

spring 2012



Unstoppable

*Medicine and music:
A Nashville original*

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COVER

Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital patient Ansley McLaurin gets a backstage tour of the Grand Ole Opry House from Rascal Flatts members Jay DeMarcus, Joe Don Rooney and Gary LeVox. Rascal Flatts, who recently became the newest members of the Opry, personifies the growing trend of Nashville entertainers who share their time and talents with Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Ansley has been treated successfully for a primary lung tumor. For more about Vanderbilt's partnership with the music industry, see page 38. Photo by John Russell.



Molten Marvels

On the way to opening his own studio in Franklin, Tenn., Jose Santisteban, BA'99, studied glassblowing in Rochester, N.Y.; Seattle; and Murano, Italy. "I love its fluidity, how it moves and behaves," says Santisteban of his medium. Find out more on page 50. Photo by John Russell.

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Helen Hudson



HELEN HUDSON, MED'94, has enjoyed a varied career: high school English teacher, songwriter, recording artist, actress, therapist, speaker and author. Her memoir, *Kissing Tomatoes*, which details the 13 years she and her husband cared for her grandmother with Alzheimer's disease, was profiled recently in *Counseling Today*, and she speaks around the country about the importance of caring for the elderly with compassion. Hudson is completing work on her new CD, *Whistle in the Dark*, which soon will be available on iTunes. She lives in Nashville with her husband and two teenage daughters. Learn more at helen-hudson.com.

Allena Berry

ALLENA BERRY is a senior at Peabody College, majoring in human and organizational development and history. Although the Blair School of Music first attracted her to Vanderbilt, she says, "in the end, Peabody captured my heart." A native of Racine, Wis., she has been a frequent contributor to the *Vanderbilt Hustler* and *Inside Vandy* and is also a VUceptor. Last year she spent a semester as an intern for the Washington, D.C., public school system.



Rob Simbeck



ROB SIMBECK's work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Guideposts*, *Country Weekly*, *Field & Stream*, *Free Inquiry* and many other publications. He has won three national awards for his work in the *Nashville Scene* and two international awards for his outdoor writing. Learn more at robsimbeck.com.

Mardy Fones

MARDY FONES has been a writer and editor for more than 35 years and has worked at newspapers, in university public relations, and in publications management for a Fortune 500 company. Currently a freelancer, her clients range from USAA to *New York Stock Exchange Magazine*. A graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, she focuses on people-driven stories reflecting their subjects' passions and aspirations. When not writing, she works to support adoption of retired racing greyhounds as pets.



Joanne Beckham

JOANNE LAMPHERE BECKHAM, BA'62, worked as an award-winning editor at Vanderbilt more than 25 years. Since retiring from a full-time career in 2006, she has continued writing for various publications and has taught in an ESL (English as a second language) program. At Vanderbilt she earned her undergraduate degree in English, cum laude, and did graduate work at Peabody College and the Owen Graduate School of Management.



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DoreWays

A forum for exchanging ideas

From the Editor

Terms of Engagement

THIS ISSUE OF *Vanderbilt Magazine* represents the last of its kind—but by no means signals the end of Vanderbilt’s flagship publication. This year we are rethinking and redesigning the magazine, an undertaking I find both thrilling and humbling.

The current incarnation of *Vanderbilt Magazine* made its debut in 2002, and in terms of reader response has been a resounding success. So why are we reinventing the wheel?

Part of the answer is pretty obvious. Think how communications have proliferated during the past decade. Now, depending on your relationship with the university and your preferences, you may receive news not only through the magazine but also through email, e-newsletters, VUconnect, VUCast newscasts, Facebook, Twitter, and other ways, regardless of whether you live in Nashville or Nairobi.

Our research and your feedback tell us that a print magazine remains a vital means of communication—in some ways more than ever. Having so many tools at our fingertips not only has helped to *diffuse* communication—but to *distill* it as well.

So the question we are asking as we undertake this redesign becomes: What is the essence of Vanderbilt?

As we embark on our magazine redesign, we are carefully thinking about what defines Vanderbilt as a community. As someone who has met thousands of alumni, students and faculty members during the past quarter-century, I would put these characteristics at the top of my list: civility, curiosity, inspired ambition, humor, generosity, and vision for a better world.

The focus on campus these days is less on Vanderbilt’s individual colleges and schools, and more on the university as a whole. The lines between the “university side” of Vanderbilt and the “medical center side” have blurred as the benefits of cross-disciplinary study and resource sharing become clear. You will see this “one Vanderbilt” philosophy reflected in the new magazine, too.

What *won’t* change is our commitment to presenting an array of voices from the Vanderbilt community, bringing the university to life from the points of view of students, faculty members—and especially alumni.

As we work through the process of reinventing *Vanderbilt Magazine*, we will continue to communicate with our readers electronically to update you on our plans. Expect to see the new *Vanderbilt Magazine* about the time students return to campus this fall.

I’d like to hear your thoughts on what you’d like to see in the new magazine. Email me at gaynelle.doll@vanderbilt.edu, or call me at (615) 322-1003.

—GayNelle Doll

From the Reader

Easy Money, Hard Lessons

THIS IS THE BEST ARTICLE [“Missteps to Mayhem,” Summer 2011] I have read concerning our current financial situation and the hard choices that must be made. Human nature ignores the truth when it involves hard decisions and sacrifice, but Dr. Burry eloquently argues that we must heed the call.

JAMES P. SCHUENGEL, BA’80
Louisville, Ky.

TERRIFIC ARTICLE. I’VE BOOKMARKED it under “Best Posts about the GFC [Global Financial Crisis]” and am forwarding it to everybody I think will pay attention (a short list, sad to say). Michael Burry’s sentiment—“I worry about the future of a nation that would refuse to acknowledge the true causes of the crisis”—causes me despair because it’s true. Our future is bleak unless there is some miracle. And I don’t believe in miracles.

CLARK THORNTON, JD’95
Old Hickory, Tenn.

I Survived Kissam Hall

I WONDER HOW MANY “SURVIVORS” of the original Kissam Hall [The Campus, “College Halls Moves to Kissam,” Summer 2011] are left besides me. I lived there in the academic year 1945–46.

DONALD KRAFT, BA’49, MA’49
Northbrook, Ill.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Learn much more about Kissam’s history in “The Three Lives of Kissam Hall,” beginning on page 16. We invite readers to post their recollections of Kissam to the online version of the article on our website: vanderbilt.edu/magazines/vanderbilt-magazine.

continued on page 77



Vanderbilt Magazine's first cover after its last redesign in 2002

1,000 Words

One image frozen in time



Shots Heard Round the World

"Flupalooza," a drill of Vanderbilt University Medical Center's mass vaccination plan, broke the Guinness world record for most vaccinations given in an eight-hour period. Free flu vaccines were given to 12,850 Vanderbilt faculty, staff, students and volunteers during the October event—more than doubling the previous record. Forty-four nurses at a time worked at individual stations in the Flupalooza tent while volunteers maintained patient flow and logistics. Photo by Susan Army.



The Campus

“You see Vanderbilt engineers very often moving into leadership positions. I think that’s

Galloway Transitions from Dean to Full-Time Faculty

KEN GALLOWAY, DEAN OF Vanderbilt’s School of Engineering for 16 years, will transition to full-time faculty member July 1. Galloway is only the seventh dean in the history of the School of Engineering, which marks its 125th anniversary this year.

One of his achievements has been the recruitment and support of highly qualified faculty, who in turn have helped attract unprecedented research funding. During Galloway’s tenure, research expenditures from external sources grew from less than \$10 million to more than \$60 million annually.

“The dean has overseen the recruitment and retention of outstanding young faculty members who will contribute to Vanderbilt’s success for decades to come,” says Art Overholser, BE’65, senior associate dean and professor of biomedical engineering and chemical engineering. Since 2000, 27 School of Engineering faculty members have received National Science Foundation CAREER Awards.

Some of those hires have been fueled by the generous funding of 12 endowed chairs, which are vital to recruiting top faculty. Eleven of those were awarded within the past 10 years.



The physical appearance of the School of Engineering has changed dramatically as well. Thanks to Vanderbilt alumni and friends who answered the call for upgraded facilities, the Featheringill Hall–Jacobs Hall complex was completed in 2002. More recently, the university acquired space on Music Row at 16th Avenue South that is now home to the Institute for Software Integrated Systems, one of several centers and institutes under the School of Engineering aegis. The newest, the Vanderbilt Initiative in Surgery and Engineering, continues an evolving partnership with Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Galloway, BA’62, has been a national leader and advocate before Congress for engineering and science education. Last year he was inducted into the Academy of Fellows of the

American Society for Engineering Education. He is immediate past chair of the ASEE Engineering Deans Council and has served on the ASEE board of directors. He is currently a candidate to become president-elect of the ASEE.

The reputation of the School of Engineering has grown markedly during Galloway’s tenure. Engineering attracts some of the brightest students at Vanderbilt, with more than 4,300 of the most qualified applicants vying for 320 spaces in this year’s engineering and computer science freshman class. Women make up 34 percent of the current student body—about twice the national average for engineering schools.

“One of the really enjoyable things about having been dean at Vanderbilt is the opportunity to meet our alumni

and to see how well they have used their Vanderbilt education,” says Galloway. “You see Vanderbilt engineers very often moving into leadership positions. I think that’s because of the broader education they get at Vanderbilt.”

Succeeding Galloway as dean will be Philippe Fauchet, currently chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Rochester. Fauchet begins work at Vanderbilt July 1. Look for more about Fauchet in the next issue of *Vanderbilt Magazine*.

Board of Trust Approves Alumni Hall Renovations

ONE OF THE MOST architecturally significant and underused buildings on campus is about to get a whole lot busier. The Vanderbilt Board of Trust’s Executive Committee has voted to begin significant renovations to Alumni Hall in order to create flexible spaces to support a wide range of activities.

Increased student engagement and leadership on campus have created a need for additional meeting and gathering space. University officials say the number of student-led organizations has pushed available meeting space at nearby Rand Hall and Sarratt Student Center beyond capacity.

Construction is set to begin

Spring 2012

because of the broader education they get at Vanderbilt. ”

—DEAN KEN GALLOWAY, VANDERBILT SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

immediately after Commencement and conclude in July 2013. Expanded terraces, a new classroom, music lounge, exercise room, writing center, faculty office suite and café are planned for the Collegiate Gothic-style building originally completed in 1925.

Renovation funding will be provided by a combination of philanthropy and internal sources. Also, thanks to a generous gift from the Joe C. Davis Foundation, the Memorial Room on the second floor will be named in honor of 1941 alumnus Joe C. Davis Jr. A

men in fall 2014 on the current site of Kissam Quadrangle. In May 2012 the six existing Kissam Quadrangle buildings will be demolished to make way for the two new residential colleges and a shared facility providing gathering space, dining, a classroom, offices and meeting rooms. (See Collective Memory, page 16.)

Alumni Hall functioned as the university's original student union for nearly 50 years. It was dedicated to the 44 Vanderbilt alumni, former students and faculty who died in World War I. Their names are carved in

The renovation project will be the first for the 87-year-old Vanderbilt landmark.

Communication Initiative Touts Personalized Medicine

WHEN THE HUMAN GENOME was sequenced in 2003, scientists around the world turned their collective attention to discovering what roles genetic variation plays in human health and illness.

Their goal: to use that knowledge to tailor disease treatment and prevention strategies based

used to inform treatment selection for certain patients whose DNA makeup suggests that a particular blood thinner or statin may not work for them. It is also being applied in cancer care, where testing of lung cancer and melanoma patients' tumors for genetic changes is guiding the selection of treatments targeting those changes.

Vanderbilt's leadership in developing personalized medicine is at the heart of a new communication initiative, "Promise of Discovery," which is being seen across the country in such media as CNN, Fox News, National Public Radio, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*.

In addition to traditional media, the awareness campaign also leverages social media and interactive technology with My Health Chat, a monthly video chat that offers the chance to hear from and ask questions of researchers and physicians on the leading edge of medical advances.

The chats, which are streamed live on Facebook and VanderbiltHealth.com, have covered the genome and cardiac care, personalized medicine for cancer, and innovations in children's care. Other topics scheduled include autism and developmental disabilities, cancer drug discovery, neurosciences and diabetes.

Find out more: MyHealthChat.com



A rendering of the renovated Alumni Hall's west elevation

Vanderbilt tennis legend, Davis won SEC titles in 1939, 1940 and 1941. He was a longtime benefactor of the university and served on the Vanderbilt Board of Trust.

Having a renewed Alumni Hall also will benefit students living in the newest College Halls complex when it opens to approximately 660 upperclass-

limestone above the Memorial Room's fireplace mantels. As the premier campus social center, generations of students held tea dances in the Memorial Room, played pool in the basement, and conducted club meetings in the parlors. When Sarratt Student Center opened in 1974, Alumni Hall became home to a variety of administrative offices.

on an individual's own DNA blueprint, a concept often called "personalized medicine."

Today patients at Vanderbilt University Medical Center are starting to reap the benefits of this research. Vanderbilt is one of a few medical centers beginning to use DNA information to personalize care.

So far, the approach is being

Applications from All Regions Climb

VANDERBILT HAS RECEIVED a record 28,306 undergraduate applications for the fall 2012 semester, 3,658 (15 percent) more than at the same time last year.

The number of applications is up across all geographic regions and ethnic groups, says Douglas Christiansen, vice provost for enrollment and dean of admissions. All four undergraduate schools have seen a record number of applications.

“Vanderbilt is clearly fulfilling its promise as a national and world university,” Christiansen says. “We’re still processing the applications, but it appears that all the quality factors such as class rank, rigor of course work, leadership, extracurricular activities and test scores will all increase this year, too.”

The number of applications from international students increased 32 percent. Within the U.S., applications climbed by 29 percent in the West, 13.5 percent in the Southwest, 14.6 percent in the South, and 10

percent in the New York area. Increases were across all racial categories.

On the graduate level, applications were up 12 percent, with 7,855 received as of Jan. 15, says Dennis G. Hall, vice provost for research and dean of the graduate school.

Student Scholars Win National Recognition

THREE COLLEGE OF ARTS and Science students have been selected as top scholars by prestigious national institutions.

Katie Ullmann has been named a 2011 Udall Scholar in recognition of her past commitment to environmental issues and her demonstrated commitment to a career in the environmental field. An American studies major and Ingram Scholar, Ullmann has focused on social movements and their effect on environmental and climate protection policies. Now a junior, the Brookline, Mass., student was one of 80 undergraduates selected nationwide—and one of only 27 sophomores—from



DANIEL DUBOIS

Dance Little Sister Dance

Lexi Vernon dances the night away at the 10th annual Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon. The event, held Feb. 17–18, raised \$114,000 and benefits the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt. The largest student-run philanthropic organization on Vanderbilt’s campus, Dance Marathon has raised more than \$1 million through the years.



SUSAN URBY

The School of Nursing welcomed its largest class ever this academic year, including pre-specialty nursing students Audrey Pyle, left, and Brittany Powell, BA’11. A total of 486 students are pursuing master’s, doctor of nurse practice or Ph.D. degrees.

a group of 510 students nominated by 231 colleges and universities. The scholarship from the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation provides up to \$5,000 for her junior or senior year.

Seniors Justin Menestrina and Tim Xu were selected as Goldwater Scholars from a field of nearly 1,100 math, science and engineering students nominated by colleges and universities across the country.

Menestrina is a physics student from Knoxville, Tenn., conducting honors research in

preparation for his senior thesis. Xu, of Vienna, Va., is completing a double major—with honors—in neuroscience and European studies. The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program provides each with a two-year scholarship worth \$7,500 a year for educational expenses.

In addition, Greg Gauthier earned honorable mention in the Goldwater competition. The Wheaton, Ill., senior is working toward an honors degree in mathematics and economics while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Partnership Brings Bookstore to West End

THE CLOSING OF BORDERS Bookstore on West End Avenue last May as part of the company's bankruptcy reorganization ushered in a dark chapter for lovers of the printed word, leaving much of Nashville—which had also seen the closing of Davis-Kidd Booksellers in Green Hills a few months earlier—without a bookstore, save for a handful of small shops that sell mostly used volumes.

But thanks to a partnership between Vanderbilt and Barnes & Noble, the old Borders space has morphed into a university bookstore serving both town and gown. The new store opened in November.



JOE HOWELL

Barnes & Noble operates more than 630 campus bookstores across the U.S. for such institutions as Harvard, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania, Indiana University and Georgia Tech. In addition to offering items customers would expect to find at other Barnes & Noble retail outlets, the new bookstore offers Vanderbilt textbooks, course materials, apparel, other university items and a café.

And what happens to the old Rand Hall space? Last fall the Office of the Dean of Students conducted a feasibility

study for repurposing the space, weighing suggestions provided by more than 1,300 students through focus groups, surveys and videos.

Work is now under way to create an additional dining room, a campus store to provide items typically stocked at Varsity Market locations, meeting and conference rooms, an extensive student organization and leadership suite, centrally located offices for the Office of Active Citizenship and Service, and more. Plans call for the majority of work to be completed by fall.

Snacks among the Stacks

HEAVEN FORFEND, now those kids are eating and drinking in the library. And the librarians aren't lifting a finger to stop it.

Food-friendly policies have taken effect throughout Vanderbilt's Jean and Alexander Heard Library system since the recent addition of the Food for Thought Café in the Central Library. Food and drinks in covered containers are permitted in all libraries except for those areas with rare books and special materials.

Last year respondents to a Vanderbilt library survey expressed the desire to have food without having to leave the library building. The decisions to add a café and implement food-friendly policies were, in part, a response to the survey findings.

"Our libraries should be as welcoming and comfortable as possible," says Connie Vinita Dowell, dean of libraries. "For our students who often study late into the evening, this is an especially important policy change." ▼

Top Picks



ANNE RAYNER

Magazine Honors LifeFlight Director

Jeanne Yeatman, director of Vanderbilt LifeFlight, has been named by *HealthLeaders* magazine among its top 20 people nationwide who are "changing health care for the better." The annual *HealthLeaders* 20 list profiles people who are playing a crucial role in making the health care industry better. Yeatman is the only Tennessean on the list, and the only person representing the air medical industry.

Murphy Wins Lifetime Achievement Award

Joseph Murphy has won the 2011 Roald F. Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award from the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA). The Campbell Award recognizes senior professors in educational administration whose professional lives have been characterized by extraordinary commitment, excellence, leadership, productivity, generosity and service.



Murphy is the Frank W. Mayborn Chair of Education and an associate dean of Vanderbilt's Peabody College of education and human development. He is a past school administrator and founding chair of the Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium.

Melodores among Top Collegiate Groups

The Vanderbilt Melodores, an all-male student cappella group, has been lauded among the top 10 American collegiate cappella groups for 2011 by The A Cappella Blog. The Melodores ranked No. 6 on the list, which also featured groups that have appeared on the NBC television show *The Sing-Off*, as well as the Tufts University Beelzebubs, who portrayed the fictional singing group The Warblers on Fox television's *Glee*.



STEVE GREEN

Sports

A look at Vanderbilt athletics

Laxabunga*

Midfielder Ally Carey racks up All-American honors.

By JEROME BOETTCHER

ALLY CAREY GREW UP WITH A soccer ball attached to her foot. Following in her soccer-oriented father's footsteps, she played the sport all the way through high school. At a young age she had it all planned out. She was going to emulate her childhood idol, Mia Hamm, and play soccer for North Carolina and then—she hoped—Team USA.

"I didn't want to give up soccer at all," she says. In the fourth grade, however, Carey started playing lacrosse. Beginning with a wooden stick—most club teams use aluminum sticks with plastic heads—she began to develop a connection with lacrosse.

Her fondness for the sport grew at John Carroll High School in Bel Air, Md. Summers and falls became dedicated to soccer. When winter hit, she took out the lacrosse stick. As her high school days wound down, Carey faced a difficult decision. She could try to play both soccer and lacrosse in college, but she feared it would be too much to juggle. So she made up her mind, which turned out to be surprisingly easy.

"I had more confidence in lacrosse than soccer—and definitely made a good choice."

Vanderbilt certainly thinks so. Last June the 5-foot-8 midfielder became the first Vanderbilt lacrosse player to be named a first-team All-American twice. She is the school's all-time leader in draw controls (183), and last year she ranked nationally in the top 10 for draw controls, caused turn-

***laxabunga** (lak sə bun' gə) *exclam.* [slang] used as an exclamation of delight and laxification by laxers (lacrosse players). *See also laxaholic.*

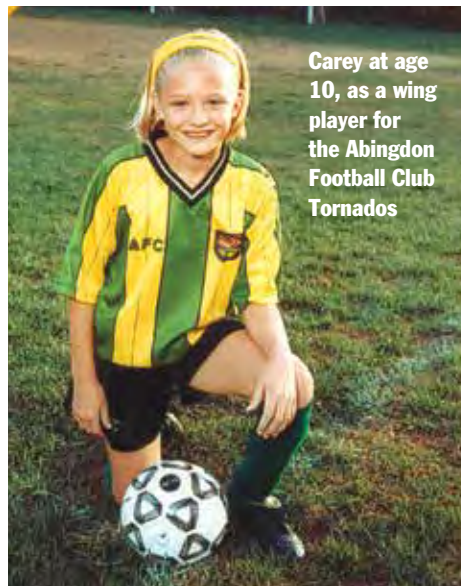
overs and ground balls, which are similar to steals. She was a nominee for the Tewaaraton Award, which is given annually to the top men's and women's lacrosse players in the country. And last November *Lacrosse Magazine* announced her as one of four finalists for its Preseason Player of the Year Award.

Carey is only the most prominent example of how Vanderbilt benefits from Maryland's historic strength in lacrosse. Maryland has contributed 10 players to the current squad, six of whom are seniors, and one-third of the early signees for next year also hail from the Old Line State.

Even before she arrived at Vanderbilt, Carey was soaking in experiences that many dream about. As a junior in high school, she was picked to compete with Team USA in the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations' U-19 (under 19) World Championship in Canada. Despite being one of the team's—and tournament's—youngest players, she earned Player of the Match honors in the semifinal against England. She then helped her teammates claim the gold in dominating fashion over Australia.

Goosebumps climb her arms as she recalls chanting "U-S-A, U-S-A" with the crowd in Ontario. "I can't even put into words what it feels like to have 'USA' across your chest," she says. "The red, white and blue in the stands just makes you so proud to represent your country. It was an amazing experience."

