseball magazine in high school and first year of college. Kepner received the prestigious Fred Russell-Grantland Rice Scholarship. He said that what attracted him to campus was a school with great academics along with the opportunity to cover outstanding athletic programs. The fact that Nashville was warmer than Philadelphia did not hurt either.

"My experiences at the Vanderbilt Hustler student newspaper defined my time on campus," Kepner said. He was assistant sports editor, sports editor and editor-in-chief before earning his bachelor's degree in 1997.

Kepner majored in American Studies and still remembers pulling all-nighters in the Sarratt Student Center to finish the newspaper. "The staff would go to breakfast the next morning with feelings of total exhaustion but wonderful accomplishment too," he said.

He noted that the chance to cover major sporting events, especially the road games and tournaments, prepared him well for all the traveling he has done in his profession. "I learned a lot about this nation, and I also learned to be more versatile as I covered other sports besides baseball," Kepner said. A trip to Los Angeles to cover a women's basketball tournament as well as a journalism conference in St. Paul, Minn., are among his college memories.

Kepner wrote about the Anaheim Angels for the Riverside Press-Enterprise and the Seattle Mariners for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer before heading to The New York Times. Starting in 2000 he covered the Mets and then moved to the Yankees beat in 2002. Last year Kepner, who lives in Wilton, Conn., was named a national baseball writer for The New York Times.

Buc, a native Nashvillian, developed a passion for radio, especially WRVU, starting in his teens at what is now called University School of Nashville. In order to be eligible to work at WRVU, Buc enrolled as a high school senior in Vanderbilt's Division of Unclassified Studies.

Buc took an evening calculus class and was granted permission to work a weekend air shift. His work at WRVU sealed Vanderbilt as his choice for college. "WRVU was like a fraternity and almost a full-time job for me in college," said Buc, who worked his way up from assistant music director to general manager.

He also worked a part-time job at WKDA-AM and WKDF-FM while attending Vanderbilt. "I paid my dues - working graveyard shifts and changing Sunday morning public affairs and church tapes," he said. He graduated in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and went to work full-time at WKDA-KDF in various on-air and operational capacities. In the late '80s Buc became part of the original "Rebel 100" staff of WRLT-FM.

Buc then worked for Jefferson-Pilot Communications in Charlotte, N.C., and KCFX-FM in the Kansas City market. He co-founded a national advertising agency before returning to his hometown and WRLT, now known as Lightning 100. Buc was named general manager in 1998. He has hosted the station's popular "Retro Lightning"

program on Saturday mornings since October 1993. The show has a strong connection to Buc's days at WRVU and is one of the highest-rated time periods on the station. "It's fun, not work, and keeps me close to the listening audience," Buc said. "I don't ever want to forget why I got into this business."

Skene, who grew up in Macon, Ga., remembers that one of the strong influencers on his decision to come to Vanderbilt was Robert Thompson, who was two years ahead of him in high school. Thompson was managing editor of the Hustler during Skene's freshman year.

Skene says he was always at the Hustler office in Alumni Hall and even typed his school papers there. "I was amazed at how much I learned from talented people who included Clay Harris, Skip Bayless, John Bloom and Dave Rapp," Skene said. "Vanderbilt really upped my game."

He majored in political science and was editor of the Hustler his senior year. After graduation in 1973, he followed Harris and other Hustler colleagues to the Tampa Times. Then he enrolled at Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law, where he graduated magna cum laude in 1977.

Skene has artfully combined his journalism experience and law training in a variety of positions starting at the St. Petersburg Times, where he was capital bureau chief. He led coverage of state government with a major emphasis on the Florida Supreme Court. He was named editor of the St. Petersburg Evening Independent in 1984. He then led Congressional Quarterly as president from 1987 to 1997 during its major expansion into electronic publishing.

Skene, who now lives in Tallahassee, Fla., is a shareholder, vice chairman and legal counsel for MedAffinity Corporation, which provides electronic health record software for health care providers. He is also president of Holly Lake Investments. During his spare time, he is writing the third volume in a series on the history of the Florida Supreme Court.

Eastland grew up in Dallas, Texas, and was a finalist for the Grantland Rice Scholarship. Although he was not a recipient, Vanderbilt's strong reputation in sports writing attracted him to campus.

Eastland covered sports for the Hustler. He remembers writing about the baseball team under Coach Larry Schmittou and still keeps up with its current happenings. John Lachs and the late Walter Sullivan were among his favorite professors. Eastland earned his bachelor's degree in 1971 with a major in philosophy. He went to Balliol College at the University of Oxford for a second bachelor's degree.

He then put his journalistic skills to work with editorial positions at the Greensboro Record, San Diego Union and Virginia-Pilot. In 1983 Eastland's career took a political turn into the Reagan administration when he was named chief speech writer for then-U.S. Attorney General William French Smith. Eastland later became director of public affairs for the Justice Department.

Eastland, who lives in McLean, Va., has written several books, including Ethics, Politics and the Independent Counsel and Freedom of Expression in the Supreme Court.

The Wall Street Journal, National Review, Commentary, Wilson Quarterly and New Republic are among the publications where his articles have appeared. He was a correspondent on documentaries for PBS examining how the media covered a particular story, such as Gulf War Syndrome. Since 2001 he has been publisher of The Weekly Standard, whose offices are in downtown Washington, D.C. He is a member of the advisory board



Student media alumni are invited to join us at the **Student Media Hall of Fame induction ceremony** at 4:30 p.m. on **Oct. 21** in the **Student Life Center Ballroom B**. Space is limited, so please let us know if you plan to attend by visiting www.vandymedia.org to RSVP.

for Vanderbilt Magazine.

Eastland noted that the ability to be versatile has always been important for success in journalism and Vanderbilt prepared him well. "I believe that a great liberal arts education is 'useful' to almost any line of work, especially for those who plan to be involved in the media," Eastland said. "Vanderbilt was important to the development of my career."

For Gaillard, a native of Mobile, Ala., working on the Hustler and the Impact Symposium were two life-defining experiences. As Impact vice chair in 1967, Gaillard helped bring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Stokely Carmichael and Allen Ginsberg to campus for the high-caliber speaker series.

The guest line-up for 1968, when Gaillard was overall chair, included Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Julian Bond and William F. Buckley. "I had a strong sense that the nation was coming apart during the tumultuous '60s and the way that I could best put it in perspective was to write about what was happening," Gaillard said.

Gaillard worked for the Hustler all four years of college and served as news editor before graduating in 1968. Among his fondest memories was following and writing about musical icons like Johnny Cash, who taped his television program at the Ryman Auditorium. Gaillard majored in history and earned his bachelor's degree in 1968. He worked for the Mobile Register before returning to Nashville to write for the Race Relations Reporter, a newsletter published by the Race Relations Information Center. Its offices were just a few blocks from campus. He eventually became Southern editor at the Charlotte Observer, where he covered the city's landmark school desegregation case.