Carey wants to experience that feeling again—on an even bigger stage. She is one of 36 players on the US Lacrosse women's national senior team, along with Vanderbilt



Carey at age 10, as a wing player for the Abingdon Football Club Tornados

COURTESY OF THE CAREY FAMILY

"We'd like to take credit for a lot of [her success], but what she has accomplished as an athlete is because of her drive," says Vanderbilt Women's Lacrosse Head Coach Cathy Swezey. "She is just a gifted kid with a tireless work ethic who really has made a great difference in our program."

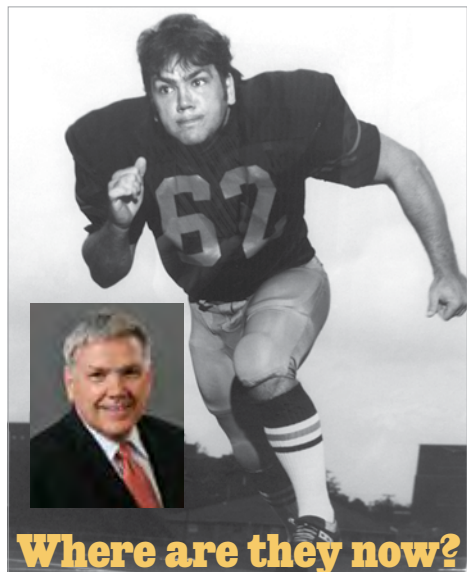


Senior Ally Carey is one of 10 players from Maryland on the women's lacrosse team.

assistant coach Amber Falcone. The squad participated in a tournament during October and reunited in January. Come July, though, everyone must try out again and crack the final 18 in order to play in the 2013 World Cup in Canada. More immediately, as a senior captain, Carey is focused on helping the Commodores win an American Lacrosse Conference championship and reach elite status nationally. "I'm still wanting that national title," she says.

Carey graduates in May with a degree in human and organizational development and a minor in marketing. She hopes to land a job at Under Armour, a sports clothing and apparel company based in Baltimore where she interned last summer. Eventually, she would like to work with the company's new lacrosse product line. "They are extremely efficient, but they also have a great time," she says of the company. "It is totally the place I want to be—a perfect fit, kind of like here at Vanderbilt." ▼

Jerome Boettcher is a sports reporter for the Nashville City Paper.



Where are they now?

James Avery, BA'73, was named captain of the Vanderbilt football team in 1972. Nearly 40 years later he's been honored as Tennessee Dentist of the Year by the Tennessee Academy of General Dentistry. He has practiced general dentistry in Memphis for 32 years and has served in the past as an instructor and lecturer at the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry. Avery and his wife, Karen, have three adult daughters.



Franklin-Era Football Off to Great Start

The first year of the James Franklin-coached Vanderbilt football saga got off to an exciting start as the Commodores finished the regular season with a 6–6 record, two SEC wins, and a postseason bowl berth.

Franklin was named head coach of the Vanderbilt football program in December 2010 following back-to-back 2–8 seasons that produced only one SEC win. The Commodores had a fast start to the 2011 season with three home wins, including a victory over Ole Miss. They took a 5–6 record into the regular season finale at Wake Forest and emerged with a decisive 41–7 victory.

"People wanted to tell me all the things we can and can't do," Franklin remembers about his arrival at Vanderbilt. "It's the same things people have been telling me my whole life, and that's not what we're about. We're about having a positive attitude, working hard, and competing in everything we do, and we're willing to sacrifice to get there."

For the seniors, the only class in Vanderbilt football history to play in two bowl games, the season was particularly sweet. "This senior class has been through a lot," senior tight end Brandon Barden says of earning a bowl bid. "We've been through three head coaches, and we've worked our butts off since we got here. This is what we dreamed of."

The AutoZone Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tenn., matched Vanderbilt against the University of Cincinnati on New Year's Eve. Vanderbilt fans showed their appreciation by buying up the Commodores' ticket allotment—and more—and taking over the Bluff City. The Bearcats overcame the Commodores by a touchdown in a 31–24 nail-biter.

In December, Vice Chancellor David Williams announced that Franklin had received

a new contract with extended years and a substantial pay increase. In addition, the university has committed to facility improvements at Vanderbilt Stadium and has preliminary plans to construct an expansion of the current student recreation center, pending approval from the Board of Trust, that would include a 120-yard turf field and a 300-meter track, as well as expanded areas for cardio and other sports activities.

Women's Cross Country Team Wins SEC Championship

The Vanderbilt women's cross country team ran away with its first Southeastern Conference championship during October in Maryville, Tenn. Five Commodores finished in the top nine for a total of 30 points, far ahead of second-place Arkansas. It was the first time since 1989 that a school other than Arkansas, Florida or Tennessee had won the title.

"We always said we had to get over the hump," reflects head coach Steve Keith, "and we believed we could this year. To get our first win with such a performance was very impressive."

Senior Alexa Rogers finished second, sophomore Liz Anderson finished fourth, and junior Jordan White, senior Louise Hannallah and junior Kristen Smith finished seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively. Rogers, Anderson and White were named to the All-SEC first team, and Hannallah and Smith made the second team. Grace Orders, Rebecca Chandler and Amira Joseph finished in the top 30, earning All-SEC freshman honors.

The SEC victory propelled the Commodores to the NCAA championships for the first time in school history. The runners exceeded Keith's hopes for a top-10 finish by placing sixth in a 31-team field. Once again Rogers led the way, finishing 39th overall, and established another Vanderbilt first when she received All-American honors. "Alexa Rogers is our first All-American, and Liz Anderson missed by maybe just a second and a couple of places," Keith says.

Along the way, Keith was named SEC Cross Country Coach of the Year. Keith, BA'81, is in his sixth year as head coach. "It's a nice honor," he says. "I believe 100 percent that these women can achieve whatever they set their minds to."

Sports Roundup

Hall of Fame: 2011 Inductees

Nine Commodores joined the Class of 2011 Vanderbilt Athletics Hall of Fame: Lamar Alexander, BA'62, track and field; Tyler Griffin, BA'06, women's soccer; Carl Hinkle, BA'38, football; John R. Ingram, MBA'86, lifetime achievement; Peter Lamb, BA'80, men's tennis; David Latimer, BA'98, cross country; Scotti Madison, BA'81, baseball; Will Perdue, BA'88, men's basketball; and Sheri Sam, BS'96, women's basketball.

Men's Basketball: Jenkins Sets World Games Record

Vanderbilt junior John Jenkins set a U.S. men's World University Games record with six 3-pointers in a 102-53 U.S. victory over Hungary during international competition in Shenzhen, China, last August. He went 6 for 10 in 16 minutes of play.

Women's Soccer: Greene Named Head Coach

Less than a month before the fall season began, Derek Greene was named head coach of the women's soccer team after the retirement of former coach Ronnie Woodard. Greene has been an assistant coach with the Commodores since February 2010. Despite several injuries, the team finished with an 8-11 record and defeated previously unbeaten SEC rival LSU. Midfielder Cherrelle Jarrett was named to the 2011 SEC Women's Soccer All-Freshman Team.

Women's Golf: Vanderbilt Legends Club Hosts 2012 NCAA Championship

The 2012 NCAA Division I women's golf championship will be played at Vanderbilt Legends Club in Franklin, Tenn., May 22-25. Twenty-four teams and individuals from teams that don't make the cut will participate. "This is an outstanding event, and we are absolutely thrilled to serve as the host institution," says Head Women's Golf Coach Greg Allen.



A complete team effort resulted in Vanderbilt's first SEC championship in women's cross country.

Collective Memory

Vanderbilt's roots revealed

The Three Lives of Kissam Hall

As Vanderbilt opens the next chapter of College Halls, we look back on how the name Kissam became a fixture of campus life.

By LYLE LANKFORD

WHEN VANDERBILT opened its doors in 1875, there were no dormitories on campus and no plans for any—ever. On the contrary, the initial catalog specifically stated that dormitories were thought to be “injurious to both morals and manners” of young men. The catalog went on to say that it was “far safer to disperse young men among the private families of an intelligent and refined community.”

Actually, a few students enrolled in the biblical department were allowed to live on campus in a former residence that stood on land purchased by Bishop Holland McTyeire in 1873. It came to be known as “Wesley Hall” and stood on what is today Library Lawn until it was razed to make space for “new” Wesley Hall, which opened in 1880, thanks to a generous donation from William Henry Vanderbilt, the eldest son of the university’s founder, Cornelius Vanderbilt. That grand building served the biblical department/theological department/school of religion (now known as Vanderbilt Divinity School) with classrooms, a library, reading room, chapel, parlor, cafeteria, and rooms for students and faculty.

After Wesley Hall burned in 1932, the university purchased the YMCA building across 21st Avenue (present site of Wesley Place Garage) to house the school of religion. The building was renamed “Wesley Hall,” with the former Wesley referred to as “Old” Wesley.

By 1886 the administration’s attitude toward dormitories had changed, and with a legacy left to the university by William Henry Vanderbilt,

six cottages were built to house students. Each two-story cottage contained eight rooms (four over four), each with its own outside entrance. In order to discourage intermingling, no interconnecting doors were constructed.

A corner fireplace heated each room, with coal stored in the basement. Oil lamps provided lighting. Each room was supplied with a large bowl and water pitcher for students’ grooming—shaving and face washing. A community pump, centrally located in front of the cottages, provided water.

Other “conveniences” were found just south of the last cottage. Showers and indoor toilets were located in the basement of the gymnasium (now part of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions) several yards to the east. West Side Hall was built the next year to provide dining facilities. (Part of that structure remains today as a portion of the undergraduate admissions building constructed in 1992.)

These Spartan facilities, known as West Side Row (five remain standing today), served 96 occupants each year. But more housing was needed with modern conveniences longed for by students.

On April 3, 1899, Chancellor James H. Kirkland informed the Board of Trust that W.K. Vanderbilt had offered to erect a new dormitory on campus. The April 7 *Vanderbilt Hustler* headlines announced: “Mr. William K. Vanderbilt Makes a Magnificent Gift to the University; The University Gets One Hundred Thousand Dollars; A New Dormitory

of Modern Design to Be Built on West Side Row; Richard H. Hunt Is Drawing the Plans; Work to Begin Very Soon.”

William Kissam Vanderbilt, a son of William Henry and grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt, was making possible the first large, “modern” dormitory on campus. The renowned New York architectural firm of



William Kissam Vanderbilt

Hunt and Hunt, employed by the Vanderbilt family to plan some of their opulent residences, was chosen to design the building. Richard Howland Hunt, the junior partner, was the son of Richard Morris Hunt, who had been chief architect for such Vanderbilt family mansions as Biltmore House, The Breakers and Marble House.

Sited on the south end of today’s Alumni Lawn, the four-story dormitory built over a daylight basement was an imposing structure of brick trimmed in stone. Built in a “U” shape that faced University Hall (now Kirkland Hall), the dormitory was crowned with two impressive cupolas. Four firewalls, positioned to prevent the spread of fire, also provided privacy to smaller sections of the building. Most of the building was arranged in three-room suites consisting of a study flanked by two single bedrooms. Single rooms also were designed to accommodate one or two students. The building was heated by steam radiators, with fireplaces also provided. Electricity supplied the lighting. Bathrooms “fitted up with every convenience” were located in the basement.

The dormitory itself was built to house



Situated on what is now Alumni Lawn, the original Kissam Hall was the first large, “modern” dormitory on campus. Crowned with two cupolas, the impressive building was funded by William Kissam Vanderbilt and finished in 1900. It served the university 57 years.

175 students, both professional (law) and undergraduate. The dormitory’s dining room accommodated 300 students, including residents of West Side Row.

Construction delays prevented the dormitory’s opening as planned in the spring of 1900, in conjunction with the university’s 25th anniversary. The celebration was delayed until that fall’s meeting of the Board of Trust. The building was formally presented to the university in October by W.K. Vanderbilt (in absentia) as a memorial to his mother, Maria Louisa Kissam Vanderbilt, who had died in 1896. Positioned in the middle of the front wall of the building was a large engraved, gilded memorial plaque of Tennessee marble.

Now displayed at the northeast corner of Tolman Hall, the plaque reads: “Kissam Hall erected by William Kissam Vanderbilt in memory of his mother Maria Louisa Kissam Vanderbilt MDCCCC.” Married to William Henry Vanderbilt for 44 years, Maria Louisa Kissam was the mother of nine children, some of whom continued to take an interest in the university founded by their grandfather.

“Kiss ’em all!”

A few students were admitted as residents in February 1901, and the first full admittance followed in the fall of that year. Total cost of the building given by W.K. Vanderbilt, according to Board of Trust minutes, was \$144,339.02.

“Old” Kissam Hall served the university well for 57 years and became a legend in its time with countless stories of its residents’ shenanigans. The correct pronunciation of “Kissam” places the accent on the second syllable, but many residents enjoyed calling their dorm “Kiss ’em all!”—pun intended. A familiar cry heard up and down the halls of Kissam was “Heads out!” when coeds passed along the sidewalks below.

After World War II, with an influx of young men returning to their educations, Kissam Hall was stretched beyond its capacity. In an attempt to make it safer, wooden fire escapes were erected around the building. Two new dorms, McGill Hall and Tolman Hall, were built in 1947 just a few yards behind Kissam. Cole Hall was added in 1949, and Barnard and Frederick William Vanderbilt halls followed in 1952.

During its May 1955 meeting, the Board of Trust decided to raze the venerable old Kissam rather than put an estimated \$1.5 million into renovation. A new committee, Campus Planning and Architecture, was appointed to investigate possible sites for a new dormitory to replace Kissam.

The Board of Trust approved construction of a six-dormitory complex to begin in the spring of 1956. Plans specified that the loca-



The six residence halls making up Kissam Quadrangle have stood near the intersection of West End and 21st avenues since 1957. They will be razed in May.

tion was not to interfere with Curry Field, the open green space just to the south. Originally, the dorms were to be arranged in two groups of three, with colonnades connecting so that one house mother could serve three dorms. The three-story structures each were to include about 100 single rooms, with special sections for law students, medical students, graduate students and undergraduate students. They would accommodate approximately 300 male

students who had been housed in Kissam and Cole halls, plus about 300 students who had been living off campus.

Edward Durell Stone of New York City, the university’s consulting architect in the late 1940s, was chosen as the designer. A native of Arkansas, Stone was world renowned. Educated at the University of Arkansas, Harvard and MIT, he had worked with other architects in designing Rockefeller Center in New York City.

Estimated cost for the new quadrangle was \$2 million. Application was made for two loans of \$1 million each to the U.S. Housing and Home Finance Agency at 2.75 percent interest. On May 4, 1956, with loans approved, the Board of Trust announced that plans for the six dormitories had been completed and approved by the U.S. Housing Administration and that the project was to be put out for bids. The next month, the Board of Trust approved the demolition of “old” Kissam to proceed as soon as assurance could be made that the new dorms would be complete for September occupancy. Room rental for the new dorms was set at “not less than \$270 per academic year and \$70 for the summer quarter.”

Although the name was not officially announced by the board until Nov. 1, the Sept. 20, 1957, issue of the *Hustler* announced that “Kissam Quadrangle” had opened, leaving Cole and Tolman halls available for undergrad-

uate and graduate women. Freshman women were assigned to McTyeire Hall, while freshman men were assigned to McGill, Barnard and Vanderbilt halls.

At that November meeting, Chancellor Harvie Branscomb reported to trustees that “the beautiful new quadrangle” had been completed on schedule and assigned to upperclassmen, with one dormitory reserved for graduate

continued on page 77

Bright Ideas

“Soldiers generally don’t want to disclose symptoms

Training Program Assesses Returning Soldiers’ Mental Health Needs

1 WITH THE OFFICIAL end of the U.S. war in Iraq and the return home of thousands of service members, Vanderbilt researchers are working with the Department of Defense to ensure mental health concerns associated with deployments are not overlooked.

Faculty and staff of Vanderbilt School of Medicine are conducting workshops for military health care providers—funded by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Acquisition Activity—with a goal of improving those providers’ communication with service members so any mental health concerns can be identified earlier and subsequent referrals can be made to address those needs.

Vanderbilt experts are using “standardized patients”—actors trained to simulate real patients—to help train military health care providers to identify mental health concerns among returning U.S. service personnel. The simulation is conducted via live video streaming from Vanderbilt’s Center for Experiential Learning and Assessment.

Susan Douglas Kelley and Leonard Bickman of Vanderbilt Peabody College received a three-year grant to develop a training program for military and civilian health care providers who screen returning service members for deployment-related health problems. They also targeted a specific point of time for the study: during the Post-Deployment Health Reassessment, or PDHRA, which service members complete 90 to 180 days after returning to the U.S.

The first step is a comprehensive questionnaire, typically completed online, followed by a one-on-one interview with a health care provider by phone, videoconference or in person to review the responses and make referrals when warranted.

“It’s such an important time in the deployment cycle to assess mental health needs,” says Kelley, senior research associate, deputy



JON MARUSE/THESPOT.COM

director of Peabody’s Center for Evaluation and Program Improvement, and the study’s co-primary investigator.

“There are so many competing demands when service members first get home. Three to six months later, they’ve had time to experience many issues that are going to come up as they reintegrate into their lives, and they also might be anticipating a next deployment.”

Kelley collaborated with Vanderbilt School of Medicine’s Lynn Webb, who helps Vanderbilt physicians improve communication with patients and staff, to create a workshop that teaches military providers patient-centered communication skills—techniques used to

build patient trust and compliance. They have conducted training exercises with providers at three military treatment facilities to teach these skills. The workshops emphasize active discussion and hands-on practice to enhance participant engagement and skill-building.

Webb recognized significant differences between a traditional physician–patient encounter and the PDHRA interview, which is typically 15 minutes or less in length.

“With the average interview so short, relationship-building with the patient becomes even more important. You have to do very specific things in a brief interview to enhance the chance that the soldier will feel comfort-



JOE HOWELL

for fear of the stigma that doing so will make them seem they are not ready for combat.”

—LYNN WEBB, ASSISTANT DEAN, VANDERBILT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

able divulging something that he or she probably doesn't want to divulge in the first place,” says Webb, assistant dean for faculty development and assistant professor of medical education and administration.

Kelley, MS'93, PhD'99, and Bickman are leading the evaluation team conducting research on the feasibility and efficacy of the workshop in enhancing soldier disclosure and compliance with referrals. Results will be reported to U.S. Army Medical Research and Acquisition Activity in the fall of 2012.

This study builds on a previous DoD-funded evaluation of the PDHRA process completed in 2009 by Kelley and Bickman. Bickman is director of Peabody's Center for Evaluation and Program Improvement, Betts Chair, and professor of psychology and human development, human and organizational development, and psychiatry.

Pocketbook Politics and Short Memories

2 ONE FACTOR WILL go a long way toward determining whether President Obama—or any incumbent president—is re-elected, claims a Vanderbilt political scientist.

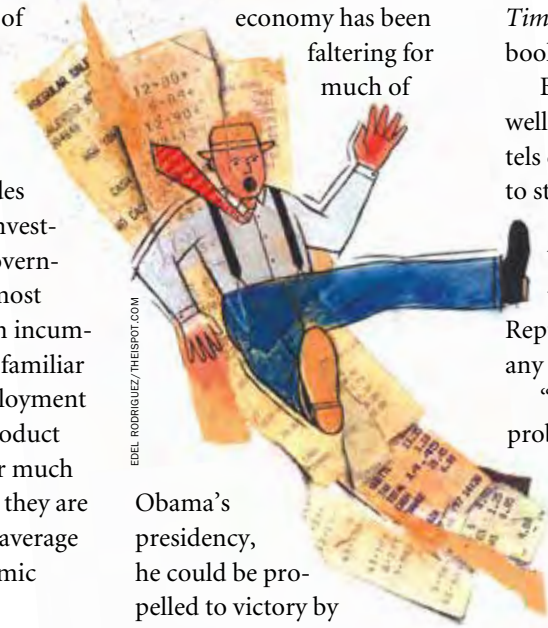
Here it is: If the real disposable incomes of voters are growing—even modestly—in

the six months before Election Day, Obama is likely to win. If they aren't, he is likely to lose. So says Larry Bartels, the May Werthan Shayne Professor of Public Policy and Social Science and professor of political science.

Among the many economic indicators featured in the news, this one (which includes income from wages, investments, tax cuts and government benefits) is the most reliable predictor of an incumbent's fortunes. More familiar indicators like unemployment and gross domestic product growth seem to matter much less, probably because they are less closely tied to the average voter's sense of economic well-being.

According to Bartels, who has researched voter trends for more than three decades, election-year income growth is more important than cam-

paign-specific factors like who the opposition party nominates. It is also more important than economic performance over the incumbent's entire term. Thus, even though the economy has been faltering for much of



Obama's presidency, he could be propelled to victory by an upturn in real incomes in the months leading up to the election.

“Voters tend to have very short memories,” says Bartels, who co-directs the Vanderbilt Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions. So if things are looking better this year, “that's going to be a huge plus for Obama despite the fact that people have felt a lot of pain up until this point.”

Bartels has done extensive research on the impact of economic conditions on voting behavior, and his work is cited frequently in the national press. His 2008 book, *Unequal*

Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age (Princeton University Press), was cited by Obama during his first presidential campaign and was named in *The New York Times* as one of the “economics books of the year.”

Both political parties are well aware of the dynamic Bartels describes. Obama will try to stimulate the economy to give himself an economic boost at the proper time to help him get re-elected. Republicans will try to thwart any such effort.

“I think that does cause problems in governing,” he says, “but I wouldn't say in a general sense that it means democracy doesn't work. Because if you say that, then you have to ask, ‘In comparison to what?’”

Study Confirms Safety of Vaccines

3 A REPORT RELEASED by the Institute of Medicine last September confirms the safety of eight vaccines studied by a committee of experts convened in 2009 to review epidemiological, clinical and biological evidence regarding adverse health events.

The committee—chaired by Vanderbilt's Dr. Ellen Wright Clayton, the Craig-Weaver



Voters often do a poor job of perceiving why economic conditions improve or deteriorate, says Vanderbilt political scientist Larry Bartels.

Chair in Pediatrics, professor of law, and director of the Center for Biomedical Ethics and Society—looked at scientific evidence regarding potential risks of vaccines covered by the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

The analysis spanned more than 1,000 research articles and concluded that few health problems are caused by or clearly associated with vaccines. That conclusion was of such intense public interest that Clayton did a remarkable 54 media interviews the day of its release.

“The findings should be reassuring to parents that few health problems are clearly connected to immunizations, and these effects occur relatively rarely,” she says. “And repeated study has made clear that some health problems are not caused by vaccines.”