Gaillard has written or co-authored more than 20 books, including Cradle of Freedom, The Dream Long Deferred and Watermelon Wine: Remembering the Golden Years of Country Music. With Music and Justice for All was published by Vanderbilt University Press. Gaillard, who now lives in Coden, Ala., serves on the advisory board for Vanderbilt Magazine.

For more information on the Student Media Hall of Fame ceremony, please visit www.vandymedia.org.



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distant voices *alumni updates...*

A glimpse into a few lives that helped shape student media at Vandy

1961

M. Clarke Woodfin, Jr. ★ B.S., M.D., 1961 - M.D.

(WRVU) Woodfin lives in Shelbyville, TN, and said: I served at WRVU in the Fall of 1954 and the Spring of 1955. Also serving there was Rob Lightfoot, B.S.'58, M.D.'61, a fellow graduate of MBA '54. At that time WRVU was located in one of the towers at Neely Auditorium and was known simply as "WVU." I seem to recall the name "Jim Bachman" as being one of the station managers. Interestingly, the movie "The Glen Miller Story" had come out a few months earlier and RCA produced an album of Glen Miller recordings which I played over the WRVU network. I recall also taking a voice test to see if I had a "good radio voice."

1963

Roy Alton Blount Jr. ★ B.A., 1963

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Spectrum) Blount lives in Mill River, MA, and said: My book "Alphabetter Juice: The Joy of Text," sequel to 2008 "Alphabet Juice," came out on May 10.

1965

Ted Robinson ★ B.A., 1965

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Robinson lives in Marietta, GA, and said: After a long career with IBM, then 10 years of contract work for IBM and Microsoft, I tried turning my gardening hobby into profit with a small landscaping practice. After discovering one cannot do a 30-year-old's job in a 60-ish body, we retired to spend more time w/ grandkids and volunteer pursuits. Still working, just not getting paid.



Patty James Robinson (B.A., 1966) and Ted in Florence, 2007

1966

Edward L. Turner ★ B.A., J.D., 1966

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Spectrum) Turner lives in Paris, France, and said: Member of the Vestry at The American Cathedral in Paris Member of the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad France. See web site of these organizations for further information.

Anne Alexander Armstrong ★ B.A., 1966

(Commodore yearbook, Spectrum) Armstrong lives in McLean, VA. Her husband John Armstrong (B.A., 1963) said: In 1962-63, as I began editing Spectrum (an amalgamation of the previous literary, honors and humor pubs on campus), a guy across the hall in the Quad began to turn his dorm room into a computer. Yes, his entire room. And this was 40 years before Mark Zuckerberg launched a website called "Facebook". Then, thirty (or so) years ago, before Facebook and Twitter started bring about revolutions in the mid east, my wife Anne Alexander Armstrong (B.A., '66), who was the fourth editor of Spectrum, wrote an article about the information revolution and began to appreciate the potential for computer technology. Soon, rather than merely having a computer being built across the hall at Vandy, I had a computer newsletter being produced in the guest bedroom at home. It is a long way from Spectrum, but Anne is today the 1105 Government Information Group President. The 1105 business network publishes across multi-platform media - print, online, events, content solutions and custom research. Its information technology B-to-B publications such as Federal Computer Week (FCW), GCN, Washington Technology, Defense Systems, the Federal Employees Almanac and Federal bring comprehensive and concise coverage of local, state and federal government life. 1105 also produces trade shows and forums such as FOSE and GOVSEC. I have always wondered whether my old computer-building classmate reads any of Anne's pubs or spoke at an 1105 conference. Speaking of this year's Twitter Revolutions in the mid-east, innovations in IT in government this year concomitantly centered on the defense establishment. Therefore, when Anne presented the 23rd annual Federal 100 Awards this year, the President's award went to Army

Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Chiarelli. The Fed 100 recognizes government and industry leaders who have gone above and beyond their daily responsibilities and have made a difference in the way technology has transformed government. An award to the Army Vice Chief of Staff is not a stretch for a woman who started off editing a VU magazine named Spectrum. Recall that the first use of the term "magazine" -- an analogy to a military storehouse of varied materiel -- was in The Gentleman's Magazine in 1731. See - life's puzzle pieces sometimes fit together -- even if it takes 280 years.



Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Chiarelli (center) received the President's Award from Anne Armstrong (left) (VU66), president of 1105 Government Information Group, and James M. Myers, vice president of Northrop Grumman Information Systems

1968



Robert Rodgers ★ B.A., 1968

(WRVU) Rodgers lives in Olympia, WA, and said: For the past several years I have hosted a weekly internet radio show which features guests who provide support, information and resources to individuals who currently experience the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The radio show page is: <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/parkinsons-recovery>.

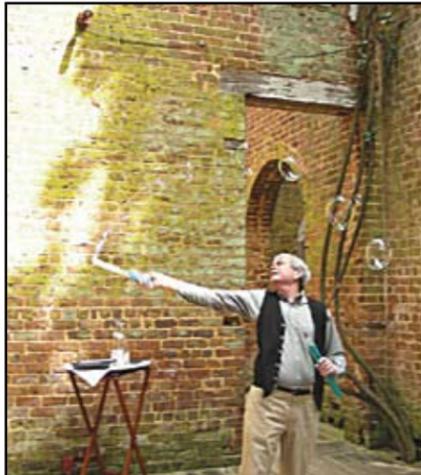
Robert Rodgers

the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The radio show page is: <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/parkinsons-recovery>.

1969

Joe Callan Stamper ★ B.A., 1969

(Commodore yearbook) Stamper lives in Cleveland, TN, and said: What's new? I've finally figured it out!! After a world-class formal education and 64 years of life experience I summarize it in this nutshell: "Perspective is everything; it's all made up anyway." Much love to all, Joe



Me persuing serious scientific research on the origins of Life

Mary Margaret Oliver ★ B.A., 1969

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine) Oliver lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: Mary Margaret Oliver continues to serve as a State Representative in the Georgia General Assembly, elected in 2010 for her fourth term. Mary Margaret also previously served in the Georgia State Senate, and has chaired the Judiciary Committees in both the House and the Senate. She practices law in Decatur, Georgia.



Mary Margaret Oliver

1970

John Donaldson ★ B.A., 1970

(Commodore yearbook) Donaldson lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and said: Retired from the World Bank in November 2010 after 15 year working in communications, especially in Africa. Prior to that, I worked with a public affairs company representing foreign clients, and previously worked for the Treasury and Commerce Departments after working on Capitol Hill for a US Senator. I'm doing a bit of consulting now, and am active as a volunteer with Little League baseball.

1972

Barry L. Master ★ B.A., 1972

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Master lives in Fairview, NC, and said: Wife Marcia Froula Master (B.S. 1975) and I will be traveling next month to see our younger daughter Allison L. Master receive her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Stanford. Marcia's a preschool special education teacher while I'm attorney for a child support enforcement agency for two counties. I continue my hobby of Vanderbilt baseball fan and got signatures on baseballs of former VU players Nick Christiani and Ryan Flaherty at AA minor league game last weekend in Sevierville, TN.

1973

Michael Anzek (St John) ★ B.A., 1973

(WRVU) Anzek (St John) lives in Arab, AL, and said: WAFN-FM (FUN 92.7) owned by Vanderbilt Alum Michael Anzek (St John) is being heralded as the ONLY radio station in North Alabama to broadcast continuous Tornado Disaster information from the April 27th outbreak. The station which covers over seven counties in the area went "live" 55 minutes after the tornado struck Arab AL and stayed on the air with non-stop information for six consecutive days.



The WAFN-FM Fun 92-7 Staff

Howard Saul Waldman ★ B.A., 1973

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Commodore yearbook) Waldman lives in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and said: JW Yachts



Shia Waldman And Zeide Howard Waldman

Janet Carney Schneider ★ B.A., M.A., 1973

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Schneider lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Since getting a graduate degree at Vanderbilt, I have worked at University School of Nashville, teaching, counseling, and presently directing the college counseling program. My work on the Hustler as a reporter, usually consisted of covering VU students who were volunteering in the Nashville Community. The Hustler experience was educationally valuable and since I graduated, I have gone back to volunteer at some of these non-profits I discovered as an undergraduate. Learning to write journalistically and venturing into new territory to cover stories was broadening and taught life lessons.

Pat Nolan ★ B.A., 1973

(WRVU, Commodore yearbook) Nolan lives in Nashville, TN, and said: THE NASHVILLE SCENE has selected "CAPITOL VIEW COMMENTARY" by Pat Nolan (A&S/'73) as the BEST POLITICAL COLUMN in the Nashville area. The column is produced weekly for the website of NEWSCHANNEL5, WTVF-TV (www.newschannel5.com). The honor in the SCENE's "BEST OF"

edition published in October, 2010 also included comments by Vanderbilt professor and SCENE contributor, Dr. Bruce Barry.

1974



Michael Vietti

Michael Vietti ★ B.A., 1974

(WRVU) Vietti lives in Santa Rosa, CA, and said: The head of Human Resources for Santa Rosa Community Health Centers. We provide excellent primary care for the under-served in our community ensuring that all who enter our doors will be heard, valued, and honored.

1974-1975

Clark Thomas ★ 1974-1975

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, Commodore yearbook, VSC Board member) Thomas lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Don't know if you know, I photographed for the Hustler my freshman & sophomore years, edited the 1974 (Centennial) Commodore my junior year, and was hired by Chancellor Heard during my senior year, which contributed to ending my role as a student one semester before graduation. My *reunion year* is mixed because I started Vandy in Summer School just weeks after high school, then attended school in England for a year, before returning as a freshman afterwards. FWIW, I was also an RA in Kissam my sophomore year. I've been a professional photographer since tenth grade, and I'm still shooting despite many changes, in both subject matter, and imaging technologies. In August 2010, I returned to my *barefoot portrait* roots and have just started a new *Shine a Light On* series of special relationship portraits (via my simple-Photographs.com site), that may well led to a renewed relationship with Vanderbilt. This, after fifteen years with zero relationship to Vanderbilt, even tho I live two miles from campus, and just across the street from the Chancellor. Someone could write a fairly entertaining and intriguing history or novel about the untold stories in VSC's past. We may all be better off keeping it off the record, but I appreciate what you are doing to recognize the rich heritage of Vanderbilt student media. Regards, Clark Thomas



Clark Thomas. Photo's from About page on simplePhotographs.com site

1976

Jim Clark ★ B.A., 1976



Photo of Jim Clark from the back cover of his CD THE SERVICE OF SONG. (Photo by J. Keith Tew)

(The Vanderbilt Review) Clark lives in Wilson, NC, and said: Jim Clark is presently the Elizabeth H. Jordan Professor of Southern Literature at Barton College in Wilson, NC. In the fall of 2010 he became Chair of the Department of English and Modern Languages. His second solo CD, THE SERVICE OF SONG, featuring his musical settings of the North Georgia "farmer poet" Byron Herbert Reece, was released in November of 2010.

1977

Jack B. Anon ★ B.A., 1977

(WRVU) Anon lives in Erie, PA, and said: I have been married for 30 years to Ellen Anon an Internationally acclaimed photographer and author of 7 books. Our son Josh is a cartoon engineer at Disney-Pixar and has credits in 7 movies as well as being a co-author with his mom! Our son Seth runs a hedge fund. I continue to busy with research/patient care in ENT, but have fun

traveling the world with my family and my camera (JackAnonPhoto.com)

1978

Kevin McDonald ★ B.A., 1978

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, The Vanderbilt Undergraduate Review) McDonald lives in Waban (Boston), MA, and said: I have launched a new web-based research & reporting service, dealing with corporate governance in Brazil: <http://www.mcdonald-lehnerreport.com>. Please take a look and let me know what you think!

Daniel M. Gray ★ B.A., 1978

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine) Gray lives in Falls Church, VA, and said: Have been re-connecting with VERSUS pal and outstanding architect Rich Chenoweth '79, who is doing a virtual recreation for the U.S. Capitol Historical Society of how the House of Representatives and Senate appeared when the British burned the U.S. Capitol in the late summer of 1814. I hope we can get Rich to speak to the D.C. alumni about his efforts, and that he can also do some presentations about the Capitol's appearance during the Civil War, for the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Also, since WRVU may go online, can we bring Bart Grooms '78 back onto the air for his superb jazz show, and can VERSUS be allowed to rise from the dead as an online alumni only publication? VERSUS alumni, please respond to this idea.

1980

Daniel C. Bowen ★ B.A., 1980

(WRVU, Commodore yearbook) Bowen lives in Cincinnati, OH.

1983

Harry S. Campbell ★ B.A., 1983



Harry S. Campbell

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Campbell lives in Overland Park, KS, and said: I just began a Sabbatical (early retirement...who knows?) after 26 yrs in the business world. I am focusing on speaking about and writing a book on "Real" Leadership. I will also strive to be an effective COO, reporting to

the CEO of the house, my wife!