The report, “Adverse Effects of Vaccines: Evidence and Causality,” was not intended, as noted by committee members,



SUSAN URRY

An Institute of Medicine committee chaired by Dr. Ellen Wright Clayton concludes that few health problems are caused by vaccines.

to answer the question, “Are vaccines safe?” And where the committee did find evidence of a possible causal relationship, it did not make conclusions about



JING JING TSONG/THE SPOT.COM

the rate or incidence of these adverse events. For most analyses in the report, the evidence is inadequate to accept or reject a causal relationship, committee members said.

Vaccines studied included the varicella zoster vaccine; influenza vaccines; hepatitis B vaccine; human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV); tetanus toxoid-containing vaccines other than those containing the whole-cell pertussis component; measles, mumps and rubella vaccines; hepatitis A vaccine; and meningococcal vaccines.

Evidence showed no links between immunization and serious conditions that have raised concerns, including Type 1 diabetes and autism.

Committee members found convincing evidence of 14 health outcomes—including seizures, inflammation of the brain and fainting—that can be caused by certain vaccines, although these outcomes occur rarely. They also reported indicative, though less clear, data on associations between specific vaccines and four other effects, including allergic reactions and temporary joint pain.

Establishing a cause-and-effect relationship between an agent and a health outcome requires solid evidence, com-

mittee members said. In many cases of suggested vaccine-related adverse outcomes, too little evidence exists—or the available evidence offers conflicting results or is otherwise inad-

equate to draw conclusions.

The review, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will be used to help administer the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

Results Instead of Revenge

4

THE STRUGGLE against juvenile crime may come down to one simple question:

Do we want revenge, or do we want results?

If we want results, says Christopher Slobogin, the Milton Underwood Professor of Law at Vanderbilt, we should reform the system dramatically to stress community-based treatment over incarceration.

“The bottom line is, the research shows that if you’re interested in reducing recidivism, community-based treatment is far and away the best way to go,” Slobogin says. “That means fewer prisons, less incarceration, and more diver-

sion to the community.”

Slobogin is co-author of the 2011 book *Juveniles at Risk: A Plea for Preventive Justice* with Mark R. Fondacaro, professor of psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. The book, published by Oxford University Press, proposes some radical-sounding ideas, among them that juvenile offenders should never be tried as adults or transferred to adult prisons. Incarceration of juveniles in general should only be a last-resort measure, Slobogin argues.

“We know it’s important to many people to make sure criminals receive the punishment they deserve, regardless of whether those criminals are dangerous,” says Slobogin. “But polls show that people care as much about public safety as they do about vengeance.”

Community-based treatment programs are far more effective than incarceration in reducing even violent future criminal behavior, he says, because they can take better



BRIAN STAUFFER/THE SPOT.COM

aim at the family, peer, school and neighborhood risk factors that contribute to delinquent behavior.

Slobogin also notes that neurological research shows teenagers have undeveloped brains and less control of their impulses than adults. In some cases, society can simply “wait out” a juvenile criminal while he or she is being held in a juvenile facility until his or her brain matures.

The worst-case scenario happens when a juvenile commits a crime, is transferred to adult court, and is sentenced as an adult to an adult prison. The person who is eventually



Slobogin

released from that system is sharply more likely to commit additional crimes than someone who was released back into the community and received treatment, says Slobogin.

“If juveniles are put in adult prisons, their developmental role models will be adult criminals, which is just about the worst possible way to handle the situation.”

High-Stakes Risk Assessment Saves Lives and Money

5 WHEN YOU TAKE a plane trip, drive across a bridge, or ride the commuter train to work, you trust that those structures and systems are safe. Likewise, pilots flying combat missions depend on their planes, and astronauts hurtling into space

depend on the rockets propelling them.

Sankaran Mahadevan, the John R. Murray Sr. Chair in Engineering, works on ways to increase reliability and decrease risks of those and other complex structures and systems. His research regarding railroad wheels, spacecraft, dams, bridges, and even nuclear waste dumps has the potential to save human lives and millions of dollars.

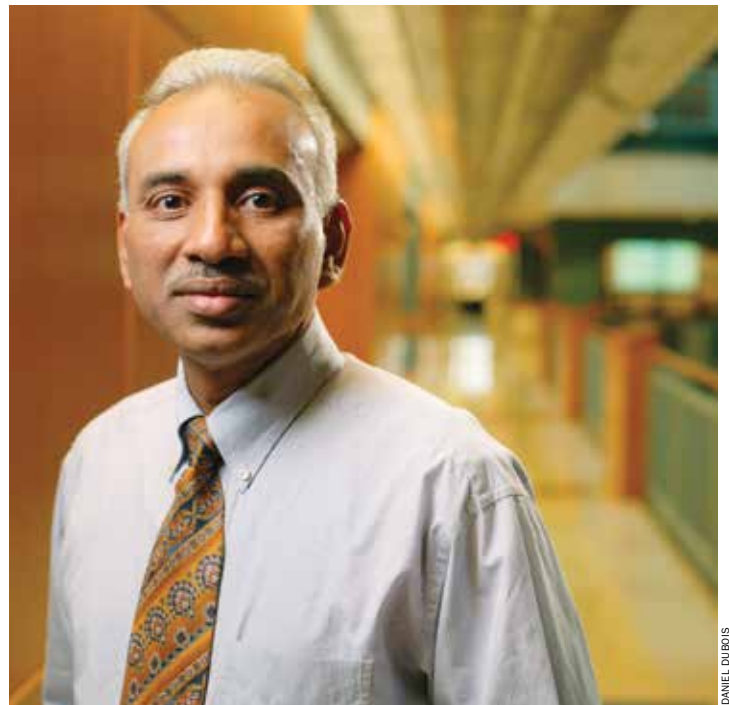
Mahadevan and his colleagues in the Structural Reliability Research Group are developing computer models that can predict with a high degree of confidence whether a system will fail, when failure is likely to occur, and how to prevent such failure.

“Skyscrapers and bridges can’t be put through full-scale testing as can small mechanical and electrical devices,” says Mahadevan, who is a professor of civil, environmental and mechanical engineering. “You can’t test the reliability of large systems like space shuttles and warplanes by waiting to see what fails. No matter what the system, we have to be concerned about how reliable it is.”

Mahadevan also directs Vanderbilt’s Reliability and Risk Engineering and Management doctoral program, the largest and most prestigious of its kind in the world.

Today the program is self-sustaining, with governmental and private partners that include the Transportation Technology Center, Sandia National Laboratories, Federal Aviation Administration, NASA, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Department of Energy, Boeing Co., Bell Helicopter Textron and Union Pacific Corp.

Mahadevan is currently



DANIEL DUBOIS

Engineering professor Sankaran Mahadevan and his colleagues develop computer models that can predict whether complex structures and systems will fail, when failure is likely to occur, and how to prevent such failure.

applying his expertise to NASA spacecraft. His team is working on calculating risk and uncertainty in such large systems by incorporating multiple disciplines like structures, aerodynamics, propulsion, mass and geometry into the computer programs. An acceptable risk for spacecraft is typically about one in 10,000.

“The question then becomes, ‘How good are our models?’” Mahadevan says, noting that many assumptions and very little data exist on which to base such predictions.

Mahadevan’s reliability methods can be used in the design, manufacture, operation and maintenance of equipment and systems in many fields. His research for the Federal Highway Administration, for example, identified which 2,000 bridges throughout the country should carry advanced structural health monitoring instrumentation. The team

also developed a cost-effective way to inspect train wheels that demonstrated a 400 percent return on investment for partner Union Pacific.

Current research includes a U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory project to develop rapid systems health diagnosis and prognosis for warplanes. The group also is working on applying risk and reliability management to large complex systems like homeland security and transportation. Through a consortium of universities known as the CRESP project, the U.S. Department of Energy funds an effort to model the durability and uncertainty of concrete storage facilities for low-level nuclear waste. The team also has received a five-year, \$1.2 million award from the FAA to develop advanced methods to predict fatigue and fracture—and their related uncertainty—in helicopter rotor components. ▽

InClass

A spotlight on faculty and their work

Beyond Theory

Bob Whaley works at the intersection of theory and marketplace.

By ROB SIMBECK

BOB WHALEY GETS EXCITED about the place where research and the marketplace collide. In fact, it's an intersection that goes to the heart of his professional life.

"I don't believe in theory for theory's sake," says the Valere Blair Potter Professor of Finance at the Vanderbilt Owen Graduate School of Management. "I want to take the idea somewhere. If somebody gives me a mathematical model and there is no data for me to test its predictive power or no practical application for which I can use it, I lose interest."

It's a quest that led Whaley in 1992 to develop one of the most talked-about indices in modern financial history: the Market Volatility Index, or VIX, a measure of investor jitters that quickly came to be known as the Fear Index. And most recently, he and Owen colleague Associate Professor Jacob Sagi developed Alpha Indices, which help traders isolate the performance of individual stocks or commodities against broader exchange-traded funds, giving them an important new investment tool.

In between, Whaley has earned international recognition in the world of finance on both the academic and market sides of the equation. Known as a foremost expert in derivative contract valuation and risk man-

agement, and for his knowledge of market microstructure and volatility, he has written eight books and scores of articles. His research includes widely regarded work with Owen colleague Professor Hans Stoll about the triple witching hour and work on expiration-day effects on, and market manipulations of, index futures and options. Concurrently, he helped bring Duke University's Fuqua School of Business into the front

watched indices in times of economic turmoil. Whaley became a sought-after commentator in the financial and general press, especially when the index spiked, as it did in 2008, reaching near-panic levels during the run-up to that year's presidential election.

"It's been pleasing to see the VIX as a standard for investor anxiety," says Whaley, "but it didn't take that additional step, which was product creation, until much later. It

was a little disappointing that the futures contracts on the VIX Index didn't get launched until 2004 and the options in 2006."

On the other hand, the Alpha Indices, designed for the NASDAQ OMX Group to help protect investors against market fluctuations that can erase relative performance gains, came much more quickly to the marketplace.

"We presented the final version of our framework in July 2010 and then went through the regulatory process, got SEC approval, and got the Options Clearing Corp. to change its rules

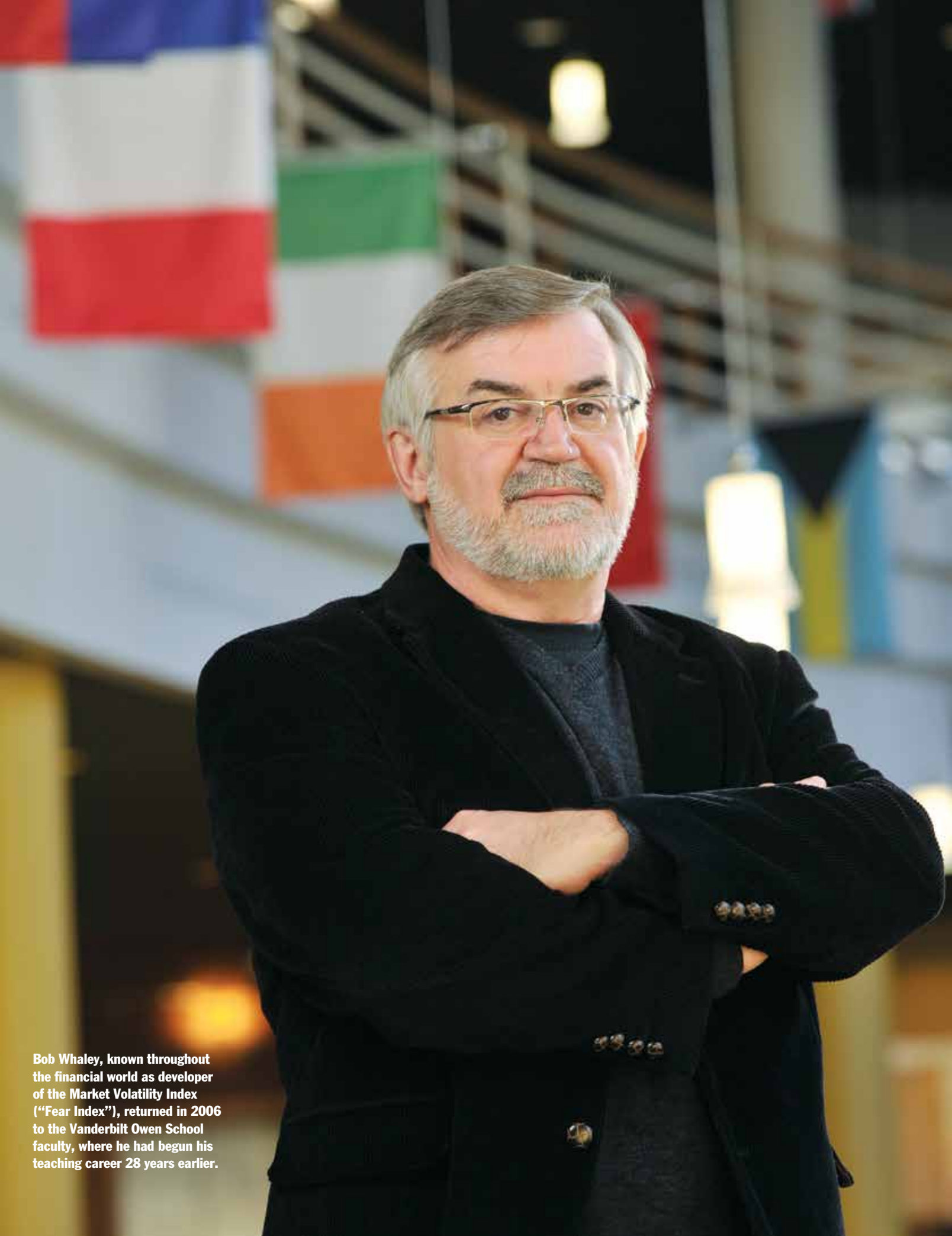
describing how these things clear and what risk disclosure documents there should be," says Whaley. "The instruments began to trade in April 2011—less than a year since product inception. All my research in some way is applied, and it's just nice to see an idea used in the marketplace in such an unusually compressed time frame."



Whaley, left, and Owen colleague Jacob Sagi were invited to ring the opening bell at NASDAQ in New York in April 2011 to celebrate the start of options trading on a new group of indexes the two developed.

ranks of business schools before returning in 2006 to Owen, where he had begun his teaching career 28 years earlier.

The VIX—a weighted blend of options prices developed for the Chicago Board Options Exchange to gauge the market's anticipation of short-term stock volatility—quickly became one of the most closely



Bob Whaley, known throughout the financial world as developer of the Market Volatility Index (“Fear Index”), returned in 2006 to the Vanderbilt Owen School faculty, where he had begun his teaching career 28 years earlier.

In fact, the initial group of indices is already being supplemented.

“The first seven track stocks vs. the market,” says Whaley, “so you’re trying to isolate individual stock outperformance. The next ones, which are going through regulatory approval now, will isolate commodity outperformance such as gold vs. the stock market.”

They are, adds Sagi, “the kind of thing that demonstrates how you can take research-based knowledge and apply it in a way that helps people and brings value to the market.”

That approach began to take shape for Whaley during his undergraduate days at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where he grew up. He began in computer science, taking finance courses that would allow him practical problems to work on. Eventually, he says, “it was almost exclusively finance.”

Dwight Grant, then a University of Alberta professor and now with PricewaterhouseCoopers in San Francisco, says, “I met Bob when he took an introductory finance class. I asked a very difficult question—it required a synthesis of algebra, geometry and eco-

nomics—and Bob was the only person in the class who saw what the answer was, and he saw it quickly. It was a flash of insight and an indication of the quickness that he has demonstrated over and over throughout a very distinguished career.

“Then, during his senior year, Bob did a research project and we co-authored a paper in the *Journal of Business*, which is pretty

“I asked a very difficult question, and Bob was the only person in the class who saw what the answer was, and he saw it quickly. It was an indication of the quickness he has demonstrated over and over.” —former Whaley professor Dwight Grant

unusual for an undergraduate to do. I’ve often joked that at the time I thought I was being very gracious and virtuous for including Bob’s name on the article and guiding him through the process, but that anybody examining our careers would have to conclude that he was a very gracious undergraduate to include and carry me through that article.”

Whaley earned an MBA and Ph.D. at the University of Toronto and felt professors “pushing” him toward the United States.

“I was interested in a strong research institution,” he says, “and that’s when I came to Vanderbilt in 1978.” He followed a short Vanderbilt teaching stint with a year in Chicago as vice president of research for a futures brokerage firm, putting his pas-

sion for derivatives to work in industry until the desire for autonomy drew him back to academia and the University of Alberta. The weather there convinced his wife, Sondra, a Tennessee native, to steer them southward again.

“Everything was going fine until the end of September, when it snowed 12 inches or

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something,” he says. “It quickly disappeared, but then in the second week of October, it snowed 27 inches. She looked out, and there was a wall of snow halfway up the door.”

That December, while he was at a conference in Germany, Sondra answered a call from the dean of the business school at the University of Chicago asking if Whaley would be interested in a visiting appointment.

“Yes, he would,” she told them,” he says with a laugh. “She had the deal lined up before I got home. Of course, the University of Chicago was the best finance school in the world.” While he was at Chicago, a number of schools tried to lure him, and the desire for warmer weather led them to Duke.

“Duke had gutted its finance area and wanted someone to rebuild it, so I wound up taking over the finance area,” he says. “During the next 20 years we built what is widely regarded as one of the top 10 finance programs in the country.” In fact, the top-tier *Journal of Finance* now boasts two editors and three associate editors recruited by Duke under Whaley’s leadership.

When the Owen School inquired about the possibility of Whaley’s return, he says, “I took a tremendous liking to [former chancellor] Gordon Gee and [current chancellor] Nick Zeppos. I knew what I could do in finance and wanted to see if it was possible to do that sort of strengthening more broadly.”

In 2006, Whaley returned to Owen, where in addition to his professorship he serves as co-director of the Financial Markets Research Center. Two years later the economic downturn cut into Vanderbilt’s endowment, as it did at institutions across the country, affecting the Owen School’s ability to recruit and prompting the discontinuation of its Ph.D. program. Still, Whaley is upbeat about the “pockets of excellence” throughout Owen. He is particularly drawn to colleagues who are strong as researchers and teachers, those who have demonstrated a personal commitment to the institution.

And he has equally impressed colleagues. “Once he has the idea,” says Stoll of their joint work, “he’s relentless in working it through. He has a tremendous work ethic.

He’s also turned into a terrific writer, so you couldn’t ask for a better colleague.”

Whaley remains excited by the dynamics of the academy.

“If you were to take a job in industry,” he says, “you would be channeled in one direction or another and someone would be setting your tasks for you. In academia, you set your own agenda and explore the ideas you want to explore. The test is convincing other academics as well as journal editors of the importance of those ideas.”

Just as he balances research, teaching and business, Whaley is happy for those moments when he can mix family and career. One recent opportunity came when he and Sagi were invited to New York with their families to ring the opening bell at NASDAQ. Two of his three children were able to attend, and one was watching on TV.

“Ringing the bell was exciting,” he says, “but having my wife and family there made it that much better. I was just proud of my children being proud of their dad. It’s a priceless memory.” ▼

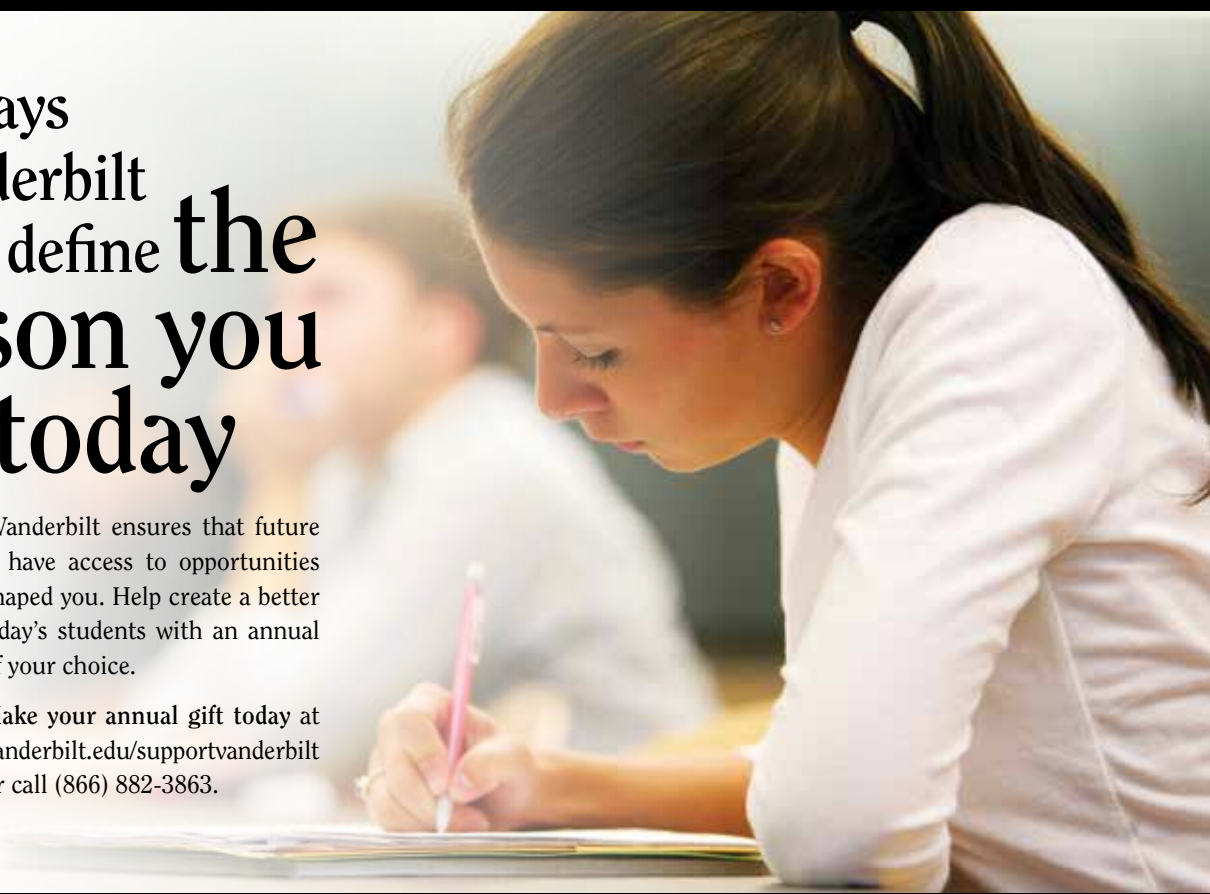
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Doctor in the House*

From coaching medical students to breaking bread with the freshmen who share her address, every hour of Kyla Terhune's busy life offers a teachable moment.