1984



Stephen Andrew Kennedy ★ B.A., 1984

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine) Kennedy lives in Colleyville, TX, and said: Steve Kennedy is the managing partner of an intellectual property firm in Dallas, TX (Kennedy, Clark & Williams) and focuses his practice on copyright infringement, trademark infringement and patent litigation matters. He has represented photographers, media companies, software companies, electronics companies, oil companies as well as multi-national conglomerates.

ics companies, oil companies as well as multi-national conglomerates.

Connect with old VU friends and classmates...

Looking for old friends and classmates?

visit

VUconnect.com

Vanderbilt's online community, where you can connect with alumni, students and friends around the world.

Lynne Riggs Anderson ★ B.A., 1984

(WRVU) Anderson lives in Hilton Head Island/Asheville, and said:



Lynne Riggs Anderson/CEO eTextPrep

Recently founded an exciting educational tech company that uses text messaging to teach. eTextPrep was developed over 18 months, code was written and copyrighted, and officially launched February 2011, via national broadcast and email campaigns. The system capitalizes on the incredible power and popularity of txt msging among students, and offers several different subscriptions including an SAT/ACT Prep, a Middle School Challenge and a host of Advanced Placement courses, with more on the way. The system also features an application for schools and groups that includes a private, Twitter-like, txt msging channel for teachers to communicate interactively with their students, offering study tips, quiz questions, and homework reminders. A great response in the market so far and importantly, students in the pilot programs have given eTextPrep an overwhelming "thumbs up!" Have you ever tried to old-fashioned call your teen to no avail? Alas, a simple text message works every time! Best!

1985

Gary D. Gerson ★ B.S., 1985

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine) Gerson lives in Bloomfield Hills, MI, and said: Still chugging along at Cranbrook, getting ready to be one of our first online teachers. My three kids are getting huge and fun. Just had another article published in the spring issue of Vanderbilt Magazine ("How to Fake a Book Report"). Check it out! I still hang out with WRVU announcer Andy Cohen (BA 1983).



Maddie and Isaac dressing up as prince and princess.

1987

Robert W. Kerr ★ B.A., 1987

(WRVU) Kerr lives in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and said: I did the classical show on RVU from the summer of '86 (when it went from midnight till 3 am Sunday night) till graduation in '87. By then it ran all night. Tried to segway into the monday morning regular stuff by playing artsy/whimsy instrumentations; I like to think it was like today's "mood" music. We called the show Bootleg Classics. Never qualified us for comp tickets to the Exit Inn though...

1988

Caroline Eve Gabriel ★ B.A., 1988

(WRVU, Versus magazine, The Vanderbilt Review)



Author, C. Eve Gabriel, M.S.

Gabriel lives in Spearfish, SD, and said: I just published my first book called, The Fateful Fork: Each Bite of Food Takes You to Disease... Or Health. Read it and become a Qualivore!

Alonso Duralde ★ B.A., 1988

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine) Duralde lives in West Hollywood, CA, and said: Alonso Duralde (A&S m'88) recently served as a juror for the USA Film Festival/Dallas' National Short Film and Video Competition, which provides up-and-coming filmmakers with cash prizes as well as eligibility for consideration for the Academy Awards. He can be seen regularly on "What the Flick?!" a movie-review show on The Young Turks network on YouTube, alongside TCM's Ben Mankiewicz and Christy Lemire of the Associated Press and "Ebert Presents at the Movies."

1990

Bruce K Negrin ★ B.A., 1990

(WRVU) Negrin lives in New Rochelle, NY, and said: Just completed the 120th edition of my weekly radio talk show entitled "New Rochelle News and Views". The is broadcasted by Whitney Radio on WVOX 1460AM and can listened to on the internet at www.wvox.com Thursday nights at 8pm. The radio program's mission to is to add depth and open a dialogue about local, county and state issues that affect the city and its residents. Guests include members of the City Council, local journalists and community news makers. The Bruce Negrin Radio Program has been embraced by the New Rochelle community and has affected positive change for the city and its residents. Take a listen and see how a pioneering WRVU Hip hop DJ can wax poetic about political issues.



Bruce Negrin Looking Good

1991

Troy Underwood ★ B.A., 1991

(Versus magazine) Underwood lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: Recently joined The Walt Disney Company as a Director of Current Series for Disney Television Animation.

Chris R Norris ★ B.S., 1991

(WRVU) Norris lives in Marietta, GA, and said: Raising 2 kids, coaching baseball, attending dance recitals, playing real estate broker in too many firms and just trying to keep it between the lines.



Me and Dex (AKA Wayne) at my parents house going on Freshman spring break in 1987. Wow!

1992

Drew Watson ★ B.S., 1992

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU) Watson lives in Kula, HI, and said: I never really thought of myself as a media person, nor the concept that I might actually end up writing following my Hustler stint, but then again, I never thought I'd end up a chef, either. Along the way, I stumbled into my own column for a food magazine, so as an associate said: "You get paid? Then call yourself a writer." For the past several years I'm been living in Maui where I am the chef/owner of a catering company for private/corporate jets.

1996

Katherine (Rowe) Numerick ★ B.S., M.Ed., 1996

(Commodore yearbook) Numerick lives in Leavenworth, KS, and said: Kate Numerick returned from her third deployment to the middle east and is attending the US Army's School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS) at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. SAMS prepares just 125 US and international military and interagency students each year to be senior strategic and operational planners in their respective fields.

1997

Ben Snowden ★ B.A., 1997

(The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU, Versus magazine, Slightly Amusing) Snowden lives in Silver Spring, MD, and said: Ben Snowden is an environmental attorney with Wallace, King, Domike & Reiskin in Washington, DC. He and his wife Rebecca live in Silver Spring, Maryland, along with their daughter Nora, who arrived last August.

1998

Ryan Denning ★ B.A., 1998

(WRVU) Denning lives in Bloomfield, CT, and said: After 11 years and 11 months at award-winning digital agency R/GA (www.rga.com),



Ryan on his wedding day in October 2010 at the Boston Public Library

including 2+ years setting up the company's San Francisco office, Ryan is switching to a client-side career back East. In June, Ryan begins work in Connecticut as AVP User Experience at The Hartford.

1999

Justin Seibert ★ B.A., 1999

(Vanderbilt Television) Seibert lives in Wheeling, WV, and said: Our children have received several trophies and medals for participating in team sports. Because, hey, why shouldn't everyone get trophies? Wait - what was the question?

John Paul Olarte ★ B.A., M.D., 1999, 2003

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Olarte lives in Durham, NC, and said: On Feb. 2, 2011 my wife Megan McInerney Olarte (VU B.E. '99) and I welcomed our fourth child, Sawyer Nathan. He joins siblings Liam, Lana and Sebastian. I am a psychiatrist at North Raleigh Psychiatry and Consultation/Liaison Psychiatrist at Rex Hospital in Raleigh, NC.

Joshua Lurie ★ B.A., 1999

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Lurie lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: Joshua Lurie founded Food GPS (www.foodgps.com), a website dedicated to pinpointing the highest-quality, best-tasting food and drink, regardless of price or cuisine. He's also a contributing editor for The Feast and writes on a regular basis for DineLA, the LA Times and Tasting Table. You may also recognize Lurie from an episode of "The Cosby Show."



Joshua Lurie

2000

William Lowery ★ B.A., 2000

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Lowery lives in Santa Monica, CA.

2002



Adam Jackson

Adam Jackson ★ B.S., 2002

(The Vanderbilt Hustler) Jackson lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: I'm currently working on my second venture-backed company, DriverSide.com, and also work as an angel investor in early-stage high-tech companies in Silicon Valley.

Andrea Sims Frankenfeld ★ B.S., 2002

(Commodore yearbook) Frankenfeld lives in India, South Asia, and said: For the past year, my husband and I have been working as media consultants in South Asia, volunteering with the International Mission Board. I have been writing stories about how God is working among South Asian peoples. It is the most fulfilling work I've ever done. And, I know that some of the writing I did at Vanderbilt helped to prepare me for this time.



My husband and I are wearing traditional Indian attire and celebrating the Easter holiday with our small church fellowship.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CNN Names Sam Feist Washington Bureau Chief



Sam Feist (Class of 1991 and member of the Student Media Hall of Fame), political director and vice president of Washington-based programming for CNN, has

been promoted to Washington, D.C. bureau chief and senior vice president. Ken Jautz, executive vice president of CNN/U.S., announced on May 17 Feist will oversee daily operations of the bureau and lead all newsgathering and programming from the nation's capital.

"For two decades at CNN, Sam has demonstrated his commitment to serious journalism and strong political programming," Jautz said in a news release. "His experience, vision, and understanding of our nation's capital will ensure CNN's Washington bureau and its coverage remain second to none."

"I couldn't be more excited to take on this new role and build on the great journalism and the tremendous expertise of the CNN Washington bureau," said Feist. "It is not only one of the largest news bureaus in the world, it is undoubtedly one of the finest. Leading this outstanding team at a time of dynamic change in our industry is invigorating and humbling."

Since January 2009, Feist has served CNN's political director and vice president of Washington-based programming, overseeing Washington programming, including *John King, USA, The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer, State of the Union with Candy Crowley*, and *Reliable Sources*. As political director, he also coordinated all facets of CNN's daily political coverage including the production of political specials such as primary nights, conventions, and election nights.

As political director and senior executive producer of political coverage through the 2006 midterm and 2008 presidential elections, Feist oversaw political coverage for "America Votes 2008" and *The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer*, the weekday program he helped conceptualize and launch. In the 2008 election cycle, Feist coordinated and produced CNN's nine presidential primary debates as well as the network's record-breaking primary, caucus and convention coverage that earned the network a Peabody Award. Feist was also instrumental in the "America Votes 2006" coverage of the midterm elections that earned the network an Emmy Award.

Feist formerly managed the production of *Inside Politics* and *Crossfire*. Prior to joining *Crossfire*, Feist was the founding executive producer of CNN's daily newscast *Wolf Blitzer Reports*. He also served as the executive producer of CNN's weekend programs *Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer*, *The Capital Gang* and *Evans & Novak*.

Feist has produced live programs from nations around the world including: Russia, Israel, the United Kingdom and China. He has produced interviews with such world leaders as George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Bill Clinton, Mikhail Gorbachev, Al Gore, Barack Obama, Yitzhak Rabin and Margaret Thatcher.

After working as a freelance producer at CNN's London bureau in 1990, Feist joined CNN full-time at its Atlanta headquarters in 1991. During the 1992 presidential campaign, he moved to the Washington bureau where he has held a number of positions including associate producer, producer, senior producer and assignment editor.

Feist received his bachelor of arts in political science from Vanderbilt, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. He received his law degree with honors from the Georgetown University Law Center, which included a semester studying international law at Cambridge University. Feist is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the bar of the District of Columbia.

★ ★ ★

alumni updates...

2003

Nicole Susonne Pietrantonì ★ B.S., 2003

(*The Vanderbilt Review*) Pietrantonì lives in Reykjavik, Iceland, and said: I've been living in Reykjavik, Iceland, where I am a Fulbright scholar. This year I have been creating artwork, having exhibitions, and also teaching community arts workshops.



Michael A. Gleason ★ B.A., 2003

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Gleason lives in Washington, D.C., and said: Michael A. Gleason (B.A., 2003) and Amanda ("Mandy") Thompson (B.A., Scripps College, 2006) were engaged to be married on April 2, 2011. Michael is an associate in the antitrust group at the Jones Day law firm and Mandy is a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Pete Stark. Both reside in Washington, D.C.

Melanie Faulkner Shepard ★ B.A., 2003

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Shepard lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I teach English and Journalism at Centennial High School in Franklin and am the advisor for the school paper. I hope to stay in touch with other Hustler alumni.

2004

Robert Shaw ★ B.A., 2004

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Vanderbilt Television*) Shaw lives in New York City, NY, and said: After finishing up my MBA at NYU Stern, I will work full-time at Bloomberg Sports as the Director of Content, Executive Producer and Sports Anchor for the syndicated baseball program Ballpark Figures, and Business Development for Bloomberg Sports Media.



Rob Shaw

2005

Robert Edward Caldwell ★ B.S., 2005

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, WRVU*) Caldwell lives in St. Louis, MO, and said: Robert is currently an attorney defending indigent people accused of crimes in Missouri. He wonders when he will become a superstar musician and when he will actually start writing his book.

Alex Kwak ★ B.A., 2005

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler*) Kwak lives in Chicago, IL, and said: Alex recently (Dec. '10) accepted the position of Director of Annual Giving at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Aaron Kraft ★ B.A., 2005

(*Orbis*) Kraft lives in Bloomington, IN, and said: Aaron graduated in May 2011 with his MBA from Indiana University Kelley School of Business. He will be relocating to Minneapolis, MN where he will be starting work as a Senior Operations Consultant with OptumHealth, a division of UnitedHealth Group.

2006

Lindsay Miller ★ B.A., 2006

(*Vanderbilt Television*) Miller lives in Los Angeles, CA, and said: This fall, I will be taking my talents



Lindsay Miller

2007

David Fotouhi ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Torch, VSC Board member, Student Media Advertising*) Fotouhi lives in St. Louis, MO, and said: I graduated from Harvard Law School last May and passed the Texas bar exam. I am currently nearing the end of a one-year clerkship with Judge Raymond W. Gruender on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in St. Louis. In the fall, I will begin work as an associate in the Washington, D.C. office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP.