By JOANNE LAMPHERE BECKHAM, BA'62





Dr.

Kyla Terhune walks briskly along the corridors of Vanderbilt University Medical Center, dashing between her last surgery of the day in the O.R. and her first afternoon patient in The Vanderbilt Clinic. With long curly hair pulled back in a ponytail, the tall, slender surgeon still wears her surgical scrubs.

“I like to wear street clothes when I see patients,” she says. Today, however, there’s been no time to change.

Time is of the essence in this busy physician’s life. An assistant professor of surgery and anesthesiology, the mother of two also shepherds 290 first-year students as head of Hank Ingram House on The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt. Joining her in this living and learning community is her husband of 12 years, Richard “Rick” Keuler Jr.; their two children, Tate and Amelia; and their dog, Sackson.

“Hank’s House,” as it’s affectionately called, is the largest of the 10 houses on The Ingram Commons. Each is guided by a professor who lives with and mentors the resident students. Frank Wcislo, associate professor of history and European studies and dean of The Ingram Commons, says the living-learning experience helps first-year students successfully transition into life at the university by connecting them with each other and with upperclass undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, staff and administrators.

A beautiful cluster of classic buildings located in the southeastern part of campus adjacent to Peabody College, The Ingram Commons is phase one of Vanderbilt’s College Halls system. Construction is slated to begin on phase two, College Halls at Kissam, in May 2012 (see *Collective Memory*, page 16). When completed, Kissam’s two colleges will house about 660 upperclass students in four halls, led by two faculty directors-in-residence and four resident graduate fellows.

Dream Team

Terhune is the first new head of house to be appointed since The Ingram Commons opened in 2008, as well as the first physician to hold that position. Keuler is the first attorney to live there. While Terhune is officially in charge, it’s very much a team project.

“I absolutely would not be able to do it without Rick’s assistance, support and hard work,” she states.

Terhune’s schedule is challenging. Rising most mornings at 5:30, she walks across cam-



DANIEL DUBOIS

“It’s intellectually and emotionally stimulating. I use a part of my brain that I don’t always use, having conversations I wouldn’t otherwise have.”

— DR. KYLA TERHUNE

pus to the Medical Center to start her 12-hour day there: performing surgery, checking on post-op patients, seeing other patients in the clinic, educating medical students and residents, conducting research, and conferring with other attending physicians. After dinner with her family in The Commons Center dining room, she begins the second shift: meeting with the house advisory council and resident

advisers (RAs), attending house events, informally counseling students, and spending time with her own children.

In addition to caring for their children, Keuler has a part-time solo law practice and does pro bono legal work in the community. He plans activities for the undergraduates, sends out many of the house notices, and also attends house meetings.

“We combine our strengths,” Terhune says. “Rick does a good job of organizing things, and he’s good at technology. And he’s just more fun.”

“I’m good with groups,” Keuler says, “but Kyla is better at interpersonal relationships.”

“They’re a dream team for us,” says Wcislo. “There’s a good match between their skill sets as a physician and an attorney and those needed to mentor 18-year-olds.”

As the first physician in her family, Terhune values the chance to give students considering medical careers a reality check about the demands of balancing work and home life. Bottom left: Terhune enjoys a moment catching up with her husband, Rick Keuler.



JOHN RUSSELL

Living the Dream

Born in Fayetteville, Ark., the 37-year-old Terhune came to her career in academic medicine somewhat later than most of her peers. She attended Princeton University, where she met her husband and graduated magna cum laude in 1996 with a degree in molecular biology.

“I always wanted to be a physician,” she says. “But I needed to work to make some money in order to attend medical school.”

A native of New Jersey, Keuler received a bachelor’s degree in politics and teacher preparation from Princeton in 1996. From there he went to law school and also taught some classes at an inner-city high school in Washington, D.C. While he studied law at Georgetown University, Terhune taught chemistry and biology and lived in the dormitory at St. Andrew’s, a private boarding school in Middletown, Del. A state-champion tennis player and point guard in high school, Terhune also coached women’s tennis and basketball at St. Andrew’s.

As soon as Keuler earned his J.D. degree in 1999, the couple married and Terhune began

medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania. She gave birth to their son, Tate, in 2003. The next year Terhune earned her M.D. degree and was admitted to Vanderbilt’s residency program. Keuler has been the children’s primary caregiver since 2004.

As a general surgeon, Terhune is a minority in her chosen profession. Although the number of women medical-school graduates has nearly doubled since 1979, and number of female surgical residents has almost quadrupled since 1970, women are still underrepresented in the academic surgical sciences. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, women hold just 18 percent of surgical faculty positions in the U.S. today. At Vanderbilt the percentage is somewhat lower, with 17 women making up 12 percent of the 138 surgical faculty members.

Surgery, however, wasn’t Terhune’s initial career choice. “I thought I wanted to be a psychiatrist,” she says, “but when I really looked at it, surgery seemed a better fit for me. I enjoy working with my hands, and surgeons work on problems they can try to fix mechanically.”

She finished surgery and critical-care residencies at Vanderbilt in 2011 and became board-certified in both areas. During her residency, she also spent a year of research with her mentor, Dr. John Tarpley, BA’66, MD’70, professor of surgery.

“She’s an outstanding clinical surgeon, terrific with patients and their families, careful, and compulsive,” Tarpley says. “As a surgical educator you are either a judge or a coach. I call her a ‘playing coach.’ She coaches people to improve by breaking down difficult tasks into workable, solvable bits.”

Terhune has already won several teaching awards, including the 2010 Hillman Award presented by fourth-year students to the single resident or fellow whom they deem the best teacher. She also received the David C. Leach Award from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for developing the Intern Bootcamp, a two-day skills session for incoming surgery, anesthesia, medical and emergency medicine interns. In addition, she’s held skill sessions throughout the year, teaching interns such things as how best to



JOHN RUSSELL

communicate with patients, technical skills like suturing and knot tying, and mock emergency code simulations.

“I wanted to teach them the kinds of things I wish I’d been exposed to when I was an intern,” she says. “I still remember the gut-wrenching feeling of walking into the [surgical intensive care unit] that first day.”

That same desire to prepare students for their chosen professions motivated Terhune to take on head-of-house responsibilities on The Commons. “I thought I could make a contribution because many freshmen want to be premed. They see me leaving early in the morning and coming back late at night. I share what I can about my day with them, and we discuss it.”

As the first physician in her family, Terhune didn’t realize how the demands and pressures of a medical career would affect her and her family.

“Being a physician not only impacts my life but also that of my family,” she says. “Any time I’m on call, my husband is, too, because he’s the primary caregiver for our children. If students are going to commit to study medicine, they need to be aware of the implications of that decision.”

Creative Partnership

Terhune’s clinical and educational responsibilities at the Medical Center, her past experience teaching and coaching high school students, plus living in a house system at Princeton and St. Andrew’s, made her an ideal candidate for head of Hank’s House, says Dean Wcislo. Having a Princeton and Georgetown graduate, former Philadelphia lawyer and



JOHN RUSSELL

stay-at-home father sealed the deal.

Keuler also models an alternative vision of success for the students of Hank’s House through his role as stay-at-home father and community volunteer. “Knowing there are other definitions of ‘making it’ besides having a high-powered career helps to ground students when they encounter academic difficulties,” Wcislo says.

“They’ve been wonderful to work with,” says house president Tanner Floyd, a freshman from Clarksburg, W.Va. “Learning about their lives has been incredible and extremely educational. They’re a great resource because so many students are premed or prelaw.”

Although Hank’s House is the largest house

on The Ingram Commons, Terhune and Keuler work hard to create a sense of community and inclusiveness for all residents. Every week they hold Friday Family Night at their apartment, where students enjoy chocolate chip cookies, snacks, soft drinks and games. They also invite faculty colleagues to share their professional and intellectual passions at house dinners. Recent guests have included Dr. Mark Denison, Craig–Weaver Chair in Pediatrics and a professor of pediatric infectious disease, who spoke with the students after they viewed the movie *Contagion*.

Another night the residents watched a documentary about sustainable agriculture, followed by dinner at Tayst, Nashville’s first



DANIEL DUBOIS





“Learning about their lives has been incredible and extremely educational. They’re a great resource because so many students are premed or prelaw.”

—TANNER FLOYD, Hank Ingram House president

Family Affair

Both Terhune and Keuler say the Commons living-learning experience is a positive one for the whole family. Their 8-year-old son, Tate, agrees. “I have lots of friends at Hank’s House,” he says proudly. “I see them everywhere.”

“In many ways it’s our preferred way to live,” Terhune says. “It’s intellectually and emotionally stimulating. It’s great to be able to change my train of thought as I walk back across campus from the hospital: I use a part

a difficult time making that transition.”

“Surprisingly, the students don’t interfere with my sleep,” says Terhune. “Our apartment is very quiet, and we aren’t awakened to deal with emergencies, unless they are life-threatening. The RAs take care of health and discipline issues through the dean of students, and the students know my patients come first.”

“It’s been really good,” Keuler says of the whole experience. “The energy and enthusiasm of the students is exciting—and tiring.”

If there’s a downside to living where you

Terhune’s children, Amelia and Tate, take living among 290 college students in stride. Terhune’s husband, attorney Rick Keuler, has been the children’s primary caregiver for most of their lives.

“green”-certified restaurant. There they had a chance to discuss the future of food with owner and executive chef Jeremy Barlow, BA’95.

Hank’s House residents participate in service-learning activities, such as teaching science to students in neighborhood public schools. And they play hard, too, competing with the other houses in intramural sports and hosting informal mixers, movie nights and dances. Men and women live on different floors, and security is tight, requiring key passes to enter the building and travel between floors.

The couple has been very creative in establishing face-to-face relationships with every student, says Wcislo. He cites as an example how they communicated to the students the importance of civility in the house.

“They covered a large whiteboard with a lot of off-color language,” he remembers. “Then they added this sentence: ‘She lives here, too’—a reference to their 3-year-old daughter, Amelia, who was playing on the floor beneath the whiteboard. Many of the freshmen have younger brothers and sisters, so they got the message.”



of my brain that I don’t always use, having conversations I wouldn’t otherwise have.”

Keuler appreciates the opportunity to make an impact on the students. “The transition from high school to college wasn’t easy for me at times,” he says. “I want to be able to help Vanderbilt students who also might be having

work, Keuler says, it’s the lack of privacy. Another drawback is having little time together as a couple, says Terhune.

“But we enjoy so much what we’re doing at Hank’s House,” she continues, “that we think of it as our time together.” ▼

SE for SCIENTISTS

HO TH OH



SyBBURE Searle undergraduates with a passion for scientific inquiry work alongside seasoned researchers as equal players.

By MARDY FONES

Experience, so they say, is the best teacher. But when it comes to cutting-edge laboratory-based research, hands-on work often is the exclusive purview of graduate students and faculty. So how does an undergraduate student interested in research go about obtaining the experience and exposure that can help launch a career?

For one group of Vanderbilt undergrads, the Systems Biology and Bioengineering Undergraduate Research Experience (SyBBURE) Searle Undergraduate Research Initiative helps bridge that gap. One of only a handful of multiyear, year-round undergraduate research programs in the nation, SyBBURE Searle prepares students—primarily from the College of Arts and Science and School of Engineering—for careers in research. SyBBURE Searle alumni can be found in labs and medical schools ranging from Stanford, Berkeley and Rice to Northwestern, MIT, the University of Washington and Cambridge, as well as Vanderbilt.

SyBBURE Searle participants explore science at the intersection of systems biology and bioengineering. To date, about 110 students have participated in the program, which owes its existence to the financial support of D. Gideon Searle, BS'75.

In 2006, Searle made a commitment to fund the Searle Undergraduate Research Initiative within the Vanderbilt Institute for Integrative Biosystems Research and Education. The aim of the initiative was to provide undergraduate students with mentored

"I wouldn't be at Stanford if not for SyBBURE. It profoundly shaped me as a scientist."

—Jake Hughey, BE'07

experiences in advanced scientific investigation with some of the university's leading research and teaching faculty. D. Gideon Searle is the great-great-grandson of G.D. Searle, founder of the pharmaceutical giant that bore his name (the company is now part of Pfizer Inc.). Gideon Paul Searle, the son of D. Gideon Searle, is also a Vanderbilt graduate, having earned his bachelor's degree in 2007.

While SyBBURE Searle is open to any Vanderbilt undergraduate, most participants are nascent scientists and researchers who crave more focused educational experience.

Most are selected by Kevin Seale, MS'97, PhD'00, SyBBURE Searle's director, and John Wiksw, who directs the Vanderbilt Institute for Integrative Biosystems Research and Education.

SyBBURE Searle's success stems from its selection of students who have a passion for scientific inquiry, and who persevere in viewing failure as just another step in the process and integral to advancing knowledge, explains Wiksw, the Gordon A. Cain University Professor, A.B. Learned Professor of Living State Physics, and professor of biomedical engineering, molecular physiology and biophysics, and physics.

"In class, students know the professor knows the answers to the questions. Here we're asking questions to which no one knows the answers. How do you measure this? What does that mean? SyBBURE Searle is a place where it's totally acceptable to be ignorant. There are no stupid questions."

For Peter DelNero, BE'11, who majored in chemical and biomolecular engineering, SyBBURE Searle's appeal was its interdisciplinary platform. "Through my peers and advisers in SyBBURE," he says, "I had access to a broad knowledge base with which to approach new problems in bioengineering."

Via SyBBURE Searle, DelNero completed an internship in Switzerland, where his passion for cancer research was born. Now a doc-



Peter DelNero, BE'11, prepares samples in a cell culture hood at Cornell University. While a SyBBURE Searle researcher, he helped establish a collaboration with École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland using microfabricated devices for studying cell migration in three dimensions.

toral candidate in biomedical engineering at Cornell University, DelNero's work focuses on tissue engineering of cancer tumors.

Describing SyBBURE Searle as "the single most influential element of my undergraduate education," DelNero says, "My interaction with pre-eminent SyBBURE faculty in biology, engineering and medicine formed my decision to pursue a Ph.D. at Cornell."

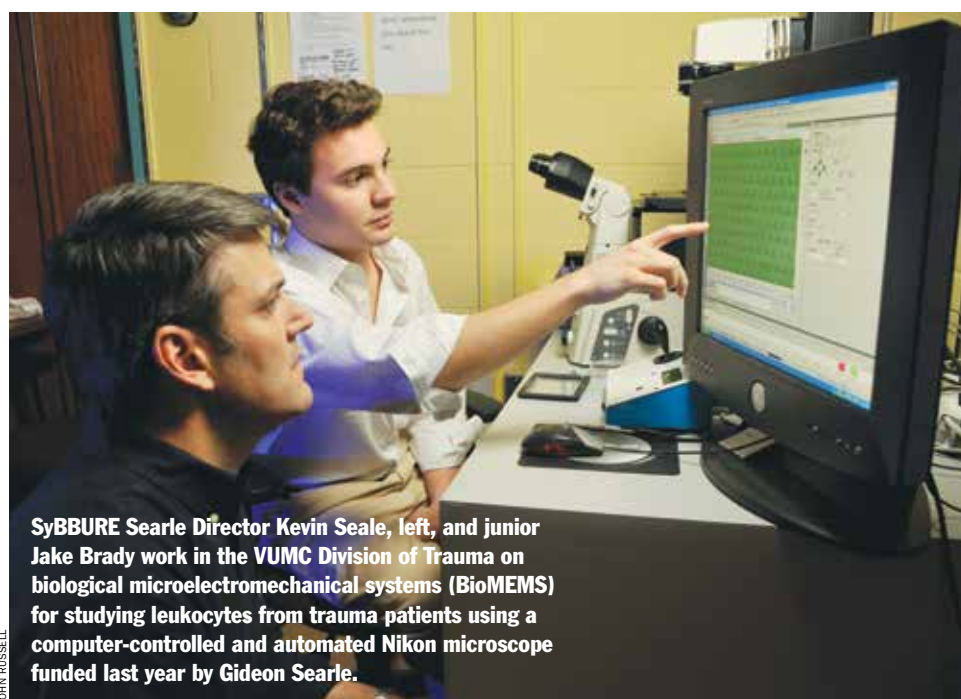
Jake Hughey, BE'07, a biomedical engineering and mathematics major, puts it succinctly: "I wouldn't be at Stanford if not for SyBBURE," says Hughey, who is now a doctoral candidate in bioengineering. "It profoundly shaped me as a scientist."

Pieces and Puzzles

While most SyBBURE Searle participants are high achievers like DelNero and Hughey, selection for the experience isn't based on GPA or transcripts alone, explains Kevin Seale, assistant professor of the practice of biomedical engineering.

"We look for people who can take responsibility, who are self-starters," he says. "We try to involve students as freshmen so we can have them as long as possible. That's different than in most labs, where the belief is that younger students don't know enough to be helpful."

Katherine Roth, a junior majoring in molecular and cellular biology, is passionate



SyBBURE Searle Director Kevin Seale, left, and junior Jake Brady work in the VUMC Division of Trauma on biological microelectromechanical systems (BioMEMS) for studying leukocytes from trauma patients using a computer-controlled and automated Nikon microscope funded last year by Gideon Searle.

JOHN RUSSELL



LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL

about questions and challenges. A SyBBURE Searle student since her sophomore year, Roth says, "I like the puzzle research presents. It's like following a chain of questions and answers. The answers just bring up more questions."

Roth was drawn to SyBBURE Searle by its balance of independent work and access to mentors and research-motivated graduate students and undergraduates. She comes by her curiosity naturally: Her father, Brad J. Roth, MS'85, PhD'87, is a professor of physics at Oakland University, and as a Vanderbilt student, John Wikswo was his dissertation adviser.

Now Katherine has her sights set on obtaining a doctorate in immunology. Her research, which involves manipulating yeast cells so they produce specific proteins, has the potential to help explain cell activity.

"We don't understand how many biological and disease systems work," she says. "If we have a better understanding, we have a better chance of changing that behavior."

Students like Roth receive a stipend while in SyBBURE Searle's labs. "They become credible instantly," says Seale. "They find that they have a voice and they have value. It raises their confidence to learn that while they may not necessarily be the best performers in the classroom, they are good at research and innovation."

Parker Gould, BE'11, says SyBBURE Searle

Different Species, Common Diseases

Disease fascinates Dalis Collins.

"Some of the most interesting diseases not only affect humans but also animals," says Collins, BS'09, who was an engineering science and cellular and molecular biology major at Vanderbilt. She sees cross-species viral diseases such as Ebola, Nipah and Hendra as a new frontier where she can take her SyBBURE Searle training and delve deeply into viruses that have the potential to affect people.

"It's important to expose students to doing research as early as possible," says Collins, whose interest in cross-species diseases was born of working in a veterinary clinic as a teenager. "Research helps excite people about math and science, which can broaden a person's opportunities. And research is unique because you get paid for thinking and asking questions."

Collins' goal is to earn a doctorate in pathology after completing her veterinary degree at the University of Georgia, where she is in her third year. From the springboard of SyBBURE Searle, where she worked on improving cell-sorting technology, Collins spent the summer after graduating from Vanderbilt working in shark husbandry at the Center for Shark Research in Sarasota, Fla.

More recently, she completed summer research at Johns Hopkins University, where she used mice to study genetic factors in breast cancer. Her work at Hopkins required injecting 120 mice daily for 20 days and sometimes entailed chasing escapees. Working with animals can be rewarding, but it has its drawbacks.



Dalis Collins, BS'09, examines a standard poodle as part of her veterinary training at the University of Georgia. As a SyBBURE Searle researcher, she worked as part of a team to develop protocols for analysis of fresh blood with microfluidic devices.

ANDREW DAVIS TUCKER/UGA

"Monkeys are cute," she cautions, "but they throw poop at you."

After completing her doctorate, Collins could work for a biotech firm or drug company. "Vets are working at the Centers for Disease Control, and major medical universities have veterinarians doing comparative pathology," she says.

Her engineer's gift for problem solving has helped set her apart from her classmates. "SyBBURE helped prepare me for veterinary school by equipping me with the ability to critically evaluate research papers and studies," she says. "Problem solving is about getting all the information available at the beginning, analyzing it, and drawing conclusions from it."



JOE ROWELL

Will Matloff displays the 16-channel microformulator he has been developing in SyBBURE Searle. The device is designed to continuously formulate customized media mixtures at a rate of 500 nanoliters per minute.

Chemical Signals and Cell Response

As a first-year Vanderbilt student, Will Matloff had set his sights on a post-graduation professional degree. Since joining SyBBURE Searle during his second year, however, the biomedical engineering and mathematics major has been moving in a new direction.

Drawn by the commitment and focus exhibited in the SyBBURE Searle lab environment, Matloff finds the opportunity for independent inquiry compelling. “The greatest thing about the SyBBURE experience is that students like me can be intimately involved in projects and have a role in them,” says Matloff, now a Vanderbilt junior. “The lab is a very exciting place with many interesting projects that are tackling important problems I’m interested in.”

Matloff’s work focuses on development of a microformulator for cell research as a chemical signal generator. By varying combinations of 16 chemical inputs, the device will stimulate cells while their response is measured. Ultimately, it could prove a valuable tool for scientists probing how individual cells respond to a large number of environmental conditions.

Beyond the research itself, Matloff is motivated by the camaraderie among fellow SyBBURE Searle researchers and their interaction with faculty and staff. “It helps that most participants are undergraduates,” he says. “We’re always sharing microfabrication techniques and helping each other solve problems. We push each other to improve our performance in every aspect.