Jordan D Mamorsky ★ B.S., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com*) Mamorsky lives in New York, NY, and said: I was recently selected to be an interdisciplinary fellow at Yale MBA/Law/Divinity School to research and write on the failures of business ethics, corporate



Jordan Mamorsky

governance, and regulatory compliance during and in the aftermath of the financial crisis. In addition to this opportunity, I will be working with other professionals in a new fiduciary consulting venture called Global Fiduciary Governance LLC. GFG will be geared towards Dodd Frank compliance work, business ethics consulting, and strategic initiatives for Fortune 500 executives. Specifically, for the company, I have developed a unique patented "Fiduciary Audit" product for hedge fund managers that is intended to identify defects in operational compliance with Dodd Frank, SEC regulations, and pertinent securities case law.

Mike Burns ★ B.A., 2007

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, VSC Board member*) Burns lives in Washington, DC, and said: Graduated law school from Georgetown in the spring and joined the Podesta Group, a government affairs firm, in the fall as its compliance manager.

2008

Andrew Hard ★ B.M., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com*) Hard lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I'm currently attending Vanderbilt Law School, scheduled to graduate in 2013.



Allly Scott (fiancee), at our engagement celebration dinner.

Glenna DeRoy ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com*) DeRoy lives in Arlington, VA, and said: I have accepted a job with CBS on their Local Digital team in New York. I'll be the Manager of Social Media Strategy for 24 local websites owned by CBS, such as CBSNewYork.com. I previously worked at USA TODAY in McLean, Va.

Madeleine Frances Pulman ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com, Commodore yearbook*) Pulman lives in Lexington, KY, and said: After graduating in May 2008, I joined Nissan North America in marketing and moved to their Southeast Regional Headquarters in Atlanta, GA. From June 2008 - March 2011 I roated through various positions within

the organization - including Marketing, Field Operations and Distribution. In April of 2011 I was promoted to District Dealer Operations Manager and was relocated to Lexington, KY. I now work with 14 Dealerships in KY and WV on operational improvement. In 2010 I became a PADI certified Rescue Scuba Diver and continue on my path to becoming an instructor.

Meredith Collins Casey ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, InsideVandy.com*) Casey lives in Washington, DC, and said: Meredith Casey, former News Editor for the Vanderbilt Hustler, is leading the Marketing and Public Relations efforts at NavigationArts, a leading web consulting firm. NavigationArts clients include Marriott, Nextel, Blackboard, Teach For America, Newspaper Association of America, NPR, NASDAQ, St. Jude Medical, Smithsonian, and the U.S. State Department. For more information, please visit www.navigationarts.com. Meredith is enjoying life in Washington, DC and recently ran into Glenna DeRoy, former Vanderbilt Hustler Editor-in-Chief, at a conference about mobile. Meredith also keeps in touch with Sean Seelinger, former Vanderbilt Hustler Editor-in-Chief.



Meredith Collins Casey

Rachel D. Unger ★ B.A., 2008

(*The Slant*) Unger lives in New Orleans, LA, and said: After working for Vanderbilt's Development and Alumni Relations for a short stint in 2010, I escaped Nashville a week before The Flood and moved to Baton Rouge. After about 9 months of applications, table-waiting, and interviews, I finally made it through the HR gauntlet at Tulane University. I now work as a Recruiting Assistant for the Freeman School of Business' Career Management Center. I'm loving the wonderful warm weather and the laid-back pace of life in the Big Easy!



The moustache is real, I swear!

2009

Dustin Swysgood ★ B.E., 2009

(*WRVU*) Swysgood lives in Huntington, WV.

Mike Kranzler ★ B.A., 2009

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler InsideVandy.com The Slant*) Kranzler lives in Miami Beach, FL, and said: I was named the Social Media Director at OMG National, an INC 5000 multimedia design firm specializing in audio, video, and web production. I am in charge of both our internal social media efforts and those a growing portfolio of clients around the world, as well as creating and managing new small business advertising campaigns.

2010

Nikki Bogopolskaya ★ B.A., B.S., 2010

(*The Vanderbilt Hustler, Versus magazine, InsideVandy.com*) Bogopolskaya lives in Washington, DC, and said: I work in downtown Washington as Media Coordinator for e.Republic, the nation's leading publishing, research, event and new media company focused on the state and local government and education markets. I also serve as the Washington, D.C. Community Manager for the start-up dating site How About We. I am a regular contributor to several national media groups including Citystream and Citysearch, as well as a writer for prominent entertainment, fashion, and food publications in the NYC/DC area. In my free time, I write a moderately humorous lifestyle blog called City Girl in The District.



Nikki Bogopolskaya

★ ★ ★

UPDATE

your contact information at
VUconnect.com

WRVU: change will bring increased opportunities, studio upgrades, HD service

WRVU, continued from page 1

best addresses the greatest number of needs," Wollaeger said. "This arrangement will allow 91.1 to preserve students' radio experience online and on-air via HD, remain a community asset, develop an internship program at Nashville Public Radio and create financial security through an endowment for VSC."

The VSC board has been evaluating the possibility of selling the 91.1 license since the fall of 2009. Board members spent this time engaging in meticulous research, soliciting outside ideas and feedback, and talking with students, alumni, other Vanderbilt community members and radio industry experts to consider numerous options, he said.

Student and faculty board members who served on the board during this most recent academic year approved the sale of the license to Nashville Public

Radio. The previous year's VSC board approved the public exploration of a sale.

"The \$3.35 million VSC will receive will fund an endowment we expect to grow over the years and provide a reliable source of revenue for student media at Vanderbilt now and into the future," Wollaeger said. "We believe this accomplishment is significant and tremendously beneficial to students and the Vanderbilt community."

For WRVU, this new assurance provides VSC increased opportunities to continue its investments in audio technology, studio upgrades, marketing, special events, WRVU staff training and more. The VSC board is looking forward to the various possibilities for WRVU in the near- and long-term.

Nashville Public Radio is an independent, community-licensed public radio station, originally licensed by the FCC in 1962 as a unit of the

Nashville Public Library. Nashville Public Radio, a charter member of National Public Radio, separated from Metro Government in 1996 and has since been governed by a board of private citizens.

"This belongs to the community," Nashville Public Radio President Rob Gordon said. "We want Classical 91.1 to reflect our region's vibrant, energetic arts scene. Over the coming weeks and months we'll ask area arts organizations for feedback and input on how to make the station a vital resource for the arts in our region."

"We are grateful for the confidence the Vanderbilt Student Communications board has placed in us and applaud the current and earlier VSC boards and staff for their many years of careful custodianship and management of 91.1 FM," Gordon said. "We are also delighted to offer opportunities for Vanderbilt student interns to experience what it is like to work in a professional newsroom." ☺

Alumni Column, continued from page 2

with that umpire that you get thrown out." I'd caught 100 or more baseball games in my life by then, and I'd never had a coach give me an order like that!

My recollection is that I lasted for only a batter or two. The first time the ump called a ball, I stood up, jerked off my mask, got right in his face, called him a "homer" and howled that he'd been jobbing us all night. The home fans rightly jeered me. On the next pitches the ump called balls, I escalated my protests to arm waving and profanity. Then when I took it on up another few notches and questioned the ump's ancestry, he sternly cautioned me. After that, all it took was one magic word – you can imagine it – and I got a classic heave-ho ejection!

From that sorry moment, Vanderbilt baseball surely couldn't have gotten worse. But it certainly didn't improve with urgency. The varsity team in that spring of '66 went 2-16. In 1967, I tried out for the team again but got cut. Many of my classmates were good players, took over varsity positions and the team wound up 11-12, which was respectable by Vandy baseball standards.

Then the university made a major change. For the first time in years, if not ever, they hired a full-time year-round baseball coach instead of a part-timer who just worked during the season. The new coach was Larry Schmittou, who was only 27 years old but was already known as one of the best high school baseball coaches in the Nashville metro area. His first team was that hapless one in 1968 I told you about earlier. *The Hustler* wrote that the team "banished any delusions of grandeur Schmittou might have had."

But he went to work recruiting over that summer and fall. When the '69 team reported for workouts in late January, Schmittou had put together a squad of 25, and half of them were freshmen from the Nashville area. Several of the newbies were given baseball scholarships, a first at Vanderbilt. Schmittou also put together a 41-game schedule, "the most ambitious schedule we've ever had." And in the pre-season he boldly predicted, "I'll go on the line now that we'll win more than we lose if our boys work hard enough at it."

Nearly everyone on campus thought that was just so much bluster from Schmittou.

But it seemed to be such fun bluster to my pal Douglas T. Bates III and me. We were ornery seniors on the staff of *The Hustler*. I had been the rather controversial and liberal editor of the paper in the fall semester, but was removed from leadership when I tanked academically. Bates was a conservative columnist on the editorial pages. We decided that as a last gasp in our college journalism careers, we would put a little pizzazz into the woebegone Vanderbilt baseball program.

We scheduled an appointment to talk to the coach. What we discovered was a young, country sort of guy who knew baseball, for sure, but he didn't know anybody on campus. We asked him what his eventual goal was for the baseball program. "To win the SEC," he said without flinching. We liked his moxie. So we told Coach Schmittou that we thought we could help him. Here might be the funniest part of this story: He seemed to take us seriously.

We told him that between the two of us, we knew nearly everybody at Vanderbilt, and that we'd get the students to show up at games and have a good time. We told him the two of us would start writing the baseball stories for the *Hustler*, and that we were going to have some fun with it. He said great. We told him we'd need colorful quotes from him and his players. No problem, he said. And we needed one more thing. "What's that?" he said. We told him that his name, Larry Schmittou, "just isn't colorful enough. We want to give you a nickname – 'Smokie' – a great baseball name." Schmittou looked at us blankly and said, "I don't even smoke." Doesn't matter, we answered, "just let us call



Student leaders Meghan Rose, Theo Samets, Chris Honiball, Hannah Twillman, Kristen Webb and Liz Furlow pose with Hustler alumni Douglas T. Bates III and Chuck Offenburger during their visit to campus in April.

you 'Smokie.' He laughed, shook his head and gave us a "let's do it!"

Thank goodness the team was ready, too. They jumped off to a 9-2 start in their first 11 games. In our newspaper stories, we were lavish in praise of our Commodores, unmerciful toward the opponents and rather daring in encouraging beer drinking at the baseball games. Guess what? The students started flocking to the ballpark. There were only a half-dozen bleacher seats behind home plate, but the students didn't want to be there anyway. Instead, we sat in the sunshine on the elevated banks down the first base line. Early in the second half of the season, the team was 18-11 and Smokie Schmittou and his boys were the talk of not only the campus, but also among Nashville's sports fans.

When they won two of three games in a home series against highly respectable Auburn, we noted in the paper that there were "beer cans by the dozens and hundreds of enthusiastic fans." When we asked Schmittou what he thought of the students' hubbub, he said, "Give 'em six cool ones, and they think I'm the most popular man on campus!" We also reported that six students had their IDs lifted by the Campus Police for allegedly drinking beer at the game. Among them – Bates, his girlfriend and me. We all had to report to the college deans for discipline, which amounted to a scolding. But we did enjoy Bates' girlfriend being told by the Dean of Women that her behavior had been "that of a ruffian in the streets."

Alas, the team then went on a slide against tough SEC competition, losing 7 of the next 8 games. But they finished with a flourish against non-league teams and wound-up with a 21-18 record. Not only was it the winning record Smokie Schmittou had predicted; it was also the first winning season since 1955!

And from then on, things got better in a hurry. In 1973 and again in '74, another of Schmittou's predictions came true – those teams won SEC championships. He continued coaching through the 1978 season, and in his 11 years, the Commodores won 300 games. He then handed off the program to Coach Roy Mewburne, who kept it rolling for his 24 years and then handed off to Coach Corbin in 2003.

Schmittou went on to form a partnership with several country music stars in Nashville and they bought a minor

league baseball franchise, the Nashville Sounds. In the late 1980s and early '90s, the Schmittou group bought six more minor league franchises around the nation. He sold them all in 1996 and retired from baseball. He now is a partner in a chain of bowling centers in three states. And, yes, they still call him Smokie Schmittou.

And that's how the turnaround in Vanderbilt baseball actually happened. It took a whole lot of leadership from a young coach, the grit of a bunch of players determined to get better, with an assist from some ink-stained ragamuffins on the student newspaper.

So, imagine the thrill on my return to campus for baseball this spring. The Commodores not only beat Tennessee, they walloped the Vols in the three games – 10-1, 10-1 and 19-3! It may well have been the most dominating weekend of baseball ever by the Vanderbilt team. Being an Iowan, I kept pinching myself and saying, "Is this heaven?"

Bates, who is now an attorney in the west central Tennessee town of Centerville, and I had a great time prowling around the campus, disrupting the work days of as many of our old friends as possible – Provost Richard McCarty, development director Robert Early, athletic director of communications Rod Williamson, the grad schools' Steve Smartt and retired political science prof Robert Birkby.