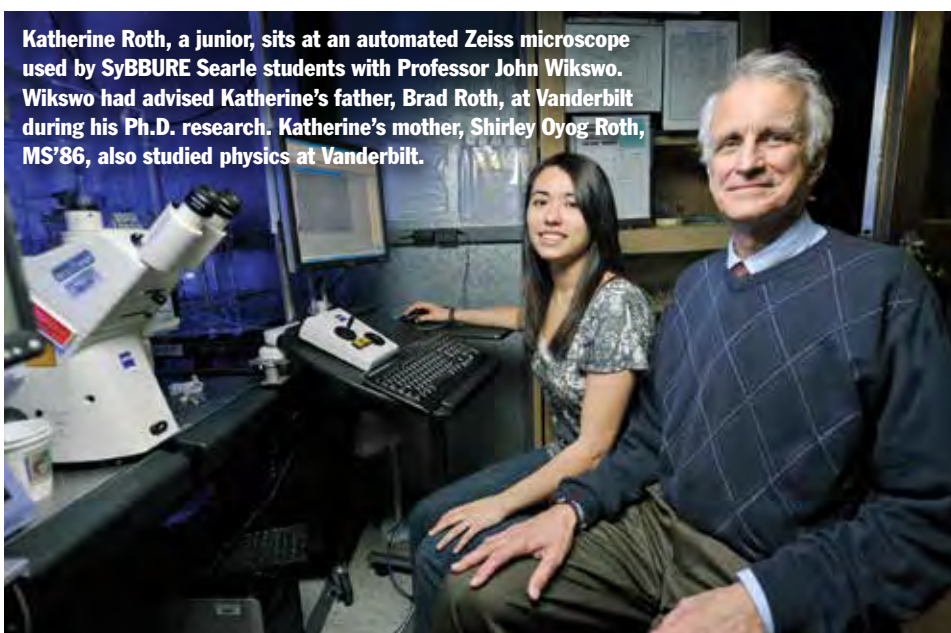
“In our weekly Journal Club, we eat together while discussing an article and hear about one another’s progress. For me, the greatest challenge is learning to direct projects I’m working on, finding the optimal next step, designing effective experiments and troubleshooting microfabrication. Overall, the process is very good practice for any endeavor.”

was seminal to his graduate studies at the University of Cambridge, particularly in helping to foster tenacity. “There were times in my research when ‘success’ meant failing less often or when a ‘good’ yield was one out of

“I like the puzzle research presents. It’s like following a chain of questions and answers. The answers just bring up more questions.” —Katherine Roth

two,” says Gould, who majored in electrical engineering and political science at Vanderbilt. He joined SyBBURE Searle as a second-semester freshman and worked on a rotary planar peristaltic micropump (RPPM).

“The work started with a meeting that was supposed to be about fixing a flaw in another pump. Two days and eight hours later, we had the design for the RPPM hashed out,” Gould says. Two weeks later a working prototype had been completed. Ninety days later a provisional patent application was ready. Within 15 months the full patent application had been completed and a journal



Katherine Roth, a junior, sits at an automated Zeiss microscope used by SyBBURE Searle students with Professor John Wikswo. Wikswo had advised Katherine’s father, Brad Roth, at Vanderbilt during his Ph.D. research. Katherine’s mother, Shirley Oyog Roth, MS’86, also studied physics at Vanderbilt.

JOHN RUSSELL

article about it submitted, he says.

For Seale, the payoff is found not only in helping young researchers thrive with basic training and experience, but also in addressing a larger problem.

“There’s a lot of talk about American students not being able to compete in math and science,” he says. “We find the greater issue is that students don’t often get the opportuni-

ties they need to grow in these areas. Through SyBBURE Searle, students have that.

“In academia there’s a tendency for there to be ‘stars,’ but in SyBBURE Searle, everyone—undergrads, faculty and graduate students—is an equal player when it comes to discussing research and doing the work.” ▼

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Vanderbilt and Music City's hit makers deliver perfect harmony.

HONKY-TONK HEROES AND HEALING HANDS

By LESLIE HILL

Songwriter Harlan Howard said it best: “Country music is three chords and the truth.” Out of that simple formula has come a genre that defines the Nashville sound and its worldwide community of listeners. Where the only cure for a broken heart is to sing about it. Where tractors and trucks are the transportation of choice. Where “I should have been a cowboy” and “I’m so lonesome I could cry” are common refrains. Where family values are prized above all else.

Country music is about place (*Amarillo by Morning*, *Okie from Muskogee*, *Chattahoochee*, *Rocky Top*), and no place has loomed larger than Nashville, the site where it all began. But more than 100 years before a WSM radio announcer dubbed the town “Music City USA,” Nashville was known as the “Athens of the South,” the first Southern city to establish a public school system and the home to many colleges and universities, including Vanderbilt and its Medical Center.

Nashville was built on both entertainment and education, and today, more than ever, the industries are creating a two-part harmony with a common bass line: a love for community.



DANA JOHNSON

Bass guitarist and keyboardist Jay DeMarcus of Rascal Flatts poses with young fans Emma Watson (left) and Gracelyn Mansfield before a sold-out 2007 Rascal Flatts concert at Nashville's downtown arena. With all proceeds from the show benefiting Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, it was the largest single fundraising event ever for Children's Hospital, netting nearly \$830,000. As an infant, Gracelyn nearly died from pertussis and spent a week at Children's Hospital under an oxygen tent.

Many in country music consider Vanderbilt University Medical Center their “community hospital,” a place that offers world-class health care, whether it’s for a routine checkup or a family member’s serious illness. In return for that care, they offer their time and talents in support of the Medical Center’s mission, and they do so with a humility not always found in other genres of the entertainment industry.

“It’s such a great feeling when we visit the hospital—one of the best in the world,” says Scott Borchetta, president and CEO of Big Machine Label Group, home to artists like Taylor Swift, Reba McEntire and Garth Brooks.

“One day one of us will get sick or get diagnosed, and we know Vanderbilt will be there for us,” he continues. “We feel like we can’t do enough and are honored to be part of the family.”

With more than 20 years in Nashville’s entertainment industry, Borchetta has been a longtime supporter of Vanderbilt, but his relationship intensified in 2010 when Rascal Flatts, a country supergroup with a longstanding commitment to the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, signed to the Big Machine record label.

Rascal Flatts has raised more than \$3 million for the Children’s Hospital, hosted benefit concerts, filmed advocacy messages, performed private shows for patients and families, and offered countless hugs and photo ops.

“Seeing those kids, and being face to face with the people who you directly impact, makes all the early mornings and late flights and touring worthwhile,” says Rascal Flatts bassist Jay DeMarcus.

In November 2010, Children’s Hospital unveiled its Rascal Flatts Surgery Center, which houses existing surgical programs and will soon hold a state-of-the-art interventional radiology suite.

“It’s amazing what they do here every day. They’re able to take the most serious situations and turn them into a positive,” says Joe Don Rooney, the band’s lead guitarist and vocalist. “That’s why we knew very quickly that we wanted to be involved with Children’s Hospital. It’s a magical place.”

“This is the biggest accomplishment of our entire personal or professional careers, being a part of this hospital,” adds lead singer Gary LeVox.

More Than a Photo Op

Dr. John W. Brock III, BA’74, Children’s Hospital surgeon-in-chief, Monroe Carell Jr. Chair, and director of the Division of Pediatric Urology, says the Rascal Flatts Surgery Center will allow the hospital to provide minimally invasive procedures that weren’t possible before.

“Rascal Flatts really is not in this for publicity,” he asserts. “They’re in it because it’s the right thing to do. I have great respect for them and think they have great respect for what we do here.”

“They have given their time to come here and sing and be with the children, and I’m continually amazed at the level of commitment.” —DR. JOHN W. BROCK III



JOE HOWELL

Last Halloween, when Rascal Flatts visited the hospital, says Brock, “they didn’t leave until they went to every single room. Even though it took three times as long as they had planned, they wouldn’t leave until they had seen everyone. That’s a pretty amazing thing.”

Though Brock has forged a special relationship with the members of Rascal Flatts through the years, he sees their commitment reflected in many others in Nashville’s music industry.

“So many great people from country music have really embraced what we do. They have given their time to come here and sing and be with the children, and I’m continually amazed at the level of commitment, their soul. It’s not just a front for them,” says Brock.

Big Machine sends artists to Children’s Hospital each month to perform for patients and families.

“You always see a spirit of life in the kids. They’re so brave and tackle their illnesses so seriously,” Borchetta says. “Kids aren’t supposed to be sick. It’s a mess-up in the system, and we can’t do enough to make it right. We always walk out of the hospital asking, ‘How can we do more?’”

Rondal Richardson, entertainment industry relations man-

Entertainer Vince Gill (in black) and producer Michael Omartian work on a song written by Children’s Hospital patient Chris Weber for a CD compilation to promote Vanderbilt’s music therapy program. Weber, who has cystic fibrosis, has written more than 10 songs and learned to play the guitar, thanks to the encouragement of music therapist Jenny Plume (right).



ANNE RAYNER

Country supergroup Rascal Flatts—Gary LeVox, Joe Don Rooney and Jay DeMarcus—is honored by Vanderbilt University Medical Center on Oct. 29, 2010, with the unveiling of the Rascal Flatts Surgery Center at Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital. The band is shown with pediatric surgery staff members after performing its sixth annual Halloween concert for patients and their families. They also visited children room by room, delivering Halloween treats.

ager for VUMC, says Big Machine and others in country music understand that music is a healer.

“These artists can’t cure cancer, but they can let patients know they are supported by a special community,” he says. “Music City USA has a great medical center that believes in the premise that music heals the mind, body and soul.”

Richardson has more than 25 years’ experience in the entertainment industry and helps strengthen relations between VUMC and professionals in music, athletics and performing arts. As an industry insider, he understands how precious an artist’s time is, but also how much they want to give.

“In any given week in a manager’s office in Nashville, they could get 100 requests for charity events. Learning to say no to



SUSAN LURRY

Dr. John Brock and 5-year-old Cierrah Granito pose with Chris Henderson, left, and Brad Arnold of rock band 3 Doors Down in November 2010. The band donated a toy race car equipped with a PlayStation game system inside to Children’s Hospital.

something that is so worthy is really tough,” Richardson says.

Especially in country music, he says, artists see their fans as an extension of their families and will do just about anything to help them. “To whom much is given, much is expected, and there’s a sense that this is a beautiful family that doesn’t exist in any other form of entertainment.”

Richardson says it’s that love for family and community that draws them to Vanderbilt.

“They understand that health is one’s most important asset in life. They want to do something beyond music and give back to the people who have given them so much. Many of them really find their missions through charity work, and we’re blessed that so many of them have chosen Vanderbilt.”

Lifting Lives

Vanderbilt shone brightly in the national spotlight during the 46th Academy of Country Music Awards, broadcast last April. Hootie and the Blowfish alum and country music artist Darius Rucker took the stage with 25 young adults

who have developmental disabilities to perform “Music from the Heart,” and viewers were given the opportunity to donate to the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center.

The song was a product of the ACM Lifting Lives Music Camp held each summer at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for people with Williams syndrome, autism and other disabilities. The song was written collectively at the camp with songwriters Brett James and Chris Young.

“The ACM Lifting Lives performance with the Kennedy Center campers was honestly one of the top musical moments of my career,” says Rucker. “Singing on stage with them, watching their faces and hearing their voices is a moment I’ll always remember.”

Lifting Lives is the Academy of Country Music’s philanthropic arm, dedicated to improving lives through the power of music, and has sponsored the Kennedy Center’s Music Camp since 2010.

The weeklong residential camp gives young adults who have developmental disabilities the opportunity to participate in songwriting workshops, recording sessions, and a live perfor-



Music artist Darius Rucker performs live with the ACM Lifting Lives Music Campers Chorus on the 46th Academy of Country Music Awards broadcast from Las Vegas last April. During the performance, viewers nationwide had the opportunity to donate to the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, where the music camp for young people with disabilities is held each summer.

“It all comes back to the hope in a child’s eyes, knowing they are counting on us to help them get well. It is a giant responsibility, and one we have to embrace. I can’t think of anything more important.” —KIX BROOKS

mance at the Grand Ole Opry. Country music veterans who have participated in the camp include Darius Rucker, Carrie Underwood, Gary Allan, Odie Blackmon, Mark Bright, Little Big Town and Wynonna Judd.

“Being part of the ACM Lifting Lives camp at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center last summer was one of those inspiring moments that comes along only once in a rare while,” says Judd. “The campers lifted my spirits and restored my hope in humanity. The impact of the great work happening at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center around the idea of ‘music as a healer’ is something I am proud to celebrate. It is indeed proof that when we stand together, it is our finest hour.”

The Pied Piper for Children’s Hospital

Much of today’s support for the Children’s Hospital can be traced back to one man: Kix Brooks, half of country superstar duo Brooks & Dunn.

“He was the first to get down on the floor with the kids, and then he told all his peers,” says Rondal Richardson. “He was the Pied Piper for that place. Everyone followed him in, and thankfully no one has wanted to leave.”

Back in the early ’90s, when Brooks & Dunn was headlining its first concert at Nashville’s Starwood Amphitheater, two industry veterans—song publisher Donna Hilley and Connie Bradley from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)—contacted Brooks and requested he donate all the concert proceeds to the Children’s Hospital.

Brooks admits he was flabbergasted. Like many, he had bought into the false notion of the “Magnolia Curtain” cutting off Vanderbilt from the wider Nashville community.

“Like many people with no knowledge of the place, when you hear the word ‘Vanderbilt,’ you generally assume here’s a place with plenty of money that serves those in Nashville who can afford it, and a place that certainly wouldn’t be needing a donation from somebody like me,” recalls Brooks.

But Hilley and Bradley encouraged him to visit the hospital, then housed on three cramped floors in Vanderbilt University Hospital.

What he found, Brooks says, “was a hospital that was extremely overcrowded and, quite frankly, threadbare—with a dream in the air of a new facility that had been promised for the near future, and a staff of doctors and nurses who were working in very tough conditions with an attitude that made me embarrassed I would ever complain about anything. They



Jeff Balsler, Vanderbilt vice chancellor for health affairs, presents entertainer Kix Brooks with a plate decorated by a Children’s Hospital patient as a token of appreciation for his support through the years. Brooks, who serves on the hospital’s board of directors, is credited with fueling much of today’s interest in the Children’s Hospital by Nashville’s music community.

were putting smiles on the faces of some very sick kids and putting hope in the hearts of their parents.”

Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital, Brooks soon realized, “was not the pretentious, exclusive establishment I had conjured up in my mind, but a nonprofit hospital, made for the everyday families of not just Tennessee but all the bordering states and beyond—and no child was being turned away because they couldn’t pay.”

For Brooks, it was a moment of revelation: “Wow, I thought. I’ve got to do my part. This isn’t *their* hospital—this is *our* hospital.”

All the proceeds from that sellout concert were given to the hospital, and shortly afterward, Brooks joined the hospital’s board of directors, on which he still serves today.

“I am very proud of the progress we’ve made between Music Row and the hospital, but we have to keep growing this mission,” he says. “Honestly, it all comes back to the hope in a child’s eyes, knowing they are counting on us to help them get well. It is a giant responsibility, and one we have to embrace. I can’t

“Country music artists are giving people with big hearts, so it doesn’t surprise me a bit that so many support Vanderbilt and the Children’s Hospital.”

—STEVE MOORE, CEO, COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION



Country music artists Wynonna Judd and Dierks Bentley, BA’97, prepare to lead the fourth annual Dierks Bentley Miles and Music for Kids motorcycle run and concert benefiting Children’s Hospital. Each year the ride from Franklin, Tenn., to Nashville ends with a downtown concert at Riverfront Park featuring Bentley and his friends.

think of anything more important, and with all sincerity, I feel privileged for the opportunity.”

In addition to Rascal Flatts, one of Brooks’ early followers was Dierks Bentley, BA’97, whose annual Miles and Music for Kids celebrity motorcycle ride and concert is one of Children’s Hospital’s more visible entertainment events. Now being duplicated in other cities, it has attracted 36,000 fans and raised more than \$2 million for Children’s Miracle Network hospitals.

“God Picked Guatemala for Me”

Brooks also connected with Steve Moore, CEO of the Country Music Association (CMA), the genre’s trade organization. He is personally committed to Children’s Hospital through the Shalom Foundation, a charitable organization he founded to serve children and families living in extreme poverty, with a special focus on Guatemala.

“God picked Guatemala for me,” Moore declares. “I went there on a construction trip through my church to build a school. Then when I saw the Children’s Hospital for the first

time and walked through it, it ached me that kids in Guatemala would never see a facility like that.”

After meeting Dr. John Brock, the two forged a relationship to send surgical teams to Guatemala, a project that grew to demand a permanent surgical facility there. Earlier this year a Vanderbilt team helped open the Moore Pediatric Surgery Center, a 2,000-square-foot structure equipped for medical and surgical care with three operating rooms and beds for pre-operation, intensive care and recovery.

“The staff at Vanderbilt was instrumental in consulting on the needs and specifications and even giving some financial assistance to getting the facility open. Great nurses and doctors have gone on our trips, and Vanderbilt is a great partner for Shalom,” says Moore.

“We really have a chance to live out part of Chancellor Zeppos’ vision for ‘one Vanderbilt’” through the endeavors in Guatemala, Brock points out. “Guatemala is a natural fit because we’re so involved with Vanderbilt’s Center for Latin American Studies and with medical care. How we marry those two together gives us a true ‘one Vanderbilt’ presence, and we couldn’t have done some of that without Steve.”

Now Moore is encouraging all CMA members to lend their support to Vanderbilt.

“Country music artists are giving people with big hearts, so it doesn’t surprise me a bit that so many of them support Vanderbilt and the Children’s Hospital,” Moore says. “I would,

of course, like to see more get involved, though.

“In doing so, you get more than you’re giving, and the reward is beyond measure, especially when you’re working with children. Artists know they have been really blessed with talent and resources in their career, and they look to do something meaningful and give back.” ▼



Children’s Hospital supporter Steve Moore leads the Country Music Association.

Leslie Hill is an information officer for Vanderbilt University Medical Center News and Communications.



Dr. Gaelyn Garrett, medical director of the Vanderbilt Voice Center, with music artist and patient Gary Allan.



JOHN RUSSELL

Voice Center Keeps the Pipes Flowing

*Well, I blew my throat and I blew my tour
I wound up sippin' on soup du jour
I wasn't Superman, I wasn't Superman
Try to do more than I can
I wasn't Superman
Well, the doctor said, Son, it's a cryin' shame
But you ain't Clark Kent and I ain't Lois Lane*

Willie Nelson wrote those lyrics to his song "Superman" about the time his Vanderbilt doctor, Gaelyn Garrett, took him off a tour to rest his voice. But Nelson is just one name among a long list of famous voices who have sought treatment at Vanderbilt's Voice Center. The center has helped singers like Johnny Cash (a longtime supporter of the center), Minnie Pearl, Kathy Mattea, Patty Loveless, Emmylou Harris, Jack White, Trisha Yearwood, Martina McBride, Ronnie Dunn, Pam Tillis, Wynonna Judd and Gretchen Wilson—as well as preachers, radio personalities, auctioneers and businessmen.

Gold and platinum records line the familiar hallways of the Voice Center—a sign of appreciation from Music City's singers for successful treatment.

"I think every musician who lives in town knows about the

Vanderbilt Voice Center," says country rocker Gary Allan, who was treated last year for a vascular polyp. "It is a fantastic marriage for Music City to have a voice clinic. People fly in from all over the world."

Founded in 1987 and consistently ranked among the best by *U.S. News and World Report*, Vanderbilt's Department of Otolaryngology, which houses the Voice Center, is placed among the top 10 in National Institutes of Health funding, with more than \$10 million in grants. The department's "founding four" physicians—Executive Director Robert Ossoff, James Duncavage, James Netterville and David Zealear—are still active full-time faculty members.



JOE HOWELL

Allan is treated by Garrett and Thomas Cleveland, professor of otolaryngology.

Ossoff's 1994–95 trainee, Dr. Gaelyn Garrett, is now medical director of the center. Garrett has treated not only high-profile patients like Willie Nelson and Gary Allan, but other members of Nashville's singing population, from Music Row and Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music to the Belmont University School of Music and Fisk Jubilee Singers, an African American a cappella ensemble of Fisk University students.

"Singers have everything from a little swelling of the vibrating edge to nodules to polyps to cysts," she says.

Patients receive the same level of care whether they are singers or teachers or call-center employees. As part of their treatment, patients see a speaking or singing therapist at the Voice Center in order to help change the behaviors that caused the problem.

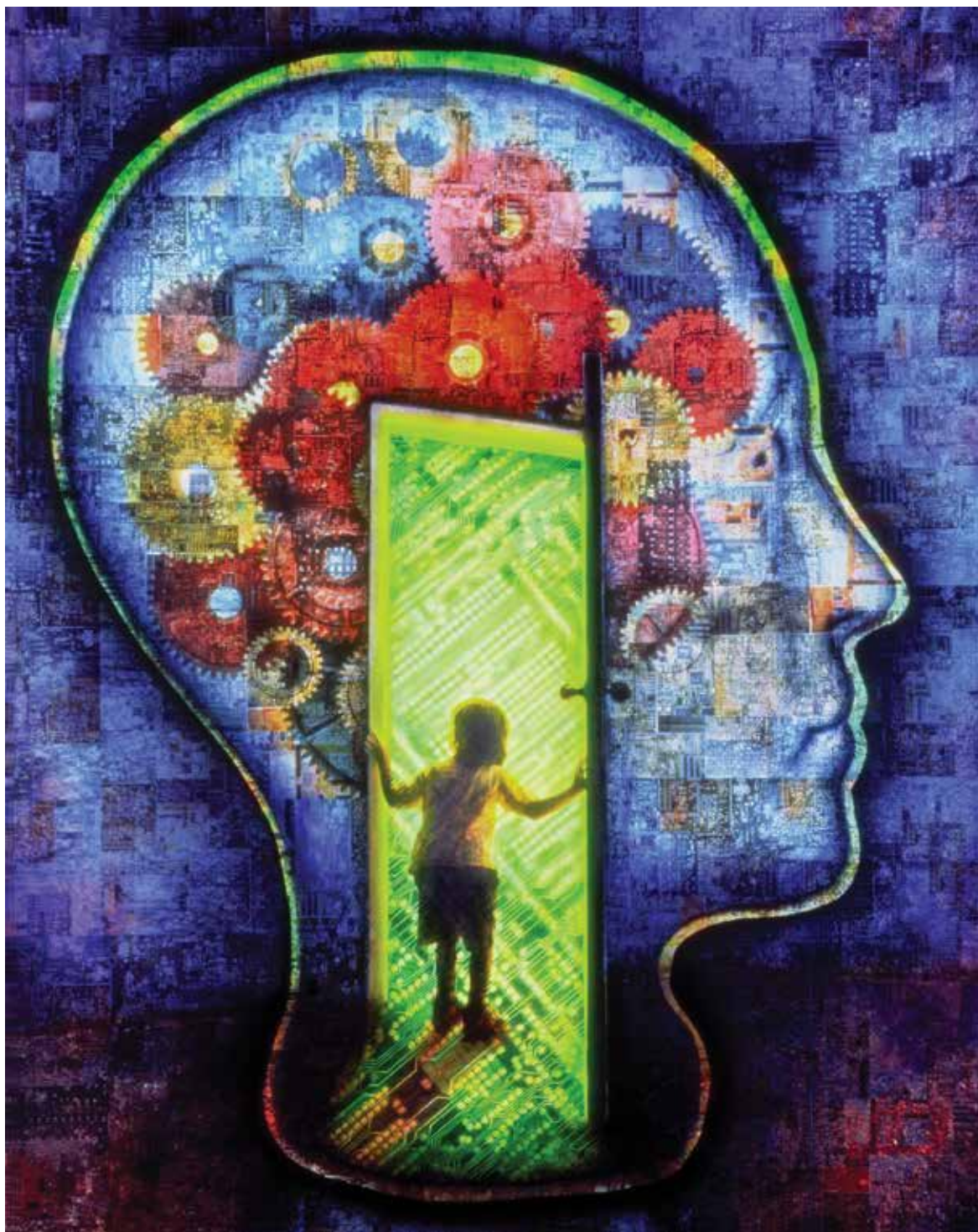
In some cases, singers may have had a pre-existing lesion that actually helped create what is known as their 'signature sound,' so even more important is having a baseline examination to view the vocal cords before a problem exists.

"A baseline exam lets us know what the vocal cords look like, and if the patient does end up developing a problem down the road, we will be able to say what is new and what is not," says Garrett. "In an ideal world, it would be great if every new singer came to us and got this first evaluation so we'd know where we were starting."

—Craig Boerner

MINDS WIDE OPEN

Vanderbilt builds a brain trust for neuroscience discovery.



JOE BAKER © IMAGES.COM/CORBIS

In a suite of laboratories atop a gleaming glass-walled tower, researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center are designing radical new treatments for Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and an inherited form of autism.

A block away in a steel-shielded basement, children read aloud while their brains are being scanned in a doughnut-shaped MRI machine. This study of how the brain acquires language one day may benefit people with dyslexia and learning disabilities.

Vanderbilt has emerged as one of the nation's leading academic centers in neuroscience, the study of the nervous system and the brain. By exploring how the brain perceives, decides, remembers and reacts, researchers are revealing how, in the words of Vanderbilt neuroscientist René Marois, "this piece of flesh could yield such a complex thing as the mind."

Since 2000 the university has spent more than \$60 million on neuroscience facilities, programs and faculty, while the amount in neuroscience grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has nearly doubled, reaching more than \$44 million last year.

Vanderbilt's neuroscience "community" today approaches 500 faculty members, students and staff in five schools and colleges, 22 departments, and 27 centers and institutes.

The commitment to bring neuroscience from the laboratory to the clinic, the operating room, the pharmacy and the classroom "is something that's really important," says Dr. Jeff Balser, MD'90, PhD'90, vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine. "It should be an important part of our culture to do, because it moves our

science and discoveries into the hands of the public."

Vanderbilt's approach is to invest in people, in cutting-edge facilities and technologies, and in a collegial atmosphere that encourages collaboration across far-flung disciplines, from biology, pharmacology and engineering to education, psychology and neurosurgery.

From the undergraduate level to the most advanced research, "our university's commitment to research and training in neuroscience requires that we bring together our remarkable faculty from across campus to tackle the challenges of interdisciplinary research on brain and behavior," says Vanderbilt Provost Richard McCarty. "Never has our 'one university' philosophy been more critical in advancing discovery in laboratories and training in the classroom."

"The physical proximity of all the schools (everything is within a 15-minute walk from end to end) ... allows for effortless interactions," says Sohee Park, the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of Psychology and professor of psychiatry, whose work has helped define the cognitive deficits of schizophrenia.



Among Vanderbilt researchers exploring the complex wiring of the brain, René Marois studies the neural bases of attention and information processing. His work has helped attract more pre-eminent scientists to Vanderbilt.

Brain Matters

Vanderbilt engineers and neurosurgeons, for example, have joined forces to develop navigation systems that can guide the scalpel during brain operations. Neurosurgeons are partnering with chemists to develop fluorescent "labels" that can pinpoint the location of cancerous cells in the brain.

Working with neurologists and psychiatrists, neurosurgeons also are studying deep brain stimulation as a treatment for Parkinson's disease and obsessive-compulsive disorder. The technique involves inserting a thin wire deep into the brain, then applying an electrical current.

"Hubs" of collaboration include the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, the Vanderbilt Vision Research Center, the Center for Integrative and Cognitive Neuroscience, and the Vanderbilt University Institute of Imaging Sciences.

Coordinating many of these efforts is the Vanderbilt Brain Institute (VBI). The VBI links together "the enormously diverse and interdisciplinary community that is Vanderbilt neuroscience, with the ultimate goal of fostering the highest caliber of neuroscience discovery and training," says VBI Director Mark Wallace, who is also a professor of hearing and speech sciences and professor of psychiatry.

Established in 1999 to promote neuroscience education and training as well as research, the VBI administers the Neuroscience Graduate Program, one of the leading programs of its kind in the country. Vanderbilt also sponsors a popular interdisciplinary neuroscience program for undergraduates that encourages students to participate directly in research.

Drug Discovery

Certainly, one of the most significant recent developments has been the establishment last year of the Vanderbilt Center for Neuroscience Drug Discovery, which supports and expands efforts to find novel treatments for brain disorders.

The center is directed by P. Jeffrey Conn, PhD'86, the Lee E. Limbird Professor of Pharmacology. Craig Lindsley, professor of pharmacology and chemistry, is the center's director of medicinal chemistry as well as director of the Vanderbilt Specialized Chemistry Center.

Conn, Lindsley and their colleagues have developed compounds called "allosteric modulators" that can "tune" neurotransmitter receptors like dimmer switches in an electrical circuit—a departure from tra-



ditional drugs that "turn on" or "turn off" these receptors. The hope is that this more subtle approach will control symptoms better with fewer side effects.

Several compounds have shown promise in animal models of three different brain disorders.

Parkinson's disease, a progressive disorder characterized by uncontrollable muscle tremors and rigidity, is caused by the death of dopamine-producing neurons in the brain. Dopamine replacement therapy can relieve symptoms, but over time it becomes less effective and causes debilitating side effects.

can reduce hallucinations and delusions, but they are less effective in relieving cognitive symptoms and social withdrawal. With funding from NIH and private industry, the researchers have identified compounds that work in two fundamentally different ways, and which they hope will alleviate all schizophrenia symptoms.

A third endeavor is raising hopes for the first drug treatment to relieve learning, memory, social and behavioral problems associated with fragile X syndrome, a genetic condition that shares features with autism.

 We are very excited to reach this major milestone and are eager to fully understand the extent of benefit that this new treatment strategy will have in patients suffering from Parkinson's disease.  —P. JEFFREY CONN



P. Jeffrey Conn is director of the new Vanderbilt Center for Neuroscience Drug Discovery, which is creating new models for drug discovery at a time when pharmaceutical companies are investing less in research.

With support from NIH and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Vanderbilt researchers are developing compounds that, by tuning a receptor for the neurotransmitter glutamate, may relieve the rigidity and "freezing" of certain muscles.

A second project seeks to improve treatment of schizophrenia. Current medications

Vanderbilt's corporate partners are now completing animal tests of the schizophrenia and fragile X compounds required before they can be tried in humans. Early clinical trials could begin next year, Conn says.

"The combination of cutting-edge basic research in the context of an academic drug discovery program provides Vanderbilt with

a tremendous capacity to both identify and treat complex brain disorders,” says Randy Blakely, the Allan D. Bass Chair in Pharmacology and a professor of psychiatry.

As they uncover the secrets that will lead to better drugs, Vanderbilt researchers are keenly aware that they stand on the shoulders of pioneering researchers. Vanderbilt neuroscience was built in part by psychopharmacologists who helped define—at the molecular level—the effects of drugs on the brain and nervous system.

They include Dr. Fridolin Sulser, professor of psychiatry and pharmacology, emeritus, who helped develop the tricyclic antidepressants; Elaine Sanders-Bush, PhD’67, professor of pharmacology, emerita, whose lab made several important discoveries about the neurotransmitter serotonin and its receptors; and Blakely, nationally known for his work on transporters, which sweep up neurotransmitters from the synaptic gap between nerve cells.

Blakely is program director of the Silvio O. Conte Neuroscience Research Center at Vanderbilt, established in 2007 with a \$10 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, as well as the Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Training Program in Neurogenomics.

Early in his career, he discovered the genes for numerous transporters, including the serotonin transporter, target of the SSRI (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor) antidepressants such as Prozac. Since then he and his colleagues have identified transporter gene variations that contribute to autism, depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Magnets in the Brain

As each area of neuroscience research grows and flourishes, it attracts top-level scientists in related fields. An example is Vanderbilt’s strength in functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI. The technique measures changes in the magnetic properties of blood as it transports oxygen to brain tissue in response to increased activity. It can thus create “pictures” of brain areas that engage in reading, language and other cognitive functions.

As postdoctoral fellows at Yale Univer-



John Gore’s 2002 arrival ushered in a new level of expertise in brain imaging for Vanderbilt. Gore brought along more than a dozen of his Yale colleagues to establish the Vanderbilt University Institute of Imaging Science.

sity, Isabel Gauthier and her husband, René Marois, were “early adopters” of fMRI. In 1999 they joined the Department of Psychology in Vanderbilt’s College of Arts and Science—Gauthier to explore how the brain develops face-recognition “expertise,” and Marois to pursue the neural bases of attention and information processing.

Three years later one of their Yale mentors, John C. Gore, arrived with more than a dozen colleagues to establish and direct the Vanderbilt University Institute of Imaging Science. A leader in brain imaging since the late 1970s, Gore—the University Professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences and Hertha Ramsey Cress Chair in Medicine—was among the first to use fMRI to evaluate reading disabilities in children.

The institute has become a “magnet” for other scientists, including Stephan Heckers, the William P. and Henry B. Test Chair in Schizophrenia Research. He arrived from the famed McLean Hospital in Boston in 2006 to chair Vanderbilt School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry and to continue his studies of the mechanism of psychosis.

“Neuroimaging has led us to realize that the major psychiatric illnesses are associated with structural brain changes,” says Associate Professor of Psychiatry Ronald Cowan, who directs the department’s Psychiatric Neuroimaging program. “The implication

of this simple message for the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness is profound.”

For researchers like Peabody’s Bruce McCandliss, the Patricia and Rodes Hart Professor of Psychology and Human Development, access to colleagues across the campus in neuroimaging and other disciplines is crucial. McCandliss is trying to identify educational interventions that can “reshape” the brain and bolster cognitive skills such as paying attention and reading.

“Vanderbilt has state-of-the-art neuroimaging facilities and a highly collaborative community, including Peabody College, which is leading the nation in research on education and human development,” he says. “This makes Vanderbilt an ideal place to bring these two strengths together into new research on educational neuroscience.”

The brain, as is now clear, is much more than networks of nerves and bursts of chemical and electrical energy. Thanks to recent advances in genetics, neuroimaging and computer science, researchers can track the complex wiring of the brain as never before.

It will take the concerted effort of many to understand how this remarkable organ regulates body temperature and circadian rhythms, controls movement, stores memories, acquires language and—perhaps most important—makes each individual unique. ▼

The Mind's

“I’m fascinated by so many things about glass. It’s a mysterious medium. I love its fluidity,



Visual Arts:

Molten Mysteries

JOSE SANTISTEBAN—BEADS OF perspiration glistening on his brow—rotates a long, thin metal tube tipped with a bubble of honey-colored molten glass inside a furnace that’s been heated to 2,100 degrees Fahrenheit. As African jazz plays in the background, Santisteban removes the pipe from the furnace, blows air into the glass bubble, and gently rolls it into a desired shape on a metal table. He repeats the process over and over, using various metal and wooden tools to shape the bubble into a beautiful glass vase.

“I’m fascinated by so many things about glass,” he says. “It’s a mysterious medium. I love its fluidity, how it moves and behaves. I love everything about it.”

Owner of the Franklin Glassblowing Studio, Santisteban, BA’99, came to his love of glassblowing after college, having taken only one art course—an elective in painting—as an undergraduate English major. “I didn’t want to go to graduate school in English or philosophy,” he says, “so a month after graduation, I went to Seattle and became apprenticed to a family friend who owned a glassblowing studio there.”

It was in Seattle that Santisteban met famed glassblowers like Dale Chihuly and realized that making art from glass was his

Eye

how it moves and behaves. I love everything about it.

—JOSE SANTISTEBAN, BA'99



PHOTOS BY JOHN RUSSELL

Santisteban in his Franklin, Tenn., studio

life's calling. He went on to earn a master's degree in fine arts from Rochester Polytechnic Institute in New York, then studied with master Venetian glassblowers Silvano Signoretto and Davide Salvatore in Murano, Italy.

Returning to Middle Tennessee, Santisteban spent two years planning and building a modern glassblowing studio in a renovated office building in Franklin, just south of Nashville. "Modern" is a misnomer, as the glassblowing process has changed very little since the Phoenicians invented it in the first century B.C. Today's furnaces may be heated by gas or electricity instead of wood, and a stainless steel table has replaced the marble slab where the blown glass is turned and shaped. But the media and equipment—shards of clear and colored glass; metal blowpipes, tweezers and cutters; wooden shaping blocks; even wet paper—are very similar to the ancient tools of the trade.

Prices for Santisteban's work range from \$65 for a paperweight to \$400 for a small vase and several thousand dollars for a chandelier. He also offers instruction in glassblowing for beginners and advanced students.

Find out more: snipurl.com/glassblowing
—Joanne Lamphere Beckham

Books and Writers: A Focus on Family

THE YEAR 2011 WAS A very good one for writer Kevin Wilson, BA'00. His first novel, *The Family Fang*, was published by Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollins, in August to glowing reviews, and he was the subject of an admiring profile in *The New York Times*. He did a 12-city promotional tour and looks forward to seeing the book—a wildly funny tale about a family of performance artists—published in Europe and Asia in the coming months.

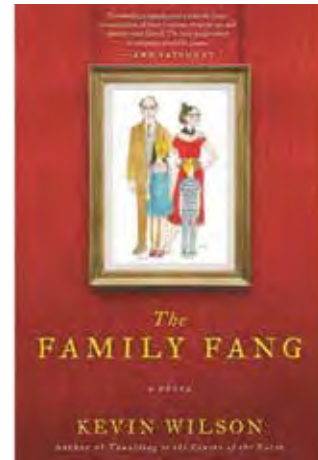
Wilson, whose 2009 short-story collection, *Tunneling to the Center of the Earth*, received more critical praise than commercial success, lives quietly with his wife, poet Leigh Anne Couch, and their 3-year-old son in Sewanee, Tenn. He admits to finding all the attention disruptive and overwhelming at times, but is nevertheless grateful for it. "You want your book to be received in the larger world," he says.



Fiction writer Kevin Wilson and his wife, poet Leigh Anne Couch

MIRIAM BERKLEY

Wilson grew up in tiny Winchester, Tenn., the son of an insurance salesman and a homemaker who, he says, "loved imagination" and encouraged their children to indulge their creativity. "My par-



ents put a lot of stock in narrative and stories, so we were constantly making stuff up," he recalls. He arrived at Vanderbilt with a love of books but no plans to be a writer. That soon changed.

"My sophomore year, I took a fiction writing workshop with Tony Earley," he says. "The minute I met him and the minute I started writing my own stuff, I knew what I wanted to do."

He went on to earn an M.F.A. degree in creative writing at the University of Florida and joined the staff of the Sewanee Writers' Conference in 2005. Though the job was demanding, he says it "kept me connected to the work. It was good to be around people devoted to writing." Wilson left the conference this year to assume a full-time faculty position at the University of the South.

Wilson's second novel is still in the incubation stage, but is likely to explore some of the same concerns as his first. "My interest in writing is always talking about family," he says. His short-term plans include devoting more time to his young son, freeing his wife to focus on *her* creative work—a move that's in keeping with their shared vision for their own family.

"When I met my wife, we were both writing," he says. "I think that's an essential part of who we are."

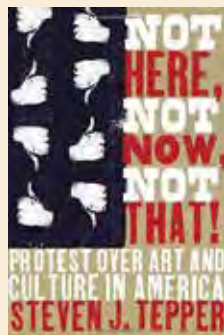
—Maria Browning

Read an essay by Wilson and an excerpt from his short story "The Choir Director Affair (The Baby's Teeth)": snipurl.com/vu-wilson

Recent Books

Not Here, Not Now, Not That! Protest over Art and Culture in America (2011, University of Chicago Press) by Steven Tepper, associate professor of sociology and associate director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy

Tepper's book suggests that artists who simply cite the First Amendment, guaranteeing free speech, to defend their work aren't cutting it in a "YouTube world," where it is difficult for anyone to truly stop art from being disseminated. "Perhaps we can have more art, more controversy, more protest, more conversation, more obstacles, more alternatives, more community and more democracy," he says.

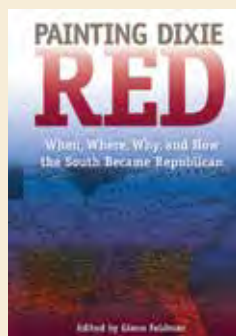
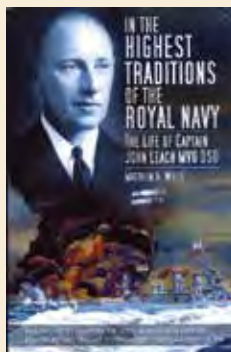


What You Will: Gender, Contract and Shakespearean Social Space (2011, University of Pennsylvania Press) by Kathryn Schwarz, associate professor of English

Noting that the pattern in 16th- and 17th-century representations of femininity is that women pose a threat when they conform too willingly to social conventions, Schwarz begins her book with an examination of early modern disciplines that treat will as an aspect of the individual psyche, of rhetoric, and of sexual and gendered identities. She then analyzes will through Shakespearean works in which feminine characters articulate and manage the values that define them, revealing the vital force of conventional acts.

In the Highest Traditions of the Royal Navy: The Life of Captain John Leach MVO DSO (2011, The History Press, UK) by Matthew B. Wills, BA'54

Wills tells the story of John Leach, analyzing the influences that shaped him and led ultimately to his heroic end. He traces Leach's life from his time at Royal Naval College, Osborne and Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, his baptism by fire in the service when he survived a direct shell hit to the bridge where he was standing, and his time as captain of the *Prince of Wales*. The book presents a portrait of one of Britain's finest, using new research on failures in navy intelligence as a major factor in the loss of HMS *Prince of Wales* and HMS *Repulse*.



Painting Dixie Red: When, Where, Why and How the South Became Republican (2011, University Press of Florida) edited by Glenn Feldman, MA'86

Has the South, once the "Solid South" of the Democratic party, truly become an unassailable Republican stronghold? If so, when, where, why and how did this seismic change occur? What are the implications for the U.S. body politic?

In *Painting Dixie Red* a distinguished group of scholars engages in this debate, some making the case that the South has become Republican and some contending that it has not.

Music:

Crossing Over to Success

SINGER CHRIS MANN, BMUS'04, knows what it's like to have the rug pulled out from under him. Just six weeks before his first album was scheduled to come out, the record company canceled the project.

"I had already recorded the strings in a studio next to where Barbra Streisand was recording," Mann says. "I had performed at the Sundance Film Festival and at a pre-Oscar event—I thought my ship had come in. Then it ended, and it seemed like my career was over before it started."

However, Mann made his way back into the studio and into very steady work singing for television shows like *Glee* and for feature films, including *Avatar*, *Sex and the City II*, and the latest version of *The Muppets*.

Personhood and the Law

A BOOK BY A VANDERBILT professor about the legal methods used to deprive people of their personhood has been named among the top 25 academic books of the year by *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*.

The Law Is a White Dog: How Legal Rituals Make and Unmake Persons (2011, Princeton University Press) was written by Colin Dayan, the Robert Penn Warren Professor in the Humanities at Vanderbilt. Moving seamlessly across genres and disciplines, the book demonstrates how contemporary jurisprudence regarding cruel and unusual punishment prepared the way for abuses in Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo Bay.

"To be a person can mean a number of things," Dayan said in a *Vanderbilt View* story about *The Law Is a White Dog*. "You can be a person and still be depersonalized. Today, larger and larger groups of persons are being created who legally no longer have the attributes of will and personality, something like the 'living dead.'"

—Jim Patterson

Singer Chris Mann is a finalist on NBC's *The Voice*.



BRANDEE ST. NICHOLAS

“Things I absolutely hated doing in school—like sight reading—gave me the skills to be able to walk into a studio and deliver,” he says. “It’s a very cutthroat industry, and I’ve broken in in a big way.”

Mann classifies himself as a classical

crossover artist: Think Andrea Bocelli or Josh Groban, who has sold more than 24 million albums worldwide.

“Once I rededicated myself to the style I love and went with my gut, things really perked up for me,” Mann says.

Mann attracted the attention of legendary singer/songwriter/producer David Foster, who is credited with discovering Groban.

“David discovered Josh Groban and Michael Bublé and started taking them out on the road to sing in his ‘David Foster and Friends’ concerts,” says Mann. “He’s been great and has given me the same opportunity to perform in his shows—the first being at the Horatio Alger Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., singing ‘The Prayer’ with Katharine McPhee. I’m honored and excited to be doing the same concerts Josh and Michael did when they were beginning.”

As exciting as all of that is, Mann’s biggest achievement may be just around the corner. He auditioned for Season 2 of *The Voice*, last year’s breakout show on NBC, and at press time was a finalist on Christina Aguilera’s team. The singing competition’s new season debuted Feb. 5, right after the Super Bowl. Stay tuned.

Find out more: chrismannmusic.com

—Cindy Thomsen

Blair String Quartet premieres Hersch’s *Images from a Closed Ward*

On Friday, Feb. 17, in Ingram Hall, the Blair String Quartet premiered *Images from a Closed Ward* by prominent American composer Michael Hersch. It is the composer’s first string quartet in 20 years, commissioned specifically for the quartet as part of “Blair Commissions: Music for the 21st Century,” through funding from the James Stephen Turner Family Foundation.

“I was deeply moved that they approached me,” says Hersch. “[It means] they felt something in my work that they connected with. I assure you that not everybody gets what I do, so when people connect with it, that’s meaningful to me.”

Each member of the quartet had different reasons for choosing Hersch to compose the piece for them, but the opportunity to work with a prominent American composer who had not yet written a major string quartet was among their criteria. Hersch’s use of space, time and silence appealed to the quartet, too, as well as his artistic integrity.

“Michael has that ability to voice for four people in an extraordinary way,” says John Kochanowski, violist with the quartet and associate professor. “He really understands the conversational attitude. We were excited by the possibility that he could be a great quartet composer.”



Blair String Quartet

JIM MCCUIRE

The Blair String Quartet will premiere the work April 1 at Christopher Cairns Studio in Havertown, Pa., and on April 5 at Weill Recital Hall in New York’s Carnegie Hall.