And we had a great time when we dropped in on the Vanderbilt Student Communications newsroom. There we found *Hustler* editor-in-chief Chris Honiball and a half-dozen key staff members who were studying together for final exams! "What you are doing here," Bates told them, "is something Offenburger cannot relate to." We got a quick briefing from the students on *Hustler* operations today, and regaled them with a few newspaper tales from the late '60s. Then we two musty old alums serenaded them with "Dynamite," reported to Rotier's for our pre-game meal and made our way to Hawkins Field.

Chuck Offenburger was a Vanderbilt Hustler staff member from 1965-69, rising to editor-in-chief in the late spring of '68. He went on to a long career in journalism in his native Iowa, including 21 years as a columnist for the Des Moines Register. He now lives outside Cooper, an Iowa town of 30, from where he freelances and faithfully follows Vanderbilt sports. You can reach him at chuck@Offenburger.com. ☺

Alumna manages new History Channel series

by Gaby Román, Class of '10



Ann Carroll

Ever wonder why some states have panhandles while others are near perfect squares? Why is Texas bigger than multiple states combined? The map of the United States is a jigsaw puzzle of crooked lines, right angles and odd sizes. VSC alumna Ann Carroll (B.A., 1974) explored these issues as executive producer for "How The States Got Their Shapes," a new History Channel series that tackles the back story of our jagged geography.

The series, which premiered on May 3, followed broadcast journalist, actor and comedian Brian Unger on a road trip across the nation in search of the stories behind our states' boundaries. Through his search, he discovered not only how the states got their shapes, but also how the states have shaped us. Unger, who is best known as one of the first correspondents and producers on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*, interacted with state residents through quizzes and games.

Carroll's interest in strong stories attracted her to the series' content. As the "showrunner," she oversees 18 to 20 people working on various aspects of production while setting the tone of its creative presentation and unique blend of history and humor.

An English major, Carroll wrote for *The Hustler* and voiced newscasts on WRVU. These activities, along with many roles at VU Theatre, ignited an interest in writing for television, she said. Armed with experience in student media and a liberal arts background, Carroll received a full scholarship to the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, where she earned a master's degree in television and radio.

"I found when I went to Syracuse that a lot of people there had majored in television and radio. My background at Vanderbilt really prepared me for the career path of doing documentaries. I'm always very grateful of having that liberal arts background – it was more valuable than anything else," she said.

After graduate school, Carroll went on to write, direct and produce history shows for National Geographic, Discovery and History, such as "Digging for the Truth," a documentary series exploring archaeology and ancient mysteries. She also worked at the Smithsonian Institution for a number of years, hosting a weekly radio program and making exhibition films.

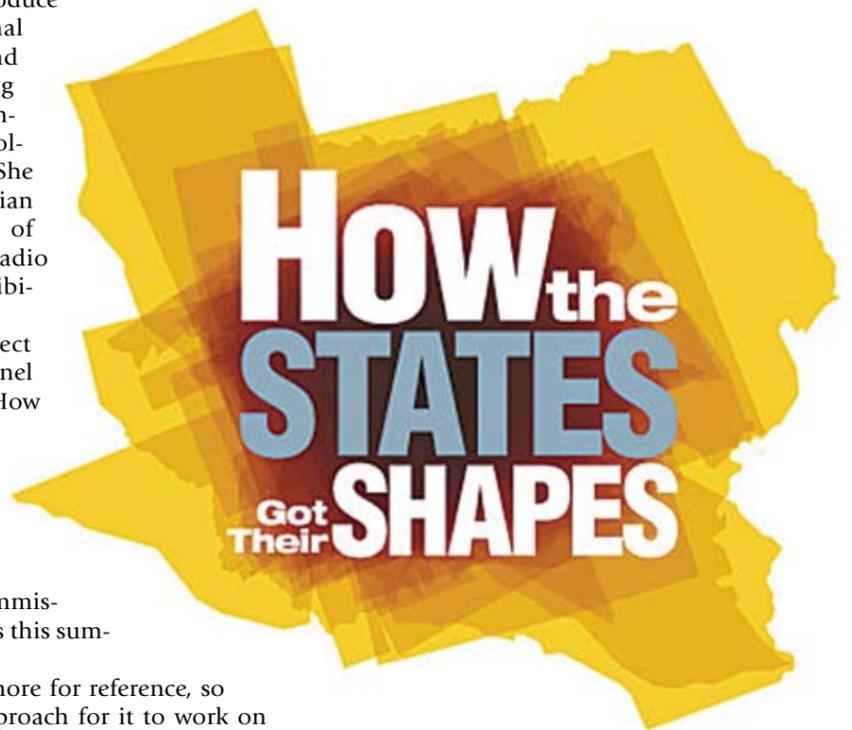
Carroll's newest project began with a History Channel special she created called "How The States Got Their Shapes," which grew out of a book of the same name by Mark Stein. The special's first broadcast was in April 2010, and its success earned a commission for the 10-episode series this summer.

"Mark Stein's book was more for reference, so I had to take a different approach for it to work on television," she said. "It was a real challenge, but it's

been very gratifying how much people enjoy it."

"We're finishing up an episode that focuses on voting right now. That could be the most boring thing in the world, but in this show, it's so fascinating and fun. Being able to find ways to do that – to keep good, rigorous attention to solid history – and yet still make the show watchable. It's funny and a great way to get across good stories from history," she said.

"How The States Got Their Shapes" explores how borders evolved and continue to change in response to religion, transportation, communication, politics, culture clashes and even Mother Nature. The documentary series airs on Tuesdays at 10 p.m. EST on the History Channel. 🗺️



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NOMINATION FORM

We welcome your nomination for the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame.
Deadline: Nominations for inclusion in the 2012 Hall of Fame class are due by **Dec. 1**.

CANDIDATE NOMINATION INFORMATION

Please include the following information on separate paper or in an email:

Your Information:

- Your name
- Email address
- Phone
- Mailing Address

Nominee Information:

- Name of nominee
- Nominee's class year or approximate
- Vanderbilt student media organization(s) in which nominee worked
- Dates (or approximate) when nominee worked in Vanderbilt student media
- Please describe your knowledge of how the nominee contributed in a significant way as a staff member to one or more of Vanderbilt's student media organizations
- Please describe how the nominee has achieved outstanding personal or professional accomplishments and/or made distinguished and lasting contribution to his or her field and/or society in general

You are welcome to also send additional supporting information, documentation, photos, etc.

To nominate a Hall of Fame candidate, please complete the above information and send via email to chris.carroll@vanderbilt.edu or mail to: Vanderbilt Student Communications • Attn: Hall of Fame • 2301 Vanderbilt Place • VU Station B 351669 • Nashville, TN 37235-1669