—Bonnie Arant Ertelt

S.P.O.V.*

* Student Point of View

First-Year Fantasies

How Harry Potter—and a dose of reality—shaped my experience on The Ingram Commons. By ALLENA G. BERRY, CLASS OF 2012

I GREW UP IN THE HARRY POTTER generation.

I dreamt of careening through forbidden forests on a bewitched broomstick and leading my house in a friendly game of Quidditch—probably akin to how previous generations imagined fighting droids (*Star Wars*), boldly going where no one has gone before (*Star Trek*), or saving Middle Earth (*The Lord of the Rings*). I always envisioned myself fitting in among the preppy tie-and-skirt set who attended the fictitious Hogwarts.

Growing up in Racine, Wis., I was so sold on the concept that I tried (unsuccessfully) to have my parents send me to boarding school. I requested brochures monthly during my final year of middle school, as if one more positive picture would sway my parents to give the thumbs up. But the closest I ever came to boarding school was sleep-away camp in upper Michigan—decidedly less cool than the rolling English countryside.

Imagine my unadulterated delight, then, when I discovered that Vanderbilt, the object of my postsecondary education

aspirations, was erecting The Commons: 10 houses, 10 professors who lived among the students, and a dining hall with heavy, wooden tables just begging students to congregate around them with their cider and cocoa on cold, winter days. These and more were to make up the physical space of The Commons—impressive buildings with impressive rooms. I was sure I would nurse impressive thoughts there to match.

Now is as good a time as any to alert

“Forget boarding school,” I thought excitedly. “I want a *residential college*.”

Upon my acceptance to Vanderbilt, the pamphlets that bombarded my house in Wisconsin only fueled my expectations for my coming Commons experience. As part of the Class of 2012, my peers and I would be the first students to experience The Commons. *The first*.

After an entire adolescence of researching (informally, to be sure) the residential college experience, I had a checklist of expectations that were certain to be met—the least of them meeting my own Ron and Hermione best friends within the first five minutes on campus.

That was my frame of mind until my family’s minivan, filled to capacity with all the trinkets I had deemed necessary, pulled up to Murray House, my new home for the foreseeable future. After carrying my third suitcase up to the room (luckily, on the third floor), my parents began to soak in the Move-In Day atmosphere.

“It’s like a hotel,” my parent’s cooed as they admired my room, assured that the glossy brochures and welcome letters had adequately captured the intellectual environment in which they were about to leave their youngest daughter.

“Mmm-hmm ...,” I trailed off, dumbfounded and utterly speechless by the foreign space I now found myself in.

That sense of bewilderment was to stick with me for the next couple of weeks. A



Allena Berry’s class was the first to experience living on The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons.

the reader to my unapologetic dorkiness. I squeal like a schoolgirl when BIC comes out with a new collection of pens. New class schedules elicit as much excitement for me as Christmas Day does for 5-year-olds. A residential college, then, was representative of all my dorky imaginings taking physical form. I was in nerd heaven.

gross overachiever in a sea of gross over-achievers, I was amazed and appalled by how much my research had failed me.

The Commons—now known as The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt—was nothing like Hogwarts. Nor was I one of the ever-smiling students featured in the brochures through which I had sifted with a fine-toothed comb before arrival.

This cognitive dissonance—the result of my reality not meeting my fantastical expectations—pushed me to ask the question: If this is nothing like what I’d imagined, then what exactly is the residential college experience *supposed* to be?

I spent the next six months in a misguided attempt to find the “perfect” Commons experience, one worthy of all my imaginings of it. But no matter how many individuals I sat with at one of those grand wooden tables in the dining hall, how many Commons lectures I attended, how many floor-bonding events I signed up for, I couldn’t shake the feeling that I was doing this—the undergraduate, residential college thing—*wrong*.

As the guinea pigs of The Commons, my class was charged with the impossible task of setting the precedent for what the Commons experience should be without having a single model to follow. And I felt pressure to get it right this first time around, if not for my sake, then for those who would be looking toward me and my classmates for guidance in navigating their own Commons experiences. (Perhaps narcissism is also a result of the overachiever disease. The jury’s still out on that one.)

Only after my first year, when I had left The Commons—or, to use a more appropriate term, *graduated* from it and its luxuriously manicured lodgings—did I realize my fatal flaw. I was searching for an ideal, using propagandized brochures and Hollywood fantasies as fodder. Instead of creating *my* Commons experience, I had sought, in vain, to recreate an experience that never really existed.

Luckily for me, the nice folks over on The Commons don’t put up steel blockades barring you from entrance once you’ve moved on. Ever since my introduction to Vanderbilt, I have been capitalizing



on the bright spots of my time on The Commons, getting to know professors and students whom I otherwise may not have befriended.

I met some of them at a dinner at the Commons dean’s house, where Peabody professors discussed their academic and research interests. And, irony of all ironies, it was at this dinner that I—the person who was “never, ever, never going to teach”—decided the field of education was more my speed than marketing.

I met more of these individuals on my floor, after listening to them practice their various instruments in the basement of Murray House. As a quasi-musician myself, I gravitated toward those with sonorous pursuits.

I even forged friendships at The Commons Center gym, affectionately dubbed “the estrogym” by the women who patronized it most frequently. With

my comrades of the cardio, I developed a workout routine as a direct result of the proximity of the facilities to my dorm room. (And the Ben & Jerry’s supply in the Munchie Mart directly below it. After all, 45 minutes on the elliptical deserves at least *one* scoop.)

I didn’t find Dumbledore, or Ron, or Hermione. Instead I got to know a grab bag of people who existed *outside* a fantasy world: Dana, with whom I’ve lived since that first year. Rebecca, a girl who watched TLC’s *What Not to Wear* with a fervor to match my own. Brenden, a proud Texan with the drawl to prove it. These individuals, and others, were the ones I turned to when I needed a companion for coffee or a study break. I turned to them when I needed to laugh, cry or, at times, do a bit of both. (The fluctuation of postadolescent hormones may be one thing the movies got right.)

These people, and the memories that started on The Ingram Commons, are what I’ll take with me come graduation this May. As I apply to graduate schools of education with aspirations of becoming a middle school social studies teacher, I must stop myself from making the same mistake I made with The Commons. A movie is entertaining, but real life is infinitely more fulfilling.

The Ingram Commons doesn’t belong in a storybook, nor can a year’s residence there be relegated to pithy statements or two-dimensional photographs. The only “common” thing about the Ingram Commons experience is that it’s a uniquely individual journey that doesn’t stop when you shake your “first-year student” status.

My research did fail me, but I never would have come to that realization had I held on to fairy tales instead of embracing reality. That was a pretty nice realization to come to. It’s the very reason I am entirely indebted to my Commons experience—even if it meant abandoning all hopes of wielding a wand on the Quad. ▼

A.P.O.V. *

*Alumni Point of View

True North

When the greatest influence of my life began losing her way, I knew it was time to honor a vow I'd made at age 12. By HELEN HUDSON, MED'94

I AM A LUCKY GIRL. With the minor exception of once wishing I looked like Julie Christie, I have never wanted to be anyone but me. The best part is that I know why I am this way: I was raised by my Granny Jo.

In 1966, when my own mother was finally declared “mentally unfit to be a parent,” Granny became my legal guardian. It must have been difficult for this shy, rather Victorian woman in her 60s suddenly to be responsible for a teenager. At the time, she was a high school guidance counselor. However, she deftly wove my life into hers and we became the best of friends.

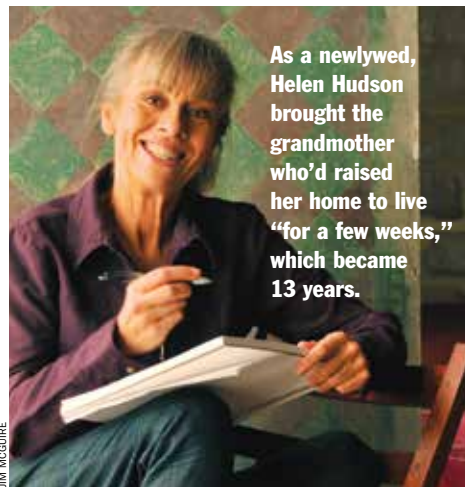
Granny set high standards both for my grades and my behavior, punctuated her sentences with Bible verses, listened to my long-winded stories, met all my boy-friends, insisted that I eat alfalfa sprouts, and even taught me yoga. More important, she encouraged any interest I had, whether it was collecting bugs or banging on the drums.

“You can be many things in life, Dear,” she often said. “You don’t have to pick just one.”

Perhaps that explains why I also have never been bored. Granted, the one time I mentioned that I might be, she quietly replied, “An intelligent person is never bored.” But it just hasn’t happened—not in a classroom, a church, or even at a cocktail party. Put me anywhere, anytime, and I will occupy myself or others with a zest that

sometimes surprises even me. I learned it from her.

She did embarrass me a bit during those teenage years, though. The other girls had “cool” moms in swishy dresses and high heels, with hair that flipped, fabulous nails and shiny lipstick. I had a gray-haired grandmother with old-fashioned spectacles who wore solid-color pantsuits and sensible flat shoes. But I knew even then that she



was head and heels above the rest. Now, at almost 60 years old, I am even more certain of it.

We could not have been more different. It wasn't just the half-century gap in our ages. Granny was shy and reserved. I was outgoing and, as she dubbed me early on, “a chatterbox.” My turbulent early years with a mother later diagnosed as schizophrenic made moments with Granny almost sacred.

I took her advice to heart because I wanted to be as close to who she was as possible. To me she seemed like heaven itself. So the day she said to me, “Do what you can when you can. You won’t get a second chance,” I began seizing every moment possible.

At first the advice seemed merely practical. I mended that hole in my sweater because if I hadn't, it would gape far and wide. I helped a classmate with homework because I still had 10 minutes before the bus came. As time went by, though, it became a habit so strong that I began to accomplish things with breakneck speed. I did my homework the same day it was assigned. If I had three weeks to read a book, I'd finish it in three days. The more I did, the more I realized what I could do. I became that principle in physics: A body in motion stays in motion.

Not only did I stay in motion, but the motion itself brought people and opportunities into my life that otherwise never would have happened. After graduating from Stanford University at 20, I taught high school English, took up the guitar, began writing songs, got a record contract, then a TV show, performed with artists like Don McLean and Billy Crystal, began acting, and worked with legends like Jason Robards, Tony Randall and Lucille Ball. By the time I was 35, I had met not one but two future U.S. presidents. But I am getting ahead of myself.

Granny set high goals for me and



assumed I would simply meet them. She was a feminist before it was popular, yet was adamant that I know how to cook, clean and sew. Marriage never even entered my mind. Granny made it clear that I should “neither live with a man, nor marry one, until you have truly lived on your own and supported yourself.”

Even when dating, I could not let a boy pay for anything. “If you’re both doing something that you both enjoy, you both should pay your own ways,” Granny said. “Why should he pay for you?”

Granny was neither surprised nor impressed by anything I accomplished. Her own life had been unusual. Born on July 4, 1900, she graduated from Smith College in 1921 at a time when few women even went to college. Her youth was one of privilege, with a grand estate, servants and trips to Europe. John D. Rockefeller was a friend of her father and visited the family home. Yet, when the Depression took their fortune, she once told me, “It was a relief from all that responsibility.” She raised three children on her own without complaint because her moral compass never wavered from True North.

Grandmother had indirectly navigated my course for so long that it was a shock to find her slowly losing her own way barely a year after I married. She got lost on the way to the store, couldn’t find things or remember dates. She turned on the gas stove but forgot to turn it off. Her bills stacked up,

unopened. The lights went out—and not just in her house. “Alzheimer’s” was not on anyone’s lips in 1981, and most said Granny was just getting old.

When my uncle called to say he was putting her in a nursing home, only one thought entered my mind—something I had said to her when I was 12. “When you get old, Granny, I will take care of you myself,” I promised. “I will never put you in a nursing home.” At the time, we had just returned from putting her mother in one, and the memory of leaving my beloved great-granny in that foul-smelling, wretched place haunts me still.

I hung up the phone and asked my new husband, John, if Granny could “stay with us for a few weeks.” To my joy, he replied, “Of course.”

During the next 13 years, the three of us did everything together: went to church, the gym, concerts, museums and even Disneyland, where we rode the Tea Cups. While our thirty-something friends were having children, we had Granny.

Living with us helped her regain much of her confusion, as she was now eating well, exercising and involving herself socially. I returned to performing at colleges across the country and hired a young woman to look after Granny in my absence. John’s office was nearby and life ran smoothly, albeit differently, for a while. In 1983 the National Association for Campus Activities honored me as Campus Entertainer of

the Year. When I returned home, I found Granny and John watching basketball on TV and eating ice cream.

Her presence was a gift to us on many levels. As newlyweds we had few possessions. When Granny moved in, we had an entire house! She ameliorated arguments and added levity even without intending to. It was also good for others to see a young couple including an older person in their activities.

In 1990, I made *The Guinness Book of Sports Records* for being the first person to sing the national anthem at every major league baseball stadium. We celebrated Granny’s 90th birthday at a game of my final team, the San Diego Padres. Our whole family came, but Granny recognized only her brother, son and daughter. The others were a blur. As we left, she even asked, “What was the name of that familiar song you sang tonight, Dear?” The next morning, when I showed her my picture in the newspaper, she had no recollection of being there at all.

We moved from California to New York City and finally settled in Nashville, where I entered Vanderbilt to work on my master’s degree in human development counseling. During finals I gave birth to our daughter. Now we truly had two “babies” at home, though nearly a century was between them. Both wore diapers, took naps and ate mashed bananas. One brightened at the sound of my voice, and the other thought I was the maid. As our own child blossomed, Granny dwindled, then disappeared altogether.

Alzheimer’s did not have the last laugh, though. We did. Her lack of memory meant that we could still tell her every day that it was our birthday, and she would still sing “Happy Birthday” to us.

At 95, Granny Jo passed away at home with us. I shared our story in my book *Kissing Tomatoes* in the hopes that others would be encouraged to keep their loved ones close as they enter life’s final chapter. Sometimes I look back and think those years might well have been the happiest ones of Granny’s life. Come to think of it, she was a lucky girl, too. ▼

Alumni Association News

The President's Corner



While the Vanderbilt Alumni Association doesn't hold caucuses, primaries or candidate debates, we do engage annually in the very important task of selecting new volunteer leadership and recognizing outstanding alumni. That said, I would like to call your attention to three nomination processes that are currently under way and to solicit your suggestions.

First, we seek nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award. This is the highest award bestowed by the association, and is given only when a worthy candidate emerges who demonstrates exceptional lifetime achievement in the service of mankind. Should a suitable nominee be identified, this award will be announced and presented in conjunction with Reunion/Homecoming 2012.

The second and third nomination processes relate to the volunteer leadership of your Alumni Association.

Under our new bylaws, adopted in 2009, members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors hold office for three years, and we recruit one-third of the board each year. With the election of our third class of seven new directors in the spring, the restructuring of the board will be complete, and the new directors will take office July 1. We seek your nominations for these seven leadership positions.

Finally, the presidency of the Alumni Association rotates every two years. Carroll Kimball, our current president-elect, will take over as president July 1, and we will choose a new president-elect in parallel with the election of new board directors. We therefore seek your nominations for the post of president-elect.

Elsewhere in this section you will find details about the criteria and process for making nominations. Please help us identify and recognize those among our number who best qualify for these important offices and awards.

JOHN HINDLE, BA'68, PHD'81
President, Vanderbilt Alumni Association
john.hindle@vanderbilt.edu

Award and Board Nominations Due April 13

The Office of Alumni Relations is seeking nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award, the university's most prestigious alumni honor. Sponsored by the Vanderbilt Alumni Association, the award was first presented by Vanderbilt in 1996 to Bangladeshi microlending pioneer Muhammad Yunus, PhD'71, and has been awarded only nine other times since. Nominations are due by April 13.

Award nominees may be alumni of any Vanderbilt college or school. The award is presented, when merited, to extraordinary individuals who have devoted themselves to addressing the needs of humankind and have positively impacted the lives of others in doing so. While not necessarily well known, nominees should reflect Vanderbilt's stated values of "intellectual freedom that supports open inquiry" and the ideals of equality, compassion and excellence in all endeavors.

If selected, the award recipient will be honored during Reunion 2012 in October. For more information, a list of previous award recipients, or to submit a nomination online, go to vanderbilt.edu/alumni/association/distinguished-alumni.

Alumni also are encouraged and invited to recommend candidates for service on the Vanderbilt Alumni Association Board of Directors, as well as candidates for the office of president-elect. Again, nominations are due April 13.

Candidates for the seven open board positions must be degree-holding alumni. Ideal nominees are those who have



the ability to serve and support Vanderbilt in various capacities and who have the time and resources to attend three board meetings per year and serve on board committees. It is vital that these individuals have interest in and enthusiasm for service on this active advisory board. Those selected will be asked to serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2012.

The president of the Alumni Association serves a two-year term. On July 1 the board's current president-elect, Carroll Kimball, will take the presidential reins from John Hindle, leaving the president-elect position open for nominations.

For more information about the board or to submit a board member nomination online, go to vanderbilt.edu/alumni/board-of-directors. To nominate a president-elect candidate—or for any other questions or comments about nominations being sought this year—you may contact James Stofan, associate vice chancellor for alumni relations, by phone at (615) 343-4099 or by email at james.stofan@vanderbilt.edu.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

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James Stofan

*Associate vice chancellor
for alumni relations*



**Alumni
Association**

REUNION '11 by the numbers

5,155

guests in attendance

\$24 million

raised in gifts and pledges



ANNE RAYNER

5,065

undergraduate

alumni made a gift in honor of their Reunion

9

of 12 undergraduate Reunion classes exceeded their fundraising goal



JESSE KOSKA

VANDERBILT REUNION
OCTOBER 25-27, 2012
COME BACK | GIVE BACK

Calling All Volunteers!

If your graduating class year ends in 2 or 7, then you're having a **Reunion in 2012**—and we need your help to ensure it's a huge success! Please volunteer today to serve on a Reunion class committee. Contact the Reunion Weekend office for more information at (615) 322-6034 or reunion@vanderbilt.edu.



JESSE KOSKA

Keep Your Vanderbilt Connections Strong

The Vanderbilt Alumni Association seeks to expand its shared interest groups, which bring together alumni with a common interest or connection, such as undergraduate student organizations, sports, clubs, social/ethnic groups and more. These groups can come together for educational and social events, networking, and connecting with on-campus

groups—essentially functioning as alumni organizations under their own leadership.

The Office of Alumni Relations supports these groups by helping them find other interested alumni and by providing Web and social media tools. Current groups include the Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni, Navy ROTC, Asian American Alumni Association, baseball alumni, Army ROTC and LGBTQI.

If you are interested in joining or forming a new shared interest group, contact Chris Griffin, special interest liaison, at (615) 322-4405 or chris.griffin@vanderbilt.edu. You also may go to vanderbilt.edu/alumni/shared-interest.

Podcasts for Career Advice



The Vanderbilt Alumni Association now offers podcasts for alumni in career transition. Featuring several different career experts, these videos offer tips and other advice on best practices to help with your job search. Access them at vanderbilt.edu/alumni/career.

Remember that the Alumni Association is a great source

for career help. You can look to us for job postings, career development workshops and online resources, networking opportunities through Vanderbilt Chapter events and the VUconnect online community, exclusive Vanderbilt discounts and more. Contact Kate Stuart, assistant director for alumni career services, for more information at (615) 343-7890 or kate.stuart@vanderbilt.edu.

Register for Your Alumni Discount Program

Save money today on hotels, restaurants, movie theaters, retailers, florists, car dealers, theme parks, national attractions, concerts and more with the Vanderbilt Alumni Association's discount program through Abenity. Find out more and register at abenity.com/VanderbiltAlumni.



The Greater Good



Michael Greshko blogged about his college selection process for *The New York Times*.

Why I Love Vanderbilt

By Michael Greshko, Class of 2014

DURING THE SPRING OF MY SENIOR YEAR of high school, as I sallied forth ready to do battle with everything life threw my way, one herculean task remained: my college choice.

I had been admitted to Yale but was awaiting scholarship notifications from other universities—including Vanderbilt's College of Arts and Science. On March 12, 2010, I received word that Vanderbilt had offered me the phenomenal Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship. How was I ever going to make up my mind? On top of that, how was I going to describe my choice to readers around the world?

The latter question had emerged during a lunchtime phone call in February, leading to one of those moments I'd never envisioned: *The New York Times* wanted me to outline my college decision-making process as a guest blogger.

I enthusiastically signed on—but I was also nervous. The pressure to live up to the *Times* name was enormous. I felt up to the challenge, though, so as I dove into my deliberation—replete with campus visits to Vanderbilt and Yale and talks with students, admissions officers and deans—I

made it my goal to have fun with every word.

As spring progressed and I continued my blog series, my gut slowly but surely transitioned to Vanderbilt, my writing serving as a means of distilling and clarifying my feelings. After announcing my choice, I ended my blog series in late June, but as I submitted my final post, faint pangs of second-guessing began to settle in. Had I made the right choice?

After finishing a lightning-fast first year in the College of Arts and Science, I turned out to be right; it was an incredible start to what ought to be an unforgettable four years. My classes—covering everything from the significance of the nonhuman in German literature to the neuroscientific underpinnings of consciousness—have expanded my world view and pushed me in ways I needed to be pushed.

About two weeks into my first year, I

auditioned for Vanderbilt Off-Broadway—probably the single best decision I made first semester—and performed in the group's production of the musical *Nine*. I also moonlighted as vice president of my Commons house, teaming up with administrators to bring a six-band concert to The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons' end-of-year festivities. And I spent last summer with Vanderbilt's VISAGE program in Costa Rica.

The more I'm steeped in Vanderbilt, the more I love it—so much so that I applied to be a VUceptor for first-year students last fall. I know I made the right choice. I hope that they, too, will feel the same.

Michael Greshko is a sophomore majoring in ecology, evolution and organismal biology and minoring in Spanish.

A New Tradition of Giving

AS THE FIRST CLASS TO HAVE BEGUN its Vanderbilt education experience at The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons, the Class of 2012 has grown accustomed to having the spotlight on it. Now, as members of that class prepare to receive their diplomas in May, they already are demonstrating leadership and innovation in cultivating a



Members of the Class of 2012 mug for the camera during Seniorfest, an event held in September that helped raise awareness of the value of giving back.

tradition of giving back to their alma mater.

Student Class Fund officers Paige Cobbs, Kate Goudge, Tessa McLain, Sloane Speakman and Matthew Taylor have led the effort, with a goal of achieving 40 percent class participation. They are encouraging their fellow classmates to give \$20.12 to the class gift—and designate those individual gifts to a part of the university that has had meaning for them.

Senior Class Fund activities co-chair Kate Goudge is majoring in human and organizational development, with a minor in corporate strategy. Her Senior Class Fund gift, she says, will go to the Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) ministry team and to support study abroad. “I’ve made many friends at RUF, and it’s impacted my time here,” she says. “And my study abroad was one of my most challenging and rewarding experiences.”

Throughout its last year at Vanderbilt, the Class of 2012 has enjoyed a number of events aimed at drawing attention to the Senior Class Fund effort, including a week-long celebration, a thank-you reception hosted by Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos, and more.

To make it easy to give and to help bring awareness to the need for support, including the fact that Vanderbilt tuition pays only about 70 percent of the cost of an undergraduate education—meaning that alumni, parents and friends must make up the difference with their gifts—they have helped put together a website that includes a countdown to graduation, a video and more.

Find out more: vanderbilt.edu/senior-classfund/2012

The Power of Scholarships for Medical Students

AS A FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR in the Dominican Republic, Irène Mathieu developed a passion for global health. But she knew attending medical school would likely leave her with substantial debt.

A native of Virginia and graduate of The College of William & Mary, Mathieu visited several medical schools but found the community environment she was looking for at Vanderbilt. “It was my top choice—not

only were faculty and students welcoming when I visited, but they followed up with me throughout the application process,” she says.

She was thrilled when she received an acceptance call, but she needed to wait on financial aid offers to determine which school she would attend. Several weeks later Dr. George Hill contacted Mathieu with the news that she had been selected as a full scholarship recipient. “The scholarship made my decision to come here a no-brainer,” says Mathieu. In the future she hopes to research primary care and non-communicable diseases in middle-income countries.

The Scholarship Initiative for Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, launched in fall 2011, extends opportunity to students who seek to make a difference in medicine. A larger scholarship endowment will allow students like Mathieu to choose Vanderbilt regardless of financial circumstances. Too



Irène Mathieu received a Canby Robinson Society scholarship.

often, awards from institutions with larger endowments attract talented students, even if they would rather attend Vanderbilt. The Class of 2011 left campus last year with an average debt of \$135,800.

“While our tuition is highly competitive with our peer schools, the debt facing most of our graduates is far too steep,” says Dr. Jeff Balser, MD’90, PhD’90, dean of the School of Medicine and vice chancellor for health affairs. “As a recipient of a Vanderbilt medical scholarship myself, I know firsthand the value of these scholarships.”

—Sarah Wolf



Dr. W. Bedford Waters celebrates with his mother, Irene Georgia Bedford Waters, on her 90th birthday.

Inspiring Future Generations

Dr. W. Bedford Waters, BA’70, MD’74, established the Irene Georgia Bedford Waters Scholarship in the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine to honor his mother, whose compassion and encouragement brightened the world around her.

Irene Waters had the same expectation for her son that she had for herself: “Do your best.” His diligence in meeting her expectation earned him a John D. Rockefeller Scholarship at Vanderbilt.

When medical school tuition presented a barrier to becoming a doctor, an anonymous donor stepped forward. All the donor asked was, “Do your best.”

As the second African American graduate of Vanderbilt’s School of Medicine, Waters led the way for others. He went on to become chief resident in urology at The Harvard Program in Urology (Longwood Area) and to serve on the faculties of the University of Illinois and the Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University Chicago.

Waters has transformed many lives as a physician, leader, teacher, mentor and friend. He is currently professor of surgery in the Division of Urology and Urologic Oncology at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine.

At Vanderbilt he was elected to the Alumni Association Board of Directors in 1986. He now rallies alumni support for scholarships as a member of the Vanderbilt Medical Alumni Association Board and leader of the Knoxville Vanderbilt Chapter.

Third-year medical student Arter Biggs II is the first recipient of the Irene Waters Scholarship. —Barbara Bauer

TheClasses

“ Henry Simpson, BA’56, chairs the 50,000-member Civil War Trust,

dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Civil War sites. ”



Ken Diehl, BS'75 (left), and his brother, Robert, '77

STEVE GREEN

A Brother's Gift

In the early summer of 2009, Ken Diehl started feeling poorly. He had been diagnosed with hypertension and IgA nephropathy—a kidney disease—several years earlier, but had been leading a normal life. For some reason, though, the disease became aggressive.

“My kidneys were only functioning at about 7 or 8 percent,” Diehl says. “The doctors were amazed that I was even walking around.”

Dialysis was the next step, but what Diehl really needed was a new kidney. Eight people volunteered to donate a kidney for him right then and there—an experience he says was humbling.

“They only went to the trouble to test one person, though, and it was a dead-on, perfect match,” Diehl says. That person was his brother, Robert, who also attended Vanderbilt. Their love for Vanderbilt baseball had made the brothers closer the past few years, and the gift of a kidney was another step in that direction.

“I don't think I'll ever get away from thinking about it every day—after all, I have pills to remind me,” says Diehl. “But it has been a tremendous blessing to me.”

The Diehl brothers urge everyone to consider organ donation—a gift of life.

—Cindy Thomsen

“ Philip Reitingger, BE'84, is a vice president for Sony Corp. in Tokyo. ”

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“ *Nancy Hollingsworth, MSN’00, MBA’00, was named president*

and CEO of Saint Agnes Medical Center in Fresno, Calif, last July. ”



Katie Peifer Bartley, BS'00, with Campbell (now 6), Rider (now 2) and Keller (now 4)

DAVID BARTLEY

Baby Keeping You Awake?

Before her first child was born in 2005, Katie Peifer Bartley was terrified she'd never sleep again. She created a plan, though, and soon her daughter was, well, sleeping like a baby.

After the second daughter came along, friends noticed that Katie and her husband, David, never had that tired look that's so common to many young parents.

"People started asking me how I got my children to sleep," says Bartley, an avid Commodores fan who is proud of her time on the women's soccer team while a student. "One day I was talking to a friend of a friend of a friend in Philadelphia, who stopped me after about 45 minutes and told me I should be charging for this advice."

Today Bartley styles herself an infant sleep consultant. In the beginning she conducted an informal Facebook poll asking if people would pay to be able to sleep—and had 12 calls the first day. "I knew I had hit a nerve," she says. "I thought people would be impressed with my master's in social work, but all they really cared about was the fact that I had three young children who slept 12 hours a night."

Bartley explains that most parents simply develop some bad habits early on. "Babies shouldn't dictate how a parent's life is being run," she says. "I love my children, but I'm the parent. I have to encourage my clients to remember that they're the ones in charge."

Find out more: katiebartley.com.

—Cindy Thomsen

“*John Williams, BA’04, and his wife have founded the DC Diaper Bank,*



Gabrielle Westbrook, BA'11

HILARY SCHWAB

The Power of Change

Gabrielle Westbrook left her mark on Vanderbilt as a student. Today she's leaving her mark on Washington, D.C., as a teacher.

As a senior, she wrote the resolution adopted by Vanderbilt Student Government successfully urging the administration to suspend classes on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in favor of a day of service and commemoration. "Reflecting on my experiences at Vanderbilt, I have discovered a common thread that has sewn my years here together: the power of change," Westbrook says.

Now serving in her first year with Teach For America, Westbrook is working to change one of the nation's most underprivileged school districts—in the heart of the nation's capital. "I tell my students they deserve to be smart," Westbrook says. "I tell them that no one else can determine their success, no matter their background."

Westbrook's message appears to be getting through. "I think they've really internalized the message because a lot of behavior patterns have changed," she says. "The number of proficient students has doubled as well."

Westbrook wants her students to reach for higher goals. "If a student tells me he wants to be a mechanic when he grows up, I ask him, 'Why not be a mechanical engineer instead?'"

—Cindy Thomsen

a charitable nonprofit that supplies diapers to Washington, D.C., families in need. ”

DoreWays continued from page 5

Our Brothers' Keeper

ANDREW, I AM SO TOUCHED by your words [S.P.O.V., "A Vineyard Not My Own," Summer 2011]. Thank you for reminding us who we are, where we came from, and where we are going. What an eye-opening article. Keep on keeping on, brother.

LEA ANN KELLUM
Crockett, Texas

Pathfinders in Biology

TERRIFIC ARTICLE [Collective Memory, Summer 2011], Dr. Collins—thank you! I worked in Buttrick Hall myself as a grad student in the late 1960s/early '70s, but had no idea such seminal research in molecular biology had taken place in the building.

PETER OATES, PHD'75
Gales Ferry, Conn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *We ran an outdated and inaccurate biographical sketch of author Dr. Robert Collins in the Summer 2011 issue. Vanderbilt Magazine regrets the error and apologizes for any confusion it may have*

caused. To set the record straight, below we are printing the correct biography Dr. Collins had provided to us:

Dr. Robert Collins, BA'48, MD'51, has been on the Vanderbilt faculty since 1957. Teaching medical students how to solve problems was his focus for 40 years, during which time he and his wife, Elizabeth Cate Collins, BA'50, welcomed generations of students and faculty into their home. His second career, begun in 1999, currently encompasses writing, collaborative research and teaching residents microscopy. He has written four books: two in his field of hematopathology, the third a biography of Vanderbilt scientist Ernest Goodpasture, and the fourth titled *Ahmic Lake Connections, The Founding Leadership of Vanderbilt University*.

Letters are always welcome in response to contents of the magazine. We reserve the right to edit for length, style and clarity. Send signed letters to the Editor, *Vanderbilt Magazine*, PMB 407703, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240-7703, or send email to vanderbiltmagazine@vanderbilt.edu.

Collective Memory continued from page 17

and professional students. The chancellor went on to describe the buildings as "modern and functional, but architecturally retain[ing] something of the flavor of Mobile or New Orleans."

Harold Stirling Vanderbilt, a grandson of Maria Louisa Kissam Vanderbilt who was chairman of the university's Board of Trust from 1955 until 1968, provided funding for air conditioning.

Completion of these dorms allowed the opening of Cole and Tolman halls to upper-class women, many of whom had been housed on 24th Avenue in older residences that "were expensive to operate and fire traps." Branscomb's "proper and desirable answer" to the "problem of housing women" was "an area for women across 24th Avenue." (Branscomb Quadrangle, which opened in 1962, originally for the housing of women, was named for Chancellor Branscomb and his wife, Margaret, a year before his retirement.)

In his report to the Board of Trust, Branscomb also recommended that "old" Kissam

Hall, along with the Fine Arts Building, be razed immediately.

"No doubt many a baseball will be tossed in the open green and the grass will be worn, but we shall have fresh air, and green lawns, and attractive buildings, and a campus growing speedily in symmetry and beauty," Branscomb asserted. "Perhaps a continuation of the parking problem is not too much to pay for these values."

Thanks to Harvie Branscomb, Alumni Lawn was created, furnishing an ideal space for student recreation, concerts and Commencement.

Now, monumental plans are being made for future generations of students with construction of phase two of College Halls at Vanderbilt on the site of Kissam Quadrangle (see sidebar).

The original Kissam Hall served its all-male residents for 57 years. The second Kissam Hall and Quadrangle will have served its residents, both male and female, for 55 years when the last student moves out in May 2012. And the grand old name of "Kissam" will be preserved as Kissam Center, a vibrant activity hub connect-

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ing the two new residential colleges to be located on the same site that has witnessed thousands of students at work, at play and at rest on the corner of West End and 21st avenues. ▼

Lyle Lankford is senior officer for university history and protocol at Vanderbilt.

Kissam's Next Chapter

As the first class to experience life on The Ingram Commons prepares to graduate, the next phase of College Halls—this time focused on upperclassmen—is preparing to take shape.

In May the university will break ground on two new college halls at Kissam, each of which will house about 330 upperclass students and be led by a faculty director-in-residence.

The six buildings that currently make up Kissam Quadrangle will be demolished to make way for college halls at Kissam.

The \$115 million project is expected to be complete in fall 2014. Funding for the project will be provided entirely through philanthropy and internal resources.

Southern Journal *continued from page 80*

The Atlantic for me has always been that water just outside the place I was born, Charleston. This certitude and this familiarity are what we now leave as we venture inland, first up the Hudson River, then the St. Lawrence Seaway, then two Great Lakes, and deeper and deeper into our country's inland river system.

June 28, 2011: Fort Edward, N.Y.

Traveling along this route has provided several challenges. One was a bridge with a height listed at 15 feet 6 inches. The height of our boat is 15 feet. We were concerned because the water level was very high after excessive rain. We slowly approached with Jenny sitting on top of the boat, holding a boat hook above our mast to see if we could clear the bridge. It was a railroad bridge, and a train went across just as we went under. We cleared it by 3 inches!

Most of these small towns are showing effects of the bad economy. Empty storefronts and boarded-up buildings are all that remain of the downtowns. The only things that seem to survive are an occasional diner, tattoo parlor, antique/consignment shop or barber shop. It is sad to see.

July 6, 2011: Quebec Province, Canada

With some last-minute fussing, we left Rouses Point, N.Y., and the United States. Adding to the anxiety was the captain's realization that we were not legal for Canada with our "black water" overboard discharge for the aft cabin. We made preparations for the international border crossing by putting up our yellow quarantine flag and flying the Canadian flag from our mast.

Early in the morning the captain also dis-

covered he had the wrong software to load on the chartplotter. This meant we were setting out to Canada with no electronic charting capability, which added a great deal of new stress. But with Jenny's charm and the officer's indulgence, we breezed through customs. We were in canals and did not need the charts.

Aug. 11, 2011: Shoal Narrows, Georgian Bay (Canada)

We got to the exposed part of our route in the Georgian Bay and met waves of 4 to 6 feet—really bad. We almost had mutiny on *Sweetgrass*. After about 15 minutes of grueling and perilous passages among giant rocks, with waves lifting us in the air and coming from our beam, the crew chorus from Jenny and



Jenny samples a Chubby Mary in Leland, Mich.

Paul Samuelson [a friend who was onboard for this leg of the journey] was, "We have to turn around! We cannot possibly make it through Hang Dog Narrows!" while the captain held onto the wheel, trying to make some sort of course through the wave-tossed markers that were barely visible. In all the pitching, God smiled on us since we probably should have hit the rocks beneath, but we did not. There had been a small marked channel that we went back to—the captain overruling his near-mutinous crew, who wanted to go back to Pointe au Baril. This was a nightmare experience for all of us, including ACE, who is still very upset.

When we finally got out of the seas and into that poorly marked little bay, a Canadian man and his young daughter in a runabout signaled us not to go where we were headed, but told us about a safe harbor nearby. He returned later in his boat to *Sweetgrass*, which was then safely anchored, and offered to host us at his cottage on the safe harbor bay. This gesture of friendship and assistance to strangers who were traumatized will always stand out as representative of the best one can encounter on the seas in a foreign land.

Aug. 28, 2011: Pentwater, Mich.

Our route took us over the graveyard of boats in Lake Michigan—nearly 70 sinkings of major boats have been recorded. We went to Sunday morning church at St. Peter's Episcopal, a small chapel that was full and very lively. During the communion ritual, when the rector, Sam, got to us, he made a very special statement for all to hear—"Bless these and all boaters"—which touched us deeply.

Sept. 2, 2011: Chicago

We have been in Lake Michigan 12 days, traveling 379 nautical miles. The lake has the clearest water in the northern part, and it is almost a mystical experience to look 15 or 20 feet down and see the sand bottom as we did at Beaver Island, Mich. What I will not miss about Lake Michigan is its uncertainty of weather and the bad conditions that one inevitably encounters, even when being cautious. On our trip from Beaver Island to Charlevoix, Mich., we were dealing with 4- and 5-foot waves.

In Chicago, I leave Lake Michigan with an ambivalence and deep respect. There were times I hated and dreaded going out, and other times of restful beauty that made me



View of Manhattan from a marina on the Hudson River



Daredevil swimmers on the Trent River in Ontario



Sweetgrass navigates the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.



The Hiwassee River at Charleston, Tenn.

so glad to be alive and on these waters. The changes in mood and feeling were like the lake itself: up and down, with strong winds and gray skies and white-capped waves, or fantastically placid with gorgeous colors of blue and pink making distinctions of sky and sea one seamless transition. We have completed nearly half the Loop now.

Oct. 7, 2011: Towhead Island, Ky.
(near Paducah)

Today marked the end of our voyage on two of America's great rivers, the Ohio and the Mississippi. We were on the Ohio for only 59 nautical miles, and that was enough. It is wide and busy, but had more towns along it than the stretch of Mississippi we were on. There were pretty spots along the Ohio, but its width and hundreds of barges made it hard to enjoy.

Nov. 11, 2011: Lenoir City, Tenn.
(near Knoxville)

We rented a car and drove to Nashville. It took 2.5 hours going 70 miles per hour. That is 10

times faster than *Sweetgrass* could have done it.

We saw the Vanderbilt men and women beat their opponents in basketball, and then on Saturday attended a "summit" meeting about the future of Vanderbilt athletics that was fascinating. The people who can make it happen—Board of Trust, chancellor and coaches—are all dedicated to a new goal of not just competing in the Southeastern Conference, but being champions in the conference. And earlier in the month, the women's cross country team *did* become SEC champions.

The football game was terrific. We had been told in the morning, "Coach Franklin says we will beat UK." And we didn't just beat them—we dominated like I had never seen any Vanderbilt football team do against a fellow SEC team.

Nov. 19, 2011: Knoxville, Tenn.

Today is the day we've had on the calendar for about five years—the day on the calendar after my retirement that *Sweet-*

grass could be in Knoxville to see the battle between two schools that have only one thing in common: Both reside in Tennessee. By good luck, the University of Tennessee is having a down year and Vanderbilt under our new coach is playing well. I write these comments several hours before kickoff with enough optimism to think we just might win this year.

Nov. 20, 2011: Lenoir City, Tenn.

We are backtracking. We're going all the way back to the mouth of the Tennessee River—Tombigbee Waterway at Pickwick Lake. The cruise today was mournful because of the devastating football loss last night. The weather is overcast and gray, and we are having problems with our navigation computer.

Nov. 26, 2011: Guntersville, Ala.

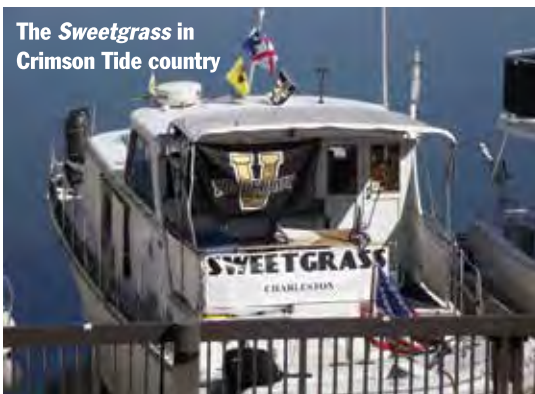
Today is Saturday, the second day of duck hunting season. We awoke to volley after volley of shotgun fire because we were in a very duck-intense and protected body of water. Duck blinds were all around us with a lot of shooting around dawn. I looked at ACE, wondering if this would awaken any instinct to go out and see if there were ducks to retrieve, but he was interested only in his food.

Dec. 1, 2011–March 2012: Iuka, Miss.

We had a nice final cruise for the year. *Sweetgrass* will spend the winter in Iuka. Leaving the Tennessee River, as we have now done, is another bittersweet time. We hate to say goodbye to such a good friend and a river that holds a lifetime of memories. But we are headed home for the holidays to see our grandchildren and to make more memories before getting back on *Sweetgrass* for the final leg of the Loop. ▼



This building still stands on what used to be the bank of the Tennessee River before it was dammed to create hydroelectric power and prevent the Ohio River from flooding.



The *Sweetgrass* in Crimson Tide country



Morning fog on the Hiwassee River

Southern Journal

Reflections on the South

Dispatches from the Great Loop

A year on the water offers glimpses of America that the land-locked never experience.

By DR. JERRY REVES, BA'65, AND JENNY REVES

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Jerry Reves retired June 30, 2010, as vice president for medical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina. The next spring he and his wife of 43 years, Jenny, and their black Labrador retriever, ACE, embarked on a yearlong circumnavigation of "the Great Loop," departing from their hometown of Charleston. Each year about 200 boats complete the Great Loop, traversing the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterways, the Great Lakes, the Canadian Heritage Canals, and inland rivers of America's heartland. It is a voyage of 5,000 to 6,000 miles.

This sampling of adventures on the Reveses' 41-foot trawler, *Sweetgrass*, has been adapted from their blog. After docking *Sweetgrass* in Mississippi for the winter, Captain Jerry, Admiral Jenny and ACE are set to begin the final leg of their journey. Follow their progress, and view maps, videos and more photos at sweetgrassadventures.com.

April 21, 2011: Charleston, S.C.

We plan on departing May 2 for our long-cherished dream of "doing the Loop." Our cruise in 2010 to Martha's Vineyard and back was spectacular, and we learned a great deal. Now we have upfitted *Sweetgrass* for the longer voyage. Things we have added include a wind indicator, Sirius weather to communicate with our Raymarine chart-plotter, and a glass gauge to see how much water is in the water tanks.

May 5, 2011: Morehead City, N.C.

The great thing about this trip is that you get to see how things are along the way. There is never a dull moment, whether passing a



Jerry in New York Harbor

statue of the Neptune family, an osprey setting up a home on a navigational marker, or a Confederate flag that reminds you where you are—especially as the 150th anniversary of "the war" has just begun.

One of the biggest mistakes one can make on these cruises is planning to be somewhere at a certain time. We must be in Norfolk, Va., on May 13 for the Great Loop Cruisers Association semiannual, and we have promised ourselves it will be the last firm date for the Great Loop—although there is a soft one for Nov. 16 on the Tennessee River at Knoxville for the Vanderbilt–University of Tennessee football game, about 4,000 miles from where we are now.

June 13, 2011: Manasquan, N.J.

We made a long, slow passage on the New Jersey intracoastal route, and it was very

shallow the whole way, sometimes down to 4.5 feet. We never hit bottom, so it was a harrowing success. When we started out this morning, it was very foggy again and the wind was up to 25 miles per hour with waves of 4 feet. So we took the slower, shallower route—the lesser of two evils. We are in a nice anchorage in a place called Glimmer Glass.

ACE swam over to a huge, dead, foul-smelling fish and ate half of it. He has been swimming and we have washed him, but he still stinks.

June 18, 2011: Jersey City, N.J.

We are leaving the Atlantic Ocean. *Sweetgrass* has been in Atlantic waters the entire time we have had her—since 2005—and long before that.

continued on page 78

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